

# KILKENNY GAA YEARBOOK 2010

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21st  
Edition

GAA

# KILKENNY GAA YEARBOOK 2010



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## Foreword

A Chairde dilis, tá bliain eile thart agus bliainiris eile á fáiltíú agam chun cur síos ar eachtraí Cumann Lúthchleas Gael anseo cois Fheoire. 2010 was another busy year for Kilkenny GAA and while we were all disappointed that the historic five in a row eluded us in September it was still a very successful year for the county with both our Minors and Intermediate teams recording All Ireland successes. The achievements of these teams are well chronicled by better scribes than me in this publication; however, I'd like to compliment them here on their dedication, effort, teamwork and sportsmanship as they achieved their respective successes.



The past year has seen some wonderful club hurling in Kilkenny with some excellent finals, a fact that shows the current strength of the game in the county. I would like to congratulate the various winners and thank all teams for their cooperation and the sporting manner in which they played the games. I wish the victorious Clubs success in the upcoming club championships while I'd also like to congratulate Ballyhale Shamrocks and St. Lachtain's on their historic successes in the All Ireland Senior and Intermediate Club Hurling Finals in 2010. We should not forget that we have an active Gaelic Football programme in Kilkenny also with our team taking part in the Allianz National Football League and Leinster Junior championship. Our senior and Intermediate Kilkenny football championship finals were quality games and the winners, Thomastown and Muckalee, performed well in the Leinster club competition subsequently.

Kilkenny handball had another successful season with All Ireland victories in a variety of competitions. Congratulations to all who achieved success and well done to the dedicated people who coach and administer the game in Kilkenny. I would also like to compliment and thank the many dedicated people who worked with all of our Camogie teams this year. Congratulations also to St. Kieran's College on winning the All Ireland Senior Colleges title, and to Loreto, Kilkenny on completing a senior and junior All Ireland camogie double.

A feature and an integral part of our yearbook every year is the quality and quantity of the photographs used to bring the colour and excitement of the past year to you. Many thanks to the many excellent photographers for allowing us to use their excellent material.

The running of our County Board is an expensive operation and would not be possible but for the generous support of our many sponsors and advertisers. The support of our team sponsors Glanbia plc is vital in helping us to maintain the success we've enjoyed over recent years, while St. Canice's Credit Union, Michael Lyng Motors, J.J. Kavanagh & Sons, Iverk Produce, Kilkenny Citreon and Honda Centre and Duggan Steel generously help with our local championships. I would ask all our readers to support our sponsors and advertisers whenever the opportunity arises.

A substantial contribution is also made to the financing of our teams, by our Supporters Club Branches in Kilkenny, Dublin and Kildare, and I would like to thank these small but dedicated groups for their work.

No doubt this yearbook will find its way to many corners of the globe just as its predecessors have done. Wherever you are, I hope you enjoy reading of the exploits of our sportsmen and sportswomen in 2010. It is appropriate that their achievements and endeavours are recorded here for present and future generations.

I wish to pay credit to the editor, Barrie Henriques, Chairman, Pat Henderson, Gerry O'Neill and the hard working committee for their work in compiling and editing this yearbook which will become a keepsake for Kilkenny people everywhere.

Best wishes to all Clubs, players and supporters in the county and to all Kilkenny Gaels outside their native county. We look forward to 2011 with hope and anticipation.

Beir Bua, Slán agus Beannacht,

Pol Cinsealach  
Cathaoirleach Coiste Contae Cill Chainnigh.

# Editorial



## KILKENNY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 2010

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John Dalton (Kilkenny) in action  
against John O'Brien (Tipperary)  
in the All Ireland SH Final  
*Brendan Moran/SPORTSFILE*

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JJ Delaney  
*Daire Brennan/SPORTSFILE*

2010 might be analysed as a disappointing year, but if winning an All Ireland Championship at Minor, Intermediate, Senior Colleges, Senior Club, and Intermediate Club is measured as under achieving, well then, I wonder what may be thought about Counties that seldom climb the steps of National success. Oh yes, I would like to add in an All Ireland Colleges win in camogie by our Kilkenny girls as well.

Of course the big expectation was that History could have been made, and that our glorious, all-conquering Senior hurlers would break ground never before disturbed. Having said that, I met a former five-time All Ireland medal winner, as well as a winner of a similar number of All Star Awards after the Final in the swelling crowd outside Croke Park, and while the disappointment was more than palpable among Kilkenny support, he, rather philosophically, pointed out that there was always next year. Words of consolation or wisdom, or both – please yourself!

Add it all up, and the inevitability of the first Sunday in September scenario was always on the cards. This is our 21st official Kilkenny County Board Yearbook publication, and we have never published a Yearbook without recording at least two All Ireland successes. We have acclaimed every one of them, and rightly so. But there is more to the story than All Irelands. We celebrate the massive contributions being made without fanfare by the thousands of volunteers who give of their time, and money without any recognition. It is hard enough for County Boards to do what they need, but how much more difficult it is for the hard-pressed club officials to keep the ship afloat without recourse to any assistance but their own ingenuity, and the generosity of their own people.

You are what Cumann Lúthchleas Gael is about, so give yourselves a resounding clap on the back, and tell everyone outside of our illustrious Association who you are, and why you are as great as we think you are.

I need to say go raibh maith agaibh to our contributors, professional and non-professional, our photographers including all our amateur snappers. But for our loyal advertisers, it is doubtful if the quality of our book would be as professional as it is. I urge you to "give them a twist" whenever possible. I say a very personal thank you to my fellow committee men, Pat Henderson our Chairman, Gerry O'Neill (Origination), Tommy Lanigan, Conor Denieffe PRO, Conor Brennan, Jimmy Walsh and Ned Buggy. Thank you all for your support over the last twenty years. I hope you enjoy reading our presentation. As the man said,  
"There is always next Year".

Wishing you continued good health for your kind self and all of your family.

*Barrie Henriques*

(Editor)

# Hardened Warriors Prevail!

## Credit Union Senior Hurling Championship 2010 By Tommy Lanigan

Photos Eoin Hennessy

### O'Loughlins Triumph

As Kilkenny found it a bridge too far in attempting to achieve an elusive five in a row of titles, so too did Ballyhale Shamrocks fail to perform this remarkable feat.

Christy Ring, when asked about the possibility of a four in a row for Cork in 1978 said 'Too hard. Too many things can go wrong.' Perhaps the immeasurable hunger may have diminished but Shamrocks have travelled a very long road with great success and panache and nobody was too surprised when they could not continue.

Despite that possibility there were few who would have predicted an O'Loughlins victory in this championship until the city club actually surprised many, but not themselves, by reaching the final.

### County final

The story of the county final is quite straightforward and all the signs had been obvious for a while.

O'Loughlins have been hardened warriors for over ten years and they have been able to introduce several strong, skillful and speedy hurlers to their ranks to augment a central core of experience and guile. Their management structure has been consistent, their approach always low key. Having been virtually written off following a mediocre league campaign and a truly dreadful Shield final performance, the City side was ideally placed to cause maximum grief to anybody who opposed them.

Whatever about lacking an extra scoring forward during the past decade, nobody could accuse them of being soft or unfocused. Many supporters became caught up in the near hysteria surrounding the rise of Carrickshock through the championship, particularly after their demolition of James Stephens in the quarter final.

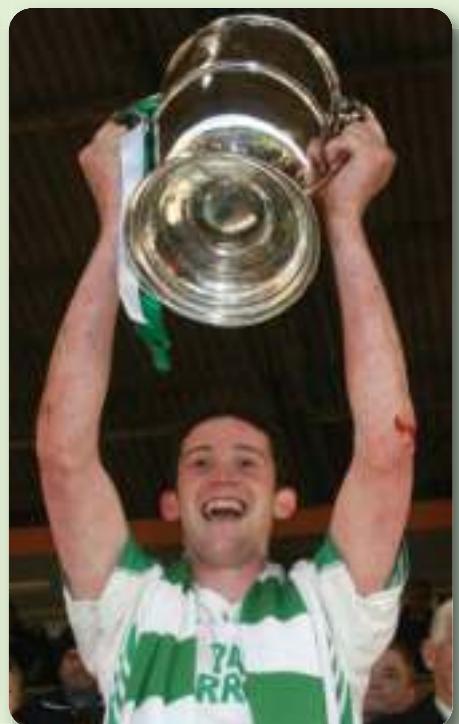
It did not help matters for Carrickshock that they

ST CANICE'S CREDIT UNION SH CHAMPIONSHIP 2010	
Scoreboard	
<b>1st Round</b>	
Dunnamaggin	1-11 Tullaroan 0-10
Carrickshock	2-16 Graigue Ballycallan 2-15
Clara	0-13 Fenians 0-10
St Martin's	1-19 St.Lachtain's 1-13
<b>2nd Round</b>	
Carrickshock	1-20 James Stephens 1-15
Ballyhale S.	1-19 Dunnamaggin 0-9
O'Loughlin G	2-12 St. Martin's 1-12
Erins Own	0-13 Clara 0-8
<b>Semi-Finals</b>	
O' Loughlin G	2-16 Ballyhale S. 3-10
Carrickshock	1-16 Erins Own 1-14
<b>Final</b>	
O'Loughlin G	0-17 Carrickshock 1-11
<b>Relegation Final</b>	
Fenians	1-14 St Lachtain's 1-11

rejigged their defence to counter what were perceived as O'Loughlins strongest attacking points. It is a frequently a sign of weakness to show too much respect to the opposition. By the time both sides had arrived at Nowlan Park on 24 October the predictions were firmly in favour of O'Loughlins.

### Final Demands

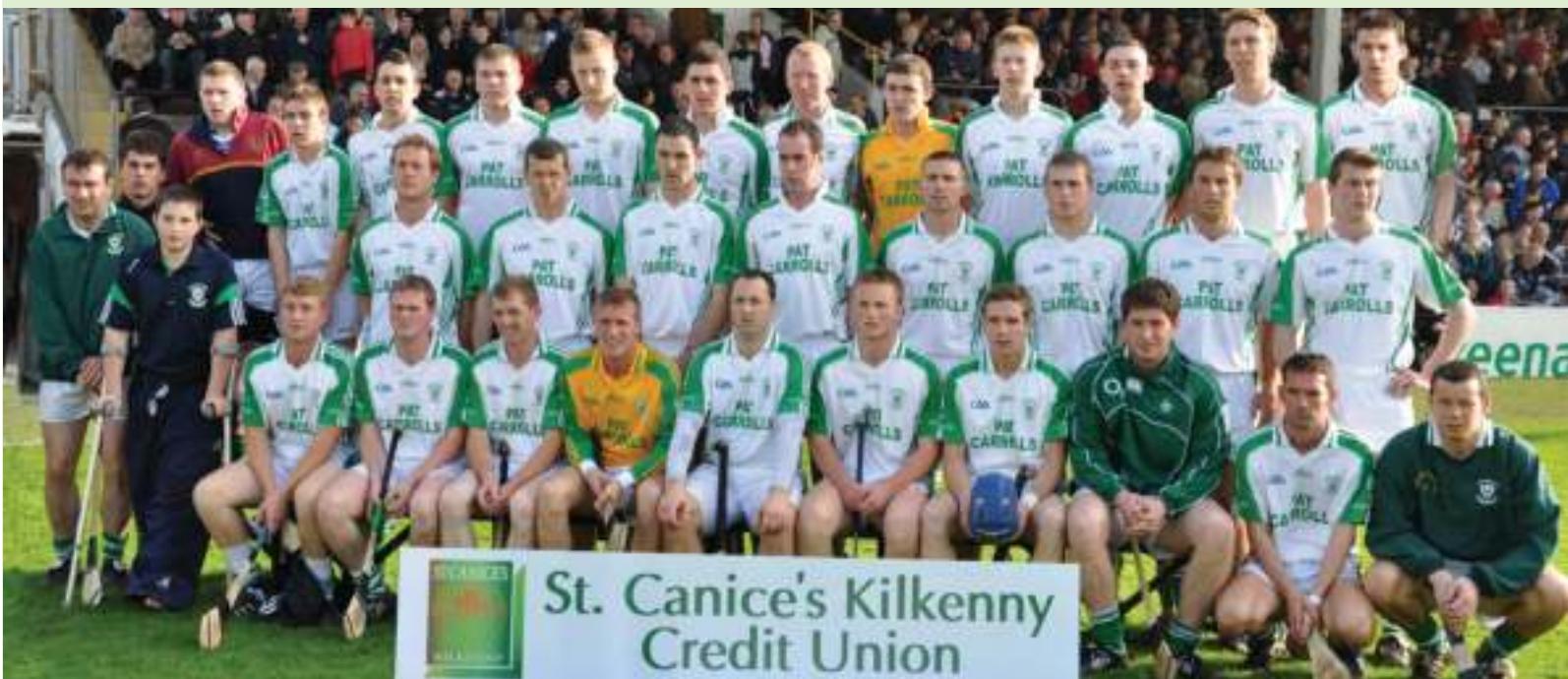
Despite the expansive and exciting game favoured by the 'Shock, there was an unreasonable burden on Richie Power to deliver yet another individual performance good enough from play and placed balls to drag himself and



Martin Comerford, O'Loughlin's captain, raises the Tom Walsh cup.

his colleagues over the line. It was also their first county senior final appearance since 1951 and, more significantly, their first as an individual parish.

Many underestimate the psychological hurdles that clubs and players must negotiate when facing their first county senior hurling final, particularly in Kilkenny, where any deficiencies will be ruthlessly exposed. This was the major challenge for Carrickshock and on the evidence of



O'Loughlin Gaelic County Senior Hurling Champions 2009

**Back:** Evan Walsh, Jack Nolan, Conor Bergin, Jason Quan, Eoghan Grant, Anthony Forristal, Sheamie Cummins, Sammy Johnston, Paddy Butler, Kevin O'Brien, Brian Hogan Martin Comerford.

**Middle:** Brian Murphy, Andy Cantwel, Luke Leydon, Peter Dowling, Bryan Skehan, Pat Cantwell, Niall McEvoy, Alan O'Brien, Eddie Kearns, Niall Bergin, Andy Kearns.

**Front:** Paddy Delaney, Maurice Nolan, Brian Kelly, Stephen Murphy, Alan Geoghegan, Mark Bergin, Danny Loughnane, Rick Leydon, Brian Dowling, Nigel Skehan.



Carrickshock - County Senior Hurling Finalists 2010

**Back:** Michael Rohan, Dan O'Brien, Kieran Holden, Brian O'Donovan, Liam Barron, Andrew Power, John Power, John Butler, Richard Frisby.  
**Middle:** Emmet Dunphy, David Franks, John Dalton, Luke Gaule, Jamie Power, William Hoyne, John Murphy, Mark O Dwyer, Darren O Dwyer, John Power, Michael Rice.

**Front:** Gary Comerford, Richie Power, Paddy Mulcahy, Niall Rohan, Patrick Farrell, Niall Tennyson, John Tennyson, Pat Tennyson, John Cahill, Jim Rohan.

their lacklustre display it was clear that several of their players were not mentally attuned to the significant demands placed on them. Added to that, their persistent injury woes with John Tennyson and others meant that Carrickshock could not afford any further damage to personnel. Unfortunately Michael Rice's injury before half time removed whatever chance they had of staging a comeback.

#### Poor Fare

No better team than O'Loughlins to punish weakness and hesitancy. They tore into the game with authority and aggression, neither qualities their opponents could match. The game itself was not a pretty sight. There was far too much niggling, spiteful challenges and mauling that reflected poorly on players and officials. Few Carrickshock players held their own while O'Loughlins scored twelve points from play and squeezed the life out of their opponents. With Martin Comerford on fire and Mark Bergin

unerring in accuracy from play and placed balls, O'Loughlins could have been out of sight by the interval. In fairness to Carrickshock they fought the good fight to the end but the final score of 1-17 to 1-11 did not reflect the chasm between the two teams.

It was a dmeoralising end for Carrickshock who, all things considered, had a remarkably good year.

They can be proud that they did so well with a small pool of players and were frequently ravaged by injuries. The experiences gained should harden them and keep them as contenders for several years to come.

#### Exceptional semi-finals

It has been several years since we were treated to two enthralling semi-finals. Carrickshock defeated Erins Own by 1-16 to 1-14 in a welter of excitement and skill. They barely held out in the face of a great comeback by the 'Comer men that might have brought them an unlikely victory

in the last moments of the game. Carrickshock should never have found themselves in a mess near the end had they taken any of a multitude of chances earlier in the game.

O'Loughlins were rank outsiders in the second semi-final against Shamrocks but bossed the game from the throw-in. Shamrocks, without Henry and with Cha surprisingly located at half back, were strangely subdued and rarely managed to impose their old authority on the game. A Niall McEvoy goal near the end gave O'Loughlins a well deserved victory by 2-16 to 3-10. We witnessed exceptional performance from Maurice Nolan, Martin Comerford, Danny Loughnane and Brian Hogan who brought great stability to an already rugged defence.

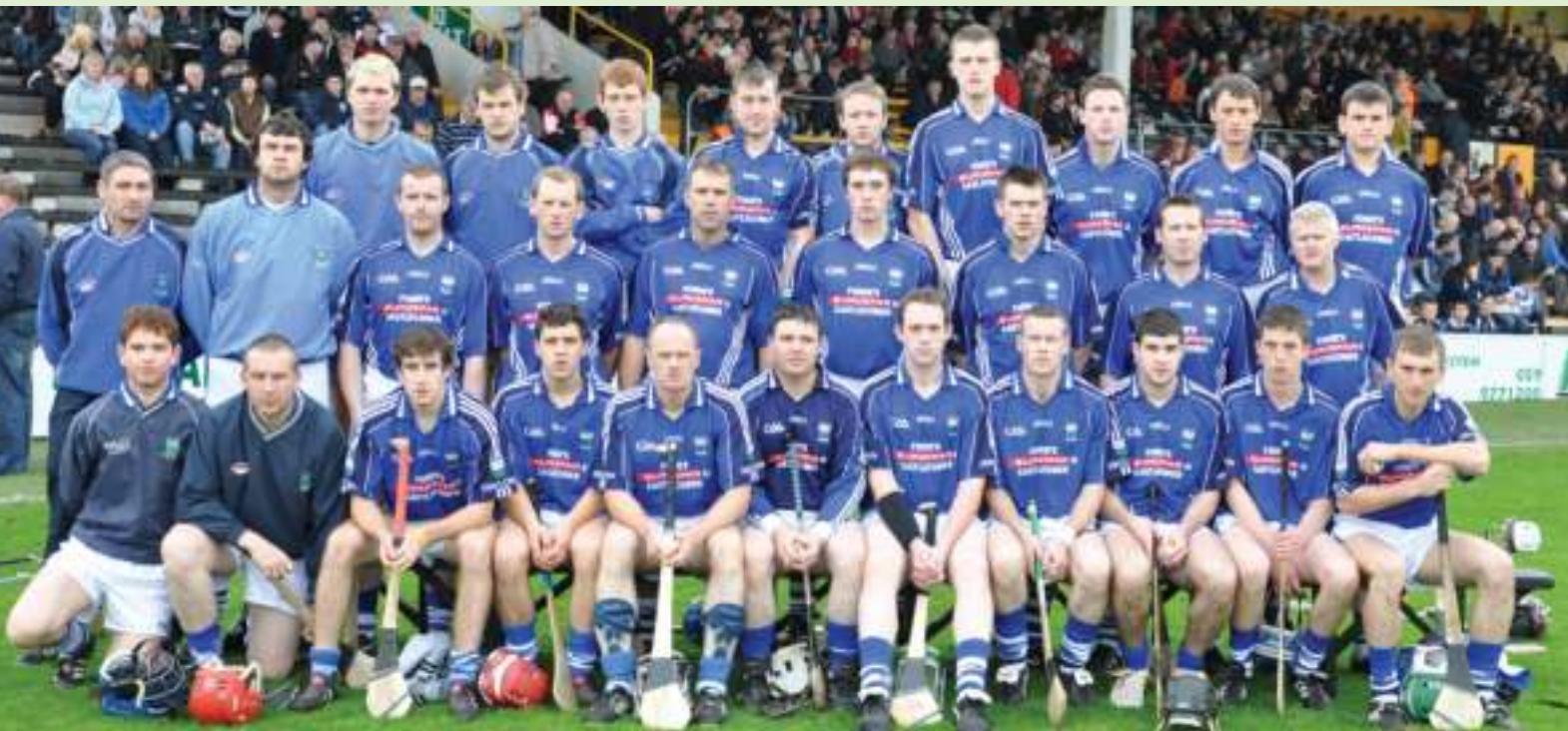
#### Quarter finals

On the evidence of their quarter final, few were impressed by O'Loughlins. They managed to defeat a game but limited St. Martins side by 2-11 to 1-11 but the good signs were there to be



Ballyhale Shamrocks - County SH Semi-finalists 2010

**Back:** Richard Deasy, Eoin Knox, Gavin Butler, Conor Walsh, Richard Reid, Kieran Grace, Patrick Reid, Enda Fitzpatrick  
**Middle:** Liam Grant, David Hoyne, Colin Fennelly, Joseph Holden, T. J. Reid, Eamon Walsh, James Connolly, Donnacadh Fitzpatrick, Ger Fennelly, Brendan Costelloe, Michael Dermody.  
**Front:** James Walsh, Michael Fennelly, Tom Coogan, Bob Aylward, Mark Aylward, Eoin Reid, Aidan Cummins, James 'Cha' Fitzpatrick, Alan Cuddihy, Michael Carroll.



**Erin's Own - County SH Semi-finalists 2010**

Back: Aidan Moran, Mikey Dwyer, Lar Carroll, Dermot Wallace, Brian Dillon, Martin Hawley, Ciaran McDermott, Declan Dunne, Stephen Daly  
 Middle: Mark Rothwell, Donal Fenlon, Peter O' Donovan, Damien Fogarty, Michael Owens, Donal Mealey, Jimmy Byrne, Gordan Byrne, Joe Meagher  
 Front: Caomhán Dunne, Davy Buggy, Martin Boran, Gerry Cullinan, Sean Meally, Tom Brophy, Michael Murphy, Ronan Ryan, Peadar Boran, James Mullins, Conor Fogarty

seen, the ability to eke out a result in a tight game, accurate free-taking and a miserly defence. St. Martins are young and have potential to do well.

Carrickshock blew away James Stephens by 1-20 to 1-15 in probably the best team performance of the year. Everything they tried worked well for them and Richie Power ran amok scoring 0-13 from frees and play. James Stephens never increased the pace from the League final of a week earlier and rarely threatened the visitors.

Erin's Own disposed of Clara by 0-14 to 0-8 in a dour struggle. The maroon men, with lots of county under 21s and ex minors, barely raised a gallop as the Fogarty brothers, Sean Meally and Michael Murphy dominated for Erin's Own.

If Clara and St. Martins are to improve they must find leaders and leadership among their players because both sides faded badly when stresses were applied.

#### First Round

In the earlier rounds Graig-Ballycallan almost scored an unlikely upset when they came within one point of a rapidly unravelling Carrickshock side. Clara defeated Fenians in a grim affair, Dunnimaggin despatched Tullaroan in similar vein and St. Martins consigned St. Lachtains to a relegation struggle.

Two proud neighbours fought the relegation battle and Fenians just about held their senior status intact since 1968. Fear of failure hampered this contest. St. Lachtains were without the services of Bill Beckett and Fenians welcomed the return of PJ Delaney, both factors in the end result. Lachtains dominated until a late Lar Ryan goal gave Fenians sufficient impetus to remain on the senior ladder. But they must beware, they cannot hope to win every relegation battle!

I wrote last year that teams worked harder at avoiding the first round of the championship than trying to win the league or shield. James Stephens victory over Shamrocks in a good game may have bred some complacency before their championship outing. Eventual county champions O'Loughlins' display in the Shield final was surely the worst performance of the season as they failed to dispatch a shadow Erins Own team.

Overall the neutral got good value though he would have preferred a more enlightened fixtures list. Far too many games took place simultaneously. We need to return to the fixture

making of several years ago when one could manage to see almost every championship game played in the county.

#### **The following players took part in the 2010 Kilkenny SH championship.**

**Ballyhale Shamrocks:** James Connolly, Alan Cuddihy, Aidan Cummins, Tom Coogan, Paul Shefflin, Eamon Walsh, Bob Aylward, James Fitzpatrick, Michael Fennelly, James Walsh, T. J. Reid, Colin Fennelly, Mark Aylward, Eoin Reid, Patrick Reid, Joe Holden, David Hoyne, Brendan Costello, Donnacha Fitzpatrick.

**Carrickshock:** Pat Farrell, Richie Frisby, John Dalton, Luke Gaule, William Hoyne, Niall Tennyson, John Murphy, Pat Tennyson, John Michael Rice, John Power, Jamie Power, Richie Power, Andrew Power, Darren O'Dwyer, Brian Donovan, David Franks, Mark O'Dwyer, John Cahill, Paddy Mulcahy.

**Clara:** Michael Barcoe, Dermot Nolan, Shane Prendergast, Sean O'Shea, Neal Prendergast, David Langton, David Prendergast, Brian Phelan, Brian O'Shea, James Nolan, Liam Ryan, Tom Ryan, Conor Phelan, Keith Hogan, Eoin O'Shea, Killian Phelan, Conor O'Shea, Lester Ryan.

**Dunnimaggin:** David Herity, Mark Dowling, Noel Hickey, Mark Heffernan, Aidan Donovan, Canice Hickey, Andrew Hickey, Kenny Moore, Sean Connery, Darren Fitzpatrick, J. J. Dunphy, Seaghan O'Neill, Liam Heffernan, Noel Lahart, Tommy Maher, Peter Kennelly, Kieran Bergin.

**Erins Own:** Tom Brophy, James Mullins, Sean Meally, Peter O'Donovan, Gerry Cullinan, Damien Fogarty, Conor Fogarty, Ronan Ryan, Gordan Byrne, Martin Boran, Michael Murphy, Donal Meally, Peadar Boran, Michael Owens, Jimmy Byrne, Davy Buggy.

**Fenians:** P.J. Ryan, J. P. Grehan, J. J. Delaney, Declan Garrett, Cathal Ryan, P. J. Delaney, Jason Ryan, Kieran Grehan, John Henderson, Conor Tobin, John Broderick, Kevin Power, Lar Ryan, Paul Quinlan, Brian Power, Daniel Dermody, Kevin Reid,

**Graigue Ballycallan:** Thomas Ryan, Dermot Hoyne, James Ryall, Darragh Walton, Adrian Burke, Michael Hoyne, Ciaran Hoyne, Jimmy Murphy, Patrick Kennedy, Eddie Brennan, Niall Millea, James Smith, Gearoid Cleere, John Hoyne, Sean O'Dwyer, Pat Robinson, Dermot Heafe, John Purcell.

**James Stephens:** Derrick Brennan, Niall McQuillan, Donnacha Cody, Tomas Keogh, Alan Tyrrell, Jackie Tyrrell, Shane Campion, Niall Tyrrell, Conor McQuillan, Richie Hayes, Eoin Larkin, Matthew Ruth, Eoin McCormack, David Walton, David McCormack, Shane Brennan, Eamon Sheehy, John Comerford, Mark Hoban.

**O'Loughlin Gaels:** Stephen Murphy, Brian Kelly, Andy Kearns, Eddie Kearns, Alan O'Brien, Brian Hogan, Niall Bergin, Peter Dowling, Maurice Nolan, Niall McEvoy, Mark Bergin, Alan Geoghegan, Danny Loughnane, Martin Comerford, Conor Bergin, Seanie Cummins, Jack Nolan, Brian Dowling.

**St.Martin's:** Colin McGrath, Shane Cadigan, Brendan Maher, Ollie Walsh, Tom Breen, Paddy Nolan, James Dowling, Paul Maher, Podge Haughney, John Mulhall, Shane Coonan, John Maher, Eoin McGrath, Robert Shore, Joe Maher, Aidan Lawlor, Alan Murphy, Ronan Maher, Canice Maher.

**St. Lachtain's:** Thomas Delaney, Tomas Flynn, Michael Kavanagh, Seamus Hayes, Michel Cormack, John Costello, Brian Kennedy, Noel McGree, Noel Hickey, Eoin Guinan, Davy Brennan, Robbie Dowling, Paul Guinan, James Meagher, John Fitzpatrick, Ollie O'Connor.

**Tullaroan:** Richard Butler, Michael Maher, Paddy Campion, Stephen Dowling, Ken Coogan, Stephen Maher, David Dowling, Tommy Walsh, Martin Walsh, Mark Walsh, Michael Walsh, Padraig Walsh, Paul Buggy, Nicky Maher, Paul Doheny, Mark Simpson.



# Dicksboro go one better

County Intermediate Hurling Report by Conor Brennan

Photos Eoin Hennessy

**"Although it seemed at times that a repeat of 2009 was on the cards and that Dicksboro would endure another winter of "what if's" to consider, the city men proved their undoubted worth by hanging on by the tips of their collective fingernails to return to the senior grade."**

As is their habit, however, they did not make it easy on themselves or their loyal following, particularly in the final crucial exchanges against Mullinavat on county final day. Yet, no one could deny that the title went where it was most deserved. The next, and indeed the bigger challenge for the city side is to now solidify their place at the top level. Optimism should be high based on their performances at under-age level over the last few seasons, but this should be always tempered with a warning that this is no guarantee of future success, as many other clubs will testify.

And what of the remainder who fell short in this year's championship? It would be fair to say at the outset that little seems to separate those who will once again compete at intermediate level in 2011. That can be clearly seen in both the league and championship scores throughout the season with little more than a few points separating the teams in the majority of the games. Although it eventually transpired that the same four teams qualified for both the league and championship semi-finals, they were made fight all the way by the remaining contenders. Hopefully, this will bode well for another competitive championship next year.

The opening round of the championship brought together four intriguing games for all supporters. The clash of Blacks & Whites and Tulloher-Rosbercon in Thomastown saw the junior champions from the previous two years go head to head. Victory was vital for both sides as not only would pro-

vide qualification for the quarter-finals, but would ensure that the victorious side would avoid the threat of relegation. The Skeoughvasteen men should have been keen to avoid that fate, having just returned to the intermediate grade this year. However, their opponents, despite being somewhat inconsistent throughout the season, produced some of their best form then it mattered most to secure a valuable victory on a score line of 1-14 to 1-11. They were guilty of a lot of missed chances throughout the game and met some stubborn Blacks & Whites resistance in the first half, but when Richie Dollard punished a mix-up mid-way through the second half to secure a goal, it was the boost they needed to go for victory.

Another team who were desperate to avoid the relegation mire were Emeralds. They were also proving to be an inconsistent side throughout the season, and defeat against their first round opponents, Graignamanagh, would have been a major body blow for a team with good ability throughout the field. The Graig men, with only one victory in the league stages, were similarly eager to get a victory, having been threatened with relegation last year. The key difference in the clash between the two sides was the experience and skill of the Emeralds' two main players, Aidan Fogarty and Derek Lyng, who contributed 1-10 out of the Urlingford men's



**Eddie O'Donoghue**  
**Dicksboro**  
**Captain**



**Dicksboro - County IH Champions 2010**

**Back:** Conor O'Loughlin, Davy Ryan, Tom Manning, Gary Gaule, Jessie Waters, Paddy Henderson, Evan Guilfoyle, David Glynn, David Carroll, JJ Hogan.

**Middle:** Ollie Walsh, Darragh Buggy, Kieran Cuddihy, Danny Kenny, Philly Hogan, Cillian Breathnach, Michael Rafter, Derek O'Gorman, Martin Gaffney,

Shane Maher, Kevin Nolan

**Front:** Adrian Stapleton, Cillian Starr, Darren Tyrell, Paul O'Flynn, Cillian Buckley, Sam Morrissey, Eddie O'Donoghue (Capt), Enda Malone, Michael Fagan.



**Mullinavat - County IH Finalists & League Champions 2010**

**Back:** Brian Kenneally, Kevin Aylward, Paddy Jones, Ger Anthony, Damien Reid, Joe Gahan, Darren Kenneally, Michael Duggan, Ciarán Boyle, Brian Power, Liam Murphy  
**Middle:** Nicholas Anthony, Eoin Maher, Seamus Farrell, Michael Murphy, Tony Duggan, Dinny Butler, Michael Malone, Damien Aylward, Micheál Farrell, Joe Fennelly, Pádraig Gahan, Andrew McGovern, Kenny Slattery.  
**Front:** Simon Aylward, James Culleton, Conor Conway, Willie Dwyer, Jamie Fennelly, Ian Duggan, Walter Burke, Paddy Raftice, Mossy Jones, Ger Malone, Thomas Aylward.

total of 1-14. The Graig men did their very best to remain in the contest, but their opponents maintained their ascendancy until the end to emerge victors by five points (1-14 to 1-9).

Conahy Shamrocks and Mooncoin were an intriguing pairing that clashed in Nowlan Park in their opening round game. Though it was an exciting affair, it was far from an inspiring tussle as both sides missed chances throughout. An early salvo from the Conahy men meant they held a slender lead all through the game. First half Conahy goals from Alan Healy and Michéal Lawler saw Mooncoin chase the game from an early stage, and although they came mightily close, it wasn't enough, as Conahy held on for a single point victory (3-6 to 1-11).

Being a Southern derby, one would have expected the final first round game between Glenmore and the Rower-Inistioge in Thomastown to be similarly tough and tense. And so it proved, and like the game in Nowlan Park, was low in quality at times. The key difference between the two sides lay in the midfield battle, as the Rower held sway thanks to the efforts of the hard-working Joe Lyng and the dependable Kieran Joyce. The Glenmore defence was typically strong and determined, but too often they were left to depend on Eoin Murphy or Ger Aylward to secure scores to keep them in the game. Yet, victory was only confirmed for the Rower in the final few minutes as points from Joyce (2) and Lyng gave them a scarcely deserved six point win (0-17 to 0-11). The quarter-finals gave the first round victors the opportunity to prove that their form could push them into a county semi-final, in spite of the fact that in each case, they were undeniably the underdogs. Tullogher-Rosbercon were the first team out to buck the trend, but they were facing a Danesfort team who were determined to return to a county final stage once again. They showed their intent with a vengeance, in particular through the main scoring threat, Richie Hogan. The county star produced a superb performance, scoring a hat-trick of goals to stun the Southerners. In truth, the game was over with ten minutes to go, with Danesfort leading by twelve points. Tullogher did rally with

a late surge of score, but Danesfort would not be denied, winning 3-15 to 3-7.

Dicksboro were favourites to advance against the Emeralds in their first foray into the championship in Freshford. The Urlingford men more than held their own in the opening quarter of the game, but when Paul O'Flynn goaled twice in quick succession for the city side, it proved to be a major body blow for the Emeralds. They did bounce back with a goal from an Alan Guilfoyle penalty, but Dicksboro still held the scoring ascendancy well into the second half. Emeralds managed another rally late in the game to cut the deficit to five points, but Dicksboro were again able to regain their dominance and fully deserved to advance on a 2-16 to 3-9 score line.

Mullinavat were equally optimistic of qualifying for the semi-finals as they took on Rower-Inistioge in Thomastown. The Rower men were at a serious disadvantage in the lead-up to the game as two of their best performers, Joe Lyng and Michael Doyle, were both suffering from injuries. It came as no surprise, then, that Mullinavat started the sharper and led 0-8 by 0-5 at the break, though the Rower had showed great determination throughout. This was rewarded with scores in the second half as they managed to level affairs with three consecutive points. This made for a really exciting second half as scores were swapped at both ends. However, the final ten minutes belonged to Mullinavat, as three points from Paddy Raftice, Michael Murphy and Conor Conway saw Mullinavat advance on a 0-17 to 0-14 score line.

Another equally tight and tense affair was the clash of Young Irelands and Conahy Shamrocks. The Gowran men looked to have the measure of the Conahy side for the majority of the game, but the underdogs made life extremely difficult for them. When Gavin Nolan goaled for Conahy after good work from Alan Healy, it crowned a period of dominance for Conahy late in the first half, after a slow start to the game. However, Young Irelands showed all their experience when Peter Carroll claimed a high ball in the Conahy square to finish to the net and reclaim the lead just before half-time (1-7 to 1-5). Conahy fought tooth and nail to force

their way back into the game but their opponents were calm and determined all through. The introduction of the ageless Charlie Carter also paid major dividends for Young Irelands, as he scored two valuable points for Gowran to maintain their lead. It was a lead that, try as Conahy might, they never surrendered until the end, winning 1-14 to 1-11.

The opening semi-final between Young Irelands and Dicksboro was as disappointing as the final score suggested. The Gowran men just never got going as the city side rarely had to get into top gear at any stage. The fact that they couldn't even muster a score in the second half shows how disappointed they were likely to be with their performance. Despite this, it wasn't until Dicksboro's Eddie O'Donoghue goaled in the second half that the city side's progression to the final was certain. In the end, they had plenty to spare, winning 2-14 to 0-4.

The second game between Danesfort and Mullinavat had the Nowlan Park attendance in better humour as both sides served up a highly entertaining game. The key difference between the two sides was the simple ability of taking the chances when they arise. Unfortunately for Danesfort on this occasion, this was not the case, as they shot fifteen wides throughout the game, some of which were without doubt of a poor nature. Despite this, they secured the key score of the opening half when Richie Hogan buried the ball to the Mullinavat net after good work by Robbie Walsh. It left Danesfort ahead by 1-6 to 0-7 at the half-time break, though in truth, it could have been more. This fact would have justifiably left all Danesfort supporters nervous as the second half commenced, as so it proved. Soon, the strong play of the likes of Willie O'Dwyer, Walter Burke and Michael Murphy ensured Mullinavat restored parity for Mullinavat once again. It was a nip and tuck affair until the final minutes, until Mullinavat's calmness in front of goal was rewarded with a late flurry of points from O'Dwyer, Murphy and sub Michael Farrell to secure their place in the final, thus winning 0-15 to 1-9, and leaving Danesfort disappointed once again.

One could not argue that the two most deserving teams had qualified for the county final. Both Dicksboro and Mullinavat had topped their respective groups in the league and, although they suffered mini-scares along the way, they had proved themselves to be truly in the top bracket of the intermediate grade in Kilkenny. The game looked set up for an exciting encounter.



Dick Carroll (Young Irelands) and Cillian Buckley (Dicksboro) meet during the IHC Semi-Final clash in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)



Michael Murphy (Mullinavat) holds off Padraig Forristal (Danesfort) during the IHC Semi-Final encounter in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)

Dicksboro began with the typical hunger of a team that was looking to make amends for the defeat of the previous year and were in full flow from an early stage. Oppositely, Mullinavat were slow to build on a positive start when they scored the opening two points. The killer blow came midway through the half when Dicksboro corner-forward Adrian Stapleton made a typically direct run on goal before finishing emphatically to the net. Further points from Eddie O'Donoghue and the impressive Cillian Buckley increased the city side's lead, as they deservedly led by 1-8 to 0-5 at the half-time interval.

Mullinavat desperately needed a break to go their way in order to get back in the game, and they got it. A long free from Conor Conway was deflected by a Dicksboro defender into the net to cut the deficit to three points. This gave the Southerners a big boost and they hurled with far more belief. Their major problem, at this stage, was the fact that they were missed too many chances for their liking as Dicksboro were hanging on for dear life. Mullinavat were soon left to pay for their way-

ward shooting as good work from Paul O'Flynn saw him lay on a good pass to Adrian Stapleton, who finished brilliantly to the net for his second goal (2-10 to 1-9).

Inexplicably, Mullinavat somehow managed to reply straightaway with a goal of their own from Paddy Raftice to again leave only a point between the sides. A dramatic conclusion beckoned as both sides fought for every inch. Again Mullinavat were to rue a number of missed opportunities as Dicksboro had minimal scoring chances, of which they managed to score two points, one from Derek o'Gorman and another from an Eddie O'Donoghue free. Unfortunately for the Southerners, they could only secure two points of their own from the many chances they had, and with a final total of fifteen wides, it resulted in a heartbreaking finish for them. Dicksboro, meanwhile, having been left to hold on for dear life for most of the second half, secured their single point victory that they so badly wanted (2-12 to 2-11). It was a drama with a conclusion fitting of the occasion.

### Michael Lyng Motors Intermediate Hurling Championship 2010

#### Results

##### 1st Round

Tullogher-Rosbercon 1-14 Blacks & Whites 1-11  
Emeralds 1-14 Graignamanagh 1-9  
Conahy Shamrocks 3-6 Mooncoin 1-11  
Rower-Inistioge 0-17 Glenmore 0-11

#### Quarter-Final

Danesfort 3-15 Tullogher-Rosbercon 3-7  
Dicksboro 2-16 Emeralds 3-9  
Mullinavat 0-17 Rower-Inistioge 0-14  
Young Irelands 1-14 Conahy Shamrocks 1-11

#### Semi-Final

Dicksboro 2-14 Young Irelands 0-4  
Mullinavat 0-15 Danesfort 1-9

#### Relegation Final

Graignamanagh 2-18 Blacks & Whites 1-10

#### Final

Dicksboro 2-12 Mullinavat 2-11

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## CO IH CHAMPIONSHIP ACTION

Photos Eoin Hennessy

# SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

2010 County Junior Hurling Report by Jimmy Walsh



Eoin Hennessy

## JOHN LOCKES - COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 2010.

**Back:** PJ.Cody, JP. Corcoran, Eoin Fahy, Paddy Kennedy, Robbie Jackman (capt), JJ. Corrigan, PJ.O'Keeffe, Bill Mc.Cormack, Liam Kennedy.

**Standing:** John O'Neill, Adrian O'Sullivan, Brian McCann, Declan Roche, Michael Hartley, Matthew Holahan.

**Sitting:** Michael Gordon, Simon Burke, James Power, Paul Morrissey, JasonCorcoran, Owen McGrath, Ger Shelly, Shane Bergin, Mick Roche.

### *Junior hurling provides something for everyone*

Catering for every camán wielding club in the county, the swings and roundabouts of junior hurling involves the most players, provides the most games and is contested with passion and fervor. The bread and butter of the game, it sees teams and stars rise right through it to national level and often make the return journey back to the grass roots. Often the subject of heated debate and discussion amongst the protagonists it remains strong, vibrant and active and almost always out of the limelight and national headlines. Within weeks of the last whistle in the finals of the various grades the annual focus returns even more determined than ever as club plans are made to meet the dreams being dreamt. Throughout the winter months through meetings and AGM's, pre season training is arranged and trainers and selectors are appointed. Behind the scenes the works continue to improve facilities for the players and to create a war chest for a long campaign. Never straying far from people's thoughts, even the newly promoted junior champions and many of the intermediate teams are motivated by the activities of the movers and shakers behind them.

Once summed up in the words of a long-serving club official at a Southern Board meeting whilst discussing the merits, strengths and benefits of each grade. "It would be a great championship if all the teams were in it". For the speaker, himself a veteran of many championship campaigns and now the divisional club delegate, umpire, grounds man and treasurer of over forty years standing in Mullinavat, Jim Conway still has a grá for the cut and thrust of the junior grade. This year as the February days lengthened and a March throw-in loomed it was again all to play for. As with the best laid plans, the emerging economic situation of emigration along with exams and injuries could play as crucial a part as the timing of a team's run to take one of the many titles on offer.

### *John Lockes return to the Intermediate grade at the second attempt*

#### *- Junior Championship Time*

With the All County league sorted and the County League at the final stages the list of form teams clearly headed by Lisdowney and Piltown made interesting reading. For the twenty five teams involved it was the last chance saloon of silverware glory as only one team could go on to win it out. For the optimists a good run would be seen as a solid foundation to build on for another year. The opening game saw Cloneen slipping to a one point defeat by newly promoted St. Lachtnans on the fifteenth of August. Two days later the dreams of Erin's

Own, Clara and James Stephens ended as St. Patrick's, O'Loughlin Gaels, and Bennettsbridge made the last seven in the north. It was another week before Dicksboro joined them after accounting for St. Lachtains as the games took a break until after the All Ireland senior and minor finals.

On the resumption as Galmoy, Barrow Rangers and Dicksboro progressed to the last four St. Patrick's rallied in their game with Lisdowney to force a late draw. In the replay the momentum in gaining the draw saw the Paulstown side qualify at the second attempt. In the semi-finals Barrow Rangers accounted for Galmoy with St. Patrick has to come from behind to record a 0-10 to 0-9 over a Dicksboro side showing strength in depth of resources as their minors and intermediates were all in strong championship contention within two days. In the final played in Canon Kearns Park in Castlecomer, Barrow Rangers went into a four point lead over St. Patrick's within ten minutes. After a comeback the Ballyragget men overhauled them and went on to lead by 0-7 to 0-6 at the break. With the respective free takers Dermot Maher and Kevin Kelly contributing ten points apiece of the twenty five scored Dermot Maher tied the game with three points in a row with just six minutes to go. After another exchange of points the game was tied again as play entered the last minute. As a draw appeared imminent Dermot Maher landed his last and the crucial score of the game to secure a long awaited Rafter Cup for Barrow Rangers as they recorded a 0-13 to 0-12 win.

With only eight teams as against seventeen in the North the Iverk Produce Sponsored Southern competition commenced on the first weekend of September. The games saw Piltown and John Lockes record good wins over Dunnamaggan and Slieverue with Kilmacow and Thomastown both finishing four points ahead of Mooncoin and Windgap in their victories. In the semi finals Piltown recorded a 1-15 to 0-11 win over Kilmacow whilst John Lockes piped Thomastown 3-9 to 1-10.

In the final played before a fine crowd in Ballyhale John Locke's whirlwind start saw them lay the foundations that later withstood Piltown's second half revival to retain their crown. Showing great first touches the Lockes created fine chances and were 2-2 to 0-2 ahead at the end of the first quarter. Five minutes later they were 3-4 to 0-2 ahead as the side dominated and Piltown's scoring attempts failed to have the same Midas touch. On the resumption the Callan side added another point before four scores on the run for Piltown had the lead cut to 3-6 to 0-8 at the there quarter way stage. In the final minutes a continually



Eoin Hennessy

**BARROW RANGERS - COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING FINALISTS 2010.**

**Back:** Thomas Whately, J J Staunton, Kevin Brennan, Sean McDonald, John O'Neill, Michael Lonergan, David Staunton, John Brennan, Damien Barcoe, Jason Holden.

**Middle:** Richard Doyle, Denis Kealy, Martin Dormer, Liam Walsh, Kevin McDonald, Patrick Purcell, Stephen Dormer, Dermot Maher, Paddy Barcoe, Tom Brennan.

**Front:** John Kealy, Derek McEvoy, Martin Bambrick, Ian Holden, Shane McEvoy, Michael Whately, Cathal Kenny, Thomas Brennan, Cathal English.

improving fourteen man Piltown side had reduced the lead to 3-8 to 0-12 at the final whistle.

With John Lockes in their second consecutive County Final and Barrow Rangers in their first final in twenty years it was to be a unique occasion. After a series of exciting top class hurling games in the Junior Divisional Competitions and the senior semi finals this tie in Nowlan Park lived up to it all. In the game the more experienced John Lockes settled best and were a goal up in two minutes from Ger Shelly who then netted a second ten minutes later. After finding themselves six points behind after twenty minutes the Barrow Rangers side got into the game and went on to lead 1-7 to 2-3 at the break after Martin Bambrick goaled. Continuing as they finished the first half Dermot Maher's unerring accuracy for Barrow Rangers soon had them six points ahead with twenty minute s to go. As the Lockes rallied and their spectators willed them to drop in the ball from a long range free as time ran out the Lockes took the point and were now three points down with two minutes to go. Showing an icy coolness they persisted in taking their points as Jason Corcoran went on to land the crucial one to tie the game in injury time 1-14 to 2-11.

Back in the Park on the October Bank Holiday for the replay the sides were level after six minutes and a further three times before they re-tired still together 1-4 to 0-7 at the break. It was more of the same on the restart as the Lockes went three ahead only to be hauled back level.

Two points off the wing by Paddy Kennedy got his side back in front and the lead was soon stretched to five points. In a never say die finish Dermot Maher reduced the lead to four as a goal chance opened up to reduce the lead to a single point. However as the ball flew over the bar from a boot it left the scores 1-14 to 0-14 in favour of John Lockes. As Paddy Neary called time the Callan crowd celebrated as Robert Jackman collected the Bob Aylward Cup.

**Fenians Win the "A" Championship**

Runners up in the Northern division the previous year The Fenians followed their predecessors Clara who also took the title at the second attempt. Having taken the longest route via the preliminary round their 0-17 to 2-10 single point win over Graigue Ballycallan had them on their way. They then accounted for Young Irelands in the semi-final whist Tullaroan overcame the Emeralds to join them. In the final The Fenians beat Tullaroan by 1-17 to 0-8 to take the Martin Egan Cup.

Having trialed league championship format the previous year the Southern Board retained the new format as eight teams started out in two groups. After the League section Ballyhale and Mullinavat had full points and were the bookies favorites for the final. In the quarter final the surprises commenced as Ballyhale Shamrocks were well tested by Thomastown who took them to a replay. In the semis Mullinavat went out to the Rower Inistioge as Ballyhale Shamrocks suffered a sim-



Eoin Hennessy

**FENIANS - JH "A" Champions 2010**

**Back:** J.Cullinane, D.Delaney, T.Bowe, C. Beehan, D.Tobin, D.Power, C.Tobin, D.Brennan, S.Warren, E.Shiel, S.Grehan, J.Ryan, E.Grehan, Cathal Ryan, P.Quinlan.

**Front:** L.Ryan, D.Ryan, D.Dermody, P.Phelan (Capt), D.Wilson, Ciaran Ryan, E.Phelan, E.Hughes, E. O' Meara



Eoin Hennessy

**LIDOWNEY - ALL- COUNTY JH LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2010.**

**Back:** Niall Kenny, Jamie Burns, Ciaran Bergin and Paul Murphy

**Middle:** Michael Lennon, Rory Hickey, Michael Campion, Joe Bergin, Ray Fitzpatrick, Edward Kenny, Brian Campion, Aaron Fogarty, Jamie Bergin, Laurence O'Carroll, Peter Bergin, Paul Sweeney, Pat O'Carroll, Brendan Blanchfield, David Dowling.

**Front:** Jim Dunne, Eoin Maher, Sean Phelan, Anthony O'Hara, Niall O'Hara, Padraig Kenny, Vincent Fitzpatrick, Paddy Bowden, Eoin Delahunt, Niall Grogan, Martin Phelan, Paddy Burns, Eddie Hickey, Niall Mackey.



Charlie Maher

**PILTON - SOUTHERN JUNIOR HURLING FINALISTS 2010.**

**Back:** Shane Kinsella, Andrew McCarthy, Nigel Brennan, Tommie O'Gorman, James Norris, Fran Duggan, Mark Culleton, John Brophy, Daniel Norris, Michael Brennan, Kevin Brophy, Pa Connolly, Paul Kirby, Niall Kinsella, Kieran Norris, Seamus Norris.

**Front:** Joey O' Shea, Jamie Phelan, Andrew Norris, Brendan Norris, Michael Burchill, Neil Kelly, Richard McCarthy, Adam Murphy, Phillip Kenny, Martin Power, Nicholas Kenny, James Connolly, Peter McCarthy, Kieran Foley.

ilar fate with Carrickshock. In the final it was the runners in each league group that faced each other as Carrickshock went on to record a 0-15 to 0-12 win over the Rower men.

In the JJ Kavanagh and Sons county final in Nowlan Park the Fenians won their third title in the grade when beat Carrickshock by 2-14 to 1-14 in the Park on 30th of August

**Lisdowney win Junior B Championship**

Played on a league championship basis in was neighbours Kilmacow and Slieverue in Group "A" and Glenmore and Tullougher Rosbercon in Group "B" who headed the league tables after five rounds of games. In the knockout stages Carrigeen and Graiguenamanagh went out narrowly as Slieverue only went down to a Mullinavat after a replay. After their break through Mullinavat went out to Kilmacow as Tullougher Rosbercon overturned their league table position on Glenmore. In the final the Tullougher Rosbercon side took the southern title with a 1-13 to 1-9 win over Kilmacow

In the North a real knockout competition with seventeen teams saw Clara start in the preliminary round and move straight to the final after wins over Threecastles, St. Patrick's, Graigue Ballycallan, and Barrow Rangers. In the other side of the draw Lisdowney over-

came Conahy Shamrocks, Danesfort and St. Lachtains In some of the highly competitive games along the way O'Loughlins and Danesfort and then Blacks & Whites & Bennettsbridge went to the wire as the former sides only recorded single point wins only to fall at the next hurdle. In the final Lisdowney defeated Clara 3-13 to 1-11 to take the Johnny Ivory Cup. Following their win in the county final when Lisdowney were promoted to the "A" Grade for 2011 after they defeated Tullougher 1-11 to 1-8 in last week of August.

**Junior League County title for Lisdowney after replay**

With the first round played a week before May Day the Southern league championship stages saw Piltown clear every hurdle whilst clocking up huge scores on the way as only Kilmacow showed any closeness to them on the league table. Exactly three months later Piltown confirmed their form with a 1-17 to 1-11 win over Kilmacow in the Southern Final.

Up North in a larger thirteen team competition Barrow Rangers led newly promoted St. Martins at the top of the Group "A" as Lisdowney and Galmoy had more space to spare in the smaller group "B". In two fiercely com-

petitive semi finals Galmoy and Lisdowney piped Barrow Rangers and St. Martins by two points respectively. In the final Lisdowney narrowly won the title in the battle of the blue and whites by 3-12 to Galmoy's 1-14. In the county final in Nowlan Park on the October Bank Holiday Monday the Iverk men were well beaten by Lisdowney who copper fastened their earlier All County League Final result over Piltown by outscoring them 2-19 to 0-12

**Fenians outscore Mullinavat to take Junior "A" League Title**

After staring in late March Erin's Own of Bagelstown and Mullinavat headed their respective groups in the Southern section. In the semi-final the Carlow side fell to the Rower whilst Mullinavat continued their way to the final with a win over John Lockes. In the final played in Slieverue's newly developed ground Mullinavat held sway in a cracker on a 1-14 to the Rower Inistioge's 2-10 scoreline.

After a close league campaign between eight teams where Tullaroan just failed to make the cut on scoring averages, the knockout stages followed to form with table toppers the Fenians and Young Irelands easily qualifying



Eoin Hennessy

#### LISDOWNEY - COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING "B" CHAMPIONS 2010.

**Back:** Jim Dunne, Tom O'Carroll, Eoin Maher, Michael Bergin, Ciaran Bergin, Padraic Kenny, Brian Campion, Aaron Fogarty, Niall Kenny, Jamie Bergin, Eoin Warren, Brian Purcell, George Healy, Ger Sheehy, Declan O'Shea, Paddy Bergin, Michael Campion.

**Front:** David Dowling, Edward Kenny, Michael Lennon, Micheal Bergin, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Eoin Delahunt, Niall Grogan, Jimmy Delaney, Laurence O'Carroll, John Murphy, Paul Mulally, Paul Murphy, Paul Sweeney



#### WINDGAP - FENNELLY CUP WINNERS 2010.

**Back:** Paul Comerford, Shane Walsh, Stephen Purcell, Patrick Foley, Michael Power, Eamon Hawe, Kieran Purcell, Cian Ryan, Sean Power, Gerard Purcell, Pat Walsh (Trainer), Sean Foley, Vincent Landy, Jimmy Coyne (Selector), Peter Landy, John McKenna (Mentor), JJ Phelan, Davy Power, PJ Barron.

**Front:** Darren Walsh, Adrian Landy, Tommy Fleming, James Murray, Aidan Mackey, Matthew Enright, Tommy Lonergan (Captain), Phillip Lonergan, Eoin Cody, Noel Power, James Mackey, Paul McKenna, Vincent Long, Laurence Doyle.

through the semi finals. In the final the Johnstown men ran out winners by almost double scores 2-14 to 1-9 over Tullaroan.

In the county final The Fenians made it a league and championship double when they defeated Mullinavat 3-17 to 0-9 in late October.

#### **Junior B League Title for Mullinavat**

After sixteen teams played a marathon fifty eight games Northern league the play offs were reached after St Patrick's headed one group and Dicksboro and Danesfort were almost inseparable in the other. In the seven knockout games St. Patrick's found the toughest route to the final averaging a single point victory in their two games. On the other side of the draw Danesfort had an easier passage. In the final in Bennettsbridge, St. Patrick's took the title with another one point win over Danesfort on a 0-15 to 1-11 scoreline. Down South with only ten teams the programme was run without quarter finals and only involved a third of the number of games. The results saw the sides from the intermediate clubs all qualifying as Mullinavat third team and Glenmore's second defeated the second sides from Tullougher Rosbercon and Mooncoin respectively. In the final Mullinavat took the title with a 3-10 to 1-13 win over Glenmore and added the then county title when they defeated St Patrick's 2-7 to 0-11 on 2nd July

#### *Lisdowney win All County as Carlow sides focus on McCarthy Cup*

In a surprise development holders and three time title winners Mount Leinster Rangers and their Carlow counterparts failed to make an impact in these years JJ Kavanagh All County Junior League. This was partly because of the counties historic Christy Ring success story and the player's county commitments that had increased greatly on their promotion to the top flight of the All Ireland Senior hurling Championship and the Liam McCarthy Cup series.

In all twenty four teams entered as the games commenced in four groups on the first week in April. After sixty games, five northern and three southern sides were in the quarter final hat.

A later examination of them would see that six of them would later contest their respective divisional championship semi-finals. In the quarter finals Lisdowney, Piltown and St. Patrick's qualified easily with the tie of the round taking place between Barrow Rangers and John Lockes as it ended in a single point victory for the Paulstown men by 2-20 to 4-13. Unknown to all present in Thomastown just after the longest day of the year the sides would eventually be the last two standing in Nowlan Park as the main prize was being contested five months later. A week later in the semi finals Lisdowney overcame Ballyragget and Piltown beat the Paulstown side when

both of the winners had ten points to spare. In the final in Nowlan Park an Eddie Hickey goal five minutes from full time brought the side's level a position they still found their selves in at full time. In extra time Lisdowney had slipped a point ahead at the first break and after outpointing Piltown by three to two in the final period took the crown on a 1-17 to 0-18 scoreline. For Piltown who were 0-10 to 0-3 ahead after twenty minutes against the breeze it was a disappointing result as it was their second successive defeat at the final stage after going down to Mount Leinster Rangers the previous year.

#### **Paddy Cahill Cup Final Pile up**

After going down to Erin's Own in the recently played 2009 final O'Loughlin Gaels plans are that the Comer men's hold on the Cup will be short lived as they have qualified for another crack at it following their 3-12 to 1-15 win over Mooncoin in this year's semi final. In the other side of the draw St. Martins qualified to meet them after their 2-19 to 0-15 win over Dunnamaggan. A feature of this years competition designed for the third and fourth placed sides in the four groups participating in the All County league was the withdrawal of half of the teams in the first round.

#### **Windgap win Kevin Fennelly Cup**

After the 2009 final between Bennettsbridge and St. Martins failed to take place this years Fennelly Cup competition designed for the fifth and sixth placed sides in the four groups



Eoin Hennessy

**ST PATRICK'S - NORTHERN JUNIOR HURLING FINALISTS 2010.**

**Back:** Maurice Walshe, Donal Brennan, Alan Ruth, Geoff Morrissey, Ger Staunton, Jody Phelan, Kieran Delaney, Brian T Phelan, Kevin Kelly, J.J. O'Sullivan, Paddy McEvoy, John Holland, Joe Brennan, Sean Mooney, Barry Staunton.

**Front:** Liam Lacey, Stephen Roberts, Brian Mulhall, Geoff Brennan, John Mooney, Seoirse Kenny, James Gannon, Paddy Cahill, Michael Gannon, Bill Staunton, Dermot Brophy, Robbie Healy, Eoin Bergin, Brendan Dooley, Michael Brennan, Conor Foley.



**MUILLINAVAT: COUNTY JH "B" LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Joseph Wall, Pat Rohan (Manager), Thomas Aylward, Maurice Holden, Mossy Jones, Simon Aylward, Eoin Delahunt, Andrew Delahunt, Joe Fennelly, Tommy Holden, Damien Reid, Kenny Slattery, Derek Aylward, Shane Frisby, Seamus Holden.

**Front:** Richie Kenneally (selector), Paddy Raftice, Niall Frisby, Stephen Ryan, Ger Malone, Eoin Maher, Jim McDonald (Capt.), Liam Aylward, Brian Power, John Reade, Ciarán Boyle.



Eoin Hennessy

**TULLOGER ROSBERCON - SOUTHERN JH "B" CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Patrick Ryan, David Caulfield, Andrew Murphy, Kieran Barron, James Mullally, Amby Malone, James Ryan, Willie Ryan, Terence Croke, Martin Bookle, Mark O'Brien, Sean Meany, James Murphy, Michael Ryan, Gary Heffernan

**Front:** Thomas Healy, Simon Kennedy, Brian Alyward, Ian Power, Eoin Ryan, John Murphy, Peter Meggs, Bob Forristal, Mark Malone, Joe McCarthy, Joseph Ryan.

participating in the All County league was eagerly contested. The first round saw wins for Erin's Own, St. Lachtais, Dicksboro and Windgap over James Stephens, Naomh Bríd, Sliieverue and Cloneen respectively. In the semis Dicksboro and Windgap recorded victories before drawing the final in Callan 1-9 to 0-12. At the second attempt in a tightly contested game that produced an even spread of scoring chances, Windgap got the crucial goals as they recorded a 3-7 to 0-9 win.

#### **Joe Walsh Cup rests up North**

At the time of going to print the Joe Walsh Cup for Junior "B" Hurling sides continues to rest in Galmoy as the holders await their successors to collect it. To date Conahy Shamrocks who defeated Carrickshock by 1-13 to 1-12 are in the final where they await the winners of Lisdowney and Kilmacow from the other semi-final. After fourteen teams entered the starting line up Erin's Own, Sliieverue, O'Loughlins and Blacks and Whites made it past the first round to the quarter finals where both of the junior "B" sides Threecastles and Carrigeen went out in the first round along with Graiguenamanagh and Cloneen.

#### **The ups and Downs in Changing Times**

After a perfect year climatically for the games as the pitches benefited from the good summer weather the quality of junior hurling ended on a high as the divisional and county finals were well contested with many of the ties resulting close games and draws along the way.

For all involved it was a clean sweep as the season's Roll of Honor shows a new winner for every one of the ten County titles that included three County Championships, Four County leagues and Three County Cups.

In the competitive nature of Kilkenny hurling as John Lockes qualified for the Leinster Junior Club Final the thin line between success and defeat was sharply highlighted. As the Blacks and Whites the County Standard Bearers for 2009 continued their run through Leinster, they eventually reached the All Ireland semi-final early in 2010. Having gone down to Blackrock (Limerick) on the day, the commitment and effort involved took its toll as the side returned to the Junior grade after their short stint at Intermediate level.

For the year ahead a series of major debates on the format of junior hurling are scheduled in the clubs for ultimate decision at the Northern, Southern and County Board conventions. As a result structures of the junior competitions may face radical changes for the coming season with the new

proposals that have been suggested. On the Clár the proposals may include an All County Junior Championships, a Junior Board and new competitions for the second teams in the Senior and Intermediate grades. In truth all will all be investigated and thoroughly debated before being decided upon well in time before the first ball of the New Year is struck... Elsewhere in the Board

## **KILKENNY JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP SCOREBOARD 2010**

### **J.J.Kavanagh & Sons Northern JH Championship**

#### **Preliminary Round**

St.Lachtain's 1-13 Cloneen 1-9

#### **1st Round**

O'Loughlin Gaels	2-14	Clara	1-16
Bennettsbridge	1-13	James Stephens	1-10
Dicksboro	1-10	St.Lachtain's	1-6
St.Patrick's	0-16	Erins Own	1-8

#### **2nd Round**

Barrow Rangers	2-16	Bennettsbridge	2-10
Galmoy	2-14	O'Loughlin Gaels	2-8
Dicksboro	0-16	St.Martin's	0-7
St.Patrick's	4-10	Lisdowney	2-16
St.Patrick's	1-19	Lisdowney	2-7

#### **Semi-Finals**

Barrow Rangers	1-16	Galmoy	1-12
St.Patrick's	0-10	Dicksboro	0-9

#### **Final**

Barrow Rangers	0-13	St.Patrick's	0-12
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### **Iverk Produce Southern JH championship**

#### **1st Round**

Thomastown	3-12	Windgap	1-14
Piltown	1-20	Dunnamaggin	1-6
Kilmacow	3-12	Mooncoin	0-13
John Lockes	4-14	Sliieverue	0-6

#### **Semi-finals**

Piltown	1-15	Kilmacow	0-11
John Lockes	3-9	Thomastown	1-10

#### **Final**

John Lockes	3-8	Piltown	0-12
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### **J.J. Kavanagh & Sons County JH final**

John Lockes	2-11	Barrow Rangers	1-14
John Lockes	1-14	Barrow Rangers	0-14

### **COUNTY JUNIOR A HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP**

#### **J.J.Kavanagh & Sons northern JH "A" Championship**

#### **1st round**

Young Irelands	0-21	St.Martin's	2-8
Fenians	0-17	Graigue Ballycallan	2-10

#### **Semi-finals**

Tullaroan	3-17	Emeralds	2-6
Fenians	1-20	Young Irelands	2-7

#### **Final**

Fenians	1-17	Tullaroan	0-8
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### **Iverk Produce southern junior A hurling championship**

#### **1st Round**

Rower Inistioge	4-16	Piltown	1-6
Mullinavat	8-12	John Lockes	1-8
Carrickshock	2-19	Windgap	0-7
Ballyhale Shamrocks	1-16	Thomastown	2-13
Ballyhale Shamrocks	1-18	Thomastown	0-18

rooms the Northern Convention in December sees the retirement of the Northern Board secretary Ned Buggy after twenty years service under the five year rule. Initially associated with the junior games in the Northern Division, Ned was instrumental in the changes which have seen the Divisional boards work as a unit. This has progressed as many of the competitions have developed into all-county with the added benefits of the inclusion of the Carlow clubs. Extremely popular and hard working, Ned's focus on GAA matters has seen him act also as the County PRO and

#### **Semi-Finals**

Rower Inistioge	0-15	Mullinavat	1-8
Carrickshock	1-18	Ballyhale Shamrocks	0-11

#### **Final**

Carrickshock	0-15	Rower Inistioge	0-12
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### **County Junior "A" hurling final**

Fenians	2-14	Carrickshock	1-14
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### **COUNTY JUNIOR B HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP**

#### **Northern Junior "B" Hurling championship**

#### **Preliminary Round**

Clara	3-16	Threecastles	0-6
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#### **1st Round**

Graigue Ballycallan	3-12	Galmoy	1-6
Barrow Rangers	5-9	Erins Own	2-11
St.Lachtain's	3-10	Dicksboro	2-11
Bennettsbridge	2-14	Blacks and Whites	2-13
Lisdowney	1-8	Conahy Shamrocks	0-9
Danesfort	1-14	O'Loughlin Gaels	1-13
Clara	1-14	St.Patrick's	1-9
Cloneen	3-13	James Stephens	1-14

#### **2nd Round**

Barrow Rangers	1-15	Bennettsbridge	1-6
St.Lachtain's	4-13	Cloneen	1-11
Lisdowney	1-13	Danesfort	0-11
Clara	2-12	Graigue Ballycallan	0-11

#### **Semi-finals**

Lisdowney	2-14	St.Lachtain's	0-10
Clara	2-15	Barrow Rangers	0-13

#### **Final**

Lisdowney	3-13	Clara	1-11
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### **Country Style Foods Southern JH "B" Championship**

#### **1st Round**

Mooncoin	1-10	Graignamanagh	2-4
Carrickshock	0-10	Carrigeen	1-6

#### **2nd Round**

Tullogher Rosbercon	1-16	Rower Inistioge	2-12
Kilmacow	1-22	Mooncoin	1-8
Glenmore	2-17	Carrickshock	2-6
Mullinavat	1-12	Sliieverue	1-12
Mullinavat	3-20	Sliieverue	0-8

#### **Semi-finals**

Tullogher Rosbercon	1-15	Glenmore	0-11
Kilmacow	2-13	Mullinavat	2-7

#### **Final**

Tullogher Rosbercon	1-13	Kilmacow	1-9
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### **County Junior B Hurling Championship Final**

Lisdowney	1-11	Tullogher Rosbercon	1-8
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**Ned Buggy**

County fixtures secretary. In addition it has seen him working on a multitude of the county committees including the Year Book and as a liaison link with the *Kilkenny People*. Having hurled with the Boro, Ned is currently one of Kilkenny's delegates to the Leinster council where he is also involved in its sub committees. Quiet by nature, Ned's interests include many other sporting pursuits. His availability to clubs and officials in assisting with arranging fixtures at all times of the day and night has been a key part of Kilkenny's streamlined fixtures plan.



## CO JH CHAMPIONSHIP ACTION



Photos Eoin Hennessy

# Death of the Dream

Kilkenny's League & Championship Story 2010

## ***How a rampant Tipp side put an end to Kilkenny's quest for immortality.***

By Barrie Henriques

While the focus of the County was on the club advances towards National honours by Blacks & Whites, St Lachtains, and Ballyhale Shamrocks, people were basking more in the achievement of the heart-warming achievement of an All Ireland senior championship four-in-a-row through the post Festive Season time, rather than thinking seriously about a history-making five-in-a-row.

Certainly hopes were high. After all the majority consensus was that we had the best hurling team ever seen in living memory. We had a stoic trust in the management team that had brought the greatest team in memory through a memorable four-timer. The team looked invincible. Some injured stars were fit to return.

The dream looked a probability, but only just.

### **NATIONAL LEAGUE**

Without the club-tied players, Kilkennys scheduled opening game of 2009 was a National League game against Tipp in Semple Stadium under lights. It never happened due to dreadful weather conditions – snow, and then more snow. They faced Offaly in the Walsh Cup in Tullamore with a largely experimental outfit. After an interesting sixty-six minutes within which they were never headed, they were caught late on, thus losing their first Senior game since failing to Waterford in March 2008  
Offaly 1-16, Kilkenny 1-13.

*Kilkenny: David Herity, Kieran Joyce, Canice Hickey, Damien Fogarty, John Dalton, PJ.Delaney (0-1, free), David Prendergast, John Tennyson, Lester Ryan, Michael Grace (0-2), Eoin McGrath (0-1), John Mulhall (0-3), Martin Boran (1-1), Richie Hogan (0-4, two frees), Mark Bergin (0-1).  
Subs (used): Matthew Ruth, Niall Walsh, Michael Walsh, Aidan Fogarty.*



#### **NHL VERSUS OFFALY IN NOWLAN PARK**

In a repeat of the Walsh Cup game some three weeks previously, a far more potent Kilkenny experienced little difficulty in disposing of a young, inexperienced Offaly. Being the first match of the National League campaign, the Kilkenny team was as good as was available, with their half back line of Tommy Walsh, Jackie Tyrrell and JJ.Delaney outstanding. Richie Power was the top scorer for the winners, but while his contribution of 0-8 went a big way towards earning both points, his injury just before half time was the cause of great concern to Management and supporters alike. The teams had returned to the pitch after the break when Power, still receiving treatment for an apparent head/neck injury, was being stretchered into an on-field ambulance. Thankfully his injury was not as serious as first viewed.



Michael Fennelly had a powerful year for Kilkenny  
Eoin Hennessy



John McIlwaine

**Michael Rice (0-3), Aidan Fogarty (1-1), Michael Grace (0-1), Eoin McGrath, Richie Power (0-8, six frees, one '65).  
Subs (used): John Mulhall (0-1), Paddy Hogan, Pat Hartley.**



### KILKENNY V TIPPERARY IN THURLES (AT LAST)

Having failed on two occasions to get out of the dressing rooms, THE match was on. Ideal conditions prevailed, and a crowd of over 20,000 were on site to watch. To enhance the attractiveness of the fixture, not a bob was collected from any of the patrons.

A magnanimous gesture by the GAA Authority. In a very evenly, well-contested game, the defining moment really came just before the half time break. Eoin Kelly slammed home a brilliantly crafted goal that sent the Premier lads in at the break in front by 1-6 to 0-6. Scores were hard earned because of the dominance of the respective half back lines. For Tipp, Fanning, O'Mahoney, and Maher were rock solid, but so too were Tommy Walsh, Jackie Tyrrell and JJ.Delaney. The Kelly goal maintained the gap right through the encounter. The Kilkenny forwards just couldn't make any serious inroads towards the Tipp goal. They failed to register a single score during the final twenty minutes. Michael Rice was forced to leave the pitch, injured, at the 45-minute mark. Michael Grace came on. John Mulhall added to his growing reputation with three fine points, and in truth he appeared to be the only forward doing enough to trouble the solid Tipp defence.

**Tipperary 1-14 Kilkenny 0-13.**

**Kilkenny: PJ Ryan, Canice Hickey, Brian Hogan, John Dalton, Tommy Walsh (0-1), Jackie Tyrrell (0-1), JJ. Delaney (0-1), John Tennyson (0-2), PJ.Delaney, John Mulhall (0-3), Michael Rice (0-1), Willie O'Dwyer, Richie Hogan (0-3, frees), Eoin Larkin (0-1), Aidan Fogarty.  
Subs (used): Michael Grace, Paddy Hogan.**



### KILKENNY V CORK IN PÁIRC UÍ CHAOIMH

Kilkenny kissed goodbye to their national League ambitions when meekly going down against a Cork team on a serious mission to re-generate their status as one of the leaders in the game nationwide. Having been absolutely mangled by Kilkenny in the previous year's engagement, the Cork players were not in a mood to contribute to the lustre of this Kilkenny outfit with meek supplication.

This was a terrific contest which was level four times, the last

time at the 65th-minute post. The Kilkenny forwards were well ahead of their performance on the previous week against Tipperary. Young Mulhall had a mighty game again, bagging 1-3. Richie Power made a welcome return, while Eoin Larkin and Aidan Fogarty were streets ahead of their earlier performances.

John Gardiner was unerring in his free-taking, cracking four frees over, but he also found time to move forward scoring a very valuable three points from play.

It didn't help the Kilkenny cause when Michael Grace was red-carded just before half time. It was difficult from there on for the visitors, but they never let the dismissal affect their focus or their determination. They matched the Cork men in most elements of this terrific encounter, except of course on the final scoreboard. The defenders were excellent, and midfielders, Tennyson and Delaney (PJ) fought a hard battle without capitulating, and the forwards, although outnumbered were never overwhelmed.

James Ryall made a welcome return to action in the second half, while Shem Cummins came on in the same half as a substitute for the injured JJ.Delaney.

**Kilkenny 1-13. Cork 0-18**

**Kilkenny: PJ Ryan, Canice Hickey, Brian Hogan, John Dalton, Tommy Walsh, Jackie Tyrrell, JJ.Delaney, John Tennyson, PJ Delaney, John Mulhall (1-3), Willie O'Dwyer, Eoin Larkin (0-1), Michael Grace (0-2), Richie Power (0-7, five frees), Aidan Fogarty.  
Subs (used): Eddie Brennan, James Ryall, Shem Cummins.**



### KILKENNY V DUBLIN IN PARNELL PARK

Even though there were people who still harboured thoughts that winning the National League was still mathematically possible, the quality of performance was paramount in the minds of mentors and supporters alike as the Leinster Champions faced the Dubs in their own Parnell Park.

The home side were very impressive as they started brightly, clattering over five points inside the first eleven minutes, to which the Kilkenny men responded with a meagre single point. By the halfway point in the first half, Kilkenny managed, compliments of John Mulhall, to double their take. By half time, they led, thanks to a superb goal by Richie Power. With the breeze at their backs, Kilkenny looked more composed in the second half, although they lived dangerously on a two-point lead betimes. Again, their defence was solid with Brian Hogan, Tommy Walsh, Jackie Tyrrell and James Ryall very positive. John Tennyson hurled up a strong performance



during the second period, while John Mulhall, with five points showed further improvement on his previous memorable performances in the senior Kilkenny squad.

Within five minutes of the restart, Power rammed home his second goal, following a long delivery by John Tennyson. Mulhall added a brace of points, while Paddy Hogan and Aidan Fogarty helped with a few more. It was never easy, but it was a workmanlike performance by the Kilkenny lads, the intensity of which was sufficient to get them over the winning line in front.

### **Kilkenny 2-21 Dublin 0-23**

**Kilkenny:** David Herity, Canice Hickey, Brian Hogan, Shem Cummins, Tommy Walsh (0-1), Jackie Tyrrell, James Ryall, John Tennyson (0-1), Paddy Hogan (0-3, two 65s', one penalty), John Mulhall (0-5), Derek Lyng (0-1), Michael Rice, Richie Power (2-7, five points frees), Eoin Larkin, Aidan Fogarty (0-3).

**Subs (used):** Eoin Guinan, Willie O'Dwyer.



### **KILKENNY V GALWAY IN NOWLAN PARK**

Galway were being piped as real challengers for the Kilkenny All Ireland crown, so not surprising then that a very fine crowd on a sunny but very cold Sunday in March turned up to appraise their potential. It was a challenge that the Kilkenny mentors were looking to, to make judgements on where their charges were, and what might need to be addressed over the days when the championship was on the menu.

This was a fabulous game all the way. The exchanges were manly, and skilful. The entertainment value was top drawer. Galway brought most of their best players, but not the Portumna lads. Kilkenny brought most of theirs too, including James "Cha" Fitzpatrick, and TJ Reid, the new County captain. But there was no Henry Shefflin. Martin Comerford was at the top table for the first time in the season, and he was a welcome inclusion. Nine of the Kilkenny team got on the scoreboard; seven from the Galway panel registered scores for their side.

Galway looked the more settled during a flying first half, and they led at half time by four points.

On the resumption, the Kilkenny form was stunning. By the 52nd minute they led by 1-16 to 0-14, thanks in the main to a brilliantly instinctive goal by TJ Reid.

Galway, forced to re-jig their team in a second half that was being squeezed from their grasp, brought on Iarlaith Tannion, and Kevin Hayes. Those two crippled the Kilkenny resolve, scoring 2-3 between them. With the scores level at 1-18 apiece, Kilkenny were reduced to fourteen players with the surprising dismissal of Paddy Hogan. There were still ten minutes remaining. Kilkenny fought like tigers but just couldn't get their snouts out in front. They had a couple of chances to draw, but those options were spurned in the chase for the win.

It was a general consensus that there was nothing wrong with Kilkenny hurling. Galway looked impressive, and looked like a team that would cause plenty of anxiety further along the road.

### **Galway 2-21 Kilkenny 1-23**

**Kilkenny:** PJ Ryan, Tommy Walsh, Brian Hogan, John Dalton, Paddy Hogan (0-2, one free, one '65), Jackie Tyrrell, John Tennyson (0-1), Niall Walsh, James "Cha" Fitzpatrick (0-1), John Mulhall (0-1), Michael Rice (0-2, one '65), Martin Comerford (0-3), TJ Reid (1-3), Richie Power (0-7, five frees), Aidan Fogarty (0-3).

**Subs (used):** Canice Hickey.



## **KILKENNY V LIMERICK IN GAELIC GROUNDS**

Noel Hickey made a welcome return to the colours for a full 70-minute game. The Dunnamaggin man didn't get the kind of test he might have needed, as Limerick were not exactly a world-beating force in their home patch. Kilkenny gave a season's start to Richie O'Neill, Pat Hartley, Damien Fogarty, and Derek Lyng. They all acquitted themselves quite decently, but they were not troubled to address the Limerick challenge, such as it was.

Kilkenny led by a very comfortable 2-12 to Limerick's 0-7, thanks in the main to two goals by Aidan Fogarty and Eoin Larkin at the 90-seconds and 33-minute stages respectively. Fogarty's effort was a killer for the hard-trying Limerick outfit. 'Twas the start they most certainly didn't need.

John Tennyson had a terrific game, as did TJ Reid, and Jackie Tyrrell. It didn't help the Limerick cause to have a man red-carded with ten minutes remaining.

It was admirable that the Limerick supporters gave a standing ovation to their team as they left the pitch, after a game that some forecasters had flagged as a possible obliteration of their team.

## *Kilkenny 2-17 Limerick 0-16*

**Kilkenny:** Richie O'Neill, Damien Fogarty, Noel Hickey, PJ Delaney, Tommy Walsh, Jackie Tyrrell, John Tennyson, Pat Hartley, James "Cha" Fitzpatrick, John Mulhall (0-3), Derek Lyng (0-1), TJ Reid (0-9, six frees), Eoin Larkin (1-1), Martin Comerford (0-2), Aidan Fogarty (1-1).

**Subs (used): Paddy Hogan, Shem Cummins, Richie Hogan.**



## **KILKENNY V WATERFORD IN NOWLAN PARK**

**Apr 25** Let the score not deceive as Kilkenny went through the formalities much as they needed to, against a very unfocussed Waterford on a beautiful hurling day. Surprisingly, the Waterford outfit looked lack-lustre, which, given the traditional rivalry, puzzled many in the big crowd.

The Kilkenny backs, with Noel Hickey continuing to make improvements, John Tennyson imposing, and Brian Hogan very solid, were in no mood to show any kindness to their opposing Deise forwards, or anyone else who cared to invade their territory. Such was their domination that the Waterford lads could only register their first score after the 15th minute had elapsed. Even before that Mullane point, Michael Grace had slammed home a fine goal, that really stunned the life out of the visitors.

St Lachtain's Eoin Guinan made his debut, and he didn't do his chances any harm by drilling five points between the Waterford posts, in what can be deemed a very good arrival onto the central stage of Kilkenny hurling. Good to see his much-medalled clubmate, Michael Kavanagh pulling on the number 2. Eddie Brennan made his seasonal debut, and JJ Delaney returned after injury.

The battle-hardened troops were on their way back

The battle-hardened troops were on their way back. At half time Kilkenny led by 1-10 to Waterford's 0-2.

At half time Kilkenny led by 1-10 to Waterford's 0-2. It could have been much worse for the Decies, as Kilkenny had shot seven deplorable wides during the first half.

had shot seven deplorable wides during the first half. It didn't get any better for Waterford after the resumption, as Kilkenny hurled at a pace, and a level of commitment that the visitors didn't have the wherewithal or mind to address.

Kilkenny 1-20 Waterford 2-12.

Kilkenny: PJ.Ryan, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey, Jackie Tyrrell, John Tennyson, Brian Hogan, JJ.Delaney, James "Cha" Fitzpatrick, Derek Lyng, TJ.Reid, Eddie Brennan, Richie Hogan, Michael Grace, Eoin Larkin, Eoin Guinan.

*Ricke Hogan, Michael Grace, Eoin Larkin  
Subs (used): John Dalton, Paddy Hogan.*

It had been a few years since Kilkenny had not figured in the final games of the National League. It provided a four-week time slot, within which the team would make preparations for the first round of the Leinster Championship against



KILKENNY : ALL IRELAND SENIOR HURLING FINALISTS 2010

immmins, Aidan Fogarty, James Ryall, Canice Hickey, Noel Hickey, Michael Grace, Brian Hogan, Jackie Tyrrell, T.J. Reid, P.J. Delaney, Henry Shefflin, Paddy Hogan, Eddie Brennan, Damien Fogarty, Michael Rice, Derek Lyng.

*Eoin Larkin, Michael Fennelly, Eoin Guinan, David Herity.*

John McIlwaine

## THE ROAD TO CROKER 2010

### ULSTER

#### First Round

May 8:	Enniskillen Letterkenny Omagh	Monaghan 1-15 Fermanagh 2-10 Armagh 3-23 Donegal 1-12 Tyrone 6-24 Cavan 1-14
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#### Second Round

May 15:	Casement Park Casement Park	London 3-16 Monaghan 1-15 Armagh 3-20 Tyrone 2-9
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#### Quarter Finals

May 29:	Casement Park Casement Park	Down 4-24 Armagh 0-9, London 2-12 Derry 0-15
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#### Semi-Final

June 13:	Casement Pk	Down v London – Not played
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#### Final

June 26:	Casement Pk	Antrim 4-22 Down 1-12
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### LEINSTER

#### First Round

May 22:	Portlaoise	Laois 1-13 Carlow 0-10
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#### Quarter-Finals

May 29:	Nowlan Park	Galway 2-22 Wexford 1-14
May 30:	Parnell Park	Offaly 2-26 Antrim 3-16 (aet)
June 6:	Nowlan Park	Dublin 0-25 Laois 0-16

#### Semi-Finals

June 20:	Croke Park	Kilkenny 4-19 Dublin 0-12
June 20:	Croke Park	Galway 2-19 Offaly 3-16

#### Final

July 4:	Croke Park	Kilkenny 1-19 Galway 1-12
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### MUNSTER

#### First Round

May 30:	Páirc Uí Caoimh	Cork 3-15 Tipperary 0-14
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#### Semi-Finals

June 7:	Thurles	Waterford 0-11 Limerick 1-8
June 20:	Páirc Uí Caoimh	Cork 2-19 Limerick 0-12

#### Final

July 11:	Thurles	Waterford 2-15 Cork 2-15
July 17:	Thurles	Waterford 1-16 Cork 1-13 (aet)

### ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

#### Qualifiers

##### Preliminary Round

June 26:	Dr Cullen Park	Carlow 1-19 Laois 3-12
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##### Phase 1

July 3:	Casement Pk	Antrim 2-18 Carlow 3-12
July 3:	Thurles	Tipperary 3-24 Wexford 0-19

##### Phase 2

July 10:	Tullamore	Offaly 1-19 Limerick 1-13
July 10:	Croke Park	Dublin 2- 22 Clare 0-15

##### Phase 3

July 17:	Croke Park	Antrim 1-17 Dublin 0-19
July 18:	Portlaoise	Tipperary 0-21 Offaly 1-12

##### All Ireland Quarter Finals

July 25:	Croke Park	Tipperary 3-17 Galway 3-16
July 25:	Croke Park	Cork 1-25 Antrim 0-19

##### All Ireland Semi Finals

Aug 8:	Croke Park	Kilkenny 3-22 Cork 0-19
Aug 15:	Croke Park	Tipperary 3-19 Waterford 1-18

##### All Ireland Final

Sept 5	Croke Park	Tipperary 4-17 Kilkenny 1-18
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Dublin. Opinions differed as to the merits or otherwise of the availability of such time. The policy of players returning to their clubs for the earlier rounds of the local League/Championships was encouraged by the County Manager.

In between the club games, County training took off at a pace. Challenges against other inter-county teams were undertaken. Players were used a-plenty in such tests. Weekends away from the eye of inquisitive media and support were undertaken, but the dreaded fear of injury risk was always around.

Little or no mention of a history-making five-in-a-row was heard.

“Cha” Fitzpatrick was out after an injury with Ballyhale Shamrocks. John Tennyson was added to the list after a similar setback with Carrickshock.



### KILKENNY V DUBLIN IN CROKE PARK

Kilkenny were going for a record-breaking 19th Senior Championship winning streak against Dublin. Reports coming from the Capital led one to believe that Anthony Daly had the Dubs doing hand stands. Even some Kilkenny supporters – a small number travelled to Croke Park – were fretful. They needn’t have worried. Within 90 seconds, Eddie Brennan had clattered home a delightful goal, crafted by captain TJ Reid. The Cats were on top of their game early.

Henry Shefflin had equalled the all-time scoring record of Eddie Keher after two minutes and ten seconds. He had it passed within another twenty seconds. It didn’t matter to Henry that much on the day.

“We needed to win the game, and that is the all important factor. Maybe in years to come it will matter more”, he said. The Dublin tactics were puzzling to say the least. Playing against the breeze in the first half, they dropped one of their forwards outfield, but most of his time was spent working behind his own half back line.

Aidan Fogarty, Henry Shefflin, Martin Comerford, and TJ Reid were buzzing.

At half time, Dublin were still hanging on, even though they were adrift by 1-10 to 0-8.

In the 49th minute they were truly put to the sword with a sublime nugget of skill by Richie Power, who despatched a gem of a goal to Gary Maguire’s goal following a powerful run, and a magical tap-in.

“That was the goal that really killed us”, said Anthony Daly, and how right he was.

The Kilkenny defence was in no mood to afford any slack to the Dublin attackers. John Dalton, Noel Hickey, and Jackie Tyrrell were faultless, while the outside trio of Tommy Walsh, Brian Hogan and the imperial JJ Delaney never faltered. The fact that seven of the Dublin points came from placed balls tells a story, and that statistic probably does nothing for the reputations of the various Dublin attackers.

### Kilkenny 4-19 Dublin 0-12

**Kilkenny:** PJ.Ryan, John Dalton, Noel Hickey, Jackie Tyrrell, Tommy Walsh, Brian Hogan, JJ.Delaney, Michael Rice (0-2), Michael Fennelly, Martin Comerford (0-1), Richie Hogan (0-1), Henry Shefflin (0-12, eight frees), Eddie Brennan (1-1), TJ.Reid (0-2) (capt), Richie Power (1-0).

**Subs (used):** Eoin Larkin, John Mulhall, Aidan Fogarty (2-0), Derek Lyng.



### LEINSTER FINAL.

### KILKENNY V GALWAY IN CROKE PARK

This strange Leinster Final pairing was flagged from the day the draws were made. Galway, having taken care of Offaly after a replay, were in a Leinster Final for the first time in their his-



John McIlwaine



John McIlwaine

tory. Year on year, the Tribesmen are never out of the first three when people sit down to talk All Irelands.

The Galway Manager, John McIntyre, summarised the Galway approach to the game thus—"Look, this is where we want to be. There will be no excuses. It will be a massive challenge for both teams, but it is a challenge that neither team nor Management will want to back away from".

Kilkenny's Manager, Brian Cody was delighted to have all of his troops, including the mended John Tennyson and "Cha" Fitzpatrick available.

The omens for a real hum-dinger were glowing.

The power of the Kilkenny game was quite awesome. From PJ Ryan in goal to fourth sub, John Mulhall, the Kilkenny players decorated the afternoon's happenings with a forcefully concentrated exhibition not seen previously. They swept the Galway challenge aside with blithe indifference. Great hurlers that they are, many of the Galway stars were overcome with an ease that was quite stunning. Substitute quality was important, and in the final analysis, was seminal in a hugely meritorious victory.

One of the major differences between the sides was the deployment of stellar performers; Instance Joe Canning. A brilliant hurler, but it seemed that his mentors were not entirely sure of his placement in the best interests of his team. He ended up with a mere two points from play, and that told a story.

Kilkenny looked a little edgy during the first half. A Henry Shefflin goal midway settled them somewhat. The spine of the defence was a little suspect. The slow Galway build-up was causing hassle for the Kilkenny defenders. Damien Hayes was flying all over the place. He was on hand to touch a loose ball beyond PJ Ryan in the 19th minute.

At half time the champions were still in front, leading by 1-8 to Galway's 1-5.

The second half was barely three minutes old when Kilkenny strung a necklace of seven unanswered scores together. The halfback line was solid. Fennelly and Rice were in control at midfield, and Kilkenny were comfortably ahead by 1-16 to 1-6 ahead by the 59th minute.

It was a big ask of Galway to come from that point. They had given of their best, but on this occasion, it was never going to be enough.

#### **Kilkenny 1-19 Galway 1-12**

**Kilkenny:** PJ Ryan, John Dalton, Noel Hickey, Jackie Tyrrell, Tommy Walsh, Brian Hogan, JJ Delaney, James "Cha" Fitzpatrick, Michael Fennelly, TJ Reid, Henry Shefflin, Eoin Larkin, Eddie Brennan, Richie Power, Aidan Fogarty.

**Subs (used):** Michael Fennelly, TJ Reid (0-3), Eddie Brennan (0-1), Eoin Larkin (0-1), Martin Comerford, Richie Power (0-3), Henry Shefflin (1-7, four pointed frees, one '65).

**Subs (used):** John Tennyson, Aidan Fogarty (0-1), Richie Hogan (0-1), John Mulhall.

#### **ALL IRELAND SEMI-FINAL KILKENNY V CORK IN CROKE PARK**



Kilkenny went into the All Ireland semi-final with an injury portfolio that would frighten. John Tennyson was a non-runner.

Michael Rice was a perhaps runner, while Richie Hogan was a doubtful- maybe. Not the ideal setup when facing Cork who had hammered Tipperary in the first round of the Munster Championship, and had been cutting the mustard ever since that game except for a slight hiccup. None of the above trio figured (apart from Rice as a late substitute), and as if that was not enough, the Cats lost centre-back Brian Hogan, and Henry Shefflin within the first 28 minutes. "That's what the word panel illustrates" said manager Cody. How right he was!

Kilkenny annihilated one of the poorest Cork teams that I have ever witnessed. They blew them clean out of the water in a thrilling, focussed, powerful exhibition. Losing all of those players, and especially the two during the game never ruffled one single hair on the heads of the Kilkenny lads. Some magical scores by Richie Power, Aidan Fogarty, Eddie Brennan, " Cha" Fitzpatrick, and Michael Fennelly had the Munster men looking like a beaten docket even before the half time break. Kilkenny 2-12, Cork 0-5.

The game was as good as cooked.

The formalities of the second half were just that.

Cork were painfully poor and disappointing. Denis Walsh has a tough assignment ahead.

September 5th was in the cross-bars.

#### **Kilkenny 3-22 Cork 0-13**

**Kilkenny:** PJ Ryan, John Dalton, Noel Hickey, Jackie Tyrrell, Tommy Walsh, Brian Hogan, JJ Delaney, James "Cha" Fitzpatrick, Michael Fennelly, TJ Reid, Henry Shefflin, Eoin Larkin, Eddie Brennan, Richie Power, Aidan Fogarty.

**Subs (used):** James Ryall, Martin Comerford, Michael Rice, John Mulhall, Derek Lyng.



## ALL IRELAND FINAL KILKENNY V TIPPERARY IN CROKE PARK

There were more words written about the All Ireland Final prior to the game, than the actual event itself. The circus, because one could not attribute any other metaphor to the prologue in Nowlan Park, when somewhere in excess of 8,000 people turned up to watch Kilkenny train, set the seal on the total madness surrounding the injuries to Henry Shefflin, and to a lesser extent to John Tennyson.

By text, twitter and Wi-fi the airwaves were lava hot as the five-second "lates" hurried through the ether. If ever a team was set up for an almighty fall, then the defending Champions were surely bushwhacked.

On numerous occasions, the Kilkenny public were assured that any player with the slightest suspicion of injury would not be playing. Many have questioned the validity of that statement.

But still the County got a great lift when both players were named on the starting lineup.

Tipperary probably had a greater number of reasons to win than Kilkenny. There was the 2009 factor. There was the rivalry that has been a constant between the Counties since the time of Cúchullain. There was the burning need not to allow Kilkenny out of sight in the Roll of Honour. There was the invaluable need to deny a team the honour of winning a five-in-a-row, and when Kilkenny was the heir-apparent in that arena, so much greater is the ambition to knock them.

This All Ireland will long live in the minds of victor and vanquished for a plethora of reasons.

We are all aware of the definition of what hindsight is, so we will park that one.

Nobody could doubt that the experience of 2009, coupled with an unmitigated hunger were two mega reasons why Kilkenny didn't write their names for posterity into the record books. Kilkenny looked flat. Irrespective of the Henry Shefflin issue – should he shouldn't he – ?, far too many of the Kilkenny players played second fiddle to this youthful, rampant Tipp outfit, who never considered anything but winning. It was written into every facet of their game. Though Jackie Tyrrell, JJ Delaney, Michael Fennelly, and Richie Power never faltered, the inability of the forwards to quarry from the Tipp defenders was a factor. Kilkenny were rather porous on the road to PJ Ryan. But to give credit where it was due, the better team on the day won the All Ireland.

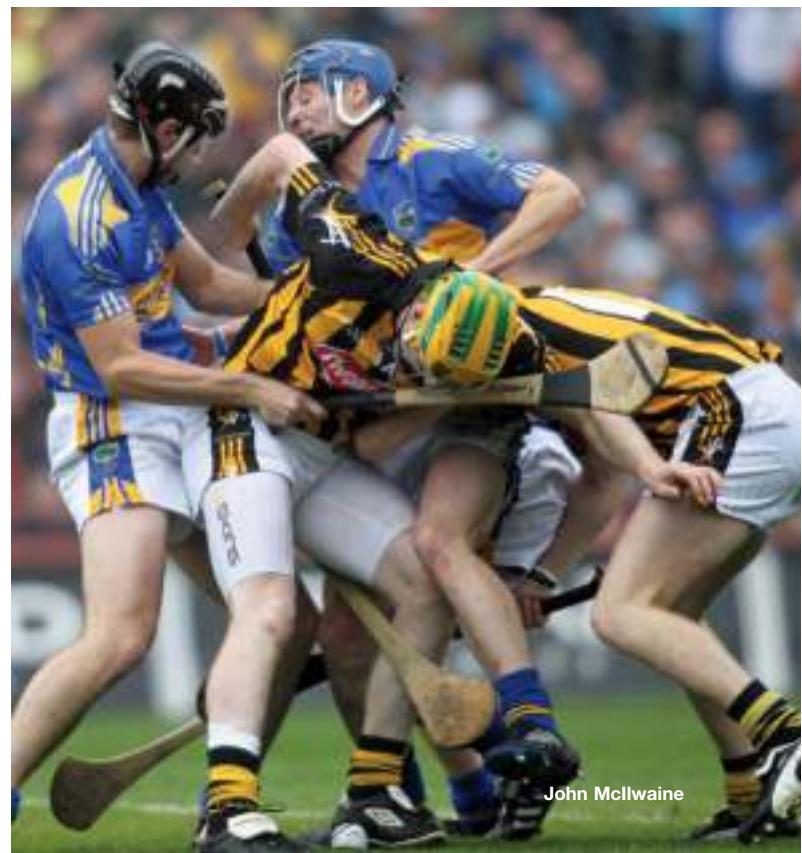
Mind you, Kilkenny were still in with a shout at the 50-minute mark. Tipp led by 3-11 to Kilkenny's 1-14. Tipp's ability to grab major scores was very much a factor in the game. The Tipp substitutes played a big role in the ultimate subjugation of the reigning Champions. Seamus Callinan, Benny Dunne and Seamus Hennessy grabbed great scores, and of course, Hurler of the Year, Lar Corbett had an hour that he could only dream about. His third goal certainly clinched an already certain victory.

**Tipperary 4-17 Kilkenny 1-18.**

**Kilkenny:** PJ. Ryan, John Dalton, Noel Hickey, Jackie Tyrrell, Tommy Walsh, John Tennyson, JJ.Delaney, Michael Fennelly, James " Cha" Fitzpatrick, TJ.Reid (0-4) (capt), Henry Shefflin (0-1 free), Eoin Larkin, Eddie Brennan, Richie Power (1-8, Eight frees), Aidan Fogarty (0-1).

**Subs (used):** Michael Rice (0-1), Derek Lyng (0-1), Martin Comerford, Richie Hogan, John Mulhall (0-1).

**Remaining panel members:** Michael Kavanagh, David Herity, James Ryall, Eoin Guinan, Niall Walsh, Paddy Hogan, Richie O'Neill, Canice Hickey, Damien Fogarty, Michael Grace, Pat Hartley, PJ Delaney, Sean Cummins.



John McIlwaine



John McIlwaine



John McIlwaine

# HOPE STILL ENDURES!

All-Ireland Minor Championship 2010

By Conor Brennan



## KILKENNY – ALL IRELAND MH CHAMPION 2010

Back: Kevin Kelly, Cathal O'Neill, Anthony Forristal, Dylan Waugh, Pat Carroll, Thomas O'Hanrahan, Paul Buggy, Paul Holden, Willie Phelan, John Power, Luke Harney, Ger Aylward, Eoghan Meally, Dylan Walsh, Conor O'Shea.  
Front: Paddy Delaney, Padraig Walsh, Brian Kennedy, Michael Brennan, Cillian Buckley (Capt.), Ollie Walsh, Jason Corcoran, Owen McGrath, Stephen Farrell, Richie Reid.

SPORTSFILE

**H**ope still endures for hurling in Kilkenny after all! Apart from the fact that the Kilkenny minor team of 2010 provided the county with many moments of skill, determination and bravery, perhaps their best quality, in simple terms, was dealing with the obvious expectation that they collectively had to deal with as a result of their performances throughout their championship campaign.

From an early stage in their season, their ability to play at such a high level gave surety to the majority of Kilkenny hurling followers that ultimate success was sure to follow. And although there was a scare or two provided by an heroic Clare side in the All-Ireland final, the manner by which Kilkenny dealt with the Banner onslaught was to be wholly commended, making their capture of the county's twentieth title all the more deserved and all the sweeter. Credit must also go to the management team of Richie Mulrooney, Adrian Finan and Brian Ryan, for not just instilling the belief in victory, but also to be always aware of the pitfalls that can be the downfall of any young team.

It was a road that began with a familiar nemesis at minor level over the last number of years – Dublin – in the initial round robin section of the Leinster championship. Being their first competitive game, there were obvious nerves to begin with, but as the game progressed, one could sense more positivity coming into the Kilkenny game. In the end, they fully deserved their victory over a gallant Dublin side by 2-13 to 0-9. Other results in this round robin section meant that Kilkenny had to face into a Leinster semi-final clash with Offaly following the exam break.

The game, played in Tullamore on June 27th, saw Kilkenny make a good start of their championship proper. The home side provided a determined obstacle for the opening half but fortunately for Kilkenny, a well-taken goal by Ger Aylward was maintaining a slight advantage in their favour. Offaly showed great spirit to rally and score four consecutive points just before half-time to leave Kilkenny ahead by 1-10 to 0-9 when the final whistle of the half was eventually sounded. What Kilkenny needed to do in the second half was find another gear, and that was exactly what they managed to do. The attack showed good potency, with points from Kevin Kelly, Cillian Buckley and Padraig Walsh being some of the highlights. It wasn't, however, until later in the half that Kilkenny's progression was somewhat secure when John Power finished to the Offaly net. From there until the finish,

Kilkenny continued to impress despite a resolute Offaly performance, and were deserving winners by 2-22 to 1-13. A rematch with Dublin in the Leinster Final was next on the horizon. Dublin were obviously buoyed by getting to the final and showed a keenness to advance their seemingly good progress at under-age level over the last few years. But Kilkenny were in no mood to allow their opponents this opportunity, as they too showed that they were hell-bent on proving themselves not only to the rest of the country, but also to those wary observers within the county itself. This mentality was clear to see in the opening exchanges. Throughout the field, Kilkenny had key performers, but most heartening was the performance of the attack, who were consistently sharp. Thomas O'Hanrahan scored the only goal of the game midway through the half, while Kevin Kelly and Ger Aylward were just two team members who were adding to the Kilkenny total. The defence were also proving their worth, limiting the Dublin attack to just four points in the first half. They were fortunate that Dublin's Ciarán Kilkenny missed a great goal chance for his side, but despite this, Kilkenny were still on top, leading 1-11 to 0-4 at the break.

The Kilkenny scoring continued apace in the second half with John Power proving accurate from frees and Ger Aylward, who had moved from the half-forward line into full-forward and clearly benefiting from being positioned at the edge of the square, scoring five points from play. The closest Dublin managed to get was to bring the margin down to eight points. They were again denied a goal near the end when an effort, having beaten Kilkenny goalkeeper Dylan Walsh, was kept out by corner-back Jason Corcoran. There was no way Kilkenny were willing to yield an inch if they could help it, and so they strolled to a 1-20 to 0-10 victory.



**Kilkenny MH Captain  
Cillian Buckley**

*Inter  
Co MH  
Action  
2010*

A sense of revenge now entered the Kilkenny psyche as they looked towards the next opponents, Galway, in the All-Ireland semi-final. Nine of the Kilkenny squad were part of last year's minor team defeated by the Westerners in the All-Ireland final last September, so there was more sentiment attached to the outcome of the game than at any other time. The performance needed to match the desire, and Kilkenny provided that in no uncertain terms.

The team took their lead from their captain, Cillian Buckley, who was simply outstanding all through the hour. The Galway defence seemed to have no answer to his direct running and ability to lay on good passes to his colleagues. Though Kilkenny missed two good chances in the opening minutes, Buckley sent Kilkenny on their way with a well taken goal before setting up Michael Brennan with a clever handpass to allow the Ballyragget man to finish to the net. It was far from a one man show, however, as he was well supported by Padraig Walsh at centre-forward and John Power, who secured Kilkenny's third goal later in the half. This was part of a consecutive scoring burst of 1-4 late in the first half for Kilkenny, thus allowing them to be ahead by 3-9 to 0-10 at the half-time break.

The third quarter ensured that the game was finished as a contest as Kilkenny scored a further 1-6 without reply to leave Galway completely shell-shocked. The Galway cause was certainly not helped by a number of enforced changes they had to make at the half-time break due to injuries, but Kilkenny were still efficient in going about their business. The goal came from Ger Aylward, who pounced on a slip from the unfortunate Galway goalkeeper. There was seemingly nothing to stop Kilkenny advancing to the final, and a further emphatically taken goal by Kevin Kelly in the final minutes put a further gloss on the scoreboard. Revenge had been sought, and garnered, in a very impressive fashion, as the winners clocked up 5-19 to the luckless Galway's 0-15.

As stated earlier, what the Kilkenny minor hurlers and management team of 2010 deserve most credit for, in the aftermath of their success, was being able to prevent inflated expectations from affecting their preparations for the All-Ireland final against Clare. For young hurlers to display the maturity in realising that there were no guarantees based on



John McIlwaine

Kilkenny's Ger Aylward makes a great aerial catch in the All Ireland final against Clare



"He's going low, lads!"  
Kilkenny defenders on the alert in the All Ireland semi-final against Galway.

John McIlwaine

past performances was really to their credit, especially when the pressure was on in the heat of battle. They were also hampered by concerns about the availability of their stalwart full-back, Willie Phelan, who suffered a damaged collar-bone in the build-up to the game. Remarkably, as it turned out, the Dunnamaggin man not only took his place on the starting team, but managed to play through the pain barrier for the entire game.

On All-Ireland day however, the Banner men played with the sort of hunger that was reminiscent of the senior team of the nineties, completely choking their opponents when in possession as Kilkenny found it difficult to match their fierce intensity. They stormed into a 0-7 to 0-2 lead and were further boosted when John Power saw his penalty effort saved late in the first half, though it has to be said, the awarding of the penalty for a foul on Kilkenny midfielder Ollie Walsh was dubious to say the least. By the time the half-time whistle blew, Richie Mulrooney and his fellow selectors had plenty of issues to mull over as they set about rejuvenating their charges.

It was clear that for Kilkenny to achieve resurrection they badly needed a goal. It was something that they had managed in the past, and on this occasion, it came on the double. Michael Brennan kept his composure to score the first goal after Ger Aylward did well to provide the opportunity. The second goal again involved Brennan, whose kicked effort seemed to be heading into the net only for substitute Paul Buggy to apply the finishing touch to ensure it got there. This left both sides level (2-5 to 0-11) and buoyed Kilkenny to such an extent that they scored three consecutive points and ensured their opponents went thirteen minutes without a score. The difference was eventually cut to a single point as the game entered the crucial final moments as the Clare men battled furiously in typical fashion. Kevin Kelly, having been moved to the half-forward line, scored some vital points for Kilkenny in this period, while Cillian Buckley was once again proving to be a superb captain, leading his team by example

from midfield. The Kilkenny backs were each coming to the fore also, with Jason Corcoran, Brian Kennedy, Pat O'Carroll and Owen McGrath showing good support to the defensive anchors of Willie Phelan and Luke Harney.

The winning score only came in the third minute of stoppage time, as Michael Brennan slotted over the sought after point that increased the lead to two points. In doing so, it deflated and eventually finished off the stubborn resistance of Clare. It meant a win by 2-10 to 0-14, and so meaning that Kilkenny held the proud boast of not conceding a goal from open play throughout the 2010 championship campaign. A fine achievement, but securing the twentieth title for the county is the achievement that really mattered most.

The full panel of players for the championship was:

**Dylan Walsh (Thomastown), Jason Corcoran (John Lockes), William Phelan (Dunnamaggin), Brian Kennedy (St. Lachtain's), Pat O'Carroll (Lisdowney), Luke Harney (Kilmacow), Owen McGrath (John Lockes), Kevin Kelly (St. Patrick's), Ollie Walsh (Dicksboro), John Power (Carrickshock), Padraig Walsh (Tullaroan), Cillian Buckley (Dicksboro – Capt.), Michael Brennan (St. Patrick's), Ger Aylward (Glenmore), Thomas O'Hanrahan (Thomastown), Eoin Mealy (Erin's Own), Paul Buggy (Tullaroan), Conor O'Shea (Clara), Cathal O'Neill (Danesfort), Richie Reid (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Dylan Waugh (Thomastown), Stephen Farrell (St. Lachtain's), Gary Gaule (Dicksboro), Paddy Delaney (O'Loughlin Gaels), Colm Foran (Glenmore), Paul Holden (Young Irelands), Anthony Forristal (O'Loughlin Gaels), Robert Lennon (Bennettsbridge), Peter Vickery (Conahy Shamrocks), Shane Bergin (John Lockes), Ben O'Connor (Danesfort), Brian Cahill (Cloneen).**

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# A PERFORMANCE TO BE PROUD OF

## Inter-County IH Report

By Conor Brennan

The fact that it is generally perceived as the least prestigious of the four All-Ireland inter-county hurling titles on offer mattered not one bit as a fine Kilkenny intermediate team recaptured the title once again. The celebrations that followed their victory over Cork in the All-Ireland Final in Thurles showed to one and all that this was an achievement that the whole panel and management team of Pat Hoban, Tom Doheny, Paschal Connolly and P.J. Kenny would be genuinely proud of. It also reflected itself on their performances right through their campaign, as they powered their way to their ultimate honour.

The campaign began with a potentially tricky journey to Wexford Park to take on the home side in the semi-final of the Leinster Championship on June 16th. The possibility for an early slip-up was heightened even further in the opening minutes as a typically determined Wexford side led by 0-3 to 0-1. However, Kilkenny settled more as the first half progressed, and it was thanks mainly to the Freshford duo of Eoin Guinan and Bill Beckett that this was eventually reflected on the scoreboard. As captain, Guinan showed great leadership in scoring a number of excellent points from play and frees to ensure Kilkenny led at the half-time interval by 0-11 to 0-7.

Beckett then took the lead from his clubmate to score two goals in the second half, both well-taken as he ran a direct line through the Wexford defence in each case. The second goal came with ten minutes to go, and it was a fatal blow to the home side's chances, despite their putting up a stern challenge to Kilkenny up to that point. The final whistle came with Kilkenny the deserving winners, on a score line of 2-16 to 0-13.

The benefit of having a competitive game under their belt could not have been underestimated as Kilkenny looked forward to a Leinster final clash with Dublin in Nowlan Park on July 7th. The eagerness of this particular squad to progress and achieve a third Leinster title in a row for the county was evident from an early stage. The highlight was a third minute goal from Bill Beckett after he was well assisted by Michael Grace in the build-up. It set Kilkenny up for a point scoring blitz for the remainder of the half, to which Dublin could offer little in response. A further highlight of the opening half came from Kilkenny centre-back Paddy Hogan, who struck a fantastic score from a 100 metre free. It meant Kilkenny lead by 1-10 to 0-2 as the half-time break approached, though Dublin did respond with three points to close that gap before the interval. They were fortunate, however, that Kilkenny didn't score a second goal in this period as a Bill Beckett shot was well saved by the Dublin goalkeeper, leaving the half-time score 1-10 to 0-5 in Kilkenny's favour.

A further effort from Beckett in the opening stages of the



Kilkenny team who won the Intermediate All-Ireland Hurling Final in Semple Stadium, Thurles.  
Back: Robbie Dowling, Pat Hartley, Ian Duggan, Michael Maloney, Michael Grace, Richie Cottrell, Peter Cleere, John Cottrell, Richie Hayes, Brian Lannon, Rory Hickey, Sean O Shea, Niall Kennedy, Eoin Hennessy,  
Front: Seoirse Kenny, Noel Doherty, Philly Lonergan, Niall Walsh, Bill Beckett, Paul Murphy, Kieran Mooney, Alan Healy, Niall Doherty, Mark Phelan, Ray Coady, Eoin Murphy

second half was again thwarted, this time by the woodwork of the Dublin goal. However, Kilkenny were more than capable of continuing with their good form from the opening half, and had established a ten-point lead by the end of the third quarter. Dublin's cause was not made any easier when they had a man red-carded in the final minutes. But realistically by then, Kilkenny's victory was all but assured, and by the end, they had plenty to spare, winning 1-21 to 0-11.

The All-Ireland semi-final against Galway in Tullamore on August 14th was always going to be a key battle. Matches between the two counties at this level had been really exciting affairs over the last number of years and one would have anticipated this to be no exception. The first exchanges were, as expected, close and eventful. Both sides exchanged scores in the opening quarter but the remainder of the opening half belonged to Kilkenny. Points came from Eoin Guinan, Paddy Hogan, Niall Doherty and Richie Dollard, which meant that Kilkenny went into the half-time break leading by 0-10 to 0-6.

The second half saw Kilkenny continue their dominance from the concluding stages of the first. Eoin Guinan was proving to be the real thorn in Galway's side, and his final scoring total of 0-11, seven of which came from play, showed that in no uncertain terms. Further points from Nickey Cleere and midfielder Niall Walsh added to that total, and in turn, the Kilkenny defence completely put the shackles on the Galway attack, limiting them to just four points in the second half. In the end, Kilkenny simply overpowered the Westerners in producing easily their best performance of the year, winning 0-24 to 0-10.

The absence of Eoin Guinan and Paddy Hogan for the All-Ireland final against Cork due to their commitments with the Kilkenny senior panel was undoubtedly a blow to the squad's preparations for the Thurles showdown, but it was clear that it was something that the entire panel was more than capable of dealing with. Those who were drafted in could perform more than adequately in their place. But Cork, as everyone knows, have a good history in this competition, and would never provide anything less than a serious challenge.

The first half of the game under the lights in Semple Stadium was close in every way. But Kilkenny were the ones who enjoyed the better start, scoring the only goal of the half inside the opening minutes. Full-forward Peter Cleere was the man responsible, finishing confidently to the net. It was followed by two quick points from Nickey Cleere and Richie Dollard, both chances set up by Alan Healy, who replaced Eoin Guinan in attack and was a great threat to Cork all through the game. But the Cork men responded in fine fashion, and even managed to take the lead by 0-7 to 1-3 by the twentieth minute. Indeed, Kilkenny were extremely fortunate that that difference was not any bigger, thanks to a brilliant save by goalkeeper Liam Tierney to deny Cork's Mark Harrington. It galvanised Kilkenny to such an extent that they quickly regained the lead with points from Dollard, Healy and Bill Beckett. A late reply from their opponents meant that they only held a slender lead after a highly entertaining first half (1-6 to 0-8).

The opening passages of play in the second period yielded few scores but it saw Cork establish parity once again. Kilkenny showed great economy in converting their opportunities in the subsequent minutes, which saw them retake the lead. Alan Healy took over the free-taking duties and was proving to be a wise choice, converting a number of difficult efforts. The tireless Michael Grace also found the target, along with midfielder Niall Walsh, Noel Doherty and Bill Beckett to leave Kilkenny 1-14 to 0-12 ahead entering the final ten minutes.

Cork were far from finished, though. From a tight angle, their half-forward Colm Casey struck the Kilkenny net to suddenly leave two points between the sides. But to their ultimate credit, Kilkenny didn't panic, working their way up the field for Peter Cleere to finish his second goal to the net and kill off the Cork recovery. The Cork men are also unfortunate to lose their hardworking centre-back Kevin Hartnett who was quite unlucky to be sent to the line for a second bookable offence in the crucial final minutes.

But that mattered little to Kilkenny, who only had their eyes on one thing – reclaiming their title. The final whistle confirmed they had achieved their goal, by winning 2-17 to 1-13. It was little more than they deserved, considering the honest and whole hearted performance they put in. Bill Beckett, who stood for the absent Eoin Guinan as captain on the occasion, had the privilege of receiving the trophy. As stated earlier, the celebrations afterwards showed simply what it meant to. One and all felt the pride in a great and memorable Kilkenny victory.

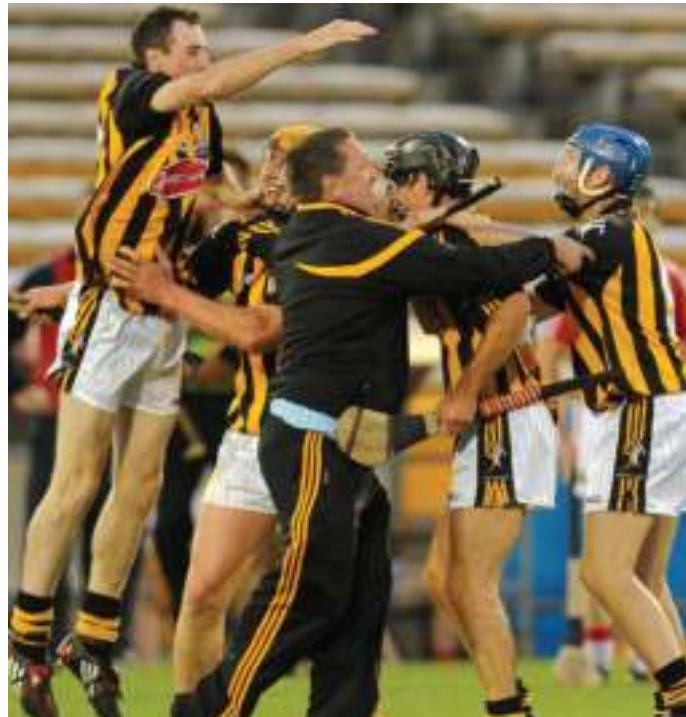
The full Kilkenny Intermediate panel for 2010 was:

**Liam Tierney (Rower-Inistioge), Mark Phelan (Glenmore), Paul Murphy (Danesfort), Kieran Mooney (Conahy Shamrocks), Ray Cody (Graignamanagh), Paddy Hogan (Danesfort), Niall Doherty (Galmoyley), Pat Hartley (Tullogher-Rosbercon), Niall Walsh (Slieverue), Bill Beckett (St Lachtain's), Richie Dollard (Tullogher-Rosbercon), Nicky Cleere (Bennettsbridge), Michael Grace (Rower-Inistioge), Peter Cleere (Blacks and Whites), Eoin Guinan, capt (St Lachtain's), Eoin Murphy (Glenmore), James Cahill (Graignamanagh), John Cottrell (Tullogher-Rosbercon), Ian Duggan (Mullinavat), Philly Lonergan (Windgap), Niall Kennedy (Blacks and Whites), Noel Doherty (Galmoyley), Brian Lennon (Bennettsbridge), Alan Healy (Conahy Shamrocks), Richie Hayes (James Stephens), Michael Maloney (Blacks and Whites), Seoirse Kenny (St Patrick's), Robbie Dowling (St Lachtain's), Sean O'Shea (Clara), Rory Hickey (Lisdowney).**

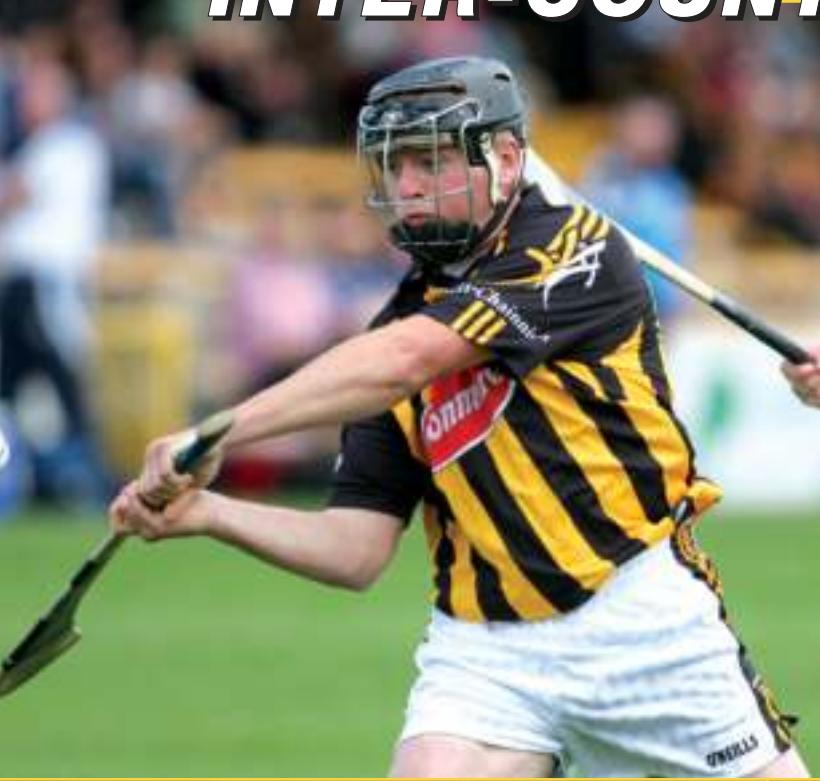
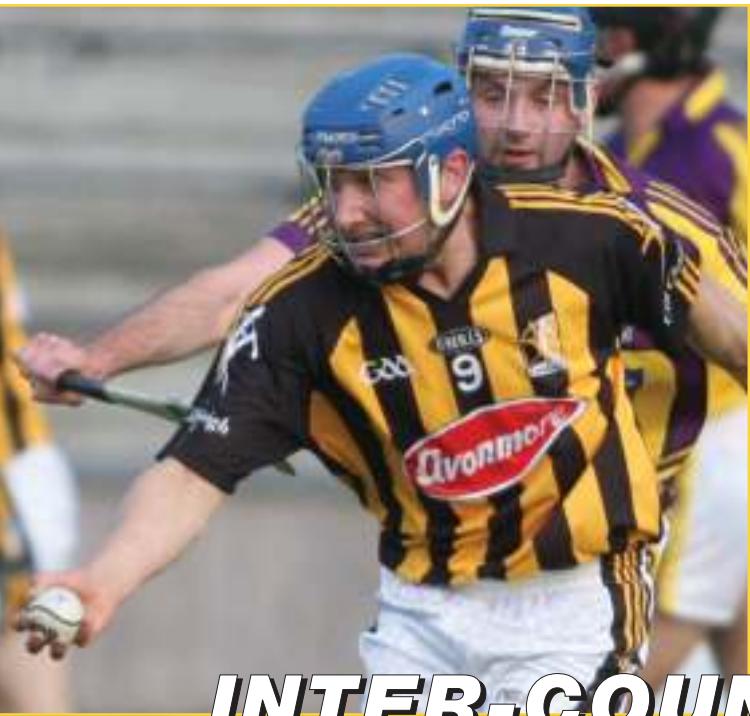
**Team Management: Pat Hoban (Mullinavat – Manager), Tom Doheny (St. Lachtain's), Paschal Connolly (Clara), PJ. Kenny (Lisdowney).**



Alan Healy in action against Barry Fitzgerald, left, and Tadhg Healy, Cork.  
Diarmuid Greene / SPORTSFILE



Kilkenny players, from left to right, Nicky Cleere, Richie Dollard, Alan Healy and Niall Walsh celebrate with selector PJ Kenny after victory over Cork.  
Diarmuid Greene / SPORTSFILE



Photos Eoin Hennessy

# Dublin's Minor Form Holds True



KILKENNY U21 TEAM DEFEATED BY OFFALY IN THE LEINSTER CHAMPIONSHIP.

Back: Thomas Breen, Gerry Callinan, David Walton, Gary Delaney, Michael Fagan, Geoff Brennan, Michael Maloney, Danny Kenny, Alan Cuddihy, Adrian Stapleton.  
Mid: Walter Walsh, J.J. Dunphy, Richie Doyle, Michael Walsh, Niall McQuillan, Mark Bergin, Colin Fennelly, Conor Fogarty.  
Front: Liam Ryan, James Nolan, Colin McGrath, P.J. Rowe, Paul Murphy, Eoin Murphy, David Langton, Kieran Mooney.

Eoin Hennessy

## Dublin hold true to their Minor Form of 2007

An All Ireland win over Tipperary along with a final appearance as Clare made their last minute historic breakthrough, had raised the bar of expectations for this year's Kilkenny under twenty one campaign. For team manager Michael Walsh and his selectors Pat Walsh and Pat McCormack and their newly appointed trainer David Buggy, it was straight to the grindstone as they set out to build a side to be in championship contention.

Following a trawl of the clubs for new players, a series of trial games were played in James's Park, Clara and in Piltown under lights. Working under the new inter county training guidelines, challenge games were played against Limerick and Waterford in Nowlan Park, Cork in Páirc Uí Caoimh and Tipperary in Clonreen and Templemore. In addition to developing a strong squad the games gave pointers for team positions and the potential contenders for the national crown.

## Offaly Renew Rivalry in the First Round.

For the third year in a row, the provincial draw saw an Offaly side, backboned by a handful of senior intercounty players, as opponents. The game was played in perfect conditions on the second Wednesday evening in June in Nowlan Park. With the memories still fresh in the mind of a close call and Kilkenny's three point victory the previous year, the game attracted a large crowd. Having displayed a wide range of skills, created the best goal chances, and shown a spirit that saw the game in the balance up until the last puck there was a sense of eager anticipation as Offaly lined out for the fray.

With eight new players in the starting line up, the Kilkenny side were well prepared for their first round debut. Playing against the wind, the side set the foundations for an emphatic win in this Bord Gais Energy tie as they led by 1-12 to 0-8 at half time. In the early stages of the game Offaly were well in contention before a Mark Bergin goal, followed by a succession of points before the break, gave a strong indication of what was to come after the interval. Within five minutes of the restart the side had moved into a 2-14 to 0-8 lead, with the goal coming from James Nolan who was set up by JJ Dunphy. From there

on it was one way traffic from the half back line of PJ Rowe, Kieran Mooney and David Langton, as the Kilkenny forwards added points with abandon. After Offaly were reduced to fourteen men with eleven minutes to go, any hope of a revival was blown away as the visitors were held scoreless for the second half. As the attendance reflected on a classic display that resulted in a 2-31 to 0-8 victory, the focus switched immediately to the next game at home against Dublin in the semi-final.

*The Kilkenny team and scorers: Colin McGrath, Alan Cuddihy, Conor Fogarty, Richie Doyle, P.J. Rowe, Kieran Mooney, David Langton, Paul Murphy, 0-1, Colin Fennelly 0-5, Mark Bergin, 1-8 (0-4 frees), J.J. Dunphy 0-1, Liam Ryan, 0-5, Eoin Murphy, 0-4, Walter Walsh, 0-2, James Nolan, 1-2, Subs: Michael Walsh, Michael Fagan, David Langton, Michael Maloney, Adrian Stapleton, 0-2, Thomas Breen, 0-1.*

## Dublin bring victory at Minor level to Semi-Final Table

Facing into the Semi-Final against Dublin, a three year reflection back to minor level recalled a much stronger and hungrier Dublin side who took their second Leinster minor title in three years when they ran out 2-14 to 0-10 winners in Croke Park. With an unchanged team for the game in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny got off to a slow start as Dublin took the lead with a first minute free and with the aid of the breeze stretched it to lead 0-6 to 0-2. After a home side rally late in the first half Kilkenny brought the lead down to three points before an injury time score saw Dublin lead 0-10 to 0-6 at the break. As the crowd surmised the implication of Dublin's eight first half wides and the possibility of a local comeback, the visitors took no notice and opened the second half with a five point flourish in the first eight minutes. With Colin McGrath, Conor Fogarty, Richie Doyle and Eoin Murphy working well, an exchange of points at the three quarter way stage saw Kilkenny get back into the game. After four more points on the trot the lead was suddenly down to five points with seven minutes to go and it was all to play for. The scoring momentum, however, was not retained and Dublin rallied to run out 0-17 to 0-12 winners at the final whistle. For the joyful metropolitans it added a measure of satisfaction after their disappointing senior defeat in

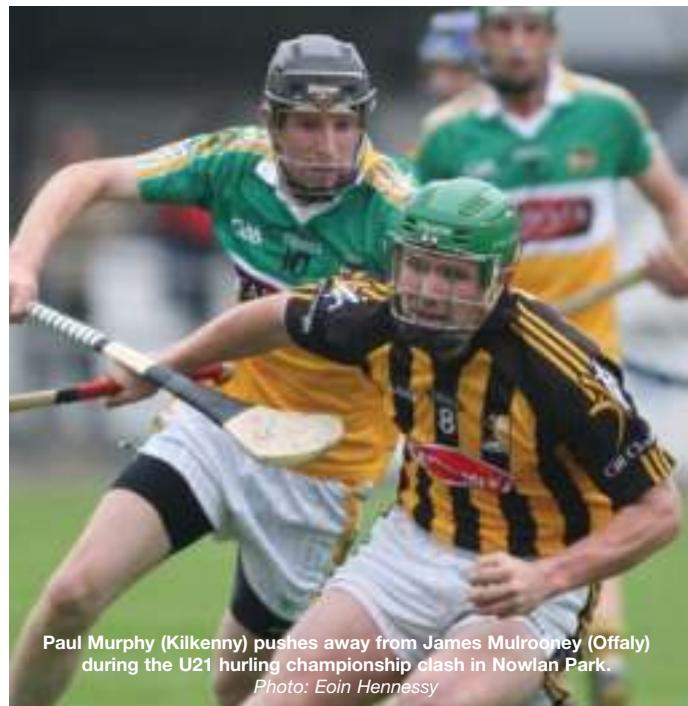
Croke Park the previous Sunday. On the night, Dublin were the better side throughout and were stronger and hungrier for the breaking balls.

*Kilkenny team and scorers: Colin McGrath, Alan Cuddihy, Conor Fogarty, Richie Doyle, P.J. Rowe, Kieran Mooney, David Langton, Paul Murphy, (0-2), Colin Fennelly, Mark Bergin (0-7, 0-6 frees), J.J. Dunphy, Liam Ryan, Eoin Murphy, (0-2, 0-1 free), Walter Walsh, James Nolan. Subs Used: Michael Walsh, Michael Maloney, Adrian Stapleton 0-1, Thomas Breen, Geoff Brennan.*

*Dublin Team and Scorers: Finn McGarry, Ronan Walsh, Darren Kelly, Oisín Gough, Peter Kelly, Ross O Carroll, Martin Quilty 0-1, Conor Clinton, 0-1, Peter Buckeridge 0-1, Shane Stapleton 0-6 0-5frees 0-1 65', Liam Rushe 0-1, Daire Plunkett 0-1, David Treacy 0-1, David Quinn 0-2, Niall McMorrow 0-2. Subs Used: Barry O' Rourke 0-1, Ciarán Brennan, Aodhán McEnerney.*

At the year's end the records show Dublin recording a 2-15 to 0-15 over Wexford to win the Leinster title as Tipperary overwhelmed Galway in the first ever All Ireland floodlit final in Thurles.

*Kilkenny 2010: The Kilkenny panel for the year was:- Colin McGrath St. Martins, Alan Cuddihy Ballyhale Shamrocks, Conor Fogarty Erin's Own, Richie Doyle, Barrow Rangers, P.J. Rowe Mooncoin, Kieran Mooney, Conahy Shamrocks, David Langton Clara, Paul Murphy, Danesfort, Colin Fennelly Ballyhale Shamrocks, Mark Bergin O'Loughlin Gaels, J.J. Dunphy, Dunnamaggin, Liam Ryan, Clara, Eoin Murphy, Glenmore, Walter Walsh, Tullogher Rosbercon, James Nolan, Clara, Gary Delaney Cloneen Michael Walsh Young Irelands, Niall McQuillan, James Stephens, Michael Malone, Mullinavat, Michael Fagan Dicksboro, Aidan Moran, Erin's Own, Michael Maloney Blacks & Whites, Adrian*



Paul Murphy (Kilkenny) pushes away from James Mulrooney (Offaly) during the U21 hurling championship clash in Nowlan Park.

Photo: Eoin Hennessy

Stapleton, Dicksboro, David Walton, James Stephens, 25) Thomas Breen, St. Martins, Danny Kenny (Dicksboro), Gerry Callinan (Erin's Own), Joe Brennan (St. Patrick's), Geoff Brennan (St. Patrick's), Canice Maher (St. Martin's) Ollie Walsh (St. Martin's).

The management team was Manager: Michael Walsh (Dicksboro). Selectors: Pat Walsh (Windgap) Pat McCormack (Fenians). Trainer: David Buggy (Erin's Own). Physios Grace McCormack and Martin Phelan with Dr. Jim Ryan as team doctor and Alan Kavanagh as Hurley co-coordinator.



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# THAT WAS THE FIVE-IN-A-ROW THAT WASN'T

by Enda McEvoy (Sunday Tribune)

Photo Brendan Moran/SPORTSFILE

**O**dd the way one can occasionally distinguish between the wood and the trees. Odd the way one can fail to repeat the process in similar circumstances a few weeks later. By way of illustration on each count, take the 2010 Leinster final and the 2010 All Ireland semi-final.

Yours truly appeared to have been in a minority of two in finding Kilkenny's display in the former game somewhat less than overwhelming. It was the 15 minutes immediately after half-time that did it for me. Instead of zooming away from labouring opponents, as would have been the case a couple of years ago, the MacCarthy Cup holders remained more or less in the same gear and merely plodded away from them. Instead of Kilkenny flaying the enemy alive with a couple of scything goalscoring moves it was Galway who committed suicide on their own puckout; of 14 successive puckouts Colm Callanan took in the second half the first six were lost, the next one won after he went short to a colleague and the following six lost. By the time the 14th puckout was won by the challengers, Kilkenny were dust in the distance – not because they'd upped it two gears but because Galway had handed them the car keys. Judging them by their own (absurdly high) standards, it was the county's poorest championship display since the 2005 All Ireland quarter-final slog against Limerick.

Did it matter? No. After so many champagne performances since 2006, were Kilkenny not entitled to hurl indifferently in victory? Absolutely. To these eyes, however, that third quarter against Galway was the first indication of rust on the engine. A few weeks later they went out and murdered Cork in the All Ireland semi-final, their best championship display since the Waterford game in 2008. God was in His heaven again and rust was nowhere to be seen. But if only I'd looked as closely at the third quarter of the All Ireland semi-final as I had at the equivalent period in the Leinster final... Twelve

points up at the break versus Cork, Kilkenny created 10 scoring chances in as many minutes at the start of the new half. They sent four of them wide and dropped another two short. Again it was something – a collective imprecision, a failure or inability to connect with the jugular – that wouldn't have happened with Kilkenny a couple of years earlier. That's clear now. It wasn't so clear at the time.

Nor did it matter there and then. But it would matter four weeks later. Think of Kilkenny in the second half against Tipperary. Minus Henry and therefore minus their shepherd. No variety, no imagination, no angles. Instead it was predictable, straight-lined stuff, all those long balls lumped down the middle for Richie Power to get on the end of and transmute from water into wine. The limbs may not have been tired but the thinking was. The flesh wasn't weak but the spirit had become dulled. The rust had set in at last. After 21 consecutive championship victories, an all-time record, how could it have not? The evil day had finally dawned, as it always would. It was nobody's fault; not the players', not the management's. There were no fingers to be pointed afterwards and the reaction of Kilkenny folk in the wake of the defeat was instructive. Here was the county's first All Ireland defeat in living memory where no inquest was demanded, no jury empanelled and nobody was required to carry the can. If anything, defeat brought almost a frisson of relief. The end of the line for the most successful hurling team in history had been reached and the end of the line proved to be a cause for, if not quite celebration, then appreciation of their efforts and their glories, players and management alike. That was only correct and fitting.

Remember Noel McGrath's goal for Tipperary early in the second half and the manner in which he sprinted 30 yards into the danger area in the hope a free would break his way? It's the kind of thing you do at 19 when you're chasing your first All Ireland medal, not



Lar Corbett scores Tipp's first goal in the final  
Brendan Moran/SPORTSFILE

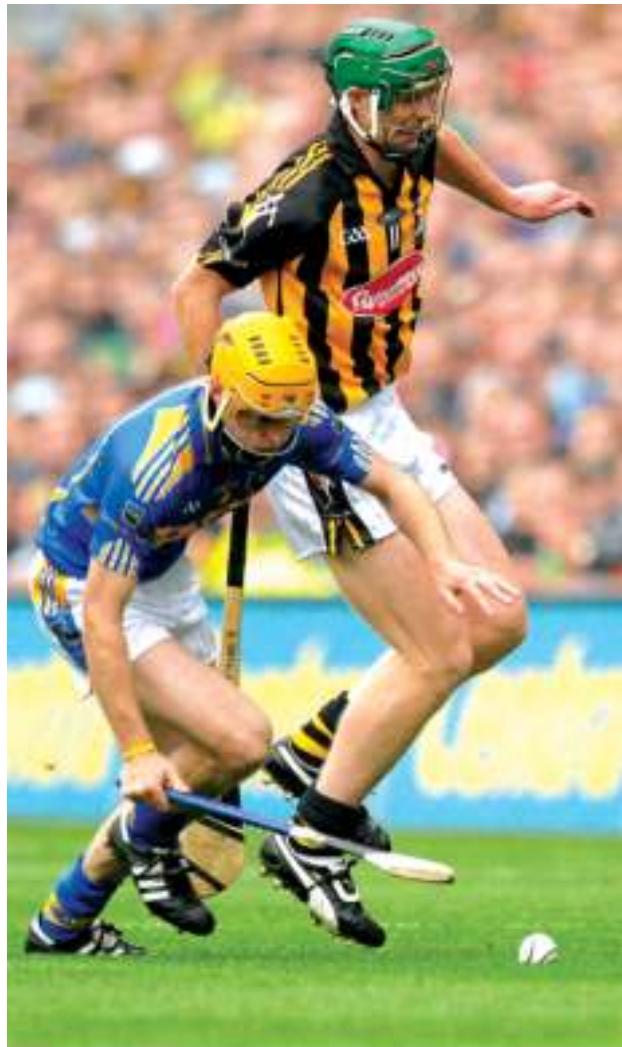
when you're 29 and chasing your fourth or fifth. Reflect too on all the poxy little things that went against the defending champions in the buildup to the final. The Shefflin injury saga and the circus engendered (nobody's fault, incidentally, particularly not that of the management). Tommy Walsh's injury. John Tennyson's injury. The loss of Brian Hogan. As with those misses early in the second half against Cork, what appears to possess one shape when lived through in real time can assume a very different outline when viewed in hindsight. Granted, Brian Cody and his selectors have had better days on the line than they had in the All Ireland final; they were desperately slow to take action while the ship was listing (the first tactical substitutions should have taken place long before the 50th minute - and that's nothing to do with hindsight), while the decision to start against the wind, thereby handing the initiative to younger opponents, was astonishing. But Brian and Martin and Mick had got it right for the preceding 21 games in succession. On the law of averages, they too were due a bad day.

What's more, this was no repeat of the 1976 Leinster final, the afternoon another great Kilkenny team died and died horribly. This crowd died with their boots on. Unlike 12 months earlier, when Tipperary hurled considerably better for the first hour than they did in 2010, the holders enjoyed the bulk of possession and devoured their opponents in aerial terms. But there are lies and there are statistics. If Kilkenny won 68 per cent of the puckouts, only 42 per cent of their scores sprang from this overhead dominance, whereas Tipp got 67 per cent of their scores from counter attacks – ie dispossessing Kilkenny and maximising use of this turnover ball. The underdogs, a year older and wiser than they had been in 2009, were supremely efficient with their possession and in shooting from the percentaged position.

That wasn't the only difference. If Kilkenny, as we said earlier, hurled in straight lines, Tipperary hurled around corners. In 2009 they'd almost beaten the champions by taking them on in a game

played on Kilkenny's terms. In 2010 they did beat them by taking them on in a game played on Tipperary's terms, enacted in the little black holes between the two banks of three in the Noreside rear-guard. Liam Sheedy's side employed every square on the chessboard by keeping their pieces in constant motion; the TV pictures of Lar Corbett taking Noel Hickey for a ramble as Brendan Cummins stepped up to point his free in the first half spoke volumes. Tipp pulled and poked and prodded at Kilkenny's jumper until they ripped holes in the fabric. As their coach Eamon O'Shea declared later, "It's not all about leaving people on their arse." A memorable triumph for Tipperary was rendered all the more memorable by the verve and imagination of their hurling. Anyway, one trusts that even the most diehard fan of the Black and Amber would not begrudge Brendan Cummins and Eoin Kelly, two men who laboured in blue and gold when it was neither popular nor profitable, their hour of liberation; the same goes for youngsters of the talent of McGrath and Brendan Maher. What's more, if Kilkenny had for years been gracious winners, and by and large had received little enough credit for it, their conquerors were similarly gracious and generous in the glow of their big moment.

Perhaps now is the right moment to gauge the noughties from a Kilkenny perspective. At its best and most basic it was the most successful decade ever for the county. Not simply that, it was the most successful decade ever for *any* county. Seven All Ireland senior titles, three minor and four under-21s (and further credit on the latter count to Cody, for one or two of those under-age crowns would not have been won but for the example set by the senior team) constitutes quite some haul, doesn't it? It constitutes even more of a haul when set against what Kilkenny won in the 1990s – two All Ireland senior titles, three minors and three under-21s – and even more so in the 1980s: two seniors, two minors and one under-21. Reader, you have never had it so good. Nor will you ever have it so good again. Give thanks for the blessings Brian and Henry and Tommy and JJ and the rest of them have bestowed on you.



*The moment it happened. Henry's knee gives way in the final.*  
Matt Browne/SPORTSFILE



*John Tennyson goes high in the Leinster Final versus Galway*  
John McIlwaine

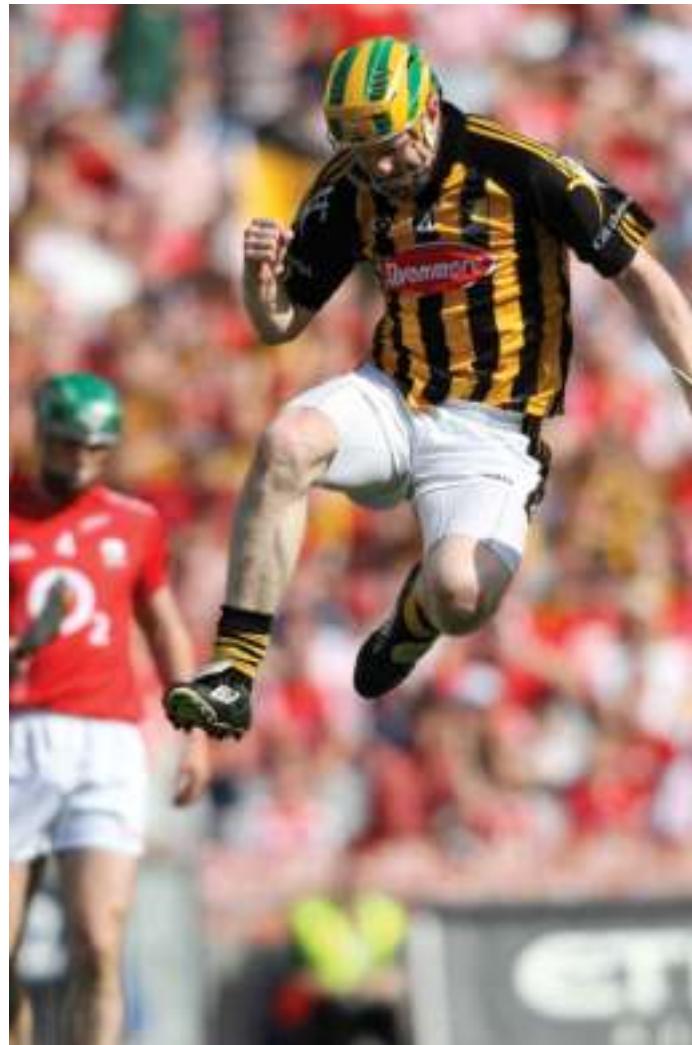


**Height advantage - Noel Hickey versus Aisake Ó hAilpín**  
John McIlwaine

At a slightly less exalted level, plenty of Kilkenny folk had reason to give thanks in 2010. Ballyhale Shamrocks won a second All Ireland title in four seasons, employing the very Codiesque virtues of hunting and harassment and hunger and collective toil to overturn Portumna in the final, and in so doing not only upheld and maintained local tradition but banished the very real danger that this generation of representatives of the club might eventually stand accused of failing to deliver on their potential. St Lachtain's also tasted springtime triumph at Croke Park. St Kieran's magicked up a notable late flourish – notable in particular for the amount of incisive, un-Kilkenny-esque first-time hurling they produced with their backs to the wall and the results it yielded – to regain the colleges crown. The intermediate and minor teams were All Ireland champions. Wasn't exactly a barren year, was it? Now, though, it has ended and a new season is dawning.

The boss man will not have to be told that his little honeymoon in defeat has concluded. Nor will he have to be told that defeat last September is not necessarily the end of the road for everything he has constructed. Losing one match doesn't automatically render everything that Kilkenny had been doing up to then wrong or misguided. Nor does it mean that Tipperary alone are on the path to higher consciousness. But the loss of one match cannot be regarded as an aberration either, cannot be written off as one of those things, and to dismiss Eamon O'Shea's line about "not leaving people on their arse" would be foolish in the extreme. Tipp saw Kilkenny's hand and raised it. What will the Kilkenny response be?

Once broken, a winning thread is not easily picked up again. What's more, in moulding his four in a row team Cody had a treasure trove of talent from the 2002-03 minor and 2003-04 under-21 sides as plasticine. Among those who were sitting on the bench when the county's previous championship defeat, the 2005 All Ireland semi-final versus Galway, got underway were Jackie Tyrrell, Cha Fitzpatrick, Michael Rice, Richie Power, Aidan Fogarty, Willie



**Richie Power scores his goal against Cork**  
John McIlwaine

O'Dwyer and Brian Hogan. That was half a new team there and then. Last September's bench did not have similar talent in stock and recent Kilkenny minor teams have contained no such bounty either, which makes Richie Mulrooney's achievement in coaxing two All Ireland titles – and three spellbinding All Ireland semi-final performances – from them all the more worthy. On which point, has there ever been a better Kilkenny minor manager than Mulrooney? Richie hasn't done the state some service, he has done the state profound service, even if the 2010 minor outfit may in time prove to be a far better proposition than the burden of outlandish favouritism allowed them to look against Clare.

Not that the boss man needs to be told what to do, but seeing that Brian is an avid reader of my musings on these pages each year, here's a suggestion for him. Move Richie Power to centre-forward and entrust him with a playmaker's role. Beyond that for the manager lies the overarching danger that, with both counties currently ten lengths ahead of a field headed by Galway, Kilkenny, while in the process of ushering their older hands towards the wings, will continue to reach All Ireland finals – but reach them with a team in transition and lose them to a younger and ever-improving Tipperary marching with confident step towards the centre of the stage. This is not a concern for Cody just yet. It might be some day.

Yet of one thing we can be certain. Kilkenny could have not have a better man at the helm.

**Hurler of the year: Lar Corbett**

**Young hurler: Brendan Maher**

**Best Kilkenny hurler: JJ Delaney**

**Next best: Richie Power**

**Match of the year: Tipperary v Galway in the All Ireland quarter-final**

**Team of the year: Same as the All Stars one**

*Enda McEvoy is the hurling correspondent of the Sunday Tribune*

# Brian Hogan

## A Model of Reliability and Consistency

By Richard Holden



John McIlwaine

For Brian Hogan, the year 2010 could be said to have been a mixed one, from injury ruling him out of the All-Ireland Final to helping his club O'Loughlin Gaels win their third county senior hurling title.

In October, O'Loughlins stopped Shamrocks' great run in the semi-final and then defeated Carrickshock in the Final. How did this year's success come about? 'Last year, we felt we were there or thereabouts but in the semi-final against Ballyhale, we got off to a bad start and never fully recovered. We knew there was plenty of potential in the club. Having lost our first two games, our win over Dunnamaggin in the last round of the League was a crucial one for us. The lads dug in and showed great battling qualities that night, we then improved as each match went on.'

Going into the Final, we were well aware of the threat Carrickshock posed. They were very impressive against James Stephens and we knew we had to try and curtail Richie Power but we believed that we could perform on the big day. I remember before the Final, Sean Dowling was a big inspiration in the dressing room – he had to retire earlier in the year due to a hip injury and it hurt him that he couldn't even tog-out.'

In the Leinster Club Championship, O'Loughlins subsequently went on to defeat Rathdowney (Laois) and Ballyboden (Dublin) before beating/losing to Wexford's Oulart-the-Ballagh in the Final.

Brian has also had a distinguished inter-county career. Having won two Leinster Under-21 titles, he was called into Brian Cody's senior squad in 2004, making his championship debut against Wexford in the Leinster semi-final. 'That was a right baptism of fire. Wexford came with a game plan which impacted particularly on our half-back line – I was playing at left-half back. I remember the pace of the match was a big step-up from anything I encountered before – talking to Michael Kavanagh after, he compared the pace in that game to that of an All-Ireland semi-final. It was a steep learning curve. You didn't have the same amount of time on the ball and your first touch had to be spot on.' Kilkenny lost by an

injury time goal to Wexford before going through the back door and reaching the All-Ireland Final, where they lost to Cork.

In 2005, the O'Loughlin Gaels clubman came on as a sub against Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final – 'a crazy match', as he recalls. The Tribesmen won a goal-fest by 5-18 to

4-18. Then, in 2006, John Tennyson came in at centre-back as Kilkenny started on their great run of four-in-a-row All-Ireland titles, gaining revenge on Cork in the Final. Brian re-established himself at the heart of Kilkenny's defence in '07, as the Cats defeated Limerick to retain their title. In that Final, Brian reverted to full-back after Noel Hickey went off injured. Which position did he prefer? 'I'd rather centre-back as you're involved in the game more.'

The Cats won three-in-a-row in 2008 and then last year, Brian recovered from a broken collar-bone sustained in the League Final against Tipperary, to regain his place for the All-Ireland semi-final against Waterford. Kilkenny won by five points to set up a mouth-watering Final against Tipperary, which they went on and won by 2-22 to 0-23. It was a game widely regarded as a true epic, one of the best Finals in years.

In the build-up to this year's Final against Tipp, the 29-year-old shattered a bone in his finger, which caused him to miss out on the big day. Brian had only just returned to training, having injured the AC joint in the All-Ireland semi-final against Cork.

'I remember last year been injured and having to watch matches from the sideline. It breaks your rhythm, and you really want to be out there playing. It was very disappointing to have to miss this year's Final but you couldn't get too down about it – everyone was in it together.'

What was his opinion on the defeat to Tipp? 'They had the same hunger as we had in 2006 and had their homework done. Our preparations were disrupted with a few of our lads carrying injuries but in saying that Tipp were the best team



on the day and the best team always wins – and that would have applied last year as well.'

Last month, Brian Cody was ratified as senior hurling manager for a thirteenth season. What qualities has he brought to the set-up? 'He has a huge presence and has brought great professionalism and commitment to the role. With regard to the biggest influences on his career, Brian mentions two club-men: Brian Murphy (Snr.) and Maurice Nolan – his managers from Under-14 up to senior; Adrian Finn – his colleges' trainer at St. Kieran's; Richie Power – his manager at county Under-21 level and his father. 'I remember Dad bringing us up to matches in Croke Park when we were young. I would talk to him about matches I played and he would always give you an honest opinion.'

Brian has two brothers – Keith, who plays senior hurling with Clara, and Barry, who plays junior hurling with O'Loughlins. 2011 brings new challenges to Kilkenny as they attempt to regain their title, and here's hoping that Brian can stay injury-free and play his part in the Cats' bid for a thirty-third All-Ireland senior title.

## BRIAN HOGAN

### Factfile

**Date of Birth:** 14 August 1981

**Occupation:** Medical rep. (Grunenthal)

**Honours:**

- 4 All-Ireland SHC
- 6 Leinster SHC
- 2 NHL
- 3 Co. SHC
- 1 Leinster Club SHC
- 2 Dublin SHC (UCD)
- 1 Fitzgibbon Cup
- 1 All-Ireland Colleges SH

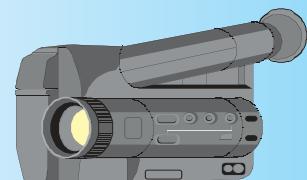
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# Clean Sweep by KIERANS



**ST KIERAN'S - ALL IRELAND COLLEGES SH CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Mr. Philip Walsh (trainer) Cormac Wafer, Andrew Cantwell, Ben O'Connor, Aidan O'Dowd, Conor Hogan, Aidan Cleere, Conor O'Shea, Robert Lennon, Gavin Butler, Patrick O'Carroll, Darragh Buggy, William Phelan

**Middle:** Mr. Tom Hogan (trainer), Conor Maharaj, Darren Booth, Paul Buggy, Enda Morrissey, Evan Guilfoyle, Luke Hickey, Michael Donnelly, Tom Brennan, George Allen, Michael Whitley, Richard Reid, William Phelan, John Power, Mr. Ken Archbold (trainer)

**Front:** Thomas O' Hanrahan, Patrick Butler, Hugh O'Neill, Donal Brennan, Sean Phelan, James Gannon, Padraig Walsh, Killian Buckley, Paul Holden, Michael Brennan, Cathal O'Neill (Missing from photo: Sean O'Dwyer)

## SENIOR HURLING LEAGUE

The hurling year started in September with a series of trials to choose a panel of about thirty players from over one hundred aspiring St. Kieran's senior hurlers. James Gannon was appointed captain and Seán Phelan vice-captain. Our first league match was away to Good Counsel who were reigning Leinster Champions and a hard earned victory gave everyone a confidence boost. Next up was a comfortable victory over Dublin South. We played Dublin North in Dublin on a synthetic pitch and had a lucky escape in the league semi-final on a scoreline of 2-11 to 1-12. We faced our near neighbours CBS Kilkenny in Nowlan Park in December in the league final. With ten minutes left and ten points in arrears we looked in serious trouble, but, full credit to all the players concerned, we staged a magnificent comeback and managed a draw 3-13 each. The replay was just as exciting and we held out to win by a margin of two points: 2-10 to 2-08. So, we went into the Christmas break with some silverware and the appetite for more.

## CHAMPIONSHIP

We played a number of challenge games against teams such as Thurles CBS, Kilkenny Minors, DIT freshers and WIT freshers. We even fitted in an appearance on TG4's *Thar an Trasnán*. Our champi-



**ST KIERAN'S - LEINSTER JUN "A" HURLING CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Simon Rafter, Jack Cotter, William Dooley, Vincent Teehan, Thomas Talbot, Brendan Neary, Gearoid Cleere.

**3rd Row:** Ciaran Breen, Cillian Cantwell, Patrick Mullen, James Maher, Sean O' Callaghan, Chris Bolger, Mark Butler, Josh Haines.

**2nd Row:** James Deasy, Kevin Mullen, Ricci Drennan, Stephen Farrell, Michael O' Neill, Harry Wallace, Shane O' Brien,

**Front:** Mr John O'Keeffe (Trainer), James Tyrell, Bill Carrigan, Graham English, Eoin Gough (Vice Captain), Diarmuid Cody (Captain), Patrick Hickey, Shane Parsons, Cormac Connolly, Mr David McCormack (Trainer) Absent from photo: Dylan O' Shea, Shane O'Brien

onship commenced on February 6th in Carlow against Good Counsel. The team exploded into action that day and were convincing winners 3-18 to 1-8. The Leinster semi-final versus Castlecomer Community School was played in Freshford a couple of weeks later and we struggled to

win by 2-14 to 2-07. The scene was now set for a third match with our great rivals Kilkenny CBS in Nowlan Park in the Leinster final. Having started well we conceded a goal just before half-time to go in two points down. The first ten minutes of the second half was to prove crucial when we

fought our way back into the game and we finished with a flurry to win by 2-14 to 1-10. Leinster champions 2010.

#### ALL-IRELAND

The All-Ireland series pitted us against Presentation College Athenry at an unusual venue, Moate County Westmeath. This was a very exciting game, edging out Athenry by 0-16 to 0-13 after extra time. The toughest challenge of all was to defeat the Harty Cup winners, Ardscoil Rís from Limerick, in the Croke Cup final in Thurles. They came into the final with great credentials, having defeated reigning champions, Thurles CBS, after three games in the Harty Cup final. They had to overcome Kilkenny CBS in the semi-final. The date was Saturday April 3rd and the day was cold and blustery. To win this game required fierce determination, hard work and great skill. Great credit is owed to the boys for the way they battled to the very last, came back from five points down to emerge All-Ireland champions by 2-11 to 2-08. The hallmark of this year's team has been their work ethic, their never-say-die attitude which was decisive on many occasions during the year. But the most important factor has to be the strength of the panel and the contribution that every single player made to the winning of the All-Ireland and bringing home the Croke Cup for a record 17th time and the first since 2004.

#### U16 HURLING by James Tyrrell & James Deasy

This year St. Kieran's college were hoping to retain the Fr. Cosgrave cup, the Leinster Junior A schools title. Our season began mid September at home to Good Counsel, New Ross. It was a tough battle but Kieran's came out on top with a fine inspirational performance from Diarmuid Cody.

Next was the match against Castlecomer, another tough encounter away in Comer's backyard. Kieran's came away with a less than convincing win. However man of the match on the day was Patrick Mullen with six wonderful points from play. We were through to the knockout stages.

Our semi-final was held in Palmerstown on the 14th of October 2010, against worthy opposition in the form of C.B.S Kilkenny. From the throw in they hit us hard, Robbie Fitzpatrick scored some great points for C.B.S in the early stages. Gradually we grafted our way back into the game. We suffered a set back as unfortunately our captain Diarmuid cody had to be substituted due

to a shoulder injury. It took extra time at the end of a riveting normal time to separate the sides.

Final day arrived on the 18th of October 2010 in Dr. Cullen Park Carlow. Our opposition St. Peter's of Wexford went in as favourites. They had beaten Kilkenny C.B.S in the group stages. Both sides were evenly matched. Andrew Kennedy stood out for St. Peter's, at centre back. In the 38th minute Gearoid Kennedy scored the games first goal for Kieran's. St. Peters responded with a point, only for Kieran's to score a goal and two points in quick succession. St. Peter's fought back with three points of their own but it was too little too late and we held out to win on a scoreline of 2:10 to 0:11. The strongest line on the pitch was the St. Kieran's half back line made up of Harry Wallace, Ricci Drennan and the man of the match Eoin Gough.

#### U-14 FOOTBALL by Johnny Mulholland

The U-14 Football season began in October. Our first match was against Mountrath Community School which we won easily in the end. Our first two matches were played on a league basis. In our second match we played Ardscoil Ná Trionoide, Athy which we ended up winning by a considerable margin. We finished first in our group which meant we would play the team that finished second in the other group, this turned out to be St. Mary's, Enniscorthy. After a great display from all our players we ended up convincing winners. Next up was the South Leinster Final which was played in Carlow on a very windy cold day. In the tricky conditions we ended up winning by three points which was brilliant because FCJ Bunclody were a very good side, with some great players. We were now South Leinster Champions which was a testament to the effort put in by all. We next were drawn against the Dublin Champions, St. David's of Artane, coached by the former Galway great Brian Talty. On a cold wet day in Athy, it was clear from the start that they were the more physical side. We played a brilliant first half and led by seven points at half time but the wind picked up in the second half and we struggled to play like we did in the first. We just couldn't keep up with them and in the end we lost by a point to a dubious last minute goal. We enjoyed a great season and no one can be blamed for our defeat. The team would like to say a big thank you to Mr Connolly and Mr Fitzgerald for all their time and coaching over the year.



ST KIERAN'S - SOUTH LEINSTER U14 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

**Back:** Mr. N. Connolly (Mentor) Ricci Drennan (Capt), Johnny Mullholland, Jason Armstrong, Alan O'Beirne, James Tyrell, James Maher, Mr. P. Fitzgerald (Mentor).  
**Middle:** Daniel O'Connor, Billy Hanlon, Kevin Mullen, Eoin Walsh, Ben Hickey, Jason Byrne, Jack Keoghan, Seamus McGrath, Graham English, Dylan Drennan.  
**Front:** Conor O'Carroll, Sean O'Neill, Shane Walsh, Jake McDonald, Billy Ryan, Conor Browne, Kieran Freeman, Eoin Delaney, Kevin Blanchfield, Mark Dowling, Brian O'Carroll.

# SECOND LEVEL REPORT

## KILKENNY CBS

### INAUGURAL JIM LANGTON CBS JUVE-NILE HURLING BLITZ 2010

Kilkenny CBS marked its 150th Celebrations on the Hurling pitch by hosting the first Jim Langton Juvenile Hurling Blitz at the Dicksboro Grounds in Palmerstown. The Competition included eight teams in all with Christian Brothers backgrounds. The host School fielded two teams and the rest of the field comprised Naas CBS, Dungarvan CBS, Callan CBS, Thurles CBS, Clonmel CBS Blackwater C C ( formerly Lismore CBS).



#### COMPETITION RESULTS:

##### GROUP ONE.

Kilkenny CBS	3-6	Callan CBS	0-3
Dungarvan CBS	0-1	Clonmel CBS	1-15
Callan CBS	3-2	Dungarvan CBS	1-4
Kilkenny CBS	0-3	Clonmel CBS	1-4
Kilkenny CBS	5-9	Dungarvan CBS	2-1
Callan CBS	0-2	Clonmel CBS	0-5

##### GROUP TWO.

Thurles CBS	1-7	Blackwater CC	1-3
Kilkenny CBS	(2)0-2	Naas CBS	3-4
Kilkenny CBS	(2)0-6	Thurles CBS	1-11
Blackwater CC	1-1	Naas CBS	4-6
Blackwater CC	1-6	Kilkenny CBS	0-4
Thurles CBS	0-5	Naas CBS	2-7

#### JIM LANGTON CUP FINAL.

Clonmel CBS 1-8 Naas CBS 0-8 (AET)

#### JIM LANGTON SHIELD FINAL.

Kilkenny CBS 3-10 Thurles CBS 1-14.

The two Trophies were proudly presented by the legendary Jim Langton's son Jim Langton Jnr whose father, by the way, captained the first Kilkenny CBS Senior Hurling team to win a Leinster 'A' Colleges title way back in 1935. Kilkenny CBS Principal Tom Clarke was on hand to assist in the presentation and the School would like to express its deepest gratitude to the Langton Family, the participating Schools, Dicksboro G.A.A. Club, Kilkenny County Board and our referees on the day, Eamon Mansfield and Martin Quilty. Credit also to Competition organisers PJ McCormack and Ivan Doherty.

## GRENNAN COLLEGE

Having lost the All Ireland Final last year our Senior hurlers had high hopes of going all the way in 2010. With only 4 teams competing in the Leinster championship our first game was a semi final away to Bridgetown V.C. (Wexford). On a heavy pitch, on a wet day the unerring accuracy of



**Jim Langton Jnr presents the Jim Langton Shield to CBS captain, Cory Cahill.  
Also in picture Tom Clark, Principal and PJ McCormack**



**KILKENNY CBS -ALL IRELAND MH WINNERS 2010  
Brian Kennedy, Ollie Walsh, Stephen Farrell, Owen McGrath, Garry Gaule, Peter Vickery,  
Anthony Forreastal.**



**GRENNAN COLLEGE JUVENILE HURLING SOUTH LEINSTER C CHAMPIONS:  
Back: Mr.Dunne, C Butler, D Murphy, T O'Connor, C O'Mara, L Tennyson, P Blanchfield, J Lanigan,  
K Hennessy, A Burke, (Capt.), T Whelan, T Delahunt, M Costigan.  
Front: J Burke, D Hamilton, S Butler, R Leahy, M Benny, D Miskella, A Kehoe, C Sutton, E O'Donnell, D  
Monks. Missing from photo: BJ Walsh, A Walsh, A Somers.**

sharpshooter Dylan Waugh earned an extra time victory on a final scoreline of 2-16 to 1-17.

The Leinster Final was played in O'Moore Park, Portlaoise in early December. We faced the Cormac (Offaly). It was obvious from the start that the Offaly men wanted it that little bit more. Their hunger and determination saw them into an early lead and they did not let it slip, running out eventual winners by 5 points. Final Score: Colaiste Naomh Cormac 2-9 Grennan College 1-7. In the Leinster Football Championship an open round victory over Mhuine Beag V.S. set up a quarter final meeting with Abbey CC (Ferrybank). Excellent performances from Mark and Nathan Sherry and some skilful score taking from Barry Whelan saw Grennan emerge victorious on a scoreline of 3-8 to 1-2. The Leinster semi final was an away clash with St. Farnan's, Prosperous. On the day our Kildare opponents proved too strong and ran out winners by 3-11 to 2-5.

Pride of place this year goes to our Juvenile hurlers who were crowned South Leinster Champions after defeating local rivals Scoil Aireagail, Ballyhale in a pulsating final played out in glorious sunshine in Nowlan Park on 16th April.

The year began in September with a challenge match in Johnstown. A good win and some very good individual performances provided much hope for the year ahead. We then had a match against our senior camogie team which was a bruising contest and very high scoring. With Jane Cullen performing heroics it took the lads a while to settle, but victory was eventually secured with a late goal from Bobby Joe Walsh. It was then football season and group victories over Carlow Gaelscoil and Ramsgrange C.S. set up a South Leinster semi final against Ballyhale. A superb effort fell just short on the day but this defeat provided the stimulus and the motivation for the hurling year ahead. Training continued every Tuesday in all weathers as the championship approached.

Victory away to Callan CBS was further proof that this team was developing nicely. In our opening group game we once again faced Ballyhale. A sound beating gave a clear indication of the amount of work



**GRENNAN COLLEGE CAMOGIE TEAM 2009 / 2010**

**Back:** Ms.O'Donnell, Teresa Cassin, Alison Murphy, Niamh Donnelly, Niamh Quigley, Claire Forristal, Kelly Hamilton, Kayleigh Begley, Jessie Carroll, Leanne Walsh.  
**Front:** Emer Donnelly, Roisin Bollard, Sinead Naddy, Aisling Begley, Lucy Johns, Niamh O'Shea, Sinead Whelan, Sophie Kavanagh. (Missing from photo Meighan Farrell.)

ahead and a very lucky victory over Abbey (Ferrybank) set up a South Leinster semi final away to Wexford CBS. From the throw in Grennan tore into their opponents and early goals from Bobby Jo Walsh, Danny Monks and Cian O'Mara set us up for a convincing victory. The stage was now set for the South Leinster final, Grennan College vs. Scoil Aireagail.

A good start was vital and a great point from Bobby Jo and a free by Adrian Burke was just what the doctor ordered. This was followed by a sensational goal from Danny Monks who fielded a long delivery from Tony Whelan and flicked to the top corner from the tightest of angles. Ballyhale were shell-shocked but managed to stay in touch when the scoreline read 1-8 to 0-6. The second half flew by at a whirlwind pace and when referee Eamon Mansfield blew the final whistle the sides were deadlocked at 2-10 each.

Ballyhale made the better start in extra time but superior fitness and unquenchable spirit saw Grennan College claim the title with late goals from the deadly duo Monks and Walsh. The final scoreline after a tremendous day's entertainment was Grennan Col-

lege 4-13 Scoil Aireagail 2-14.  
 Well done to all concerned.

## COLÁISTE MHUIRE

The Junior hurling team had a hugely successful campaign culminating in victory in the Leinster Colleges title for the first time. This bunch of players began their campaign in the South Leinster Colleges competition where they met Abbey C.S. in the final. They played some wonderful hurling and comprehensively outplayed their rivals on the day. They then progressed to the Leinster semi-final where they met reigning champions Colaiste Mhuire Mullingar and in a very close and tense affair a late Conor Martin free settled the issue to win by a single point.

The team then progressed to the final where they met St. Benildas of Dublin and despite not playing to their potential ran out 7 point winners. Robert Barnaville captained the team on this historic occasion. The panel prepared for the Junior Vocational competition and began with a comprehensive victory against local rivals St. Fergals with Conor Martin producing a mas-



**COL MHUIRE LEINSTER JUNIOR SCHOOLS JUNIOR CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** John Bergin, Vincent Webster, David O'Gorman, James Kenny, John Muldowney, Rory Doyle, Conor Martin, Ciaran Bergin, Shane Moriarty, Tom Phelan, Patrick Duggan, Eoin Wilson, Tadhg O'Sullivan, Ciaran Murphy, Odhran Waldron, Eoin Lyons, Micheal Phelan.  
**Front:** Conor Delaney, Liam Hickey, Michael Drennan, Frank Phelan, Shane Donnelly, Kieran Skehan, Brian Webster, Willie Brennan, Robert Barnaville, Colm Dunphy, Kevin Sweeney, Thomas Moriarty, Jason Stanley, Eoin Vaughan.



#### **COL MHUIRE LEINSTER FOOTBALL ROINN "D" CHAMPIONS**

**Back:** David O Gorman, Tom Phelan, John Muldowney, Liam Hickey, Conor Martin, Rory Doyle, James Kenny, Colm Dunphy, Shane Quinlan, James Larkin, Callum Woodworth, Shane Moriarty, Ciaran Bergin, Thomas Moriarty.  
**Front:** Shane Donnelly, Paul Coss, Jason Stanley, Willie Brennan, Brian Webster, Evan Hughes, Shane Brophy, Tadgh O'sullivan, Kevin Sweeney.

terclass in scoring 1-14. They then met Banagher C.S. in the final and in a very tense affair overcame their rivals by the minimum with Willie Brennan outstanding on the day.

Johnstown now faced reigning champions Causeway C.S. in the All-Ireland semi-final and unfortunately they never played to their potential and were beaten by an exceptionally strong Causeway team. However Willie Brennan gave an outstanding performance on the day repelling many of Causeways attacks.

The Juniors finished off the year with victory in the County Junior 'B' competition with victory over Kilkenny C.B.S., Ballyhale and St. Kierans in the final played in Nolan Park.



#### **DUISKE COLLEGE SOUTH LEINSTER SENIOR HURLING C FINALISTS 2010**

**Back:** Daniel Fitzgerald, Dylan Conran, Ciaran Manning, Eoin Bolger, James Meaney, Bernard Hennessy, Lenny Fitzgerald, Seamus Kavanagh, Stephen Browne, Lee Kinsella, Micheal Cantwell, James McCabe, Jack Conran, Sean Cahill.  
**Front:** Ryan Douglas, Shane Kavanagh, Ryan O' Halloran, Ricky Carroll, Brandon Fenlon, Liam Hearne, Adam Kennedy, James Doyle, Adam Canning, Neal Jordan, Jordan Brett.

2010 has been a great year for gaelic games in Duiske College, with teams competing in juvenile, junior and senior hurling and gaelic football, camogie and ladies football. The highlight of the year has been the performances of the schools senior hurling team, who have reached the South Leinster Senior Hurling C Final. This team qualified for the competitions semi finals, emerging

from a group including Wicklow Schools, Knockbeg College and Pres DLS Bagnelstown. In the Semi Final we overcame Ramsgrange C.S. after a replay and at present we

are looking forward to the final of the competition, which will be a big occasion for our school.



#### **SCOIL AIREAGAIL, BALLYHALE - SOUTH LEINSTER JUV FOOTBALL "C" CHAMPIONS**

**Back:** Ryan Bland, Mark Phelan, Nigel Curran, Stephen Mackey, Dylan Halligan, Stephen Lawlor, Eugene Aylward, Owen Grace, Mark Ryan, Michael Jones, Patrick Foran, Ronan Corcoran, William Bergin, Aaron Doherty, Paul Kirwan, Brian Phelan.  
**Front:** Cyril Hennessey, Greg O'Donnell, Jack Brown, Luke Rafter, Darren Audoire, Conor O'Dwyer, Ronan Coffey, Kevin Farrell, Patrick Butler, Luke Donnelly, Ray Cody, Shaun Donnelly, M.J. Nolan.

**CLARA**

# AMOGIE REPORTS

**Chairperson: Theresa Aylward****Secretary: Eileen Curtis****Treasurer: Bridget Byrne**

Clara Camogie Club enjoyed another very good camogie season fielding teams at U10, U12, U14, U16, Minor, U21 and Intermediate level with many reaching the knockout stages of their respective competitions.

The highlight of the year was winning of the U16 Roinn "B" Championship when Clara had a convincing win over the Rower Inistioge on a rainsoaked September evening in Clara. The team was captained by Aylson Creane who received the winning trophy on behalf of the team.

The U10's enjoyed the summer tournaments run by the clubs and organised by the County Board. The team travelled to Danesfort, James Stephens, Ballyhale and Graiguenamanagh and improved greatly over the summer.

The U12's participated in the Féile na nGael competition and also reached the semi-final of their group competition where they were beaten by St. Bridget's. The U14's reached the Roinn A semi-final stages of their championship while the Minors were defeated by Windgap in the semi-final stage of the championship.

The U21 Championship produced the game of the season. Having defeated the Blacks and Whites in the first round Clara earned themselves a place in the semi-final against Mullinavat. In a thrilling encounter, which saw the lead change sides many times, Clara were beaten by Mullinavat by a one goal margin on a scoreline of 8-9 to 7-9. There's no doubt that for excitement, action and scores this was the game of the season.

*Aylson Creane receives the U16 trophy from Pearl MacDonald*

The Intermediate team had a very good season reaching the final of the All County League in which they were defeated by Dicksboro, while in the championship the girls defeated Piltown in an exciting quarter-final game, but exited at the semi-final stage with a defeat by the Rower Inistioge.

The Club was also well represented at County level with Mary O'Connell, Ciara Byrne and Roisin Kealy fielding for the U14's, Leasa Byrne and Claire Nolan for the U16's, while Niamh Byrne and Aisling Curtis represented the Club on the Minor County team which was defeated by Galway in the All-Ireland Semi-final. The club is indebted to all its trainers and mentors whose tireless dedication and encouragement has seen Clara Camogie Club go from strength to strength and we all look forward to another busy year in 2011.

**CLARA - U16 ROIINN "B" CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS**

**Back:** Pat Byrne (Mentor), Roisin Byrne (Mentor), Blaithin Breen, Margaret Kehoe, Sarah Molloy, Hazel Tully, Jane Maher, Nicola Murphy, Shannon Rowe, Lisa Kehoe, Tony Byrne (Mentor)

**Front:** Ciara Byrne, Claire Nolan, Mary O'Connell, Tamsin English, Emma Byrne, Aylson Creane (Capt.), Leasa Byrne, Aisling Nolan, Dianamh Phelan, Roisin Kealy.



# DICKSBORO AMOGIE REPORTS



Dicksboro have enjoyed a great year of camogie in 2010. We are delighted to see that our club is the largest club of registered membership in the county this year. This is a testament to the hard work and commitment of all the committee, players, coaches and parents. At underage level our numbers have grown considerably and the girls at under 6, 8 and 10 have enjoyed taking part in regular training sessions, challenge matches and blitzes.

For a second year our U12 squad was big enough to enter two teams in different groups. One team reached the quarter finals while the other team met Conahy in a cracking final which saw us

win by one point. Our U14s bowed out of the competition at semi-final stage losing to Windgap by one point. The U16s, captained by Alex Horan, made it two in a row for the Roinn "A" title beating Windgap by two goals. A young U18 team bowed out at the semi-final stage losing to Thomastown while our U21s were knocked out in the first round of the competition by a very strong Thomastown team.

It was our first year back up in the Intermediate competition and our girls were very comfortable and played every match with true spirit. They reached the league final where they met a very strong Rower Inistioge team who were worthy

winners. In the championship semi-final we played Lisdowney who came away the winners and who went on to win the competition. In the All County competition we played Clara in the final and won the title, 2-16 to 4-05.

Aine Maher represented Dicksboro in the 'Bachelorette of Kilkenny' competition and was crowned worthy winner.

Congratulations to all our club members who have represented their schools and county in the various age groups.

The Club would like to offer a big thank you to all our players, trainers and supporters throughout the year.



**Dicksboro - All-County Intermediate Champions 2010**

**Back:** Hilda Butler, Lisa Hanrick, Helen Byrne, Sonia Buggy, Geraldine Kelly, Sinéad Corrigan, Siobhan Healy, Aine Maher, Niamh O'Donoghue, Nicola Doyle, Brenna Hamilton, Sorcha Fennelly, Sarah Bawle,  
**Front:** Niamh O'Connor, Orla Hanrick, Sarah Kennedy, Ann-Marie Hoyne, Jenny Dillon, Aisling O'Grady, Emer Tynan, Sinéad Maher, Larry Tynan, Orla O'Grady, Katie Byrne



**Dicksboro U16 "A" Champions 2010**

**Back:** Rachel Lynch, Louise Kenny, Rebecca Knox, Niamh Browne, Kirsty Maher, Niamh O'Connor, Claire Nolan, Niamh Tynan, Ciara Conefery, Rachel Doyle, Orla Hanrick, Danielle Kenny,  
**Front:** Ciara Tyrell, Rachel Bawle, Eva Maher, Nicola Tynan, Alex Horan(Capt), Lucy Sherwin, Laura Lacey, Aoife Prendergast, Jenny Clifford.



# EMERALDS

## AMOGIE REPORTS



### **U8-U10**

We had great numbers this year in our under age section. We have taken part in a lot of local blitzes where all our girls were given a chance to play. We ran an under 8 blitz in our pitch on Sat July 31st. A great day was had by all.

Our under 10 team took part in the annual Summer Blitz which gave them a great opportunity to practice the skills they learned at training and develop their team spirit. We also ran our Annual Street league at the end of the season where all players had a great time. We would like to thank all the girls and hope to see them all again next year.

### **U-12**

Great progress was made at this age group. They reached a county semi-final, but were unfortunately defeated by Freshford. The end of year street league, in combination with the U-14 team was a great success for the team.

### **U-14**

This year, the U14 team had quite a long season. We began training in March and didn't finish up until early September. We did quite well overall and got to the quarter final only to be beaten by St. Brigid's of Kilmanagh. At the end of the year, we then ran a Street League to finish the

year on a high for the U12 and U14 age groups. We ran it over two evenings and all were presented medals on the final night by sponsors Fergus and Triona Quearly. We made great progress this year with our young team and have many underage again next year.

### **U-16**

Following the success of the U-14 team winning the county final last year, this year had high hopes for our U-16 team. The year started off with great numbers turning up for training twice a week. We had four teams in our group, in which Emeralds had great victories over Paulstown, Castlecomer and O'Loughlin Gaels. The girls narrowly missed out for a place in the county semi final, but showed great determination, commitment and excellent skills to reach the shield final, where they gave an immense performance against O'Loughlin Gaels to come as winners. The girls had an excellent year and the entire panel have great potential for the club in the coming years.

Panel: Grainne O'Dwyer, Shonagh Ahern, Sarah Moriarty O'Connor, Ashling Webster, Leah Carroll, Roisin Leahy, Niamh Leahy, Brid Moore, Jessie Ryan, Treise Gleason, Molly Kavanagh, Eimear Martin, Ciara Phelan, Megan Coady, Briana Norton, Niamh Ahern, Aine Leahy,

Rebecca Pembroke, Hayley Costello.

### **U-18**

A highly successful, but ultimately disappointing, year for our U18 team. After a narrow defeat by Johnstown in the opening round, the girls pulled together and made their way to a county final. No easy task as they won the semi final against Mullinavat after extra time in a replay by a single point. This shows the strength and determination of this team. The county final against Danesfort was a hard fought battle, the Emeralds unlucky to come away with a two point defeat. An exceptional group of girls, with a wonderful team spirit, they will no doubt go on to achieve great things in the future.

### **U-21**

The U-21 team were beaten in the opening round of the competition by a strong Mooncoin side. A young and improving Emeralds side put up a good fight and this age group is definitely one to watch for the future.

### **INTERMEDIATES**

The intermediate team had a disappointing year, losing the relegation final by a mere two points. Will no doubt work hard next year to get back into the Intermediate ranks.





**Chairperson:** Bridget Mullally  
**Secretary:** Ann Jones  
**Treasurer:** Martina Kirwan

#### JUNIOR A

Our first game of the year was against Gowran with a good win on the day. We were beaten by Tullaroan, Blacks & Whites, Tullogher in next three games, which made our last two games against Carrickshock & Danesfort very important games to win. These victories together with wins in the All Co League at this time, set us up well for the beginning of the championship. Here we lost to Tullaroan in a very tough encounter.

#### ALL CO LEAGUE

Finishing second in the table meant the All Co League title was still up for grabs, and we met Gowran in the Semi-Final and without doubt it was the Glenmore girls best display all year but unfortunately we ended up the losing side with a win for Gowran by four points. The Panel trained very hard throughout the year so was disappointing not to have any silverware to show for it – Here's to 2011!

**MINOR** – Our Minor girls had a great year, reaching the county final for the first time. They did very well throughout the campaign, and went on to meet Ballyhale in the semi's, then on to the county final where after a great team display, unfortunately were beaten by Tullaroan. In reaching the county final they did the Club proud – Well done Girls.

#### U16/U14

Our Girls competed with great spirit, worked hard and did well in their divisions. U16's went well through their campaign and got to the semi final but were beaten by Danesfort on the day. U14's also did very well in their campaign but were beaten in the Quarter Finals by Danesfort.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Congratulations to Ruth Jones & Claire Aylward on winning Leinster Medals with Minor Kilkenny Team, & reaching the All-Ireland Semi, though beaten on the day. Thanks to all who sponsored & supported us throughout the year. Thank you to our trainers

–  
Junior: Alan Boyle, Sel: Karen Jones,  
Minor: Tommy Jones and Thomas Walsh – for your hard work & commitment. Huge thanks to our kit woman Mary Long. Thanks to Glenmore GAA & their Chairperson Frank Kirwan for their continued support.  
We wish to extend sympathy to those who suffered any loss throughout the year, we especially would like to remember our former player Chris Dollard & her husband Fran on the loss of their son Cian earlier this year. Our thoughts are always with you.

#### Pitch Development

The commencement of our new grounds started during the year. Thanks to everyone for their support in the past & in the coming years.



MINOR COUNTY FINALISTS 2010



BALLYHALE U10 BLITZ WINNERS 2010



COUNTY U12 CHAMPIONS 2010

#### JUVENILE

The Juvenile Camogie club is delighted with the year's progress. Great work is being done in all underage levels from U6 - U12 teams who are building for the future, with training in the Hall, the Field and in Horeswood (special thanks Horeswood GAA for the use of their complex), the girls train right throughout the year.

Ballyhale Blitz in a great team display again for the second year running. This is just fantastic! The time and effort being put into Camogie in Glenmore by all, which includes trainers/selectors, parents and the girls themselves will have massive rewards in the future. Here's to a very successful 2011 with more silverware.

#### Schools Camogie

Congratulations to the school Team under Annette Cody, Seamus Dollard, Chris Elliott on their great County final win. (See school's report)



# GRAIGNAMANAGH AMOGIE REPORTS



In its second year, since its foundation, Graignamanagh Camogie Club had a reasonably successful year with the U10 Team. In particular they have shown great improvement in both skills and competitiveness. Our U14's and U12's took part in the championship but withdrew after a succession of heavy defeats at the hands of much more experienced teams.

The club also entered and looked after the local schools team and the girls competed reasonably well in most of their matches.

We hosted the finals of the U10 Eastern Kilkenny Summer Blitzes in September and also joined forces with the local GAA club in organising and running a very successful field day and Blitz in August.



**Team that played U10 Blitz in Ballyhale**

## LEINSTER HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2011

### DATE      VENUE

#### **Round 1**

Antrim v Laois	14.5.2011	Portlaoise
Carlow v Westmeath	15.5.2011	Carlow

#### **Quarter-Finals**

Dublin v Offaly	29.5.2011	Parnell Park
Antrim/Laois v Wexford	29.5.2011	Portlaoise/Wexford
Galway v Carlow/Westmeath	4.6.2011	Carlow/Mullingar

#### **Semi-Finals**

Dublin/Offaly v Galway/Carlow/Westmeath	19.6.2011	TBC
Antrim/Laois/Wexford v Kilkenny	18.6.2011	TBC

<b>CRAOBH:</b>	3.7.2011	Croke Park
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*Le gach dea-mhéin ó Chomhairle Laighin CLG*

*Micheál Ó Dubhshláine  
Runai*



# JAMES STEPHENS AMOGIE REPORTS



James Stephens Camogie club have enjoyed this season. Our U8 and U10 numbers continue to grow and we now have over 40 players registered at this age group. We participated in several blitzes over the summer and all the girls had fun. We hope to continue increasing our membership and coaching at this age group.

Our U12 section continues to improve and we have a great group of girls coming through. Their passion and enthusiasm for the game is something we hope to continue to encourage. The team reached one of the U2 group County Finals this year and unfortunately were beaten at the final hurdle when they met St Brigid's club. However, they are a young team and will hope to go one further next year.

Our U14 and U16s and U18s are improving all the time. The players and their coaches have been dedicated and worked hard this year. Each group reached the county semi-final stages this year and are really progressing. Keeping all the players at each age group interested and passionate about the game is very important as they will be the future senior players of the club.



**James Stephens U10 Team 2010**

Our Intermediate team had a rocky year in 2010 and finished the year in a relegation final against old rivals Emeralds. The team showed the grit and spirit that has always been there underneath, and had a very good win to enable them to remain in the intermediate grade for 2011. We hope that this will prove to be a springboard for better success next

year.

James Stephens camogie club would like to thank all the players, coaches & parents who give their unending time, dedication and patience. Thank you to the local schools and teachers who help to promote the game. It is this combined effort that will help keep James Stephens camogie club community strong.

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# JOHN LOCKES AMOGIE REPORTS



**Chairperson:** Richard Buckley  
**Vice Chairperson:** Mary Bryne  
**Secretary:** Sinead Butter  
**Treasurer:** Beatrice Hennessy  
**P.R.O.:** Mary McGrath

The club competed at U8, U 10, U 12 and U 14. The U8 and U 10 competed in the Piltown run tournament this year. Trainers Derek Ryan, Marie Buckley, John Burke & Aoife Gleeson had great fun with both panels of players. With a large panel of 25 players training was very entertaining but most of all ftm. A big thanks to all parents and mentors.

The U 12 & U 14 had also a mixed year. The u 12 got to the quarter finals of the championship going down to a point defeat to Tullaroan. The U14 got the the shield semi final against Gowran but were narrowly defeated. Thanks to all the girls on both team who carried the flag for the club and a big thanks must go to the trainers Richie Buckley, Tony Walla and Kieran Lanigan. A big thanks to Eamon Maher coaches for his sponsorship during the year.

The now successful John Lockes Camogie blitz was held in the club

grounds in September. Four teams competed John Lockes, Carrickshock, Windgap and St Mary's from Clonmel. The winners of the Vera Bryan Memorial Cup were Windgap with John Lockes

winning the Trish Leahy cup. Well done to all parents who helped make the tournament a great success.



**John Lockes U8/U10's**

**Back:** John Bourke, Niamh Hogan, Katie Purcell, Clodagh Lynch, Aoife Gleeson.

**Middle:** Elizabeth Kerr, Saidhbhín Reid, Meg Ryan, Ellen Murphy, Emma Treacy, Dervla McGrath.

**Front:** Hannah Kerr, Ciara Murphy, Aoife Butler, Leaha Brett, Eabha Brett, Ciara Byrne, Orla O'Malley Davis.



**John Lockes U12/U14's**

**Back:** Muireann Kirwan, Jane Murphy, Rachel Buckley, Claire Bryan, Rebecca Wall, Caroline Murphy, Deirdre Carroll, Sarah Bergin.

**Middle:** Eva Foley, Jennifer Kelly, Emma Wall, Katie Delaney, Aisling Butler, Aislinn McGrath, Jade Butler.

**Front:** Jade Audoir, Lauren Corcoran, Rebecca Bourke, Ava Hahessy Madigan, Kym Ryan, Linda Byrne, Caitlinn Moore, Laura Hennessy, Eabha Kirwan.



# KILMACOW AMOGIE REPORTS



In 2010 our Fourth year since foundation, the membership has grown to 75 players and 16 committee members, including 10 trainers. It was an exciting year with all teams participating in the championship, and learning new skills in the practice field, as well as having a bit of craic. This is how our teams fared.

### **Under 10 Camogie - 2010**

Under 10 girls have been involved in the County U10 Blitz throughout the Summer. We were very proud to host the final blitz this year in Kilmacow. Our U10 girls made steady progress all year and out of 18 games played all year, recorded an amazing 14 wins and 2 draws only being beaten twice all year.

### **Under 12 Camogie - 2010**

The U12 girls had another very good year, recording victories in 11 of their 15 games played, scoring an amazing 68 goals and 62 points in the process. They reached another county final but lost to a very strong Glenmore team. This team are improving with every game, have a great attitude, team spirit and a bright future.

### **Under 14 Camogie - 2010**

The under 14 girls won all their 5 first round games convincingly and reached the County Semi-final where they were beaten by Lisdowney. They also played in the Féile na Gael qualifiers early in the year and the Gaultier Annual U14 Blitz later in the year.

### **Under 16 Camogie - 2010**

The under 16 Team had good championship wins against Carrickshock and Slieverue but were finally knocked out when they were narrowly beaten by Castlecomer.

### **Great Fun over the Year 2010 !!**

As well as the serious games the girls had fun at training, went on outings to the bowling alley, went on a bus to see the hurlers training for the All-Ireland, had a great day at the adventure event where they got war paint on and did team events in the forest. They finished up the year with an awards night in October where every player was recognised .

### **The Committee**

Chairman: Toby Vereker  
Secretary : Marcella Sweeney  
Treasurer: Helen Cullinane  
PRO; Geraldine Williams

Childrens Officer – Bernadette Deegan  
Vice Treasurer; Olivia Twomey  
Vice Secretary ; Evelyn Molloy  
Vice Chairman ; David Williams

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out during the year, and to the parents for supporting the camogie club and we look forward to another good year in 2011.



**KILMACOW U12's**

Mairead McGuire, Eimear Dolan, Emma Corcoran, Alanna Dowling, Lauren Tobin, Caoimhe Lowe, Lucy Hennessy, Aishling Walsh, Roisin Dennehy, Sallyanne Williams, Sheonagh Croke, Fiona Cullinane, Molly Harney, Daniel Dempsey, Becky Dowling, Shauna Cummins, Jessica Walsh, Amy Ahearne, Sarah O'Brien, Anne-Marie Moloney, Cliona Murphy, Eve Lacey, Sinead McEvoy, Roisin Cleary. Not shown Fiona Doyle. Trainers: Mike Dolan, David Williams, Bill Cummins, Fiona Murphy & Bernadette Deegan.



**Kilmacow U14's**

Megan Butler, Niamh Kelly, Anne-Marie Kearney, Claire Purcell, Ciara Doody, Kate Irish, Anne-Marie O'Neill, Eimear Dolan, Sinead Ryan, Avril Williams, Daniel Dempsey, Bebhinn O'Neill, Ellen Whelan, Micky Lannon (Trainer), Claire McEvoy, Anne Hayden, Tara Lacey, Kirsten Maher, Molly Harney. Not Shown: Amy Williams, Olraith Deegan, Grainne Dolan, Niamh O'Connor. Trainers: Micky Lannon & Angela O Dwyer



**Kilmacow U10's**

Grace Blanchfield, Nell Murphy, Una Kinsella, Kathleen Croke, Eve Lacey, Mary Doherty, Ellie Laffan, Aine Phelan, Molly Murray, Erin Ryan, Alton Grace, Aoife Allen, Hannah Lacey, Emily Kleine, Caobhíne Williams. Not shown Leah Molloy. Trainers: John Cullinane, Geraldine Williams & David Phelan

**A Great Year**

Lisdowney Camogie Club have exceeded their expectations this year. At U16 level we made it to the quarter final of Rionn C, we won the minor Rionn "B" county final and are in an U21 semi-final of Rionn "B". But the highlight of the year has to be winning the Intermediate county final and representing our county in the Leinster Club Intermediate final. Unfortunately we were defeated by the Harps, but none the less, a great year in our club.

**Minor**

A tough start as we struggled with numbers due to exam pressures. But after the exams the girls settled into training. In August the heat was on and by September we were in great form. We reached the Rionn "B" county final on the 9th of September against The Rower Inistioge. A very tough game with neither side giving an inch. Thankfully our hard work and determination shone through leading us to the St Canice's Credit Union Minor title of 2010.

**Intermediate**

Our aim at the start of the year was to get to the county final. But defeats at the hands of Paulstown and Clara meant we had to go the hard route. We settled down and trained hard, which stood to us. We

won the next three games to meet the red-hot favourites, the Rower Inistioge, in the St Canice's Intermediate county final in Bennettsbridge on 25th September. A very physical game and again our determination and hard work showed on the day. We came back to a heroes' welcome in Lisdowney and Fr O'Farrell the Parish Priest gave us a standing ovation at Mass that evening. We were not finished there – we went on to the Leinster Club Championship. Our first test was against Naomh Brid Castleknock in Dublin. Not one of our best performances but a victory none the less. Next we faced Glynn Barntown, Wexford a week later in Lisdowney. We had to be at our best to beat this team. They were strong and physical but we were in top form with a great team performance. We faced The Harps in the Leinster Club Championship final on 24th October in Durrow. A very tough team, there was not even a whisker between us. A very close match, but the Harps had the edge on us and went out winners by two points.

**All County**

We met Clara in the semi-final on 17th August. This defeat proved to be a very hard but important lesson and a turning point in our year. We decided, that night, more hard work and determination were

needed by everyone. That was the start of our success.

**U21**

We face Paulstown in the St Canice's Credit Union Rionn B semi-final.

**Club representatives**

The club was represented by Claire Phelan, Aoife Murphy, Kate Holland and Eimear Mulhall at minor level. Kate Holland, Tracy Brennan and Noelle Murphy represented us at U16 level.

**Primary School Camogie Rionn "B"**

Lisdowney participated in the Rionn "B" competition where they played four matches and recorded their first victory over Urlingford. The girls have shown great enthusiasm and diligence in all their sessions and matches and all bodes well for the future of camogie in Lisdowney.

**Thanks**

Thanks to all our mentors and helpers this year, Anna Whelan, Eithne Downey and Kay Phelan, Karen Cahill, Damien Walsh, Jimmy Skehan, Paudie Mulhall, Richie McEvoy. Thanks to our committee for the work put in this year. But most of all thanks to our sponsors and supporters, near and far, for supporting us through thick and thin.



Lisdowney - Minor "B" Camogie Champions 2010

**Back:** Emma Brophy, Linda Sweeney, Kathleen Dowling, Kate Delaney, Tracy Brennan, Claire Phelan, Kate Holland, Dervla Gannon, Aoife Jacob, Laura Maher, Eimear Stapleton.

**Front:** Eimear Mulhall, Emma Brophy, Grace Murphy, Kellie-Anne Quinn, Aoife Murphy, Laura Delaney, Claire Healy, Noelle Murphy.



# MULLINAVAT AMOGIE REPORTS



2010 will be a year to be remembered in Mullinavat Camogie Club with the Senior Camogie Team doing the League and Championship double. On the 29th of August Mullinavat won their first senior league title defeating arch-rivals Freshford on a score line of 1-14 to 1-7 having already recorded victories over Freshford, Thomastown St Annes and Ballyhale in the early stages of the League. More was to follow for the girls. They went on to play Ballyhale in the Championship Semi-Final and after a hard-fought game, the girls from Mullinavat edged out their neighbours and were back in another County Final against reigning Senior Champions Freshford. In Callan on the 18th of September things were not looking good for the Rod Iron Girls when the score line read 6 points to 0-1 after twenty minutes gone but the girls dug deep and snatched a late goal to run out winners on a score line of 1-7 to 9 points. The girls then went onto play Ballyboden/St. Enda's in the Leinster Club Championship in Mullinavat. Although missing some players, the girls put in a great performance in front of a big home crowd but were unfortunate on the day to end up the losing side having been defeated on a score line of 1-11 to 11 points.

#### **Senior Panel:**

Valerie Law, Joanne Quinn, Sinead Aylward, Sinead Phelan, Alison Duggan, Elaine Aylward, Paula Butler, Aine Kinsella, Amy Butler, Michelle Quilty, Julie-Ann Malone, Angela Kenneally, Claire Aylward, Leann Fennelly, June Grennan, Brid Aylward, Marie Murphy, Rebecca Haberlin, Laura Whelan, Denise Duggan, Tara Power, Ciara Holden (injured).

#### **U16's**

The u16's were another team to bring home silverware to Mullinavat this year after a hard fought battle until the very end against near neighbours Piltown in Thomastown. Piltown had already defeated Mullinavat in the league stages of this competition so the odds were stacked against the girls but they battled until the final whistle and won on a score line of 2-10 to 4-3. They had defeated Mooncoin, Blacks and Whites

in the League stages and James Stephens in the Semi-Final.

#### **U21's, U18's & U14's**

The U21's have qualified for the final of the "A" Championship, having defeated St. Brigid's and Clara, to set up a County Final meeting with Thomastown. The U18s had a very good campaign this year reaching the semi final of their championship but were defeated by Emeralds after a replay. The U14s had a good run in their campaign and reached the Semi Final but were beaten by a strong James Stephens side.

#### **U12's & U10's**

With quite a few new members this year, camogie for the future looks positively strong. The U12's had a good year and played some really competitive games and reached the Semi Final stages of their group but were beaten by a stronger Thomastown side.

The U10s took part in four different blitzes this year and with very few girls up to the age. They played very well and if they stay at it there will definitely be a few stars to look out for in the future.

#### **Officers 2010:**

Chairperson: Michael Law  
Treasurer: Amy Butler  
Secretary: Joanne Quinn  
PRO: Sinead Aylward  
Senior Management Team:  
Andy Aylward (Trainer) Michael Law & John Joe Aylward.

#### **County Players:**

Well done to all girls who won titles with their schools and colleges.  
Mullinavat had players represented on county panels this year:  
U16: Ciara Holden, Julie-Ann Malone & Aine Kinsella  
U18: Ciara Holden  
Senior: Elaine Aylward, Leann Fennelly, Michelle Quilty & Amy Butler

#### **All Stars:**

2009 was another historic year with Leann Fennelly and Elaine Aylward receiving All Star Nominations with Elaine receiving the first All-Star to come into the club and after another great year hopefully there's more to come in the future.  
Congratulations to Elaine Aylward and Michelle Quilty on being nominated for Camogie All Stars in 2010.



**Mullinavat U16 Roinn "C" Champions 2010**



# O'LOUGHLIN GAELS AMOGIE REPORTS



## Officers

Chairperson: Jim Kavanagh  
Vice chairperson: Gerry Buckley  
Secretary: Pat Stapleton  
Treasurer: Eileen Cleere

## O'Loughlin Girls Create History

O'Loughlin Gaels camogie club created history when defeating Mooncoin in an excellent match at Tom Ryall Park. In reversing League final form with the Mooncoin girls, O'Loughlins won their first ever adult county championship in their relatively short time of existence.

Mooncoin had beaten O'Loughlins by a comfortable four point margin in Ballyhale earlier in the year and when they raced into three point lead it looked ominous for O'Loughlins. However, playing against a strong wind, the girls shot two invaluable points and defended stoutly to go in at the break only two points behind. In the second half it was all O'Loughlin Gaels as they defended magnificently, never allowing Mooncoin to get a grip or run at their defence.

The girls drew level after ten minutes of the second half and, while they took the lead shortly afterwards, Mooncoin battled

bravely. In the last ten minutes the O'Loughlins girls drove on getting the insurance scores needed to secure the title.

Aoife Nolan accepted the cup as team captain on behalf of a panel of players who showed great skill and courage on the day. Great credit is due to all of the girls but also to Gerry Buckley, Phil Twomey, Richie Delaney and Seanie Cummins who have worked tirelessly with the panel.

*Team: Elizabeth Kavanagh, Laura Butler, Stephanie Buckley, Kate Nolan, Rebecca Cleere, Aishling Butler, Ena Kearns, Annie Dunne, Samantha McGuni, Sarah Bourke, Aoife Nolan, Karen Cleere, Sarah Buckley, Jane Maher, Shauna Brennan. Substitutes: Karen Galvin, Marina Tyrell, Margaret Shortall, Kate Walsh, Tara Conroy.*

## Underage

The underage structure in the club is growing from strength to strength with numbers on the increase. The club now has teams starting from under 6's taking part in challenge matches and tournaments. Great credit and thanks is due to

Mary Liz Lenihan, Olivia Collins, Breda Hogan, Noel Richardson, Tadgh Crowley, and many others who helped out at this level in the club.

The U12 and U14 teams had a good year reaching the semi final stages of the championship and showing great heart and determination. Thanks to Sarah Buckley and John Claffey for all their work with the girls.

The ever-improving under 16 girls had a successful year. They did very well in the championship and contested the shield final and were unlucky to lose out on the day. They also played four challenge games with different clubs, winning all of these. The girls were invited by Naas camogie club to take part in the Cis Corcoran Tournament in October. It was a great day for all involved and the girls won the shield. Huge thanks to John Claffey, Pat Stapleton and Phil Twomey.

O'Loughlins camogie club would like to sincerely thank all our sponsors and anyone who has helped the club in anyway over the past year. All members are looking forward to another great year, both on and off the field.



O'LOUGHLIN'S U16'S - NAAS TOURNAMENT SHIELD WINNERS

**Back:** John Claffey, Daniel Randle, Sinead Ryan, Saoirse Claffey, Aoife McKiernan, Amy Bryan, Grainne Walsh, Katlyn Leahy, Sarah Twomey, Eimear Daly, Becky Doyle, Pat Stapleton.

**Front:** Kate Walsh, Aaron Maher, Tara Conroy, Laura Greene, Bronagh Cleere, Sophie Stapleton, Aoife Claffey.



# PAULSTOWN AMOGIE REPORTS



## Chairperson:

Margaret Brennan

## Assistant Chairperson:

Catherine Blake

## Secretary:

Ailish Drennan

## Assistant Secretary:

Maura Medlar

## Treasurers:

Yvonne Holden, Frances Kelly

Camogie continues to flourish in the area. The club fielded teams in all grades from under 12 to under 21 and Intermediate.

## Adult

The Intermediate side continues to make progress. They bowed out at semi-final stage in the league, beaten by Dicksboro. They lost to eventual winners, Lisdowney, in the Championship.

The under 21 side are through to the Championship semi-final which has yet to be played.

## Under Age:

The under 12 team gave some very creditable performances and were unlucky on a few occasions to be at the wrong end of a close result.

The under 14 team reached the County Final where they played Mooncoin, who were much better on the day and were deserving winners.

The under 16 side also reached the County Final where they had to bow to the superior strength of St Anne's who won by six points. The sides had met twice during the course of the championship, winning one game each.

The under 18 side were knocked out at the semi-final stage by Tullaroan.

## Schools:

Great work continues in the schools promoting the game.

## Fund Raising

A finance committee was set up in 2010. They organised two major fundraisers, a cabaret and Easter Egg hunt which were extremely successful. They also organised the sale of county board tickets, a



*Group of Juveniles in Sports Hall 2010*



*Paulstown Under 14 County Champions*

**Back:** Orla Bambury, Coach, Louise Lonergan, Rachel Hennessy, Lauren Barcoe, Aisling Hennessy, Chloe Doyle, Clodagh McDonald, Denise Drennan, Orlaith Kenny, Mairead Whitley.

**Front:** Elaine Brennan, Miriam Bambrick, Sarah Buggy, Tara Hennessy, Mary Wall,

Rebecca Holden, Roisin Breen.

*Missing from Photo: Lauren Blake and Aimee Morrissey*

portion of which money came back to the club.

## Thank You

## In Black and Amber

Congratulations to Miriam Bambrick, Roisin Breen, Lauren Blake and Rebecca Holden who played on the Kilkenny County under 14 team and to Collette Dormer and Emma Staunton at senior level.

A sincere word of thanks to trainers and coaches Stephen Dormer, Paul Hunston, James Flavin, J J Staunton and Minnie Barcoe for their dedicated work, and also to everyone that helped the club during the year coaching, providing transport to matches or in any other way. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

**Club Officers**

**Chairman:** Jim Malone  
**Vice chair:** Catherine McCarthy  
**Secretary:** Kate Foley  
**Juvenile Secretary:** Sheila Norris  
**Treasurer:** Eileen Dunne  
**Children's Office:** Miriam Reid

**INTERMEDIATE AND U21**

Piltown held a steady position in the Intermediate grade again this year, being beaten by a talented Clara team by the narrowest of margins at the quarter final stage of the Championship. They also reached the semi finals of the All County League but were beaten by eventual winners, Dicksboro. The team's season had been plagued by injuries and emigration so all-in-all the overall results were good.

**MINOR AND UNDER-16**

It was a busy year for trainers Eamon McGowan and Seamus Dunne. The Minor team performed well during the year but were unable to field a team for the quarter final tie with St Annes and had to withdraw from the competition. The Under-16's played in the Kilkenny Pink Day blitz in May and qualified for the Leinster finals in Tallaght in July. The team resided in Citywest and travelled to Thomas Davis Club nearby to play their matches. While they returned home with no silverware they made great friendships and improved their standard of play, preparing them for the Roynn C championship. They reached the county final but were unfortunate to be beaten by a single point by Mullinavat. They later won the Ann Dwan Memorial tournament, successfully beating teams from Kilkenny, Wexford and Waterford.

**UNDER-14 AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

2010 has been an historic year for Piltown Camogie Club with two Roynn A titles being won for the first time (U14 and Primary Schools). This outstanding achievement from a small village reflects the dedication of both players and mentors, and bodes well for future success within the club.

(See Primary Schools section for Piltown's great schools win under Mark Connolly, Tom

Holden and Gay Doyle)

The U14 team faced Windgap in the Roynn A final this year, always a daunting task. They won well, however, and there were great celebrations in Templeorum, Owning, Fiddown and Piltown as the cup was driven around in style.

**UNDER-12 AND UNDER-10**

The under-12 team played well all year and reached their group semi final but went down to Kilmacow. The Under-10's topped their group in the Western Summer Blitz, with the final being an exciting rematch against last year's winners, St Brigid's. This year, we had 24 girls registered at Under 8 level. All of these showed great interest and give hope for

the future of the club. While there are no formal competitions for this age group, they did compete in a number of challenge matches, and finishing as runners-up in the Thomastown blitz.

**COUNTY SCENE**

Debbie Phelan, Kellyann Doyle, Chloe Holden and Chloe Blackmore won Leinster medals with the County U14 squad, beating Dublin in the final. Laura Norris featured on this year's minor team, and Katie Power is a firm regular in the Senior's no 11 jersey. She was also an Ashbourne cup winner this year with WIT, along with club team mate Charlene Norris.



PILTOWN U10 BLITZ TEAM



PILTOWN U16 PINK DAY BLITZ TEAM



PILTOWN U14 "A" COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2010



# ROWER/INISTIOGE AMOGIE REPORTS



The Rower Inistioge Camogie Club had a great year on the playing field. They were lucky to reach six finals. The year started very well when the under 12 team won the county final defeating, Castlecomer in a great game. Then they hit a bit of a slump and were defeated in the under 16 & 18 county finals. It was a great achievement to reach these finals as some of the players are very young and all looks good for next year.

The Intermediate team won the league final when they defeated Dicksboro in a thrilling game. There were great celebrations and everyone was hoping they could go all the way and win the championship. The girls put in a great effort and reached the county final. Alas it was not to be their year and they were defeated by Lisdowney.

The club is going from strength to strength and they have big numbers training at under 6, 8 and 10 grades.

They are very lucky to have so many people who are willing to help, be it training teams, or just organising matches and



*Rower/Inistioge U12 Group 1 County Champions 2010*

with a little bit of luck maybe 2011 will be the year they win the intermediate championship.

The club is well represented at county level –

Under 14: Áine Gannon,  
Under 16: Christine Lyng & Kelly Hamilton  
Under 18: Jane Cullen & Aoife Lyng  
Senior: Lizzie Lyng, Eimear Lyng,  
Briona Langton & Kelly Hamilton

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# ST BRIGID'S AMOGIE REPORTS



## Officers 2010

Chairperson: Anne Boland  
Vice – Chair: Billy Neary/Galacia Ryall  
Secretary: Josie Ronan  
Assistant Secretary: Ann M Ryall  
Treasurer: Laura Egan  
P.R.O: Emma Boland  
Child Protection Officer: Andrea Murphy.

## Primary School.

See Schools report for our great win in the Roinn "B" schools final, trained by Mrs Helen Murphy.

## Secondary Schools:

Loreto completed the double in winning senior and junior Leinster and All Ireland finals. Club players involved were: Tara Hogan, Stacy Nugent, Marie Doheny, Grainne Egan, Ashling Dunphy (Snr Captain), Nicola Butler, Laura Hennessy, Sarah Dunne, Sarah Dunphy, Orla Ryan. Club players Emma Boland and Sarah Mockler were on the St Brigid's Callan Leinster final team.

## Juvenile Camogie

Our Juvenile Camogie Club enjoyed another great season. Our U6s and U8s played numerous challenge games and took part in local tournaments. They enjoyed great success. U10s had a busy and enjoyable year taking part in blitzes throughout the summer. They were runners up in the annual Danesfort Our U12s had a very busy and successful year. On route to the final of the St Canices Credit Union U12 competition the girls won all their games giving wonderful displays of skill and commitment. They beat a strong James Stephens team in the final where they did themselves proud. Many of these girls also played in the U14 competition where they had some great wins over older, stronger teams but were defeated by a class Danesfort team in the final.

## Competitive Action.

The Senior team battled in the relegation final against a very physical St Anne's and came out winners by a point. They then went on to beat Ballyhale in the all county league, which was a great boost for the girls as we are fielding a very young senior panel and the future looks good. U16s gave a good account of themselves. U18s got to quarter final, our U21s lost to Mullinavat by a goal.

## County Representatives.

A number of players featured on County teams during the year. Ashling Dunphy was on senior Kilkenny team that reached All-Ireland semi final. Ashling Dunphy and Orla Ryan were on the Kilkenny Minor Team that won the Leinster Final. Tara Hogan, Stacy Nugent, Antoinette Power were on U16 Kilkenny team that were beaten in Leinster final. Antoinette Power was a member of the U15 Kilkenny development squads, and Lena Butler and Ann Doheny were on the Kilkenny U14 development squads.



U12'S 2010



U14'S 2010



SENIORS 2010

## Great help from many

Thanks must go to the following people who helped out voluntarily with the training of teams throughout the year, Thomas Ryan, Laurena Murphy, Josie Ronan, Mary Ronan, Helen Murphy, Denis Nolan, Carmel Brennan, Michelle O'Regan, Ann Marie Young, Mick Walsh, Jim O'Brien. Also our First Aid people, Anne Boland, Nora Hogan, Mary Keoghan, Ann Ging, Paul Muldowney and Galicia Ryall. We would like to thank Maura Comerford, Mai

Murphy and Nora Murphy for all their baking for whist drives and to all who gave donations and prizes throughout the year. Dicksboro Club were also very accommodating in giving us use of their premises for our whist drives. We wish to thank Graigue/Ballycallan G.A.A. Club for use of pitches and dressingrooms. Finally we would like to thank all our players and trainers for their hard work and dedication throughout the season. Here's to success on the field in 2011.



# THOMASTOWN AMOGIE REPORTS



This year was a good year for Thomastown Camogie Club. We had our highs and lows on the playing fields of the county but we always showed great determination and a great sporting attitude.

Our U6 and U8's had a fine year with the U6's winning plenty of challenge matches and showing a steady improvement as the year went on. The U8's won both the Glenmore and the Thomastown Blitz and also competed in many challenge matches throughout the summer months. Thanks must go to the trainers Tom O'Keeffe, John Galway, Aoife Kelly and Sinead Brennan, with help from Deirdre O'Keeffe and many others.

Our U10's had a fabulous year as well, coming joint first in the County Blitz (by mutual agreement with Danesfort), and they also won out the Thomastown Blitz at the end of the year. They showed great improvement during the year and thanks for this can go to their trainers Michelle Walsh and Helen Farrell.

The U12's started their training in early May. They played the Blacks and Whites, Danesfort, Mullinavat, and Ballyhale as part of the opening rounds in their group and collected full points along the way. They also played St. Martins of Wexford and Glenmore "A" in challenge games. They played Mullinavat in the semi-final and proceeded to the final against Danesfort. The final was a wonderful game of camogie with both sides displaying great skill and it was Thomastown who came out on top with a score of 3-2 to 2-0. Well done to all the girls who showed great spirit and their proud trainers for their effort, Aisling Holden and Breda O'Shea.

The U14's had a great time this year. They played numerous challenge matches and also reached the semi-final of the Féile as well as the county semi-final. Unfortunately they were defeated in both. They are a young U14 team and have shown great improvement during the year. Next season looks bright for this team. A huge thanks must go to the trainers Ger Walsh and Seamus Quigley.

A good year was also had by the U16's as they won all their matches in the league beating Windgap, Gowran and Dicksboro. They unfortunately got beaten in the semi-final of the championship by Windgap. Gratitude to Frank Donnelly, their trainer, for his huge effort and all those who helped him during the year.

Our minors played brilliantly all season but unfortunately got beaten in the county final in a hotly contested match in Ballyhale.



OUR DOUBLE BLITZ WINNING U8 TEAM 2010



OUR U12 COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2010

They showed a bravery and fortitude in a match that could have gone either way and I'm sure they'll be back next year to hopefully go one better.

Our U21's also had a great year and as I write this have progressed into the semi-final against Pilltown. We wish them the very best in their endeavour.

Our Seniors had a disappointing year losing out in the second round, but no doubt they will be back next year rearing to go. A huge thanks to the trainers of these three teams, Helen Farrell and Michelle Walsh, who sadly are retiring at the end of the season.

A special mention must go to our girls who were on the County Camogie panels this

year and who, when called upon, played brilliantly – Kate McDonald, Anna Farrell, Michelle Farrell, Catherine Walsh, Megan Farrel, Ailish Butler, Aoife Farrell, Sarah Walsh, Aine Butler, Eimear Corr and Eimear Donnelly(U14 Capt.) We would like to congratulate Michelle in her nomination for an All Star. We also would like to wish Kate a speedy recovery from her cruciate operation.

That pretty much sums up the year in Thomastown Camogie club. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all those who helped in any way, to the trainers, to the committee, to parents and, most of all, to the girls themselves for all they've done to keep our club the vibrant, successful and competitive club that it is.



# TULLAROAN

## AMOGIE REPORTS



### Club Officers 2010

Chairperson: Anna-Marie Young  
Secretary: Elaine Maher  
PRO: Claire Walsh

Tullaroan had a very successful 2010. This club has only been set up since 2005 and it has been growing since. Tullaroan is a very small parish and as a result we have quite a small number of people involved. However, due to the hard work and commitment of everyone involved we are growing from strength to strength.

### **Junior A**

This was the team's first year to compete in Junior A. It was a very tough and competitive championship but they met every challenge with a lot of confidence and enthusiasm. It was a very tight competition with a lot of the teams fighting to get up to intermediate. Fortunately Tullaroan came out on top in a very tight and competitive final, by the narrowest of margins against a great Gowran team. This was a great achievement and we will be looking forward to watching this team compete in further challenges next year.

### **Minor**

The minors have been on the verges of success over the past couple of years. After a very successful under16 championship in 2009 their confidence was high and they went on to win out the U18 Roinn D final in a stylish fashion. We will all look forward to following this team in the Roinn C championship next year as we have a very talented and stylish group of camogie players coming through.

Tullaroan were well represented at both schools and county level this year. Grace



**Tullaroan - Roinn "D" Minor Champions 2010**

Walsh was part of the Kilkenny Senior Camogie panel that were beaten in the All-Ireland semi final by the eventual winners (Wexford). Áine Fahy played a prominent part with the county intermediate team. Grace Walsh, Niamh Dowling, Noelle Maher and Miriam Walsh were all part of the U18 county team who were narrowly beaten by Galway in the All-Ireland semi final, but were successful in the Leinster championship. Miriam was also part of the under 16 team that were beaten in both the All Ireland semi final and Leinster Final. Grace Walsh, Noelle Maher and Miriam Walsh were part of the very successful Loreto Senior Camogie Team who won out the Senior A Colleges Camogie Championship. Miriam Walsh captained the 7 a side Loreto team who won the All Ireland Colleges final and also played a prominent part in winning the All Ireland Junior A Championship

### **Juvenile**

This is the 3rd year of the juvenile club in Tullaroan. There has been growing interest in the last 3 years and this is down to

the commitment of Mary Ryall and many parents who are working to improve the children's interest and skill of the game. This has been the first year that they entered into competition. The u12 team competed very well in their very first championship by reaching the semi finals. The under 10 team were top of their group and the under 6 and 8 teams got great match practice against other teams. It is very exciting for this club to see such a talented bunch of girls coming through.

### **Thanks**

Many thanks to Matty Butler (Junior Trainer), Breda Maher, Declan Dowling, Marie Maher (u18 trainers), Mary Ryall (Juvenile trainer) for all their hard work in helping the club to succeed. Also many thanks to all our sponsors who supported us throughout the year. To the hurling club for allowing us to use their facilities and to all the parents who have helped and encouraged the children throughout the year. Looking forward to a very exciting, enjoyable and competitive 2011.



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# TULLOGER AMOGIE REPORTS



## Club Officers

Chairperson: David Caulfield  
 Vice-Chairperson: Anthony Cotterell  
 Secretary: Caitriona Ryan  
 Treasurer: Trish O'Shea

Tullogher Camogie club entered teams from U12, U14 and Junior this year.

## Underage

Our U12 team made it to the quarter final of the championship this year. The U12 team also competed in an U10 blitz and had a good run in all games. Well done to all the girls involved and the team management.

## Junior

In the Junior championship we got beaten in the semi final against Tullaroan who went on to win the final. We had some success when we won the league final against Blacks and Whites and also we won the all county league final against Gowran.

## Thanks

Our thanks go to the Tullogher GAA club



**Tullogher - All-County Junior Champions 2010**

**Back:** Emer Malone, Marie Ryan, Maggie Walsh, Sarah Phelan, Aisling Phelan, Siobhan Dollard, Susan Cullinane, Vivienne Forristal, Sarah Hennessy, Joanne Cotterel, Stephaine Cotterel, Ursula Walton, Trainer Stephen Cotterel.

**Front:** Hazel Foley, Sarah Ryan, Elaine Mullally (capt), Lynda Cotterel, Niamh Barry, Lisa Ryan, Kellyann Cotterell.

for the use of the facilities at all times.

Also to our trainers Michael Murphy and Stephen Cotterell for their commitment and hard work throughout the year.

## New Jerseys

The club acquired a new set of jerseys this year for the Junior panel, thanks to the kind generosity and sponsorship of Paddy Ryan of Paddy Ryan's Pub.

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Windgap Camogie Club had a very enjoyable and successful year. The U8's took part in a number of matches and mini blitzes around the county and concluded the season with a mixed blitz in Windgap. The U10's together with Dicksboro, Carrickshock, Piltown, Callan and St. Brigid's had monthly blitzes locally and concluded with the grand finale in Windgap in September. Medals were presented to all players by Minor All Ireland Winning full back Willie Phelan and County player Denise Gaule. The U12's had a busy year, competing in their group and reaching the semi final, they also played a number of challenge games, concluding the season with a fun evening of games and refreshments.

Our U14's reached the Féile final but lost out to Danesfort, Piltown were the opponents in the Roinn A final and proved to be a stronger team on the day.

The U16's represented Kilkenny in the inaugural Leinster Pink Ribbon Blitz at the Thomas Davis Club in Tallaght. Having defeated Piltown in the semi-final, they went down to Oylgate of Wexford in the final. A great weekend was had by all. However in the Championship, the U16's were beaten by a strong Thomastown team.

At U18 Roinn A level the result was reversed and Windgap came out on top, in a closely contested game in the final played in Ballyhale.

The U21 team was beaten by Piltown in the first round of the competition.

At adult level the junior panel contested the league, the senior squad competed in the league and championship. Despite a number of serious injuries plus travel and



*Windgap U16 Team on Pink day in Dublin*

*Panel includes Emily Murphy, Gemma Long, Michaela Kenneally, Amanda Power, Jane Walker, Ciara McDonald, Jaime Phelan, Aisling Foley, Sarah Grace, Michelle Maher, Eimear Moylan, Deirdre Purcell, Niamh Phelan, Catherine Foley, Ally Bergin, Eleanor Costello, Rachel Bergin, Leanne O'Neill, Marina Kelly, Fiona Walsh, Laura Cuddihy, Katie Dunphy, Niamh Bambrick.*

work commitments, they reached the semi final in both competitions, going down to St Lachtains on both occasions.

#### Schools & Colleges

Windgap Camogie Club was well represented on school and college teams during the year including. UCD, UCC, WIT, and UL and at secondary level Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-on-Suir, Scoil Aireagal, Ballyhale and St. Brigid's Callan. The local primary schools also contested the Primary Schools League.

#### Down Under

Former Club Secretary Catherine Fleming and full back Terri Mackey won the New South Wales league with Clan Na Gael, Sydney, Australia. Catherine was crowned player of the year.

#### Trainers and backroom

WCC are extremely lucky to have such a selection of talented and dedicated trainers and managers who give freely of their time and expertise. A number of trainers attended coaching courses during the year while the devoted committee worked hard to keep finances and fixtures in order.

#### Support

WCC is indebted to Windgap GAA Club for their unrelenting and generous support again this year. Tremendous gratitude is also due to all those who support matches and fundraising events. A special word of thanks to all those who travel distances for training and matches also.



*WINDGAP - COUNTY ROINN "A" MINOR CHAMPIONS 2010*

*Back: Catherine Foley, Laura Moore, Eimear Moylan, Clare Grace, Amanda Power, Leanne O'Neill, Ciara Molloy, Niamh Phelan, Donna Weeks, Marie Phelan, Aisling Coady.  
Front: Ciara McDonald, Megan Keneally (Mascot), Gemma Long, Katie O Gorman, Niamh Bambrick, Nicky Moore, Laura Walker, Suzie Dunphy, Michaela Keneally, Fiona Walsh.*



# YOUNG IRELANDS AMOGIE REPORTS



Despite not taking home any silverware, overall it was an excellent year for Young Irelands Camogie Club.

Our Schools Camogie team reached the Roinn C Schools final this year. All the girls enjoyed their day in Nowlan Park. A lot of the same girls played on our U12 team and they reached the U12 Semi Final. They were beaten by a strong Conahy team. The U10's did very well in the well-organised U10 Blitz ran during the summer.

Our U14 team, captained by Sinead Twomey and Sinead Naddy, made it into the Shield final this year. They beat John Lockes in the Semi Final but were unfortunately beaten by Blacks & Whites in the final.

Our U16 team captained by Kay Drea made it to the Roinn A semi final and were narrowly defeated by Dicksboro 3-4 to 1-8. A well-fought game that could have went either way right to the final whistle.

Our U18 team- co-captained by Maggie Simpson and Aisling Carey- had four very tough games in the Minor Roinn B league but still managed to get their way to a semi-final versus Lismore in the Dicksboro GAA grounds. Unfortunately the Gowran girls were defeated on this occasion by a very strong Lismore team 4-7 to 2-7.

Our U21 team, captained by Lizzy Byrne, played St Martins in the first round. This league is run on a knockout basis and

regrettably the girls were beaten on this occasion 2-12 to 2-8. This game offered the supporters a great display of skill and courage and really showed how exciting the game of camogie truly is.

I come now to a team who brought us success, excitement and enjoyment. The Junior A team captained by Deirdre Phelan really left their mark on all Junior competitions this year. This team is made up of players from U16 upwards and let's just say they are only going to improve.

The Junior A league campaign started off a little bit sluggish and the girls didn't seem to get into there stride until the end. However, in a way, despite not looking as any threat for the year, the team and mentors realised maybe these girls were peaking at the right time. The Junior All Co League saw the girls defeating Bennetsbridge, Blacks and Whites, O'Loughlins, Tullaroan and Glenmore on their path to the final. Disappointingly, the girls were beaten 3-5 to 0-8 by Tulloher Rosbercon.

The championship threw up some great excitement and the girls were drawn against neighbours and rivals Blacks and Whites in the quarter final and after lethal goals from Cara O Neill and Lizzy Byrne the Gowran girls made their way to the semi-final after a 2-10 to 1-7 victory. The girls eased through the semi-final against Carrickshock defeating them 3-8 to 0-6. The County Title was now only 60 minutes away, the bunting was put up, the red and white flags were to be seen flying high, and all the girls were told to

think about what was their last and final Championship game against Tullaroan. The girls, as always, prepared well, were focused, and knew the job in hand.

Captained on the day by a true leader and inspiration to all the girls Deirdre Phelan, this team truly showed great tenacity, skill, hunger and a never-say-die attitude. It broke everyone's heart to see them defeated by a single point 1-15 to 4-5. To be so close and to see a county title grasped from them. Despite being beaten, this group of girls and their mentors James Hickey, Andy Comerford and Suzie Kennedy, and all the Young Irelands Girls teams can be extremely proud of themselves and what they achieved in what was a fantastic year for Gowran Camogie. All we can say is bring on 2011!

Congratulations to those who represented the club at county level: Eibhlín Fogarty on the U15 Development Squad, Emma Comerford on the Minor Panel and Lizzy Byrne on the Intermediate Panel.

Thanks to Coaches, Mentors and all who worked with our teams during the year and to all who supported our fundraising ventures. Thanks also to all who provided sponsorship and to those who contributed in any way.

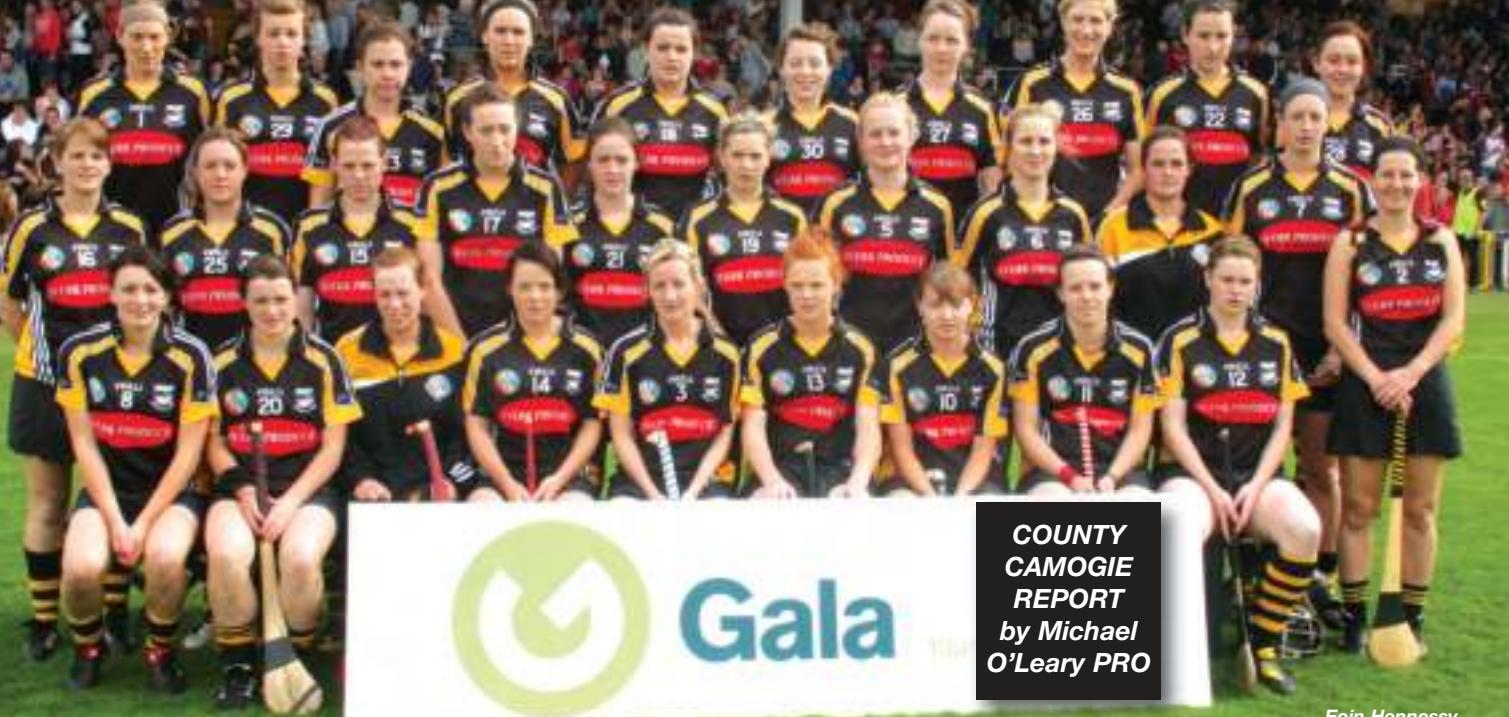
The Club congratulates any members who got engaged or married during the year and to those who had new arrivals in their families. Our sympathies go to those who suffered bereavements.



Gowran - County Junior "A" Finalists 2010

**Back:** Andy Comerford ( Selector ), Ann Drea, Ashling Hennessy, Mairead Fogarty, Aoife Connolly, Elaine Rudkins, Sarah Ann Quinlan, Kelly Treacy, Ashling Carey, Mary Carroll, Laura Fennelly, Mag Simpson, Emma Comerford, Ruth Loughlin, Sinead Twomey, Janet Hutchinson, Cara O'Neill, James Hickey ( Trainer )  
**Front:** Suzie Kennedy ( Selector ), Eibhlín Fogarty, Anne Marie Byrne, Lizzy Byrne, Paula Farrell, Nessa Farrell, Niamh Quinlan, Orlaith Byrne, Deirdre Phelan, Kay Drea, Elaine O'Neill, Fionnuala Quinlan.

# NEW COUNTY CHAMPIONS!



Eoin Hennessy

## Kilkenny – All Ireland SC Semi- Finalists 2010

**Back:** Triona Ryan, Grace Walsh, Laura Kavanagh, Claire Phelan, Emma Staunton, Megan Farrell, Caitriona Brennan, Briona Langton, Aisling Dunphy, Sarah Dermody.  
**Middle:** Siobhán Murphy, Kelly Hamilton, Marie Dargan, Denise Gaule, Amy Butler, Keeva Fennelly, Edwina Keane, Leann Fennelly, Ann Dalton, Elaine Aylward.  
**Front:** Anna Farrell, Eimear Lyng, Jaquie Frisby, Mischaelle Farrell, Catherine Doherty, Colette Dorner, Michelle Quilty, Aoife Neary, Katie Power.

## INTER-COUNTY CAMOGIE REVIEW

### Senior

Hopes were high of Kilkenny breaking their All-Ireland famine for the first time since 1994 following last year's All-Ireland final defeat. The National league campaign began up in the Ragg as a hat-trick of goals from Aoife Neary secured a 5-5 to 0-11 victory away over Tipperary.

They guaranteed themselves a league semi-final spot as a brace of goals from Deirdre Delaney, and a wonder goal from Anne Dalton contributed to a 3-4 to 1-6 victory over Cork.

Kilkenny played Galway in the first semi-final up in Tullamore.

A Lazarus-like comeback was produced, as inspired by a brilliant display from Leanne Fennelly, goals from an Anne Dalton free and Colette Dorner helped overturn an eight point deficit as they won 2-12 to 1-12.

A dramatic finish unfolded in the league final where Wexford emerged victorious 1-7 to 1-6 in a low-scoring encounter.

A goalmouth scramble saw a Katie Power goal give Kilkenny the lead. However, Wexford responded and points from Una Leacy and Ursula Jacob gave the Slaneysiders the first part of a league/championship double.

Kilkenny began their championship campaign with victory over Galway, before travelling to Cork seven days later to record a memorable victory.

Up to 11 minutes of injury-time were played, and 16-year-old Kelly Hamilton was the match-winning heroine as she superbly struck over the winning point to defeat the Rebels 0-13 to 2-6.

Further victories over Tipperary, Dublin and Clare secured a semi-final spot.

However, there was disappointment for the Kilkenny girls as Kate Kelly and Katriona Parrock caused all the damage with Kilkenny's All-Ireland dream ending for another year losing out 3-12 to 1-11.

### Intermediate

The league campaign began with defeats by Offaly and Tipperary, before producing a spirited display to draw 3-6 each with Cork. A 20-point drubbing at the hands of Derry completed their league campaign.

Their championship campaign began at home to Galway. An excellent first-half performance saw Kilkenny lead by seven points. However, some crucial unforced defensive errors proved costly as they lost 3-10 to 3-8.

Heavy defeats by Wexford and Offaly ended their participation in the championship.

### Minor

Kilkenny were attempting to win the minor All-Ireland for the 5th consecutive year, and they safely negotiated their semi-final spot as they defeated Galway and Dublin.

Their semi-final clash with Galway was a superb wholehearted contest.

Trailing by 8 points 10 minutes into the second-half, Kilkenny produced a storming fightback with goals from a Claire Phelan and Shelley Farrell as the match reached its dying stages.

However, credit to eventual champions Galway who displayed great character and a superb winning point by Rebecca Hennelly snatched victory to break Kilkenny hearts as they won 1-14 to 2-10.

### Under-16

Kilkenny began their under-16 campaign with an 11-point defeat away by Galway in Ballinasloe, before ensuring their semi-final spots following comprehensive victories at home over Wexford and Dublin.

However, their semi-final contest with Tipperary was a disappointment as they lost out 0-13 to 1-3 against a Tipperary outfit who were stubborn in defence.

Further disappointment occurred as they lost a thrilling Under-16 Leinster final to Dublin 3-9 to 2-11.

### Under-14

The under-14s were the only inter-county outfit to win silverware this year, as they defeated Dublin in the Leinster final, 4-7 to 2-10. However, the year got off to a bad start as they were well beaten by Dublin in the first game of the group stages, 4-8 to 1-5.

Things improved immeasurably and they defeated Dublin in Thomastown in the last of their group games, 5-5 to 5-4 in a thrilling contest.

That meant Kilkenny and Dublin contested the Leinster final. Dublin led 1-8 to 0-5 entering the last quarter, before Kilkenny hit a purple patch scoring four unanswered points as they won a thriller 4-7 to 2-10.

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP REVIEW

### Senior

#### MULLINAVAT BREAK LACHTAIN'S LONG STRANGLEHOLD OF SENIOR DOMINANCE

Finally, St. Lachtain's (Freshford) long standing successful reign as Kilkenny senior camogie champions ended, as Mullinavat for the very first time landed senior spoils following a dramatic finish in the county final.

The South Kilkenny girls laid down a marker for the year from day



**Mullinavat - League and Championship Winners 2010**  
**Back:** Paula Butler, Leann Fennelly, Valerie Law, Alison Duggan, Sinead Aylward (C) Elaine Aylward, Angela Kennelly, Claire Aylward, Joanne Brennan, June Grennan  
**Front:** Sinead Phelan, Joanne Quinn, Amy Butler, Michelle Quilty, Rebecca Haberlin, Tara Power, Julianne Malone, Laura Whelan, Aine Kinsella, Marie Murphy

Eoin Hennessy

one as they hosted the Freshford girls in the first round of the senior league down in Mullinavat as they romped to a 3-18 to 3-7 victory thus ending the Freshford girls eight-year long unbeaten record in Kilkenny.

The championship commenced at the end of July, as the league finalists were also decided.

Mullinavat defeated Ballyhale Shamrocks 2-12 to 1-6 to set up a league final clash with St. Lachtain's who defeated Windgap 2-13 to 2-7.

The league final was played in Callan on Sunday August 22nd, and Mullinavat were expected to emerge victorious on recent form.

A late Leanne Fennelly goal proved decisive as the South Kilkenny girls came out on top on a 1-14 to 1-7 scoreline, with Michelle Quilty highly prominent scoring 0-9 (0-8 frees).

The quarter-finals of the championship saw Denise Gaule score 2-5 as Windgap defeated St. Martins 3-10 to 2-6, while a late goal from Emilie Darmody helped Ballyhale Shamrocks overturn a 2-2 to 0-4 deficit as they defeated Thomastown in a thriller played in Mullinavat on a 2-9 to 2-8 scoreline.

The semi-finals saw a brace of goals from Leanne Fennelly steer Mullinavat to a landslide 2-15 to 0-2 victory over Ballyhale Shamrocks while Imelda Kennedy inspired St. Lachtain's to a 2-10 to 2-3 victory over Windgap to set up a repeat of the league decider.

The final was played in glorious September sunshine in John Locke Park.

The pressure of favouritism appeared to weigh heavily on Mullinavat as they struggled to play with the same fluency and freedom that they've displayed all year.

With time running out, the Freshford girls appeared to be on their way to landing their 12th senior championship in thirteen seasons. However, Mullinavat repeated the dose just like the Freshford girls did to Railyard in the county senior football final, and Leanne Fennelly came up trumps as she struck a late injury-time goal to snatch victory.

It was a memorable day for the Aylward family in particular.

Elaine Aylward who was superb for club and county all year received the player of the match award of county camogie chairperson Catherine Neary, while her sister Sinead was team captain at full-back.

Their Dad John Joe was team trainer along with Michael Law, while John Joe's wife Mary was also on the management team.

Mullinavat represented Kilkenny in the Leinster senior camogie championship, but despite their best attempts, they went down to a more experienced Ballyboden St. Endas outfit losing out 1-11 to 1-8.

However, Mullinavat Camogie club can look back on 2010 as a year to remember, landing the league/championship and with plenty of young talent on show, they can look forward to more memorable occasions in future.

It was refreshing in a year of new champions, that the South Kilkenny girls took their place as new senior camogie champions.

With Windgap and Thomastown progressing steadily also, we can look forward to possibly up to five teams contesting for senior honours in the forthcoming year.

That would be very welcome indeed.

### Intermediate

Rower-Inistioge were seen as one of the favourites for Intermediate

glory following last year's heart-breaking one-point defeat by St. Anne's in the replay.

With a host of talented young players, plus county senior panellists Eimear and Lizzie Lyng in their ranks, they had every reason to feel confident of going one better.

They strolled through the group stages of the league campaign easily defeating Piltown, overcoming Dicksboro 4-4 to 2-4 in a bruising encounter before easing past Emeralds 2-11 to 0-4.

Paulstown were looking red-hot early in the season and with Collette Dorner and Eilish Cantwell banging in goals for fun, the Carlow border side defeated Lisdowney, Clara and James Stephens to set up a league semi-final clash with Dicksboro.

However, Dicksboro upset the odds as they defeated Paulstown in an eight-goal thriller, 4-12 to 4-8.

Lizzie Lyng struck twice as Rower-Inistioge easily overcame Clara 3-10 to 1-4, to set up a league final clash with Dicksboro, played in Ballyhale.

Lizzie Lyng struck a brace of second-half goals to seal victory as they won 2-13 to 0-9

In an excellent team performance during the second-half, Lizzie along with goalkeeper Emma Kavanagh, Eimear Lyng, Aoife Lyng, the free-taking accuracy of Kelly Hamilton (0-10) and 14-year-old Aine Gannon, were all instrumental in their side's victory.

Lisdowney were involved in a relegation semi-final battle in the first round, but they dispelled any particular worries, overcoming eventually relegated Emeralds 2-11 to 0-2, before, a hat-trick of goals from county minor Aoife Murphy secured a semi-final spot following a 4-7 to 1-10 victory over Paulstown.

The semi-finals were contested between Rower-Inistioge and Clara and Lisdowney and Dicksboro.

Aoife Lyng was in devastating mood as she scored 4-1 in helping the Rower progress to the final following a 5-8 to 2-6 victory, while Lisdowney overcame Dicksboro 1-14 to 3-6 in a thriller.

Despite the improvements of Lisdowney, Rower-Inistioge were expected to emerge successful and they were the form team all year. However, Lisdowney tore up the script, and they were a driven outfit right from the outset. A Jeannette Boran goal gave them a 1-5 to 0-3 lead coming towards the interval, before a second-half goal from Kate Holland gained complete control as they cruised to a 2-10 to 1-6 victory. It was a wonderful team performance.

They progressed to the Leinster final against near neighbours Harps of Durrow, following victories over St. Brigid's (Dublin) and Glynn-Barntown (Wexford).

Despite their most valiant attempts in the Leinster final, they went down 0-12 to 1-7, where the Durrow ladies' greater experience of winning three Junior All-Ireland club titles in succession from 2006-2008 proved very decisive.

### Junior

Young Irelands (Gowran) got their league campaign off to a miserable start only registering a combined total of 0-6 in their opening two matches losing heavily to Glenmore and Tullogher.

However, things would only get better for the eventual finalists.

Tullaroan meant business as they began their campaign in round two easing to a 5-13 to 2-6 victory away to Danesfort, while Blacks and Whites blitzed Carrickshock 4-14 to 1-4.

Tullaroan recorded further victories over Glenmore and Carrickshock before dishing out an unmerciful hammering to Blacks



Eoin Hennessy

**Rower/Inistioge Intermediate League Champions 2009**

**Back:** Gerry Lyng (Selector), Aoife Lyng, Emma Hynes, Eimear Lyng, Andrea Lyng, Bridin White, Briona Langton, Elaine Fleming, Christine Lyng, Sarah OMahony, Laura Muldoon, Michelle Murphy, Rachel Lyng, Debbie OMahony, Eadaoin Leahy, Aine Gannon, Brigitte Doyle, Becky Dempsey, Donal Kavanagh (Selector).  
**Front:** Edel Rowsome, Fiona Carroll, Emma Kavanagh, Ciara Lyng, Lizzie Lyng, Kelly Hamilton, Aoife Hanrahan, Nora Hanrahan, Jane Cullen, Ruth Kavanagh, Lisa Gannon, Deirdre Meany, Mairead Grace Michael Doyle (Manager).



Eoin Hennessy

**Lisdowney – County Intermediate Camogie Champions 2010.**

**Back:** Karen Cahill, Dervla Gannon, Grace Murphy, Miriam Brophy, Emma Brophy, Julie Mackey, Claire Phelan, Siobhan Holland, Tracy Brennan, Maeve Gannon, Kate Holland, Anne Marie Lacey.  
**Front:** Kathleen Dowling, Sandra Walshe, Noelle Murphy, Noreen Murphy, Janette Boran, Sarah Staunton, Aoife Murphy, Kellie Anne Quinn, Claire Dunne, Eimear Mulhall, Kate Delaney.  
**Mascot:** Kiara Walshe



Eoin Hennessy

**Tullaroan - Junior "A" Champions 2010**

**Back:** Sarah Butler, Olivia Maher, Claire Walsh, Alice Butler, Patricia Mullally, Aine Fahy, Lorraine Maher, Noreen Delaney, Clodagh Young, Aine Butler, Aideen Kenny, Noelle Maher, Maureen O'Shea, Niamh Dowling, Rachel Dowling, Jenny Maher.  
**Front:** Matty Butler (trainer) Elaine Maher, Miriam Walsh, Leandra Pollard, AnnMarie Young (capt) Clodagh Kenny, Sinead Quigley, grace Walsh, Carmel Breen, MaryEllen Butle (Margaret & Katie Marshall missing from photo.)

and Whites winning 7-11 to 1-13.

However, they would come unstuck in their next game losing to the Gowran girls 3-6 to 2-6, a result that would prove costly to their league hopes.

Blacks and White drubbing at the hands of Tullaroan was their only league loss as they got back on the winning trail defeating Young Irelands (Gowran) 6-5 to 2-7 in their final group game to secure a league final spot.

Tullogher, following their opening game defeat by the Skeough girls, recorded victories over Young Irelands (Gowran), Carrickshock, Glenmore and Danesfort which meant their final group match in the league with Tullaroan was winner-takes-all as the victors were in a league final.

In a thriller played out in Tullaroan, Tullogher emerged victorious winning 2-11 to 2-8 with full-forward Joanne Cotterell bagging a brace of goals.

Blacks and Whites and Tullogher contested the league final in Thomastown on Saturday 28th August.

The Tullogher ladies took a stranglehold right from an early stage with midfielder Lynda Cotterell producing a sensational five-star performance. She scored 1-4 in the opening-half and played a hand in several other scores, as they eased to a 2-13 to 0-8, with her sister Stephanie grabbing an opportunist goal.

Tullogher's league victory secured a championship semi-final spot, as Blacks and Whites squared up to neighbours Young Irelands (Gowran) only five days after their league final defeat in their championship quarter-final.

The Gowran girls had improved steadily throughout the year and they upset the odds producing a magnificent team performance in a 2-10 to 1-7 victory.

Tullaroan crushed Glenmore 8-11 to 2-5, while Carrickshock easily defeated Danesfort 5-12 to 1-4.

The semi-final clashes were contested between Tullaroan and Tullogher and Carrickshock and Young Irelands (Gowran). Tullaroan gave Tullogher a first-half whitewashing as they led 3-10 to 0-2 at the interval.

However, enormous credit to the South Kilkenny girls for producing a splendid comeback, but at the end their efforts came up short losing out 3-11 to 3-5.

The final between Tullaroan and Young Irelands (Gowran) proved to be one of the games of the year.

It was a wonderful contest full of endeavour,



Eoin Hennessy

#### **O'Loughlin Gaels Junior "B" Championship Winners 2010**

**Back:** Karen Cleere, Laura Butler, Samantha Mguni, Kate Walsh, Ena Kearns, Tara Conroy.  
**Middle:** Phillip Twomey, Richie Delaney, Marina Tyrrell, Rebecca Cleere, Shauna Brennan, Aisling Butler, Sarah Burke, Jane Maher-Flynn, Sheamie Cummins, Gerry Buckley.  
**Front:** Kate Nolan, Elizabeth Kavanagh, Karen Galvin, Aoife Nolan (Captain), Sarah Buckley, Annie Dunne, Stephanie Buckley. Mascot: Brooke Flynn. (Missing from photograph: Meg Shortall.)

and Tullaroan only led once during the entire game. That was when the brilliant Noelle Maher struck over the winning point in the 58th minute, but it proved sufficient, as the Gowran girls were left heartbroken. On two separate occasions, they led by five points with Sarah Anne Quinlan in inspiring form scoring a hat-trick of goals.

#### **Junior "B"**

Mooncoin and O'Loughlin Gaels were the dominant forces in the Junior B competition, and they contested both the league and championship finals.

In the group stages of the league, O'Loughlins struck a late goal to win 3-6 to 2-7, before they clashed again in the league final on a warm and sunny August Sunday. An 0-11 to 0-7 victory for the Suirsiders proved sufficient as they were inspired by team captain Sarah Crowley who produced a remarkably stunning individual performance. Crowley's display that day will live long in the memory. Inspiring her colleagues around her constantly drove long ball forward to her attack, while her sense of positioning and controlling of the game was

first-class. It was exemplary.

O'Loughlins got their revenge in the championship decider in an almost exact reverse of the league final.

A low-scoring first-half saw Mooncoin lead 0-4 to 0-2 but O'Loughlins were a transformed outfit afterwards as they outscored their opponents 0-8 to 0-0 in the second-half to win 0-10 to 0-4. Their defensive unit was mighty during the second-half as Samantha McGuni, Stephanie Buckley and Aisling Butler were all outstanding.

#### **Minor**

The Minor "A" and Roinn B finals were decided on the eve of the weekend of the All-Ireland senior and minor hurling finals. Windgap and Thomastown have dominated the minor A grade in recent years, and they proceeded to set the pace in this years competition also.

Thomastown led by two points at the interval, before a superb second-half display inspired by the brilliant Catherine Foley turned the match around and the 'Gap ran out 2-10 to 1-8 winners.



#### **Mooncoin - Junior "B" League Winners 2010**

**Back:** John Grant, Jean O hanlon, Siobhan Delahunt, Samantha Foran, Geena Henebery, Emma Henebery, Roisin Delahunt, Niamh Madden, Ellen Crowley, Eveleen Rowe, Hannah Ryan, Kay Quinn, Siobhan Brennan, Eimear Delahunt, Mai Murphy, Ollie Dunphy.  
**Front:** Sarah Kearns, Deirdre Walsh, Deirdre Connolly, Aisling Walsh, Sarah Crowley (C), Eleanor Walsh, Laura Wall, Shauna Walsh, Margaret Grace, Kim Kelly.



**Tulloher - Junior "A" League Champions 2010**

**Back:** Mick Murphy (trainer), Sarah Hennessy, Emer Malone, Marie Ryan, Siobhan Murphy, Ursula Walton, Vivienne Forristal, Joanne Cotterell, Lynda Cotterell, Stephanie Cotterell, Sarah Ryan, Aisling Phelan, Ciara Young, Elaine O Connor, Stephen Cotterell (trainer), Maggie Lyng

**Front:** Kellyann Cotterell, Elaine Mullally (Capt), Maggie Walsh, Susan Cullinane, Siobhan Dollard, Katie Quigley, Lisa Ryan, Niamh Barry, Hazel Foley, Caitriona Ryan.

Meanwhile, the minor B final played in St. Johns Park saw Lisdowney overcome Rower-Inistioge 2-7 to 1-4.

The C competition was contested by Emeralds and Danesfort, after Emeralds defeated Mullinavat in the semi-final replay following two absorbing contests.

The final was also a thriller, and it was Danesfort who came out on top on a 0-14 to 2-6 scoreline.

The D final saw Tullaroan dominate from start to finish as they easily defeated Glenmore 4-16 to 1-4 under the floodlights in Piltown.

#### **Under-16**

Dicksboro won their very first roinn A camogie title as they defeated a hard trying but limited Windgap played on a beautiful sunny evening in Ballyhale at the end of August.

The Boro girls were never seriously threatened and it with Orla Hanrick on fire they built up a 1-4 to 0-0 lead early. Windgap responded due to the accuracy of Niamh Phelan as they narrowed the gap to two points. However, a second goal from an Orla Hanrick free re-asserted their dominance, as they led by 2-5 to 0-5 at the interval.

Windgap kept battling away but despite the most valiant attempts of Phelan and the games best player in Catherine Foley, the Boro were always in control as they ran out 2-9 to 0-9 winners.

Clara romped away with the B title on a cold wet miserable evening as they easily defeated Rower-Inistioge 8-12 to 4-5, while the C final was one of the games of the year.

A superb wholehearted contest between Mullinavat and Piltown, Mullinavat led 1-7 to 2-1 at the interval, but Piltown inspired by the brilliantly skilful KellyAnn Doyle responded and they took the lead 4-3 to 2-8. However, Mullinavat under the cosh replied with the majestic JulieAnne Malone leading the way as the driving force and points from Marie Murphy, and an Aine Kinsella free in the 50th minute proved sufficient as the Vat held on for victory.

St. Annes won the D decider defeating Paulstown 5-7 to 4-4 with team captain Siobhan Corcoran and full-forward Sarah Whelan scoring 2-2 each.

#### **Under-14**

Piltown produced a magnificent team performance as they dominated the Roinn A final against Windgap winning 4-11 to 0-6. The victors were always in control, with their defensive unit completely dominant, while their attacking prowess displayed sublime skill in abundance.

Chloe Holden led the way with 3-2, while KellyAnne Doyle and Lisa McCarthy were also magnificent in an outstanding team

display.  
Danesfort followed their Feile success earlier in the year as they coasted to a resounding 8-6 to 0-4 victory over St. Brigids in the

Roinn B decider, while St. Annes were victorious in the C decider defeating Naomh Brid 3-5 to 3-0.

#### **TEAMS THAT COMPETED IN COUNTY FINALS**

**Senior**  
Mullinavat: Valerie Law, Joanne Quinn, Sinead Aylward(captain), Sinead Phelan, Paula Butler, Elaine Aylward, Alison Duggan, Amy Butler, Aine Kinsella, Michelle Quilty, Julie Anne Malone, Claire Aylward, Angela Kenneally, Leanne Fennelly, June Grennan, Marie Murphy, Ciara Holden, Sarah Grennan, Tara Power, Laura Whelan, Leanne Ivory, Marian Grennan, Rebecca Holden, Rebecca Haberlin, Rachel Kent, Joanne Brennan

St. Lachtains: Paula Murphy, Majella Colclough, Gillian Dillon Maher, Sinead Connery, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Aine Connery(captain), Lydia Fitzpatrick, Anne Dalton, Aoife Fitzpatrick, Aine Curran, Imelda Kennedy, Catriona Meagher, Yvonne McGrath, Marie O'Connor, Maureen Walsh, Denise Daly, Katie Maher, Katie Doherty, Emma Maher, Mariga Nolan, Aine Phelan, Lorraine Cass, Clodagh Power, Cliare Dermody, Suzanne Meagher, Shauna Bowden, Marie Meagher, Georgina Power,

**Intermediate**  
Lisdowney: Noelle Murphy, Claire Dunne, Tracey Brennan, Julia Mackey, Kathleen Dowling, Claire Phelan, Sarah Staunton(captain), Eimear Mulhall, Siobhan Holland, Kate Holland, Sandra Gleeson, Maeve Gannon, Janette Boran, Emma Brilphy, Aoife Murphy, Kelly Ann Quinn, Grace Murphy, Dervla Gannon, Kate Delaney, Jessica Foley, Miriam Brophy, Anne Marie Lacey,

Rower-Inistioge: Emma Kavanagh, Elaine Fleming, Andrea Lyng, Becky Dempsey, Emma Hynes, Eimear Lyng, Michelle Murphy, Briona Langton, Kelly Hamilton, Bridin White, Jane Cullen, Sarah O'Mahony, Aoife Lyng, Lizzie Lyng, Aine Gannon, Sarah O'Mahoney, Eadoin Leahy, Mairead Grace, Christine Lyng, Deirdre Meaney, Laura Muldoon, Brigitte Doyle, Fiona Carroll, Aoife Hanrahan, Lisa Gannon, Nora Hanrahan, Ruth Kavanagh, Edel Rowsome, Rachel Lyng, Ciara Lyng, Tini O'Mahoney, Debbie O'Mahoney,

Dicksboro (league final v Rower-Inistioge):Sarah Bawle, Helen Byrne, Geraldine Kelly, Sarah Kennedy, Emer Tynan, Niamh O'Donoghue(captain), Sorchia Fennelly, Sinead Maher, Sonia Buggy, Noelle Corrigan, Sinead Corrigan, Aisling O'Grady, Orla Hanrick, Jenny Dillon, AnneMarie Hoyne, Aine Maher, Mairead Dowling, Brena Hamilton, Lisa Hanrick, Niamh Kelly, Siobhan Healy, Nicola Doyle, Claire Nolan, Niamh O'Connor, Aoife Walsh, Andrea Ryan, Eimear Walsh, Cathy Bergin, Hilda Butler,

**Junior**  
Tullaroan: Noreen Delaney, Carmel Breen, Mary Ellen Butler, Elaine Maher, Claire Walsh, Sarah Butler, Anne Marie Young (captain), Olivia Maher, Grace Walsh, Niamh Dowling, Aine Fahy, Miriam Walsh, Lorraine Maher, Noelle Maher, Sinead

Quigley, Leandra Pollard, Patricia Mullally, Clodagh Kenny, Margaret Marshall, Alice Butler, Catherine Marshall, Aideen Kenny, Clodagh Young, Aine Butler, Rachel Dowling, Jenny Maher, Maureen O'Shea, Tina Dowling,

Young Irelands(Gowran): Aoife Connolly, Mary Carroll, Nessa Farrell, Lizzy Byrne, Mairead Fogarty, Emma Comerford, Niamh Quinlan, Maggie Simpson, Ruth Loughlin, Paula Farrell, Laura Fennelly, Aisling Carey, Cara O'Neill, Sarah Anne Quinlan, Deirdre Phelan(captain), Kelly Treacy, Eibhlis Fogarty, Anne Drea, Kay Drea, Orlaith Byrne, Janet Hutchinson, Elaine Rudkins, Aisling Hennessy, Sinead Twomey, Fionnuala Quinlan, Elaine O'Neill, Anne Marie Byrne,

**Junior league final teams**  
Tulloher: Catriona Ryan, Susan Cullinane, Elaine Mullally(captain), Hazel Foley, Vivienne Forristal, Ursula Walton, Niamh Barry, Lynda Cotterell, Sarah Hennessy, Marie Ryan, KellyAnne Cotterell, Siobhan Murphy, Siobhan Dollard, Joanne Cotterell, Stephanie Cotterell, Sarah Phelan, Maggie Walsh, Aisling Phelan, Katie Quigley, Lisa Ryan, Ciara Young, Sarah Ryan, Elaine O'Connor, Emer Malone, Maggie Lyng, Sinead O'Shea, Emily Kennedy,

Blacks and Whites: Melissa Dunne, Eleanor Brennan, Caroline O'Brien, Claire Kirwan, Philomena Murphy, Anne-Marie Lennon, Brid Doran, Brid Kelly, Liz Barcoe, Emily Murphy, Sinead Kelly, Aoife Farrell, Carolyn O'Dowd (captain), KellyAnne Whelan, Aoife Carroll, Aine Doran, Emma Ryan, Lorraine Murphy, Emma Carroll, Jane Maher, Sharon Doherty, Anita Brennan, Ellen Brennan, Shannon Foley, Emma Carroll, Ruth Joyce, Edel Cleere,

**Junior B**  
O'Loughlin Gaels: Elizabeth Kavanagh, Laura Butler, Stephanie Buckley, Kate Nolan, Samantha McGuni, Aisling Butler, Ena Kearns, Annie Dunne, Sarah Burke, Shauna Brennan, Rebecca Cleere, Aoife Nolan(captain), Karen Cleere, Sarah Buckley, Jane-Maher Finn, Karen Galavan, Marina Tyrell, Tara Conroy, Mags Shortall, Katie Walsh,

Mooncoin: Ellen Crowley, Sarah Kearns, Hannah Ryan, Aisling Walsh, Sarah Crowley(captain), Kay Quinn, Roisin Delahunt, Deirdre Connolly, Geena Henebry, Eleanor Walsh, Niamh Madden, Deirdre Walsh, Laura Wall, Emma Henebry, Siobhan Delahunt, Margaret Grace, Eveleen Rowe, Samantha Foran, Emer Delahunt, Jean O'Hanlon, Mai Murphy, Shauna Walsh, Siobhan Brennan, Kym Kelly, Gemma Murphy, Eithne Connolly, Carrie Fitzgerald, Collette Fanning, Ann Gahan, Valerie Phelan, Paula Phelan, Aine Delahunt,

# PILTOWN LAND FIRST TITLE

Photos - Eoin Hennessy

## Primary Schools Camogie Report 2010

### ROINN "A" FINAL

#### Piltown 4-7 Thomastown 3-4

PILTON showed a great attitude, and even better talent, when they galloped to a good win over Thomastown in the Roinn A schools camogie final.

Captain fantastic KellyAnne Doyle was the star of show and she helped herself to 2-6 as Piltown claimed their first title. (One of the most skilful players to emerge on the scene for a number of years, the skill level of Doyle delighted the big size crowd.

Her first touch was immaculate and she showed brilliant balance at dashing speed. Some of her score taking was of the highest order.

The winners got off to a perfect start and they galloped 3-0 to 0-0 ahead after 11 minutes. They opened their account in the 6th minute. A quick, long delivery from Doyle caught out the defence, which allowed Nicola Phelan to take advantage and finish to the net. Doyle scored a wonder goal in the 9th minute with a whistling shot that flew past the goalkeeper.

Goal No. 3 arrived when Ellie Cooney twice had a goalbound shot saved by Aine Butler before Phelan squeezed the sliothar home on the rebound (3-0 to 0-0).

Kelly-Anne Doyle pointed superbly in the 12th minute following an excellent solo run, but Thomastown never yielded. They posted a reply when Ailish O'Shea goaled in the 14th minute.

Doyle struck for superb points in quick succession in the 15th and 16th minutes before Thomastown replied with a Lorraine Byrne goal moments later. Byrne's dipping shot deceived the Piltown defence to reduce the deficit to 2-0 to 3-3.

Byrne added a pointed (a 2 as opposed



Piltown – Roinn "A" Champions 2010

**Back:** Avril Hogan, Sarah Jane Brophy, Fiona Long, Laura Power, Alannah Gallagher, Catherine Dineen, Lisa Norris, Michelle O'Shea, Anna Dowley, Sheena Byrne and Megan Byrne

**Middle:** Nicola Phelan, Ellie Cooney, Shauna Coady, Sinead Walsh, Aoife Norris, Chloe Holden, Kelly Ann Doyle, Eva Flanagan, Laura O'Dwyer

**Front:** Hilary Balding, Stacey O'Brien, Eimear Long, Aoife Doyle, Emily McCarthy, Sophie Holden, Caoimhe O'Callaghan



Thomastown – Roinn "A" Finalists 2010

**Back:** Aisleigh Morrissey, Niamh Sheehy, Jill O'Neill, Tara O'Neill, Chloe Quinn, Niamh Bergin, Aisling Barcoe, Ailis O'Shea.

**Middle:** Megan Conlon, Sarah Walsh, Aoife Farrell, Caitlin Skehan, Aine Butler, Laura Temnyson.

**Front:** Rebecca Walsh, Rachel Walsh, Jennifer McGuinness, Bláithnid Galway, Aoife Holden, Ruth Skehan.

to a 45 in adult camogie) before Doyle bagged her second goal. This time she rifled home a 20 metre free in first half injury-time. The winners led by 4-3 to 2-1 at the interval following what had been an action-packed half.

The scores didn't come as frequent afterwards because the defences tightened up. Doyle pointed a free before Lorraine Byrne did so at the double for the opposition. Thomastown were right

back in contention when a Lorraine Byrne shot was poked home by Ailis O'Shea in the 38th minute (44 to 3-3).

However, Piltown held sway, out-scoring their opponents by 0-3 to 0-1 during the closing 10 minute. This included the score of the game from the star on show. Kelly-Anne Doyle cut in from the left-hand sideline and made a 40 metre solo run at blistering speed, leaving defenders trailing in her wake. Doyle applied the fin-

ishing touch by striking superbly off her left hand side for a class score.

This was a deserved victory for Piltown. Apart from Doyle's heroics Sinead Walsh, Eva Flanagan and Nicola Phelan also produced outstanding camogie. Best for Thomastown were Aoife Farrell, Ailis O'Shea and Lorraine Byrne.

**Scorers:** Piltown - KellyAnne Doyle (2-6, 1-2 frees); Nicola Phelan (2-0); Chloe Holden (0-1, 25).  
Thomastown - Lorraine Byrne (1-4, point 45, one free), Ailis O'Shea (2-0).

**Piltown - Aoife Norris, Stacey O'Brien, Sinead Walsh, Shauna Coady, Chloe Holden, Emily McCarthy, Eva Flanagan, Aoife Doyle, KellyAnne Doyle (capt), Nicola Phelan, Ellie Cooney, Eimear Long, Eleanor Cunningham, Alana Gallagher, Laura O'Dwyer, Fiona Long, Laura Power, Caoimhe O'Callaghan, Sheena Byrne, Sarah Jayne Brophy, Sophie Holden, Michelle O'Shea, Hilary Balding, Avril Holden, Megan Byrne, Catherine Dineen, Lisa Norris, Anna Dowley, Bethany Carroll.**

**Thomastown - Aine Butler, Laura Tennyson, Sarah Walsh, Aoife Farrell, Megan Conlon, Aoife Holden, Ashleigh Morrissey, Niamh Costigan, Ailis O'Shea, Lorraine Byrne, Ashling Barcoe, Rebecca Walshe, Jessie Maher, Hannah Delahunt, Jade McNena, Jessica Walsh, Blathnáid Oahvay, Tara O'Neill, Chloe Quinn, Tara O'Neill, Ruth Skehan, Caitlin Skehan, Rachel Walsh, Niamh Skeahy, Jennifer McGuinness, Kate Hayes, Leanne Gardiner, Laura O'Brien, Ríona Tougher, Michaela O'Neill, Aoife O'Flaherty, Niamh Bergin, Chloe Dack Kennedy,**

Referee - Martin Quilty.

#### ROINN "B" FINAL

Kilmanagh looked a class act

**Kilmanagh NS 7-8  
Gaelscoil Osraí 1-2**

FOLLOWING last year's heartache of losing by a point to St John of God in the decider, Kilmanagh national school made amends this time when they easily disposed of the challenge of a brave Gaelscoil outfit in the Roinn B primary schools camogie final.

The winners were in total control and victory was assured from an early stage. Their movement, pace and teamwork were all first-class as they were utterly determined to make up for last year's disappointment.



**Kilmanagh - Roinn "B" Champions 2010**

**Back:** Rebecca O'Neill, Lisa Hogan, Hannah Quigley, Celine O'Dwyer

**Middle:** Maggie Delaney, Emma Wall, Ciara Murphy (capt), Caoimhe Murphy, Aisling Kelly, Charlotte McCluskey  
**Front:** Therese Purcell, Niamh O'Connor, Éadaoin Murphy, Eimear Keoghan, Kayleigh Nolan, Siún Corcoran.



**Gaelscoil Osraí - Roinn "B" Finalists 2010**

**Back:** Niamh Ní Fhearghail, Sophie Ní Mhaolmhuaidh, Aisling Ní Chaisín, Sinéad Ní Chaoimh, Cáit Ní Craith, Caoimhe Ní Bhróin, Saoirse Ní Chumascaigh, Caoimhe Ní Riáin, Niamh Ní Ruiséil

**Middle:** Doireann Ní Mhaolchathail, Rachel Ní Tirail, Jackie Ní Ráine, Aoife Ní Fhearghail, Ciara Ní Fhaoláin, Caoimhe Ní Threasáigh, Aoife Ní Thiarnáin, Méabh Ní Dhúichona, Taillír Ní Mhurchú

**Front:** Ciara Ní Bhraonáin, Neasa de Ghaillí, Aoibhe Ní Ghormáin, Aisling Ní Bhróin, Ciara Ní Dhubhshláine, Aoife Ní Fhaoláin.

This was a 5-star performance by the winners. Led by deadly Eimear Keoghan, who scored 3-3, they had stars all over the park. Eadoin Murphy and Kayleigh Nolan bagged a brace of goals each.

Ciara Murphy turned in a true captain's display. She produced a sublime performance and led from the front.

They had the perfect pages, sharp tackling backs and nimble forwards.

Gaelscoil battled gallantly and they never gave up, but they met far superior opponents on the day. They were no shame in finished second best in this contest.

Aoife Ni Fheragail scored a well taken goal for the losers near the end, and along with Jennifer Ni Chaohnh, Ciara Ni Bhraoin and Aoife Ni Thiarnan did all in her might to save the day.

#### Scorers:

**Kilmanagh** Eimear Keoghan (3-3); Kayleigh Nolan (2-1); Eadoin Murphy (2-0); Ciara Murphy (0-4, one free). **Gaescoil Osrai** - Aoife Ni Fheargail (1-0); Aoife Ni Thiarnan (0-2, frees).

**Kilmanagh NS:** Emma Wall, Aisling Kelly, Charlotte McCluskey, Caoimhe Murphy, Ciara Murphy, Kayleigh Nolan, Celine O'Dwyer, Margaret Delaney, Lisa Hogan, Eimear Keoghan, Niamh O'Connor, Eadoin Murphy, Rebecca O'Neill, Hannah Quigley.

**Gaelscoil Osrai - Aoife Ni Fhailean, Jennifer Ni Chaoimh, Aobha Ni Gormain, Ciara Ni Bhraain, Niamh Ni Ruseil, Aishlinn Ni Bhoirn, Aoife Ni Thiarnan, Caoimhe Ni Thearaisgh, Aoife Ni Fherghail, Jackie Ni Raine, Niamh Ni Fhergail, Rachel Ni Tirail, Ciara Ni Dubhshalinne, Neasa de Ghaili, Saoirse Nic Chumsaigh, Keeva Ni Bhriain, Meabh Ni Dhucona, Cait Nic Craith, Sophy Ni Mhaolmhuaidh, Dareann Ni Maolchathail, Aislinn Ni Cashin.**

Referee - Martin Quilty.

#### ROINN "C" FINAL

#### Skilful 'Bridge add to success of last season

**Bennetsbridge 3-2  
Gowran 2-2**

A THRILLING Roinn C schools camogie final produced an exciting conclusion which ended with Bennetsbridge adding the McGoldrick Cup to the Roinn D title won last season when they held off a late challenge from near neighbours Gowran to land the spoils.

It was a nail-biting contest. The 'Bridge school enjoyed a perfect start when they scored an early goal through Aoife Doyle. They enjoyed plenty of possession in the early stages and another goal from Sarah Lewis was reward for their dominance and it left them 2-0 to 0-0 ahead.

However, the Gowran girls displayed great battling qualities throughout. A Kate Drennan goal was followed by a point shortly afterwards to narrow the gap before Jennifer O'Neill struck a superb point as the victors went on to led 2-1 to 1-1 following an exciting opening 25 minutes.



**Bennetsbridge - Roinn "C" Champions 2010**

**Back:** Laura Duggan, Emily Hughes, Laura Hayes, Eimear Mahon, Hannah Kelly, Ellie Forristal.  
**Middle:** Hollie Brennan, Orla Tynan, Anna Hughes, Orlaith O'Connell, Orla Mc Govern, Aoife Doyle.  
**Front:** Hannah Walsh Brennan, Vickie Lennon, Jennifer O'Neill, Rachael Kelly, Sara Young, Sarah Lewis.



**Gowran - Roinn "C" Finalists 2010**

**Back:** Charlotte Booth, Emily Felix, Nicole Carter, Rebecca Nevin, Rachel Dreeling, Ellen O'Donnell, Claire Farrell, Darragh Brown, Roisin Byrne, Linda Delaney.  
**Middle:** Kate Drennan, Saoirse Byrne, Katie O'Neill, Ava Comerford, Michelle Kehoe, Aoife Naddy, Charlotte Kehoe, Aisling Smith.  
**Front:** Muireann Kavanagh, Milica Rabat, Leanne Byrne, Katie Quinlan, Steffi Fitzgerald, Grace O'Donnell, Anna Felix, Aine Smith, Christine O'Donnell.

The Gowran school had the advantage of the stiff breeze in the second-half. However, despite the good amount of possession they enjoyed they were denied by a strong Bennetsbridge defence in which Vicky Lennon, Orlaith O'Connell and Holly Brennan excelled.

However, the star on show was agile 8-year-old goalkeeper, Rachel Kelly, who saw a fair amount of action and pulled off a number of top class saves.

The magnificent Jennifer O'Neill was

captain fantastic. She scored an excellent point to stretch the advantage before scoring a superb goal to drive the victors on further. Despite scoring a late goal the losers just couldn't pull the game out of the fire.

This is a young Bennetsbridge outfit with a number of the pupils only 8 or 9 years of age, so they could continue to rise up rankings in the years ahead.

Best for the Gowran school were Saoirse Byrne, Katie Quinlan, Grace O'Donnell and Katie Quinlan.

**Bennetsbridge** - Rachel Kelly, Vicky Lennon, Orlaith O'Connell, Hannah Walsh Brennan, Holly Brennan, Sarah Young, Orla McGovern, Jennifer O'Neill (capt), Aoife Doyle, Sarah Lewis, Orla Tynan, Anna Hughes, Emer Mahon, Laurel Hayes, Laura Duggan, Hannah Kelly, Emily Hughes, Ellie Forristal,

**Gowran** - Michelle Kehoe, Charlotte Kehoe, Saoirse Byrne, Katie Quinlan, Aine Smith, Ava Comerford, Aoife Naddy, Grace O'Donnell, Ashling Smith, Kate Drennan, Steffi Fitzgerald, Katie Quinlan, Rebecca Nevin, Nicole Carter, Linda Delaney, Roisin Byrne, Leanne Byrne, Milicia Rabat, Charlotte Boote, Emily Felix, Anna Felix, Ellen O'Donnell, Christine O'Donnell, Claire Farrell, Rachel Dreeling, Muireann Kavanagh,

Referee - Martin Quilty.

#### ROIINN "D" FINAL

#### Glen' Make History

**Glenmore NS 4-9  
Conahy NS 0-1**

GLENMORE national school looked the part from the throw-in and they maintained a good rhythm throughout when they roared to a good first victory in the schools Roinn D camogie final in Nowlan Park.

Conahy were fighting an uphill battle from the start, but they gave their all. They met a team in tip, top form and they were simply blown away.

Glenmore were superior in every department.

The play of Glenmore was a joy to behold. They moved the ball at speed and they their scores with precision and deadly accuracy. They were just too hot to handle.

Helen Hoynes was the star in an impressive team performance. She scored a hat-trick of goals, and her trickery, skill and striking were a treat to watch.

Suzie May Alyward always posed a threat. She scored 1-3, while the sublime Michelle Doherty chipped in with four valuable points.

Conahy gave their all, but despite the best efforts of Roisin Phelan, Siobhan Mullen, Emma Cahill and Aoife Birch they just had to settle for second best.



#### Glenmore - Roinn "D" Champions 2010

**Back:** Emily Phelan, Clodagh Mullally, Ailish Roche, Cecilia Roche, Annmarie Phelan, Rachel O'Connor.  
**Middle:** Chris Elliott, Suzie May Alyward, Joanne Kenny (C), Grace Roche (C), Helen Hoynes, Mia Griffin.  
**Front:** Olivia Elliott, Regina Dellahunt, Michelle Doherty, Clara Hendrick, Nicole Garvey, Eimear O'Neill, Sarah Connolly.



#### Conahy - Roinn "D" Finalists 2010

**Back:** Alice Byrne, Aoife Birch, Katelyn Leahy, Ciara Birch, Claire Maher, Melanie Molloy, Pamela Byrne, Marie Claire Gamble.  
**Middle:** Ciara Curran, Ashling Maher, Amy Morrissey, Claire McEntee, Niamh Delaney, Caoimhe Bergin, Roisin Phelan, Aishling Byrne.  
**Front:** Rachel Birch, Siobhan Mullan, Hannah Murphy, Emma Cahill, Evelyn Phelan, Danielle Morrissey, Roisin Nolan.

Scorers:

Glenmore Helen Hoynes (3-2); Suzie May Alyward (1-3); Michelle Doherty (0-4).  
 Conahy - Roisin Phelan (01).

**Glenmore NS:** Clara Hendrick, Eimear O'Neill, Joanne Kenny, Grace Roche, Nicola Garvey, Mia Griffin, Michelle Doherty, Sarah Connolly, Helen Hoynes, Olivia Jones Elliott, Suzie May Alyward, Regina Dellahunt, Cecilia Roche, Anne-Marie Phelan, Clodagh Mullally, Rachel O'Connor, Emily Phelan, Ailish Roche.

**Conahy NS:** Niamh Delaney, Roisin Phelan, Rachel Birch, Claire McEntee, Katie Purcell, Caoimhe Bergin, Siobhan Mullen, Aisling Maher, Emma Cahill, Ciara Birch, Aoife Birch, Marie-Claire Gamble, Alice Byrne, Claire Maher, Evelyn Phelan, Amy Morrissey, Danielle Morrissey, Ciara Curran, Aisling Byrne, Hannah Murphy, Melanie Molloy, Ciara Carroll, Roisin Nolan, Pamela Byrne, Kately Leahy.

Referee - Martin Quilty.

# **Historic Year for LORETO**



**The Loreto Kilkenny Senior Team, All-Ireland Colleges' Camogie Roinn A Champions who won this title for the first time by defeating Blackwater Community School, Lismore in the final.**

**Back:** Isobelle Robinson, Sarah Dunphy, Niamh Kelly, Grace Walsh, Niamh Byrne, Claire Phelan, Sinead Maher, Aine Curran, Aoife Nolan, Nicola Butler.

**Middle:** Emma Maher, Noelle Maher, Aisling Dunphy (Captain), Sarah Dunne, Lydia Fitzpatrick, Aisling O'Grady, Orla Hanrick, Stacey Quirke, Caoimhe Shiel, Sarah-Ann Quinlan.

**Front:** Sonia Buggy, Tara Hogan, Laura Hennessy, Miriam Walsh, Emma Comerford, Tracey Brennan, Aisling Curtis, Orla Ryan, Kate Holland, Aoife Murphy.

The Loreto Secondary School had, unquestionably, its most successful year ever in Camogie, achieving not only a grand slam of all eight of the available titles but also, all of its teams remained undefeated in every match in every competition during the year.

The Senior team (captained by Aisling Dunphy {Graigue-Ballycallan}) defeated St Brigid's College Callan in the Leinster final, in Nowlan Park, by 6-12 to 0-6 and St Patrick's College Maghera, in Slaughtneil, by 2-11 to 3-7 before defeating Blackwater Community School Lismore by 2-5 to 1-7 to win this All-Ireland for the first time in Ardfinnan.

The Junior team (captained by Kate Holland {Lisdowney}) defeated Borris Vocational School in the Leinster final, in Clara, by 4-13 to 1-5 and St Patrick's College Maghera, in Nowlan Park, by 3-6 to 2-7 before retaining this All-Ireland by defeating St Brigid's Vocational School Loughrea, in Toomevara, by 1-16 to 2-7.

The 7-a-side team (captained by Miriam Walshe {Tullaroan}) defeated Presentation Kilkenny in the Leinster final, in Larchfield, by 6-12 to 3-2 before winning the All-Ireland for the fifth year in a row by defeating St Brigid's Vocational School Loughrea, in Blanchardstown, by 8-8 to 7-6, after extra time.



**The Loreto Kilkenny 7-a-side team, 5-in-a-row All-Ireland Colleges' Camogie Roinn A Champions.**

**Back:**Kirsty Maher (Dicksboro), Nicole Lawlor (James Stephens), Lydia Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Tracy Brennan (Lisdowney), Kate Holland (Lisdowney).

**Front:**Orla Hanrick (Dicksboro), Rachel Lynch (Dicksboro), Miriam Walshe {Captain} (Tullaroan), Ciara Byrne (Clara), Jenny Clifford (Dicksboro).

The Minor Camogie team (captained by Clodagh Power {Freshford}) won their Leinster title, for the fifth time in a row, when they defeated St Brigid's College Enniscorthy by 8-25 to 1-3 in Borris and the

First Year Camogie team (captained by Róisín Kealy {Clara}) defeated Castlecomer Community School in their final which was played in the Presentation to complete the unique Grand Slam.



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**The Loreto Kilkenny Junior Team, All-Ireland Colleges' Camogie Roinn A Champions who retained their All-Ireland title by defeating St Brigid's Vocational School Loughrea in the final.**

**Back:** Róisín O'Neill (O'Loughlin Gaels), Kate Holland {Captain} (Lisdowney), Orla Hanrick (Dicksboro), Ciara Tyrrell (Dicksboro), Maureen Walsh (Freshford), Tara Hogan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Miriam Walshe (Tullaroan), Niamh Browne (Dicksboro), Amy Bryan (O'Loughlin Gaels), Lydia Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Ciara Byrne (Clara), Anna Buggy (Freshford), Claire Healy (Lisdowney), Niamh Leahy (Emeralds), Gráinne Egan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Kirsty Maher (Dicksboro).

**Front:** Marie Doheny (Graigue-Ballycallan), Sarah-Ann Quinlan (Young Irelands), Sarah Lanigan (Freshford), Fionnuala Quinlan (Young Irelands), Tracy Brennan (Lisdowney), Rachel Lynch (Dicksboro), Róisín Kealy (Clara), Róisín Breen (Paulstown/Goresbridge), Eva Maher (Dicksboro), Ciara Phelan (Emeralds), Megan Walsh (Danesfort), Laura Murphy (O'Loughlin Gaels), Stacey Nugent (Graigue-Ballycallan), Katie Doheny (Freshford), Dervla Gannon (Lisdowney). **Mascot:** Elizabeth Keher.

### KILKENNY U16 CAMPAIGN 2010



The Kilkenny under-16 camogie season of 2010 could be described as one of inconsistent displays. They reached the all-Ireland semi-final and were beaten by Tipperary on a score line of 0-13 points to 1-4 which was disappointing considering the much vaunted forward-line at Kilkenny's disposal. Tipperary out-fought the Kilkenny girls and were more clinical in front of the goal and deserved the victory on the day. The under 16 campaign started with defeat against the 2009 champions Galway by a score-line 4-12 to 2-7. Kilkenny were nip and tuck for the first 15 minutes but Galway scored 3-2 in a 12 minute period without reply and effectively ended the contest, Kilkenny tried hard in the second half and outscored the Galway team but that period in the first half was their downfall. Next up was Wexford who Kilkenny beat by 3-12 to 1-2 and the score-line would suggest an easy victory but for long periods in the second half Wexford were physically stronger in the tackle and cause Kilkenny numerous problems. Dublin were next and Kilkenny won by a score-line 2-12 to 0-2 and on the day Kilkenny showed what they are capable of with a display of accurate point scoring and defensive brilliance and this display should have been a springboard for better things, but this was the highlight of the season and Dublin would exact some comfort with a one point win in the Leinster final later on in the season and which they thoroughly deserved as they were hungrier and more focussed on the day. The Leinster final score in Dublin's favour was a one point victory at 3-9 to 2-11. The Kilkenny U-16 camogie season was punctuated with some good individual performances from these players but therein could have lain the problem as they never really got a consistent team performance which is really needed to land all-Ireland titles. Kilkenny have had success at this grade by winning four titles in the last six years, but before this period, it took nearly 15 years to win an all-Ireland title. Hopefully it won't take as long before they capture another title.

**Panel:**

Aine Kinsella, Amy Bryan, Antoinette Power, Aoife Butler, Catherine Foley, Chelsea Power, Christine Lyng, Ciara Holden, Clare Nolan, Emma Ayres, Fiona Walsh, Julie Ann Malone, Kate Holland, Katie Doheny, Kelly Comerford, Kelly Hamilton, Laura Dunne, Leasa Byrne, Lydia Fitzpatrick, Maureen Walsh, Miriam Walsh, Niamh Bambrick, Niamh O Connor, Niamh Phelan, Noelle Murphy, Orla Hanrick, Rachel Hogan, Rachel Lynch, Sarah Crowley, Shauna Doyle, Siobhan Corcoran, Stacy Nugent, Tara Hogan, Tracy Brennan.

# No Manual Supplied....

**Maurice Ryan Jnr, Melbourne Australia, recalls his late father, Maurice.**

**T**he big freeze. January 2010. The removal from the house walking past the Clara hurling fields and up the hill to the little church.....

The floodlights illuminated a glimpse of a white satin hurling field – never looked better – blessed with unblemished snow. As we shivered and waited you looked across and imagined. A Field of Dreams indeed .....out of the darkness Paddy Phelan and DJ out together born to run, shoeless Harry Ryan, ambidextrous Tommy Malone, Jimmy Langton, ungroomed Stephen Whearty and Paddy Prendergast blowing into his hands. Hurling away as Maurice passed by and away.

Maurice was lucky enough to have the field next door and a steady supply of garage customers to hurl with figuratively, literally whatever way it happened. Although Clara Cars was the bread and butter we didn't attend monster trucks, hot rods or RDS car shows; we did go to a lot of bad under 16 matches in the long grass at Danesfort.

Passing on a love of hurling is organic, it's part of life itself. No manual supplied. We were reared on Kilkenny stories, deeds, disappointments and disasters. On the latter I remember that the '91 defeat was still being miserably analysed at Christmas that year. Not an overtly political house, Tipperary substituted nicely as an amalgam of the Black and Tans, the Boogie man and foreign dictators.

Kilkenny and hurling wasn't always written together in stone. Maurice used to reminisce fondly about the cricket games in the rich lands of the Nore valley in his early days. Indeed Maiden Hall was an attractive sounding venue compared to let's say Conahy. Hurling had to fight hard for its current status. Consider the possibility of DJ waiting to bat and H.

Shefflin out for a duck after two days play. Rain stops play. It's just not hurling.

Maurice hurled for Clara in its fledgling days. There are scant official details but the image gathered was of a dangerous half-back with a tendency for the outlandish. A crowd-pleasing referee trip in Nowlan Park was one of the highlights. Just for the hell of it, no malice intended. Clara went major league in '83 and brought home the Tom Walsh cup in '86. Maurice was understandably a happy and proud man. He and his

neighbours had invested a lot into the local junior hurling. The sweet harvest.

The Kilkenny club scene was our meat and spuds. Multiple games in 'the park' - Tom Moran's strength, Jimmy O'Brien's running style, the Shamrocks passing game, Sceach's chances in the Northern junior: all much discussed. Maurice allegedly took in up to 10 games some weekends. Depending on him for a match report however was difficult. Cryptic comments such as 'how that chap ever got near a county team (deep sigh)' or 'sure all belonging to him were great hurlers' or 'they're all bet' made us none the wiser. Easier not to ask. Wait for Tom Ryall on the KCR.

Crokepark was the high table. Great days, fantastic memories. Black and amber birthrights claimed regularly. Maurice appreciated the hurling diversity - Joe Connolly's speech in '80, Johnny Flaherty's goal in '81, roof of the old upper cusack raised when Tony Doran goaled against us, all part of our hurling childhood experiences.

Hurling was the context, the social glue, the excuse for hanging out with the lads. Maurice knew that, yes, we were lucky in Kilkenny but, that ultimately hurling was the medium and not the message. His message was gentleness, fairness and generosity. A lovely fellow. A great father.

**Appendix.**  
Further notes by Liam Ryan

My memories include the under 14 county final in 1972 when Paddy Pender goaled a last minute '70 for a one point win. In the victorious dressing room afterwards, the opposition chairman (and local Parish Priest) congratulated us but then went on to question the award of the '70.

Maurice caught him by the back of the neck and threw him into the corridor amid great cheering and blessing of ourselves... Jesus, Mary And Joseph.....



**Maurice Ryan  
1929 - 2010**



*Do you remember the time he got Brett's to make a huge goalie hurl.... and Fan Larkin heard about it and came in to the goal with a measuring tape when he reffed our next match. Maurice loved the fuss over it.*

*I remember he took me out of school one day in 4th class to go to Nenagh to watch Peter Harte play for Kilkenny CBS in the Rice Cup – all my birthdays etc...*

*He was a huge fan of Tommy Malone from Inistioge. He'd always bring him in for his dinner on Saturdays (especially before big matches) so we could talk hurling and puck around with him in the garden. And of local lad, Stephen Whearty, who Maurice picked as a 15 year old to win an U21 title for Clara – and carried him out of the park shoulder-high afterwards.*

*He told his nephew Harry he couldn't go to Greece on his holidays in 1981 because Clara were playing in an intermediate semi-final. Harry didn't go. And then Dan and I went off to Spain to the world cup in 82 and missed a big Clara match. Oh my God...*

*He had an altercation with Dinny Butler after we lost the junior semi-final v conahy in 76 when Dinny had disallowed a last minute Martin O'Shea goal for square ball.....and of course the same Dinny allowed Joe Casey's goal to stand in the all-time most exciting senior final exactly ten years later to the day. I wonder still did Dinny remember '76 when he made the big call in '86.....*

*Perhaps my favourite is from 2008 when his mind was fading and his daily routine had become confined to home and the pitch. Maurice and his grand-daughter sheltered from a rainstorm under the clubhouse canopy during half time in a minor league play-off*

*between two town teams. The two Ryans were the only neutrals squashed in there. Grand-daughter asks loudly who he was supporting. The crowd are all ears. Only a grunt in reply. The child then presses for an answer one way or the other – sure we have to shout for somebody – which team do you rather? No, he says eventually, I hate the two of them the very same. The child understands and the rain eases. The people just smile. The earliest childhood instincts are the last to fade.*

Liam Ryan, Lucan.

*It is hard to resist including one final story involving the above Liam. When Liam was six years old, Maurice took him to his first All Ireland Final - the ill-fated 1966 meeting with Cork. For a week previously, and all the way up in the car, Maurice assured Liam that Kilkenny would win easily. At half time, with Kilkenny holding a slender two point lead and facing a strong breeze, Maurice guaranteed Liam that they would still hammer Cork. Even with ten minutes left, and Cork well on top, Maurice continued to reassure Liam of victory....*

*With two minutes to go, the conversation went as follows:-*

*Liam: Daddy, Cork are winning aren't they?*

*Maurice (No answer)*

*Liam: But Kilkenny are going to win aren't they, Daddy?*

*Maurice: Deed be J\_\_\_\_\_ they're not!!!*

*Everyone has his own tale about this most lovable and (off the field), gentlest of men.*

Solas na bhflaitheas air.

G.O'N.

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**John O'Neill of Kilkenny Honda Centre and Bord na nÓg Chairman Joe Pyke present the Kilkenny Minor Championship Cup to Dicksboro Captain Gary Gaule**

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# Success around the Corner

Ladies' Football Report by Noelle Curran PRO

Photos - Eoin Hennessy



KILKENNY U14 FOOTBALLERS - LEINSTER "C" CHAMPIONS 2010

The 2010 ladies football calendar kicked off with John Gorey of James Stephens taking the helm as chairperson and Pat Murphy as intermediate team manager ably assisted by Brendan Cooke, Paul Whelan and Richy Windle. The playing action got underway with the Bord Gais Energy National League in February and an away trip to Louth. Despite Kilkenny holding a 1-04 to 0-5 half-time lead Louth fought back to claim a 0-12 to 1-05 win. In round 2 Kilkenny were up against stiff opposition when Leitrim visited Freshford. The girls from the northwest had just dropped down from senior ranks and showed their experience with a 4-12 to 1-05 victory. Round 3 saw Kilkenny travel to play Limerick who would later claim the All Ireland junior crown. The Limerick ladies had an emphatic 1-19 to 0-3 win but the cats regrouped to earn a 4-6 to 1-8 win over Offaly at Bennetsbridge. The announcement of the Bord Gais Energy Teams of the League saw Kilkenny's Angela Kenneally named on the Division 4 team after some great displays throughout the league.

#### TG4 Leinster Championship

Longford have been dominant at intermediate level in recent years and travelled to Bennetsbridge in May for the provincial semi final. The midlanders were hot favourites but Kilkenny trailed by just three points midway through the second half. The visitors pulled away with two late goals in the final quarter to win 3-11 to 2-3 and went on to win their third Leinster title in a row.

#### TG4 All Ireland Series

The TG4 All Ireland intermediate series kicked off in July and Kilkenny faced some tough opposition throughout the summer. The cats welcomed the 2009 Junior All Ireland champions Antrim to Bennetsbridge and got off to a lightening start to lead 0-5 to 0-1 after twenty minutes. The northerners drew level at half time and grabbed two late goals for a hard earned 4-8 to 1-8 victory. Kilkenny faced two of the favourites for the title in mid July but were outclassed by Waterford at Carrickbeg and by Longford at Bennetsbridge. The final game saw the cats travel to Kiltown hoping to overcome Roscommon after an exciting draw between the sides last year. However the home side were well prepared and pulled away in the closing stages to win 3-18 to 3-8. The loss of several influential players saw the cats struggle at intermediate level since claiming the All Ireland junior title in 2007 and a return

to junior status in 2011 should see Kilkenny on a more level playing field and in contention for silverware.

**Kilkenny intermediate panel 2010;** Aine Sheehy (Thomastown), Emer Roantree (Carrickshock), Andrea Murphy (Railyard), Niamh Whelan (Thomastown), Lydia Phelan (Carrickshock), Sally Teehan (Thomastown), Grainne Daly (Railyard), Angela Kenneally (Kingdom Kerry Gaels London), Linda Cotterell (Tullogher), Aisling Farrell (Carrickshock), Niamh Butler (James Stephens), Laurena Murphy (Railyard) (capt), Elaina Byrne (James Stephens), Aoife Gorey (James Stephens), Michelle Dowd (Railyard), Orla McCormick (James Stephens), Jenny Reddy (Thomastown), Helen Murphy (Kingdom Kerry Gaels London), Martina Maher (Muckalee), Aisling O'Farrell (Carrickshock), Karen Costigan (James Stephens), Sheila Sheehy (Thomastown), Sara Morris (James Stephens), Claire Kelly (Mullinavat), Jamie O'Sullivan (Freshford), Lisa Carey (Thomastown), Rachel O'Carroll (Thomastown), Shauna O'Carroll (Thomastown), Liz Dempsey (Thomastown), Aine Lannon (Thomastown), Sinead Corrigan (Freshford), Niamh Maher (Muckalee), Maria Twomey (James Stephens), Sharon Rafter (James Stephens).

#### UNDERAGE SCENE - LEINSTER U14 C' CHAMPIONS

Pride of place undoubtedly goes to our county under 14 girls who went unbeaten in the U14C championship and were crowned Leinster champions after an exciting final in May. The team were managed by PJ Whelan and Barry Hayes and most of the girls are products of a very successful Primary Schools league which is now in its fifth year. The girls started with an 8-11 to 0-1 demolition of Carlow before defeating Westmeath 7-7 to 3-7 and Louth were accounted for 0-6 to 0-4 at Thomastown. Carlow gave the cats a scare in the semi final but a Róisín Breen hat trick ensured an 8-5 to 5-6 win and another meeting with Louth in the final. The final was played on May 30th in Athy and when the Kilkenny machine ignited, Louth were shell shocked. Kilkenny lead 4-4 to 0-3 at the break but Louth staged a remarkable recovery and just 0-3 separated the sides with ten minutes left. The cats held on for a 7-3 to 2-12 and captain Nelle

Henderson accepted the cup. Niamh Sweeney's display at corner back earned her the Player of the Match award.

**Kilkenny panel;** Aoife Prendergast (Dicksboro), Jenna Sherwin (Dicksboro), Nelle Henderson (Thomastown), Niamh Sweeney (Galmoy), Sara Walsh (Thomastown), Aine Gannon (Thomastown), Anna Walpole (Thomastown), Mary O'Connell (Thomastown), Sarah Whelan (Galmoy), Sinead Whelan (Thomastown), Clodagh Power (Freshford), Aoife Farrell (Thomastown), Róisín Breen (Blacks & Whites), Emer Fitzpatrick (Thomastown), Emer Donnelly (Thomastown), Mary Corcoran (Galmoy), Emer Corr (Thomastown), Niamh Nolan (Blacks and Whites), Enya Foley (Blacks and Whites), Becky Leahy (James Stephens), Ellie Barcoe (Blacks and Whites), Bonnie Comerford (Blacks and Whites), Nessa Griffin (Thomastown), Aine Butler (Thomastown), Maeve Egan (Thomastown), Megan Conlon (Thomastown).

The girls also won the Div 3 title at the Leinster under 14 blitz in August defeating Cill Dara 5-3 to 2-4 before a 5-4 to 4-5 win over Carlow. Kilkenny met Loch Garman in the final and claimed the title with a hard fought 4-2 to 2-7 win and rounded off a great year for a very dedicated bunch of girls.

#### UNDER 16 C' LEINSTER SHIELD CHAMPIONS

Kilkenny's under 16 girls got their Leinster campaign underway with an 8-8 to 1-2 win over Carlow at Askeen and despite a heavy defeat in Offaly the girls qualified for the Leinster shield final and once again faced neighbours Carlow. Played at Tinryland in July the game was full of drama with the result decided in injury time. The cats lead 2-3 to 0-3 at half time but the sides were level approaching full time. Two Sinead Whelan points ensured a 5-6 to 3-10 victory for Kilkenny. Captain Niamh Quigley accepted the Leinster Shield and Nelle Henderson's outstanding display at full back won her the Player of the Match award. Kilkenny had now won two underage titles in a month.

**Kilkenny;** Enya Foley, Alice Carey, Nelle Henderson, Anna Walpole, Niamh Quigley, Ciara Farrell, Maeve O'Connor, Claire Nolan, Ailish Butler, Fionnula Quinlan, Joanne O'Hanrahan, Eimear Fitzpatrick,



Freshford - Senior Ladies Football County Champions 2010

Back: Emma Maher, Miriam Walsh, Georgina Power, Lydia Fitzpatrick, Noelle Murphy, Brenna Hamilton, Kerry Delaney, Eileen Colclough, Kate Maher, Ruth Lennon, Yvonne McGrath, Aine Connery.

Middle: Jimmy Gogarty(Trainer), Sharon Mc Meal, Noelle Corrigan, Sinead Corrigan, Andrea Doyle, Collette Comerford, Jamie O'Sullivan, Aoife Fitzpatrick, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Sinead Connery, Jacinta Power, Martin Power (Manager).

Front: Marie O'Connor, Lorraine Cass, Cora Dowling, Majella Colclough, Cpt. Fiona Dowling, Catriona Maher, Denis Daly, Megan Foley, Carol Kavanagh, Breda Kavanagh.



Railyard - Senior League Champions 2010

Back: Amy Geoghegan, April Purcell, Mairead Daly, Maeve Mansfield, Nora Daly, Aisling Brennan, Laurena Murphy, Aoife Dunne, Noelle Curran, Michelle Dowd, Brigid Murphy, Sara Roche, Aisling Corrigan-Ryan, Lorna Houlihan, Martin Buggy (manager)

Front: Sinead Brennan, Sara Buggy, Miriam O'Keeffe, Breda Mulcahy, Andrea Murphy, Grainne Daly, Ger Roche, Alice Farrell, Aisling Murphy

**Niamh Donnelly, Siobhan Corcoran, Sinead Whelan, Miriam Walsh, Alice O'Hanlon, Orla Butler, Miriam Holden, Ellie Barcoe, Noelle Murphy, Denise Daly, Jennifer Norris, Sinead McCarthy.**

#### LEINSTER UNDER 18 C SHIELD

Kilkenny struggled to field at under 18 level this year and had to concede the provincial semi final to Offaly. However the girls met Carlow in the u18 C' Shield final for the third year in a row which was played at Athy on May 3rd. Kilkenny claimed the title in 2008 and Carlow were victorious in 2009 so it was honours even. While the cats were lacking in preparation they played well as a unit and trailed 1-6 to 1-4 at the break but Carlow were better prepared and pulled away for a 2-13 to 1-6 win.

**Kilkenny u18 v Carlow; Niamh Bolger (Thomastown), Jennifer Irish (Carrickshock), Megan Hayes (Thomastown), Georgina Power (Freshford), Rachel O'Carroll (Thomastown), Clodagh Corcoran (Thomastown), Mairead Daly (Railyard), Debbie O'Mahony (Thomastown), Yvonne**

**McGrath(Freshford), Maeve Mansfield (Railyard)(capt), Deirdre Phelan (James Stephens), Ciara Kelly (James Stephens), Suzie Dunphy (Carrickshock), Nora Daly (Railyard), Emily Ryan (James Stephens) Referee; Tony McConnell (Kildare)**

#### CLUB SCENE

##### SENIOR LEAGUE FINAL

##### RAILYARD 3-12, TULLOGLHER 0-4

The county's club season kicked off in April with Railyard, Mullinavat, Thomastown, Freshford, Carrickshock and Tullogher vying for the senior league title. Muckalee and James Stephens would contest the junior finals.

In the senior league Railyard were defending the title they had won four times and met Tullogher in the final in Clara on 9th May. Tullogher were in their first year at senior level and despite a blistering start were eventually over run by a strong Railyard outfit who used their experience to wear the opposition down. Tullogher had plenty of fire power up front in Elaine Mullally, Marie Ryan and Joanne Cotterell but the Railyard defence were solid with Aisling Corrigan

Ryan and Grainne Daly in superb form. Tullogher battled well but Railyard retained their league title on a 3-12 to 0-4 scoreline. A haul of 1-4 saw Alice Farrell named Player of the Match, while Linda Cotterell and Elaine Mullally were contenders for Tullogher.

**Railyard; Noelle Curran, Michelle Dowd, Aisling Corrigan Ryan, Sarah Roche, Aoife Dunne, Andrea Murphy, Grainne Daly, Breda Mulcahy, Laurena Murphy, Geraldine Roche, Mairead Daly, Alice Farrell, Miriam O'Keeffe, Nora Daly, April Purcell, Sara Buggy, Maeve Mansfield, Amy Geoghegan, Bridget Murphy, Aisling Brennan, Aisling Murphy, Maria Dargan, Sinead Brennan, Edwina Keane, Lorna Houlihan.**

**Tullogher; Elaine O'Connor, Susan Cullinane, Caroline Heffernan, Vivienne Forristal, Linda Cotterell, Siobhan Dollard, Sara Hennessy, Fiona Hartley, Marie Ryan, Katie Quigley, Elaine Mullally, Joanne Cotterell, Evelyn Walsh, Hazel Foley, Maggie Walsh, Sinead O'Shea, Catriona Ryan, Lisa Ryan, Siobhan Murphy, Sarah Ryan, Stephanie Cotterell.**

Referee; John Walsh



Muckalee - County Junior Champions 2010

**Back:** Orla Walsh, Joan Maher, Annette Morrissey, Kelly Comerford, Stacey Quirke, Annmarie Walsh, Caoimhe Moran, Margaret O'Neill, Denise Comerford, Mary Rose Lyng, Miriam Maher, Eimear Maher, Niamh Maher  
**Front:** Cathal Keegan, Jack Dowd, Haleema Dowd, Alana Keegan, Aileen Cass, Hannah Maher, Martina Maher, Sharon Shore, Brid Quirke, Johanne Kelly, Eilis Bolland, Aine Walsh. (Missing from picture. Michelle Maher, Siobhain Keegan. Trainers Martin Dowd, Eoin Maher)



James Stephens Ladies Football team who defeated Muckalee in the Junior League Final.

**Back:** John Gorey (Selector), Samantha Kearney, Laura Hanlon, Vicky Cahill, Meave O'Flynn, Sharon Rafter, Elena Byrne, Bronagh Neary, Maria Twomey, Cliona Fennelly, Brid Murphy, Ciara Kelly, Eoin Hennessy (Manager).  
**Front:** Karen Costigan, Lisa Foley, Orla McCormack, Niamh de Buitleir (Captain), Aoife Gorey, Sarah Morris, Emily Ryan and Deirdre Phelan.

#### JUNIOR LEAGUE FINAL

#### JAMES STEPHENS 2-5, MUCKALEE 0-4

James Stephens and Muckalee contested the junior league final at Clara and the city side were aiming to retain the league title that they won in 2009. The Village held a 1-5 to 0-0 lead at half time but Muckalee fought back at 1-5 to 0-4 with ten minutes left. A fortuitous goal sealed a 2-5 to 0-4 win for the city side and Niamh Butler was named as Player of the Match after a brilliant centre back display.

*James Stephens; Nessa Farrell, Sara Morris, Vicky Cahill, Lisa Foley, Laura Hanlon, Niamh Butler, Bronagh Neary, Aoife Gorey, Samantha Kearney, Karen Costigan, Deirdre Phelan, Orla McCormick, Emily Ryan, Maria Twomey, Cliona Fennelly, Sharon Rafter, Elena Byrne, Ciara Kelly, Elaine O'Neill, Brid Murphy, Maeve O'Flynn, Maria Cuddihy, Bernie Ryall, Karen Pierce, Caitriona O'Brien, Elaine Kennedy, Jenny Wallace, Niamh Spratt, Laura Brennan, Emily Ann Gilligan, Siobhan Magner, Sarah Phelan, Louise Rafter.*

*Muckalee; Eilis Bolland, Brid Quirke, Anne Marie Walsh, Niamh Maher, Aine Walsh,*

*Orla Walsh, Martina Maher, Stacey Quirke, Annette Morrissey, Michelle Maher, Mary Rose Lyng, Denise Comerford, Joan Kelly, Margaret O'Neill, Aileen Cass, Rose Mullins, Kelly Comerford, Brenda Buggy, Hannah Maher, Siobhan Keegan.*

*Referee; Eamon Mansfield*

#### LEAGUE FINAL SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP: FRESHFORD SNATCH VICTORY FROM RAILYARD

The newly sponsored Brogmaker Ladies Football championship kicked off in July and from the outset the prospect of a new name on the senior cup looked possible. Railyard had dominated the senior championship with four titles on the trot but without the services of midfield engines Breda Roche and Catriona Corr the north Kilkenny side were beginning to look vulnerable. The holders were defeated 2-3 to 2-2 by Freshford in Moneenroe and despite big wins over Mullinavat and Tullogher they suffered a second defeat when they lost 3-5 to 2-2 to Thomastown. However a semi final meeting with Thomastown proved to be a different game and Railyard won 2-6 to 1-2 to reach

the final. Having defeated Railyard Freshford accounted for Mullinavat and added a good 4-11 to 2-5 win over Thomastown. In the semi final Freshford had plenty in the tank to see off the challenge of Tullogher 4-10 to 3-3.

In Nowlan Park on 30 August Railyard looked unbeatable on paper with the return of Catriona Corr and Marie Dargan but Freshford had other ideas and made a lightning start when Aine Connery used her pace to beat a series of defenders to rattle the Railyard net in the first minute. A second Connery goal was cancelled out by a Marie Dargan penalty and three points from the excellent Yvonne McGrath saw Freshford lead 2-6 to 1-3 at half time.

A Dargan goal started the Railyard revival and sixteen year old Sara Buggy displayed great maturity to score 0-4 and give Railyard a 2-10 to 2-7 with time almost up. However Freshford teams do not give up easily and above all else, they know how to win on the big occasion. Trailing by 0-2 in the 5th minute of injury time Freshford were awarded a 20 metre free. When Yvonne McGrath drove a low hard shot goalward Nowlan Park

fell silent. As the ball took a deflection on the line and nestled in the corner of the net the Freshford support erupted. Railyard raced downfield in search of an equaliser but the Freshford defence said Thou Shall Not Pass! As the final whistle sounded Freshford were ecstatic and were crowned Kilkenny senior champions with a 3-8 to 2-10 win. While Railyard's second half display may have deserved a draw, Freshford were deserving of their win after a superb first half performance and their never say die attitude. Yvonne McGrath's scoring feats saw her named as a worthy Player of the Match.

**Freshford;** *Caitriona Maher, Breda Kavanagh, Majella Colclough, Georgina Power, Jamie O'Sullivan, Fiona Dowling, Andrea Doyle, Sinead Connery, Yvonne McGrath (1-5, 0-4 frees), Aoife Fitzpatrick, Cora Dowling (0-1), Eileen Fitzpatrick, Sinead Corrigan, Aine Connery (2-1), Marie O'Connor, Noelle Corrigan (0-1), Kate Maher, Lorraine Cass, Collette Comerford, Ruth Lennon, Breena Hamilton, Eileen Colclough, Emma Maher, Carol Kavanagh, Miriam Walsh, Marie Meagher, Kerry Delaney, Sharon McMeel, Jessica Foley, Denise Daly, Noelle Murphy*  
**Railyard;** *Noelle Curran, Andrea Murphy, Aisling Corrigan-Ryan, Aoife Dunne, Grainne Daly, April Purcell, Emer Kelly, Laurena Murphy, Michelle Dowd, Marie Dargan(2-3, 1-2 frees), Catriona Corr, Sara Buggy(0-4), Alice Farrell(0-1), Miriam O'Keeffe, Ger Roche(0-2), Aisling Brennan, Maeve Mansfield(0-1), Megan Walsh, Aisling Murphy, Mairead Daly, Maggie Hogan, Sara Roche, Brigid Murphy, Noreen O'Keeffe, Nora Daly, Aoife Brennan, Edwina Keane, Sinead Brennan, Helen Quirke, Lorna Houlihan*

Referee; Mags Doherty (Wexford)

Freshford went on to face Killanerin of Wexford in the first round of the Tesco Leinster intermediate club championship and were unlucky to trail 0-10 to 0-05 at half time. Freshford's battling qualities saw them fight back to within a score but the Wexford side held out to win 1-12 to 1-09.

#### **JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP – MUCKALEE CLAIM FIRST TITLE**

Muckalee and James Stephens contested the junior final with the city side hoping to add to their league title won in May and to make up for last year's final loss to Tullogher. Muckalee however had their own game plan and got a dream start when Joanne Kelly hit the net within seconds of the throw in and the country side raced into a 1-3 to 0-1 lead after 15 minutes. The Village girls needed to make amends fast and recovered to lead 2-3 to 1-4 at the break. Kelly Comerford proved to be the heroine when she blocked a James Stephens clearance close to goal and drilled a low ball to the net to put her side a point ahead with ten minutes left. Heroic defending saw the north Kilkenny girls hold on to claim the junior title 2-8 to 3-4. Stacey Quirke was a worthy Player of the Match.

**Muckalee;** *Joan Maher, Eilis Bolland, Ann Marie Walsh, Brid Quirke, Stacey Quirke, Orla Walsh, Martina Maher, Miriam Maher, Kelly Comerford (1-0), Niamh Maher, Annette Morrissey, Hannah Maher (0-4, 0-3 frees), Aileen Cass (0-1), Margo O'Neill, Joanne Kelly (1-2, 0-1 free), Aine Walsh (0-1), Sharon Shore, Mary Rose Lyng. James Stephens; Vivienne Holmes, Sara Morrissey, Vicky Cahill, Maria Twomey, Laura Hanlon, Elena Byrne (0-1), Bronagh Neary, Lydia Phelan, Niamh Butler (1-2), Laura Brennan, Sharon Rafter (0-1), Deirdre Phelan Orla McCormick(1-0,pen), Samantha Kearney (1-0), Aoife Gorey, Emily Ryan*  
 Referee; Eamon Mansfield

In the Tesco junior club championship Muckalee had an uphill battle in Rochfortbridge who play in the Westmeath intermediate championship. The 'Bridge had too much firepower for Muckalee who battled bravely but succumbed to a 2-11 to 1-3 defeat.

#### **LORETO CRUISE TO LEINSTER FOOTBALL TITLE**

Loreto under 16 girls travelled to St Laurence's in Kildare in May to contest the Leinster Schools Junior D final against

Manor House Raheny and few could have predicted that they would have the title wrapped up before half time against the experienced Dublin school.

Many of the Loreto girls had come through the Primary schools league in recent years and they easily accounted for St Fergal's Rathdowny and Grennan College Thomastown in the opening rounds before defeating Banagher 6-7 to 2-2 at Palmerstown. It looked like the Kilkenny school's run had come to an end in the semi final at Tinryland when they trailed Scoil Dara Kilcock by two points with ten minutes remaining but a haul of 2-2 in the closing minutes saw the girls earn a six point win and a place in the provincial final. Goals from Orla Hanrick (3-0), Miriam Walsh, Lucy Sherwin, Jenny Hayes, Eva Maher and Sonia Buggy (2-0), Loreto claim the title with ease 9-10 to 1-04.

Dicksboro's Orla Hanrick accepted the cup on behalf of Loreto and Miriam Walsh was named Player of the Match after an exhibition of scoring from the young Tullaroan girl. Credit was paid to team manager Martina Griffin of Loreto who was ably assisted by Martin Power of Freshford ladies football club.

**Loreto:** *Alex Horan, Kelly Treacy, Isobel Robinson, Ciara Byrne, Georgina Power, Sara Ann Quinlan, Noelle Maher, Lucy Sherwin, Emma Maher, Clodagh Power, Miriam Walsh, Niamh Browne, Annie Condren, Orla Hanrick (capt), Sonia Buggy, Eva Maher, Sarah Madden, Maggie Byrne, Jenny Hayes, Megan Foley, Rebecca Knox, Megan O'Keeffe, Vikki Cudmore, Roisin Breen, Sinead Twomey, Fionnula Quinlan, Miriam Holden, Jenny Clifford, Kirsty Maher.*

Kilkenny's achievements at underage level in 2010 proved beyond doubt the success of the Primary Schools league which has led to an abundance of emerging talent. Kilkenny ladies must develop this potential in the coming years and no doubt further success is just around the corner for some very talented and enthusiastic gaelic football girls.



U16 Loreto Football - Leinster Junior "D" U16 Champions

Back: Martin Power (Coach), Kirsty Maher, Ciara Byrne, Rebecca Knox, Emma Maher, Jenny Hayes, Niamh Browne, Sonia Buggy, Vikki Cudmore, Noelle Maher, Miriam Holden, Isobel Robinson, Gina Power, Kelly Treacy, Sinead Twomey, Ms Griffin (Coach)  
 Front: Margaret Byrne, Megan Foley, Eva Maher, Roisin Breen, Jenny Clifford, Orla Hanrick (Captain), Miriam Walsh, Lucy Sherwin, Alex Horan, Clodagh Power, Sharon Quinlan, Sarah Madden

# LACHTAIN'S GO ALL THE WAY

**St Lachtain's successful AIB  
All Ireland IH Club Campaign  
by Barrie Henriques**

**I**t was a whole new ball game for the St Lachtain's from Freshford when facing the Champions of Wexford in their first round of the Leinster Intermediate Club Championship in Freshford. Cock-a-hoop after their stirring, but narrow victory over Dicksboro in the County Final (0-16 to 1-11), they were now facing into the daunting task of charting a way through country not hitherto explored. They had high hopes that the Provincial title might come their way, with the extended hope that an All Ireland title, played in Croke Park, just might follow on.

In a tough opening game, the Wexford champs, Askamore/Kilrush took no prisoners, and but for some poor shooting when favoured by the wind in the first half, they could have been ahead at the break with a greater advantage than the 0-9 to 0-6 score allowed. They did have a penalty award, but the well-driven effort by their centrefield player, Eoin Sheridan was well stopped by the Freshford defenders.

In the opening minute of the new half, a Michael Kavanagh delivery was fielded by Bill Beckett, whose rasping shot nearly tore the net from its stanchions. St Lachtain's looked the more likely, to do the business, but they didn't reckon on the durability and determination of the Wexford outfit. Every ball was contested as if life itself depended upon the winning. Seven minutes after registering his first goal, Beckett repeated his exploit with another steamer of a ball. But still the Askamore/Kilrush outfit were not for quitting. Eoin Guinan fired over a few points. The on-fire Beckett helped him out with a couple of his own, and more points were scored by the likes of Ollie O'Connor, John Fitzpatrick, Paul Guinan, and Noel Hickey.

This was a tremendous contest that had the very large crowd on their toes most of the way. It was the Conker Festival weekend too.

The final score read, *St Lachtain's 2-12 Askamore/Kilrush 0-15*

If their opening Leinster Club was a tough call, matters didn't improve in the Leinster semi-final against the Wicklow Senior Champions, Carnew Emmets. Played in Páirc Lachtain on Sunday November 8, the home side did not exactly have the carefree ride that many anticipated. For one thing, the visitors found it an easy call to get goals. The Freshford defence leaked three rather fortuitous goals, which in the final analysis nearly finished their involvement with the competition. They also found the pace of the Carnew men, ostensibly footballers of more renowned stature than natural hurlers, a big problem.

The game was very evenly contested during the first half. The industry of Bill Beckett was instrumental in keeping the Freshford lads ahead, as they reached the break in front by 1-7 to Emmett's 2-3.

The second half was no less easy for the highly fancied Kilkenny Champions as they crawled over the finishing line in front, winning by 3-11 to Emmett's 3-5.

Beckett, with 1-5 to his name, was central to the St.Lactain's winning effort.

## LEINSTER FINAL:

### ST LACHTAIN'S V MOUNT LEINSTER RANGERS DR CULLEN PARK SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22ND.

In atrocious weather, the Carlow Champions and their Kilkenny counterparts (Rangers were their County's senior winners) produced an encounter that was over-spilling with honesty, fulsome determination, and a complete lack of respect for the well-being of opponents. The quality of the hurling was quite extraordinary, given the prevailing conditions.

It was a dour uncompromising first half where the exchanges were oft times messy, and nearly static. As the rain bucketed down, and

the wind whistled through the stand irons, neither goalkeeper was really troubled, as most of the play was fought out between the 45-metre lines. The Rangers probably paid a big price for their wasting of some good chances when favoured by the storm. They shot seven wides in the first half, many of them of the easy variety. At half time, the sides were level, sharing an aggregate score of four points.

The second half was not a whole ton better than the first. Eoin Guinan shot the Freshford lads into a lead within 32 seconds of the restart, and they were never to relinquish the advantage. Two events during the second half had a huge bearing on the final result. Freshford slipped three unanswered points over the Rangers' crossbar between the 37th and 38th minutes. It afforded them a lead of three points, a big lead under such trying circumstances. Denis Murphy clawed back that lead with two tremendous points, with the game ebbing into the final quarter. With ten minutes remaining, and the St Lachtain's lads holding on by their toenails, the brothers Guinan combined to belt home a goal. With a couple of minutes remaining, Lachtain's goalkeeper Tommy Delaney made a spectacular save from Derek Byrne, which all but finished the Rangers spirit.

There were heroes all over the pitch, and it would not be correct or proper to single out any individual. The heroes were not all on the St Lachtain's side either.

**St Lachtains: Tommy Delaney, Michael Cormack, Mick Kavanagh, Ger Dalton, Seamus Hayes, John Costelloe, Paul Costelloe, Noel McGree, Noel Hickey, Robbie Dowling, Davy Brennan, John Fitzpatrick, Ollie O'Connor, Bill Beckett, Eoin Guinan.**

**Subs (used); Paul Guinan, Brian Kennedy.**

In the All Ireland semi-final, the new Leinster Champions were confronted by the Munster Champions, South Liberties from Limerick City in Treacy Park, Tipperary town. The heavy underfoot conditions made life difficult for all, but the greater guile, and skill



**Noel McGree (St. Lachtain's) clears the sliotar as John Coady (Mount Leinster Rangers) closes in during the Intermediate Hurling Leinster Final in Dr. Cullen Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)**

level of the Freshford men proved decisive in the ultimate story. John Costelloe proved himself to be a rock at the heart of the Freshford defence. His South Liberties counterpart, Limerick senior star, Mark Keane could not have done more to inspire his fellow players. It was hugely important for teams to have such inspirational hurlers given that the game was played under such heavy conditions. The sides were level on at least five occasions, with the critical observation being that the Freshford men were never headed.

They led by 0-7 to 0-5 at the break. Twice they had crafted leads of three points during the second half, only to be pegged back. The seminal score arrived in the 38th minute when Noel McGree flashed a terrific pass to Eoin Guinan who blistered home a magical goal. That goal was preceded seconds before by a point from Paul Guinan. It afforded the Freshford men some freedom as they led by four points. The lead was still at four points entering the last ten minutes but the dour Limerick men went for the jugular, and with two minutes remaining they had pared the lead back to two points. Just as it seemed that they (South Liberties) were about to swamp the St Lachtain's men, up popped sub, Paul Guinan to drive over a brilliant point in the 63rd minute.

The hoped-for All Ireland beckoned for the men of Achad Úr.

#### **ALL IRELAND FINAL:**

#### **ST LACHTAIN'S 3-17 ST.GALLS (ANTRIM) 0-10**

St Lachtain's from Freshford will never scale heights more formidable than the ones they encountered under the lights of Croke Park on Saturday evening, February 13th. After an extremely tough, and testing campaign the Freshford men arrived in the Theatre of Dreams that was but a distant prospect when starting out in the Intermediate campaign against Askamore/Kilrush.

Their Manager, Gordon Ryan – what a magnificent job he did for them – emphasised the point that they were not going to Croker as tourists.

His words had an obvious resonance as the St Lachtain's lads knifed their way out of the Croke Park dressing rooms.

In truth, this was the easiest of all the games they had played. They were at their ease as they used the wide spaces of the Croke Park pitch with every ball they struck. Their forwards were smarter, and more focussed, with John Kennedy in sparkling form, bagging 2-1 of his side's total. It was a poignant day for club captain, Niall Phelan, who had broken his neck twelve months previously in a challenge game against Ballygunner. It was feared that he would never walk again, as he underwent surgery in Waterford some hours after the accident. It was a great day too for the Freshford forwards who had laboured solidly, and consistently through the campaign, taking what fate had in store for them, but never flinching in the face of some tough challenges. Bill Beckett, the Guinan brothers, Eoin and Paul, Ollie O'Connor, so often the bridesmaid, young John Fitzpatrick, and Robbie Dowling will relish the experience and the achievement long into their old age. Lads like the Costellos, John and Paul (he was injured for the Final) had done a lot of hurling to get their All Ireland medal, and nobody deserved it more. Tommy Delaney's save against Mount Leinster Rangers alone earned him his medal. When needed he was not found wanting. Michael Cormack and Seamus Hayes were worthy recipients of all the accolades being meted out, and then there was the inspirational Mick Kavanagh. It would be fair to suggest that this medal, with his own lads, his brother Noel beside him, was the sweetest of them all – and he has a few!

At half time St Lachtain's led by 1-10 to 0-7. It flattered the Freshford men somewhat. But on the resumption they really got wired into the serious business of winning an All Ireland. Two great goals by young Fitzpatrick, some beautiful points by Eoin Guinan, Ollie O'Connor, Bill Beckett, Robbie Dowling, Noel McGree, Noel Hickey, and Davy Brennan sealed the fate of the Belfast lads long before the final whistle sounded.

An All Ireland for Freshford?

Who would have believed it in November 2009?

**Team (with scores): Tommy Delaney, Michael Cormack, Mick Kavanagh, Ger Dalton, Seamus Hayes, John Costeloe, Niall Phelan, Noel McGree, Noel Hickey, John Fitz-**

**patrick, Davy Brennan, Robbie Dowling, Ollie O'Connor, Bill Beckett, Eoin Guinan.**

**Subs (used): Paul Guinan, Brian Kennedy. (Remaining panel) James Meagher, Paul Costeloe (inj), Michael Hickey, Tomás Flynn, James Kavanagh, Paul Mullen, Barry Hughes.**

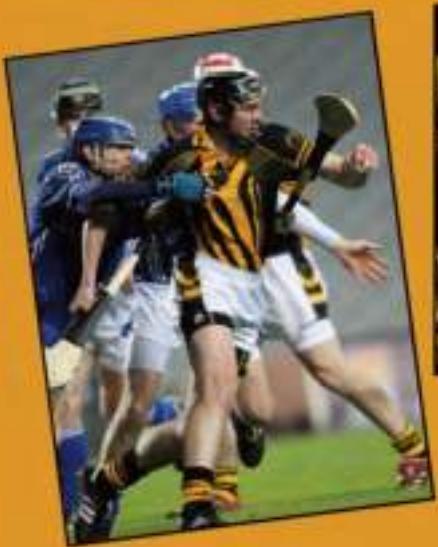


*Paul Costello (St. Lachtains) keeps his eye on the sliotar as Denis Murphy (Mount Leinster Rangers) challenges during the Intermediate Hurling Leinster Final in Dr. Cullen Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)*



*Tommy Delaney, St lachtain's goalkeeper brings the ball safely out of defense in the All Ireland Club Final in Croke Park.  
John McIlwaine*

# *St Lachtain's 3-17 St Gall's 0-10*



*All Ireland Intermediate Club Final 2010*

*Poster by John McIlwaine*

# SHAMROCKS GO TOP OF THE PILE

**Ballyhale Shamrocks successful AIB All Ireland SH Club Campaign  
by Barrie Henriques**

BALLYHALE SHAMROCKS set off on their journey for Provincial and National Honours with an opening Leinster semi-final against the Dublin Champions, Ballyboden St Endas in Nowlan Park on October 15th. Ballyboden were rocked within 22 seconds of the start when Colin Fennelly shot to the net. They never recovered from that body blow. Goals from Henry Shefflin, Eoin Reid and TJ Reid sealed their fate in the second half.

The final score read – Ballyhale Shamrocks 4-18, Ballyboden St Endas, 0-18.

It was a different scenario when they went to play Oulart-the-Ballagh in Wexford in the second round. This was as tough as it got for the Leinster Champions. Oulart hurled up a storm that the Ballyhale lads could hardly weather. This was no game for the faint-hearted. At the 22nd minute stage the Kilkenny lads were adrift by 0-4 to 1-10. A goal by TJ Reid hauled them back into the game. They reached half time still behind, while with 28 seconds remaining, they were still a point down. Eoin Reid levelled it, and sent the sides into extra time.

The Shamrocks led at the end of the first period of extra time by 2-17 to 1-17. They maintained their momentum to come home in front by 2-20 to 1-21.

In O'Connor Park, Tullamore, the reigning Leinster Champions faced the local Tullamore side in defence of their title. In winning their seventh Provincial crown, this was as methodical and clinical an exhibition of hurling as the Shamrocks have crafted for many a long day. The home side were gamey, brave, and determined, but in truth, they suffered from a lack of the class and hurling acumen needed to win a Provincial Title, particularly against a team of the calibre of famed Ballyhale Shamrocks.

Indicative of the Shamrock's superiority was the fact that all of their forwards had scored within the opening twenty-five minutes. However they also drove 15 wides in the same period. The Offaly champions mounted a strong challenge, but it was a challenge that was doomed to fail from a long way out. With the assistance of the wind in the first half, the Shamrocks were composed, but shooting seven wides would probably give lie to the fact that they were as composed as suggested. A fortuitous goal by Patrick Reid just before half time afforded the Kilkenny Champions a lead of 1-8 to 0-5 at the break.

The second half found the score-keeper marking down five unanswered points from Henry Shefflin, TJ Reid, David Hoyne, Eoin Reid and Michael Fennelly. Suddenly a gap of 1-8 opened between the defending Champions and the Faithful County representatives.

It was easy street from a long way out for the Shamrocks, as they collected their seventh Leinster major. Tullamore tried extremely hard to haul in the slack between themselves and the fleeing Champions, but it was always going to be difficult.

The Ballyhale Shamrocks scorers were: Henry Shefflin (0-6, three frees, one '65); Eoin Reid (0-3); Patrick Reid (1-0); TJ Reid, David Hoyne, Michael Fennelly (0-2 each); Colin Fennelly (0-1).

**Ballyhale Shamrocks: James Connolly, Alan Cuddihy, Aidan Cummins, Pádraig Holden, Paul Shefflin, Eamonn Walsh (capt), Bob Aylward, James "Cha" Fitzpatrick, Michael Fennelly, TJ Reid, Henry Shefflin, Colin Fennelly, Eoin Reid, Patrick Reid, David Hoyne.**

**Subs (used): Mark Aylward, Brendan Costelloe, Keith Nolan, James Walsh.**

## SEMI-FINAL VERSUS NEWTOWNSHANDRUM

The meeting of the best in Leinster with the best that Munster could muster was always anticipated as a contest worthy of a top-flight All Ireland competition. Even though Portumna were looming – notwithstanding the presence of the Ulster Champions (Dunloy) – the general consensus was that the victors between Ballyhale Shamrocks and Newtownshandrum would figure as the likely All Ireland winners. On a rather overcast, dry, but very cold second Sunday of February in Semple Stadium, the much heralded All Ireland semi-final between the so-different hurling styles of the Leinster Champions, and the Munster Champions fired off under the watchful eye of Tipperary referee, Johnny Ryan.

Newtown had a hugely difficult, but ideal preparatory campaign through their own Province. Every one of their games was seriously contested. Against Thurles Sarsfields, they had but one point (0-19 to 1-15) to spare after a hectic, controversial encounter. It was no different when encountering the challenge of the Limerick Champions, Adare, whom they finally beat by 1-17 to 1-14. In their Munster Final they faced a rejuvenated Ballygunner. They were stretched, very stretched, to come out on top, eventually winning by 2-11 to 2-9.

The Kilkenny and Leinster Champions had no such



**Michael Fennelly, Ballyhale Shamrocks Manager**

comparable challenge, except for the opener against Oulart-the-Ballagh. They found themselves in an All Ireland semi without the benefit of a strong challenge.

In a classic encounter of very different styles, the more orthodox game of the Ballyhale Shamrocks just got them to the line to win by 0-19 to 0-17.

It was tight, very tight.

Ballyhale looked the more composed during a first half that underlined their superiority. Their more physical game was causing many problems for the Cork Champs, many of which they just did not seem to know how to approach it with any conceivable confidence or success. Michael

Fennelly exerted huge presence within the two 45-metre lines, and such was his dominance that "Cha" Fitzpatrick found oodles of time to slip in behind his own centre back to win a harvest of breaking ball and return them from whence they came, but he was also hugely instrumental in providing quick opposition to the darting, speedy runs of Cathal Naughton.

Henry Shefflin injected a very valuable take of 0-13 to the Shamrocks treasure. Just as well, as Ben O'Connor wasn't too far behind him, clattering over 0-9 of his side's total.

Mark Aylward signed in with two points, while Colin Fennelly, TJ Reid, "Cha" Fitzpatrick, and Eoin Reid flagged a point apiece.

#### **ALL IRELAND FINAL VERSUS PORTUMNA**

There was a plethora of ambitious expectancy on the All Ireland Club agenda. Ballyhale Shamrocks needed to go top of the heap on their own in the Club Roll of Honour.

Portumna were fired with ambitions of doing the first Club three-in-a-row. Shamrocks needed to make up for the horrors of the 2009 semi-final, while the Galway Champions needed to be the only team west of the big river with four All Ireland Club titles to their name in either code.

The Ballyhale tactic of suffocating the Portumna enthusiasm was expedited to great advantage. One could see from the Shamrocks body language that their concentration was excellent, matched only by their focus. Such was their resolve that they led by 0-8 to 0-2 by the 16th minute. The ever-present threat of Joe Canning was delightfully addressed by the Shamrocks defenders, who adopted the idea that he would not ever find himself on a one-to-one

situation with a Shamrocks defender. The ploy proved a very successful one, even though he bagged 0-12, but it so easily could have been more. Within a few minutes of the start, a rasper of a shot rattled into the side netting.

He could not be left alone, and the Ballyhale men made sure that he wasn't.

After "Cha" Fitzpatrick flipped over the first point of the game in the 4th minute, the Ballyhale men never fell behind. All the way winners, they led at half time by 0-11 to 0-5, and the rest is history.

There were some marvellous performances from the Ballyhale men, who felt at game's end, that they had avenged the 2008 result. James Connolly in goal was immense. His fullback, Aidan Cummins, and his centre back, Eamonn Walsh, were quite outstanding, while Michael Fennelly, "Cha" Fitzpatrick, TJ Reid (hurled himself into the Kilkenny captaincy), and his brother Eoin, all contributed enormously to a magnificent victory. But one player stood head and shoulders above all others. Young Alan Cuddihy, just 19 years of age, justifiably won the Man-of-the-Match Award to universal acclaim.

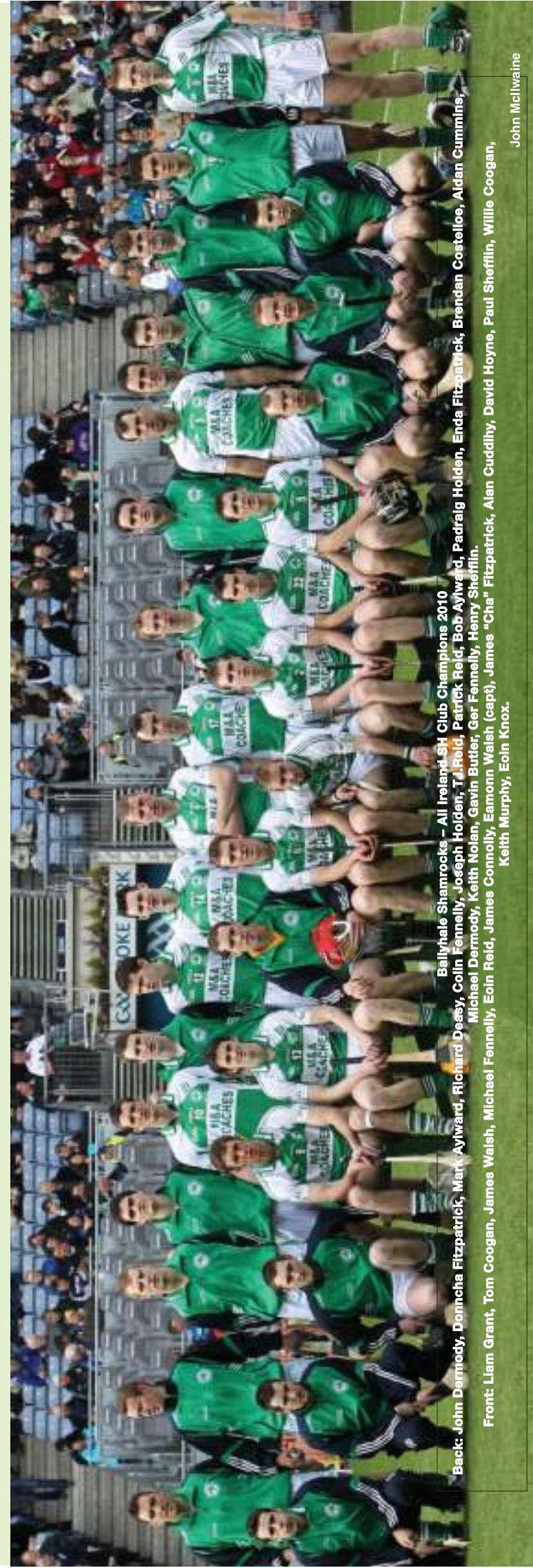
Alone the Shamrocks stand, and nobody could begrudge them the right.

Team (with scores):

**James Connolly, Alan Cuddihy, Aidan Cummins, Padraig Holden, Paul Shefflin, Eamonn Walsh (capt), Bob Aylward, James "Cha" Fitzpatrick (0-2), Michael Fennelly, Colin Fennelly, Henry Shefflin (0-9, six frees, one '65), TJ Reid (0-4), Eoin Reid (0-3), Patrick Reid, David Hoyne (1-1).**

**Subs (used): Joey Holden, Mark Aylward.**

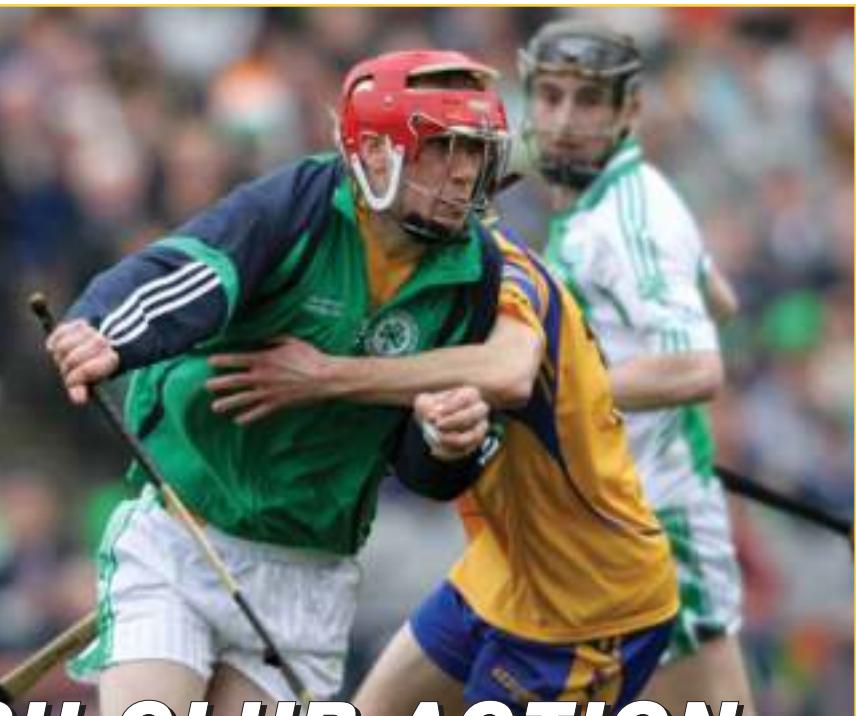
**(Panel members): John Dermody, Donnacha Fitzpatrick, Richard Deasy, Enda Fitzpatrick, Brendan Costelloe, Michael Dermody, Keith Nolan, Gavin Butler, Ger Fennelly, Liam Grant, Tom Coogan, James Walsh, Willie Coogan, Keith Murphy, Eoin Knox.**



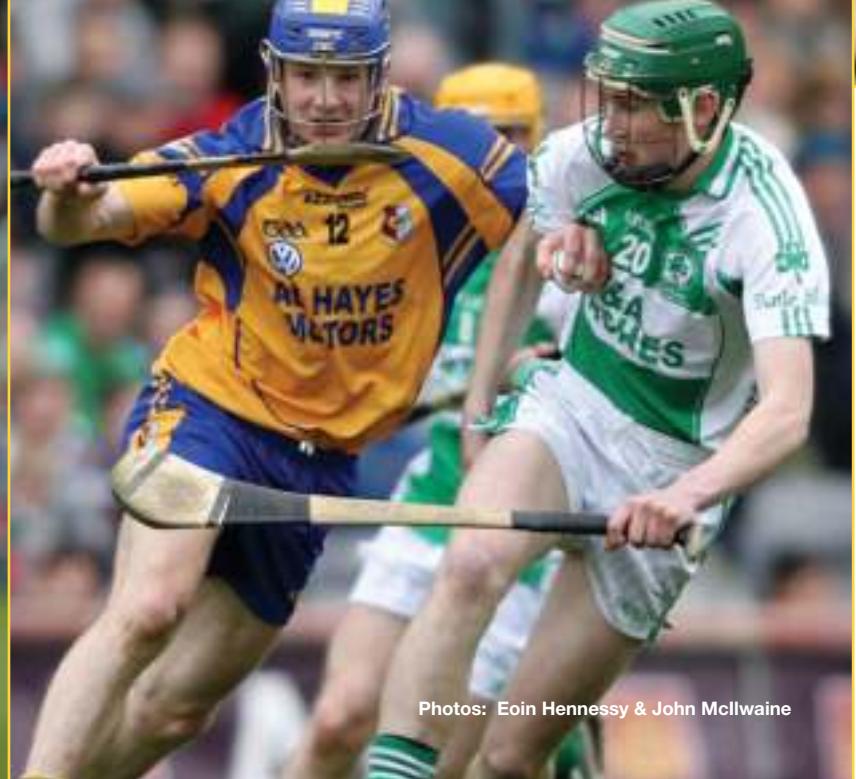
Ballyhale Shamrocks - All Ireland SH Club Champions 2010  
Back: John Dermody, Donnacha Fitzpatrick, Richard Deasy, Enda Fitzpatrick, Colin Fennelly, Joseph Holden, TJ Reid, Patrick Reid, Bob Aylward, Padraig Holden, Eamonn Walsh (capt), James "Cha" Fitzpatrick, Alan Cuddihy, Alan Cummins, Michael Dermody, Keith Nolan, Gavin Butler, Ger Fennelly, Liam Grant, Tom Coogan, James Walsh, Willie Coogan, Keith Murphy, Eoin Knox.

Front: Liam Grant, Tom Coogan, James Walsh, Michael Fennelly, Eoin Reid, James Connolly, Eamonn Walsh (capt), James "Cha" Fitzpatrick, Alan Cuddihy, Alan Cummins, Michael Dermody, Keith Nolan, Gavin Butler, Ger Fennelly, Liam Grant, Tom Coogan, James Walsh, Willie Coogan, Keith Murphy, Eoin Knox.

•John McIlwaine



## ALL IRELAND SH CLUB ACTION



# WHAT A YEAR!

## Handball Report 2010



2010 has been another tremendous year for Kilkenny handballer's from every age bracket. Not only did players have success on the All Ireland stage but they also found their winning ways on the international stage. Overall it was one of the most successful years to date and long may it continue.

### ALL IRELANDS

During the year Kilkenny players were in contention for All Ireland titles ranging from Under 21 to the Diamond Masters grade. In the 40x20 Ducksy Walsh and Pat Maher won the Masters Grade beating Antrim in three games 9-21 21-11 21-17. Ducksy also collected his fourth Masters Singles title while in the 60x30 he claimed the Masters A Singles title to add three out of the four Masters All Ireland for 2010 to his collection. In the Diamond Masters Seamus Reade and Paddy Reilly lost out to Jim Ryan and Packie Mullins of Tipperary in two straight games but in the 60x30 they found winning ways accounting for Tipperary in the final, which was played in Clogh. Paddy also contested the singles final but came up short against a very fit and cute Packie Mullins losing the first game in the narrowest of margins 21-20. It is always hard to come back in the second game after losing a first game as tight as that. There was also no joy for our junior ladies partnership of Rachel Hogan and Marie Walshe who lost out to Clare in three sets and Marie Therese O'Neill reached the Junior singles final but lost out to Clare 21-

destined to reach the senior ranks. Johnny Brennan was also another man who completed a double winning the Golden Masters Singles and doubles in the 60x30 and unfortunately lost the doubles final in the 40x20 by the narrowest of margins 21-20 in the third game. Joe Hennessy partnered Johnny and since the pair got together they have been a formidable force and have collected a number of doubles titles. Johnny is one of the best killers of the ball in the game while Joe doesn't miss a thing on the right. Liam Mahon and Joe Anthony won the Emerald Masters B Doubles final in front of a packed gallery in Talbots Inch 21-17 21-17. They were two close fought games but the cuteness and experience of the Goresbridge/Mullinavat pairing pulled them through in the end.

The Saint Canices Club enjoyed great success with Richie Falsey and Canice Quigley winning the Silver Masters B Singles and Masters B Singles respectively. Richie had been beaten in this All Ireland final before but the experience of getting to the final stood to him and he was in devastating form all year. He strolled through Leinster and never dropped a game. The final was tough but he stuck to the task well and came out a 21-8 winner to win his first All Ireland. Canice had been beaten in last years final but he came back fighting this year. He too was in sparkling form in Leinster but it took three games to finish off the strong challenge of Tipperary in the final. Canice had been in hard luck down through the years with injuries but got it right this year to collect his first singles crown. Jim Dooley and Con Moore lost the Diamond Masters B Doubles final in the third game 21-6. This will stand to the pair and they will be back next year. Patrick Funchion and Ciaran Neary won the under 21 doubles final beating a highly fancied Tipperary pair 21-14 21-9. They were always on top all through and never dropped a game all year during their campaign. There was joy in the big alley for our Junior Ladies after losing but the singles and doubles in the small court when Rebecca Mulholland and Marie Walshe won. They had a tough journey but produced the goods when they needed too and won the final on a 21-13 21-4 scoreline.

they were going to sneak the second but the Meath men got the luck you need on the big day and hung on to close out the second 21-18. It was disappointing for Ducksy and Michael but next year is another year and they will come back fighting again. Last year the semi final was where they were knocked, this year the final so hopefully next year will be their year to get back the senior doubles to Kilkenny.



**Anthony, Love and Bourke collect handball titles**

Mullinavat's up and coming star Nicholas Anthony has proved himself to everyone that he is a very competent Handballer winning All Ireland titles in 40x20, 60x30 and one-wall over the last number of years. He is a very versatile player in any court, which he plays in, and his quick hands and great footwork put fear in any opponents eyes that he comes up against.

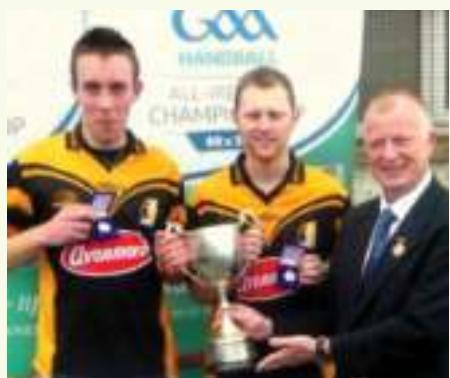
Nicky won the Junior Hardball Singles with a fantastic performance over Kildare man Maurice Murray with the game being played in Garryhill. In the final The Mullinavat star



**Paddy Reilly & Seamus Reade  
Diamond Masters Champions**

### 20 21-11

Billy Bourke won the Silver Masters making light work of Stevie Madden of Antrim in two games 21-7 21-3. Bourke has exceptional shots and has collected a bundle of medals since his return to the game. It is great to see him back on the stamp in his authority on the silver masters grade. In the 60x30 he completed the double winning the Silver Masters Singles and Doubles where Philip Parsons partnered him. In both finals they easily disposed of Cork. Brian Minogue was in hard luck in both the intermediate singles and doubles losing out on both occasions to limerick's Seamus O'Carroll. Hopefully 2011 will fair better for the Kells man who looks



**William Love and Keith Bourke with  
Tony Hannon**

controlled the game from the beginning. He gave Murray no chance to settle and never eased up. Nicky didn't waste anytime and easily disposed of Murray winning in two straight games. This young ace is now senior in 60x30, One wall and Hardball. For his efforts he joins the list of many famous Kilkenny players that have their name on the Elvery Shield. Past Kilkenny winners include 1954 Joe Delaney, 1975 Peadar Hughes, 1981 Willie Pratt, 1982 Billy Bourke, 1989 Pierce O'Keeffe and 1991 Michael Duxie Walsh. With this win Nicholas keeps the hardball tradition alive in Mullinavat, which was always a great Club for Hardball players in the past and produced many All

Ireland winners.

There was also a Junior Hardball All Ireland title for Clogh's William Love and O'Loughlins Keith Bourke. They beat a much-fancied Meath pair in Carl Brown and Joe Cummins in Mullingar on Saturday 12th June 2010. William was playing with Keith for the first time as Keith stood in for the injured Daniel Love. The game was played at a frantic pace with the four players giving it there all. The Kilkenny duo started as under dogs but they finished on top in this intriguing game. The crowd was terrific with both sets of supporters urging on their players. It was close all the way through and everyone was on the edge of their seats. In the first game the Kilkenny men got the better selection of shots and won the first 21-19. At the start of the 2nd game the ball was fading and a new ball was used this was a slightly faster ball and it suited the Meath men better. They got the breaks in the second game winning 21-18. The third game was a classic it had all the features of a final. Mistakes were made by both sets of players but the serving, kill shots and retrieving were of the highest order. The Kilkenny men raced into a 13-6 lead and were looking good but they hit a



Girls U16 Doubles Champions  
Mary Phelan & Ciara Mahon



Girls U15 Doubles Champs  
Catherine Foley and Mary Buggy



Girls U15 Singles Champion Catherine Foley



Nicholas Anthony with the Elvery Shield



Liam Mahon and Joe Anthony won the Emerald Masters B Doubles final



Ciaran and Jim Neary, Michael "Ducksy" Walsh,  
Patrick and Peter Funchion  
at USHA Nationals



Rebecca Mulholland and Marie Walshe  
Junior 60 x 30 Champions



Kilkenny Representatives in the Feile na Gael 2010 which was hosted in Ennis, Co. Clare.

purple patch. The Meath duo put them back on their heels and Meath went 14-13 ahead, then the Kilkenny men upped the game with great serving and killing by William and brilliant retrieving by Keith. This gave then a fantastic victory winning the third 21-15. It was a marathon game and it lasted 2 hours and 20 minutes most unusual for a hardball game. This was a fantastic win for both these men. William added the junior hardball doubles to the softball title he won last year with brother Daniel so the two junior cups stand side by side in the Love household. It keeps a link with the past with many great hardball players coming from the Clogh club. Keith followed in his father's footsteps winning the junior hardball.

### **HUGE SUCCESS AT USHA NATIONALS**

The USHA Nationals were held in June in Austin, Texas. Kilkenny had five representatives and with over 200 hundred players in the tournament our local players arrived home with six titles. Michael "Ducky" Walsh collected his fourth master's crown in a row but the highlight of his week was winning the Open Doubles with Tom Sheridan to collect the cheque for \$3000. In the final they beat Sean Lenning and Louis Moreno both from Tucson Arizona on a scoreline 21-6 21-12. Ducky and Sheridan were always in control from the start and made the two upcoming American players look like novices.

The two Funchion brothers Patrick and Peter played in the under 19 and 17 grades as well as the Mens B Doubles. Patrick reached the final of the under 19 singles but found Louis Cordova too hot to handle. The young Mexican has an array of shots and his speed around the court makes him look like he can be a top player in the years to come but Patrick fought back in the first game and was unlucky not to take the first game. In the second game Patrick was always going to be up against it but he fought hard and lost 21-12. Patrick's brother Peter won the under 17 final beating the highly fancied Daniel Cordova in three games. Peter put on a great display all during the tournament and was very impressive picking his shots well and using his head all throughout. If he keeps up this form he is one to watch for the future with America being a happy hunting ground for the young Callan man. The two brothers then teamed up to beat the two Neary's Jim and Ciaran in the Men's B Doubles Final in two straight games to keep the final an all Kilkenny affair. Ciaran won the Men's B Singles final beating Christian Torres of Chicago on a scoreline of 21-15 21-7 in an enduring final lasting two hours. The earlier rounds were easy wins for Ciaran accounting for his Washington and Texas opponents. Jim Neary lost the Golden Masters B Singles quarter-final losing in a tie break. He had been well up in the games but a good serve caught him out in the end.

### **JUVENILES**

#### **40 x 20 All Ireland Juvenile Finals**

There were two 40x20 All Ireland Juvenile successes with Girls U16 Doubles where Mary Phelan/Ciara Mahon beat Paula Loughnane and Shauna O'Brien Clare and in the Girls U15S Catherine Foley beat Anna Prendeville Kerry. All year the three girls were in fine form and never put a foot wrong. They are very dedicated and both the Clogh and Windgap clubs are very proud of all involved.

#### **60 x 30 All Ireland Juvenile Finals**

Kilkenny had only one Juvenile 60 x 30 All Ireland success with Girls U15 Doubles where Catherine Foley and Mary Buggy beat Natasha Coughlan and Michelle Nihill of Clare in the Final.

There was a number of runners up in the All Ireland with Boys U15 Doubles Adrian Farrell and Pat Brennan beaten by Barry Nash and Niall Bolton of Clare, Girls U16 Doubles Mary Phelan and Ciara Mahon were beaten by Martina McMahon and Christy Carroll to stop them doing the double in both courts, Boys U14 Doubles Emmet Landy and Brian Mahon were beaten by Padraig O'Donoghue and Jonathan Hayes Tipperary while in the Girls U16 Singles Rachel Hogan was beaten by Lauren O'Riordain Roscommon.

Congratulations to all players, not just the winners but to all those that took part in this year's championships, whether they were beaten in the first round or the All Ireland Final it is great to see so many



**One Wall Competitors at County Championship in Windgap**



**Pictured at Windgap One Wall Championship Co championship  
Ciaran Neary, Nicholas Anthony, Dan Breen, Joe Anthony,  
Ger Anthony, Ger McGrath11**

juveniles coming through and competing in all the age groups.

### **Feile Na Gael 2010**

Kilkenny was well represented with 12 teams competing in the Feile na Gael 2010 which was hosted in Ennis, Co. Clare. Our list of participants were in Boys 40 x 20 Division 1 Windgap, Division 3 Kells, Division 4 Goresbridge, St. Canices and Clogh, Division 5 St. Canices, 60 x 30 Boys Division 1 Mullinavat, Division 2 Clogh, 40 x 20 Girls Division 1 Kells, Division 2 Clogh and St. Canices, Division 3 Clogh.

After some hard fought battles the eventual winners were in Division 4 where Goresbridge came out on top. The team was Bill Brennan, JJ English, Sean Carey, Michael Carey and Adam English beating fellow county men St. Canices Paul Clifford, Conor Lyons, Gavin Clifford and Jason Carroll. In Boys Division 2 Clogh were victorious with Brian Mahon, Padraig Cooney, Marc Purcell and Ciaran Cooney beating Ballina, Co. Tipperary. In Division 1 60 x 30 Mullinavat Conor Duggan, John Walsh, Liam Fennelly and Killian Dunphy were runners up to Cashel, Co. Tipperary.

Kilkenny had skills winners in Division 4 40 x 20 Sean Carey Goresbridge and Division 2 60 x 30 Brian Mahon Clogh. Well done to all involved.

### **ONE-WALL**

The second county championships in one wall went ahead in August on a glorious day in Windgap. This year saw a bigger entry in all the grades with one-wall building up a huge profile around the county and country. It is a game for everyone and it is a great way to get people introduced to handball as all you need is a ball and a wall. In the open section Nicholas Anthony won his second one wall crown beating Ciaran Neary. In the plate final Ger McGrath beat Ger Anthony. In the Masters Final Jimmy Purcell got the better of his brother Eamonn to have the bragging rights in the family. Seamus Reade collected the plate title beating Billy Love in the final. Overall it was a great competitive tournament and everyone enjoyed it.

# BALLYHALE SHAMROCKS

## CLUB REPORTS II



### **Highlight**

The highlight of 2010 for the club was qualifying for the AIB Club All-Ireland on St. Patrick's Day and going on to win it on that day. This is a second Club All-Ireland title for this team and a record 5th for the club. The final was a fabulous day for all concerned with the team and the win over Portumna was very special.

### **County**

On the County scene it was a good year for the Reid family. Club Chairman Sean Reid saw his son TJ captain the Kilkenny senior team for the year (picking up the Leinster Cup as captain) and saw TJ lead the team out onto Croke Park for the All-Ireland Final. Meanwhile youngest son Richie togged out and played for the All-Ireland winning minor team.

### **Senior County Players**

Four players from the club played senior Inter-county hurling this year – Captain TJ Reid and former captains Henry Shefflin, James ‘Cha’ Fitzpatrick and Michael Fennelly. Michael picked up well-deserved All-Star and GPA awards for his efforts at centre-field while unfortunately Henry picked up quite a serious injury from which he is now recovering and we all wish him well.

### **Senior**

When the Club got down to business for 2010 it was a case of ‘nearly’ rather than repeating the heights of the past few years. We won the Byrne Cup in the summer, came top of our group in the League, qualifying for the League Final for the 6th year in a row. Then we got to the championship semi-final only to be knocked out by the eventual county champions. It was by no means a bad year in that respect and there is no doubt that we will be straight back in championship contention again next year. Indeed it is widely argued that the break could do our club and county players the world of good to re-launch in 2011! It is anticipated that they will do so with the same management team of Michael Fennelly, James McGarry and Brendan Mason and we wish them the best of luck going forward.

### **Underage**

At the time of writing, the club’s under 21’s are waiting to play a South semi-final against Glenmore, having pushed past Piltown in a very bruising match. The minors got a draw and replay against Ogra Graigue/Skeough. The replay then went to extra time so close were the teams. In the end it was not to be but nev-

ertheless a very proud effort from the minor team. The under 14’s won a Shield competition recently, having lost out to Mooncoin at championship level. All in all there will be a lot of talent to work with over the coming season and into the future.

### **Thanks**

The club would like to thank everyone involved in keeping things running. This includes players and their families, former players, mentors, coaches, officers, committee and all volunteers. With Christmas being a family time we remember all former players and supporters who have passed away during the last year



TJ with the Leinster Cup John McIlwaine



Ballyhale support at AIB Final Eoin Hennessy



Young Shamrocks team at AIB Final Eoin Hennessy

# BARROW RANGERS

## CLUB REPORTS



### Officers 2010 Adult

Chair: Pat Drea  
 Vice-Ch: Dermot Maher  
 Secretary: Bob Shortall  
 Asst. Sec: Peter Breen  
 Treasurer: Philip Maher  
 Asst. Treas: Murt Medlar  
 PRO: Michael Shortall  
 Asst PRO: Peter Breen  
 Drug and Alcohol Awareness Officer  
 James O'Shea

### Juvenile

William Hanlon  
 James Flavin  
 Christy Kenny  
 Peter Breen  
 Michael Shortall  
 Peter Breen  
 Michael Shortall

### Adult Grades

2010 turned out to be a very successful year for the club. The progress achieved in 2009 was advanced to a new level. The Junior team put together a string of very good performances during the year. They reached the semi final of the All County League where they were beaten by Piltown. In the North Junior Hurling League they also reached the semi final but lost out to Galmoy after a mighty struggle.

In the North Final they beat St Patrick's, Ballyragget after another titanic struggle and lifted the trophy for the first time since 1990. They were now in the County Final against last year's losing finalist and favourites John Locke's from Callan. They were unlucky not to take the spoils the first day with the Callan men coming back strongly to earn a draw. The 'Lockes' were much stronger the second day, and emerged victorious by three points. When one considers that the team that finished that game contained no fewer than ten under 21 players, this was a magnificent achievement. The Junior B team also reached the North final of the League and semi final of the Championship where they lost out to St Patrick's and Clara respectively.

### Underage

Pride of place here must go to the minor team who became county champions in Roynn B with some sterling displays. They went out as the underdog in all their games but ground out narrow victories over fancied sides St. Patrick's, Conahy Shamrock's, Emeralds and a strongly fancied Bennettsbridge side.

The U-16 team competed in Roynn A where they had victories over St Martin's and Shamrocks before beating Danesfort by three points in a thrilling Shield final. They competed in Roynn B in the Championship but were beaten by Rower-Inistioge.

The club was graded in Roynn B in the U-14 grade. They reached the League semi final but were narrowly defeated by Lisdowney. They lost to Mooncoin in the Championship.

### Juvenile

Once again there were huge numbers for the Friday evening coaching session for boys and girls from Junior Infants to under 12's that run from April to Oct. The Club took part in various blitz at under 10, 11 and 12 while the under 8's, 10's, 11's and 12's competed in the Go Games. The Club hosted Dublin sides, Naomh Mearnóg at U-7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and also Whitehall Colmcilles at under 15. The Club held their Annual U-10 Stephen Byrne Cup and



**Connolly's Mill Football Team v. Walsh's Quarry in the early 1950's**

**Back:** Nicholas Walker (Hat), Mrs. Doyle, Paddy Mahon, Paddy Doyle, Jim Murphy, Sam Byrne, Nick Byrne, Seamus Maher, Johnny McLaughlin, Peter Murphy, Matt Curran.

**Front:** Frank Kiernan, Ned Donoghue, Andy Comerford, Jimmy Brennan, Laz Breen, Peter Kavanagh, Tom Mahon, Liam Holmes.

**Background:** Charley Jordan, Bill Mahon, Paddy Heffernan, Micky Long.



**Walsh's Quarry Football Team**

**Back:** Peter Walsh (proprietor), Jim Major Mahon, Billy Doyle, Paddy Soldier Reeves, George Griffiths, Peter Brennan, Michael Moc Lawlor, -----, Ned Doyle, Jim Walsh (Hat), Martin Byrne, Seamus Art Kavanagh, John Byrne, Jim Mahon,

**Front:** Fintan Walsh, Tadhg Walsh, Michael Doherty, Tom Mahon, Bill Doyle sen, Jim Lawlor, Jack O'Neill, Denis Jordan, Mick Nolan.

Shield. They held the U-12 Anne Brennan Cup and Mary Lonergan Shield and they held the U-14 Adrian & Stephen Brennan Memorial Cup. The U-16's won the Carnew blitz.

### Team Management

A special word of thanks goes to the various management teams, without whose dedication and commitment the club would not function.

### March of Time

The last twelve months saw two outstanding club men called to their eternal reward.

John 'Doc' Doyle was a keen GAA follower and a lifelong member of the club. He was a shrewd judge of a player's capabilities and had a great sense of humour.

Bill Hennessy of Barracore was a founder member of the Paulstown Club, as it was then known, following the introduction of the parish rule in the early 1950s. He played a major part in ensuring the club continued during the period of high emigration in the late 1950s and

1960s. The white van, driven by the late Jack Gardiner, could be seen setting off for the airport or boat to collect players coming home to play a major game and leaving them back on a Sunday night. He took a back seat later on but was still a huge influence on the direction of the club.

Sympathy is extended to both families and also to all players, officials and members that suffered a bereavement during the year.

### Thanks

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to our many sponsors. Thanks also to club members, parents and others who fundraise and organize numerous events during the year. To all those that helped with and managed the many teams and provided transport to games, we are extremely grateful. Finally thanks to the unsung heroes of the club, the hard working ladies committee who continue to feed the multitudes at the various tournaments and events.

# BENNETTSBRIDGE

## CLUB REPORTS



**Chairman**  
**Vice Chairman**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**  
**County Board Rep**  
**P.R.O.**

**John Byrne**  
**Christy Walsh**  
**John Lalor**  
**P.J. Cullen**  
**Martin Treacy**  
**Ian Morrissey**

### JUNIOR HURLING

The year started with good promise with the Junior team having a good league campaign and started the championship with an excellent performance in Nowlan park against a very strong James Stephens team recording a good five point win. However, they didn't reach the same heights subsequently and lost out to eventual county finalists Barrow Rangers in the next round in Gowran which ended their interest in the 2010 championship.

### SPECIAL JUNIORS

Bennettsbridge had a good year under the management of Christy Walsh. They recorded a great win in the championship against Blacks and Whites but, like the Juniors, came up against a strong Barrow Rangers team and went out of the championship.

### DEVELOPMENT

This was a quiet year on this front after last year's major development of putting up the flood lights. Already we can see the positive benefit of the lights which have facilitated greater usage of the pitch for training by the many Bennettsbridge team of all ages involved, particularly during the shorter evenings.

### FUND RAISING

The club's main fund raiser this year was the

golf classic,. Also the Club started the county board lotto but this needs more people involved and pre-paid numbers are available from any committee member.

### SPONSORSHIP

Once again, many thanks to many of our sponsors over the past year and also our main sponsor PJ Cullen Centra

### BORD NA NA NÓG

<b>Chairman:</b>	<b>Paul Brennan</b>
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	<b>John Nolan</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Mary Blanchfield</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Margaret O'Donnell</b>
<b>Co Board Reps</b>	<b>John Byrne &amp; Mary Blanchfield</b>
<b>P.R.O.</b>	<b>Lorraine Holohan</b>
<b>Registrar</b>	<b>Marian Lennon</b>

The Juvenile club continued to make good progress in 2010 with many of the underage team competing and holding their own in the higher divisions . In all grades from U6 through to minor the teams enjoyed some success. In addition, the club had representatives on the All-Ireland winning St Kieran's College and the Kilkenny Minor panels. Further the club was well represented on the various Kilkenny underage Development squads in both hurling and football which bodes well for the future. In June the U14 squad were privileged to participate in the Féile in Clare and Galway having qualified as Kilkenny's second team. Both the players and supporters enjoyed a terrific weekend as guests of the Ardrahan club in Galway



*Jason Cleere, Captain, receives Féile na nGael trophy from Joe Pyke, Cathaoirleach Bord na NÓG*

as part of what continues to be a great sporting and social occasion for all young players and their families. The Minor team enjoyed a great run in the Roinn B championship losing out narrowly to Barrow Rangers in the final.

The under age teams that participated in games this year were Under 6, Under 8, Under 10, Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 and Minor with over 100 juveniles and over 20 coaches involved. The club would like to thank all those involved who put in such a great effort every year and look forward to working with all concerned in building further over the coming years.



*Bennettsbridge - Roinn "B" MH Finalists 2010*

*Panel: Hugh O'Brien, Eamon O'Connor, Robert Lennon, Kevin Blanchfield, Paul O'Neill, David Kealy, Cormac Wafer, Enda Morrissey, Gary Geoghegan, William Murphy, Hugh O'Neill, Aidan Cleere, Eoghan O'Connor, Shane Brennan, Dylan Walsh. Sub Michael Shiel.*

# BLACKS & WHITES

## CLUB REPORTS



### Club Officers 2010

President:	Sean O'Grady
Chairman:	Ned Moran
Vice Chairman:	Dr Michael Helly / Mick Lennon
Secretary:	Joe Lawlor
Asst. Secretary:	Niall Kennedy
Treasurer:	Nancy Moloney
Registrar:	Mick Lennon
PRO:	James Doran
Youth Officer:	Michael Moloney

### Adult Hurling

A disappointing year for the club saw the intermediate hurlers relegated back to the junior ranks. After the success of 2009 which saw Blacks and Whites claim the county junior championship and the Leinster junior hurling championship, it was hoped that with a young side, progress could be made in the intermediate grade. However, from the start of the year it was clear that would not be the case.

The current economic climate meant the loss of a number of players who looked to find work in such places as Boston, Canada, Australia etc and with such a small pool of players coupled with injuries along the way, it was always going to be difficult to absorb those losses and to maintain intermediate status. We look forward to 2011 with renewed optimism and maybe with the possibility of players returning, another chance to claim a junior championship and return to intermediate level.

Currently our U-21 side are due to contest a championship semi final so hopefully fortunes can change at this grade and end the year on a high by claiming a title for the club.

### Juvenile Review

Again a lack of numbers in both clubs saw the retention from 2009 of Blacks and Whites and neighbouring Graignamanagh as Ogra

Graignamanagh/Blacks and Whites at U14, U16 and minor level. Championship success was achieved recently when the minor team beat the Ballyhale Shamrocks in a fiercely contested Roimh C final replay on a scoreline of 4-09 to 2-12, a game played in Thomastown on Saturday 30th October. A good run in the league earlier in the year also saw the team reach a league semi final, only to lose out narrowly to Dunnamangan on the day.

At U16 level, the team progressed to the semi-final stage of the championship only to be beaten by The Rower/Inistioge and also had a good league run earlier in the year. At U14 level, the team competed well and put in some good performances over the year but unfortunately failed to land any silverware. However there was some encouraging individual and team performances during the year which gives some sense of hope and satisfaction for the future. Great credit and well done to

all who put in the time and effort to train and coach the lads from both clubs.

### U8 and U11 teams at Cappataggle GAA club Galway

Cappataggle of Galway invited Blacks and Whites juvenile club to their official opening of their new pitch and hurling wall this year and the lads took part in a hurling blitz on the day which had a U8 and U11 competition. In August the previous year, Blacks and Whites hosted an interclub blitz which featured the Galway club, and Cappataggle were so impressed with the reception laid on that they were anxious to return the favour. Both teams performed excellently and after the competition Kilkenny boss Brian Cody presented medals to the under 8 team while Galway manager John Meyler presented medals to the under 11 team. A great day out and thoroughly enjoyed by all



Blacks & Whites 1930's



Blacks & Whites U8's in Croke Park

# CARRICKSHOCK

## CLUB REPORTS<sup>11</sup>



### A Great Year

A busy year was recorded on and off the playing fields of Carrickshock GAA club. The highlight was, of course, reaching the county final and though the result on the day did not go our way the year brought many thrills and spills.

Great credit and thanks to our senior hurling team and management, Brendan Fennelly, Richie Power, Nicky Murphy and Pat Dwyer.

### The Drive for 5!

All at Carrickshock were very proud to see our club men contribute to Kilkenny's drive for 5. John Dalton, John Tennyson, Michael Rice and Richie Power were marvellous ambassadors for the club. The accolades attributed to Richie Power since the hurling season has ended have been well deserved and hard earned.

### Money Matters

The hard working committees of the weekly lotto, golf classic, dog night and Cheltenham challenge continue to generate funds in this straitened times and are very much the life blood of the club.

### Adult GAA Club

The junior A hurling team were very competitive this year winning the southern final in Mullinavat, but losing in the final against Fenians. Highlights of the senior hurling year have to include the wins over James Stephens, Erin's Own and GraigueBallycallan, the promise of better days to come in the future were evident during these matches.

### Bord NaOg

All teams in this division of the club competed well over the sporting year, James Grace represented the club at u15 level and John Power was successful in winning his minor all Ireland medal. One of the highlights of the year was experienced by our u8 players who got the opportunity to play in Croke Park, during the Leinster council stay and play initiative.

### Carrickshock Overseas

Carrickshock players were again involved with Sydney Shamrocks and assisted them in winning the final downunder. Congrats to Paul Barron, Shane Power, Eric Lonergan and Steve Lonergan. Across the Irish Sea former Carrickshock player Eamon Phelan has been appointed manager of the London hurling team and we wish him well for the 2011 season.



U6 team at Blitz in Mullinavat May 2010



Carrickshock U8's in Hogan stand during Stay and Play day, July 2010,  
with mentors Steven Dineen and Declan Lennon



Some of backroom team on County final day.  
Back: Bill Cassin, Padraig Rohan.  
Front: Tris Power, Mary Carroll, John Barron, Mandy Ireland, Tommy Murphy.

# CARRIGEEN

## CLUB REPORTS



### A Hectic Year!!

Once again the committee players and supporters of Carrigeen GAA club had an eventful and hectic year. The year started with the annual Christmas draw. This draw has been in operation since 1975, where club members travel the length and breadth of Kilkenny and neighbouring counties selling the tickets and are thankful for the support they get from every parish and club. The club ran very successful U-12 and U-14 hurling tournaments on the astro turf pitch. These competitions attracted clubs from several counties, including Cork, Antrim and Dublin. The competitions were ably run by our secretary Hillary Delahunty. As spring time approached, our panel of players commenced training under the guidance of former Waterford hurler Paul Kelly (Portlaw). He took charge of training and had all moving well when unfortunately he became unwell and had to take a back seat for the remainder of the year. We are indebted to Paddy Murphy, Glenmore for taking charge of the team for the latter part of the year and continuing the great work that Paul had started.

### Competitive

Our hurling team competed well in all competitions and had a certain amount of success without winning any leagues or championship. It is a great credit to the team, and their mentors that we compete as strongly as we do especially considering that the club do not have an under-age structure. Well done to the panel of players, trainers, mentors and loyal band of supporters.

### In memory of Bob O'Keeffe

During the summer we entertained the Borris in Ossory club from Co. Laois where a relationship based on the birth place and adopted home place of the late Bob O'Keeffe has brought us together. We have an annual memorial game in Bob's honour and following this years game, all travelled to nearby Glengrant to visit Bob's original home where a ceremony took place.

### Sports Centre Development

The club's new sports centre continued to make progress and, as we speak, the building is almost completed. The sports centre contains a sports hall, dressing rooms, meeting rooms, conference room and kitchen facilities. The development is a major asset to the club and the area. Many thanks to the builder Ger O'Neill and his staff for their professional attitude towards completing this project. The club hosted a number of games throughout the year for the Southern Board, which included the south junior semi-final between Kilmacow and Piltown. We would like to thank the stewards who turned up to run these games and who did an excellent job in doing so.

### Great Support

We would also like to thank the many people who helped in keeping the pitch and grounds in excellent shape throughout the year. This requires a lot of work and commitment and the club are grateful for their efforts. One of the

duties in the club is the running of the all weather pitch. The pitch is rented out daily, particularly in the winter months, and, as a facility, provides plenty of opportunities for anybody involved in training, playing, competing on a surface that is the only one of its kind in south Kilkenny. This particular surface allows all those using the facility to wear normal studded foot wear as is used on a grass pitch, which is very beneficial to anyone taking part in team sports. The all-weather is open and available for bookings.

### Condolences

During the year the club lost a great supporter with the passing of Nonie Dunphy of Ballygorey. Nonie, who was a niece of the late Bob O'Keeffe, gave several years fundraising and obtaining spot prizes for the various club functions. To her family we offer our condolences. To the families of the late Ger Dowling, Mikey Fripps and Michael Cleary we also offer

our deepest condolences.

Finally to all our committee members, players, mentors, supporters and all who helped the club in any way throughout 2010 a big thank you, have a Happy Christmas and get ready for the year ahead



Where did that ball go? Pa Walsh and Eugene O'Neill



Eyes on the ball! Chris O'Hanlon being hotly pursued by two Laoismen.



Carrigeen Committee - Guess the Year!!

**Back:** Pat Dunphy, Shane Walsh, Anthony Walsh,  
**Middle:** Ted Carroll, RIP Co Sec, Paddy Buggy, Pat Dalton, Noel Walsh, Paddy Power, Tommy Rowe, Claus Dunphy, Jimmy Rochford.  
**Front:** Eddie Quinn RIP and James Power.

# CLARA

## CLUB REPORTS



### **Busy Year**

In 2010 the Senior team was knocked out in the quarter final by Erin's Own. The Junior team lost the quarter final of the Championship to O'Loughlins. The Junior B's had some tough matches and reached the North final but were defeated by Lisdowney. The Junior B Team enjoyed some great matches in the Leinster League and reached the final defeating Na Fianna from Meath in O'Moore Park Portlaoise to claim the Division IV Final. The U-21's team beat Dicksboro in the first round of the championship. The U-18's were beaten in the first round by Freshford.

### **Underage Successes**

The U-16's competed in Roinn B and reached the league semi-final and were beaten in the quarter final of the Championship. The U-14's were beaten in the semi-final of the Championship. The U-13 Team won the Threecastles Tournament beating Barrow Rangers and were runners up in the Lisdowney Sevens Shield. The U-12 team enjoyed many games and tournaments during the summer. The U10's participated in a number of tournaments and games and improved over the summer. The U-8's travelled to Croke Park and enjoyed playing on the premier pitch in Ireland.

In the schools competition Clara got to the Roinn A Semi-Final and were beaten by St. Patricks De La Salle who went on to win the Final..

### **Development**

Sponsorship plays a very important part in the club fundraising and the club is grateful for the support from all the community, in particular the team sponsors – Carrigan Bros Plant Hire and Clara Cars. Also for fundraising the club ran a Golf Classic in May and another important fundraiser was stewarding at the National Ploughing Championships in Athy and special thanks to all who gave up their time over the three days of ploughing. This year the Club also organised a comedy night in the Set Theatre when Jon Kenny entertained the large crowd and music was also provided on the night by Billy Carrigan and friends.

The Club have undertaken a phased approach to development of the grounds. Early in 2010 nets behind three goals were erected and the training area was floodlit. Currently ongoing is the erection of a wall from the entrance to the car park to increase safety for all attending training or matches in the grounds. Further plans are in place for a footpath and lighting of the driveway and it is hoped to have this completed by early 2011. The development is funded through membership subscriptions and other fundraising activities so thanks goes to all who contributed in any way to the finances of the club.

### **Well Done!**

Kevin Galvin and David Jordan on the Kilkenny U-14 Panel.

Bill Carrigan who was member of the Kilkenny U-15 Panel.

Christopher Bolger who was member of the Kilkenny U-16 Panel.

Ciaran Prendergast (Captain), Shane Cassin and Jack Langton who were members of the U17 Development Squad.

Conor O'Shea and Killian Phelan who were members of the St. Kieran's College Senior team who won the All Ireland Final.

Conor O'Shea who was a member of the All Ireland winning U-18 Kilkenny Panel.

David Langton, Liam Ryan, James Nolan who were members of the U-21 Kilkenny team.

Sean O'Shea who was a member of the All Ireland winning Kilkenny Intermediate Panel.



**Big day out for Clara U-8's in Croke Park**

**Front:** Robbie English, Jack Murphy, Craig Cummins, Jack Comerford, Conor Whearty, Adam Barcoe. **Back:** Adam Harding, Brandon Ryan, Brian Barry, Eoghan Phelan.



**Clara U-14 - Winners Threecastles Tournament**

**Back:** David Shortall, Aaron Casey, Shane Campion, Caine Curran, Cormac O'Driscoll, Pat Galvin, David Jordan, Tommy Walsh, Michael Healy, Jason Byrne, Niko Doyle Kelly, Padraig Staunton, John Prendergast, Kevin Galvin, Ben Langton **Front:** Pierce Cody, Thomas Phelan, Matt Kenny, Paddy Ryan, Joe Connolly, Gary Kehoe, Jason Barcoe, Brian Nolan, Patrick Lehane, Paddy Bolger.



**Leinster League Div 4 Champions**

**Back:** Johnny Shortall (Manager), James Dowling, Pat Bolger, Peter English, Peter Nolan, John Leamy, James Barry, John Brennan, Brendan Barcoe, Brian Prendergast, John Brennan, Patrick Galvin, Dan McDonald, Tommy Murphy, James Brennan, Killian Phelan. **Front:** Colm Meaney, Stephen Cassin, Mark Shortall, Robert Shortall, Jack O'Keeffe (Captain), Padraig Brennan, Derek Knox, Conor Phelan, Nicky Langton, Tom Langton, Jody Creane, Ben Nolan, Shem Creane.

# CLONEEN

## CLUB REPORTS



### Celebrating 25 Years

Cloneen hurling club celebrated a quarter of a century in existence last January with a most enjoyable Dinner Dance in the Seven Oaks Hotel in Carlow. Guests at the event were the players who won the County Junior 'A' and 'B' championships in 1987 and 1988. They were presented with mementoes by special guest Derek Lyng, Kilkenny All Ireland-winning mid-fielder.

### Hurling Action

On the playing side, the junior team was again afflicted by emigration with some key team members heading to Australia. The junior B team had some decent performances and reached the quarter finals.

The U-14 and school squads continue to make progress and training sessions were well attended with lots of matches and fairly good results.

The busiest team in the club were the minors under the tutelage of Ned Lawler, Anthony Ryan, James Lawler and Pat Ryan. They progressed to the semi final of the 'C' championship before being narrowly beaten by Blacks and Whites/Graiguenamanagh who went on to win out.

They also made it all the way to the League final against Dunnamaggin and after being well behind at half time fought back to earn extra time. This time they made no mistake and claimed victory and the club's only trophy of the year.

### Honour for Clubmen

There was also honour for centrefielder Brian Cahill who was a member of the Kilkenny All Ireland-winning minor squad.

Club treasurer John Paul O'Neill represented Ireland for the fourth time in the World Transplant and Dialysis Games which were held in the Morton Stadium in August and won a silver and two bronze medals in badminton and 100 metres.

### Juvenile Action

2010 was another good year for our juvenile section of the club, where we fielded teams in every grade from U-6 up to minor. Our minors did the parish proud again by retaining the minor league title in a very entertaining and hard fought game which ended all square at full time. This team always fights to the end and after being seven points down at half time came storming back into the game with a well taken goal and restricted a gallant Dunnamaggin to just 2 points from there to the finish. The final score was 2-9 to 1-9. Great though it was to win the league we allowed the championship slip away two weeks earlier in the semi-final losing to eventual champions Ogra Blacks & Whites/Graiguenamanagh on a scoreline of

1-8 to 0-9 played in atrocious weather conditions in Palmerstown.

In a game where we had the upper hand with ten minutes to go, our opponents scored a goal from a mis-hit free which turned out to be the

deciding score.

### Well done, Brian!

On a brighter note congratulations to Brian Cahill who was part of the Kilkenny minor squad which won their twentieth title in September. Congratulations to Brian and his family.

### Good Run at U-16

Our U-16 team progressed this year, blooding a lot of young hurlers for the future and were unlucky to lose out to Dicksboro in the league semi final and to Dunnamaggin in the championship quarter final. This team will need plenty of help next year as the number playing in this age group is small and we would urge everybody in the club to help try and compete and hopefully field a full squad.

### Next Year will be better!

Our U-14 team were beaten in all their games this year, which was unfortunate but with only two boys up to the age limit it was always going to be a struggle. Next year and 2012 should see this team come good.

Our U-13 team had a great year losing by a point to Slieverue schools in the quarter final back in May, in what was a great run of four wins, a draw and two losses.

We took part in the Lisdowney sevens this year beating Bennettsbridge and losing to Conahy after extra time by a point.

### Many Tournaments

Our U-6, 8, and 10 teams had a fantastic year and played in tournaments from Tullaroan to Conahy to Ballinkillen and Saint Martins. The

highlights for our U-10 team were winning a great game in the local field day and travelling to Cobh in County Cork along with our U-13 team to play the locals. After two great games our hosts put on a great reception for all the travelling party and we will no doubt be welcoming Cobh to our club next year. With the evening spent in Fota Island, our teams and guardians, parents and mentors had a great time.

### Go Games at Croke Park

Pride of place this year has to go to our U-8 team who travelled to Croke Park on the Monday after the Leinster final to take part in the Go Games with nearly 2000 teams from all over Ireland taking part.

The team got to tog out in the dressing rooms and run out of the tunnel on to Croke Park with the roars of the crowd in their ears. Croke Park did not faze our boys one bit and they completely outplayed their opponents from Wexford and won easily.

After the game they all got to lift the Leinster trophy on the Hogan Stand. Congratulations also to Conor Delaney who, a day earlier, played for Kilkenny schools at half time of the Leinster Senior Final between Kilkenny and Galway.

### Thanks for all the hard work

Great credit must go to all the trainers and selectors and our juvenile committee.

We wish to thank Geraldine and Shane and all the members who worked behind the scenes catering for and transporting players to games, and all the parents for allowing their children to play the great game of hurling.



At our Annual dinner Dance, presentations were also made to long serving and recently retired club officials

Charlie McCarthy (former Secretary) Donal Brennan current club chairman and Tim Wilson (former Treasurer)

# CONAHY SHAMROCKS

## CLUB REPORTS



### Gaelic For Mothers

The biggest highlight of the club's activities this year was the commencement of Ladies Football through the "Gaelic for Mothers" Initiative.

The Conahy ladies began their training early in the year and competed in a number of blitzes throughout the season with great success and enjoyment for all. Their biggest day, however, came as they were selected to take part in an exhibition game at half-time in the All-Ireland Ladies Football Final in Croke Park. Following their game, they were featured on RTE on the afternoon programme "Four Live", where they were represented by Sinéad Corrigan who was interviewed on the show.

They finished their busy year by competing in the National Blitz in Dublin. Congratulations to all the ladies who took part and best of luck for 2011.

### Polo Grounds Development

Progress continued throughout the year on the development of the playing facilities of the Polo Grounds with the results proving a great success and extremely popular with all club members and parishioners. The club were fortunate to secure the assistance of Penturf Ltd. from Carlow who oversaw the development over the last 18 months.

The hard-working Field committee, led by Shane Mulhall, continued with the development of the main playing pitch along with fencing surrounding the playing area and a tarmacadam walkway with lighting around the perimeter.

Towards the end of the season, the pitch was used on a number of occasions by both under-age and adult teams and proved to be a major hit with all teams. Everyone is now looking forward to next year when the field will be fully functioning with goal posts and completed dugouts to view games.

The walkway has also proved very popular over the last number of weeks with locals taking the opportunity to walk or run in safety, particularly at night time.

### Changing Room Facilities

Attention will shortly now turn towards the development of the dressing room facilities in the Polo Grounds, which will start in the coming weeks. The existing building will be updated with new flooring and shower and toilet facilities as part of the improvements. Fundraising for the project is already underway and will continue over the coming weeks. Various events have been planned for the GAA Clubhouse and all club members are expected to support these and contribute towards these much needed improvements.

### Underage Hurling

It was an extremely busy year of underage activity in the club this year with the largest number of children that have played for the club catered for, from under-6 all the way up to minor level. A sincere thanks must go all the coaches who looked after all the teams this year for their great work and co-operation. Great work is also taking place in each of the

three primary schools in the parish, Clinstown N.S., Conahy N.S. and Lisnafunchion N.S. where the children have received formal coaching throughout the year.

### Thanks to our Primary Schools

Major thanks goes to the management and staff of each of the schools for their co-operation throughout the year and for their continued support for Gaelic games.

### All Ireland Winners

Congratulations to Alan Healy and Kieran Mooney who won All-Ireland medals with the Kilkenny Intermediate team who defeated Cork in the All-Ireland Intermediate Final in Thurles. Well done also to Peter Vickery who was part of the Kilkenny minor hurling panel who defeated Clare in the All-Ireland Final.

### Website

The club's new website has been up and running for the last number of months and is proving to be a good success thus far. Over 7,000 hits have been achieved since its commencement with many of those coming from outside Ireland. The website includes all the latest news, match reports and results, club lotto results, photographs and important calendar dates.

The website can be accessed at <http://conahyshamrocks.gaa.ie>. Anyone who has any news, photographs, etc. that could be included on the site can send them via the contact details that are included on the site.



Blast from the Past – 1971 Club Dinner Dance in the Metropole Hotel

**Back:** Pete Lannon, John Muldowney, Jim Byrne, Pat Healy (R.I.P.), Liam Brennan (R.I.P.), Patsy Lacey (R.I.P.), Sean Murphy, Ned Mulhall, Christy Mulhall, Pat Morrissey, Paddy Healy, Larry Butler, Eamon Lannon, Michael Brennan (R.I.P.)

**Front:** Nicholas Griffith, Noel Skehan, Nickey Brennan, Diarmuid Healy, Shem Muldowney, Martin Coogan, Joe Butler.

# DANESFORT

## CLUB REPORTS



### Intermediate Hurling

The Intermediate hurlers, in their first year with Michael "Titch" Phelan as manager and John Ireland and Joe Tierney as selectors, enjoyed a reasonable season, winning four of their five League matches and topping their group. This qualified them for the League final for the second consecutive year, where they faced Mullinavat. Unfortunately, failure to take goal chances and a large number of wides on the day resulted in defeat for the second year in a row at this stage.

The quarter-final of the Championship saw Danesfort meet Tullogher-Rosbercon. The result was never in any doubt following three first half goals from Richie Hogan. The semi-final saw the team face League final opponents Mullinavat. Despite a good first half performance which saw the team two points up at half-time playing against the breeze, they never functioned as well in the second half and allowed Mullinavat to edge them out at the finish.

### Junior B Hurling

A very young Junior B team won four out of seven League matches before going down to St. Lachtain's of Freshford in the first round. In the Championship, they beat O'Loughlin Gaels in the first round following a replay before losing unluckily to eventual champions Lismore in the next round.

### Under-21 Hurling

The U-21s had a disappointing year, losing heavily to Emeralds of Urlingford in the first round despite appearing to have a decent team on paper. Hopefully next year will see a better showing at this age group.

### Intermediate Football

The Intermediate footballers reached the county final where they lost to Thomastown. They were hit for 1-5 without reply in the first ten minutes and were never able to rein in that lead, finishing two points behind.

### Juvenile Hurling

The U-12s competed well and were successful in numerous tournaments in the county and country. The U-14s got to the quarter finals of the League, but lost in the early rounds of the Championship.

The U-16s reached the Shield final only to be defeated by Barrow Rangers of Paulstown in a close match. The minors got to the second round of the Championship.

### Camogie

The under-12s got to the county final but were beaten by Thomastown. The U-14s won their Feile qualifiers and won the Roinn B County Final beating Graigue-Ballycallan. The under-16s made it to the semi-final but lost to Clara. The U-18s won the Roinn C final against Emeralds of Urlingford.

### Kellogg's Field of Dreams

The club competed in the Kellogg's Field of Dreams competition, in which the winning prize was a €100,000 redevelopment of the winner's main playing pitch.

The Field of Dreams Committee did brilliantly to win the Leinster section of the competition and qualify for the All-Ireland section where they competed against the Connacht, Munster and Ulster winners. Despite a trojan effort the club came up short against the eventual winners from Connacht.

The club would like to thank everyone involved

in the Field of Dreams Committee for the huge effort they put in.

### Club EGM

During the year the club held an EGM to ratify plans for the expansion and redevelopment of the club grounds. A large attendance saw an open and passionate debate. In the end the proposal to proceed with the project was passed by a large majority. The project involves the purchase of five acres of land for an additional full size adult playing pitch and installation of a walking track, floodlights and "wall-ball" facility.

It was argued during the debate that the facilities as they stand at the moment are inadequate for the number of teams using them, and that expansion and redevelopment represents the best interests for the future of the club.

### Club & Parish Lotto

It was decided during the year to amalgamate both the club and parish into one lotto draw, to be held every Monday night in a different location throughout the parish.

So far the lotto has been a great success. The club would like to thank the Lotto Committee and all the promoters for their efforts and hopefully the lotto will go from strength to strength in the new year.

### All-Ireland Winners

Congratulations to players from the club who won All-Ireland medals during the year: Paddy Hogan and Paul Murphy with the Kilkenny Intermediates, Darren Booth, Ben O'Connor and Cathal O'Neill with St. Kieran's College and Ben and Cathal again with the Kilkenny minors.



DANESFORT U-14 CAMOGIE TEAM - FÉILE "B" CHAMPIONS 2010

**Back:** Caoimhe Murphy, Rosetta Tynan, Grainne Aspel, Aoife Walsh, Jennifer Scott, Lauren Thomas, Alice Byrne, Sorcha Daly, Emma Condon.  
**Middle:** Rachel Hughes, Cliona Mullen, Amy McEvoy, Maggie Byrne, Aoife Jones, Sarah Kent, Ally McCarthy, Chloe O'Connor.  
**Front:** Megan Walsh, Jennifer O'Neill, Shauna Donahue, Rachel Phelan, Roisin Walsh, Orla Lynch, Carol Manning, Lydia Coady, Aoife Farrell.

# DICKSBORO

## CLUB REPORTS



THERE IS no doubt that the highlight of Dicksboro's GAA year took place on Sunday, 17th October, when the Intermediate side took County honours with victory over Mullinavat in the Kilkenny Intermediate Hurling Championship Final and thereby secured promotion to the Senior ranks for next year's League and Championship campaigns.

Earlier in the year the Intermediate side had a successful League campaign with victory over Young Irelands in the Shield Final.

At the time of writing, Dicksboro have progressed to the final of the Leinster Club Intermediate Championship against Celbridge, following victories over HWH Bunclody and Kildalkey.

### JUVENILE YEAR

In 2010 the club enjoyed yet another very busy, competitive and successful season. Catering for all age groups from Under-6 to Minor, the wide range of mentors involved have delivered a group of well trained and coached young players at all age levels.

Our Under-6s, while learning the basics of the sport, have proved to be a very enthusiastic group. The highlight of the Under-7s/8s year was the very successful Charity Blitz in June. Possibly the busiest group was the Under 10's, taking part in a number of tournaments/blitz within the county and further afield.

The 11s and 12s fulfilled many tournament invitations. Their own Denis Molloy sponsored Tournament attracted 16 teams with the 'Boro retaining the trophy in the final.

The Under-14s reached the League semi-final, while they lost out in the Championship preliminary round against the Rower-Inistioge. The Under-14 football team had a narrow defeat to Thomastown in the county final. The Under-16s returned to winning silverware this year with victory in the League final over James Stephens. The same teams met in the Championship with victory going to James Stephens. The under 15 players on the panel enjoyed a win in the Cian Durkan tournament. The Minors were the most successful of the Juvenile Section teams this year with victory over Kilmacow in the Championship final to put back-to-back title together. They are still to meet John Lockes in the League final.

The club had the honour of providing the Kilkenny Minor Captain this year, Cillian Buckley, who with Ollie Walsh and Garry Gaule had a most enjoyable and successful year, culminating in a 'Welcome Home' evening for the Kilkenny Panel hosted by the club in Palmerstown.

Dicksboro agreed a new three sponsorship deal for the Juvenile Section with Aut Even Hospital.

### DEVELOPMENT

In 2009, Dicksboro GAA Club completed a major infrastructural project at Palmerstown. The works, supported by the National Lottery, included extensions to both playing pitches, substantial drainage measures, enhanced accessibility and viewing areas and the installation of ball catching nets.

These works facilitated the completion of addi-

tional works in 2010, including the erection of a new Hurling Wall, 28.5m in length with a 5m high ball wall and wing walls. It is hoped that the Hurling Wall will enhance the facilities available for the development of skills at all age groups throughout the club.

In June 2010, Dicksboro GAA Club undertook a pitch maintenance/renovation project which provided for the application of 200 tonne of sand to the playing pitches, followed by verti-draining/aeration and over-seeding. The Club is satisfied that the playing surfaces on offer at Palmerstown are now among the best in County Kilkenny.

Dicksboro GAA Club wishes to acknowledge the efforts of all those who 'roll up their sleeves' and provide for the ongoing maintenance and presentation of the playing fields and Palmerstown and James's Park.

### FUNDRAISING

The weekly lotto is the club's main source of fundraising and the club wishes to express thanks to all those who support the weekly draw, either through selling or buying tickets.

A very successful Golf Classic was held during the Summer in Kilkenny Golf Club.

At the time of writing, the Finance Committee in conjunction with Ann Neary of Ryeland Cookery School are in the process of organising a 'Christmas Food Extravaganza' which will have taken place by the time this publication is on sale.

### SYMPATHY

The Club would like to offer their sympathy to all members and supporters of Dicksboro who suffered bereavements during the past year.

### WEBSITE

Excellent coverage of all events within the club, including photographs, are available on the club's website [www.dicksboro.kilkenny.gaa.ie](http://www.dicksboro.kilkenny.gaa.ie).



An autumn perspective on Dicksboro's new Hurling Wall.



Eoin Hennessy

Eddie Holohan, Chairman, Bord na nÓg, Dicksboro, Richie Mulrooney, Manager, Kilkenny Minors, Ollie Walsh, Cillian Buckley, Captain, Gary Gaule, Martin Gaffney, Chairman, Dicksboro and Joe Pyke, Chairman, Bord na nÓg in the Dicksboro Club house with the Irish Press Cup.



Dicksboro's Under-9s and Under-10s photographed on their end of season trip to Cork.

# DUNAMAGGIN

## CLUB REPORTS



### DUNAMAGGIN G.A.A. CLUB

Chairman: Seamus Knox  
Secretary: Eugene O'Donovan  
Treasurer: Niall McCormack  
P.R.O.: Nicholas Flavin  
Juvenile Chair: John Fitzpatrick  
Secretary: Dennis Walsh  
Treasurer: John O'Dwyer

#### Developments & Planning:

The redevelopment of the G.A.A. Pitch in Dunamaggin, which was scheduled to begin in August 2009, was postponed due to the inclement weather. The work commenced in June 2010. This development resulted in the pitch being unavailable for any activity during the busy summer and autumn period. It is expected that activities will resume on the pitch in summer 2011. The Club would like to acknowledge and thank the clubs, schools and County Board for facilitating its many teams by providing training facilities during this redevelopment.

The Club under the leadership of Chairman, Seamus Knox, has undertaken a five year development plan. This plan involves not only the developments needed on the Dunamaggin pitch but plans to develop facilities in Kilmoganny. Significant expenditure in excess of € 100,000 will be required to bring the plans to reality. The fund-raising-drive, which is in progress, in 2010 is encountering a very positive response.

#### Senior and Junior

The senior hurling team missed out on qualifying for the league shield final when they were narrowly defeated by O'Loughlin Gaes in the final league match of the season. Subsequently they defeated Tullaroan in the opening round of the championship but neighbours Ballyhale Shamrocks ended their run in the quarter final. The Junior team, while competitive, failed to advance beyond the first round of the championship.

The various team selectors and mentors gave their time selflessly. Great thanks is due to all who assisted in any way with teams at all levels during the past year during the past year.

The Footballers returned to the senior ranks this year but due to fixture congestion were forced to withdraw for the championship.

#### Juvenile:

The underage hurling and football teams enjoyed considerable success in reaching a number of finals in league and championship but unfortunately were unsuccessful in their final games. The Club organised the Thomas O'Shea U 9 Memorial Blits in Ballyhale this year. The teams participating were Dunamaggan, Callan, Ballyhale Shamrocks, Carrickshock, Windgap, Mullinavat, Dicksboro and Danesfort. As the competition is now under the Go-Games rules there is no prize presented at the end. Dicksboro emerged as the most successful team on the day.

The highlight of the year for the U 8's was their visit to Croke Park and playing successfully in the famous stadium. The memory will live long in the minds of those who participated.

#### Double All-Ireland Glory:

William Phelan, this year, demonstrated not only hurling skill and determination but the ability to play a brilliant game at full back for the Kilkenny minor team while carrying a very serious shoulder injury (an injury which has prevented him playing any competitive hurling since the all-Ireland). He was centre back on the St. Kieran's Senior All-Ireland winning team. In that game he gave a display which in the opinion of many was the man of the match display. He missed out on playing in the 2009 All-Ireland final due to breaking his collar bone just 10 days before the final. On the corresponding day in 2010, in training, he again injured the same shoulder and his participation in the final was in doubt up to the start of the game. He was selected at full back but no one expected him to last the hour with a cracked collar bone. His showed his great qualities by playing the full hour and ensuring that the main danger man from Clare scored only one point in the game. He has shown courage, determination, commitment and dedication in the past and this year he will lead the St. Kieran's College team as it defends its All-Ireland crown.



Noel Hickey on Family Fun Day



Dunamaggin U8's in Croke Park

#### Community Activities:

The Profile Committee of Dunamaggin Hurling Club, under the leadership of James Rossiter, organised a very successful Parish Dinner Dance in November 2009 and is organising a similar Parish Dance this year. In addition, the Profile Committee has worked strenuously during the past year developing a Dunamaggin Parish Web site. It is due to be launched at the Parish Dinner Dance on November 27th 2010.

The Annual Family G.A.A. Day was held on Saturday 8th May. It provided great entertainment for all and was a very successful event. Thanks is due to all who assisted with the event and provided sponsorship.

#### Acknowledgements

The club would like to thank all who sponsored the club and various club activities during the past year. This included the Annual Golf Classic in Callan Golf Club for which the club is indebted to Michael Murphy and his fellow organisers. Thanks is also due to the many supporters who travelled to matches at various venues in support of various club teams. The continued support of the DKK Lotto is vital as it makes a significant contribution to the club as well as contributing to other sporting, recreational and cultural events in Kells, Kilmoganny and Dunamaggin.

Congratulations to all from the club who represented Schools and/or County on various teams at different levels during the past year. These hurlers, footballers, camogie and handball players are worthy ambassadors of the club.

#### Condolences:

The club extends its condolences to all club members who suffered bereavement during the past year.

# EMERALDS

# CLUB REPORTS



## Lots of Action

Emeralds intermediate team under Liam Fennelly, Brendan Joyce & David Moriarity finished up 5th in the league, 3rd in Aylward Cup and got to the semi-final where we fell short by just four points to eventual intermediate winners Dicksboro in Freshford. Our Junior team under Paddy Joyce and Robert O'Hara finished 6th in the league. Many thanks to all trainers, selectors and all those involved in looking after all our teams in all age groups.

## Club Development

We had a very active year in the fundraising section. Again we thank our main sponsors Bernard Kavanagh & Sons who after 11 years still provide vital funding for the club. We also had a very successful Lord Mayor competition in February & March. In addition we had successful funds raised in our annual, Golf Classic, BBQ & Table Quiz. We also were successful in winning 1st prize in the Piltown draw. We came second in the AIB Better Ireland awards & we entered the Sure for Men GAA Challenge and got to the final. (final on after date of print). Many thanks to John Holohan, Charlie O'Dwyer and all those who help with our lotto draw each week.

## Well done to Derek and Aidan

We would like to thank our two intercounty

stars Derek Lyng and Aidan Fogarty for their outstanding roles in again retaining the Leinster Title. While Kilkenny did not get the coveted five in a row, it is a credit that we have two clubmen playing such an important role in a team that's been regarded as "the greatest hurling team ever to grace the field of play". They are a credit to themselves, their families & the club and we look forward to seeing them again next year. Emeralds GAA Club have also put plans in place to get a new website up and running which will be live before the end of December.

## Emeralds Bord na nÓg 2010

The new Committee elected were President Canon Dunphy, Chairman JJ Kavanagh, Vice-Chairman Keith Grant, Secretary Dolores Gleeson, - Coaches/Mentors Michael Long, Dermot Dunphy, Peter Burke, David Moriarty, Tom Phelan, Michael Troy, Richard Hayes, Raymie Moriarty, Alan Guilfoyle, Kieran Bergin, Pat Phelan, Danny Norton, John Holohan, Geraldine Hickey.

The U-10s entered the Leinster Tournament held in Carlow Town. They won all their matches which was just rewards for all the effort they put in during their training sessions. The U-12s showed great promise this year and gained a lot of experience while playing with the U-14 team. The U-14s had a long League campaign. They lost some very tight competitive matches

by the narrowest of margins. The U-16s participated in the Roinn A League and Championship. In the first round of the Championship they were drawn against the eventual Championship winners James Stephens. They lost this very competitive game by three points. Our Minors started the year with a good run in the League only to be beaten in the semi-final by a very strong St Patricks, Ballyraggett. In the Championship they lost out to eventual winners Barrow Rangers by two points at the semi-final stage also.

Off the field we joined forces with the Camogie Club where we had a successful Bag-Pack weekend in Supervalu Loughboy. Congratulations to all our players who represented the Club at County Level.

At U-14 – Niall O'Gorman;  
U-16 – Conor Martin and Eoin Moriarty;  
U-17 – Jamie Ryan and Anthony Farrell.

## Thanks

We would like to express our gratitude to all the Mentors, Coaches and Parents who helped out with all the Under-Age teams during the past year.

Club Chairman Tom Phelan would like to thank everyone who helped out in any way during the year and look forward to their same help and commitment in 2011.



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# ERIN'S OWN

## CLUB REPORTS



### 125 years a growing

Our Club reached a major milestone this year, celebrating the 125th anniversary of its formation in 1885, making it one of the oldest clubs in the county. It is a major achievement to have maintained a continuous presence throughout this period and indeed great credit is due to the numerous volunteers who have given sterling service to the club since its foundation.

Many interesting articles appeared in the Kilkenny Journal dating back to the early years of the club, among them one advertising the second annual sports, which took place on Monday 13th September 1886, another dated 14th February 1891 is a fascinating account of a "most exciting football match between a juvenile team from Castlecomer and twenty one picked men from around Freshford." The reporter commented "Though it looked like sons kicking against their fathers, the Comer boys were determined to make the play hot for their opponents." The final score was 2 pts to nil in Comer's favour. The team listed included names like Brennan, Kenny, Dunne, Brophy, Comerford, Coogan & Coady – all very much still to the fore in 2010.

### Celebrations

The club organised a number of events during the year to mark our anniversary, among them a mass in Ballycomey in memory of past members and to bless the grounds, an over 40's exhibition match on the 9th fairway of Comer Golf Club to mark the respective 125th and 75th year celebrations of both clubs. A 125 celebration dance was held on Nov 6th with a full house entertained by the Artane boy's band. A double DVD entitled "The wearing of the blue" is now available, detailing the club history from the 1930's to the present, as recounted by club members, a must for all GAA fans.

### Busy Year for Games

On the playing fields the tireless work of our numerous mentors and players is reflected by the fact that all our underage sides competed at Roinn A level. Our younger members enjoyed success at all levels in various tournaments during the year. The club hosted tournaments from U-8 to U-16, with the Tara Ryan at U-14 level making a welcome return and the inaugural U-16 Jim Buggy memorial cup contested. Erin's Own won the U-9, 14 & 16 cups and the U-12 shield. Our U-14's were league shield finalists, it took a replay and extra time to deny our U-16's a county final spot. The Minors bowed out to eventual winners Dicksboro. The U-21's are still in contention. Our juniors won the deferred 2009 Paddy Cahill cup. The seniors won the league shield and reached a second successive semi-final. The Gaelic for Mums continues to grow from strength to strength.

### Club Development

The development of the club grounds in Ballycomey continued apace this year, with the railing, viewing area, dugouts completed, new surface laid at the entrance, water well bored and pitch sprinkling system purchased. This extensive list of works was facilitated by the fundraising efforts of our members & continued generous support of the local communities and our sponsors. Main club sponsors are Forde's Eurospar & the Railway Garage. Sincere thanks to all.



**Three Buggy Generations**  
Tommy Buggy presents his father's trophy to his son, Jim after the inaugural U16 Jim Buggy Memorial tournament.



Pictured at the 125th Anniversary Mass and Field Blessing in Ballycomey -  
Michael Owens (Chairman), William Forde (Club sponsor), Fr Michael Ryan PP, Billy Moran, Fr Tom Corcoran, Rev Tom Sherlock, Marty Connolly (Vice Chairman),  
Fr Liam Shore.



**Erins Own Hurling Team 1904.**  
Back: Pad O'Neill (Corbettstown), Pat McKenna (Brother of Dick), Barcoe, Dysart, Dick Mc Kenna (The Square).  
Middle: Darby Glennon (Van Diemans), Toby Brennan (Sleveen), J.Farrell (Curly), Jim (Jess) Kenny (Barrack Hill), Jim Carroll (Barrack St), Mick Kelly (Van Diemans), Dan O'Neill (Kilkenny St).  
Front: Paddy (Galway) Ryan (Bowdens Row), M.Conway (Moyhara), Ed. Hetherington (Monk) (Barrack St), Pake Dunphy (Tailor) (Kilkenny St), Jimmy Kenny (Farmer)(Barrack St).  
Photo taken on 14 July 1904 in the Prince Ground on the occasion of a hurling match against Threecastles.  
The final score read, Erins Own 1-2 (M.Kelly 1-0, Pake Dunphy 0-2), Threecastles 1-2.  
Referee was a Campion from Conahy.

# FENIANS

## CLUB REPORTS



### Club Development

This year saw a lot of work completed in the area of fund raising. We held many fundraisers, which were greatly supported. Our most recent, was our fuel auction held on the 7th November, which was a huge success. In these difficult times every person's contribution to these fundraisers is greatly appreciated. As a club, we can assure people that all monies raised will go towards the continued development of our small but firmed club.

The club would like to take this opportunity to thank our members, supporters, club coaches, club selectors, and the support staff at all levels within the club for their excellent ongoing work this year. We would also like to thank our main sponsor MW Hire Services for their continued support.

### Ronan Tynan Fund-raiser

One of the many highlights of the Fenian calendar year was the Ronan Tynan fundraising concert which took place on the 17th June in The Hub, Cillin Hill with an attendance of over 800 people. This was a tremendous success and huge praise must go to Ronan and his pianist Bill who gave of their time and treated everyone to an unforgettable evening.

Also on the night we had the pleasure of hearing local talent Michelle Brennan. Mr. Connolly also provided great entertainment. This night would not have been possible without the help of a wonderful committee, and a special thank you must go to Margaret Fitzpatrick who helped organise the night and liaised with Ronan throughout. Finally a big thank you to all who supported the concert on the night.

### Senior

At senior level we welcomed a new manager/trainer Mr. Martin Gleeson. Great effort was put in by all, both on and off, the field but, while results unfortunately, did not go our way, the commitment made by all could not be faulted.

Our senior status was maintained with a terrific second half performance full of Fenian fighting spirit. This team should be on a learning curve and with a few new faces introduced to senior hurling during the year the club looks forward to seeing how this team develops in the coming season.

### Juniors

Fenians Junior A's had a terrific 2010, sweeping the board in league and championship, Captain Paul Phelan raised four cups in 2010. In the league Fenians won six of their seven games and finished top of the table. They overcame Ballycallan in the northern league semi final before putting Young Irelands to the sword in the northern final. Mullinavat faced them in the county final and the Fenians performed well on the day and ran out easy winners. Favourites going into the championship, the Fenians beat Ballycallan, Young Irelands before overcoming Tullaroan in the northern final. In the county final the Fenians in the end got the better of a strong Carrickshock outfit and are now promoted to the junior grade next season. It would be unfair to mention individuals but through the season all of the 32 man panel were called upon and all played their

part. Great credit must go to Jimmy Brennan Manager, and his selectors Larry Nolan, Neil Tynan and Michael Phelan.

### Juvenile

This year our minor team were very young after losing twelve players from our triumphant 2009 team. These players had to be replaced by our U-16s, who did not use this as an excuse and hurled with great heart and determination all through the league. In the championship they met a very strong Tullaroan team where they were defeated after a gallant effort. Age will bring success to this group of players in the future. It is only a matter of time before these young Fenians rise again.

A great year was had by our U-16 team. The championship got off to a good start with victory over Carrickshock followed by a semi final win over Mullivat. This saw us secure a place in the final where we beat a very strong Dunamaggin side in a very tough game in poor conditions.

A good league campaign was also had where we contested the League final but unfortunately success was not ours on this occasion as we were beaten by Windgap/Galmoy.

The U-14s had little success in their league campaign but showed great improvement all the way through.

The juvenile year was finished off with a trip to the South Armagh club Camlough where we won a hard earned tournament. The players stayed with host families and were treated to an unforgettable weekend with plenty of new friendships formed. The adults also had a very enjoyable trip and look forward to the New Year and our next trip.

### County Scene

We would like to thank all our Fenian players who represented Kilkenny at all levels during the year. A special mention to JJ Delaney who brought back another All Star to the parish.

### Obituaries

On a sad note the club lost some loyal supporters and members during the year and the club would like to offer their sympathy and prayers to all those members and supporters who died this year.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh siad



Pat Dunphy, Vice-Chairman, Kilkenny County Board, presents Paul Phelan, Captain, Fenians, with the Junior 'A' hurling cup. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



Kieran Grehan and Darragh Tobin (Fenians) celebrate at final whistle the Senior Hurling Relegation Final in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



Tomas Flynn (St. Lachtain's) holds onto Kevin Heff (Fenians) during the Senior Hurling Relegation Final in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

# GALMOY

## CLUB REPORTS<sub>2</sub>



### CLUB OFFICERS 2010

Presidents	Fr. Tom Coyle, Willie Drennan, John Harte and (RIP).
Chairman	Brian Doherty
Vice-Chairman	Nicky Maddock
Secretary	Liam Drennan
Asst-Secretary	Jerry Fogarty
Treasurers	Nicky Maddock, Noel Kelly
Asst-Treasurer	Martin Phelan
PRO	Jerry Drennan

Kieran Drennan

### Team Achievements

On the field of play in 2010, our adult teams were unlucky with our Junior team bowing out in the Northern semi final to eventual winners Barrow Rangers. It was left to our Juveniles to reap success and both our U-14 and U-16 teams, who are amalgamated with Windgap, won their respective Roinn C League titles. The U-14s had a very convincing 5-15 to 2-10 win over Slieverue in Nowlan Park on 5 July. Three months later, on 9 October, the U-16 team had an exciting 0-11 to 1-6 win over the Fenians before a large crowd in Urlingford. This win meant that this team retained the League title, as they won the 2009 final on 30 January when they beat Ogra Graignamanagh/Blacks & Whites 1-14 to 2-9. Well done to our selectors Jimmy Duggan & Pat Vaughan (U-16) and Frank Grace & Michael Molloy (U-14). Our minor team lost the Shield final narrowly to Ballyhale Shamrocks.

### New Stand

Off the field of play, the biggest achievement was the erection of a new stand at our pitch. The three span stand was built by long term club sponsors Oldtown Construction who began work on 3rd August and completed the project on 1st September. The steps used in the stand were left over after the completion of the terracing on Hill 16 while the barriers to be erected were acquired from Nowlan Park.

### Hurlers Co-Op Winner

Galmoy GAA club has been particularly lucky in the annual Kilkenny Hurlers Co-Op Draw having had a large number of first prize winners. This lucky vein continued in 2010 when Sean Delaney Whiteswall won first prize of 12,000 euro having bought the winning ticket from committee member David Carroll. Donal Brophy and John Duggan also won prizes during the year.

### Development Squads

The following players participated in the various Kilkenny Development squads during the year. **U-14** Darren Grace, Cian Hynes, Tim Molloy and Kevin Duggan. **U-15** Frank Phelan, Eoghan Vaughan and Jason Stanley. Frank Phelan played with a Kilkenny U-15 selection in Dublin in July.

### Congratulations

We congratulate Noel and Niall Doherty who each won their second All Ireland Intermediate medals. Thomas Phelan (Bawn) played in the All Ireland final for Kilkenny Vocational Schools team. The following players won South Leinster Junior B medals with Coláiste Mhuire, Frank Phelan, Jason Stanley, Eoghan Vaughan, Cian Hynes, Ciaran Murphy.

### Galmoy GAA Online

Keep up to date with Galmoy GAA on [www.galmoy.kilkenny.gaa.ie](http://www.galmoy.kilkenny.gaa.ie)

### Bereavements

Sincerest sympathy to the relatives of Club President, Kieran Drennan. The club also sympathises with the families of Peter Whelan, John Cahill, John Ryan and Mrs Lot Campion who passed away during the year.



**Hurlers Co-op €12k winner**  
David Carroll (seller), Sean Delaney (winner), Brian Doherty (chairman), Liam Drennan (secretary)



**Galmoy U-11 Camaint team 2010**  
**Back:** Daniel Hanrahan, Patrick Doyle, Conor Drennan, Conor Grace, Evan Morrissey, Colm Smith, Oisin Phelan, Dylan Grace.  
**Front:** Gearoid Phelan, Caoilinn Smith, Maeve Duggan, Mary Ellen Phelan, Billy Drennan, Matt Delaney, Odhran Moloney, Padraig Glendon, Jack Hanrahan.



Our new stand nears completion, built by Oldtown Construction

# GLENMORE

# CLUB REPORTS



## County Stars

Firstly, congratulations to Mark Phelan on winning Leinster and All-Ireland medals at Intermediate level with Kilkenny this year. Also to Ger Aylward and Colm Foran on winning Leinster and All-Ireland medals at Minor level. You have given great pride to our club and parish with your achievements.

## Games

Our adult section competed at various levels of competition this year. The Intermediate hurling team competed gamely in the league stages of the championship. However we failed to qualify for the league or shield final and went straight into the first round of the championship against Rower Inistioge. In a competitive game, we lost a number of players through injury and unfortunately were beaten. Our Junior B team performed admirably in the south league and championship and this is giving our younger players valuable experience. Presently our U-21 hurlers and senior footballers are involved in the championship and here's hoping that they can progress to achieving ultimate honours. Gratitude must be extended to all players, mentors and supporters for all their efforts this year. Regarding our underage structure, credit must be accorded to all those involved for giving their time and effort in progressing the various age groups through the numerous competitions.

## Club Development

Our new ground development is progressing rapidly with both playing fields now reseeded

and looking in pristine condition. To continue any development, finance is the key issue and this year we launched a Silver Circle Draw over ten months which was generously supported. We aim to continue with this and we hope as many people as possible will support same. In conjunction with Nire, Ballymacarbry and Fourmilewater clubs, we are also running a monster raffle to raise funds for development work and for €20 per ticket you can be included in this draw where first prize is a car valued at € 15,000. Facilities planned for our new grounds include a lighted walking track around perimeter, dressing rooms, hurling wall, handball and squash courts. Thank you to all who continue to support us in this venture which will benefit club members and parishioners.

## JUVENILE GAA

Glenmore Juvenile GAA continue to provide all aspects of coaching and development to increasing numbers of players from Under 6 up to Under 18 Level with plenty of success during 2010.

Our Under 8's won a Tournament in Cushinstown, Co. Wexford.

Our Under 10's won the Caulfield Cup defeating Tullogher-Rosbercon in the final with our second Under 10 team competing very well too.

Our Under 11 and Under 12 teams got to play in Nowlan Park in their respective South

Kilkenny Leagues.

Our Under 13's were narrowly defeated by Slieverue in the Waterford League Final in Walsh Park in

Our Under 14's won the Roinn A (8-a-side) Carrigeen League and were unlucky to lose their Championship Quarter Final to the Rower-Inistioge in a superb game.

Our Under 16's were successful in the Piltown Tournament and competed strongly in League and Championship.

Our Under 18's won the League and just lost out at the semi-final stage in the Championship.

We would like to express our thanks to all Players, Selectors and Parents on their fantastic work and commitment during the year and hopefully greater things are ahead for 2011.

## 2010 COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Ray Bryne
Vice Chairman:	Michael Burke
Secretary:	Willie Fitzgerald
Treasurer:	Bridget Hennessy
PRO:	Pat Phelan
Bord Na N'og Rep:	Paddy Murphy
Committee:	Michael Phelan, Seamus D'onnell, Peter Whelan and Elma Aylward



Glenmore's New Field

# GRAIGNAMAGH

## CLUB REPORTS



### Club Officers

Presidents:	Anna Dunne, Jackie Ryan, John Bolger, Todd Whelan
Chairman:	John Meaney
Secretary:	Paul Ryan
Treasurer:	Breda O' Shea
PRO:	Mary O'Donnell
Membership:	Michael Dunne
Co. Board Rep:	Timmy McDonald
Child Safety Officer:	Brian O'Brien
Committee:	Robbie Carroll, Brendan Savage, Valerie Ryan, Gerry Cosgrave, John Carroll.

We wish to thank Doran's Super Valu, our main sponsor.

### Under Age

Teams competed well at all age groups from U6 up in local tournaments and Blitz. Thanks is extended to all the trainers and mentors who have given so much of their time and energies for the tremendous work that is being put in at underage level.

The U-8's finished up the year with a great win in the St. Mullins Tournament and then won the Michaelmas Tournament in Tinnahinch.

The highlight of the year for the U-10s was their great victory in our own tournament, where they beat teams from The Rower /Inistioge, Barrow Rangers, St. Mullins, Mt. Leinster Rangers and Burrin Rangers.

Ogra U-12s had a very good win over Glenmore in the final of the U-12 summer league. All players can be very happy with their performance as they gave their all and in the end ran out easy winners over Glenmore.

The U-14 Ogra Graignamanagh / Blacks & Whites team had some great wins during the year and reached the County Final where they were beaten by Conahy Shamrocks. They contested Tournaments in Wexford, Carlow, Tipperary and Kilkenny and are a very committed bunch of young hurlers.

The U-16 team gave some excellent performances during the year and were unlucky to be beaten at the semi-final stage of both the Roinn B League and Championship. Some unfortunate injuries late in the year didn't help.

It was a great year for the minor hurlers of the Parish who were crowned Roinn C County Champions. It took two games and extra time to decide victory and thankfully through pure grit and skilful hurling it came our way.

A disappointing year at adult level saw the Intermediate hurlers survive after a second year in the relegation final. This year they ran out winners over Parish rivals Blacks & Whites. Unfortunately the team was hit with numerous injuries to key players during the year which was the main contributing factor to the position they found themselves in. The junior B team also failed to impress in their campaigns this year.

### County Players

Congratulations to Club men Ray Coady and James Cahill who won Leinster and All Ireland Medals with the Kilkenny Intermediate Team who defeated Cork in the Final.



**Graignamanagh 1985 Intermediate Hurling Champions at the Celebration Dinner Dance**  
**Back:** M.J Doherty, Johnny Prendergast, Willie Blanchfield, John Carroll, Michael Dunne, Tommy Prendergast  
**Middle:** Jim Whelan, Pat Cahill (Selector), Pat Nolan, Pat Kavanagh, Michael Walsh, John Moylan, Philip Cahill  
**Front:** Bob Grace, John Byrne, John Meaney, Paul Kinsella (County Board Chairman) John Gahan, Richard Dunne, Tommy Dowling.



**Graignamanagh U10 Team 2010**  
**Back:** Oran Canning, Sean Walsh, Oisin Aylward, Owen Byrne, Shane Byrne, Joe Dowling, Denise Byrne, Brian Bolger, Jack Moylan  
**Front:** Danny Sheehy, Joseph O'Neill, Jason Byrne, Ben Savage, Thomas Doherty, Sean Holden, David Doherty, John Cahill, Stephen Cahill, Mikie Sheehy, Sean Cosgrave.



**Graignamanagh U-8 team 2010**  
**Back:** Eric Reddy, Liam Cahill, Pierce Blanchfield, Tom O'Shea, Hannah Burke, Ruairi Aylward, Jack Ryan, Sean Lanigan.  
**Front:** Michael O'Neill, Sophie Phelan, Patrick O'Neill, Mikie Fogarty, Mikie Sheehy, Robbie Conran, Greg Hoban, Declan Moylan.

# GRAIGUE/BALLYCALLAN

## CLUB REPORTS



### Senior Action

The Senior Hurling team finished fourth in the league table – out of relegation trouble with four points. A five point victory in the first round against eventual county champions O'Loughlin Gaels was a great start to the league campaign. However, three defeats followed to Clara, Dunnamaggan and the Shamrocks. Our final game resulted in a great win over St. Martins by seven points in Nowlan Park.

In the first round of the Championship we came up against Carrickshock, eventual county finalist. This was a great game of hurling. Ten minutes into the second half Carrickshock led by seven points. However, a great goal and a point by Jimmy Smith brought us right back into the game, and with five minutes to go, the sides were all square. However, a long range point by county star John Power was all that separated the teams at the final whistle. It was a great display on the day by Graigue Ballycallan with a lot of good performances from some of our younger players. Well done to the trainer Paddy Williams and his selectors Milo Hennessey and Dave O'Neill.

### County Stars

At Senior County level both Eddie Brennan and James Ryall played their part in our quest for five senior hurling All-Ireland titles in a row. Having beaten Galway comfortably in the Leinster Final, Kilkenny were firm favourites to win the All-Ireland. Up next in the semi-final was Cork. Eddie Brennan started at corner forward. An injury early in the game to centre-back Brian Hogan saw the introduction of James Ryall to the fray, where he had a fine game at centre-back. Eddie Brennan scored 1-1 on the day. Kilkenny's victory earned them a spot in the final against great rivals Tipperary. However a knee injury to Henry Shefflin was to have a profound effect on the result of the final. Tipperary were worthy winners on the day. Eddie and James have been great servants to the County team over the past ten years. It takes great commitment and the club are very proud of both of them. Next year brings a new challenge to win back the McCarthy Cup. Best of luck to both in 2011.

### Busy Juvenile Year

At Juvenile level the Club reached two finals, the U-12's losing narrowly to Callan, and our U-16's losing out to a strong Rower Inistioge team. Both team fought valiantly but it wasn't to be their year. We hope next year that they will bring some silverware back to the parish. The Minor team lost narrowly to Kilmacow 1-11 to 1-14, in the County quarter final. Kilmacow went on to contest the County final where they went down to a very strong Dicksboro team. Next



**James Ryall**

year holds great promise at Minor level for the club. The Under 14 team won the Declan Byrne Memorial Shield final, beating St. Martins 4-7 to 0-4.

The U-21 team lost out to our near neighbours and great rivals, Tullaroan, in the first round of the Northern Championship.

### Family Fun Day

On August 22nd the club held a family fun-day in Tom Ryall Park and, blessed with glorious weather, it was a great success. On the day there was entertainment and many attractions available for both young and old alike. There was everything from bouncing castles to brick-a-brack stalls, vintage tractors to wheel of fortune. This brought in much needed funds for the club. The club plans to run this as an annual event.

Congratulations to our near neighbours Dicksboro on winning the Intermediate and Minor County Finals. And to John Lockes of Callan on winning the Junior County final. Best of luck to both clubs in 2011.

### The backbone of the club starts at grass roots level

Jack Ronan and his sons, Maurice and Johnny are Groundsmen and Caretakers of our two pitches and club house at Tom Ryall Park. The time and work that these men put into the club grounds is reflected in the beautiful pitches and the well kept dressing rooms and surrounds. Tom Ryall Park is one of the best venues in the county for club, league or championship matches. The main pitch is cut twice and sometimes three times a week during the summer months,

weather permitting. A perfect pitch for hurling, the embankment gives a fantastic view for all supporters. With easy access for parking, it's very easy for supporters to get away after a match. The club is very grateful to Jack, Maurice and Johnny Ronan for the great care and attention to detail that these men put into the upkeep of our club grounds at Tom Ryall Park.



**Eddie Brennan**

# JAMES STEPHENS

## CLUB REPORTS



### We have got the 'Go Ahead!'

After a long wait An Bord Pleanala has granted permission for James Stephens to develop their new site on the Kells Road. Planning permission has been secured for four full sized pitches, eight dressing rooms, showers and topclass training facilities.

Chairman Jimmy O'Brien described the news 'as a mix of relief and delight after a three year campaign'. For years the club teams have been training and playing in a number of locations in Larchfield, Nuncio Road, Cootes Lane and St Kierans College.

Larchfield will continue to be the club headquarters.

A massive fundraising drive is underway to defray the very considerable costs of the venture. Under the leadership of Elsie Cody, the monthly draw currently has over 1600 members. The development is led by Michael Moore, Kieran McQuillan and Martin Gittens.

### All Stars meet Young Stars

On Friday 22 October we celebrated a wonderful night in the clubrooms when our ten All Star hurlers presented U-14 county league and championship Roinn "A" medals and U-16 Roinn "A" championship medals to the victorious underage teams. It was the first occasion that our ten All Stars came together at a club function. Each All Star presented medals to six young players.

To add to the special nature of the occasion our guest of honour was Michéal O'Muircheartaigh who had retired only the week before from a lifetime of broadcasting. In his inimitable way



Drawing of our proposed new club rooms on the Kells Road

he captivated the audience with his stories and deep knowledge of Gaelic Games.

### Forty Years Ago

On 19 April 1970 James Stephens won their third Kilkenny senior championship when we defeated Fenians by 8-5 to 2-7 in the 1969 decider. Forty years later on 16 April we held a reunion celebration for the victorious team. We also honoured the 1969 and 1970 county U-21 championship winning teams.

### Thanks

We must thank our main sponsors for their outstanding support for our senior club, the Guilfoyle family proprietors of 'The Playwright', High St and Kieran St. The Griffin Group of Hotel Kilkenny are our juvenile sponsors and we are grateful for their support. Several other local businesses provide much needed support for our club and we thank them for their continuing generosity.



Reunion James Stephens Clubhouse 16 April 2010  
James Stephens County Senior Champions 1969

**Back:** Tommy Hickey, Liam Tyrrell, Michael Drennan, Patsy Dowling, Jim O'Neill, Jimmy Holohan, Michael Moore, Sean 'Georgie' Leahy, Fintan Morrissey (Niall Morrissey), Michael Crotty, Eddie Tallent, Des Murphy, Paddy O'Brien (Jimmy O'Brien) Tom McCormack, (Denis McCormack).  
**Front:** Michael 'Muggers' Larkin, Sean Brennan, Michael Taylor, Michael Leahy, Michael 'Socks' Dunne (capt), Sean Tyrrell (selector), Eamon Morrissey, Fess Brennan, Phil Larkin and Phil 'Fan' Larkin.

# JOHN LOCKES

## CLUB REPORTS



### Onwards and Upwards

2010 saw the John Lockes club return to the intermediate grade following victory over Barrow Rangers in a replayed county junior final. The team fought hard all year and after a slow start to the season they peaked at the right time and were fully deserving of the chance to play at the higher grade in 2011. Great credit is due to all concerned and we look forward to the challenges ahead at intermediate level with renewed optimism.

### Juvenile scene

The U-14 team played in the Roinn A grade in both league and championship in a year where the city clubs were particularly strong and they had to be content to play in the shield section of the league play-offs. They succeeded in qualifying for the final where they defeated Erin's Own following a titanic struggle between two evenly matched teams. The U-16 team qualified for the semi-finals of both league and championship for the second year running but had to give best to Graigue Ballycallan in both matches. The minor team played very well during the league and qualified for the final by defeating O'Loughlin Gaels but proved extremely disappointing a few weeks later when bowing out of the championship at the quarter final stage to the same opposition. The league final has still to be played as has the U-21 Southern Final where the Lockes will play Kilmacow.

### Younger Stars

The U-12 team played many tournaments during the year including the August Weekend Go-Games festival organised by the club and were joined by our U-9 team who played a ground hurling competition. The U-8 team travelled to Coolderry (Offaly) and were successful in a tournament there while the U-10 team too were busy during the Summer.

Great credit to all mentors of all teams who worked hard all year and the club was well represented in Croke Park by our juvenile members on Kilkenny match days, with trips organised.

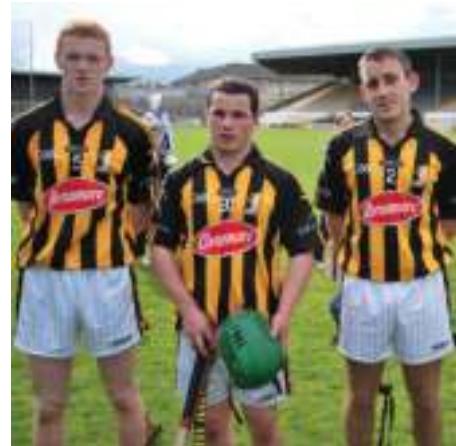
### All-Ireland Winners

The John Lockes had three All-Ireland minor medal winners this year when Jason Corcoran, Owen McGrath and Shane Bergin were part of the victorious team which defeated Clare on the first Sunday in September.

Other representatives on Kilkenny teams were: U-14 Keith Fitzpatrick and Bill Mc Dowell, U-15 Josh Haines and Adam Phelan, U-16 Jack Mc Dowell.

### Club Development

The club is in the process of launching their new development plans for John Locke Park in early 2011 and have just launched their weekly Lotto draw in conjunction with the county Board to help fund the venture. It is hoped to commence work in the Spring and if you want to assist us by joining the lotto you can contact Bosco Bryan (086-2894827).



Owen McGrath, Shane Bergin and Jason Corcoran were members of the Kilkenny All-Ireland minor winning team in 2010



John Lockes - County U-14 Shield winners

**Back:** Ryan Bergin, Jack Lynch, John Burns, Bill Mc Dowell, Cathal Mc Grath, Dylan Roche, James Power, Keith Fitzpatrick, Lee Doheny, Brion Kirwan.

**Front:** Robert Kerwick, Conor Murphy, Padraig Purcell, Nathan Coffey, Nicholas Butler, Eoghan Scriven, Dylan Hennessy, Sean Power, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Corey Doheny, Robbie Corcoran.



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# KILMACOW

# CLUB REPORTS



## Highlight of the Year

The highlight of the year for Kilmacow had to be our minor team reaching a first ever Roynn A county final. In a busy year for the club, this was a major achievement which brings a future of hope and optimism to the club. Other highlights included a trip to London to play against Brothers Pearse Hurling Club and a New Year's Day charity fundraiser which saw the Over 30's play the Under 30's. To all club members, the Kilmacow Committee would like to express our thanks for all the hours of hard work put in during the year at all levels, and we would ask for your continuing commitment to drive the club forward towards a successful future.

## Adult Team

The Junior team was beaten by Lismore in the ACHL quarter final. After a good run in the Southern League Championship, Kilmacow lost to Piltown in the League final. Championship knockout then began with a quarter final tie against Mooncoin which we won by 1-15 to 13 points. We then played Piltown in the semi-final, where, after a promising opening half in which we failed to take our chances, Piltown ran out winners by 1-15 to 0-11. Our Junior B team reached the Southern Final after good wins over Mooncoin and Mullinavat before succumbing narrowly to Tulloher Rosbercon on a score-line of 1-13 to 1-9. Again it was a game of missed chances for Kilmacow. With hard work and determination there's no reason why next year both these teams can't bounce back in a successful fashion.

## U-18

This was our first year playing Roynn A since 1991, and a great year ended in the club reaching its first ever Roynn A Minor County final. The minors qualified for the semi final of the Roynn A league where they lost to Dicksboro. The championship run started with a quarter-final win over Graigue Ballycallan, after which we played St Lachtain's in the semi-final. This game was played in Nowlan Park, and with ten minutes to go we were eight points down, but three great goals resulted in a remarkable comeback, and a great result (Kilmacow 4-8, St Lachtain's 1-15). This was the club's first win of any kind in Nowlan Park since 1990.

County final day awaited, and this was the first time in the club's history that we got to play in Nowlan Park on Kilkenny hurling's premier day. While we lost the match, the players and team 'went down with their boots on'. It was a wonderful occasion, and has given the players and the club a taste of what can be achieved with ambition, hard work, determination, correct coaching, topped off with real passion and pride in the club.

## U-16

On the back of a very successful 2009 at U-16 level, this team faced a tough year. They correctly remained in Roynn A again in 2010 and qualified for the league semi-finals, eventually losing to a strong Dicksboro side. The championship draw pitted us against Erin's Own in the quarter-final where we went down by three points. It was an early end to the team's hurling,

but they all gained great experience by playing Roynn A hurling.

## Coaching and Games Development

2010 saw the club appoint its first Coaching and Games Development Committee, a signal of real intent to focus the club's efforts on the production of better players. This resulted in a great year for the club at underage level. Our U-16s and U-18s played Roynn A hurling, and the U-14s held their own at Roynn B. Other highlights were the numerous blitzes our teams participated in from U-5 to U-12, and also the Go Games arranged at numerous age groups. We had dedicated clubmen complete the Award 1 Adults coaching course, while numerous coaches completed the Foundation course. We organised a "Coaching the Coaches fitness night" with Perri Williams and a "Hurling Night" with Paudie Butler. Our U-13s qualified for the semi-final of Div 2 of the City League, and our schools teams qualified for the semi-finals of both the Cup and League in the Kilkenny competitions.

## Club History

Finally, this Christmas sees the release of the long awaited book by Senan Cooke detailing the history of Kilmacow Hurling and Football Club, including also camogie, athletics, and handball. This book will be of huge interest to all inside and outside Kilmacow. Anyone looking to obtain a copy should contact a club officer.



Kilmacow Juniors on their Trip to London 2010

Back: Michael Sweeney, Paddy O Keeffe, Shane Gaule, Paul Laffan, Brian King, Eoin Dalton, Willie O Toole, Peter Mullally, Sean McGrath, Richie Kearns, Ray Hennessy, Eamonn Reddy, Trevor Sutton, Sean Ivory, Mick Atkins.  
Front: Declan Gahan, Robert O Keeffe, Richard McNamara, Paul Kelly, Nicky Barron, David Ryan, Stephen O Keeffe, Conor Dowling, Tom Reddy, Liam Kearns.

# LISDOWNEY

## CLUB REPORTS



### Very Busy Year

Lisdowney Hurling Club has had a very busy year both on and off the field. The Junior Team won the All County League for the first time in its history following a tough win over Piltown in the final in October.

Lisdowney Juniors Bs also had a great year winning the championship for the first time in the club's history by beating Tullogher Rosbercon 1-11 to 1-8 in the final. The club won the Northern Final (Johnny Ivory cup), beating a fancied Clara side 3-13 to 1-11 for the second time in its history (the last being in 1982).

### Fifty Years A Growing

In March, the focus was on the 1960 Junior team who were honoured at the annual Lisdowney Dinner Dance for winning the Junior Championship 50 years ago. The 2009 winning Under 21 team was also honoured on the night. It was a night of both young and old celebrating the long standing success of the club.

### Club Development

Facilities were upgraded significantly at the club this year, with a new net being erected at the car park side of the pitch. Work was also carried out inside the Community Hall. One of the highlights of the upgrading work included the preparation of the gym room and the installation of state of the art equipment. Training was provided for club members on the use of the equipment.

### Sevens Success

The club, once again, ran a very successful Sevens tournament, with O'Loughlin Gaels retaining the Sweeney Cup beating city neighbours James Stephens in the final, and Moycarkey Borris of Tipperary beating Clara in the shield. In the Carroll U-17 Tournament, James Stephens beat Clara in the final, and Mullinavat beat the Emeralds in the shield final.

### Underage Matters

On the underage front, it was a very busy year also with huge numbers turning up for training every Saturday morning in the U-6, U- 8, U-10 and U-12 age groups. The club organised yet another very successful Fun Day early in the summer. The U-8s were delighted to travel to Croke Park in July to experience what it is like to play in our national stadium. All teams also participated in a number of tournaments over the summer. The club was delighted, yet again, to welcome St. Vincent's of Dublin for a round of underage matches in Lisdowney. One of the highlights of the year for the young teams was



Paddy Bowden, Lisdowney captain, receives the All County Junior Hurling League trophy from sponsor Paul Kavanagh with Paul Kinsella, Cathaoirleach CLG, Cill Chainnigh.



Young Lisdowney mentors at the County Junior "B" final

when they all travelled to Killeagh Hurling Club in County Cork for friendly matches in September. This was followed by a fantastic outing to Fota Wildlife Park where the blue and white jersey-clad children had a ball.

### Outstanding Achievements

There were a number of other achievements in the last year. Rory Hickey won an Intermediate all Ireland medal with Kilkenny and he also won a freshers' All Ireland with UL getting the all important winning goal. Pat O'Carroll won an All Ireland Minor medal with Kilkenny against Clare in Croke Park. Pat was also part of the St. Kieran's College win over Ard Scoil Ris, where he was joined by Philip Walsh as mentor and Sean Phelan who won Man of the Match that day. Kevin Sweeney, Eoin Lyons, Eddie Connery, Kieran Skehan, Jack Dunphy and

Paul Cos were on a Johnstown panel who won the U16 ½ Leinster College final. Jamie Bergin represented Kilkenny Vocational schools in the final against Tipperary, which they narrowly lost. Kevin Sweeney played in the Kilkenny U16 team, beaten in the semi final of the Nenagh Co-op by Galway after extra time. Michael Kenny was represented in the Kilkenny U-15 north team. While Conor O'Carroll was on the Kilkenny U-14 Tony Forristal panel that was beaten in the final by Waterford. Jack Dunphy, Eoin Walsh and Brian O'Carroll were on the U-14 Kilkenny B squad that played in the Tony Forristal, while numerous U-14s togged out for the Kilkenny U-14 football squad.

Finally well done to the Lisdowney Camogie club which had an extremely successful year – the highlight was when the Intermediate team reached the Leinster Final.

# MOONCOIN

## CLUB REPORTS



### Club Officers 2010

Chairman	James Grace
Vice Chairman	John Lennon
Secretary	Barry Purcell
Asst Sec	Ollie Dunphy
Treasurer	John Crowley
Asst. Treas:	Maurice Flynn
PRO	David McGrath
Co. Board Del.	Eugene Dunphy
Southern Board Developmen:	Johnny Phelan
Irish Officer	Ned Doyle
<b>Juvenile</b>	Joe Flynn
Chairman	Eugene Fitzgerald
Vice Chairman:	Jamie Dunphy
Secretary:	Seamus Crowley
Treasurer:	John Purcell
PRO:	Colm Lehane
Bord na nÓg	M Flynn, E Crowley

### Outstanding Club Complex

The official opening of the new complex and facilities in Mooncoin on the 9th May by Paul Kinsella (Chairman, County Board) was one of the highlights. This event had an attendance of over 6,000 with the added attraction of seeing Kilkenny and Waterford play a senior hurling challenge game. This day was the result of years of hard work by club men and women who dedicated both time and resources to ensure that the club is equipped for the future years. Mooncoin club are very proud of their facilities, a sports hall, state of the art fully equipped gym & saunas, function/meeting rooms, outdoor hurling wall, two all weather playing match pitches, four large dressing rooms and a sports shop.

### Website

This year also saw the launch of the Mooncoin GAA new website [www.mooncoingaa.ie](http://www.mooncoingaa.ie). This website is a user friendly website allowing people near and far to keep up to date with club activities throughout the year.

### Social Committee

The start up of a social committee concentrating on the social aspect of club life was a huge success. This dedicated committee ran several social nights and presentations encouraging greater community involvement within the club.

### Club Achievements

On the field of play there were some successes for the club with the U-14 team who put in a super performance to win the U-14 B championship. Well done to players involved with county teams; John Fitzgerald U-14 Tony Forristal; Ciaran Dillon Dunphy, Andy Brennan & Niall Blanchfield, U-14 Sonny Walsh; Cormac Fleming U-15; David Kearns & JP Purcell U-17. Well done to Eoin Purcell who represented Kilkenny in the Féile Na Gael in Clare. In senior football Mooncoin team put in a strong performance to reach the semi-final but were defeated by the champions Muckalee. A disappointing year for our intermediate and junior teams who put in a strong effort throughout the year.

### Sympathies

We extend sympathy to all club members who have experienced bereavement in the past year.



Official Opening of Mooncoin GAA Complex 9th May 2010  
Composition by Jimmy Walsh



Waterford Team which played Kilkenny at the Official Opening



Mooncoin Senior Football Team 2010  
Back: C Daly, E Ryan, D Comerford, M Fitzgerald, N Mackey, E Hennebry, L Hennebry, D O'Brien, P Kinsella, J Kearns, A Hennebry, J Phelan.  
Front: D Purcell, E Mackey, S Crowley, PJ Rowe, R Wall, S Kearns, D Mackey, S Wall, K Kirwan, D Cody,

# MUCKALEE GFC

## CLUB REPORTS



2010 was a very successful year for Muckalee Football Club. In 2010 the club contested both the Senior Football league final and the Senior Football championship final. The club won the Senior Football Championship with a strongly fought-for victory over defending champions Glenmore on a final score of one goal ten points to one goal seven points. In the football league final Muckalee were beaten by Mullinavat by three points on a final score of one goal six points to six points. The club also participated in the Leinster intermediate football championship but were defeated in the first round by Naomh Eoin of Myshal Carlow on a score of ten points to eight points in an entertaining game played in Doctor Cullen Park Carlow.

The junior football team had a difficult year. They played in the league without success. The under 21 football championship has not yet started at time of print. The club would like to thank all those who supported us during the year especially our team sponsor Mr Jim Bolger.

### **Club Development**

The final phase of the first part of development at the pitch in Muckalee was finished with the completion of the all weather training area which incorporates an all weather surface area, ball wall, lights and fencing.

The development was completed by a well focused committee comprising of the

following members:- Larry Maher, Paddy Morrissey, Patsy Murphy, Richard O'Shea, Richard Nolan, Tom Dooley, Seamus Tynan, Breda Tynan, Anthony Maher, Jimmy Maher, Martin Dowd, Patrick O Flynn, Paddy Tynan and Eddie Butler.

The club has a new five year plan in place which covers the second phase development consisting of dressing rooms, scoreboard, car park, boundary fencing and stand. Due to the current economic situation it will take longer to complete this development.

### **Bereavements**

The club would like to extend sympathies to all Club members who suffered bereavements during the year.



Robert Shore (Capt) receives County SF Cup from Tom Duggan, Chairman



New Ball Wall at Muckalee



MEMORY LANE - 1992 MUCKALEE U21 FOOTBALL TEAM

**Back:** Caleb Daly, Aidan Lawlor, Seamus Byrne, Dermot Comerford, John Dooley, Richard Healy, Tommy Kehoe, Martin Patterson, Liam Coogan, Liam Nolan, Mattie Kealy.

**Front:** John Ryan, Eoin Maher, Sean Kelly, Paddy Kealy, Nicky Purcell, Dermot Lawlor, Jerry Buggy, Richard Nolan, Brendan Ryan, Tom Agar.

# MULLINAVAT CLUB REPORTS



The year began with a reunion function in the Rising Sun in Mullinavat for the 1984 junior team. The victory of the junior team in the centenary year of 1984 was the springboard for many further victories. Indeed it is fair to say that the club has achieved more in the 1984-2010 period than in the 100 years which preceded it. It was a great night and it was great to see so many of the players from that team looking so well. Not only have those players given the club great service on the field of play, but many have also served the club in administrative roles and contributed hugely to the overall development of the club. Fittingly, a presentation was made to long serving chairman Tommy Frisby for his outstanding work.

At adult level, the club competed excellently throughout the season. The Intermediate team won the league and went agonisingly close to winning the championship. The Junior B team won the county league and the Junior A team won the southern league. The senior football team captured the county league title so all adult teams claimed a piece of silverware. At juvenile level, it was a quiet year as none of our underage teams made much progress in their championships. Best performing unit was our under 16 team which was unlucky to lose out at semi final stage to the eventual

al winners Fenians in a thrilling game. Our under 8's and under 10's had a busy year and this group are making steady progress. Congratulations must be extended to Kilkenny Intermediate manager Pat Hoban for leading Kilkenny to the All Ireland Intermediate title and to Ian Duggan for winning a medal as part of this panel. Congratulations also to the

Mullinavat camogie club on capturing the county senior title for the first time in dramatic fashion. The handball club staged the very successful Eamonn Law memorial tournament in October and congratulations are also extended to Nicholas Anthony on winning the national junior hardball championship.



1984 Junior Champions Reunion Function with guest of honour Peter Foskin in front.



Mullinavat U8's and U10's 2010

# O'LOUGHIN GAELS

## CLUB REPORTS



### Kilkenny Senior Champs 2010

After suffering heartbreaking losses in the U-14 County Final and Minor County semi-final, our Senior team gave us the victory we deserved, after a massive effort was put in all year, on the field, from U-6s right up to adult level.

We are the biggest club in Kilkenny and now after securing our third senior title in a decade, one of the most successful. It was a proud day for our 600 plus membership when Martin Comerford lifted the Tom Walsh cup on Sunday October 24th.

Having derailed All Ireland champions, Ballyhale Shamrocks, in the semi final we played Carrickshock in the final, in front of 11,008 people. After dominating proceedings we eventually finished ahead by three points. A massive party took place in our magnificent clubrooms where close to 1000 people enjoyed themselves through the night.

### Kilkenny Féile na Gael Champions

Senior hurlers, Niall Bergin, Mark Bergin and Maurice Nolan trained our U-14 hurling team this year and brought us massive success.

First up was the U-14 football league title. This was followed up by a runaway victory in the Kilkenny Féile na nGael and the chance to represent Kilkenny at Féile, which this year was held in Clare and Limerick.

We were drawn in a very tough group which included Monaleen of Limerick and Sixmilebridge of Clare, as well as our wonderful hosts Éire Óg, Ennis. Over 100 parents and supporters joined the team for the weekend.

Our team are very skilful but a little on the small side. However, we won our first three matches and qualified for a quarter final against a much bigger Kilmacud Crokes side, whom we could not overcome. This was a fantastic experience for our club.

The U-14s also represented Kilkenny in the Football Féile which was held in Donegal. They did themselves proud winning their first two matches and barely missed out on qualification to the knockout stages.

Our host club was Carndonagh GAA club, who just happened to be the home club of club stalwart Michael Monagle. Great friendships were formed and hopefully will be rekindled in the future.

Others on the management team included Anthony Bergin and Sean Cleere.

### U-13s - All Ireland Kilmacud Crokes Sevens and Lisdowney Sevens Champions

Our U-14 team were the first team to bring All Ireland glory to our club when they captured The Kilmacud Crokes All Ireland Sevens tournament in Dublin. Top club teams were represented. O'Loughlins got through to the final where they beat Kilmacud Crokes.

Previously this team had also collected the highly coveted Coca Cola Lisdowney Sevens tournament.

### U-6s, 8s, 10s and U12s

In a club of our size, in order to prosper, our underage structure has to be spot on and we have a brilliant underage committee chaired by John Collins.

We start training from U- 6s up, every Sunday morning at 11am. Our emphasis is always on fun and making friends as well as some basic skill lessons as well.

Our U-10 team created somewhat of a record this year when a fixture clash meant they were to play a tournament in Kilkenny and also in Gorey on the same day.

The managers split their panel evenly. Half went to Gorey, the other half went across the city to James Stephens and fair play to all involved, they collected the silverware in both tournaments.

### Club Officers 2010

Chairman	Mick Nolan
Vice Chair	Martin Hanlon
Secretary	Margaret Hanlon
Treasurer	Eddie Buckley
PRO	Nigel Leydon
Hurling/ Fotball	Martin Brennan
Juvenile	John Collins
Handball	Con Moore
Development	Coleman Loughnane
Bar / Pavilion	Benny Walsh
Membership	Searlaith Doyle
Co Board Rep	Luke Roche

Our grounds chairman Mick Burke passed away suddenly during the year and an obituary appears elsewhere in this publication.



Kilmacud Crokes All Ireland U-13 Sevens Champions



**Marching Out! The future is with us!**  
A group of U-6 and U-8 players enjoying the annual hurling and camogie blitz

# PILTOWN

## CLUB REPORTS



### Club Officers 2010

Chairman:	Philip Walsh
Vice-Chairman:	James Farrell
Secretary:	Bill Costello
Treasurer:	Stephen O'Brien
PRO:	Siobhan Burchill

### Hurling

Piltown Junior hurlers had a great run in both the ACHL and South League Championship. In the ACHL, Piltown's seven match unbeaten run came to an end when Piltown were beaten by Lisdowney by a point after extra time. Come championship time, Piltown were unable to sustain their early season form and lost to John Lockes in the Southern Final. It was a disappointing end to a year that showed so much promise early on, with the highlight being the capture of the South Junior Hurling League title. Piltown Junior A's performed gallantly throughout the year and were comfortable at Junior A level. Their championship came to an end in July when they were defeated by the Rower Inistioge. Piltown U-21's went down to Ballyhale in the South Quarter Final in an excellent match, which also went to extra time.

### Football

Piltown Intermediate footballers claimed the Intermediate Football League title and lost to the eventual winners, Thomastown, in the Intermediate Football Championship.

### Piltown 50th and 25th Anniv. Reunions

In May 2010, the successful U-14 & U-16 Squads from 1960 and 1985 came together for a reunion full of memories and laughter. MC for the night, Joe O'Sullivan reviewed the past successes and the players involved. Willie O'Connor made the presentations on the night with more than the odd funny quip thrown in. Each player or representative received and engraved memento from Duiske Glass in Graignamanagh.

### Juvenile Officers

Chairman:	Martin Gannon
Secretary:	Helen Kinsella
Treasurer:	Teresa Dunphy
Bord na nOg:	Siobhan Burchill
PRO:	Robert Duggan

Piltown minors lost to Ballyhale Shamrocks in the Roinn C semi-final. Both the U-16's and U-14's disappointingly exited their respective championships. Piltown U-16's had success early in the year in the floodlit Jim Reid Tournament in Piltown. The U-12's and U-13's progressed steadily throughout the year and the U-11's were well represented on Camaint Final day in Nowlan Park with two teams participating. Pride of place goes to the U-10's who won the Mullinahone Tournament for the fourth year in a row and also showed enormous determination to reach the final of the Gores tournament for the first time. Fantastic work was put into

the U-6's and U-8's this year, led by Pat Power and his team of coaches, with the club hosting a number of mini blitzes. Thanks to all new and established coaches.



Piltown - U10 Mullinahone Tournament Winners



Piltown 1960 U-14 Team - 50th Anniversary

**Back:** Nicky Kenneally (Kildalton), John Moriarty (Piltown - RIP), Jimmy Breen (Mountain Grove), Sean Reid (Garrygaug), Seamus Farrell (Owning), John Joe Walsh (Belline), Michael Malone (Tower Road), Jim Reid (Garrygaug - RIP).  
**Front:** Sean Sullivan (Fiddown), Pat Brophy (Fiddown), Willie Drennan (Lickawn RIP), Bill Quirke (Fiddown - Capt), Philip Walsh (Springfield), Mick Long (Ardclone), Eddie O'Sullivan (Ardclone).  
**Subs:** Michael Brennan (Ashtown), Johnny Cummins (Strand Road), Tom Reid (Garrygaug), Noel Grace (Turkstown).



Piltown 1985 U-16 Team - 25th Anniversary

Back; Paddy Bowe, David Commins, Alan Carroll, John Kelly, Tom Reid, Des O'Dea, Jim Commins, Sheila Norris, Sean Kiely, Pat Butler, Ger Talbot, Joe O'Shea, John Cuddihy, Ger Giles, Robert Cox.

Front; Mick Farrell, William Murphy, Michael O'Shea, Tom Anthony, Steven Reid, Robbie Blackmore, Tommy Cuddihy, David Phelan, Andrew McCarthy, Nigel Coffey, Mark Walsh.

# ROWER/INISTIOGE

## CLUB REPORTS



### Bord na nÓg

2010 was another active and successful year for the under age teams with the U-16 Team winning Championship and League titles in Roinn B. The U-16 Team defeated Graig Ballycallan in the County Final while they got the better of a very determined St. Patrick's team in the League final.

The Under 14 team, while bowing out of the Roinn A Championship to O'Loughlins at semi-final stage, enjoyed memorable victories over Dicksboro and Glenmore in the earlier rounds when coming from behind to snatch victory in the final minutes of the contests.

The Minor team lost out by a narrow margin in the first round of the "A" Championship to O'Loughlins while our Schools team found the competition too strong in this year's hurling and football competitions.

The U-12 Team had a busy year with participation in the new summer league and the Tullougher Tournament where they reached the final against Slieverue.

The U-10 Teams together with the U-8's and U-9's played in many blitzes and tournaments and among the many highlights were their performances in the Roammore tournament.

The U-6's and 7's were also busy throughout the season with many of the youngsters playing their first game for the Club.

### Michael Meaney Country Cup

The 2009 U-14 Team overcame a strong challenge from Freshford to emerge as overall winners of the Country Cup with the final been played in October this year.

The Club presented the Cup for this new Tournament to the County Bord Na nÓg in memory of Michael Meaney with the presentation of the trophy being made by James and Micheal Meaney to Tom Delahunt, Vice Chairman of Bord Na nÓg on the day of the final.

### Adult Competitions

Three points in the quarter final of the championship after having some mixed performances throughout the league campaign. Like many other Clubs we had to endure the loss of some of our experienced players as they travelled abroad to find employment during the year.

Our Junior A and B Teams while always competitive during the season, came up a little short in the concluding stages of their respective championships with the "A" losing out to Carrickshock in the Southern Final, while our "B" team almost snatched victory from neighbours Tullougher in the Southern "B" semi final. The U-21 team had an early exit in the 2010 championship when losing out to Mullinavat

### Club Development

The long awaited new changing rooms at our grounds in Inistioge were completed during the summer and are now being used by all teams. The remaining sections of the building, including a gym, sports hall and function room, are all now near completion and will be operational within the near future. In 2010 work also com-

menced on the levelling and re-sizing of the GAA grounds in the Rower and while it will be out of action for early 2011, it is planned that the new pitch will be ready for action by mid summer.

### Sympathies

In August 2010, all in the Club and Community were saddened by the very sudden death of Danny White. Danny played on many Club teams throughout his hurling career and was a member of the victorious 1968 team that won the County Senior hurling final. Danny was involved with many Club teams in latter years, as manager and selector and was a great supporter of Club and County. To his wife, Brid and

all of his family and to all club members who suffered bereavements during 2010, we offer the members' sympathies.

### Thanks

The Club offers its thanks to all the many people who support the Club on the field of play and in all of the non-playing activities. Many thanks to all who assist with the promotion and development of the games with all of the many teams especially with all the under-age teams. We are indebted to all of our many sponsors and all who support us financially throughout the year.



**Rower Inistioge U-12 Team**

**Winners of Shield in Graignamanagh Tournament.**

**Back:** James O'Brien, John Clifford, John Grace, Denis Kilbride, Patrick Prendergast, Alex Hatt, Jamie Dwan, Oisín Morrissey, Jack Ryan, Martin Cullen, William Ashe Doyle.

**Front:** Cathal O'Neill, Edward Prendergast, Séán Bolger, William Mulholland, William O' Carroll, Tadgh Harkin, Mike Chapman, Jamie Holden, Jack Gilsean.



**Golf Classic Committee with Winners of 2010 Classic - Fr Pat Duggan's Team.**

Fr Seamus McEvoy, Matt Galavan, Robert Dunphy, Liam Duggan (Member of Winning Team), Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh, (Special Guest), Eddie Keher, Fr. Pat Duggan, Gerry Lyng, Donal Kavanagh, Paschal Walsh, Michael Lyng.

# SLIEVERUE

## CLUB REPORTS



### Official Opening

The date 25<sup>th</sup> April 2010 was a historic day for our Club with the Official opening by Christy Cooney, Uachtaran CLG of our new Astro Turf/Ball Wall at our club grounds on the Airmount road. There was a tremendous ball wall demonstration given by Paudie Butler (National Co – Coordinator) to the Junior team and some under-age players, and the activities were rounded off suitably by an U-8's exhibition game.

We then had a very special presentation to two long and dedicated serving members of our Club in recognition of their outstanding service to Slieverue GAA for the last 25 years, an honour that was truly deserved by both Jim Walsh & Michael O'Neill.

Our Community has made a significant investment in our facilities, which were also included in the official opening: These include

Excellent quality Senior pitch (140m x 80m)  
 Excellent quality Juvenile pitch (100m x 60m with 6 flood lights)  
 Enclosed Astro Turf Pitch (50m x 25m with 8 flood lights)  
 Ball Wall (50m x 5m ht).  
 Extended car parking (100 cars) + street lighting and footpaths.



A View of the magnificent Astro Turf and Ball Wall



Slieverue U-12 Tullogher Tournament Winners 2010

**Back:** Tadhg Williams, Aaron Redmond, Mark Keogh, Evan Cullen, Conor Galvin, Paul Rellis, Aaron O'Brien, Cillian Power, Stephan Mullally.  
**Front:** Gavin Morrissey, Ben Alcock, Eamonn Phelan, Gavin Grant, William Mullally (Capt), Jack Frisby, Danny Moore, Mathew Gaynor, Michael Irish.



Slieverue U-13 'City League' Winners 2010

**Back:** David Irish, David Corrigan, Michael Egan, Peter Murphy, John Mulcair, Colm Fleming, Luke O'Donovan, William Mullally, Ethan Walsh, Eoin Freyne, James Dodd, Oisin Buggy.  
**Front:** Sean Moore, Eamonn Phelan, Jack Frisby, Joe O'Brien, Ben Alcock, Cillian Power, Gavin Morrissey, Michael Irish, Steven Roache, Aaron O'Brien, Mathew Gaynor.

### Adult Hurling

The Junior team reached the quarter final of the Championship and had a good league run with two victories and a draw. The Junior B team got to the quarter final of the Championship also and had good wins in the league only to narrowly miss out on a Semi-Final spot. The U-21s reached the semi-final of the Championship with some excellent displays along the way, so the future looks bright.

### County Players

The Club was well represented at County level this season with both Niall Walsh (Senior & Intermediate) and Eoin Kenny (U-14) wearing the County Jersey on many occasions and contributing immensely to their team's successes throughout the year.

### Lots of Juvenile Games

At Juvenile level 2010 was a busy year and a great deal of work was done with all our under-age teams. Our U-6s, 8s and 10's showed great enthusiasm and took part in blitzes and tournaments throughout the year. The U-11s competed in the Camaint series of games and did well in the festival day held in Nowlan Park. The U-12s reached the 'A' South Kilkenny final, which was held in Nowlan Park also and won out the Tullogher 'Ritchie Young' U-12 Tournament against a very good Rower team. The U-13s also had a good season winning out the Waterford City League in a titanic final against our neighbours Glenmore in Walsh Park.

The U-14s squad reached the league County Final and also reached the Semi Final in Co. Championship only to fall short in both, but along the way had impressive victories in both campaigns so it's hopeful for next season.

# ST LACHTAIN'S

# CLUB REPORTS



## The Glorious Thirteenth!

Saturday night 13th February saw the culmination of a dream which had started at training on that Sunday morning in Páirc Lachtaín in February 2009.

It was the bringing together of neighbours, friends and families for an occasion that will live in our memories forever. Team mentors included Mick McCarthy, Gordon Ryan, Davy Martin and Jimmy Meagher, with the help given by the backroom team were invaluable to the occasion.

Many thanks has to be given to the teachers in our school and to the officers of Bord na nÓg both past and present, who coached these lads when they were young and kept them hurling.

## Senior Hurling

Finding our feet in the top grade of hurling took a little while. Beating Tullaroan and losing narrowly to Erin's Own and James Stephens left us facing St Martin's in the first round of the championship. Losing this and the match versus Fenians saw us drop back to Intermediate grade for the 2011 championship.

## Junior Matters

The junior team competed in the All County League, the North Junior League' and the Junior championship' beating Cloneen in the first round before losing to Dicksboro in the next round. Team mentors included Richard Costelloe, John Marnell and Pat Anderson.

## Junior B

Following a fine run in the Northern league they were unlucky to lose to Barrow Rangers in the semi-final. In the championship they lost to Lisdowney in the Northern semi-final. Team mentors included P Doyle and Joe Dermody.

## U-21 Hurling

The U-21s lost out by a single point to St Patricks, Ballyragget. Team mentors included Davy Martin, Joe Dermody and Pat Brennan.

## Bord na Óg

Pride of place must go to the minor team who were pipped by Kilmacow in the Roinn A semi-final. This followed a good league campaign. Mentors included C Britton, JJ Donnelly, N Lennon, T Campion and A Cleere.

## U-16

Beating Conahy in the first round, they lost out to Ógra Graig/Blacks & Whites in the championship.

Team mentors included JJ Donnelly, J Kennedy, J Bowden, A Cleere and L Walsh.

## U-14

Their campaign started with a defeat by Bennetsbridge in the Féile B final in Palmerstown. Level at full time and extra time, the result was decided by taking five 45 metre free with Bennetsbridge winning 0-3 to 0-1. Losing to Lisdowney in the league saw them qualify for the Shield final v Ballyhale Shamrocks which they lost. In the championship having beaten Ballyragget and Bennetsbridge, they were beaten by Lisdowney in the championship semi-final. The 2009 U-14 team were beaten by Rower Inistoge in the delayed Country cup. Mentors involved with this team included J Lyng, N Maher, T Brennan, P Quinn, L Walsh and P White.

## All Ireland Contestants

Congrats to Brian Kennedy and Stephen Farrell who were part of the Kilkenny minor

panel which won the All Ireland v Clare. Bill Beckett , Eoin Guinan and Robbie Dowling, with Tom Doheny as selector, were part of the county intermediate panel which won the All Ireland while MI Kavanagh and Eoin Guinan were part of the kilkenny senior panel for the All Ireland v Tipperary.

## County Involvement

Jim Lyng was a mentor on the Kilkenny U-14 team beaten in the Tony Forristal final in Waterford while Paul White played at midfield on this team. Philip Campion was a member of the Kilkenny U-17 squad while Shane Donnelly was a member of the U-16 squad. Darren Brennan and Dara Quinn were part of a second Kilkenny U-14 squad which played in an Inter-county tournament held in Waterford.

## U-12

They competed in the U-12 Leinster league hosted by St Vincents of Dublin. Team mentors included A Dawson, M O'Leary and S Killeen.

## U-10

This team won a tournament hosted by Clarinbridge of Galway. Team mentors included M O'Leary, N Maher, P Leahy and B Barnaville.

## U-8

Looking after this team were D Killeen, T Bergin, B Bergin, M Walsh and D Condon.

## Bereavements

Sympathy is extended to all club members and their families who lost a loved one during the past year .



The Homecoming – Freshford on Parade!

# ST MARTIN'S

## CLUB REPORTS



### Adult Level

Our Junior B's having won the county final in '09 went on to take part in the Club All-Ireland hosted by Kileedy GAA club, Limerick. They beat Padraig Pearses of Galway in the semi-final and went on to play St. Mary's Rathkeale in the Final on March 21st. It took a replay before they took the cup. Well done to everyone.

Our seniors reached the quarter final of the championship where they were defeated by O' Loughlins who went on to win the final. The seniors did have some consolation by winning the Alyward Cup where the opposition was O'Loughlins. The juniors got to the quarter final of the championship where they were beaten by Dicksboro and to the semi-final of the league losing out to Lisdowney. The Junior A's suffered two losses to Young Irelands of Gowran – one in the semi-final of the league and the other in the first round of the championship.

### Bord na nÓg

Teams competed well at all age groups from U6 up in the local blitz. Some of our U8 panel were lucky enough to play in a blitz in Croke Park and had a wonderful day out. They played Marshalstown of Wexford on the day and won. The U13's took part in the mini-feile in Wicklow. On the day they played three games against Camross, Ratoath (Meath) and Kilcoole (Wicklow). They then played St. Patrick's of Wexford in the final. They won each game convincingly and were a credit to the club. The U11 won the 12 a-side blitz in Ballyraggett. Our Minors and U16 both suffered defeats in the first round of the championships. The U14's reached the semi-final and narrowly lost to Ógra Blacks/Whites.

There is great work being done at all age levels in the club and we can only hope to reap the benefits in the coming years.

### County Players

St. Martins had representatives on the Kilkenny Senior and U21 Teams. Congratulations to John Mulhall (senior) and Colm Mc Grath, Ollie Walsh, Thomas Breen and Canice Maher (U21). Also to Adrian Farrell, Patrick Brennan and Donal Shore who were part of the Kilkenny U15 team, to Jack Dowling who was on the U16 panel, to Ruairí Kinsella and David Breen who were part of the Kilkenny U17 team. Congratulations to David Walsh, Shane Dowling and Jason Shore who were part of the Kilkenny U14 panel.

### St. Martins Club Website

We have a club website up and running. Look up [www.stmartinsgaa.ie](http://www.stmartinsgaa.ie) where you will find all the latest results and match reports and also what's happening in the club.

### Thanks

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to all those who supported and sponsored us during the year in our Race Night, Bag Packing, Buster Draw and Church Gate Collection, or as team Sponsors. Thanks also are extended to the many people who devote their time in a voluntary capacity at all levels of the club.

### Sympathies

The club would like to take this opportunity to extend our condolences to the families and

friends of fellow club members who were deceased during the year.



**U 8 TEAM IN CROKE PARK**

Russell Kealy, Tommy Flynn, Jack Farrell, Shane Fahey, Shane O'Neill, Tristan Roche, Matthew Shortall, Lorcan Agar, Cillian Bryan, Joseph Reid, Bill Dowling, Thomas Lawlor, Oisin Kelly, Aaron Meany. Trainers Sean Kelly, Liam Dowling.



**U13 TEAM WHO TOOK PART IN THE MINI-FEILE IN WICKLOW.**

John Joe Kelly, Robert Reid, Eoin Murphy, Sean Maher, Finn Dowling, Paddy Heffernan, Conor Fahy, Evan Stapleton, Tommy Downey, Tommy Quirke, Colm O'Neill, Seamus O'Keeffe, Conor Dowling, Adam Kelly, Jack Manning, Padraig Buggy, Ciarán Brennan, Jack Nolan, Mathew Cullen, Patrick Darcy, Conor Moloney, Adam Comerford, Ciarán Fahy, Ciarán Fitzpatrick, Richard O'Shea and Dean Farrell



**From the Archives - Are you here?**

# ST PATRICK'S

## CLUB REPORTS



### Special Occasion

One of the highlights of the year, was the visit to the Faughs club in Dublin for their 125th year celebrations and official opening by GAA president Christy Cooney of their new facilities. Famous Faughs and Dublin hurler, Tommy Moore was born in Fier in the north of Ballyragget parish.

When he finished playing he became chairman of the Faughs from 1929 to 1969. He then became president until his death in 1973.

Tommy Moore was the grandfather of Kilkenny coach Brian Ryan. Philip Kenny (chairman) and Noel Cummins (Secretary) presented a portrait of Tommy Moore to the Faughs club to mark the occasion.

Local artist John Walsh from Donoughmore commissioned the portrait which has pride of place in the Faughs club rooms. St Patricks beat the locals in a challenge to mark the official opening.

### All Ireland Winners

Kevin Kelly and Michael Brennan won all Ireland medals at minor level with the Kilkenny Hurlers. Both players excelled throughout the year on the field of play and were it not for the artistry of Kevin and the clinical finishing of Michael, success in the all Ireland final against Clare would not have been achieved.

Also well done to Seoirse Kenny who was part of the Kilkenny intermediate panel who also won the all Ireland final.

Joe and Geoff Brennan were also part of the U-21 hurling panel defeated by Dublin in the Leinster championship.

Well done to JJ Sullivan, Seoirse Kenny, Michael Gannon, Liam Brennan, Ger Staunton, Sean Mooney, who were part of the Kilkenny football team.

We also had representatives on the Kilkenny development squads – RobbieHealy at U-17, Eoin Bergin and Conor Bolger at U-16, David Kelly and Sean Gleeson at U-15 and Billy Morrissey, Oisin Brennan and Fergus O'Neill at U-14.

### Bad Luck!

Bad luck is the term that comes to mind by looking back over 2010 for the adult section of St Patricks. Losing the special junior league county final to Mullinavat by two points and losing the north junior final to Barrow Rangers by one point left us very close to achieving club success.

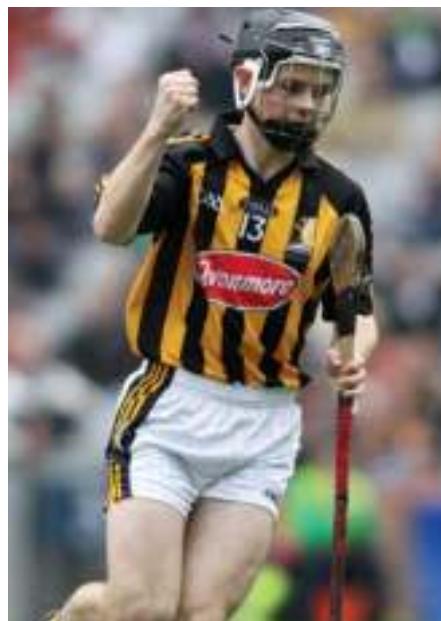
The average age of the team is still very young and preparations are already underway for 2011. Hopefully, if we can avoid injuries, this team will be challenging for honours again next year.

### Well done James and Michael!

James Gannon captained St.Kierans College to their 17th All-Ireland win. They beat Ard Scoil Ris Limerick by 2-11 to 2-08 in the final which was played in Semple Stadium. Michael Brennan scored a great goal in the second half which helped to see off the Munster men. Both lads played crucial roles in this hard-fought victory.



Noel Cummins presenting **Mick Clayton**, Chairman of Faughs, with portrait of Tommy Moore also included is **Christy Cooney**, President CLG.



Michael Brennan scores for Kilkenny in the All Ireland MH Final



James Gannon, St Kieran's College captain in Semple Stadium



**St Patrick's, Ballyragget at the opening of Faughs Clubgrounds**

**Back:** Joe Brennan, B. Dooley M. Gannon, J. Holland, S. Mooney, N. Staunton, K. Delaney, Barry Staunton, G. Morrissey, Brian (Tom) Phelan.

**Front:** D. Brennan, S. Kenny, B. Mulhall, P. Cahill, Geoff Brennan, Bill Staunton, J. Mooney, A. Ruth.

# THOMASTOWN

## CLUB REPORTS



Pride of place must go to our three All Ireland Minor medal winners Dylan Walsh, Thomas O'Hanrahan and Dylan Waugh. All three contributed handsomely to Kilkenny's great victories this year and it augurs well for the Club that the three lads will be key members of our future adult teams. In advance of the All-Ireland Day in Croke Park, and they were delighted to pass on some words of wisdom to the young players. Later in the year Paddy and Tom together with Johnny Delaney and John Murphy were introduced to the crowd at half-time on County Final Day as members of the Kilkenny 1961 Minor All Ireland Champions. Grennan hosted many of the County Minor Training sessions this year and with Adrian Finan a member of the Management Team it was clear that Thomastown played an important role in the landing of the 2010 All Ireland title.

At adult level the year was one of transition with many young players tasting championship action for the first time. The team finished mid-table in the South Junior League/Championship and qualified for the South Semi-final following a comfortable victory over Windgap. With injuries to a number of key players they were well in the game with John Lockes in a tie which could have gone either way. It probably puts Thomastown's position in perspective in that John Lockes won the County Championship and are now well on their way in the Leinster Club Championship. The Junior A team more than held their own all year and with a bit of luck could have advanced further. The under 21's disappointed somewhat but their lack of preparation – they played their quarter final within a week of the exit from South Junior Championship - cannot have helped their cause.

The year ended on a high note with the footballers winning the Intermediate Football Championship with a great win over Danesfort. The victory qualified the club for inclusion in the Leinster Junior Championship. As we go to print the Club were scheduled to play the Meath champions in Pairc Tailteann in Navan. The under 14's were competing in the Roinn A Championship this year and played 16 competitive matches in both hurling and football only to be beaten three times. The highlight of the under-14's year was winning the Roinn A Football championship after beating Castlecomer, James-Stephens and The-Rower Inistioge on their way to meeting Dicksboro in the final. This match was played in Danesfort and proved to be a thriller with Thomastown winning by the narrowest of margins on a score line of 5.6 to 5.5 .Thus bridging a gap of 27 years since the last time Thomastown won the under14 Roinn A Football Championship

In the league, the U16 team won all divisional



Michael Mahony (Chairman), Dylan Walsh, Tom Walsh, Dylan Waugh, Thomas O'Hanrahan, Paddy Dempsey and Ger Kirwan (Chairman Bord na nÓg Thomastown)



Club Family Fun Day in Grennan

games and they reached the Roinn A League Semi Final against James Stephens but lost by one point after an heroic struggle. They played O'Loughlin Gaels in the quarter final of the Roinn A Championship and won a closely contested match. Castlecomer were the opponents in County semi-final which ended in a draw on the first outing. The replay was a thriller with both teams ending up level at full time and the match had to go into extra time. Thomastown emerged victors by 2 points at the final whistle. Thomastown faced James Stephens again in the Roinn A County Final but unfortunately on this occasion came out on the losing side, after a match that saw Thomastown being beaten by a more mature and physically stronger team. Huge credit must be given to the panel of players who trained from February of this year. Much was expected of the Minor Team this year back-boned by our three county stars. They defeated Rower Inistioge and James Stephens in the League but bowed out rather

tame in the Roinn A Championship quarter-final to St Lactains. However, the hard work put in this year is sure to benefit the team in the year ahead.

Meanwhile, Grennan continued to be a mecca for hundreds of young players every week from under 6's up to under 12's. At this level the club is more than holding their own and with the emphasis on participation the future is indeed very rosy for the Club in the year's ahead. The Club participated in numerous tournaments at under 8, 10 and 12 and were hugely successful.

The Club Family Fun Day in August was a huge success and probably the highlight of the Club Year. A sincere thank you to all who made this great day possible. The second annual Tractor Run on Easter Sunday was another great success and is now firmly established in the regional vintage club calendar.

# THREECASTLES

## CLUB REPORTS



### Club Officers 2010

Chairman	Eamonn Hennessy
Secretary	Angela Dalton
Treasurer	Ann Murphy
PRO	Gay Rafter

As we reflect on another year, the story of Three Castles on the playing fields remains the same. We still have the same faces year in, year out, putting on the jersey! You see the sprinkling of youth other clubs can introduce every year into their teams, but this is not an option for us. There is a drain on our limited supply of youth that is strangling our small club so much so, that every year seems to present a more intense challenge than the year before, so year on year, that mounts up to bring us to where we are now, critical if somewhat stable. That stability come from those, shall we say older players, who have heard the calling of the pipe and slippers years ago but they go on and on to keep a club in Three Castles. We must salute these players whose honesty and integrity rarely gets a mention. Next year we have a promise of a few new young players but we still need those older players to continue to ensure the club's existence.

### League Campaign

We had less than average league campaign with our season culminating in an opening championship loss to Clara in Bennettsbridge in late June, thus ending our season. This is very early to be finished for the year and maybe we could appeal to the Northern Board to look at our situation and see where they could help.

Great credit has to go to Eamonn Hennessy, our chairman, in his drive to keep this club going. He gets great help from Ann Murphy, our treasurer and Angela Dalton, our club secretary.

### Fundraising

Our Fundraising has stayed the same now for a number of years, we hold a Race Night in the New Year and the usual Piltown Draw Tickets, our own local Lotto and Membership seems to furnish our needs for the year.

### Social Scene

We hold a Field Day in August and once again this year it was very successful and this keeps us in touch with our younger members. There was activities for all, from tots to teens and not forgetting the Mammys and Daddys! The Field Day is preceded by an Under 14 Hurling Tournament. Eight teams participated - St. Lachtains, Windgap/Galmoy, Conahy Shamrocks, Young Irelands, Dunmaggin, Piltown, Clara and Barrow Rangers. There was some fiercely contested and very skilful matches before Clara beat Barrow Rangers in the Cup Final. Windgap/Galmoy beat Conahy Shamrocks in Shield Final. Much glee and

excitement was added to the occasion when Tommy Walsh (Tullaroan) arrived to present the medals and trophies, for which the club is very grateful. Thanks to all who took part or helped to organise in any way. There are plans to run the same next year.

### Bereavements

This honesty, integrity and passionate drive we talk about was epitomised by a character that sadly was lost to the locality on April 3rd last. Sean Murphy(pictured) was a man who was always heart and soul into Three Castles Hurling Club, cutting the pitch, carrying the water and telling everyone with great honesty whether they were pulling their weight or not! It is with great fondness he will be remembered as Club President and a fantastic servant to Three Castles. The Club offers condolences to his family and to any other family in the area who has suffered bereavement during the year. May they Rest In Peace.



**Sean Murphy RIP**  
Past President of Three Castles GAA Club



**Tommy Walsh, Ben Hayes, Referee, Eamonn Hennessy, club chairman ready to present trophies at our U-14 Hurling Tournament.**

### Your Team Working for Kilkenny

**John McGuinness TD**  
**Cllr Andrew McGuinness - Kilkenny Borough Council**  
**Pat Fitzpatrick**  
**One-Stop-Shop-Advice Centre**

Every Saturday from 10.30am to 1.30pm

**Constituency Office O'Loughlin Road**  
**Kilkenny**

Please contact Ann Bergin for an appointment  
**Phone:** 056 770672/3 **Fax:** 056 7770674  
**Mobile:** 087 2855834  
**Email:** [johnmcg@eircom.net](mailto:johnmcg@eircom.net)  
**Web:** [www.johnmcguinness.com](http://www.johnmcguinness.com)



# TULLAROAN

## CLUB REPORTS



### Club Officers 2010

President	Dick Walsh (church)
Chairman	Bill Hennessy
Secretary	Donnie Hogan
Treasurer	Edward Holland
Juv Chairman	Derek Holmes
Juv Secretary	Elizabeth Maher
Juv Treasurer	Catherine Holmes

### Senior Action

Our senior team had a more successful league and championship campaign this year with two victories in the league, over Erin's Own and Fenians. We were defeated by James Stephens in the first round of the championship.

This match led to a lot of interest all over the country when club star Tommy Walsh sustained an injury to his shoulder which almost ruled him out of playing his part in the All Ireland final.

Tullaroan hosted the first senior game in years this July with the eventual county finalists Carrickshock taking on Erin's Own in a very entertaining encounter.

Again this year the senior team was hit by a number of injuries to players and emigration.

In the championship the Special Junior team were defeated by the Fenians. In the Under 21 championship we are in the North semi-final, still to be played.

### County Stars

Tommy Walsh won his 8th consecutive All Star award - a record equalling achievement. Padraig Walsh and Paul Buggy were part of the victorious Kilkenny minor winning team.

### Club News

The club held its annual golf classic in Rathdowney in July and once again this proved to be a great social outing as well as a vital fundraiser. A very successful monster timber auction was held in the club grounds in October.

A family fun day was held in the club grounds August 14th and was a huge success and enjoyed by all who attended.

### Sympathies

The club would like to extend its sympathy to the families of the following; Mary Maher, Fr Kevin Brennan, Ellen Leenane, Ann Dowling, Bridget Mullally, Mick Walton, Patrick Brennan (the village), John Marshall, Cecilia Molloy, Nellie Quigley and Joan Hoyne.

### Bord na nÓg

There was plenty of activity in the juvenile scene in 2010. The U-6 team trained every Tuesday and they concluded the season with a friendly game.

The U-8 team participated in the "Go Games" competition in O'Loughlins. They also competed in the Dicksboro and Kilmanagh tournaments which they enjoyed immensely, as well as a few challenge games.

The U-9 team played in the Callan tournament with games against Graigue Ballycallan and John Lockes. They also played during the field day against Freshford on the 15th of August in



**Tullaroan U-14 Rionn B League Winners**

**Back:** Robert O'Flynn, John Walton, Shane Cuddihy, Jason O'Riordan, Diarmuid Doheny, Bill Cuddihy, Bill Gaffney, Shane Walsh, Jim Moore, Jack Keoghan

**Front:** Liam Teehan, Bob Cuddihy, Joey Walsh, Dylan Simpson, Kieran Lanigan Captain, Tommy Walsh, Martin Keoghan, Sean Buggy, Niall Buggy, John Dooley, Shane Joyce, Aidan Cleere and Kevin Maher.



**Tullaroan U-8 team 2010**

**Back:** Keelan Brennan, Sam Coughlan, James Cash, Paul Og Mulligan, Eamon Og Holland, Laoise Holland, Padraig Mahony and Niall Holland. **Front:** Brendan Walsh, Richard Cash, Bill Walton, Gearoid Dunne, Adam Coyne, Charlie Bibby and James Walton

### Tullaroan.

The U-10 team played in the "Go Games" and also the Freshford Tournament as well as a few challenge games.

The U-11's played in the "Camáint" competition and they had a very enjoyable day in Nowlan Park.

Our U-12 team played in the Callan tournament winning all their matches. They also enjoyed the "Go Games" competition.

The school team performed well in the higher Roinn "B" grade this year having won the Roinn "C" final last year. They were beaten by Shamrocks in the quarter final of the competition. They also competed in the U-13 football competition.

### U-14 Action

Our U-14 team got the season off to a start with a trip to Whitehall in Dublin for a challenge games and afterwards attended the Kilkenny v. Dublin league game in Parnell Park. They had a very successful league campaign winning all their matches to qualify for a league final spot against Lisdowney. This was a very closely contested game played in Kieran's College

with Tullaroan emerging winners by two points. The U-14 team were beaten in the Féile semi-final by Bennettsbridge by the narrowest of margins. In the championship they were beaten by Lisdowney in the quarter final.

The U-14's also competed in the football league and championship. They were beaten in the championship and have qualified for the league final against Lisdowney.

### U-16 and Minor Matters

The U-16 team did not qualify for the knockout stages of the league. They qualified for the semi-final of the championship but were beaten by Dunamaggin. However the season ended on a successful note as this team won the shield final with good victories over Mullinavat, James Stephens B, and Dicksboro B in the final.

The minor team were not successful in the league and did not qualify for the latter stages of the competition. They were beaten by Bennettsbridge in the championship but are still involved in the shield competition.

# TULLOGER/ROSBERCON

## CLUB REPORTS



### New Clubhouse and Wall

This year saw the club achieve a number of objectives, on and off the field. The aim of completing and opening our new clubhouse and hurling wall was achieved thanks to the generosity and support of the local community, our Development Sub Group and with support from Kilkenny County Council, the Leinster Council and Croke Park.

The club invited Tommy Walsh to perform the official opening on October 2nd and Tommy proved to be a great guest giving time to all and wishing the club every success on and off the field.

The attendance on the day were treated to a display by the young U-8 hurlers and young camogie players.

Along with Tommy as special guest, the attendance also included Paul Kinsella, Ned Quinn, Barry Hickey and John Comerford from the County Board and Seamus Howlin from the Leinster Council. MC for the day was John Healy and our local Parish Priest, Fr. Dan Kavanagh performed the official blessing.

### Schools

The three combined schools of Listerlin, St. Canices and Shambough won Roinn C of the Schools competition this year.

The young hurlers then followed that win with a hard earned victory over the same opposition, Conahy Shamrocks, in the Tommy Murphy Cup.

### Juvenile Hurling and Football

The clubs focus on proving playing and development opportunities for young hurlers was continued this year with young hurlers from U-6 to minor all giving their best for the club. The U-8 hurlers participated in Blizzes in Thomastown, St.Mullins and De La Salle in Waterford and enjoyed the games and the fun. The U-10's played in Roinn A of the Wexford based Caulfield League having won Roinn B last year. They played a number of games on their way to the final where they were defeated by Glenmore.

The U-10's also participated in the Go Games matches in the South and also played in a number of challenge and Blizzes.

On the weekend of the All Ireland finals they lost out to Mount Leinster Rangers in the final of the St. Mullins Blitz but won the Mount Leinster Blitz, defeating Graignamanagh in the final. The U-12 hurlers played in the South Blitz and once again this year the club organised and hosted the finals of the Richie Young Tournament with St Fichras overcoming Carrickshock in the C final.

Ballyhale Shamrocks beat hosts Tullogher Rosbercon in the B final and Slieverue pipped the Rower Inistioge in the A final.

Our U-14's played in Roinn B and lost out at the championship quarter final stage while our U-16's also had a good league run in Roinn C but lost out in the championship, as did our very young minor team.

### Adult Hurling

The Junior B hurlers had a good year with a solid league campaign and overcoming



**Tullogher Rosbercon Under 10 team includes**

Conor Brett, Ben Kennedy, Harry Flynn, Frank Murphy, Niall O'Shea, Richie Alyward, Ronan Moore, Aaron Doran, Brian Walsh, Mark McGrath, Dylan Morrissey, Ciall O'Connor, Brian Lynch, Terence Lawlor, Aaron Doran, Luke Walsh, Anthony O'Connor, Darragh McDonald.



**Tullogher Rosbercon Opening  
Photo Composition by Jimmy Walsh**

Kilmacow in the Southern final before losing out in the County final.

Our intermediate hurlers consolidated our status after a league campaign that brought a win over Mullinavat and a championship win over Blacks and Whites before Danesfort beat us in the Intermediate quarter final.

### County Squad Members

The club is proud of once again contributing players to the county squads with Richie Dollard, John Cottrell and Pat Hartley making significant contributions to Kilkenny's Leinster and Intermediate All Ireland winning campaigns

while Pat Hartley was also on the Senior panel. Walter Walsh was on the U-21 team that defeated Offaly before losing to Dublin in Leinster. The club would like thank sponsors and supporters for their contribution during the year.

### Bereavements

The club extends its sympathy to the family and friends of James Phelan, Tullogher, Patrick Walsh, Listerlin and also Slieverue, Wally Walsh, Hoodgrove, Jim Prendergast, Millbanks, Kathy O'Brien, Rosbercon, Tony Lewis, Rosbercon

# WINDGAP

## CLUB REPORTS



Windgap 2010 was a year of progress, development and change. It commenced with flood-lit hurling leagues and ended with Medal presentations and Football action.

### **Major Developments**

A dedicated team of volunteers enhanced facilities and provided as the tractor shed was built, the Clubhouse extension constructed, the goalmouths sodded with Simon Brophy leading the trimming of the sideline trees

### **La Na gClub**

The Club held a memorable Lá Na gClub with music, song, barbecues, blitzes, treasure hunts, face painting, hurling, camogie, handball and football games.

### **On the field of Play**

Led by Trainer Pat Walsh the junior team were in transition. A win over Bennettsbridge was the all county junior league highlight after which the side regrouped and won the Fennelly Cup in a replay before going out to Thomastown in the championship. The Junior "A" side had their moments with a league win over Ballyhale Shamrocks. The football fixtures failed to meet the interest and with high costs the future is uncertain.

### **Galmoy/Windgap**

Falling numbers saw the under fourteens become the fourth team in the clubs to combine, they won the league title against Slieverue and went down to champions Mooncoin. At under sixteen they won the 2009 league final in January and retained it over the Fenians. The minors went down to Ballyhale Shamrocks in the Championship and Shield Final. Slieverue defeated the U21's. County player John Mulhall did the medal presentations. Thanks to Threecastles and all the clubs who facilitated the teams training.

### **Juveniles**

Activities started with Indoor Hurling, the under six and eight hurlers played over twenty games with the visit to Croke Park being the highlight. In the school Coach Ger Doyle's side was competitive as the ladies assisted with only four boys in the top two classes. At under ten and twelve it was all Go Games, Camaint, blitzes and challenges. County Minor Eoin McGrath was a guest.

### **County Representatives**

In Hurling Phillip Lonergan won an all Ireland intermediate medal, Cian Ryan played under seventeen with Peter Hennessey and Darragh O'Shea on the Tony Forristal panel. Pat Walsh was a county u-21 a selector. In Football, Aidan Mackey, James Mackey, Gerard Purcell, Shane Walsh, Darragh O'Shea and Paraic Walsh played.

### **Handball**

The handballers had a successful year winning National, County, Leinster and Schools titles with Catherine Foley taking pride of place with two all Ireland titles

Development work continued on the alley, the Club hosted its first All Ireland finals, the One Wall Championships and the County juvenile's medal presentation night

### **Support**

Financially the Golf Classic, Vodafone, Card Games, Weekly Lotto, Co-Draw, Grants and the All Ireland Forecast proved very beneficial.

Thanks are extended to all trainers, parents, medics, sponsors, supporters and the handball and camogie clubs for their continuing support. Sympathies are expressed to all members who

suffered bereavements and to the families of Pierce Barry, Lar Power, and James Vaughan. For all the latest Windgap news visit [windgap.kilkenny.gaa.ie](http://windgap.kilkenny.gaa.ie)



Windgap U8's in Croke Park

# YOUNG IRELANDS

## CLUB REPORTS



Special guests at the Club Presentation night in March were members of the Special Junior B County Champions and the Under 21 B County Champions of 1985. They were presented with special mementos of the occasion by County Board Chairperson, Paul Kinsella. League medals were also presented to the minor team of 2009. The recipient of the Hall of Fame award was John Comerford. The under 16 camogie team also received their medals. A great night was had by all.

On the juvenile front the year started early, but on a successful note as the Minor team of 2009 won the outstanding B league final with a fine win over Harps of Durrow. The under 14s had a very good league campaign reaching the semi final and were defeated in the

Championship quarter final by eventual winners Conahy. At the other end of the year they captured the Roinn C Football league title when they defeated Conahy in the final. A young under 16 team competed well and laid a good foundation for the coming year. The minor team was defeated in the league quarter final by Mullinavat, and in the championship quarter final by Glenmore.

A large number of boys and girls were involved in weekly coaching sessions from April to September. From the sessions many games were played at under 8, 10, 11 & 12.

The Intermediate team had a good year reaching the semi final where they encountered old rivals, Dicksboro, with the Boro the better team on the day. The Special Junior team reached the Northern League Final where they were beaten by Fenians and were again defeated by the same opposition in the championship.

A big thank you to the mentors and players with all teams for their hard work during the year. Thanks also to all our committees for their work over the year.

At county level the club was represented by Michael Walsh on the Under 21 panel and by Paul Holden who was a member of the All Ireland Minor winning team.

The club could not function without support for our financial ventures. The Hurlers Co-Op Draw & the Golf Classic was successful while the weekly club lotto continues to be well supported. We are very grateful to all those who support these events and to our sponsors.

The club would like to offer their sympathy to all members and supporters who suffered bereavements during the best year.

The club congratulates any members who got engaged or married during the year and those who had new arrivals to their families.



**Young Irelands Special Junior A County Champions 1997**

**Back:** Pat Lennon, Peter Carroll, Pat Kennedy, John Drennan, Tom Drennan, Brendan Kehoe, John Kennedy, John Brennan, Kevin Fennelly, Tom Carroll(Selector), Eddie Power(Selector)  
**Front:** Noel Roche (Selector), Ciaran Carroll, David Carter, Charlie Carter, Martin Carter, Patrick Treacy, Aidan Drennan, John Paul Carroll, Philip Twomey, Donal Twomey



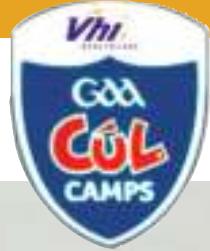
**Team members and mentors of the Special Junior and Under 21 County Champions of 1985 at the Club Presentation night with County Board Chairperson, Paul Kinsella.**



**Young Irelands U14 Roinn "C" Football League winners 2010**

**Back:** Alan Roche, Danny Kealy, Sean Carey, Sean Lynch, Michael Dunne, Sean O'Neill, Sean Farrell, Philip Dreeling, Peter Hutchinson, Kevin Brennan, Jamie Byran, Ciaran Carroll, James Bryan.  
**Front:** Michael Carey, Tommy Byrne, Jeremy Farrell, Ted Drea, Bill Brennan, Adrian Nolan, Shane Nolan, Geoff Brennan, Brian Rudkins, Jamie OiMahoney, Pat Farrell.

# Cúl Camps 2010



## St John's



# **CLARA**



# Thomastown



# Piltown





# Piltown





# Thomastown



**WINDGAP**



**CARRICKSHOCK**



**DUNAMAGGIN**



**GLENMORE**



**TULLOGER/ROSBERCON**



**BLACKS & WHITES**



**PILTON**



**MOONCOIN**



# Thomastown



## **U10 Hurling Tournament**

**Nowlan Park July 2010**





DANESFORT



THOMASTOWN



BENNETTSBRIDGE



ERIN'S OWN



DICKSBORO



DANESFORT



U14 FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT SQUAD 2010

Danny Monks, John Walsh Eoin Byrne Dylan Halligan, Padraig O'Fearghail, Liam Fennelly, Darragh O'Shea, Maurice Costello, Darragh Brennan, Michael Burke, Jason Carroll, Aaron O'Neill, Tom Kenny, Shane O'Dwyer, Barry Hennessy, Aidan Nolan, Eoin Walsh, John Brennan, Dean Mc Cann, Brian O'Connell, Peter O'Sullivan, Paul Cass, Conor Duggan, Mark Ryan, John Murphy, Shane Corr, Eugene Alyward, Mark Dowling, Sean Lynch, Liam Blanchfield, Jason Cleere, Kevin Brennan.

# Féile Skills Contestants 2010



## Ollie's Generation

*Do you remember when summer Sundays  
were always sunny,  
when we skipped like terriers,  
round the heels of our fathers  
heading for the Park.*

*We were Ollie's generation,  
bunched behind his net  
we willed the sliotar towards his goal.*

*Always he wanted the best  
to take their best shot,  
saved bullets for fun, for us.*

*Crouched like sprinters,  
our ears tuned to the sharp crack  
that signalled the dash for the broken hurl.  
There were many broken hurls.*

*A schemozzle in the goalmouth:  
backs and forwards locked in sumo-struggle,  
acting out the ritual of the dropping ball.*

*Colours detach.  
Like an angry tide  
blue-and-gold surges forward,  
bursts foaming on the goal line.  
The crowd stiffens.*

*Then, out he comes, dancing sideways,  
slicing through the melee,  
sliotar held high in his defiant fist.*

*Yelps of joy split the tension  
as hell for leather  
the ball takes wing and flies  
as quickly as the years.*

*Michael Massey*



**U12 Primary Schools Ladies Football Selection  
Mini Games Leinster Finals 2010**

# ST PAT'S ARE BACK!

Cumann na mBunscoileanna Report by Tom Duggan PRO

Photos Eoin Hennessy



St Patrick's De La Salle - Roinn "A" Champions 2010

Back: Mr Killian Mc Glynn (trainer), Andy Walsh, Eoin Wall, Ross Whelan, Andy Whelan, James Walton, Liam Rafter, Aaron Kelly, Tommy Walton, Ryan Scanlon.  
Middle: Jack Butler, Michael Doyle, Shane Stapleton, Naimul Hussein, Patrick Kennedy, William Spencer, Shane Donohoe, Mr.Noel Power (Manager)  
Front: Nathan Donohoe, Ben Devlin, Richie Stapleton, Andrew Parsons, Shane O'Shaughnessy (Captain), Noah Carty, Christian McGrath, Tadhg O'Dwyer.

**St Pat's made a return to the Roinn "A" Winners' enclosure in 2010 after an absence of twelve years. Ballyhale took both the Country Cup and Roinn B title while the new Roinn "C" competition now amalgamated with Roinn "D" saw Tullogher/Rosbercon become the inaugural winners of the Tommy O'Brien Cup.**

## Educational Supplies Roinn A Final St. Patrick's De La Salle 3-12 St. Canice's 2-7

St. Patrick's De La Salle won the Educational Supplies Roinn A final for the first time since 1997 when they defeated their city rivals St. Canice's after an excellent final in Nowlan Park. St. Patrick's went into this game as favourites but they were made fight all the way by a determined St. Canice's outfit. The opening exchanges were tense and after eight minutes the sides were level at one point apiece. Tadhg O Dwyer opened the scoring for St. Pat's with a point from a free and Adrian Nolan replied with a similar score for St. Canice's. St. Canice's edged ahead with points from Bill Sheehan and Aidan Nolan ('65). Aidan Nolan then found the net with a ground shot bit St. Patrick's struck back quickly with a goal from Shane O'Shaughnessy. Tadhg O'Dwyer added two points from frees before the break and right on the stroke of halftime William Spencer added another point to leave St. Patrick's ahead by 1-5 to 1-3.

Two points from Tadhg O'Dwyer straight from the restart put St. Patrick's on their way but St. Canice's hit back with a fine point from Aidan Nolan. However St. Patrick's were gradually getting the upper hand and they added 1-3 to their tally in the next ten minutes to put them in a commanding position. Eoin Wall scored the goal and Tadhg O'Dwyer, Ross Whelan and Andrew Parsons supplied the points. St. Canice's refused to throw in the towel and came forward in search of scores. Harry Duggan Scored an excel-

lent point to give them some hope. St Patrick's added a goal when Andrew Parsons scored after a good pass from Liam Rafter. Harry Duggan scored an excellent goal for St. Canice's to reduce the deficit , but they were unable to close the gap and the sides shared four points between them Harry Duggan(2) and Tadhg O'Dwyer (2) to see St. Patrick's run out deserving winners on a scoreline of 3-12 to 2-7.

**St. Patrick's De La Salle: Richard Stapleton, Patrick Kennedy, Ben Devlin, Shane Donohoe, Noah Carty, Shane O'Shaughnessy (C), Jack Butler, Tadhg O'Dwyer, Andrew Parsons, Liam Rafter, William Spencer, Shane Stapleton, Christian Holohan, Niamul Hussein, Nathan Donohoe, James Walton, Ross Whelan, Eoin Wall, Tommy Walton, Aaron Kelly, Michael Doyle, Andy Whelan, Ryan Scanlon, Andy Walsh.**

**St. Canice's: Gavin Byrne, Tommy Byrne, Evan Carroll, Cormac Buggy, Conor Doheny, Edward Moylan (C), Robert Crotty, Oisin Gough, Harry Duggan, Bill Sheehan, Kieran Ryan, Aidan Nolan, Peter Collins, Chris Kavanagh, Adam Clifford, Colin Dempsey, Mark Nolan, Peter Lynch, Jack Condren, Panos Brennan**

## Country Cup (Corn de Bhaldraithe) Final Ballyhale 5-4 Scoil McCauley Rice, Callan 2-5

Ballyhale delivered an outstanding performance against a strong Callan side to clinch the Cumann na mBunscoileanna Country Cup in a sun-drenched Nowlan Park on Saturday. Two goals in the final two minutes wasn't enough for Callan, as they lost by 5-4 to 2-5. The sides didn't waste time in finding their range - the game was only four seconds old when Callan's Ryan Bergin picked the ball straight from the throw-in and hit it over



**Back:** Tomás O'Dowd NT, Billy Moran, Dean Mason, Darragh Corcoran, Patrick Hearne, Conor Doyle, Keelan O'Donoghue, Christopher Coady, Ronan Hayes, John Shortall, Jason Devereux, James Reid,  
**Middle Row-** Patrick Doyle, Paul Holden, Adam Brenner, John Hession, Joseph Cuddihy, Andrew Moran, Dylan Aylward, Adrian Mullen, Enda Kenneally.  
**Front Row -** Evan Shefflin, Eoin Walsh, Eoin Kenneally, Darren Mullen, Conor Reid (capt), Kevin Fennelly, Eoin Cody.

the bar from midfield without even so much as a glance.

Ballyhale's response followed right from the puckout. The ball broke in behind the Callan full-back line, allowing full-forward Andrew Moran to finish smartly past 'keeper Conor Murphy. Ryan Bergin took his second point with ease finding himself in space 20 yards from goal, with Ballyhale centre-back Darren Mullen taking his first from a long range free. Callan full-forward

Eoghan Scriven was starting to look dangerous and he whizzed over his first shot, a strike which inched over the bar when it looked certain to find the roof of the net. Ballyhale's second goal came when Evan Shefflin caught a well-struck pass and finished with a beautiful strike into the bottom corner of the net.

The closing score of the half came from Ryan Bergin, who again struck a terrific point from the "centre of the field to cut the gap to five (Ballyhale 2-3, Callan 0-4). The Callan boys were playing extremely good hurling with Ryan Bergin and Robert Kerwick in particular, but Ballyhale's centreback Darren Mullen gave a fine exhibition of catching and clearing, which belied his tender years.

Ballyhale started the second half well and showed their hunger when Joseph Cuddihy burst through the centre, but his shot cannoned off the crossbar. Eoin Cody opened the second half scoring though after ten minutes in, when he pulled on a high ball just

before it reached the goalkeeper's hand.

Cody did it again two minutes later when he turned his man and finished it into the bottom corner. Andrew Moran got his second and Ballyhale's fifth when he doubled on a loose ball to push them in front by 5-4 to 0-4. Robert Kerwick started Callan's comeback after he was switched to full-forward. He set Paddy Vaughan up for their first goal before getting in on the act himself, grabbing 1-1 in the final few minutes of the game. A late Callan comeback wasn't enough, however, as Ballyhale won The Country Cup. The level of hurling was extremely impressive with great team play and some fine individual performances. Apart from those I already mentioned Adrian Mullen and Evan Shefflin impressed for Ballyhale, while Brian Kirwan and Pairic Purcell gave their all for the Callan cause. Having seen the standard displayed at this level, the future certainly looks bright for both these clubs.

**Scorers:** Ballyhale  
 Eoin Cody (2-1), Andrew Moran (2-0), Evan Shefflin (1-0), Adrian Mullen (0-2), Darren Mullen (0-1, free).

Callan - Robert Kerwick (1-1), Paddy Vaughan (1-0), Ryan Bergin (0-3), Eoghan Scriven (0-1).

**Ballyhale -** Conor Reid, Enda Kenneally, Patrick Doyle, John Hession, Eoin Walsh, Darren Mullen, Paul Holden, Adrian

**Mullen, Dylan Aylward, Evan Shefflin, Joseph Cuddihy, Eoin Kenneally, Eoin Cody, Andrew Moran, Kevin Fennelly, Adam Brenner, Patrick Hearne, Darragh Corcoran, Keelan O'Donoghue, Ronan Hayes, Billy Moran, Jason Devereux, Christopher Coady, Conor Doyle, John Shortall, Dean Mason, James Reid.**

**Bunscoil McCauley Rice -** Conor Murphy, John Prendergast, Pairic Purcell, Dylan Hennessy, Robert Kerwick, Brian Kirwan, Anthony Ryan, Ryan Bergin, Eoin Brennan, Jane Walker, Eoin Byrne, T.J. Tierney, John Byrnes, Eoghan Scriven, Paddy Vaughan, Jack Doyle, Deon Bove Audoire, Michael Power, Lee Thornton, Cian Bogue, Jack Bradley, Caitlinn Moore, Ashling Butler, Sean Purcell, Robert O'Dwyer, Jake O'Brien.

**Referee -** John Minogue (Thomastown).

### Garda Sióchána Class Leagues 2010

- 2nd St Canice's bt St Pat's**
- 3rd St Pat's bt Gaelscoil**
- 4th St Canice's bt St Pat's**
- 5th CBS bt Gaelscoil**
- 6th St Canice's bt St Pat's**

**Tedcastle Oils'  
Roinn B Final  
Ballyhale 5-13 Thomastown 4-9**

Ballyhale and Thomastown served up an absolute thriller of a game in the last final of the current school year. This was one of the best finals seen in Kilkenny in recent years and both sides are to be commended for providing a wonderful game – 31 scores in 50 minutes tells you something about the exciting spectacle but there were more than scores to keep the crowd entertained. There were spectacular saves, goal line clearances, hooking and blocking of a very high standard. This game had everything you would want to see in hurling. Both goalkeepers, Conor Reid from Ballyhale and especially Adam Power from Thomastown were absolutely brilliant and deserve the highest praise for their performances. Although the final margin of seven points would suggest a comfortable victory for Ballyhale, this was not the case and the issue was in doubt right up to the final minutes.

Both sides went about their business right from the start and by the seventh minute they were level. Ballyhale's four points coming from Joseph Cuddihy (3) and Darren Mullen (1), while Thomastown's scores came from Dylan Caulfield's goal and a point from John Donnelly. While Thomastown were doing most of the attacking at this stage, the Ballyhale boys were making better use of their possession and by the end of the first half they led by 3-6 to Thomastown's 1-6. Two goals just before the break from Joseph Cuddihy and Andrew Moran gave them a six point lead which was to prove crucial.

The second half was barely a minute old when Rory Monks goaled for Thomastown after Conor Reid had saved a shot from Dylan Caulfield. Ballyhale responded with a point from Adrian Mullen. Within a few minutes Thomastown scored a great goal when Dylan Caulfield grabbed a high delivery from Paul Burke Kelly and buried the sliotar in the net. There was now just a point separating the sides and the excitement in the stands was at fever pitch. Adrian Mullen then struck a lovely point for Ballyhale and Thomastown replied with an excellent point from Rory Monks. A minute later Adam Power made a brilliant save from a shot from Joseph Cuddihy at the expense of a '65 which was pointed by Adrian Mullen. John Donnelly pointed from a free to leave just a point separating the sides. The scores were coming fast and furious now and two excellent points from the Mullen brothers, Adrian and Darren edged Ballyhale three points ahead.



Thomastown were not giving in and Rory Monks gathered the sliotar and headed for the Ballyhale goal. He found Dylan Caulfield and the full forward buried the sliotar to level the game 4-8 to 3-11. It was wonderful stuff and the crowd erupted. Ballyhale again went on the attack and Thomastown goalie Adam Power brought off a spectacular double save to deny them. However five minutes from the end Joseph Cuddihy unleashed an unstoppable shot to the net to put Ballyhale ahead again. Kevin Fennelly shot another point for Ballyhale but back came Thomastown again and a piledriver from Dylan Caulfield went barely over the cross-bar. Thomastown had fought a brave fight and never threw in the towel but Ballyhale had the final say with a goal

from Joseph Cuddihy and a point from Evan Shefflin finally putting the title beyond doubt. What a game we had witnessed, tremendous displays from both sides, with every player giving his all for the cause. For Ballyhale it represented a notable double having won the Corn de Bhaldraithe title the previous week. Thomastown can take a lot of pride from their performance and they contributed handsomely to a wonderful game of hurling.

**Ballyhale: Conor Reid (C.), Enda Kenneally, Patrick Doyle, John Hession, Eoin Walsh, Darren Mullen, Paul Holden, Adrian Mullen, Dylan Aylward, Evan Shefflin, Joseph Cuddihy, Eoin Kenneally, Eoin Cody, Andrew Moran, Kevin Fennelly, Adam Brenner, Patrick Hearne, Darragh**



#### Tullogher/Rosbercon - Roinn "C" Champions 2010

**Back:** Mark McGrath, Thomas O'Connor, Tadhg Cody, Aidan O'Neill, John Forrestal, Paul Manning, Jack Kennedy, Conor Hennessy, Padraig Walsh, Frank Murphy.  
**Middle:** Frankie Power, Brian Lynch, Mark Forrestal, Richard Gill, Donagh O'Connor, Shane Lyng, Dylan Morrissey, Niall O'Beirne, Terry Lawlor, David O'Connor, Thomas Johns.  
**Front:** Richard Hennessy, David Walsh, Richie Aylward.

**Corcoran, Keelan O'Donoghue, Ronan Hayes, Billy Moran, Jason Devereux, Christopher Coady, Conor Doyle, John Shortall, Dean Mason, James Reid..**

**Thomastown: Adam Power, Edward O'Keefe, Brian Hanrahan, Cathal O'Neill, Jack Delahunt, Paul Burke Kelly (C.), Ned Kirwan, Brian Staunton, Sean Roche, Eamon Forristal, John Donnelly, Rory Monks, Frank Carroll, Dylan Caulfield, David Barron, Shane Butler, Kevin Kanopka, Callum Taylor, Ivan Waugh, Tom Lawlor, Cian Kelly, Edward O'Hanrahan, Luke Gibbons, Brendan Fitzpatrick, Conor McDermott, David Griffin, Michael Murphy, David Walsh, Philip Somers.**

Referee: Sean Cleere (O Loughlin Gaels)

#### Tedcastles Oils

#### Roinn C Hurling Final

(Tommy O'Brien Memorial Cup)

**Tullogher/Rosbercon 5-6  
Conahy 3-3**

Tullogher/Rosbercon added the Tedcastles Oils Roinn C Hurling title to the Roinn B Football title won earlier this year by defeating a gallant Conahy team in Ballyhale. The southern side went into this game as strong favourites after an unbeaten run to the final but they were made work extremely hard by a determined Conahy side which battled all the way to the end. Conahy played with wind advantage in the first half but it was Tullogher who got off to the better start. Paul Manning pointed in the first minute. Conor Hennessy added another point from a '65 in the fifth minute and Conahy were finding it difficult to keep them at bay. Within a minute

they suffered a further blow when Paul Manning doubled on a free to finish to the net. Thomas O' Connor added another point in the seventh minute and it was all Tullogher at this stage. Conahy showed real character however and slowly they got themselves back into the game. Edmond Delaney pointed a free in the tenth minute and within a minute James Bergin added another from play. Tullogher added an excellent point from Tadhg Cody but two minutes later a goal from James Bergin put Conahy right back in the game. Tullogher went on the attack again but struck four wides in a row to leave the half time score Tullogher/Rosbercon 1-4 Conahy 1-2.

Tullogher began the second half with intent and within two minutes they added a goal. Paul Manning gathered the sliotar forty metres out and headed for the Conahy goal. He weaved his



#### Conahy - Roinn "C" Finalists 2010

**Back:** Sean Hennessy, Pauric Gunner, Daniel O Shea, John Byrne, Roisin Phelan, Niamh Delaney, Keith Dunne, Niall Walsh, Laurence Feehan, Edmond Delaney, Donal Cass, James Bergin, Justin Brophy, Ben Lawlor, Kieran Delaney.  
**Front:** Leon Butler, Conor Waters Bill Murphy, Siobhan Mullan, Darragh Dooley, Evelyn Phelan, Paul Healy, Conor Blanche, Tommy Hennessy, Frank Gunner, Vincent Brophy, Ethan Butler, Cian Harding.

way in and struck a blistering shot to the net. It looked ominous for Conahy as Tullogher now had wind advantage. Conahy responded brilliantly however and within a minute they had the ball in the back of the Tullogher net thanks to Niamh Delaney. Conor Hennessy added an excellent point from a free in the sixth minute and Richard Hennessy added a goal a minute later. Tullogher were gradually getting on top and Daire McGrath scored a goal after good work by Paul Manning. Conahy still refused to surrender and immediately replied with a goal from James Bergin. Tullogher added a point from Conor Hennessy and Richard Hennessy struck for his second goal after a good run from Daire McGrath. Conahy to their credit never gave up trying and the final score of the game went to Edmond Delaney with a point from a '65. In the end the title went south and there was no doubting the merit of Tullogher's win. Conahy can however take a great deal of credit for their dogged resistance and the character they showed in their gallant performance will surely stand them in good stead in the future.

**Tullogher/Rosbercon: Padraig Walsh, Mark McGrath, Mark Forrestal, Aidan O'Neill, David Walsh, Conor Hennessy, Richard Gill, Daire McGrath, Tadhg Cody, Donagh O'Connor, Paul Manning, Niall O'Beirne, Richard Hennessy, Thomas O' Connor, Jack Kennedy, Dylan Morrissey, Shane Lyng, John Forrestal, David O'Connor, Frank Murphy, Stephen Gahan, Brian Lynch, Richie Aylward, Thomas Johns, Terry Lawlor, Conor Brett, Frankie Power, Sean O'Neill.**



**Conahy: John Byrne, Niall Walsh, Kieran Delaney, Pádraig Gunner, Roisín Phelan, Donal Cass, Justin Brophy, Edmond Delaney, Leon Butler, Niamh Delaney, James Bergin, Conor Watters, Keith Dunne, Bill Murphy, Sean Hennessy, Darragh Dooley, Laurence Feehan, Conor Blanche, Ethan Butler, Frank Gunner, Siobhán Mullen, Evelyn Phelan, Paul Healy, Tommy Hennessy, Vincent Brophy, Cian Harding, Ben Lawlor, Amy Morrissey, Daniel O' Shea, Brendan Nolan.**

Referee: Paschal Connolly (Ballyhale Shamrocks)



**Jim Fennelly presents Charlie O'Neill with a token of appreciation from Cumman na mBunscoil on his retirement.**



**Donal O'Brien and Grainne O'Neill launching the Tommy O'Brien Memorial Cup for Roinn C Primary Schools Hurling Final. Also pictured are Jim Fennelly, Chairman, Primary Schools Board, Jake Cullen, Conor Morrissey, Danesfort, John McEvoy and Aaron Malone, Kilkenny C.B.S.**

# DEVELOPMENT SQUADS

## a Kilkenny success story

By Mark Townsend

At the turn of this century Kilkenny underage hurling had reached a low ebb. It may not have appeared so to some, judging by the stack of recently acquired Leinster minor titles gathering dust on the shelves, but for those who took a more acute view of such matters, it was obvious that something was amiss. Seven years had gone by without an All-Ireland minor title adorning the walls of Nowlan Park, and the senior and under 21 teams were only just in the process of ending similar famines. While provincial titles had proved relatively fruitful, overall success had been elusive, sometimes embarrassingly so. What was worrying also was that at under 14 and under 16 level, Kilkenny, usually so professional in their approach, now seemed less organised in their preparation than rival counties. In order to reassert the county's position at the top of the hurling table, from that of peripheral to pre-eminent, county chairman Ned Quinn, with help from Thomastown trainer Brendan O Sullivan and 60's and 70's great Pat Henderson, convened to find a solution. The idea they came up with was that of development squads. The concept, like almost all great ones, was simple, but crucially it hadn't occurred to anyone before. All 38 hurling clubs across the county were instructed to select their three finest players (or more if they felt necessary) in each grade, from under 14 to under 17, and enlist them for collective training.

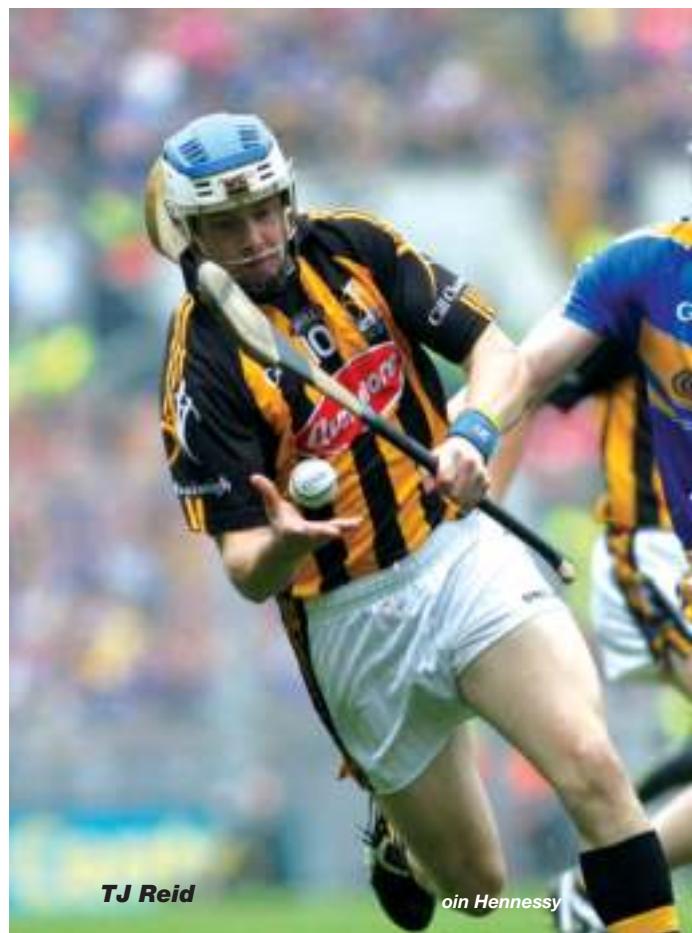
The next step was trying to find a set of people suitably qualified and hungry to educate the young cubs. Approximately 70 letters were sent out to previous Kilkenny inter county stars, secondary and primary school teachers, encouraging them to volunteer and this yielded 35 people willing to give their time and energy to the cause. They themselves took coaching courses with county co-ordinator Brian Ryan in order to fully familiarise themselves with the tasks at hand.

Players were then separated into North and South groups and were given between seven and nine training sessions in the year. From this, an elite squad would be chosen in August for the various underage competitions, such as the Tony Forristal under 14 tournament, or the Arrabawn co-op under 16 tournament.

While other counties may have toyed with the idea of such panels before, what made Kilkenny's approach so unique was its propensity to be all inclusive, not just focusing on what would be perceived as only the strongest underage players. As Ned Quinn himself says "The most important thing about the development squads from its inception is that it was to be non elitist. At the time, a lot of good work was being done at underage level by clubs around Kilkenny, but at county level we were failing to capitalise on this. That's what we set about doing"

Ensuring that no young talent would slip through the net and developing the skills of such players are but two of the aims of the development squads. Another was to form a bond between these young players, who hitherto might only have met each other at minor trials years later, and try and create a club spirit amongst county players, a spirit that could never be broken if you will. This was testified by Ballyhale Shamrocks' Colin Fennelly, a graduate of the programme, who after winning the All Ireland under 21 in 2008 said "Going out for a tough second half is an awful lot easier when you're good friends with the lads running out beside you. That feeling means a lot and you'll fight to the end to stay going together"

The whole idea is as Pat Henderson says to "Form a Kilkenny ethos. We started off primarily with skills but we've expanded it to include such things as diet and fitness. What we are striving for is a rounded individual with the right blend of character and skill. We are trying to find the kind of player that Brian Cody would be looking for."



Obviously with such a quantity of hurlers it was obvious not everyone could be satisfied, but in the words of Ned Quinn. "The important thing is that the clubs bought into it. We knew that not all of these lads were going to play minor or senior for Kilkenny. But at the very least those who would be going back to their clubs would be going back as better hurlers."

The roll call of names who has come through the development squad conveyor belt is an impressive one. The likes of Richie Power, TJ Reid and John Tennyson have all progressed from the system to win senior All-Irelands. Of course, that's not to say talented hurlers such as these wouldn't have had success without the benefit of this system. But the merit of the development squads can be seen in the composition of Kilkenny's last two All-Ireland minor victories.

In 2008, seventeen clubs were featured on the Kilkenny minor winning side, with a large proportion of them being drawn from the Junior and Intermediate grade. This year's 24-man panel featured an even broader spread, with 19 clubs represented. No longer can people quibble that Kilkenny underage teams are composed from a select few clubs or schools. Nowadays, no matter whether a hurler is from Three-castles or Tullogher, he is guaranteed a chance.

Across the country this template has been followed. One of the first counties to latch onto the scheme was Tyrone in football. Now, after a spate of minor and subsequent senior All-Irelands other, more "traditional" teams are adopting the same methods. But what will keep Kilkenny ahead in future? "We are remodelling it each year. We refresh the coaches all the time. If you're standing still in this game you're going backwards" says Pat Henderson. It used to be we were trying to catch up with other counties. Now, thankfully, everyone else is trying to catch up with Kilkenny.



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# VICTORIOUS 1961 MH TEAM HONOURED

On County Final day, 2010, the County Board invited the survivors of the Kilkenny MH team which won the 1961 All Ireland Final, beating Tipperary (3-13 to 0-15), to Nowlan Park as special guests at the Senior and Minor finals and afterwards to a reception sponsored by Springhill Court Hotel.



Members of the 1961 Kilkenny MH Team who were honoured at the County Final in Nowlan Park.  
Back: John Murphy, Pat Dempsey, Tom Walsh, Maurice Aylward, John Delaney, Seamus Hanrahan.

Front: Pat Henderson, Jim McGrath, Paul Kinsella (Cathaoirleach CLG, Cill Chainnigh), Joe Dunphy (Capt.), Seamus O'Carroll (Springhill Court Hotel),  
Nicky Forrestal, Phil Cullen.



## KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND MH CHAMPIONS 1961

**Back:** Patsy Foley, Nicky Forrestal, John Murphy, Pat Henderson, Seamus Haarahan, Pierce Freaney, Tom Barry, Sean O'Brien.

**Front:** John Delaney, Tom Walsh, Maurice Aylward, Jim McGrath, Joe Dunphy (Capt.), Phil Cullen, Denis Kinsella.

**Subs Inset:** Paddy Dempsey, Pierse Brett, Mick Tennyson, Dick Walsh, Billy Watson.

# Paddy Phelan

By Jim Fogarty

## - The Hurling Artist from Sart

Paddy Phelan was born on 16/9/1910. He was the second youngest of a family of 10 – six girls and four boys.

Life in those days in Ireland was simple and frugal. Enjoyment centred around the game of hurling. Paddy's sister, Biddy, used to play in goal and block the ball with her skirt. This annoyed Paddy and he regularly hunted her from the goal during their childhood games. Paddy put in hours and hours of practice whether with his siblings or on his own.

Paddy was a Freshford man but made his name with Tullaroan. Dick Grace of Tullaroan and Kilkenny, who won five All-Ireland medals between 1909 and 1922, recalled that when Phelan was starting his hurling career, he used to try shooting a ball through a window in Grace's haggard. "It was a long haggard" said Dick, "and I took a window out of the barn so that he could try to drive the ball through it. From that Paddy developed the follow through with the arms which made for accuracy".

Paddy played in goal for Leinster against Munster in the Railway Cup Final of 1930. He did not make his debut for Kilkenny seniors until 1931. He played in the three games which it took to determine the result of the 1931 All-Ireland final, as a forward. He played inter-county hurling with Kilkenny from 1931 to 1942, mostly at left half-back. Ironically, Phelan played his last championship inter-county game when he figured in goal for the Kilkenny side beaten

by Dublin in the Leinster Final of 1942, on a scoreline of 4-8 to 1-4, played at Nowlan Park.

Paddy won four All-Ireland SHC medals in 1932, 1933, 1935 and 1939. He was on the losing side in All-Ireland finals in 1931, 1936 and 1940. He played in 13 successive Railway Cup Finals winning four with Leinster in 1932, 1933, 1936 and 1941. He won three county SHC medals with Tullaroan, eight Leinster SHC medals and one NHL medal. With Billy Burke and Jimmy Phelan, Paddy joined Éire Óg after Tullaroan were relegated to junior ranks in 1940. He played for Éire Óg at full-back when they lost the 1941 county SHC final by a point to Carrickshock. He played at centre-back for Threecastles when they lost the 1942 final by two points, again to Carrickshock.

Paddy participated in the Tailteann Games of 1932, when he played in a hurling/shinty game against Scotland, which the Irish selection won. A special medal was presented by Cardinal McRory, which Phelan treasured very highly. Another highlight of his career was going on the tour of America in 1934, as a member of the Kilkenny team, the All-Ireland champions of 1932 and 1933.



KILKENNY 1937

Badly beaten in Killarney by Tipp, many of these great players had reached the end of the road, but Paddy Phelan still stood out.  
**Back:** Jimmy Morrissey, Jack Duggan, Paddy Dowling, Larry Duggan, Jimmy O'Connell. Eddie Byrne, Paddy Phelan, Podge Byrne.  
**Front:** Matty Power, Val Madigan, Paddy Larkin, Mick Tyrrell, Peter Blanchfield, Martin White, Billy Bourke.

When his hurling career finished, Paddy Phelan, lived in Blackmill Street, and had a coal yard in Friary St. In the 50s competitions for youngsters were few and they were played on a knock-out basis, so the losers in the 1st round of the U14 and U16 championships played only one competitive game each year. During the summers of 1953 and 1954, Phelan organised matches all over the county and also outside Kilkenny for a team that became known as "Paddy Phelan's team".

All matches were played on Thursday evenings as that was the official half-day in Kilkenny at that time. The transport to matches was via Phelan's uncovered lorry. On the evenings of matches the players would gather outside Paddy's house. When the lorry, driven by Paddy's brother, Tommy, arrived all the players would climb into the back and grab a canvas bag to sit on.

The matches were all played away from home. After the games Paddy would bring the team to the nearest shop and buy bottles of lemonade for everyone. He was a decent, good-humoured and kindly man. During the period that the team was together it remained unbeaten. The majority of the players went on to win two U16 hurling championships with St. Mary's in 1957 and 1958.

Paddy emigrated to Coventry in the 1950's. Paddy trained the Warwickshire team which reached the All-Ireland Junior hurling final in 1965. They lost to Roscommon by two points, 3-10 to 2-11. Henry Shefflin (senior) played on the Warwickshire team, while Gerry O'Malley of football fame was on the Roscommon side.

Paddy Phelan died on the 8/9/1971. He was not yet 61.

How good a hurler was Paddy Phelan?

He was chosen on the Team of the Century, the Millennium Team and the all-time Kilkenny team. Contemporary match reports describe him as a stylist and a hurler to his fingertips. He was a first class striker who needed little or no room to turn. He was blessed with speed, stamina and skill. From play and placed balls he was deadly accurate. He had exceptional anticipation. He rarely fouled and never hit an opponent deliberately. He stated that he himself was rarely struck.



**"Paddy Phelan's Team"- Mid 1950's**

**Back:** Peter McEneaney, Kevin Phelan, Jimmy O'Leary, Paddy Golden, Eamon Hehir, Jim Buggy, Liam Hehir, Ned Buggy, Michael Hogan.

**Middle:** Joe Ayres, Seamus Kelly, Michael O'Dwyer, Paddy Lyons, Joe Green, Peter Maher.

**Front :** Michael Hurley, Leo Phelan, Ollie Conway, Noel O Sullivan

He had uncanny accuracy. In an All-Ireland semi-final against Galway, played at Birr, he scored seven points from seven frees all from the Kilkenny half-back line. The NHL final of 1933, played at Nowlan Park, when Kilkenny beat Limerick by 3-8 to 1-3, saw Paddy give an immaculate display. When the ball was dropping, he was waiting to double with a flick of the wrists, or to grab it with his customary swiftness.

When Kilkenny fell to a heavy defeat to Tipp in the All-Ireland final of 1937, a match report on the following day stated "that Paddy Phelan played his usual sound, brainy game and his frequent tussles with two and three opponents, from which he almost always emerged successful, gave Kilkenny supporters opportunities to indulge in a little enthusiastic applause". Phelan scored 0-1 of his team's total of 0-3 on that day. Tom Ryall described the half-back line of Bobby Hinks, Billy Burke and Paddy Phelan as "the saviours of the team" in the 1939 All-Ireland final.

Let's finish with direct quotations from contemporaries of DJ's grand-uncle;

**Mick Mackey** referred to "Failin" (as he called) him as  
"the best I have played against".

**Jack Lynch**  
"the best opponent I met in my long career".

**Jimmy Phelan** (Kilkenny team-mate)  
"the best hurler I have ever seen".

**William "Lynch" Walsh**

(ex Kilkenny hurler)

"far and away the greatest hurler I have ever seen".

**Martin White**

"no other hurler, then or since, had such pure skill"

**Alfie Cullen**

"if you wanted sheer artistry Paddy Phelan was your man"

**John Keane (Waterford)**

"the complete hurler"

**Paddy Grace**

"the greatest wing-back of all time"

**Dick Walsh (Tullaroan)**

"he could almost call the ball from the sky. It was like he had it on a string sometimes"

**John D. Hickey (GAA journalist)**

"Phelan towered above all other contenders for the left half-back position on my best ever fifteen".

**Tommy Doyle (Tipp)**

"the best left half-back I saw"

**Nickey Rackard (Wexford)**

"the best wing-half I ever saw. He never did the same thing twice and was the quickest-thinking and most popular player of his era".

**Paddy Phelan a hurling artist?**  
QED.

# Primary Ladies Football

By Noelle Curran  
PRO

Photos Eoin Hennessy

"Twenty two schools took part in this year's primary schools league which is now in its fifth year and proving to be a huge success. Eight teams contested the finals in Nowlan Park in May and each and every player relished the chance to display their football skills at the county headquarters."

## ROINN "A" FINAL

### Piltown 5-2 St John of God 1-3

The 'A' final saw reigning champions Piltown going for three titles in a row against one of the newcomers St John of God who had caused a stir in the group by claiming some notable scalps. Niamh Ayres and Orlaith Conlon were St John or Gods main threats in front of goal but Aislinn Carroll, Shauna Coady, Eva Flanagan and Ellie Cooney grabbed goals for the southern side and Piltown reclaimed their crown on a 5-2 to 1-3 scoreline. There were several contenders for Player of the Match but Eva Flanagan's swashbuckling performance for Piltown caught the eye and she accepted her award from county chairperson John Gorey. St John of God were worthy finalists and the scoreline did not reflect the performance of a very young side who should expect to claim silverware in the near future.

*Piltown; Aoife Norris, Nicola Phelan, Sinead Walsh, Ellen Murray, Stacey O'Brien, Chloe O'Dwyer, Anna Kent, Sheena Byrne, Eleanor Cunningham, Kate Falconer, Ellie Cooney, Isobel Dineen, Alanna Gallagher, Aoibheann Gallagher, Shauna Coady, Sine Kavanagh, Eva Flanagan, Shania Brophy, Bethany Carroll, Leonie Byrne, Aislinn Carroll, Aisling Noctor, Ciara Whelan, Sorcha Kirby, Laura Whelan.  
Mentors: Dan Kenny, Bridget Drohan.*

*St John of God; Shannon Holohan, Sarah McGrath, Lucy Teehan, Michelle Teehan, Lauren Valentine, Niamh Deely, Orlaith Conlon, Anne Marie O'Reilly, Sophie O'Dwyer, Megan Hughes, Niamh Ayres, Lauren Reade, Caoimhe Ryan-Ireland, Ciara Brett, Kate Homan, Milda Plukaite, Caitlin Martin, Ciara Deely, Olivia Butler-Davis, Rachel Moore, Shauna Conry, Rachel Wall, Orla McGrath  
Mentors; Miriam O'Keeffe, Eileen Fitzpatrick*



PILTOWN



ST JOHN OF GODS



THOMASTOWN



KILMANAGH

## ROINN "B" FINAL

### Thomastown 5-4 Kilmanagh 2-0

Thomastown have gained good experience at schools level in recent years and have contested the A' final every year since the competition began in 2006. Goals from Aoife Farrell and Rebecca Walsh (2-0) gave Thomastown a commanding 3-1 to 0-0 half time lead. Kilmanagh started the second half well with good attempts by Emma Wall and Hannah Quigley, but Thomastown's Caitlin Skehan and Maeve Egan were dominant in defence. Despite a brace of goals from Kilmanagh's Ciara Murphy Thomastown's experience and strength proved the difference between the teams and Farrell and Walsh added further goals for Thomastown to claim a 5-4 to 2-0 win. There were many great performances on both sides with special mention given to Kilmanagh's Ciara Murphy who was superb throughout. The craft and skill of Rebecca Walsh saw the Thomastown forward awarded Player of the Match.

*Thomastown; Niamh Sheehy, Laura Tennyson, Maeve Egan, Sarah Walsh (Capt), Aoife Holden, Megan Conlon, Aine Butler, Caitlin Skehan, Rebecca Walsh, Aoife Farrell, Rachel Walsh, Bláthnaid Galway, Ruth Skehan, Chloe Quinn, Caroline Ess, Ashling Morrissey, Ailish O'Shea, Saidhbhe Behan, Ashling Barcoe, Niamh Costigan, Jill O'Neill, Tara O'Neill, Eimear Lanigan, Jessie Maher, Samantha Kavanagh, Kati Hayes, Laura O'Brien, Iona Gardner, Chloe Dack Kennedy*

*Kilmanagh; Charlotte McCluskey, Caoimhe Murphy, Orla Cahill, Aisling Kelly, Jesse Dunne, Ciara Murphy, Kate Hennessy, Anna Robinson, Lisa Hogan, Eimear Keoghan, Hannah Quigley, Emma Wall, Niamh O'Connor, Rebecca O'Neill, Siun Corcoran, Kayleigh Nolan, Shannon Nugent, Therese Purcell, Sarah Ging, Margaret Delaney, Christine Caldbeck, Amy O'Brien, Aimee Muldowney, Eadaoin Murphy, Claire Kelly*

## ROINN "C" FINAL

### Ballyragget 2-5 Skeaghvasteen 0-2

Ballyragget and Skeaghvasteen had to battle it out in a replay of the group C' final having drawn 3-1 apiece in a cracking game at Nowlan Park. The replay took place before a large crowd at St John's Park and the girls from Ballyragget made sure of the title at the second time of asking. Lauren Dermody and Kelly Dowling scored two great goals for Ballyragget to lead 2-3 to 0-0 score at half time. Aisling Cullen and Ellie

Barcoe pointed for Skeough after the break but Lauren Dermody sealed the title for Ballyragget with two points for a 2-5 to 0-2 win. Lauren Dermody was named player of the match after a superb performance while special mention was given to her team mate Kelly Dowling who showed great skill throughout. Aisling Cullen and Aoife Moore for Skeough were among others who have a great future in football.

Intermediate county captain Laurena Murphy presented Ballyragget with the cup and congratulated both sides on an excellent game while paying tribute to the girls' teachers who have given so much time to coaching the girls in recent months.

**Ballyragget;** Niamh Butler, Laura Walsh, Gabriella Tallafus, Sheila Kenny, Kelly Dowling, Lisa Delaney, Katie Brophy, Lauren Dermody, Jennifer Healy, Arieanna Walsh, Imelda Lennon, Eimear Shorthall, Aoife Donoghue, Roisin Gleeson, Chantelle Wallace, Karen Delaney, Zara Gunner, Chantal Geoghegan, Eve Hegarty, Katie Brennan, Kate Maher, Emer O'Doherty, Roisin Brophy, Chloe Dowling, Sabrina Downey, Christine O'Gorman, Sophie McGuire, Rachel Lawless, Rachel Doyle, Jacqui Downey, Sinead Walshe, Niamh Morrissey, Katie Delaney, Ellen Coughlan, Leah O'Neill. Mentors: Claire Dunne, Catherine Brennan, Sr. Mary Freeman  
**Skeaghvasteen:** Kate Drennan, Aisling Cullen, Aoife Moore, Tara Treacy, Aine Ryan, Ellie Barcoe, Megan O'Grady, Grace McDonald, Mary Lennon, Enya Foley, Rebecca Doyle, Cieragh Tarpey, Katie Heffernan, Marie Delaney, Megan Savage, Siobhan O'Brien, Erin Barcoe, Aoife Cleere, Louise Murphy, Sorcha Moran, Larragh Ryan, Lisa Dreeling. Mentor: April Purcell

### ROINN "D" FINAL

#### Owning/Templeorum 2-13, Galmoy 2-0

In the D final newcomers Owning /Templeorum faced Galmoy who claimed the D title in 2008. Kelly Anne Doyle (1-0), Catherine Hearne and Chloe Holden (0-1 each) got the newcomers off the mark early. Kelly Anne Doyle, Chloe Holden, Niamh Foley and Eimear Long added a point apiece for Owning/Templeorum before Doyle hit the net with a 20metre free. Galmoy came out fighting in the second half and grabbed two goals through Mapleflower Doyle-Ryan but three superb points from Chloe Holden and a brace from Caoimhe O'Callaghan in the closing minutes saw Owning/Templeorum win their first schools ladies football title 2-13 to 2-0. Pat O'Gorman and Gay Doyle have done tremendous work with the girls in Owning and Templeorum schools and they could well be back to defend their title next year. Chloe Holden was named as Player of the Match after a superb haul of five points.

**Owning/Templeorum;** Caoimhe O' Callaghan, Emily McCarthy, Catherine Hearne, Aoife Culleton, Chloe Holden, Laura Culleton, Aoife Doyle, Kelly Anne Doyle, Eimear Long, Fiona Long, Laura O' Dwyer, Máire Beth Kirby, Anna Frisby, Niamh Foley, Megan Byrne, Laura Dwyer, Hayley Starr, Sarah Jane Brophy. Mentor: Pat O'Gorman and Gay Doyle.

**Galmoy;** Celine Cullinane, Feena Ryan, Emma Nicholson, Stacey Dunne, Caoimhe Glendon, Maeve Duggan, Caroline Fogarty, Laura Whelan, Eileen Vaughan, Sara Geoghegan, Clodagh Sherman, Mapleflower Doyle-Ryan, Sinead O'Carroll, Aoibheann Duggan, Jessie Brennan, Mary Ellen Phelan, Emer Kelly, Molly Bassett, Caoimhe Wixted, Emma Phelan, Katy Bergin, Caoilinn Smith, Aoife Hynes, Lily Bassett. Mentors: Andrea Murphy and Pat Glendon.

Referee for finals; Paul Whelan, Mullinavat



**BALLYRAGGET**



**OWNING/TEMPLEORUM**



**SKEAGHVOSTEEN**



**GALMOY**

# **U21 Team of 1999**

## **- where it all began.**

*By Mark Townsend*

On the morning of Sunday 19th September 1999, Kilkenny hurling awoke in a pit of despair. A week earlier, a much fancied senior team had collapsed in the last 15 minutes of the All-Ireland final against Cork, to complete a most unwanted "two-in-a-row" of final defeats. Just hours previously, and much more tragically, one of the substitutes on said team, P. J. Delaney, had been attacked brutally and almost fatally, outside a nightclub in Thurles.

It was into these inauspicious circumstances that a team of Kilkenny under 21 hurlers walked out for an All-Ireland final against Galway in a wet and blustery Tullamore. A raw, unfancied side with barely an All-Ireland medal between them, faced a well regarded Galway team featuring the disparate talents of Rory Gantley, and the already established senior Eugene Cloonan. Kilkenny supporters in the 8,000 strong crowd, numbed by the cold and the events of the last week were not to know it at the time, but they were about to witness the dawn of a new era.

As was customary at underage level at the time Kilkenny had eased through a poor Leinster championship before hammering Antrim at the penultimate stage. Galway meanwhile, had defeated championship favourites Tipperary in the other semi. Given that, and Kilkenny's poor recent underage record, the tribesmen were tipped for success in the final.

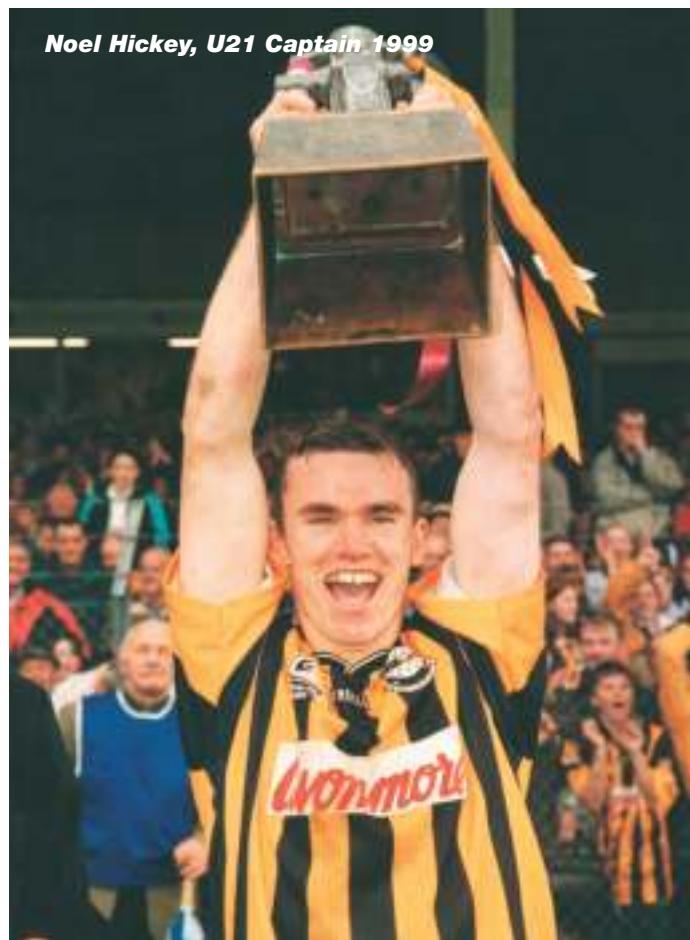
Within the Kilkenny camp though, confidence was high. As team manager Richie Power Snr attests; "We knew we had a right good bunch of lads. The most important game was against Tipp in a challenge early on in the year. 40 minutes before the game all our players were there. None of Tipp's were. The attitude was right. Even after the seniors lost the All-Ireland on the Sunday, Michael Kavanagh and Henry Shefflin made a point of going up to Tullamore with us on a Tuesday night. Then on the Thursday we had training, they were the first two lads there. I knew then we had a right good chance."

The game, as it was, wasn't a classic. Given the tension and the poor conditions, that was to be expected. Galway, aided by the wind, built up a 0-5 to 0-1 lead after 20 minutes. Kilkenny responded, and a goal just before half time by Eddie Brennan (thanks to referee Ger Harrington's inability to spot John O'Neill catching the ball three times) gave Kilkenny a one point lead at the interval (1-5 to 0-7). Galway dominated the first twenty minutes of the second half, but a powerful late surge by Kilkenny, aided by a magical sideline cut by John Paul Corcoran saw them home on a score-line of 1-13 to 0-14.

There was added poignancy to the victory due to the presence of Podge Delaney, P.J.'s brother, amongst the substitutes. Aware of his brother's predicament, Richie Power Snr offered him the opportunity of missing the game, but Podge demonstrated some of the spirit that would see Kilkenny through by responding; 'I'm with you until the final whistle in Tullamore'. Indeed Podge came on to play a role in the second half as replacement for the injured Eddie Brennan before returning to his brother's bedside in Cork hospital.

It seems easy in hindsight to point to the undoubted potential of that Kilkenny team, but at the time it was much less evident. Even Henry Shefflin and Michael Kavanagh, bar a colleges win with St Kieran's, hadn't been accustomed to the culture of winning All-Irelands. Shefflin, in his own words,

**Noel Hickey, U21 Captain 1999**



**Noel Hickey, Kilkenny U21 Captain 1999** Photo SPORTSFILE

had failed at minor level while Kavanagh, had the pain of two senior All-Ireland defeats behind him, and was still not settled into his finest position of right corner back. This win meant everything to them.

At the time the Kilkenny senior team was in dire need of a dominant full back. It was not since the halcyon days of Pat Dwyer that we had been secure on the edge of the square, and the attempt to fit the square pegs of Canice Brennan and Pat O'Neill into a round hole had met with mixed success. Into the breach stepped Noel Hickey. He performed brilliantly in that final, limiting Eugene Cloonan to a mere point from play, and possessed just the right mixture of skill and steel to shore up the defence. After such a commanding display, a swift senior call up was inevitable.

Or consider the case of one Eddie Brennan. An electric paced if erratic youth, the faith Richie Power and his selectors (John Marnell and Martin Kennedy) invested in him resulted in a bucket of high scoring displays throughout this championship. This in turn, may have aided Brennan's attempts to get a more regular place on his Graigue Ballycallan club side (no mean feat at the time) and brought him to the attention of one Brian Cody esquire.

Richie Mullally and Sean Dowling both went onto win Senior All-Irelands from this team and still more talent trundled forward from the substitutes. Martin Comerford, Derek Lyng, the injured John Hoyne and Pat Tennyson were transformed from the ugly ducklings of underage hurling to the stalwarts of sen-

ior, amassing a massive, and potentially unfinished haul of 17 All Ireland medals between them.

It's arguable that the Kilkenny under 21 team of 1999 can claim to be the most successful underage team of all time. In total 14 members of that under 21 panel went onto have prominent senior careers, and accumulated a whopping total of 60 All-Ireland medals. But it could all have been so different.

As Richie Power Snr notes; "Eight or nine of those lads were on the senior panel the year after. If we hadn't won that game they might not have got on it. There's a fine line between success and failure". There's a fine line indeed. The line Kilkenny failed to cross at any grade between 94 and 99 is the line they've crossed 17 times since. Would the history of Kilkenny hurling have been altered immeasurably if this team hadn't emerged victorious 11 years ago? Perhaps; perhaps not. All we know is that as Kilkenny supporters we owe a debt of gratitude to Richie Power and his colleagues for getting the ball rolling.

#### **Kilkenny under 21 team of 1999:**

**Jamie Power (Carrickshock) Adrian Walpole (Bennettsbridge) Noel Hickey (Dunnamaggin) Michael Kavanagh (St Lachtains) Aidan Cummins (Ballyhale Shamrocks) Sean Dowling (O'Loughlin Gaels) Richie Mullally (Glenmore) John O'Neill (John Lockes) John Paul Corcoran (John Lockes) Michael Gordon (Piltown) Jimmy Coogan (Tullaroan) Kevin Power (Fenians) Alan Geoghegan (O Loughlin Gaels) Henry Shefflin (Ballyhale Shamrocks) Eddie Brennan (Graigue Ballycallan)**

#### **Kilkenny U21 team of 1999**

#### **Senior All Ireland Winners:**

##### **Henry Shefflin:**

**7 All-Ireland medals 2000, 2002-2003, 2006-2009**

##### **Michael Kavanagh:**

**7 All Ireland medals (as above)**

##### **Noel Hickey:**

**7 All-Ireland medals as above, (sub 2009)**

##### **Eddie Brennan:**

**7 All-Ireland medals as above, (sub 2000)**

##### **Richie Mullally:**

**5 All-Ireland medals 2002, 2003 (sub), 2006-2008 (sub)**

##### **Jimmy Coogan:**

**3 All-Ireland medals 2000 (sub), 2002, 2003 (sub)**

##### **Aidan Cummins:**

**3 All-Ireland medals 2000, 2002-2003 (all sub)**

##### **Sean Dowling:**

**2 All-Ireland medals 2002 (sub), 2003**

##### **Alan Geoghegan:**

**1 All-Ireland medal 2002 (sub)**

##### **John Paul Corcoran:**

**1 All-Ireland medal 2000 (sub)**

##### **Substitutes:**

##### **Martin Comerford:**

**6 All-Ireland medals 2002-2003, 2006-2009 (sub 2009)**

##### **Derek Lyng:**

**6 All-Ireland medals as above**

##### **John Hoyne:**

**3 All-Ireland medals 2000, 2002-2003**

##### **Pat Tennyson:**

**2 All-Ireland medals 2002-2003 (sub)**



**KILKENNY- ALL IRELAND UNDER-21 CHAMPIONS 1999**

**Front : Jamie Power, Michael Gordon, Alan Geoghegan, Michael Kavanagh, Noel Hickey (Capt), Eddie Brennan, Adrian Walpole.**

**Back: Sean Dowling, John O'Neill, Henry Shefflin, John Paul Corcoran, Aidan Cummins, Jimmy Coogan, Kevin Power, Richie Mullally.** Photo Tom O'Neill

# Lisdowney Sevens 2010

Three Saturdays in August were adorned with some of the finest under-age hurling one is likely to see when 32 teams from Clare, Cork, Tipperary, Galway, Laois and Kilkenny took part in the prestigious Lisdowney Coca-Cola Sevens. This is the 29th year of a tournament that has welcomed such illustrious hurlers as Henry Shefflin, James 'Cha' Fitzpatrick, JJ Delaney, Michael Kavanagh, Jackie Tyrell, Tommy Walsh, Aidan Fogarty, Michael Fennelly, TJ Reid and Martin Comerford to name but a few, and of more recent vintage, many of this year's victorious minor team.

The Sweeney Cup was won by O'Loughlin Gaels for the second year in succession. In a high quality final they beat city neighbours, James Stephens by 4-9 to 3-4. O'Loughlin Gaels player, Robbie Buckley, scored 4-5 of their total and his all-round display earned him the Coca-Cola Best Player Award. On their way to the final they beat Harps (Durrow), Meeelick-Eyre-court (Galway) and St.Lachtains, and Dicksboro in the semi-final. James Stephens had earlier accounted for Emeralds, Barrow Rangers and Ballyhale, and Clarecastle (Clare) in the semi-final.

The Kilkenny Supporters Club Shield was for teams beaten in the first round. In the final Clara took on Moycarkey-Borris of Tipperary. This was a game of wholehearted effort from both sides, but the point scoring ability of the Tipperary boys saw them through by 1-9 to 2-2. Clara had overcome both Dicksboro and James Stephens B teams in the quarter final and semi-final respectively while Moycarkey-Borris had similarly shaken off the challenges of Tullogher-Rosbercon and Fenians.

Bórd na nÓg Chairman, Tim Brennan, complimented all who had contributed to the success of the tournament, not least sponsors Sweeney brothers, Kilkenny Supporters Club and Coca-Cola, represented by Catherine Nolan (Coca-Cola Business Development Manager), who have sponsored the winners and runners-up trophies in all competitions since 1982. The trophies were presented by Catherine Nolan (Coca-Cola), while Robbie Buckley received his Beast Player Award from Fr. Pat O'Farrell PP.

The local Parish Sevens was warmly welcomed back after a lapse of one year and this year was conducted in the form of a blitz. The third place final saw Morgan Grace-Cashin's team beat Ian Buckley's team by 2-4 to 2-3, after extra time. In the second place final Darragh Mackey's team beat John Brennan's team by 4-2 to 0-3. The Lisdowney Shield final was a keenly contested affair with James Murphy's team coming from behind to overcome gallant David Fitzpatrick's team by 4-1 to 2-5.

As was befitting the occasion, medals were presented to all the participants - Tim Brennan doing the honours.



**Sweeney Cup Winners – O'Loughlin Gaels**

**Back:** Eamonn Nolan (Coca-Cola), Larry Hamilton (Sevens Sec), Fr. Pat O'Farrell PP, Tim Brennan,

(Ch. Bord na nÓg), Eamonn Dunne (Sevens PRO), Catherine Nolan (Coca-Cola).

**Centre:** Robbie Buckley, Gary Bryan, Cian Loy, Daniel O'Connor.

**Front:** Ross Butler, Jack Lawlor, Sean Bolger, Shane Maher, Thomas Gleeson, Sean Kiely.



**Lisdowney Parish Sevens Winners – James Murphy**

**Back:** Niamh Kenny, Stephen Delaney, James Murphy (capt.), David O'Carroll.

**Front:** Garrett Syngh, Sean Keyes, Aoibheann Murphy,

Luke Campion.



**Best Player Award**

**Robbie Buckley (O'Loughlin Gaels), Fr. Pat O'Farrell PP.**

# *Martin Treacy*

## *- A Lifetime in the GAA*

**Barrie Henriques**

*He may not have had as many Celtic gongs in his back pocket as his contemporaries – in fact he could manage one in 1963 against Waterford – but Martin Treacy gave his all to his club, to his County, and continues to do so, as he signs in for his 47th year as the Bennettsbridge County Board representative. It has been a long time, and more than one flood has passed under the bridge that connects the County Board with the club family of the County.*

*The GAA has been his life. The fact that his lovely wife Teresa and all their family have known nothing else but the GAA way of life, has made Martin's unconditional involvement more palatable than for other men, whose family might not be as predisposed.*

*Be that as it may, but long before there was a Martin Treacy family, there was a Treacy family from Bennettsbridge who were stone daft on hurling and their native Bennettsbridge. The story of the Bennettsbridge Club has been told in every which way possible, and through every medium of communication.*

*Briefly, Martin Treacy became a member of the Ring Dazzlers, when it wasn't such an easy accomplishment. He had progressed from the encouragement, coaching, and character forming imbued into all of those most famous of Bennettsbridge hurlers by Mr Lyng, their schoolmaster. To this day, when mentioning the man's name, not one of the 'Bridge icons would ever say his name without the prefix, "Mr". You had to be good to get into such vaunted company. The famous 7-a-side Tournaments were popular at the time, and it is generally accepted that the'Bridge were undeniably the best 7-a-side team in the land. They were also the best crowd-pulling hurling gig in town wherever they played.*

*In an interview recently in the 'Bridge, I was honoured to have conversation with Seamie Cleere, Mickey Kelly, Johnny McGovern, Martin Treacy, Liam Cleere and Dave De Loughry. During our talk, it was generally accepted that the 'Bridge team of their time opened more new Churches, Schools, and Fêtes than any other team in the land. It was no surprise that crowds in excess of 15,000 would pay in to watch them play Cork's Glen Rovers, Thurles Sarsfields, Dublin's St. Vincents and the Faughs, Wexford's St. Aidans and Rathnure. They won enough suit lengths to last them into old age. They won gold watches to stock J.L.Ryans on High Street. They won everything, including eleven senior County Championships from '52 until '71.*

*"The only thing we didn't win", said Martin Treacy to me at the time, "was a Church. We built enough of them", he laughed. But when the dust settled, Martin Treacy didn't peg the hurl under the table, nor did his interest in his own Bennettsbridge wane one morsel.*

*"You had won everything worth competing for; you had travelled the Country and overseas with the County; you had nothing left to prove, so why didn't you pull up the armchair, stick on the slippers, and watch Tolka Row or the Late Late?"*

*"It's in your blood stream, and I just couldn't cut a vein and let it flow away. I knew nothing else except the GAA, so I thought that the natural progression for me, at any rate, was to get involved with trying to keep my club on the top of the hill".*



*Eoin Hennessy*

*Martin Treacy with former Bennettsbridge greats, Seamie Cleere, Dave Deloughry, Johnny McGovern, Liam Cleere and Mickey Kelly.*

"You have been forty-seven years at the County Board. It was not always an easy place to come out on top. There were some very big hitters present. It was never easy to win, if you could even get time to put your point of view."

"There were some incredible men there when I took over from Mickey Kelly. Very able men like Mick O'Neill, Nicky Purcell, Johnny Ivory, Jim McKenna, Joe Walsh (Thomastown), Ned Curren (Urplingford), the great Jim Rice (O'Loughlins), Kieran Meally, and his father before him, Mick, Tom Ryan (Glenmore), Kevin Fennelly snr. and many more, and then to cap it all, we had the daddy of them all in Paddy Grace. What a tremendous character he was.

Grace was such a committed Kilkenny man, that he accepted nothing from anyone if it wasn't to Kilkenny's advantage. They dreaded him in Croke Park, and often I would hear Kevin Fennelly, or Nicky Purcell say that they used give him freedoms in Croke Park not afforded to anyone else, just to keep him happy. He was a great man; one of the greatest Kilkenny men of all time".

The County Board as he knew it has changed over the years. Time was when he went to county Conventions there could have been between four and five hundred delegates. Convention might have to start at 11am, and might not finish before 8o'clock in the evening. "I often heard lads in those days pleading with the Chairman to speed up the Convention business, because they had to get home to do the milking. That time, the canvassing for positions was desperate. Now there is no canvassing, as all delegates are in position well before the Convention. Everybody knows who is going to get what position", he told us.

"Our County Board is one of the most professional in the Country in my opinion. We are the envy of most other Counties, but sometimes I think that there is very little inter-change between the County Board and the clubs. Some of the lads I talk to in the clubs will say that they have no say. They think they have a

point, and sure who am I to contradict them".

The burden on Clubs is getting heavier and heavier. They are fighting a battle to exist, which is about the best they can hope for.

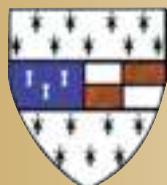
"We are a very professional County, but what worries me are the costs of running clubs. Clubs are on their own, getting very little help from any source. The cost of everything is on an upward spiral, and I don't know where it will finish. I would suspect that we will see the demise of some clubs within the next ten years. They have recourse to no outlet. They can't put a levy on anyone, like a County Board can put on levies. There are very few volunteers left. There is a small core of men doing everything in every club, and I wonder how long those lads will be prepared to continue. It's a worry, and no mistake. The interest in the organisation is still, thankfully on the upswing, but the number of people willing to work for the clubs is decreasing. Now how that is addressed is going to be a tricky operation. Its great that we are winning All Irelands, but that doesn't answer all of the questions", he said.

His travels through the GAA road have been more than eventful. They brought him in contact with a wide collection of some tremendous human beings. He won and he lost, but he took success with the same modesty as he took on board set backs. Now one, if not THE senior godfather of the Kilkenny County Board, his contribution has been quite enormous, and continues in like vein with his beloved Bennettsbridge. Men like Martin Treacy have given much that has been so valuable in the ongoing development that is the greatest sporting organisation in the Country--- Cumann Luthchleas Gael.

In the push for personal acclaim and office, the Martin Treacys of the GAA world should never be forgotten.  
As many know, they have been.

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# A Double for the Village

Bord na nÓg U14 Report by Conor Denieffe County PRO



## JAMES STEPHENS U-14 LEAGUE & CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS 2010

**Back:** Brian Crowdle, Shane O'Shaughnessy, John McEvoy, Michael Ryan, Jake Scanlon, Jake McDonald, Jamie Byrne, Eoin Delaney, William Spencer, Conor Byrne, Shane Stapleton.

**Middle:** Robbie Kearney (Selector), Fran Whelan (Selector), Adam Butler, Matthew McWey, Noel Whelan, Mark O'Neill, Tom Cuddihy, Dylan Drennan, Dean Cornally, Mark Doyle, Naimil Hossain, Ray Lahart, Mark Tyrrell (Selector), Brian Busher.

**Front:** Tadhg O'Dwyer, Gavin Costigan, Jimmy O'Brien (Chairman), Luke Scanlon (Captain, Kerry tournament), Conor Browne (Captain, hurling championship), Ben Hickey (Captain, hurling league), Liam Anthony-Griffin (Hotel Kilkenny), Richard Stapleton, Michael Cotter.

### Duggan Steel Under 14 Hurling Championship Roinn A

As in the Minor and Under 16 hurling Roinn A championships in Kilkenny this year it was a case of a city team collecting the silverware when the medals and cups were presented at Under 14 level with James Stephens winning both the Duggan Steel Championship and League defeating O'Loughlin Gaels in both finals although O'Loughlin's did win the Féile final at the expense of their city rivals. Nine teams took part in this championship with the Rower Inistioge eliminating Dicksboro in a preliminary round tie by a single point and then defeating Glenmore by the same narrow margin in the quarter final. The other quarter final winners were Clara, James Stephens and O'Loughlin Gaels who defeated Erin's Own, Thomastown and John Lockes respectively. The semi-finals saw comprehensive wins for James Stephens over Clara and O'Loughlin's over Rower Inistioge. As the same two sides had met in both the Féile and League finals earlier in the year and the score stood at one win apiece this was always going to be a well contested contest and so it proved in front of a large attendance in

Nowlan Park. James Stephens led at the interval by 2-5 to 1-5 thanks to two Jamie Byrne goals and had stretched their lead to six points by the three quarter way stage of the game, O'Loughlin's rallied and cut the deficit to two points thanks to two frees and a '65 from Danny Bolger and a Robert Buckley point from play but they could get no closer as the Village defence held firm and a point followed by a goal both from Matthew Mc Wey saw James Stephens deservedly take the title by 3-10 to O'Loughlin Gaels 2-10.

#### Teams and Scorers:

**James Stephens:** Gavin Costigan, Cormac Byrne, Ben Hickey, Eoin Delaney, Conor Brown (Captain), Dylan Drennan, Michael Cotter, Dean Cornally 0-1, Luke Scanlon, Tadhg O'Dwyer, Niamh Usfain, Tom Cuddihy, Jamie Byrne 2-1, Matthew Mc Wey 0-1, Roy Lahart 1-7 (0-7 frees). Subs Noel Whelan, Richie Stapleton.

**O'Loughlin Gaels:** Paddy Mullally, Jack Lawlor, Barry Bryan, Dan O' Driscoll, Thomas Gleeson, Danny Bolger 0-3 (frees), Eoin Mc Govern, Hew Lawlor, Ross Butler, Brian Buckley, Ben Leydon 0-1, Luke Rafter,

Shane Maher 1-0, Robert Buckley 0-6 (0-4 frees), Daniel O'Connor.

### Duggan Steel Under 14 Hurling League Roinn A

James Stephens did the double by also winning the Under 14 League title defeating O'Loughlin Gaels in the final by 6-17 to 3-9. John Lockes won the Shield at the expense of Erins Own, the final score was 1-10 to the Callan team and 2-3 to the Castlecomer team,

### Duggan Steel Under 14 Hurling Championship Roinn B

Thirteen teams took part in the Duggan Steel Roinn B Under 14 hurling championship and the final was very much a north versus south encounter as Lisdowney took on Mooncoin for the title which went to the green and white clad southerners. The competition developed as follows. A preliminary round saw Ballyhale Shamrocks, Mooncoin, St. Lachtains, Kilmacow and Barrow Rangers qualify for the quarter finals at the expense of Tullogher Rosbercon, Galmoy/Windgap, St. Patrick's, Graigue Ballycallan and Mullinavat respectively.



Eoin Hennessy

#### O'LOUGHLIN GAELS - FÉILE NA NGAEIL CHAMPIONS & ROIWN "A" FINALISTS 2010

**Back:** Kevin Rowe, Robbie Murphy, Paddy Doyle, Thomas Gleeson, Jack Lawlor, Shane Maher, Huw Lawlor, Sean Bolger.

**Middle:** Shane Mahony, Thomas Wadding, John Dillon, Ben Leydon, Eoin McGovern, Jay Leahy, Daniel O'Driscoll, Brian Slattery, Brian Buckley, Marcus Stapleton, Luke Rafter.

**Front:** Cian Loy, Ross Butler, Gary Bryan, Paddy Mullally, Daniel Bolger, Daniel O'Connor, Robbie Buckley, Shane Fahy, Patrick Clifford, Sean Kiely.

The quarter finals saw wins recorded for Ballyhale Shamrocks over Kilmacow, Lisdowney over Tullaroan, Mooncoin over Barrow Rangers and St. Lachtain's over Feile winners Bennettsbridge. Both semi-final games were keenly contested but saw Mooncoin come through by beating Ballyhale Shamrocks by three points and Lisdowney edge out St. Lachtains by a single point.. In a well contested final played in Bennettsbridge, Mooncoin took the title when they edged out hard trying Lisdowney by 3-8 to 2-8. All of Mooncoin's goal came from full forward Sean Walsh. Lisdowney led at the interval by 2-5 to 1-4 but missed a number of chances early in the second half and Mooncoin finished the stronger side to record a three point victory.

#### Teams and Scorers

**Mooncoin:** Eoin Purcell, Adam Skehan, Niall Brophy, Ciarán Walsh, Kevin Crowley, Niall Blanchfield, Ian O' Keeffe, John Fitzgerald 0-4, Paul Heneberry 0-1, Patrick Walsh, Kieran Dillon Dunphy 0-3, James Delahunt, Mark Kearns, Sean Walsh 3-0, Kevin Dowley. Subs Andy Brennan, Eoin Corcoran, Padraig Gannon, Billy Delahunt, Luke O' Keeffe, Michael Fewer Ward.

**Lisdowney:** Darragh Mackey, Kevin O' Sullivan, Eoin Walsh 0-1 (penalty), Liam Dunphy, Brian O' Carroll 0-2, Dean McCann, Peter O' Sullivan, Conor O' Carroll 0-1 (free), Paul Costelloe, John Brennan 0-1, Alan Murphy, William Kenny 1-0, Ian Buckley, Jack Dunphy 1-2, Brian Kavanagh 0-1 (free).

#### Duggan Steel Under 14 Hurling League Roinn B

Lisdowney also contested the League final but were unlucky to lose out on this occasion to Tullaroan by 3-8 to 2-9. In the Roinn B Shield final Ballyhale Shamrocks beat St. Lachtain's by 2-15 to 3-8.

#### Duggan Steel Under 14 Hurling Championship Roinn C

Conahy Shamrocks proved worthwhile champions in the Duggan Steel Roinn C hurling championship winning all of their games in convincing fashion including the final against Ógra Graig Blacks & Whites. The story of the championship was as follows. The preliminary round saw wins for Slieverue, O'Loughlin Gaels B, St. Martin's, Conahy Shamrocks, James Stephens B and Young Irelands over Danesfort, Piltown, Emeralds, Fenians, Dicksboro B, and Dunnamaggan respectively. The closest semi-final game was that between O'Loughlin Gaels B and St. Martin's with the country side coming through by two points. The other quarter finals saw comprehensive wins for Slierverue over Carrickshock, Ógra Graig Blacks & Whites over James Stephens B and Conahy Shamrocks over Young Irelands. The semi-final between Ógra Graig Blacks & Whites and St. Martin's was a close encounter with the combination team emerging victorious by a two point margin. In the other semi-final Conahy Shamrocks accounted for Slierverue. In the final the Conahy side produced an excellent performance to

take the title. They led by 0-7 to 0-4 at the interval but brilliantly led by their captain Liam Cass they controlled the second half. A goal shortly after the resumption by James Bergin set the Conahy side on its way and a continuous flow of points followed by a second goal from Daniel O'Shea saw them finish winners by 2-15 to Ógra Graig Blkacks & Whites 0-5.

#### Teams:

**Conahy Shamrocks:** Sean Brennan, Padraig Gunner, Niall Coogan, Kieran Delaney, Donal Cass, Liam Cass, Adam Dempsey, Padraig Walsh, Edmund Delaney, Pat Byrne, Oliver Feehan, Simon Callinan, John Byrne James Bergin, Daniel O' Shea. Subs: Declan Whearty, Conor Watters, Bill Murphy, Ben Lawlor, Niall Walsh, Justin Brophy.

**Ógra Graig Blacks & Whites:** Shane Hayden, Emmett Coakley, Sean Dowling, Neil Jordan, Patrick Cushen, Jordan Brett, Terry Dreeling, Martin Kelly, Jamie Dunne, Danny Fitzgerald, Sean Cahill, Patrick Nolan, Stuart Maher, Jamie Dunne, Eoin Doyle. Subs: Aaron Foley, Jamie Carroll, Niall Hayden, Seamus Lanigan

#### Duggan Steel Under 14 Hurling League Roinn C

Galmoy/ Windgap won the Under 14 Roinn C League final when they defeated Slierverue by 2-10 to 5-15 while the Shield title went to the James Stephens B team who defeated Dunnamaggan by 4-14 to 0-5 in the final.



Eoin Hennessy

**MOONCOIN - U14H ROINN "B" CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Noel Phelan, Niall Flynn, Cormac Fleming, Ian O Keefe, Kevin Dowley, Niall Brophy, Niall Blanchfield, Eoin Purcell, John Fitzgerald, Adam Skehan, Patrick Walsh, Michael Fewer Ward, John Grant (Standing behind) Eddie Doherty, Willie Fleming, Emer Fleming.  
**Front:** Eoin Corcoran, Ryan Croke, Luke O Keefe, Padraig Gannon, Kieran Walsh, Sean Walsh, Kevin Crowley, Kieran Dillon Dunphy, Andy Brennan, Paul Hennebry, James Delahunt, Mark Kearns, Billy Delahunt, Niall Skehan, Ger Holtan.



Eoin Hennessy

**CONAHY SHAMROCKS U14 H ROINN 'C' CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Padraig Walsh, Pat Byrne, Simon Callinan, Niall Coogan, Adam Dempsey, Oliver Feehan, Donal Cass, Sean Brennan, Kieran Delaney, Ben Lawler, Edmond Delaney.  
**Front :** Declan Whearty, Justin Brophy, Padraig Gunner, Conor Waters, Daniel O'Shea, James Bergin, Liam Cass (Capt.), John Byrne, Niall Walsh, Bill Murphy.



**GALMOY/WINDGAP - ROINN "C" LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Simon Brophy (Trainer), Max Lavelle, Cameron Murphy, Ned Lavelle, Cathal Phelan, Darren Grace, Cian Hynes, Sean Phelan MI O'Shea (Trainer)  
Frank Grace (Trainer) Brandon Phelan, Tim Molloy, Jack Delaney, Sean Murphy, Kieran Phelan, Conor Kelly, Evan Morrissey.  
**Front:** Oisin Phelan, Peter Hennessy, Emmet Landy, David Doyle, Niall Walsh, James Culleton, Pat Grace, Darragh O'Shea, Kevin Duggan, Robert White,  
David Skehan, Conor Grace



**BENNETTSBRIDGE - ROINN "B" FÉILE CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Hugh Corkery, Maurice Walsh, Kevin Brennan, Bill O'Neill, Dylan Dooley, Peter Duggan, Sean Morrissey, Liam Blanchfield, Luke Dowling, Cian Aylward, Eoghan Power  
**Front:** Brian O'Neill, McKenzie Davin, Bill Whelan, Shane Hanley, Joseph Murphy, Ronan O'Connor, James Drea, Jason Cleere, Leo McCarthy, Nathan Cullen, Shane Duggan, Shane Byrne



Paul Kinsella, Chairman, Kilkenny County Bord, presents Joe Pyke, Chairman Bord na nÓg, with a token of appreciation for his 20 years of service to the Bord as Chairman and also to his wife Kathleen, at the medal presentation night in Cillin Hill. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)



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# CITY SIDES TO THE FORE

Bord Na nÓg Under 16 Report by Richie Stone PRO



JAMES STEPHENS U16 ROINN A HURLING COUNTY CHAMPIONS 2010

Back: Neil Lahart (Se), James Rafter, Eoin Maher, Anthony Corr-Larkin, Paul Lynch, Peter Butler, Diarmuid Cody, Niall Mullins, Sean Moran, Val Malone (PRO).  
Middle: John McGrath (Sel), James Tyrrell, Cormac Connolly, Patrick Duggan, Andrew Valentine, Donagh Carney, Harry Wallace, Robbie Corcoran, Alan O'Beirne, Ben Lahart, Liam McWey, Brian Fitzpatrick, Cian Morton, Billy Walton (Sel).  
Front: Brian Dooley (Sel), Sean Sinnott, Fergal Lalor, Hugh Lane, Jimmy O'Brien (Chairman), Jack McGrath (Captain), Liam Anthony-Griffin (Hotel Kilkenny), Matthew McWey, Ricci Drennan, Jack Cotter, Liam Smith (Sel).

## Under 16 Championship

### Roinn A

Eight teams contested the 2010 Duggan Steel under 16 Roinn A hurling championship and for the most part it proved to be a very competitive competition. Emeralds (Urilingford) Glenmore, Erin's Own, Kilmacow, Thomastown and the three city clubs O'Loughlin Gaels, James Stephens and Dicksboro all set out in pursuit of honours.

In the opening round a fancied James Stephens almost came unstuck against Emeralds eventually winning on a 1-18 to 2-12 scoreline. League champions Dicksboro had no such problems overcoming Glenmore 4-11 to 0-4. Erin's Own had a narrow 1-15 to 1-12 win over Kilmacow while Thomastown caused something of a surprise when they beat O'Loughlin Gaels 2-9 to 2-6.

In the semi finals Thomastown and Erin's Own played out a draw – Thomastown 1-14 Erin's Own 2-11 – with the Southerners winning the replay 0-14 to 1-9. Meanwhile James Stephens were beginning to find their true form and they beat their city neighbours Dicksboro 2-13 to 1-9. Dicksboro of course were very much fancied for this game following their league success earlier in the year.

The final, played at Nowlan Park in mid September, proved to be a disappointing affair. A goal in the 11th minute from Hugh Lane after good work by Matthew McWee and another from Cormac Connolly in the 24th minute after he was set up by Diarmuid Cody, helped James Stephens to an eight points interval lead and they never looked in any danger after that as they strolled to a facile victory over a hard-battling but outclassed Thomastown. In a game that never rose above the average, the city side were in control from the off and were full value for their victory. At the half time break Stephens led 2-7 to 0-5. Things gradually got worse for Thomastown after the interval. Their goalie Darragh Mc Garry brought off a fine double save in the 32nd minute but was powerless to prevent Niall Mullins' effort hitting the net a minute later. Gary Lehane put over a fine point for Thomastown before Diarmuid Cody squeezed in Stephens fourth goal despite being closely marked and to all intents and purposes the match as a contest was over. The game was entering time added on with Stephens leading 4-15 to 0-10 when Michael McWey scored the winners' fifth goal to clinch the city side's first title at this grade since 2003.

A feature of the game was the fine striking of Diarmuid Cody for James Stephens and Michael Donnelly for Thomastown. Cody hit 1-11 of his sides total while Donnelly accounted for all but one point of the Thomastown sides tally.

**James Stephens:** Alan O'Beirne, James Tyrrell, Pat Duggan, Brian Fitzpatrick, Harry Wallace, Robbie Corcoran, Ben Lahart, Jack Cot-

ter, Niall Mullins, Ricky Drennan, Hugh Lane, Paul Lynch, Cormac Connolly, Diarmuid Cody, Matthew M c Wee. Subs. Anthony Valentine, Sean Moran, Cian Martin, Jack McGrath.

**Thomastown :** Darragh Mc Garry, James Burke, Gary Mason, Liam Tennyson, Liam O Shea, Barry Whelan, Cian O Meara, Adrian Burke, Gary Lehane, Andrew Walsh, Michael Donnelly, Jamie Langan, Noel O Meara, John Murphy, Eddie Conway.

### Roinn B

Sixteen teams took part in the under 16 Roinn B championship . Following seven preliminary round games, Ógra /Graigue-Blacks & Whites , Clara, John Lockes, St Lachtains, Rower/Inistioge, Danesfort, and Graigue/Ballycallan made it through to the quarter final where they were joined by Bennettsbridge.

In the quarter finals Ógra Graigue-Blacks & Whites beat St Lachtains 4-12 to 2-13, Rower/Inistioge had a huge 6-20 to 2-5 win over Danesfort, Graigue/Ballycallan defeated Bennettsbridge 3-16 to 1-11 and John Lockes proved too strong for Clara winning by 6-7 to 1-9.

The semi final draw pitted Graigue/Ballycallan against John Lockes while Rower Inistioge took on Ógra Graigue-Blacks & Whites. Rower/Inistioge proved too strong for the combined side Ógra/Graigue/Blacks & Whites while Graigue/Ballycallan came out on top against John Lockes.

The old adage that goals win games proved to be true when Rower/Inistioge defeated Graigue/Ballycallan 4-9 to 1-9 in the final at well attended Nowlan Park.

In a game in which the winners always looked the better team, goals from Michael Cody and Cathal Bolger set the Southern standard bearers up for a 2-7 to 1-3 half time lead. Cody's goal came in the 5th minute and it settled the Rower side and they began to play with great confidence. However, they missed a couple of chances before Cathal Bolger rifled home their second goal to put them 2-3 to 0-0 ahead after fifteen minutes. Indeed they could have been further ahead when Michael Cody set Sean Grace up for a goal chance but the full forward was just off target. The Graigue side's first score came in the 18th minute when Tommy Egan pointed. Three minutes later Cathal Bolger set Luke Tennyson up for a point as the Rower continued to set the pace. The Southerners seemed to be cruising to an easy victory when they led by nine points 2-6 to 0-3 after twenty five minutes. This despite missing an increasing number of chances. Then in the 27th minute Tommy Egan set Vincent Teehan up for a goal for Graigue. Tommy Whelan had the final score of the first half when he pointed for the Southerners. The scoreboard at the break read Rower/Inis-



#### ROWER INISTIOGE - ROIINN "B" U16 LEAGUE & CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS 2010

Back: Patrick O Carroll, Patrick Lyng, Gavin Feeney, David Kelly, Tony Whelan, Michael Coady, Kieran Meaney, Jack Walsh, Seamus Kelly (Selector).  
 Middle: Mark Moore (Trainer) James Leahy, Neil Walsh, Shane Foskin, Cathal Bolger, David Lyster, Darragh Kennedy, Liam Deevy, Jack Lyng (Selector)  
 Front: Martin Barron (Selector), Pat Lyng, Shane Ryan, Sean Grace, William Allen, Darragh Joyce, Luke Tennyson (Capt), Diarmuid O'Brien, Ciaran Ryan.



#### FENIANS - ROIINN "C" U16 CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS & LEAGUE FINALISTS 2010

Back: P.Webster (Selector), J.Muldowney, C. Delaney, N. Walsh, R. Maher, P. Duggan, M. Webster, L. O'Loughlin, J. Sweeney, S. Brennan, M. Drennan (Capt), C. Ryan, W. Brennan, L. Hughes, D. Walsh, M. Carroll, S. Curran, E. Wilson, S. Whyte (Manager), J. Wilson (Selector).  
 Front: C. Walsh, P. McCormack, J. Demody, P. Sweeny, S. Tobin, K. Fitzpatrick, N. Carroll, B. Tynan.

tioge 2-7 Graigue/Ballycallan 1-3

Darragh Egan opened the second half scoring with a pointed free for the Ballycallan side in the first minute of the new half. However the match was put more or less out of reach of the Northerners in the 35th minute when Pat Lyng fired home the Rower's third goal to put his side nine points clear. Sean Grace had the winners' fourth goal in the 48th minute and from there on it was plain sailing for the Rower lads against a Graigue/Ballycallan side that sorely missed the services of injured defender Padraig Tynan.

**Rower/Inistioge:** Shane Foskin, Neil Walsh, William Allen, Darragh Kennedy, Diarmuid O'Brien, Ciaran Ryan, Darragh Joyce, Tony Whelan, David Lyster, Luke Tennyson, Liam

Deevy, Pat Lyng, Cathal Bolger, Sean Grace, Michael Cody.

**Graigue/Ballycallan:** Billy Ryan, Diarmuid Walsh, Conor Cleere, Geoffrey Maher, Philly Cahill, Darragh Egan, Daniel Cahill, Eoin Corcoran, Conor Murphy, Dylan Hillman, Vinny Teehan, Brian O'Sullivan, Alan Hayes, Tommy Egan, Shane Butler. Sub. Eamon Egan.

#### **Roinn C**

Tullaroan defeated the combined talents of Galmoy/Windgap to qualify for the quarter finals of the Roinn C Championship. They were joined at that stage by Fenians, Carrickshock, Mooncoin, Mullinavat, James Stephens (2) Dunnamaggin and Dicksboro

(2).

Fenians, Dunnamaggin and Tullaroan negotiated the quarter finals with relative ease while Mullinavat just edged out Mooncoin to claim the fourth semi final spot.

In the semi finals Dunnamaggin beat Tullaroan 2-12 to 2-8 while Fenians had five points to spare over Mullinavat in a high scoring second semi final – Fenians 5-10 Mullinavat 2-14

The county final was a low-scoring affair. Beaten league finalists Fenians were determined to make up for that loss but found the Dunnamaggin side a hard nut to crack in a low scoring game. The game, played in atrocious weather conditions, saw Fenians led 0-3 to 0-1 at the interval. Dunnamaggin fought back in the second half and levelled matters



DICKSBORO - ROIINN "A" U16 LEAGUE WINNERS 2010

Back Marc Cudmore, Paddy Cahill, Mark McGarry, Conor Ryan, Aidan Walsh, Kevin Kenny, Darragh Holahan, Dylan Scott, Ciaran Brennan, Adam Comerford, Shane Brennan.

Front: Justin Cahill, Robbie Fitzpatrick, Stephen Farrell, Evan Cody, Rory Glynn, Eoin Fennelly (Capt.), Enda O'Donoghue, Ronan Moriarty, Shane O'Brien, Thomas Carroll, Eoin Gough, Brian Comerford.



GALMOY/WINDGAP U16 ROIINN "C" WINNERS 2010

Back: Pat Vaughan (Selector), Peter Hennessey, Darragh Morrissey, Frank Phelan, Eoin Vaughan, Brendan Power, James Vaughan, Darragh O'Shea, Brendan Murphy, William Phelan, Paraic Walsh, Michael Vaughan, Patrick Moore, Kieran Morris, Michael O'Shea (Selector)  
Front: Jimmy Duggan (Trainer), Niall Walsh, Brandon Phelan, Darren Grace, Martin Duggan, Tim Molloy, Jason Stanley, Kevin Duggan, Kieran Phelan, Cian Hynes, Sean Phelan, Simon Brophy (Trainer) Missing from Photo Daniel cashin

up by the three quarter stage. Then a goal from Willie Brennan in the 56th minute finally broke the Dunnamaggin resistance and Fenians added a late point to win by 1-4 to 0-3.

**Fenians:** Michael Carroll, Shane Curran, Michael Drennan, Cormac Ryan, Eoin Wilson, Luke Hughes, James Sweeney, Willie Brennan, Pat Duggan, Sean Brennan, Ronan Maher, Mark Webster, Lorcan O'Loughlin, David Walsh, Sean Tobin. Sub. Patrick McCormack (Used) Jason Dermody, Killian Walsh, Conor Delaney, Niall Walsh, Killian Fitzpatrick, John Muldowney, Niall Carroll, Padraig Sweeney,

**Dunnamaggin:** Adam Keneally, Sean Moylan, Andrew Fitzpatrick, Eoin Kearney, Brian Thomas, William Moylan, Stephen Lawlor, Paddy Delaney, Conor Long, Paul Kirwan, William Bergin, Ray Cody, Jason Doherty, Patrick Power, Greg O'Donnell. Subs

Michael Cody, Ronan Coffey, Aaron Doherty, John Fitzpatrick, Conor Fennelly, Jack Brett.

### **Under 16 Hurling League Roinn A**

In the Roinn A league two city clubs James Stephens and Dicksboro qualified for the final after Dicksboro had beaten Kilmacow 2-17 to 1-6 and James Stephens edged out a gallant Thomastown 0-13 to 0-12 in the semi finals. The final was expected to be a cracker and it didn't disappoint. Dicksboro overcame their great city rivals 2-11 to 1-10 after a cracking contest.

### **Roinn B**

St Patricks, Piltown, Rower/Inistioge, Ógra Graigue/Blacks & Whites, Clara, Lidowney, Graigue/Ballycallan, and John Lockes came through the group stages to the quarter finals of the Roinn B league. In the quarter finals St Patricks beat Piltown,

Rower/Inistioge overcame Ogra-Graigue/Blacks & Whites, Clara edged out Lidowney and Graigue/Ballycallan proved too strong for John Lockes. The semi finals saw St Patricks triumph over Clara and Rower Inistioge get the better of Graigue/Ballycallan.

Rower/Inistioge proved too strong for their Northern counterparts in the final beating the Ballyragget side by ten points 3-9 to 0-8.

### **Roinn C**

The Roinn C league was a competitive affair all through with Galmoy/Windgap, Tullogher/Rosbercon Fenians and Dunnamaggin making it through to the semi finals. Galmoy/Windgap beat Tullogher/Rosbercon 2-15 to 1-10 while Fenians and Dunnamaggin played out a draw Fenians 0-11 Dunnamaggin 2-5 before the Johnstown side edged out the Southerners in the replay 2-7 to 0-11. In the final Galmoy/Windgap overcame Fenians 0-11 to 1-6

# Dicksboro Make it two in a Row!

Bord na nÓg Minor Report by Conor Denieffe PRO Kilkenny County Board



DICKSBORO - COUNTY MH "A" CHAMPIONS 2010

**Back:** Ruari Morrissey, Darragh Holohan, Gerry Walsh, Mason Clifford, Sean Scott, Enda O'Donoghue, Kevin Kenny, James Murphy, Shane O'Brien, Luke O'Hara.  
**Middle:** Stephen Farrell, Mikey Hayes, Aaron McDonald, Joe Bollard, Matthew Nolan, Stephen Tynan, Rory Glynn, Peter Turley, Eoin Fennelly, Evan Guilfoyle, Aidan Nolan, Gary Lynch, Danny Farrell.  
**Front:** Eoin Cantwell, Shane Clohessy, Ollie Walsh, Conor Maharaj, Aaron Duggan, Darragh Buggy, Gary Gaule, David Mulrooney (Mascot), Cillian Buckley, Eoin Gough, Evan Cody, Robbie Fitzpatrick, James Gittens.  
*Absent from Photo due to illness; JJ Hickey*

## Kilkenny Citroen Centre Minor Hurling Championship Roinn A

The hurling year was a significant one for city club Dicksboro as they captured the Kilkenny Intermediate and Minor titles. It is with the latter success that this report is concerned as the maroon clad 'Boro' minors completed a double by adding this year's county title to the one they won in 2009. In doing so they became the first team since Carrickshock in 2001/2002 to complete this feat. Eleven teams went to post in the Roinn A Championship and thankfully the competition featured none of the delays its counterpart last year experienced.

The three preliminary round games saw Erins Own, O'Loughlin Gaels and St Lachtains advance at the expense of James Stephens, Rower Inistioge and Clara respectively although it took a replay to separate Erins Own and James Stephens at this stage. The surprise of the quarter final games was O'Loughlin Gaels victory over last year's finalists John Lockes while St. Lachtains, Dicksboro, and Kilmacow also progressed to the semi-finals by beating Thomastown, Erins Own and Graigue Ballcallan respectively. Those in attendance at Nowlan Park on Saturday 2nd October for the semi-finals enjoyed two very exciting games of hurling as city rivals O'Loughlin Gaels and Dicksboro played out a tense encounter which saw the 'Boro' qualify for the final by the minimum possible winning by 0-10 to O'Loughlin's 1-6. The second semi-final saw Kilmacow advance thanks to a late scoring burst which saw them win by 4-8 to 1-5.

The County Final was played as a curtain raiser to the senior final on 24th October and enjoyed by many of the 11,000 crowd who came early to Nowlan Park. It saw Dicksboro emerge victorious thanks to a very strong team performance. Kilmacow started well and hit the two opening points from Josh Tobin and Shay Dempsey but by half time they were in arrears 0-8 to 0-5 with county minor stars Cillian Buckley and Ollie Walsh leading the way in the first half scoring stakes for the winners. An early second half goal from Josh Tobin gave Kilmacow hope and the intensity of the game picked up. However the 'Boro' responded well to the challenge and by the fiftieth minute lead by 1-14 to 1-7, the goal coming from Aidan Nolan. A late goal from a twenty meter free struck by Johnny Hayes gave the Southern team's supporters some hope, but once again the city team responded well hitting the final three points of the game to win by 1-18 to Kilmacow's 2-7.

### Teams and scorers

**Dicksboro** – Ollie Walsh (0-6, four frees); Aidan Nolan (1-2); Cillian Buckley (0-4, three frees); Darragh Buggy (0-3); Shane Clohessy, Eoin Fennelly (0-1 each); Gary Gaule (0-1, 65).

**Kilmacow** – Johnny Hayes (1-5 frees); Josh Tobin (1-1); Shay Dempsey (0-1)

**Dicksboro** – Aaron Duggan, Evan Cody, Mikey Hayes, Conor Maharaj, Eoin Gough, Gary Gaule, Rory Glynn,

*Eoin Fennelly, Cillian Buckley, Darragh Buggy, Ollie Walsh, Peter Turley, Adian Nolan, Evan Guilfoyle, Shane Clohessy. Subs – Robbie Fitzpatrick for P. Turley, Eoin Cantwell for S. Clohessy; Ruairi Morrissey for A. Nolan.*

*Kilmacow- Daniel Connolly, Andrew Kearns, Dean Power, Ian Ahearne, Ryan Mc Kenna, Luke Hearney, Denis Scully, James Connolly, Emmet Blanchfield, Jason Grant, Johnny Hayes, Josh Tobin, Adam Morgan, Kevin Mc Namara, Shay Dempsey. Subs.- John Power for A. Morgan, Declan Dowling for J. Grant.*

In the Kilkenny Honda Centre Roinn A Minor Hurling League the semi-finals have been played and Dicksboro and John Lockes will contest the final. The semi-final results were Dicksboro 1-14, Kilmacow 1-9 and John Lockes 2-12 to O'Loughlin Gaels 1-11

### **Kilkenny Citroen Centre MH Championship Roinn B**

Fourteen teams took part in this years Roinn B Minor Hurling championship and it culminated in a most exciting final between Barrow Rangers and last years Roinn C champions



**KILMACOW - ROIINN "A" MH FINALISTS 2010**

**Back:** Lee Doyle, Dillon Cooke, John Power, Declan Dowling, Chris Pinkert, John Vereker.

**Middle:** Kevin McNamara, Ryan McKenna, Emmet Blanchfield, Adam Morgan, Ian Ahearne, Dean Power.

**Front:** Andy Kearns, Jason Grant, Shay Dempsey, John Hayes, Josh Tobin, Danny Connolly, Luke Harney, James Connolly, Denis Scully.



Eoin Hennessy

**BARROW RANGERS - ROIINN "B" MH CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Andrew Hennessy, Kevin O'Neill, Daniel O'Neill, Tom Brennan, Kevin Brennan, Peter Treacy, John Brennan, Edward Prendergast, Jodie Buckley, Aaron Nolan, Eoin Murphy, Graham English, Martin Dorner.

**Front:** Ciaran Doyle, Michael Lonergan, Nathan West, Michael Whately, Thomas Whately, Capt., Eugene Kealy, Keith Flavin, Ciaran Breen, Sean McDonald.  
Missing from Photo: Niall Walsh.

Bennettsbridge, with the Paulstown-Goresbridge outfit just edging out the 'Bridge men to take the silverwear. Barrow Rangers were lucky to survive the first round when they defeated Saint Patrick's, Ballyragget by a point while other first round winners were Bennettsbridge, Young Irelands, Glenmore and Emeralds with Mooncoin, Lisdowney, Mullinavat and St.Martins being the teams to exit at this point. Once again at the quarter final stage the eventual winners survived thanks to a one point victory, this time at the expense of Conahy Shamrocks, while Genmore accounted for Young Irelands, Emeralds defeated Danesfort and Bennettsbridge had a comfortable win

over Tullaroan. The final between Barrow Rangers and Bennettsbridge was set up when they accounted for Emeralds and Glenmore respectively in the semi-finals.

Thomastown was the venue for the County Final played on Saturday 23rd October and spectators were treated to a great game of hurling. The blue and white clad Barrow Rangers team enjoyed the better of the first half and lead at the interval by 2-7 to Bennettsbridge's 1-6, with Nathan West and Ciaran Doyle hitting the net for the winners and Eoghan O'Conor getting the major score for Bennettsbridge. The motivational power of a half time talk

was in evidence in the first five minutes of the restart as the bridge hit a goal from Gary Geoghegan and three points from Aidan Cleere to take the lead. Exchanges were fast and furious for the remainder of the half and with a minute of normal time remaining the sides were level. The decisive score came from a Barrow Rangers line ball which midfielder Michael Lonergan floated towards the goal and it deflected off a Bennettsbridge hurl into the net. Both sides pointed frees in the remaining minutes to leave the Paulstown Goresbridge side county champions by 3-12 to 2-12



**OGRA BLACKS & WHITES GRAIGUENAMANAGH - COUNTY MH "C" CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Right:** James Coakley, Thomas O'Donnell, Joseph Kelly, Lee Kinsella, Garry McDonald, Eoin Bolger, Emmett Foley, Thomas Drennan, Thomas Joyce, James Meaney.  
**Middle:** Pat Nolan (Selector) James Barcoe, Trevor Murphy, Liam Herne, Peter Kavanagh, Stephen Brown, James McCabe, Alan Murphy, Garry Meagher, Ger Dowling (Selector), Martin Bolger (Selector), James Phelan (Selector)  
**Front:** Michael Doyle (Selector), Brian Barcoe, Ciarán O'Brien, Michael Doyle (Joint Captain), Seamus Kavanagh, Bernard Hennessy (Joint Captain), Adam Canning, Adam Kennedy, Ryan O'Halloran, James Doyle, Séan Doyle, some young supporters.



**GLENMORE - COUNTY MH LEAGUE ROINN "B" CHAMPIONS 2010**

**Back:** Ger Aylward, Christopher O'Connor, Neil Wymmes, Richie Walsh, Liam Duggan, Liam Hennessy, Brian O'Donoghue, PJ Roche, Patrick Foran, Mark Aylward, Patrick Hennessy, Philip Roche, Ben Doherty.  
**Front:** Colm Foran, Owen Aylward, Colm Doherty, Michael O'Connor, Adrian Doherty, Robert Kelly (Capt), Sean Duggan, David Flynn, Shane Doherty..



Eoin Hennessy

#### CLOONEEN - COUNTY MH ROIINN "C" LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 2010

**Back:** Colm Egan, Breannain Buggy, Ciaran Brennan, Sean O'Neill, David Wilson, Ronan Egan, Brian Cahill, Kevin Delaney, Aaron Coogan, Paul Kelly, Liam O'Neill, Conor Delaney

**Middle:** Padraig Maher, Shane Kieran, Kieran Whelan, Eoin Doyle, Padraig Delaney, Dean Shortall, Mark Maguire, MJ Feehan, Anthony O'Neill, Jack O'Neill, Alan O'Neill, Marc Purcell, Ciaran Cooney

**Front:** Gearoid O'Neill, Eoghan Hennessy, Shane Purcell

#### Teams and scores:

**Barrow Rangers-** *Graham English, Kevin Brennan, Martin Dormer, Ciaran Breen, John Brennan, Sean McDonald, Edward Prendergast, Michael Lonergan, Tom Brennan, Daniel O'Neill (0-1), Thomas Whately (0-1), Aaron Nolan (0-1), Michael Whately, Ciaran Doyle (1-9), Nathan West (1-0). Sub Eugene Kealy.*

**Bennettsbridge-** *Hugh O'Brien, Eamon O'Connor, Robert Lennon, Kevin Blanchfield, Paul O'Neill, David Kealy, Cormac Wafer, Enda Morrissey, Gary Geoghegan (1-0), William Murphy, Hugh O'Neill (0-2), Aidan Cleere (0-8), Eoghan O'Connor (1-1), Shane Brennan (0-1), Dylan Walsh. Sub Michael Shiel.*

Sixteen teams took part in the Kilkenny Honda Centre Roinn B Minor Hurling League with a Shield competition being played at the closing stages. Danesfort will play Mooncoin and St. Martin's will play Tullaroan inn these shield semi-finals. In the League Final Glenmore beat St. Patricks of Ballyragget by 2-14 to 1-15. Mullinavat and Emeralds were the defeated semi-finalists.

#### Kilkenny Citroen Centre MH Championship Roinn C

If there was a prize for the most exciting final of an underage championship

in Kilkenny in 2010 it would surely go to this competition. Twelve teams took part and in the end Kilkenny's newest juvenile club Ógra Graig/Blacks & Whites made up for the disappointment of losing last years final by winning the 2010 version. However it was a hard earned victory as the final against Ballyhale Shamrocks was drawn 2-10 a piece at the first time of asking and the replay a week later on the 30th October again in Thomastown went to extra time before the Graiguemanagh edged out their southern rivals to take the title by 4-9 to 2-12. Details of the competition are as follows. The first round saw victories for Ballyhale Shamrocks, Ógra Graig Blacks & Whites and Cloneen over Galmoy/Windgap, Carrickshock and O'Loughlin Gaels respectively while Tullogher Rosbercon received a walk over from Slieverue at this stage. In the quarter finals Ógra Graig Blacks & Whites had a convincing win over James Stephens B, Piltown accounted for Dunnamaggin, Ballyhale Shamrocks defeated Tullogher Rosbercon comprehensively and Cloneen beat Dicksboro B. Then in the semi-finals Ógra Graig Blacks & Whites secured a final place at the expense of Cloneen and Ballyhale Shamrocks edged out Piltown by a single point to reach the decider.

#### Teams and Scorers

**Ógra Graig Blacks & Whites -Seamus Kavanagh, Thomas Joyce, Joseph**

**Kelly, Ciaran O'Brien, James Meaney, Bernard Hennessy 1-2, (1-0 penalty 0-2 frees), Thomas O'Donnell, James Doyle, Adam Kennedy, Adam Canning, Owen Bolger 0-1, Gary Mc Donald, Emmet Foley, Lee Kinsella 0-1, Ryan O'Halloran 2-3 (0-2 frees), Subs. Michael Doyle 1-0 for G.Mc Donald, Brian Barcoe 0-2 for E.Foley, Peter Kavanagh for A. Canning, Adam Canning for L. Kinsella, Emmet Foley for T. O'Donnell.**

**Ballyhale Shamrocks- Ian Frisby, Richard Deasy, Eoin Doyle, Brian Butler, Stephen Donnelly, Martin Duggan, Emmet Frisby, Gavin Butler, Kevin Mullen, Ronan Corcoran 0-1, Richie Reid 0-8 (0-4 frees), Owen Grace 1-1, Patrick Mullen 1-1 Conor Walsh 0-1 (free) M. Hoyne.. Subs James Deasy for R. Deasy, Richie Kent for M. Hoyne, Michael Hoyne for J. Deasy.**

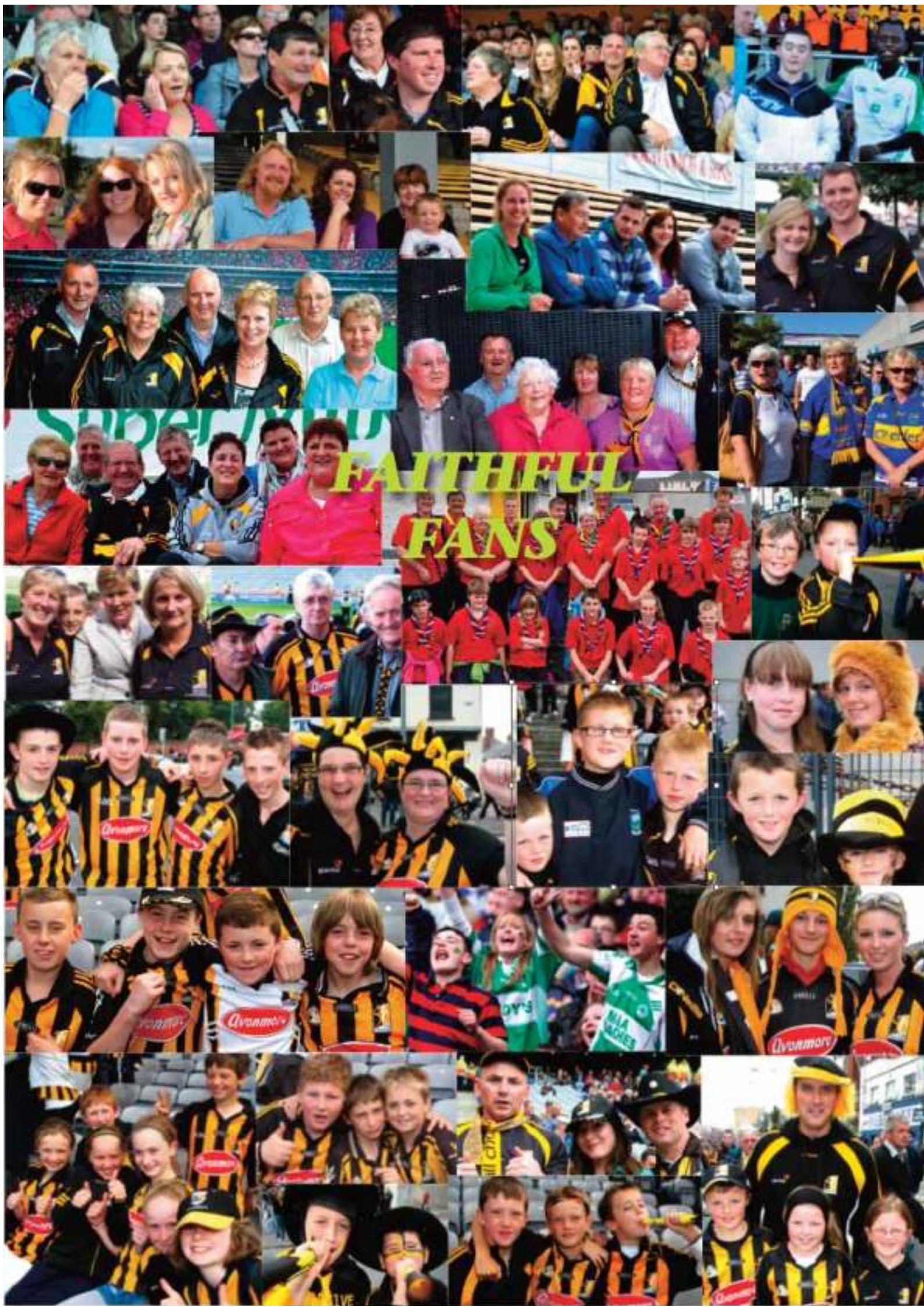
The Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor Hurling Roinnn C League was divided into two groups and as in Roinn B a Shield Final was played in addition to the League Final proper. The winners of the Shield were Ballyhale Shamrocks who defeated Galmoy/Windgap in the final 2-11 to 0-8 while the League Final saw Dunnamaggin loose out to Cloneen, the final score being Cloneen 2-9, Dunnamaggin 1-9.



**Don't say you're not here!**



# HOME COMING 2010







All Ireland SH Club Final Ballyhale Shamrocks v  
Portumna 2010

John McIlwaine





Eoin Hennessy



Jimmy Walsh



# Kieran Cuddihy

## - The Iconic Doc

In conversation with Barrie Henriques

"Have you lost the run of yourself?", asked my subject. "Using words like dynasty or legendary, is a joke really. It makes one feel like a member of Nero's family during the Roman Empire or indeed a member of the Egyptian Pharaohs. Dynasty how are you".

I'm in the gracious company of one of the iconic characters that populated the sidelines of Kilkenny hurling whenever the medical care of players was needed. Dr Kieran Cuddihy, long retired from his medical practice, has agreed, after long deliberations, and a certain amount of kidgology, to engage us, and our readers in the story of Kilkenny hurling as he saw it over a very long number of years.

"Listen", he said, "please drop the Dr. qualification, and call me just plain Kieran".

Having explained that for as long as I knew Paddy Grace, he never referred to Dr. Cuddihy except by the title of "Dr. Kieran", I respectfully explained that what was right for the venerable former County Secretary would have to be proper for this scribbler.

Surprisingly, Dr Kieran was a born Dub, and furthermore he played football as a minor for his native County. Brushing this little known fact aside, he did admit that he was a proud Dub.

If Dr Kieran's son, Bill, had not been in our company, and we would never have heard about him playing for Dublin.

"Truthfully, Barrie", said Bill, "he gave up playing minor club football when he was 23".

I was beginning to get an early handle on this Doctor, whom I felt was the possessor of a wicked sense of humour, the edge of which I felt would rear its head before our mission was complete.

"When did you come down to Kilkenny"

"Workin' or courtin'? he prodded. His question was stitched to a long wholesome laugh.

We were away early.

"Was there a difference?" we prodded.

"I never made hard work of it", he roared with more laughter.

We copied.

"Why did he get involved with Kilkenny hurling, and who made the first move".

"Well the first bit of that question is very easy. I was two years in Essex prior to coming back. The only interest they had there was in cricket. It subsumed their very existence. When I got back to Kilkenny to work, hurling was king. It was Paddy Grace that brought me into the hurling arena from the first day", he said.

Tell me about Grace.

That impish, rasping laugh prefaced the response, but I knew that not all he knew and admired about Paddy Grace was going to adorn the pages of this fable.

"He was a marvellous GAA man. He knew nothing else. I was very fond of him, and as a friend he would stand on his head for you all day. As a truly remarkable, and reliable friend, you would not meet better. If he made a promise he kept it, and I was glad at the end that I was able to help him on his way. I remember we were over in the Hollybrook prior to an All Ireland Final and he

was distraught. When I enquired why he was in such a state, he told me that he had promised the Hennessys (Chicago clan) tickets but that he had run out of them. He told me that he was afraid to go out because he couldn't fulfil his promise. I had done a turn for the Laois County Board, because Georgie Leahy was their Manager, and he had called on me for a few favours. Having obliged, two tickets had been delivered to my home by the Laois County secretary. I gave them to Paddy in the Hollybrook, and the situation was resolved".

Dr Kieran was always available to whoever's need was greater.

In a Leinster Final in Croke Park between Kilkenny and Wexford in 1967, a player from either side crashed into each other. Dr Kieran dashed onto the pitch. The clash, though accidental, looked ugly.

What memories of that do you have?

"I remember Tommy "Blonde" Walsh and Billy Kelly (Wexford) colliding. I raced into Tommy, and on first inspection, he didn't look too bad, but I noticed that Billy Kelly was after swallowing his tongue. I left Tommy for a few minutes, and I got Billy's tongue back. It was a harrowing moment for him for a few minutes. Coincidentally, I met Billy delivering vegetables in Duncannon last year, and we had a great chat".

The stories were starting to come back to memory.

An incident in Carlow involving Pat Henderson, and Dublin's Mickie Whelan, a little retribution, and a rebuke for the good Doctor from the Dublin star, who erroneously thought that the Doc had advocated retribution to Henderson for an earlier altercation, had a funny sequel. When Dr Kieran enquired as to the well-being of Whelan at half time, he was unceremoniously told to eff off, "sure didn't you tell him to do me".

When I mentioned the incident, he smiled as he replied, "Pat didn't have to be told by anybody, particularly a lowly medic, how to mind himself". More laughter.

Back to P De Grás.

"He had a little failing for some of the niceties of life."

"He had, (pause) and he was very generous with it", intoned the Doc. "When needs were at their most demanding, he would not see anyone stuck. And you know he had a little spoon".

"A spoon?"

"Yeh" he smiled. "In his top pocket"

"What for?"

"The lads who might be a little apprehensive before the match. There might be a spoonful again at half time. Then there were others who would have a little more than a spoonful. There would be more smokin' and drinkin' at half time. You wouldn't see it nowadays", he bubbled.

He told of a story that he heard from Jim Langton, about a trip from Dublin at night with Grace driving that "is best left untold".

"I remember another with "Chew" (Leahy). He was in charge of the jerseys, and other vital accoutrements. I remember at a Railway Cup match



with Munster, and Sean O Siadháin left in a bottle of whiskey to Paddy for the lads at half time. Paddy gave it to "Chew", who was behind the goal with the hurds. At half time, the "Link" (Walsh) enquired about the whiskey. Told that "Chew" had it, he told Paddy to get it into the dressing room. Paddy left the room for a few minutes, came back roaring laughing, and told the lads to go out and look at "Chew". The bould "Chew" was on the flat of his back, at the far end of the field with his legs and arms stuck up in the air, as drunk as a skunk. Whiskey gone".

More laughter at the memory.

The infamous subject of the 1967/68 National League Final against Tipp in Croke Park was mentioned.

"Out of respect to the many people involved, and particularly the people who have departed this world, I would prefer not to comment on the issue. Suffice to say that I was not exactly Persil white, and the only other comment I can make is that it was the first and only time an official was put outside the Croke Park gate. Mind you the same official was told by the gateman to furnish himself with a cap or a hat, and come back, and that he (gateman) would let him back in, which is exactly what happened".

He had a tremendous regard for Fr. Tommy Maher.

"He was a terrific man, and he was so adept at reading situations, and player requirements. He

set the template for others in the field of hurling coaching. He was an exceptionally intelligent man, with a very sharp mind. I don't know if he ever played chess, but I would be confident that he would have been a Grand Master. I remember one day playing Wexford, and some of the self-opinionated so-called expert selectors were pushing him to make changes. In despair, he just told them that he had no intention of doing anything of the kind. "We'll let the Wexford lads make the changes, because they generally make the wrong ones," he told them".

"His motivational skills, by all accounts were legendary."

"Most certainly. It often amazed me that he could be so controlled in a dressing room when there was absolute bedlam. Hurleys would be clattered off walls, and tables. Some of them could be broken. There was language that would not be heard at a Synod of Bishops meeting. But before the lads went out, Fr. Tommy would bless the lads who would be kneeling down on the dressing room floor. He built them up, and he cooled them down. Ah he was a marvellous judge of character".

We spoke at length about injuries – where the good Doc painted Mercurochrome on the sound knee, while arranging to have an anaesthetic injected into the other knee (Sean Clohessy). He spoke in glowing terms of the young Ollie Walsh as the Waterford lads did their damndest to execute him in 1957. The winning point by Mickie Kelly was retold with relish. Pat Henderson, Seanie Cleere, Martin Coogan were all mighty warriors in the words of the great medic. He loved Ted Carroll, and Eddie Keher knew no master as far as Dr Kieran was concerned. He had great regard for Pat Lalor.

"Pat Lalor was one of the cleverest readers of the game I ever saw. I remember Pat Henderson tearing out to collect the ball at a hundred miles an hour. Pat Lalor would always be sweeping behind him just for the one-in-a-hundred that might beat him", he said.

He remembered Paddy Phelan (a big heavy man, but a Prince of a half back) from his youthful days in Croke Park. He referred to men like Frank Cummins, Mick Kenny, Jim Treacy, Paddy Moran, Johnny McGovern, Sean Clohessy, Tommy Walsh, Denis Heaslip, Paddy Buggy, and had a story or a memory about them all, and so many more. He had tremendous regard for the Dooleys of Offaly, and of course DJ.Carey.

"Young Carey's positional sense, and hands were without blemish. But fadó fadó, we had the likes of Clohessy, Heaslip and even "Chunky" every bit as magical as DJ. Its hard to make a rational comparison on players from different eras", he told us.

He watched Mick Mackey and Christy Ring.

"Ring was marvellous. Dr Martin Beckett in Freshford, a Corkonian, told a great story about Ring. During the 1956 Munster Final against Limerick, a Cork supporter, rather excitable, was seated between a row of Priests. Cork were being hammered, but our hero was not for giving up. The priests were goading him with questions like "Where is Ring?" Inside the final 13 minutes, Ring shot 3-2, and Cork won. Our man jumped out in front of the row of Priests, glared at them, and bellowed, remember me boyos, Toscaninii for music, Katty Barry for drisheens, and effin' Ringey for effin' goals, and don't ever forget it".

One final that Dr Kieran was not averse to discussing, probably because after all of the years, it still rankled, was that of 1966 against Cork. Not because they were stone-wall favourites, or because Cork beat Kilkenny, but the media coverage by a particular journalist was considered pretty scurrilous by those close to the Kilkenny team.

In a nutshell, it was euphemistically known as the year of the pills.

"John D. Hickey, a much respected GAA journalist at the time just happened to be standing in line collecting the dinner at the customary post-All-Ireland banquet. Kilkenny were well beaten – Cork 3-9, Kilkenny 1-10 – and there were no excuses. A throwaway remark – "so-and-so shouldn't have taken the sleeping tablet" – between two of the players standing in line was picked up by Hickey. The banner headlines on the following day's paper was a scurrilous indictment on all concerned. Well, to tell you the truth, we were all spittin' fire. Some of the lads wanted to go to Dublin that evening to get Hickey. However, Nicky Purcell, Ted Carroll, Pat Henderson, Mons. Maher, and myself were delegated to meet with Hickey. Paddy Grace was not allowed to go, because he might have taken the law into his own hands. I think Ted went to keep an eye on Pat, who was absolutely inconsolable. When we got to Independent House in Abbey Street, John D wouldn't come out to us. Bob Hyland, a Dublin journalist, sub-editor of the Independent, was the man who met us. The poor man was subjected to a very forceful interrogation on an issue that was not of his making. About John D's non-appearance, although he was in the building, we will not comment further". Suffice to say that a most impressive apology was printed in the same spot of the sports pages of the Independent under John D. Hickey's name, with a similar size banner headline. It was a sop that barely satisfied.



**Kieran and Ailish Cuddihy**

Would the geographical origins of the said journo have been brought into play in the article?

"Unquestionably", said Dr Kieran. "It would not have been the first time that the much-read Tipperary man would have had a snide remark in his column about Kilkenny hurling", he replied.

Was there great rivalry between Kilkenny and Tipp? Was it vicious?

"Certainly there was a rivalry. Between the players it was, by and large, a healthy rivalry. Both sides had players well versed in the art of self-protection. What didn't help the situation was the injury suffered by Tommy "Blonde" Walsh against Tipp in the 1967 All Ireland Final. Passions ran riot for a while, and I suppose that was a natural prologue to the incident. But, as I saw it, I would have to say that it was a complete accident. While I felt extremely distraught for Tommy, I couldn't help but feel sorry for Tony Wall. It was a dreadful accident in my opinion, one which had long-lasting effects for all concerned".

We are back to the Dynasty word.

Was it a planned development that Dr Kieran would leave so many of his children involved in the medical care of Kilkenny teams. Dr Bill and Dr Johnny are still involved. Brendan actually invented the prototype ash-guard glove for hurling, and he has been seen in the past officiating on the sidelines.

He's starting to laugh again!

"Didn't I tell you that the word Dynasty, sounds as if I'm leaving something behind me for posterity", he laughed. "Listen! (laughter starts again), the only thing I will leave behind (bellows with laughter) is the (roaring) smell of my decomposing body". He breaks up.

"Seriously though, there was nothing planned or mapped out in that regard. All of my kids came with me to matches. My only daughter, Katie, is probably still vexed with me that I never brought her to a match. She had to stay at home to mind the phone. My wife Ailish was in partnership with John Hindle, and he would be at the matches too, so Ailish had to carry the show for us all. When I was pushing on a bit, the lads took over. In my time the one medic covered all teams. Now every team has their own Doc. Simple as that".

He bemoaned the loss of the overhead skills of players like John Sutton, Joe Salmon (Galway), PJ Garvan (a very shy man), and Andy Comerford (Gowran). But he found much in the present day game to thrill about.

On Henry Shefflin?

"He is a refreshing addition. He is right up there with the best that I have seen. But with this injury, I hope, for his own sake that he doesn't suffer long-term harm. You see lads who have had like injuries reach their mid 40s, and they start to show the effects. It would be a pity for him, if that happened".

Ah sure we could stay talking for many full moons, but a man of the calibre of Dr Kieran Cuddihy would need to be chronicled in a book of his own. I only scratched the surface, but even at that, it was captivating stuff, being told as it was, by a man who like the Unknown Soldier could say, "I was that man."

# FOOTBALL REPORT

by Tom O'Reilly, Football Board Secretary



Photos Charlie Maher

## MUCKALEE - COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2010

Back: Stephen Murphy, Tom Morrissey, Shane Coonan, Mick Morrissey, Paddy Nolan, Robert Shore (capt), John Coonan, Noel Darcy, Martin Dowling, Canice Maher, Damien Tynan, James Maher, John Maher.  
Front: Nicky Purcell, Niall Clancy, Colm McGrath, Ronan Maher, Aidan Murphy, Joe Maher, Alan Murphy, John Mulhall, Paul Maher, Eoin McGrath.  
Team selectors were Larry Maher (Chairman), Martin Dowd and Tommy Cullen (Manager).

The 2010 season proved to be a difficult one for Kilkenny's Senior footballers as they continued to ply their trade in Division 4 of the Allianz National Football League. The loss of five or six influential senior players to injury early in the season made Kilkenny's task all the more difficult. Nonetheless the players gave of their best and showed commendable spirit in all of their games. The best performance in the League came against neighbors, Carlow, while Kilkenny's performance in the Leinster Junior Football Championship against a strong Meath side at the end of May was probably the highlight of the year for this squad of players. Great credit must go to Dick Mullins, John Mc Grath and Jim O'Connor for their work and commitment with this team. Thanks also to Joe Brennan who began the year with the Senior Footballers before stepping down for personal reasons.

The county Under 21 footballers made their exit in the Leinster championship to Carlow. This was a pity as Joint managers Eoin Hennessy, Michael Lyons and trainer Coach Adrian Weldon had tried hard to assemble a squad and organise training sessions for this team. The county Minor footballers took part in a Leinster Minor Football League giving their best performance against Longford. However defeat was to be the minors' lot also when they went out to Meath in the championship proper. Manager of this team was Maurice Flynn with Joe Flynn, Bosco Bryan, Pat Murphy, Denis Kearney and physical trainer Ronan Ruane providing the back up support.

At local level Muckalee defeated Glenmore in the J.J. Kavanagh & Sons County Senior Football final played under lights. The large crowd in attendance at the well appointed Mooncoin venue enjoyed a good game of football with the north Kilkenny men proving too strong for last year's champions winning by 1-10 to 1-7. Muckalee gave a very good account of themselves when putting up a credible performance, subsequently in the Leinster Club Championship, against Naomh Eoin of Carlow losing by just two points, 0-10 to 0-8. Mullinavat won the J.J. Kavanagh & Sons Senior Football League defeating Muckalee, 1-6 to 0-6. in the final.

Thomastown won the J.J. Kavanagh & Sons Intermediate Football Championship when they defeated Danesfort by 1-6 to 1-4 in the final played in St. James Park. While they exited the Leinster Club competition in the first round Thomastown did put up a good performance against Ballinabracky of Meath. The Intermediate Football League was won by Piltown who defeated Blacks & Whites in the final.

Finally Kilkenny Football Board would like to thank all the players, selectors, managers, trainers and members of the backroom staff who worked so hard at all levels with county teams this year. We would like to acknowledge the support we received from the County Board. We thank the many clubs who helped and supported us this year and appeal to everyone and every club to support Kilkenny football in the coming year.



Photos Charlie Maher

## GLENMORE - SENIOR FOOTBALL FINALISTS 2010

Back: Ben Doherty, Eoin Murphy, John Cody, Darren Aylward, Kennett, Cotteral, Paddy Mullally, David Garvey, Mick Kelleher, Colm Foran, Mark Phelan, Fergal Freyne, Ritchie Mullally.  
Front: David Boyle, Paddy Murphy, Ciaran Foran, David Aylward, Paul Phelan, Emmett Vereker, Mike Phelan, Ger Aylward, Kevin Aylward.



THOMASTOWN COUNTY IF CHAMPIONS 2010

Front : Brian Dempsey, David Prendergast, Andy Kavanagh, Stephen Connolly, Paul Barron, Shane Lanigan, Derek Lanigan, Ken Walsh, Jim O'Connor (Trainer), Luke Blanchfield.  
Back: Colin Clarke, Mark Coone, Brian Murphy, Sean Mahony, Podge Caulfield, James Hoyne, Richard O'Hara, John Cullinane, Jonjo Farrell, John Fitzgerald, Brendan Cooke, James O'Hanrahan.



Kilkenny County Team 2010

Back: John McGrath, James Culleton, JJ Dunphy, JJ Grace, John Brennan, Tom Keogh, Michael Farrell, Declan Grennan, Stephen Duggan, Mick Malone, Emmett Vereker, Paul Donnelly, Ned Lawlor.  
Front: Dick Mullins, JJ O'Sullivan, Michael Sanders, Liam Brennan, Stephen Ryan, John Sheahan, Lorcan Kenny, Paddy Raftice, Corin Farnon, Jim O'Connor (Trainer/Coach).



KILKENNY MINOR FOOTBALL TEAM 2010

. Photo: John Quirke



**2010**  
**GAA HURLING ALL STARS**  
SPONSORED BY VODAFONE

**1**



**Brendan Cummins**  
*Tipperary*

**2**



**Noel Connors**  
*Waterford*

**3**



**Paul Curran**  
*Tipperary*

**4**



**Jackie Tyrell**  
*Kilkenny*

**5**



**Tommy Walsh**  
*Kilkenny*

**6**



**Michael Walsh**  
*Waterford*

**7**



**JJ Delaney**  
*Kilkenny*

**8**



**Brendan Maher**  
*Tipperary*

**9**



**Michael Fennelly**  
*Kilkenny*

**10**



**Damien Hayes**  
*Galway*

**11**



**Noel McGrath**  
*Tipperary*

**12**



**Lar Corbett**  
*Tipperary*

**13**



**John Mullane**  
*Waterford*

**14**



**Richie Power**  
*Kilkenny*

**15**



**Eoin Kelly**  
*Tipperary*

# Five All Star Awards for Kilkenny



## KILKENNY GAA HURLING ALL-STAR AWARD WINNERS 2010

JJ Delaney, Jackie Tyrell, Michael Fennelly, Richie Power and Tommy Walsh with their GAA Hurling All-Star awards and Uachtáran Chumann Lúthchleas Gael Criostóir Ó Cuana, Mary Hanafin TD, Minister for Tourism, Culture and Sport, and Jeroen Hoencamp, CEO, Vodafone Ireland, with their 2010 GAA All-Stars Awards.

Picture credit: Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE

## Camogie All Stars for 2010

### Goalkeeper

Mags D'Arcy, Wexford

### Backs

Claire O'Connor, Wexford  
Catherine O'Loughlin, Wexford  
Niamh Kilkenny, Galway  
Regina Glynn, Galway  
Mary Leacy, Wexford  
Anna Geary, Cork

### Midfield

Orla Kilkenny, Galway  
Anne Dalton, Kilkenny

### Forwards

Kate Kelly, Wexford  
Una Leacy, Wexford  
Brenda Hanney, Galway  
Katrina Parrock, Wexford  
Ursula Jacob, Wexford  
Aislinn, Connolly, Galway



Anne Dalton, Kilkenny, is presented with her 2010 Camogie All-Star award by President Mary McAleese and President of the Camogie Association Joan O' Flynn at the 2010 Camogie All-Stars.

Picture credit: Stephen McCarthy / SPORTSFILE

## GPA Hurling Team of the Year 2010

### Goalkeeper

1. Brendan Cummins (Tipperary)

### Full-Backs:

2. Noel Connors (Waterford)  
3. Paul Curran (Tipperary)  
4. Jackie Tyrrell (Kilkenny)

### Half-Backs:

5. Tommy Walsh (Kilkenny)  
6. Michael Walsh (Waterford)  
7. Padraig Maher (Tipperary)

### Midfield:

8. Michael Fennelly (Kilkenny)  
9. Brendan Maher (Tipperary)

### Half-Forwards:

10. Damien Hayes (Galway)  
11. Noel McGrath (Tipperary)  
12. Lar Corbett (Tipperary)

### Full-Forwards:

13. Eoin Kelly (Tipperary)  
14. Richie Power (Kilkenny)  
15. John Mullane (Waterford)

# Obituaries



John Forristal

## JOHN FORRISTAL

After a long and debilitating illness John Forristal died on October 5th. Over many months John had battled with his deteriorating condition and even close to the end seemed optimistic that he would regain his health. John had a very outgoing personality, was very sociable and loved to be with people – the bigger the group the better. He had many interests and made lasting friends in every phase of his life, as was demonstrated in the huge numbers of people from many walks of life who attended his funeral Mass and burial.

John was particularly attached to his wife, Kay, and family. Their welfare was always his primary concern. Outside his immediate and extended family he took great interest in Gaelic sports, particularly hurling, and Irish music. He was an accomplished accordion player and singer and entertained countless groups and individuals over the years. John was freely available for fundraising events or any form of social occasion and his musical contributions were always greatly appreciated.

However his greatest pleasure was to be in the company of hurling people. John enjoyed being involved on the pitch or off and his light hearted attitude always brought positivity and pleasure to his colleagues.

John was a long term and valued member of Slieverue club. He filled many roles with our club; as player, trainer, selector, committee member. His zest for hurling was such that he played at a competitive level into his mid-40s and could not understand 'young lads' retiring in their 30s. In recent years he loved to observe the progress of club teams and all off-pitch developments in the club. It was a source of much pleasure to club members that it was possible to arrange that he could attend the All-Ireland final in September.

His death has left a big void in his family circle with all of whom we sympathise. Slieverue club and our Association are the poorer for his passing. May he rest in peace.



Pat Walsh

## PAT WALSH

Membership of the association throughout the south of the county was saddened when the news broke on the morning of July 2nd that Pat Walsh had died during the night. He was a well known and respected member of the County Board and the South Board over a long period. In those roles Pat made many friends and his personality was such that he certainly did not make enemies as he was a generous and kind man and was most accommodating in all his dealings.

Growing up in Tullogher parish, Pat learned his love of hurling there and never lost his interest in his native place and in particular kept in close contact with the progress of the various teams representing Tullogher/Rosbercon. Shortly after a career move took him to live in Ferrybank in the mid 90's he joined the Slieverue club.

Pat got totally immersed in the workings of our Association in Slieverue for the following 15 years, right up to the last weeks of his final illness. He was club chairman for 10 years, was club secretary for a period and filled with total dedication several other roles within the club. Up to the time of his death he was the club's representative on both the county and south boards. Club members and friends were delighted to meet him on the occasion of the official opening of the club's hurling wall and astro-turf development on April 25th when his enthusiasm for the progress and success of the club was as strong as ever.

Pat Walsh is sorely missed in the Slieverue club scene. His legacy of integrity and commitment will live on and hopefully will not be lost on the present and future club members. We have many good reasons to remember him and we pray that God has reserved a special seat for him in the heavenly stadium. To his wife, Betty, his daughter, Patricia and his son, Noel, we offer our condolences at this lonely time of their lives.

May his generous soul rest in peace.



Charlie Carter

## CHARLIE CARTER 1949-2010

The sudden death of Charlie Carter, Clifden Commons, Gowran on February 9 shocked the local community of Gowran and beyond. A dedicated family man and a farmer all his life, Charlie left behind a life full of memories, friendships and achievements.

Hurling played a huge part in Charlie's life. He gave a lifetime of dedicated service to Young Irelands GAA club as a player, coach, selector and official. Charlie served as secretary of the club from 1973 to 1975. He also worked with many under age teams over the years, as well as serving on the field committee, putting in many hours of hard work into the upkeep and improvement of club facilities. As a player he generally lined out at corner forward for the club and later as a goalkeeper. He was part of the team that captured the Intermediate title in 1992. His last game for the club was at 48 years of age - a Special Junior A county final triumph in 1997, playing alongside his sons Martin and David.

He played his part in the achievement of a great milestone in the club's history when he was a selector with the senior team in 1996, alongside Kevin Fennelly and Dick O'Neill, as Young Irelands won their first county senior title. This was the culmination of many, many years of hard work by people within the club and Charlie cherished every second of that victory. In 2002, Young Irelands won their second senior title. This was one of Charlie's proudest days to see his three sons (Ollie, Martin and David) and three nephews (Cathal and James Fitzgerald and Charlie Jnr) in the red and white lift a senior title for Gowran, shared as always arm in arm with his brother Jim.

Charlie also played for several years with the Kilkenny Over 40's or Masters as they were known and was proud to wear the Black and Amber alongside some of the greats of Kilkenny hurling.

In recent years, he followed the fortunes of Kildare as his son David lined out for the

Lilywhite hurlers under manager Andy Comerford. Andy's father, Tim, a Gowran man, and Charlie travelled around the country following the Kildare hurlers as they won Division Three of the NHL. David's Kildare jersey, along with the Young Irelands jersey, adorned Charlie's coffin.

Charlie is survived by his wife Stella, sons Oliver, Martin and David, daughter in law Cora, granddaughter Ellie, his sisters Mrs Peggy Fitzgerald, Mrs Mary Purcell and Sr Teresa Carter (Nellie, living in San Antonio, Texas), his brothers and sisters in law, relatives and friends.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam*



John Butler

#### **JOHN BUTLER R.I.P.**

Conahy Shamrocks GAA Club were lucky enough to have one of the best grounds men around in John Butler. John tended and manicured the Polo Grounds in Jenkinstown for a quarter of a century. He took great pride in his work and would quickly remonstrate with anyone not paying due respect to the hallowed sod. John was a familiar figure around the roads of Jenkinstown as he ambled from his home in Ballyrafton to the Polo Grounds on a regular basis. Along the way he stopped and chatted with everyone he met. Rolling down the car window for a chat with John as he walked down the Tower Road is a memory all in the parish of Conahy will cherish. Naturally, hurling and the fortunes of Conahy Shamrocks and Kilkenny dominated those discussions. John played in goal for a period with Conahy Shamrocks also. An abiding memory of John was his ability to grab the sliothar out of the air. Sadly John left us this year at an all too young age of sixty-six. His life was low-key, but his departure was dignified and respectful for a man whose volunteering efforts were deeply appreciated. Conahy Shamrocks was so much part of his life and the club's members came out in force at his funeral in acknowledgement of his loyalty to the club. The term unsung hero sits well with John Butler. It was appropriate that Jenkinstown's newest resident, singer and song-writer Jimmy McCarthy, should sing his own composition "No Frontiers" at his funeral. "The Long Lad" as he was affectionately known around the Polo Grounds will be sorely missed by everyone. *Slán abhaile a shean cara.*



Pierce Barry



Eddie Nolan

#### **PIERCE BARRY: 1920 – 2010**

The death occurred of Pierce Barry in Stratmore Lodge Callan on the tenth day of May. A native of Barntrasna, Ballygown,, he had just celebrated his ninetieth birthday. In his playing career Pierce played hurling at midfield with Suir Rangers, the black and amber clad hurling men based in Jimmy Walsh's field on the Piltown road into Fiddown.

Drawn mainly from the Mooncoin and Piltown parishes, they contested the South Junior Semi Final of 1940 when they went down to Killarney in Knocktopher. Amongst his team mates were Bobby Grant, Dick Keating, Jimmy Brophy, Phillip Dalton, Larry O'Gorman, Pete Walsh and Jack Moore. On the football Fields Pierce gave his whole career wearing the blue and white of Kilmoganny and played at centre back when they defeated St. Kieran's of Johnstown to win the county junior title in 1954. Among his team mates were Dick Fleming, Joe and Tommy Moore, Jimmy Norris, Billy Cuddihy, Geoff and Tom Butler, Willie Fitzpatrick, Podge and Sean Butler and Ned Egan.

After the foundation of St. Josephs Hurling Club in Tullahought he played with them for a year. On the advent of the one parish rule in Kilkenny, Pierce became a selector along with Fr. Brian O'Flynn of the newly founded Windgap Hurling Club. An all round sportsman, he was a member of Kilmoganny Boxing Club a member of Kilmoganny Gun Club, and a co-founder of Tullahought Gun Club. A noted gentleman, Pierce loved the country way and farmed all of his life in Barnatrasna. In addition he had a passion for horses and enjoyed an occasional bottle of stout. Pierce was laid to rest in Tullahought cemetery and was predeceased by his sisters Sr. Dominique, Mary Ellen and brother Michael.

He is survived by his sister Bessie Wall in Mooncoin his wife Maura, son Joseph, grandchildren Marie, Peter, Suzanne, Sandra, Alan and Colin Barry, great grand children Daisy, Caoimhe, Mia, other relatives and his many neighbours and friends.

*Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis*

#### **EDDIE NOLAN.**

Eddie Nolan from Callan town was a man of varying interests, but above all else he was a man of Callan. He was a member of the Nolan Bus family, famed in song, and fable. He was a highly respected muinteoir for a long number of years, starting in Ballybofey, but for a very long number of years, in his own place of Coláiste Eamon Ris in Callan. He was a brilliant teacher, and the numbers of young students who came storming through the Callan Educational system, with great credits in Maths, English and History owe their subsequent achievements to the expertise and influence of Eddie Nolan. He was married to a Sligo girl, a nurse, Anna, and they reared a grand family at their home at the top of the town on the Clonmel Road. He was very involved in his spare time in the running of the family bus business, as a dependable aide-de-camp, time permitting, to his brother Jackie. In his time, he probably covered every inch of the Irish road network with groups from all sorts of organisation.

He qualified as a teacher in UCD where he established a life-long friendship with the noted Gaeltóir, and RTE broadcaster, Brendán O'Dúill. His first teaching job brought him to Donegal where he took up a position in Ballybofey. He joined the Sean McCumhalls Club, and distinguished himself in the Donegal hurling Championship. This well-known Donegal hurling stronghold had never won the County Championship until the Sunday after Eddie was buried in his native home. On that Sunday there was great celebration in the Donegal town when they won the senior Title for the very first time. Eddie would have been pleased with that. Only two players from Donegal played in the Inter Provincial Railway Cup competition, and one of them, Eddie Nolan from Kilkenny distinguished himself in the Red of Ulster. He was on the team that played Leinster in the semi-final of 1962. On the Leinster team were Denis Heaslip, Billy O'Dwyer, and Ollie Walsh in goal. Leinster won by 11-4 to Ulster's 6-3. Eddie took a tremendous interest in the John Lockes Club, the hurlers of Coláiste Eamon Ris, and the Coolagh football team. Stories about Nolan's Bus, and its travelling to Kilkenny matches from Callan have been recorded many times in many publications. Eddie Nolan was

always the driver. His passing will have caused a huge void in the lives of so many people. To his wife Anna, his children, Enda, Declan, Conleth, and Denis, his daughter Dearbhla Downey, his son-in-law, John Downey, his brother, Paddy Joe, and of course his grandchildren whom he adored, Roisin, Gerard and Thomas, the deepest expression of sympathy is extended by the John Lockes Club, and Eddie's many friends, and teaching colleagues. Eddie was a very active member of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Callan, and he was also a Captain of the Callan Golf Club.



Teddy Holden

#### **TEDDY HOLDEN RIP**

Graignamanagh GAA Club are sad to announce the death of Teddy Holden. Teddy was a larger than life figure who served as treasurer of this club in 1981. He served as football Co. Board rep for a long number of years a place where he used his undoubted wit and humour to defend his club no matter how lost the cause was. Teddy was a regular at all our matches and had been known from time to time to get involved from the sideline. The club would like to take this opportunity to pass the deepest sympathy of all G.A.A supporters to Teddy's family. A legend who will be sadly missed by the various community groups in which he was involved but his name and his contribution will never be forgotten by Graignamanagh GAA Club.



Mick Walton

#### **MICK WALTON 1934 - 2010**

Mick Walton passed to his eternal reward on Monday 17th May 2010 in St Luke's hospital,

Kilkenny after a short illness. Great regret was felt throughout GAA circles in Kilkenny and particularly in his native club Tullaroan when the news of his death became known.

Mick was a Tullaroan stalwart all his life. He played underage and at senior level for his club. He was involved with the club all his life and was a passionate supporter of all Tullaroan teams and the Kilkenny team from which he got great enjoyment. He was a great man to fundraise for the club and sold many a "Hurlers Co-op" draw ticket and Christmas draw card.

Mick was born and reared in Reimeen, Tullaroan and in later years he moved to Monavadrew where he carried out a mixed enterprise of dairying and drystock. He was a great family man and took great interest in the sporting activities of his nieces and nephews and in later years his grand nieces and nephews.

At his funeral the hurling club gave him a guard of honour of which he would have been very proud. Mick's passing is a great loss to Tullaroan Hurling Club, his family and his many friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.



Mike Burke

#### **MIKE BURKE 1948 - 2010**

Many people in the parish of St John's and indeed throughout County Kilkenny were saddened when the news spread that Mike Burke had passed away on June 24th following a short illness.

A stalwart member of the O'Loughlins club for many years he seemed happiest when he was working for the club.

In latter years Mike was a hard-working member of the Executive Committee of the O'Loughlins Club acting as the Chairman of both the Grounds and Social Committee during different years. And at all times he gave of his best while making a wonderful contribution.

But Mike was also seen to give a hand wherever there was work to be done. He could have been seen coaching at under-age level, or looking after the grounds. He might also have been seen collecting money on gates, or organising buses for the big Kilkenny games in Croke Park.

It was all the same to Mike who, in his quiet unassuming way did an amount of work for

O'Loughlins at all levels. Even up to a few weeks before his untimely passing, when he must have been feeling unwell, he still was working away for the club almost as hard as ever.

Nothing was a problem for Mike, and with his tremendous energy and work rate, he was almost always available with his time while not seeking glory or adulation.

Mike Burke had been connected with O'Loughlins Club since the very beginning in 1969. He hurled junior with the Club in the early seventies and was a member of the O'Loughlins team that reached the Northern junior final in 1971. Luck was not with the club on that particular day, when with a little good fortune the club could have been successful just two years after being founded.

Mike was also very proud of the fact that he was a member of the St John's team that won the Under 14 County final in 1963. A prominent member of that great under-age team from the parish was none other than Liam "Chunkey" O'Brien who later starred with both Kilkenny and James Stephens. Mike would have been so happy with the club's County Senior Hurling Final win of a few weeks ago, particularly when it seemed so unlikely at the beginning of the year.

A man of many parts who was well known far outside County Kilkenny, Mike Burke would have been almost embarrassed with the large crowd who attended his removal to St. John's Church and the burial of his remains in the family grave in Dunmore.

The Chairman, the Executive Committee and members of O'Loughlins extend their sincere sympathy to Mike's wife Nuala, his son James, and daughters Michelle and Margaret, brothers Liam and Paddy and sister Maura.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



Paddy Clancy

#### **PADDY CLANCY;**

Paddy Clancy was born on the 27th July 1929 at West Street Callan.. Hurling was Paddy's passion and he was an authority on the game. Paddy attended his first All-Ireland in 1939, the day World War II broke out, Kilkenny beating Cork by one point the same day. During the great four-in-a-row run from 2006 to 2009 Paddy attended all the victory banquets at City West and just loved meeting with the Kilkenny

players. In 1947 Paddy played with Bennettsbridge and won a minor county title as there was no underage team in Callan. Also on that team were other Callan lads Paddy Stapleton (RIP), Johnny Tobin (RIP) and Paddy Kilroy. On returning after a brief stay in New Zealand in 1952 Paddy rejoined the John Lockes club and duly won a junior county title the same year. Paddy ran the family shoe business at the Cross, Callan, and also ran a successful knitwear business as well as the well known Kilkenny Crystal glassware business. From small beginnings Paddy built an excellent reputation for himself and the Kilkenny Crystal brand, and to this day it is renowned throughout Ireland and beyond. Paddy had two great friends from his college days, Kerry men, Fathers John and Bill O'Gorman, and it was through them that he met and married their sister Kathleen in 1957. Kathleen, who predeceased Paddy, first settled over the business on The Cross until 1972, when they built a new house at Tinnamona. As well as looking after four children Kathleen also took an active interest in the running of the business. Paddy was a man of many talents and was also a member of the 'Old Charter Players' in Callan back in the 1950's, and featured in many plays on the stage. While Paddy had a set back with his health, he remained positive and was active up to the time of his passing, and was with his family up to his final moments. He will be greatly missed by his children Mary, John, Margaret and Richard as well as by his grandchildren. He is also survived by his Brother Fr. Billy, relatives & friends.



Paddy Stapleton

### **PADDY STAPLETON**

One of the grandest gentlemen one could wish to meet in a furlong's walk died on November 11 very peacefully. Paddy Stapleton was one of those people who experienced little difficulty in meeting and conversing with people, no matter their status, at eye level. He had a very sincere, but devilish wit, nonetheless he was a tremendous humanitarian. If a kindness was needed, Paddy Stapleton would certainly lead the charge in the offering.

He was born in Tullamain, on the road from Callan to Kilkenny. Although he shared the same surname as Kilkenny's youngest captain, Dan Stapleton who was born not a hen's kick from where Paddy Stapleton first saw the light of day, there was no kindred relationship. But

they shared a common ground in that Paddy Stapleton was a terrific hurler, but in a sense, most of his best days were curtailed through the dreaded enforced emigration or injury. He won a minor championship with Bennettsbridge in 1947. He was a member of the Kilkenny minor team in '47 which was defeated in the Leinster Final. McGovern, Kelly, Cleere, Treacy were the iconic Bennettsbridge men with whom he shared the dressing room. In 1949 he won a Leinster junior Championship, and in '51 he won an All Ireland junior Final. Returning to his roots, he won a junior County title with the Lockes in 1952. Emigrating to London, he played with the exiles from '54 until '56. He again returned home and having played with his beloved John Lockes in the first round of the Senior Championship in 1957, he received an injury which prevented him taking any further part in the Championship, a Championship that John Lockes won for the first and only time in their history. He went to work with the Limerick Motor Works as a mechanic, and returning home to Callan via Ennis, and Statham in Kilkenny, he set up the Mill Motors Company with his life-long friend, Jim Mullins. Some years ago, Paddy and Patti's life was tragically disturbed when their youngest son, Jim, was killed in an unfortunate accident in London.

In his home place he trained the Lockes to win a South Junior title in 1972. His entire life was immersed in hurling with John Lockes and Kilkenny.

He had a delightful personality which endeared him to all that chanced his way. He was a great raconteur, and a tremendous baritone. He was a member of the Callan Parish Choir for a very long number of years.

His passing will have caused much heartache for his wife Patti (Robinson), his son John, his daughter Marguerite, his sister Nancy (Galway), his grandchildren, daughter-in-law, and son in-law.



Liam Brett

### **LIAM BRETT**

Liam Brett was born, bred, and worked his entire life in the family business of timber preparation and cutting at Purcell's Inch Mill at the first weir on the south side of Kilkenny City. The family mill was unique in so far that it was hydro driven. Liam went to school at De La Salle in St Johns Parish, and advanced to the Technical School before returning to help his father in the timber business. The fame of the Brett name was primarily established through the cutting of ash to make the hurleys.

Bretts furnished ash planks to the hurley makers of the County, but principally to the hurley artisans in the City, Mick Nearn, Ramie Dowling and Mattie Murphy in Maudlin Street, now all alas, deceased.

If the above named trio had envied reputations in hurley-making, there is no doubt that the Bretts, and particularly Liam Brett, were master craftsmen in the preparation of the basic material. His workmanship was the essence of perfection. Many would have said over the years, and I have often heard them say it, that Liam Brett could produce planks from a tree better, and with greater volume, than anyone known in Kilkenny. The Bretts were Éire Óg people. Liam, with his brothers, Paddy (oldest), Mick, Sean and Walter were members of the famed club during their glory days in the late 30s and 40s, when they won Senior Titles in 1939, '44, '45, and 1947. Their team mates were among the great legends of the game. Players like Paddy Larkin, Jim Langton, Jack Mulcahy, Nick O'Donnell, and "Diamond" Hayden, togged off in the same ditch/field/shed with the Bretts.

Such hurling luminaries might not have been so successful in the County without the accomplished Brett contingent. Liam was a very tidy defender, as was Mick, the father of Billy in the hardware store on John Street. Mick and Liam were the best of the quartet, and Mick was particularly unfortunate that there were players around at the time like Paddy Larkin, and Peter Blanchfield which made getting on the Kilkenny team a huge ask.

Liam's wife, Mary, died when many of their eight children were only toddlers. But in true Brett fashion, Liam brought up his young family with all the love and dedication he could muster. That he did such a marvellous job is testament to the devotion, dependability, and humanity that were a mark of the man's nature.

The Bretts were great fishermen at a time when our rivers were teeming with life. They had a tremendous respect for, and knowledge of the River Nore. Their cots drove the length and breath of the River where they took tons of fish from its flow. It has been said that they trawled the river day, and night. All legit you could say – most of the time. They were great harvester of eels, which were a-plenty. They also exported the eels to France and other Continental Countries.

A feature of Lim Brett's life, coupled with his knowledge of the river was often brought into play by the Gardai when seeking the whereabouts of a body in the river. Recently deceased Albert Bolger (Gardai) would first call on Liam Brett for an opinion on his ideas of the location of a drowned victim, and invariably, Liam Brett would pinpoint the location.

Now departed, this iconic figure, and friend to a wide range of people, Liam Brett made a contribution of immense proportion. A tremendously loyal friend, a great father, a loving grandfather, his passing will be mourned by sons, John (Kilkenny), Nickey (Kilkenny), and daughters Miriam Robinson (Kilkenny), Cintha Burke (Kilkenny), Rachel Carroll (Callan), Emma Brett (Durrow), Lois Boon (Netherlands), nieces nephew, grandchildren and all his many friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.

# Kilkenny GAA Results 2010

SENIOR HURLING			
County SH Championship Final	O'Loughlin Gaels 0-17 Carrickshock 1-11	Roinn "C" U21H Championship Final	No Competition
SH League Final	James Stephen's 1-18 Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-17	Roinn "A" U21H C'ship Northern Final	Erin's Own 2-14 Clara 2-12
SH Shield Final	Erin's Own 4-13 O'Loughlin Gaels 2-18	Roinn "A" U21H C'ship Southern Final	Mooncoin 3-8 Glenmore 1-11
Byrne Cup Final	Ballyhale Shamrocks 3-9 Mullinavat 1-12	Roinn "B" U21H C'ship Northern Final	Barrow Rangers 0-17 St Martin's 1-13 (aet)
SH Relegation Final	Fenians 1-14 St Lachtain's 1-11	Roinn "B" U21H C'ship Southern Final	John Lockes 1-15 Kilmacow 1-11
INTERMEDIATE HURLING		MINOR HURLING	
County IH Championship Final	Dicksboro 2-12 Mullinavat 2-11	Roinn "A" MH Championship Final	Dicksboro 1-18 Kilmacow 2-7
IH League Final	Mullinavat 2-10 Danesfort 0-11	Roinn "B" MH Championship Final	Barrow Rangers 3-12 Bennettsbridge 2-12
IH Shield Final	Dicksboro 0-17 Young Irelands 0-14 (aet)	Roinn "C" MH Championship Final	Ógra Graig/B & W 2-10 B Shamrocks 2-10 Ógra Graig/B & W 4-9 B Shamrocks 2-12
Aylward Cup Final	St Martin's 3-13 O'Loughlin Gaels 0-16	Roinn "A" MH League Final	Dicksboro v John Lockes (To Be Played)
IH Relegation Final	Graignamanagh 2-18 Blacks & Whites 1-10	Roinn "B" MH League Final	Glenmore 2-14 St Patrick's 1-15
JUNIOR HURLING		Roinn "C" MH League Final	Cloneen 2-9 Dunamaggan 1-9
County JH Championship Final	John Lockes 2-11 Barrow Rangers 1-14 John Lockes 1-14 Barrow Rangers 0-14	UNDER 16 HURLING	
Northern JH Championship Final	Barrow Rangers 0-13 St Patrick's 0-12	Roinn "A" U16H Championship Final	Jas Stephens 5-15 Thomastown 0-10
Southern JH Championship Final	John Lockes 3-8 Piltown 0-12	Roinn "B" U16H Championship Final	Rower/Inistioge 4-9 G/Ballycallan 1-9
All County JH League	Lisdowney 1-17 Piltown 0-18	Roinn "C" U16H Championship Final	Fenians 1-4 Dunamaggan 0-3
County JH League Final	Lisdowney 2-19 Piltown 0-12	Roinn "A" U16H League Final	Dicksboro 2-11 James Stephens 1-10
County JH A Final	Fenians 2-14 Carrickshock 1-14	Roinn "B" U16H League Final	Rower Inistioge 3-9 St Patrick's 0-8
County JH B Final	Lisdowney 1-11 Tullogher/ Rosbercon 1-8	Roinn "C" U16H League Final	Galmoy/Windgap 0-11 Fenians 1-6
County JH A League Final	Fenians 3-17 Mullinavat 0-9	UNDER 14 HURLING	
County JH B League Final	Mullinavat 2-7 St Patrick's 0-11	Roinn "A" U14H Championship Final	James Stephens 3-10 O'Loughlin Gaels 1-10
Northern JH League Final	Lisdowney 3-12 Galmoy 1-14	Roinn "B" U14H Championship Final	Mooncoin 3-8 Lisdowney 2-8
Southern JH League Final	Piltown 1-17 Kilmacow 1-10	Roinn "C" U14H Championship Final	Conahy S'rocks 1-11 Ógra G/B & W's 0-5
Northern Junior A Hurling Championship	Fenians 1-17 Tullaroan 0-8	Roinn "D" U14H Championship Final	No Competition
Southern Junior A Hurling Championship	Carrickshock 0-15 R/Inistioge 0-12	Paddy Grace Féile na nGael Final	O'Loughlin's Gaels 6-10 James Stephen 0-9
Northern Junior A Hurling League	Fenians 2-16 Young Irelands 1-9	Roinn "A" U14H League Final	James Stephens 6-17 O'Loughlin's Gaels 3-9
Southern Junior A Hurling League	Mullinavat 1-14 Rower/Inistioge 2-10	Roinn "B" U14H League Final	Tullaroan 3-8 Lisdowney 2-9
Northern Junior B Hurling Championship	Lisdowney 3-13 Clara 1-11	Roinn "C" U14H League Final	Galmoy/Windgap 5-15 Slieverue 2-10
Southern Junior B Hurling Championship	Tullogher/Rosbercon 1-13 Kilmacow 1-9	Roinn "D" U14H League Final	No Competition
Northern Junior B Hurling League	St Patrick's 0-15 Barrow Rangers 1-11	PRIMARY SCHOOLS HURLING	
Southern Junior B Hurling League	Mullinavat 3-10 Glenmore 1-13	Roinn "A" U13H Championship Final	St Patrick's 3-12 St Canice's 2-7
Paddy Cahill Cup	Not Completed	Roinn "B" U13H Championship Final	Ballyhale 5-14 Thomastown 4-9
Kevin Fennelly Cup	Windgap 0-12 Dicksboro 1-9 Windgap 3-7 Dicksboro 0-9	Roinn "C" U13H Championship Final	Tullogher Rosbercon 5-6 Conahy 3-3
Joe Walsh Cup	Conahy Shamrocks 2-4 Kilmacow 1-3	Corn de Bhaldraithe	Ballyhale 5-4 Callan 2-5
UNDER 21 HURLING		SENIOR FOOTBALL	
Roinn "A" U21H Championship Final	Erin's Own v Mooncoin	County SF Championship Final	Muckalee 1-10 Glenmore 1-7
Roinn "B" U21H Championship Final	Barrow Rangers v John Lockes	SF League Final	Mullinavat 1-6 Muckalee 0-6

SF Relegation Final	Not Played		
<b>INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL</b>		<b>INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE</b>	
County IF Championship Final	Thomastown 1-6 Danesfort 1-4	Intermediate Championship Final	Lisdowney 1-11 Rower Inistioge 1-6
County IF League Final	Piltown 1-18 B & W's 0-5	Intermediate League Final	Rower-Inistioge 2-13 Dicksboro 0-9
<b>JUNIOR FOOTBALL</b>		<b>Intermediate All County Final</b>	
County JF Championship Final	Not Finished	Intermediate Relegation Final	James Stephens 0-14 Emeralds 1-8
<b>U21 FOOTBALL</b>		<b>JUNIOR CAMOGIE</b>	
County U21F Championship Final (2007)	No Competition	Junior Championship Final	Tullaroan 1-15 Young Irelands 4-5
<b>MINOR FOOTBALL</b>		Junior "A" League Final	Tullogher 2-13 Blacks and Whites 0-8
Roinn "A" MF Championship Final	Not Finished	Junior All County Final	Tullogher 3-5 Young Irelands 0-8
Roinn "B" MF Championship Final	Not Finished	Junior "B" Championship Final	O'Loughlin Gaels 0-10 Mooncoin 0-4
Roinn "C" MF Championship Final	Not Finished	Junior "B" League Final	Mooncoin 0-11 O'Loughlin Gaels 0-7
<b>U16 FOOTBALL</b>		<b>UNDER 21 CAMOGIE</b>	
Roinn "A" U16F League/Championship Final	Not Finished	Under 21 "A" Final	Thomastown 1-14, Mullinavat 2-1
Roinn "B" U16F League/Championship Final	Not Finished	Under 21 "B" Final	Rower/Inistioge v Paulstown
Roinn "C" U16F League/Championship Final	Not Finished	<b>MINOR CAMOGIE</b>	
Roinn "D" U16F League/Championship Final	Not Finished	Minor "A" Final	Windgap 2-10 Thomastown 1-8
<b>U14 FOOTBALL</b>		Minor "B" Final	Lisdowney 2-7 Rower Inistioge 1-4
Roinn "A" U14F Championship Final	Thomastown 5-6 Dicksboro 5-5	Minor "C" Final	Danesfort 0-14 Emeralds 2-6
Roinn "B" U14F Championship Final	Lisdowney 4-1 Tullogher/Rosbercon 1-8	Minor "D" Final	Tullaroan 4-16 Glenmore 1-4
Roinn "C" U14F Championship Final	Young Irelands v Piltown	<b>UNDER 16 CAMOGIE</b>	
Roinn "D" U14F Championship Final	No Competition	U16 "A" Final	Dicksboro 2-9 Windgap 0-8
Roinn "A" U14F League Final	O'Loughlin's 3-9 Thomastown 1-6	U16 "B" Final	Clara 8-12 Rower Inistioge 4-5
Roinn "B" U14F League Final	Tullaroan 4-4 Lisdowney 2-6	U16 "C" Final	Mullinavat 2-10 Piltown 4-3
Roinn "C" U14F League Final	Conahy Shamrocks 1-7 Young Irelands 0-12	U16 "D" Final	St Anne's 5-7 Paulstown 4-4
Roinn "D" U14F League Final	Kilmoganny 5-6 Carrickshock 0-4	<b>UNDER 14 CAMOGIE</b>	
<b>PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOOTBALL</b>		U14 "A" Final	Piltown 4-11 Windgap 0-6
Roinn "A" U13F Championship Final	St. Canices 2-7 Kilkenny CBS 2-6	U14 "B" Final	Danesfort 8-6 St Brigid's 0-4
Roinn "B" U13F Championship Final	Goresbridge/Paulstown 4-5 Graignamanagh/Skeoughvosteen 0-2	U14 "C" Final	St Annes 3-5 Naomh Brid 3-0
Roinn "C" U13F Championship Final	No Competition	U14 12-a-side Final	Mooncoin 3-2 Paulstown 1-4
Corn na Tuaithe	Ballyhale v Paulstown/Goresbridge	U14 Féile Final	Danesfort 2-1 Windgap 0-0
<b>SENIOR CAMOGIE</b>		<b>PRIMARY SCHOOLS CAMOGIE</b>	
Senior Championship Final	Mullinavat 1-7 St Lachtain's 0-9	Roinn "A" Final	Piltown 4-7 Thomastown 3-4
Senior League Final	Mullinavat 1-14 St Lachtain's 1-7	Roinn "B" Final	Kilmanagh 7-8 Gaelscoil Osraí 1-2
Senior All County Final	St Brigid's 3-10 Ballyhale S'rocks 2-6	Roinn "C" Final	Bennetsbridge 3-2 Gowran 2-2
Senior Relegation Final	St Brigid's 3-6 St Annes 3-5	Roinn "D" Final	Glenmore 4-9 Conahy 0-1

**JJ DELANEY**

