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KILKENNY GAA YEARBOOK 2013

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Foreword

It is my privilege as chairman of Kilkenny GAA County Board to welcome the publication of our annual year book which tells the story in words and pictures of games and events that took place at both club and county level during the past year. While it was a less successful year than previously at inter county level congratulations are due to our senior hurling team on their victory in the National Hurling League final which was played in Nowlan Park. Credit is also due to our minor hurling team on regaining the Leinster title in that grade. Victories by both Thomastown and Clara clubs in the Junior and Intermediate All Ireland Club Hurling finals deserve special mention as does the achievement of the Kilkenny minor Camogie team who won All Ireland honours also.

The result was in doubt until the final whistle in each of our County hurling Finals this year's with just a single score separating the teams at the end. Congratulations to Lismore on winning the Junior hurling title and to the Rower Inistioge on completing a Minor and Intermediate hurling championship double while Clara completed an unbelievable twelve month journey by annexing Senior county hurling honours. I extend sincere thanks to all clubs for their understanding and cooperation regarding fixtures during what was a particularly difficult year in that regard. In Football the achievement of the Muckalee club in winning a fourth successive Senior County Title is deserving of special recognition with credit due also to the Rower/Inistioge and St Patricks Ballyragget clubs on their successes in the Junior and Intermediate finals.

Kilkenny handball enjoyed another successful year with All Ireland honours gained across many grades. Congratulations to all who achieved success and to all responsible for the coaching and administration of the game within the county.

The support of our Sponsors remains key to maintaining the financial solvency of our County Board and sincere thanks is extended to our County team sponsors Glanbia PLC and to our championship sponsors St Canices Credit Union, Michael Lyng Motors, JJ Kavanagh and Sons, Iverk Produce, Countrystyle Foods, Kilkenny Citroen and Honda Centre and Duggan Steel and I would ask that where possible that all followers support these businesses.

Our Supporters Club Branches in Kilkenny, Dublin and Kildare again provided greatly appreciated financial support for our games at all levels and thanks is due also to the recently formed Supporters Club branch in London for their support for our footballers on the occasion of their trip to Luton this year.

Despite the original date having to be rescheduled due to inclement weather, the inaugural Kilkenny GAA fundraising Race Day held in Gowran Park Racecourse this year proved very successful. Tremendous thanks is due to the organizing committee and to all who supported this event including Race Sponsors, Advertisers, Clubs who sold tickets and all who attended on the day.

Nowlan Park played host to a number of big occasions this year including the National Hurling League Final and a Qualifier Championship game both of which involved our near neighbours and great rivals Tipperary. Tickets for the two Bruce Springsteen Concerts staged there in July were purchased in eighteen countries worldwide thereby adding greatly to Kilkenny's reputation as a tourist destination while the capacity attendances on both evenings provided a welcome boost to the local economy.

In conclusion I express the wish that all who purchase our Year Book enjoy reading about our sportsmen and sportswomen and their achievements in 2013. I extend sincere thanks to Editor Barry Henrique's, Chairman Pat Henderson, Gerry O'Neill and all of the hardworking voluntary members of the Committee involved in producing yet another outstanding publication.

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Editorial

KILKENNY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 2013

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Nowlan Park NHL final
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Not the greatest year in a hurling sense down Kilkenny way, but in case anyone is erroneously informed that the game is crawling towards the scrap merchants yard, allow me to put the error of such misinformation go dti an leaba gan mhoill. In an overstatement of the obvious, Kilkenny, for the first time in a long time did not contest any All Ireland Final in hurling at adult level. Kilkenny did, however, win a coveted National title, when on a superb afternoon, on a pristine hurling surface, in front of a packed audience they wrote the perfect hurling tome by beating Tipperary in the National League Final in Nowlan Park. The atmosphere, the excitement, the ambiance, the presentation, the raw expectation were all in Nowlan Park on that day. The age-old enemy was in town, and it was buoyed by a huge throng of expectant supporters. Old war wounds were exposed; old confrontations were recycled; old on-field rivalries were regurgitated in all their gory splendour. The full house signs were evident long before the throw in. One of the greatest roars ever heard in Nowlan Park was the news that one Henry Shefflin had been unexpectedly added to the substitutes list in the Clar Oifigiul. There was even a more thunderous roar when he actually came on as a second half sub. It was pure Theatre. Kilkenny won it. We record the occasion in our Yearbook.

It was a great year for camogie within and outside of the County boundaries. Congratulations to our County Senior team on reaching the All Ireland final and to the Minors on their great victory. Pride of place goes to Loreto, Kilkenny who beat St Brigid's from Loughrea to win their fourth All Ireland Final on the trot. Their junior players went even better, recording their fifth All Ireland Title. The girls from Mullinavat won the Leinster Senior Club title, while their neighbours, Ballyhale won the Intermediate title. Best of luck to the girls from the South as the competition progresses.

Kilkenny CBS were beaten in the All Ireland Colleges Final by Dungarvan, but the men from Clara had a superb year. They won the Leinster and All Ireland Intermediate Titles. They went further and captured the County League and Championship double. Thomastown won their All Ireland Junior Title. It was a great year too for the Rower Inistioge who had waited some 28 years to earn promotion from the Intermediate grade to Senior which they did in style, and added the Leinster club Title to their haul. They would be particularly delighted to have won the County Minor Roinn A title, and we congratulate them. Lisdowney fought a tremendous campaign to win the Junior County Title. The County Final was the best game of the year in any grade. They are presently on the road to further awards in Leinster.

We got no All Stars, surprise, surprise, in spite of our National League victory, but four of our Camogie ladies made up the deficit and congratulations to them.

Hope you all enjoy reading our Yearbook. I thank the people who have put it all together for the 23rd year. Thanks to Gerry O'Neill, our Chairman, Pat Henderson, Jimmy Walsh (County Board Secretary), Ned Buggy, Conor Denieffe (Vice Chairman County Board), Seamus Reade (PRO), Conor Brennan, Tommy Lanigan. Go raibh maith agaibh to our photographers, Sportsfile (Ray McManus), John Mc Ilwaine, Eoin Hennessy, Willie Dempsey, Jimmy Walsh, Ned Buggy, and William Maher. I thank our Professional journalists, Enda McEvoy(Examiner), Cian Murphy (Irish Sun), and Tony Considine (Examiner). Thanks to all of our advertisers, and I respectfully exhort you all to support them whenever it is feasible to do so.

My final appreciation to all of our contributors, our hard-working Committee, and of course to you, our supporters who provide the inspiration and support to us to produce this, a History of our games in this glorious County of winners.

Go dté sibh slán.

Barrie Henriques

Editor





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THAT WAS THE **VERY STRANGE** YEAR THAT WAS...

by Enda McEvoy (Irish Examiner)

NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL A HURLING SUMMER...

Kilkenny didn't win the All Ireland, you may object. Well, they can hardly be expected to win it every year, can they? And get this: most counties don't win an All Ireland every year. In fact, most counties don't win an All Ireland *any* year.

So Kilkenny didn't win the All Ireland. And they didn't win the Leinster title. And of the six championship matches they played, they won only two of them in normal time. And they were beaten by Dublin for the first time in seven decades. And they failed to make it to Croke Park for the first time since 1951.

Yet you know what? This was one of the county's most interesting and enjoyable championship campaigns ever. Maybe it was *the* most interesting and enjoyable ever. Not because Kilkenny were perfect but because they were so imperfect and because they fought so hard to overcome those imperfections. Not because they were the team they had been a few years ago but because they strove might and main to turn back the clock. Not because they won championship silverware but because they demonstrated that it isn't all about winning championship silverware and that sometimes being the best that you can be is a kind of triumph in itself. A ludicrously long injury list holed them below the waterline shortly after they set off but their pride, self-respect, muscle memory and sheer bloodymindedness en-

sured that they didn't go down with all hands on deck.

In victory on so many occasions during the Cody era Kilkenny were magnificent. But it was an almost soulless, inhuman magnificence. Line up the opponents against a wall and bang bang bang. In chronic impotence in 2013 they were magnificent too – a tattered, bruised and very human magnificence. That was something for the manager and his players to be deeply proud of and it was something the Kilkenny supporters demonstrated they were proud of too. Although from the moment the McCarthy Cup holders were beaten by Dublin it was clear the clock was ticking, they deferred the evil day for as long as possible. And when at last they were carried out, they were carried out on their shields, their boots still on, their hurleys still gripped in their cold dead hands.

And look at all the fun that was had along the way. A National League final at a packed Nowlan Park. A sequence of unforgettable Saturday evenings: O'Moore Park for the defeat by Dublin, Nowlan Park for the visit of Tipperary on a night the world seemed to stand still and Semple Stadium for an encounter with Waterford that went to extra time. They survived that last one but they couldn't keep surviving forever, and their next visit to Thurles a fortnight later was the moment the clock stopped. Even then there was excitement and controversy, what with Henry Shefflin's sending-off and

Richie Power's retaken penalty. It was a day when nothing went right in a summer when nothing went right.

Bad refereeing decisions and some truly bizarre umpiring decisions were a part of it, and they added to the talking points, but in the end they were only a part of it. It was the injuries that really did for Kilkenny, and no so much the long-term injuries as the niggling ones. Long-term injuries can be worked around; niggling injuries are far more insidious. Whatever about the defending champions coping without Henry Shefflin, TJ Reid and Michael Rice, it was the list of just-about-walking wounded – the likes of Paul Murphy, Jackie Tyrrell, Cillian Buckley and Eoin Larkin – that really finished them off, with two thirds of the outfield XIV that had helped see off Galway at Croke Park the previous September on the easy list at some stage or other. Not before they raged at length against the dying of the light, however, and it was striking to note the wave of encomiums that flowed from neutrals, and particularly the grudging admiration emanating from Leeside, as the nation, rapt, watched their slow demise. In death Kilkenny were a more interesting, more empathetic team than they ever had been in their pomp.

VIBRANT NEW CHAMPIONS

And so the Great Levelling-Off Championship ended with new winners. That was only right and proper. An exhilarating summer of hurling yielded exhilarating



Dublin players surround Kilkenny captain Colin Fennelly as he charges goalwards in the last seconds of the Semi-Final Replay, Kilkenny v Dublin. Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE

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champions in a young and vibrant Clare. Watching it unfold and watching them mature was all kinds of fun as well. And for their own sake it was as well that Kilkenny didn't make it so far as to meet Clare at Croke Park. Granted, much of the defending over the course of the two All Ireland finals left something to be desired, but what's wrong with a large glass of fizzy lemonade every now and then?

As it takes more than one dancer to tango, credit must go to the opponents Kilkenny encountered along the way. While Tipperary may not have been the team they were – how the zip and impetus of 2009-11 was mislaid is a question only they can, or perhaps cannot, answer – the atmosphere in Nowlan Park simply wouldn't have been the same had it been any other county providing the opposition in the league final and the All Ireland qualifier. Dublin were the better team on both occasions in O'Moore Park and it was enlightening to behold the manner in which their switch to seven defenders and five forwards at the start of the second half of the drawn game made them more of an attacking threat rather than less; it's not about how many bodies one has in attack but about how cleanly one channels the ball to them and about the willingness of the runners to steam through from deep. It would have been a sad soul too who didn't find something uplifting in being there in Portlaoise to behold Dublin's first championship victory over Kilkenny in so long. Waterford, sorely depleted in personnel terms compared to recent years, worked the sliotar cleverly out of defence in the Semple Stadium qualifier, thereby purposely overflying the Kilkenny half-back line, and finished like an express train to trigger extra time. Cork, meanwhile, always looked to have something in hand in the All Ireland quarter-final and it said something about their poise and purpose that, though forced to try and cope with Clare's unrelenting pace from the off in the All Ireland final, they were still only a score behind patently superior opponents entering injury time in the replay.

So really, what was there to regret? Hey, we had Bruce Springsteen in Nowlan Park. Twice. (For the record, the Saturday gig was better than the Sunday one, possibly because the latter took place a few hours after the All Ireland quarter-final defeat.) And we have two Michelin stars, one of them won by Garrett Byrne's Campagne, an establishment just a long puck away from Nowlan Park. And okay, the Kilkenny minor and under-21 teams were nothing to write home about, and you'd be worried about how the senior team will look in two or three years' time, but that is the way the cycle goes.

SCORING LESS PER GAME

One symptom of the Black and Amber's decline was the fall-off in scoring output. In 2011 and '12 they averaged 2-20 a match. In 2013 they averaged 0-18 a match. In other words, they were scoring eight points fewer per game. Little wonder they suffered the fate they did.

The causes of the decline? A combination of injuries, as we said already, and wear and tear. The 2012 season, prolonged by Kilkenny's journey through the back door and the All Ireland replay, stretched deep into November domestically. Michael Rice and TJ Reid were already hors de combat; Henry Shefflin joined them in the type of undesirable circumstances players pick up injuries all the time, a club fixture in December.

With a quarter-final against Offaly scheduled for early June, Kilkenny's championship was starting earlier than ever. In light of that, the last thing they needed was an extended run in the National League. But Clare hit 12 wides in the second half when Kilkenny visited Cusack Park in late March and the holders, instead of potentially ending up in a relegation playoff, found themselves in the league semi-final. Against a Galway team who had regressed substantially from the summer beforehand they couldn't but win. Then, for reasons of history and tradition and self-pride, they couldn't but give it all against Tipperary in the decider at Nowlan Park. To put the tin hat on everything it turned out to be the hottest summer in years, unforgiving on ageing limbs. Ultimately the wonder wasn't that Kilkenny departed the championship so early but



Jackie Tyrell, Kilkenny, is tackled by Seamus Harnedy, Cork in the All-Ireland Senior Championship, Quarter-Final. Picture credit: Stephen McCarthy / SPORTSFILE



J.J. Delaney (Kilkenny) clears the sliotar as Lar Corbett (Tipperary) closes in during the NHL Final in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

rather that they managed to make the last six. (In passing, even if it sprang in part from the surprise of seeing a player pull up injured in real time, the noise that greeted Lar Corbett's departure in the qualifier was nothing to be proud of.)

It is good to see Derek Lyng and James McGarry, two heroes of the recent past, join the management team - an indication, obviously, of the regard Brian Cody has for the pair of them. And naturally Clare's triumph doesn't mean that everything they do is right and that everything Kilkenny do is suddenly wrong or obsolete. But the county's approach must be recalibrated, as it was after 2004. They cannot, for instance, keep dumping high balls on top of Richie Hogan and expecting him to win them; even if he loses only half of them it's half too many. The new All Ireland champions are an object lesson in that regard when it comes to protecting and recycling possession. Kilkenny no longer have the luxury of enjoying so much possession and creating so many scoring chances that being slapdash every now and then constitutes an acceptable level of wastage. Down to 14 men in the second half against Cork, their last and only resort was to belt the ball willy-nilly into the full-forward line instead of working it up the field slowly and carefully. Was it any surprise that Conor O'Sullivan, Cork's spare man, had a field day?

When Cody began to rebuild after 2005 he was able to call on members of a group who'd come within an ace of winning three successive All Ireland under-21 titles. He has no such riches at his disposal this time around. Still, forget for a moment about freedom from injuries; greater intellectual rigour is essential if Kilkenny are to prosper in 2014, and unlike with freedom from injuries, the attainment of greater intellectual rigour is in their own hands. In addition, they cannot go bullheaded for the league. It is not 2008 anymore and it never will be again.

From now on the National League is for experimentation and team-building rather than for winning. From now on not a drop of water can be spilled.

It will be no surprise if, given freedom from injury, Kilkenny win the 2014 All Ireland. It will be even less of a surprise if they don't. The hardcore of the team is growing old together and will not be properly replaced. (Because it cannot be. Where does one find another JJ, another Jackie, another Tommy?) The All Ireland-winning minor outfit of 2008 proved negligible, Eoin Murphy excepted, in terms of providing future seniors and the 2010 edition has fared not much better to date. Nor does the fate of this year's under-21s fill one with hope for the immediate future. Cody will not be attempting to win the 2014 All Ireland with, say, the 2016 team; that is not how the man operates, he works with the tools at hand. But he mustn't try to win it with the 2013 team either. All told, the prospect of an unusually interesting year lies ahead.

Hurler of the Year: Tony Kelly (Clare)

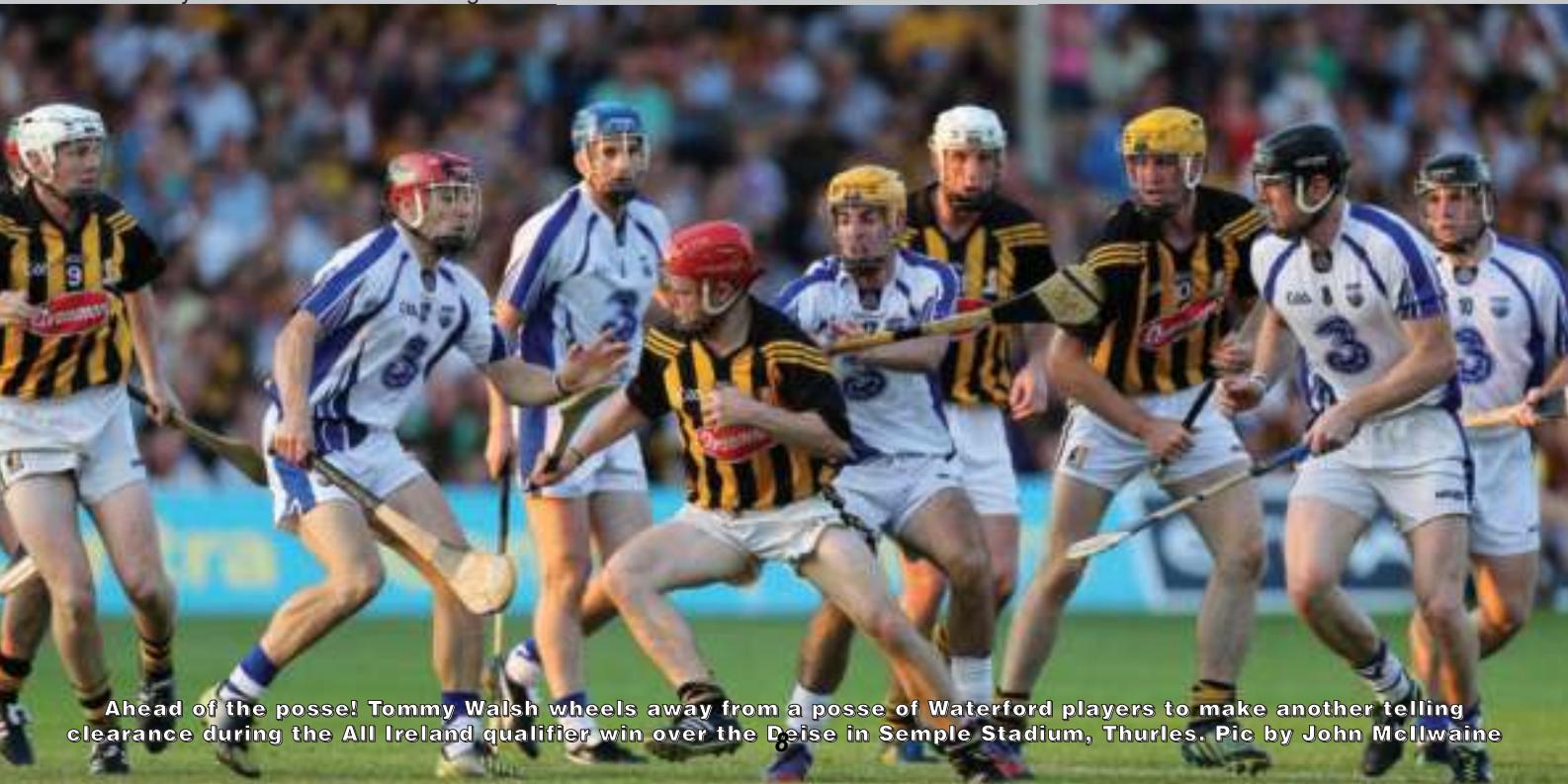
Young Hurler of the Year: Podge Collins (Clare)

Match of the Year: 1. Clare v Cork, All Ireland replay; 2. Cork v Dublin, All Ireland semi-final; 3. Clare v Cork, All Ireland drawn game.

Team: Anthony Nash (Cork); Paul Murphy (Kilkenny), Richie McCarthy (Limerick), David McInerney (Clare); Brendan Bugler (Clare), Liam Rushe (Dublin), Pat Donnellan (Clare); Colm Galvin (Clare), Tony Kelly (Clare); Seamus Harnedy (Cork), Conal Keaney (Dublin), Danny Sutcliffe (Dublin); Podge Collins (Clare), Pat Horan (Cork), Conor McGrath (Clare).



Above: Brian Cody congratulates Jimmy Barry Murphy at the final whistle of the quarter-final in Thurles. (John McIlwaine) and
Below: leaves for the dressing room (Ray McManus /SPORTSFILE)



Ahead of the posse! Tommy Walsh wheels away from a posse of Waterford players to make another telling clearance during the All Ireland qualifier win over the Deise in Semple Stadium, Thurles. Pic by John McIlwaine

KILKENNY POWER TO 16th LEAGUE TITLE



Photos Willie Dempsey

By Tommy Lanigan

2013 has been described by most 'expert' commentators as the greatest season in hurling history. This invariably refers to the championship but there is no doubt that the Allianz National Hurling League was by far the best seen by this and many other observers. Ironic now that the format has been dismantled for the tenth time in fifteen years.

Make no mistake the two groups of six participants went for victory in every match. There was much at stake. A poor opening and one might have faced relegation. Remarkably it was Kilkenny who had the poorest opening to a league campaign in many years and then went on to win the competition in considerable style. The All Ireland finalists Cork and Clare fought out an enthralling relegation play-off and Limerick, eventual Munster champions remained stuck in Div. 1B despite a fine campaign.

While the league and championship are generally seen as unconnected, there is little doubt that the very good preparations by all 12 teams in both top divisions stood to them in the ensuing championship. It was as if they were able to sort out many problems in the heat of league battle. For the past two years Kilkenny supporters have looked for signs of tiredness in the team that seemed to go on and on. The first two rounds of the Allianz League offered some suspicions. They began without the injured TJ Reid and Walter Walsh and the recuperating Henry Shefflin and Michael Rice.

Newcomers Eoin Murphy, Lester Ryan, Matthew Ruth and Conor Fogarty were the main beneficiaries. The league proved to be a satisfactory testing ground and all four went on to play championship at various stages.

It seemed inevitable that Kilkenny and Galway would meet in the first round. Pearse Stadium is a tough venue in which to get a result and so it proved.

ALLIANZ HL DIVISION 1A 24 FEBRUARY, PEARSE STADIUM GALWAY 3-11, KILKENNY 0-17

Galway made the perfect start to their Allianz Hurling League Division 1A campaign by beating the reigning league and All-Ireland champions Kilkenny in a fine game at Pearse Stadium, Salthill on Sunday afternoon.

In a repeat of last year's All-Ireland decider, it was Galway who gained revenge over a Kilkenny side who struggled in the early stages of the game. Galway hit them for three goals in the first half and deservedly led by 3-4 to 0-10 at the break. Kilkenny closed the gap and threatened a comeback in the closing stages, but a restructured Galway side were in no mood to surrender their early lead. Joseph Cooney dominated the game from centre back and Joe Canning was in unbeatable form in attack.

Despite the concession of the early goals and their defence looking very shaky, Kilkenny were still well in the game thanks to some good shooting from midfielder Richie Power, while Tommy Walsh and Lester Ryan also pitched in with good scores from play.

Two minutes before the interval, Canning split the Kilkenny defence with a wonderful cross-field pass and Damien Hayes made no mistake in finding the net. It seemed as if Galway were determined to score goals and Kilkenny points in what proved to be a fine encounter. Kilkenny improved during a scrappy third quarter but could find no way past a determined Galway defence.

The three point gap at the end was a fair reflection of the fortunes of both sides.

Galway: F Flannery, F Moore, K Hynes, J Coen, N Donoghue, J Cooney (0-1), D Collins (0-1); I Tannian, A Harte (0-1); J Glynn, N Burke, D Glennon (1-1); N Healy (1-0), J Canning (0-6), D Hayes (1-1). Subs: T Haran for Tannian, B Flaherty for Healy, P Brehony for Burke.

Kilkenny: E Murphy; P Murphy, JJ Delaney, J Tyrrell, T Walsh (0-1), K Joyce, C Fogarty, L Ryan (0-1), R Power (0-8) C Fennelly, E Larkin (0-1), M Ruth, T Breen, R Hogan (0-4), A Fogarty (0-2). Subs: M Kelly for Breen.

ALLIANZ HL DIVISION 1A, 10 MARCH AT THURLES

TIPPERARY 2-17, KILKENNY 1-19

Matters did not improve for Kilkenny in bitterly cold Thurles two weeks later as they lost a thunderous encounter in bitterly cold conditions.

In keeping with games between the great rivals, the encounters were uncompromising but on this occasion Tipperary always seemed to have an edge over their rivals. Tommy Walsh and Noel McGrath saw red in separate incidents with about ten minutes remaining, though neither could be blamed for any malice.

The first half was a high scoring affair, with Tipperary shading it by 2-11 to 1-8 thanks to goals by Lar Corbett and John O'Dwyer. Kilkenny's best during that period were Eoin Larkin, Richie Hogan and Lester Ryan. Indeed the Clara man made an outstanding contribution during the whole campaign. Wind assisted Tipperary started well and unanswered points from Eoin Kelly (two frees) and Lar Corbett during the opening three minutes helped them find their feet in the game. Six minutes passed

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before Kilkenny opened their account with a point from Aidan Fogarty.

Kilkenny upped their game considerably in the second half and the introduction of Kieran Joyce plugged the defensive gaps. But they had a very steep deficit to fill and Tipperary were in no mood to concede. Their midfield and half backs battled hard and managed to keep a four point lead right to the end of an enthralling second half of one of the best league games of the year.

The pressure was now on Kilkenny. They had no choice but to win their remaining three games.

Kilkenny: David Herity, Paul Murphy, J.J. Delaney, Conor Fogarty, Tommy Walsh, Brian Hogan, Paddy Hogan (0-2f), Lester Ryan, Richie Power (0-9f), Mark Kelly, Colin Fennelly (0-1), Eoin Larkin (0-3), Matthew Ruth (0-1), Richie Hogan (1-2), Aidan Fogarty (0-1). Subs: Kieran Joyce for B. Hogan (46) Tomas Breen for Ruth (51), Ger Aylward for Kelly (64).

ALLIANZ HL DIVISION 1A

18 MARCH AT NOWLAN PARK

KILKENNY 2-15, WATERFORD 0-16

The ability to finish strongly has been a hallmark of Kilkenny teams in every era, more so in the Cody days, and this entertaining League game best illustrated this fighting quality.

Despite losing Richie Power to flu and hamstring injuries to Jackie Tyrrell and Paul Murphy, Kilkenny proved too strong for a young Waterford side. Kilkenny's new look forward line played very well in front of 7000 admiring supporters, who took much satisfaction from a performance that didn't include TJ Reid, Henry, Michael rice or Michael Fennelly. Strength in depth did not seem to become an issue for 2013. Waterford led by 0-11 to 1-6 at the interval, thanks to very solid work by Kevin Moran and Jake Dillon. Kilkenny's goal came from Ger Aylward who had an outstanding league debut.

The losing twenty minutes were all about Kilkenny. A Matthew Ruth goal and a string of points from Eoin Larkin and Aidan Fogarty closed out a very satisfactory performance in which they outscored the Decies by 1-6 to 0-1.

Kilkenny: E Murphy, P Murphy, J J Delaney, J Tyrrell, T Walsh, B Hogan, K Joyce, L Ryan (0-1), P Hogan, R Hogan (0-2), M Bergin, E Larkin (0-6), G Aylward (1-1), C Fennelly (0-1), A Fogarty (0-3). Subs: P Walsh for Tyrrell, M Ruth (1-1) for Bergin, W Phelan for Murphy.

Waterford - S O'Keeffe (0-1), S Fives, L Lawlor, S Daniels, J Nagle, M Walsh, K Moran (0-1), S O'Sullivan (0-2), P Prendergast, B O'Halloran (0-1), S Prendergast, J Dillon (0-3), B O'Sullivan, S Walsh (0-1), P Mahony (0-6). Subs: J Barron for B O'Sul-

livan, M Shanahan (0-1) for S Walsh, B Barry for Moran.

ALLIANZ HL DIVISION 1A

24 MARCH AT ENNIS

KILKENNY 3-10, CLARE 1-15

The next round in Ennis against Clare took on huge significance for Kilkenny's chances to progress. Clare had won twice and were playing well. That Clare hit 16 wides, many from very easy positions can be viewed differently in hindsight. They were probably the better team on the day, in particular stretching Kilkenny to the limit over the last 20 minutes of a game they should have won but for errant shooting. Kilkenny led by 2-7 to 1-7 at the break, with Lester Ryan was again the form player and his goal on the cusp of half time gave Kilkenny an edge they badly needed. Clare's running and short passing game was misfiring but the danger was there for all to see. Their overall game was very good and it was clear their fitness and athleticism would sustain them for a long time. In the opening stages, Clare dominated and were 1-1 to 0-2 ahead after five minutes when corner forward Colm Galvin found the back of the net.

Aidan Fogarty and Ger Aylward's instincts for goals gave Kilkenny the platform to win despite a great performance from Clare free-taker Colin Ryan.

Four points and the possibility of a semi-final place was the very satisfactory outcome from yet another very fine game.

Kilkenny: E Murphy, P Hogan, K Joyce, C Fogarty, T Walsh, B Hogan, P Walsh, L Ryan (1-1), M Fennelly, M Rice, R Power, E Larkin (0-5), G Aylward (1-1), R Hogan (0-1), A Fogarty (1-2). Subs: C Fennelly for Rice, W Walsh for Power, M Ruth for Aylward.

Clare: P Kelly; D O'Donovan, D McInerney, S Morey, B Bugler, P Donnellan, P dO'Connor, Conor Ryan, N O'Connell, C Galvin (1-0), T Kelly (0-1), Colin Ryan (0-11, 9f), F Lynch, S O'Donnell (0-1), J Conlon (0-1). Subs: E Barrett for McInerney, D Honan (0-1) for Lynch.

ALLIANZ HL DIVISION 1,

31 MARCH AT NOWLAN PARK

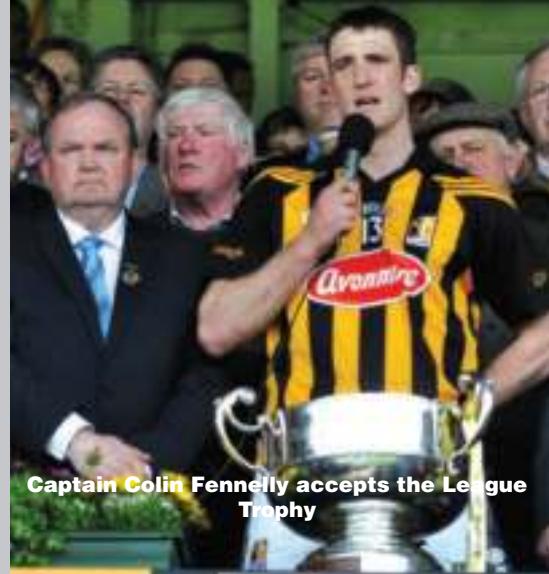
KILKENNY 0-20, CORK 2-12

Most of the walking wounded returned for the Cork game at Nowlan Park. JJ Delaney, Jackie Tyrrell and Michael Fennelly returned to full effectiveness and it was this tough spine that eventually overcame a gallant charge from a very skilful, young Cork team. It was probably the best game of the League before 6711 enthusiastic patrons.

Conditions again were bitterly cold and there was little to divide the sides until the final burst, led by an improving Michael



Walter Walsh in action v Cork in the NHL



Captain Colin Fennelly accepts the League Trophy



Michael Fennelly v Clare in Ennis

Fennelly, ably assisted by Colin, who took the game to a previously sharp Cork defence. It was the team's best performance and suggested they were coming into some very good form. All six team had much to play for in the last round of games and eventually Cork ended up being relegated after an extra time thriller against Clare. The two bottom teams went on to have wonderful championship seasons, while Kilkenny struggled after the league. *Kilkenny: E Murphy, C Fogarty, J J Delaney, J Tyrrell, T Walsh (0-1), B Hogan, K Joyce, L Ryan (0-1), M Fennelly (0-1), W Walsh, E Larkin (0-6), R Hogan (0-4), G Aylward, C Fennelly (0-4), A Fogarty. Subs: R Power (0-3) for Aylward.*

Cork: A Nash, K Murphy, B Murphy, C O'Sullivan, L McLoughlin, C Joyce, S White, D Kearney (0-1), P Cronin, C Lehane (1-3), C McCarthy, P O'Sullivan (0-2), S Moylan (0-2), L O'Farrell (1-1), P Horgan (0-3). Subs: M Cussen for McCarthy, C Spillane for B Murphy, C Spillane for Kearney.

ALLIANZ NHL DIV. I SEMI-FINAL, 21 APRIL KILKENNY 1-24, GALWAY 1-17

The fortunes of what promised to be a close encounter changed dramatically after ten minutes in Semple Stadium when Galway captain Fergal Moore was injured in an accidental clash with Walter Walsh. Play was held up for almost fifteen minutes and Galway struggled badly thereafter. By half time Kilkenny had raced into a 0-15 to 1-6 lead and it seemed the game was well and truly over.

They improved after the interval but Kilkenny were always in control.

Colin Fennelly's clever goal 10 minutes into the second half was the killer blow that Kilkenny landed on Galway as it put them nine points ahead, and Galway weren't able to get close to the All-Ireland champions again.

Lester Ryan, Colin Fennelly and Aidan Fogarty were on fire throughout and Galway were left trailing far behind by the inevitable end. Tipperary awaited in the final.

Kilkenny: E Murphy, P Murphy, JJ Delaney, J Tyrrell, T Walsh, B Hogan, K Joyce, L Ryan (0-3), M Rice (0-2), W Walsh, R Power (0-1), E Larkin (0-10), C Fennelly (1-0), R Hogan (0-5), A Fogarty (0-2). Subs: M Ruth for W Walsh, C Buckley (0-1) for Fennelly.

Galway: C Callanan, F Moore, K Hynes, N Donoghue, J Coen, D Collins, A Harte (0-2), I Tannian, J Cooney (0-1), C Donnellan (1-3), C Cooney, D Burke (0-1), D Glennon, J Canning (0-8), D Hayes (0-1). Subs: A Smith (0-1) for Moore, P Killeen for Donoghue, J Glynn for C Cooney, J Regan for Hayes.

ALLIANZ NHL FINAL 5 MAY, NOWLAN PARK

KILKENNY 2-17, TIPPERARY 0-20

21,447 followers packed Nowlan Park, creating a wonderful atmosphere. It was the first time since 1966 that a League final was played in the 'Park and only the third time the city hosted the final. In 1966, Kilkenny beat New York in the second leg of the final; in 1959 Tipperary beat Waterford while in 1933 Kilkenny beat Limerick. Thanks to a blistering start, Kilkenny won their 16th National League title in a very tough game, played almost at championship pace. The match had everything, goals, two sending offs and a noise level that rocked the city.

It was Kilkenny's ability to score goals that gave them a 2-7 to 0-11 interval lead. Both scores came for a rampant Michael Fennelly, sited at centre forward and caused havoc wherever he went. He finished the half with 2-3. Tipp recovered well from his first goal, scored in the third minute but twenty minutes later, he put Kilkenny ahead again with another trademark run and finish.

There were great contests all over the field and Jackie Tyrrell and Paul Murphy performed their defensive duties brilliantly. The second half was tough and threatened to explode several times. When it eventually did in the 45th minute, referee Barry Kelly sent off JJ Delaney and Lar Corbett. Kilkenny reacted best to the adversity and points from Richie Hogan and Cillian Buckley kept them ahead. They held out in a frantic finish which demonstrated that they could absorb the best that Tipperary could throw at them and come out winning. It would be an important lesson for their contest later in the Summer.

Brian Cody missed most of the league campaign and his able deputies Michael Dempsey and Martin Fogarty guided the team with the minimum of fuss and maximum of efficiency.

Kilkenny: E Murphy, P Murphy, JJ Delaney, J Tyrrell, T Walsh, B Hogan, K Joyce (0-1), L Ryan (0-2), M Fennelly (2-3), C Buckley (0-1), M Rice (0-1), E Larkin (0-7, 6f), C Fennelly (0-1), R Hogan (0-1), A Fogarty. Subs: M Ruth for A Fogarty (62).

Tipperary: D Gleeson (0-1f), M Cahill, C O'Mahony, P Curran; K Bergin, Pádraic Maher (0-1), C O'Brien; B Maher (0-4), S McGrath, S Callanan (0-2), L Corbett, Patrick Maher (0-1), S Bourke (0-1), E Kelly (0-5, 4f), N McGrath (0-3). Subs: J O'Dwyer for Kelly (48), J Forde for Callanan (57), J O'Brien (0-1) for S McGrath (58), P Bourke (0-1) for S Bourke (61), J Woodlock for Patrick Maher (67).



JJ Delaney and Paul Murphy stretching to keep out the Galway forwards in the semi-final



Richie Hogan had a great League for Kilkenny

HURLING'S GREAT "WHAT IF" DEBATE

By Cian Murphy, The Irish Sun

THE Cup is in Clare and Davy Fitzgerald is on his way to Canonisation. For everyone else there is the dreaded hamster wheel of 'What If?' And in Kilkenny, that 'What If?' wheel is still pitched at full tilt since the head swimming events of last summer. For example... 'What If' Tommy Walsh's over exuberance hadn't caused him to jump the gun on Richie Power's first penalty strike against Cork in Thurles? 'What If' justice had been served on the day rather than later in a committee room and Henry Shefflin hadn't been sent off that same game? Indeed, 'What If' the whole 'will he-won't he?' Henry fitness debate hadn't been played out at all and overshadowed so much of the campaign? What we do know about Kilkenny in 2013 is that the champions were off key and there is no guarantee that if any or all of the above had happened that they still would have been in a position to drive on and defend their crown. And they are not the only ones thinking about what could have been. 'What If' Patrick Horgan had not been sent off against Limerick in the Munster final? ☐ another big decision of the summer that would be later over turned. The Cork forward's dismissal destabilised the Munster final and handed Limerick an advantage they made full use of. It put Cork on a collision course with Kilkenny in Thurles and sent Limerick forward to a showdown with Clare at Croke Park. If Clare were to ultimately carry off the team of the year accolade, then they were pushed all the way for the title by Anthony

Daly's Dublin with the Dubs recording a first Leinster title since 1961 – also beating Kilkenny for the first time in Championship since 1942.

One of the most impressive feats of the entire GAA season was Dublin's ability to mark the first anniversary of their 18 point 2012 humiliation by Kilkenny in Portlaoise by being able to go toe to toe with their great Championship nemesis in 2013 and still be standing at the end of it. Walter Walsh bagged 1-4 in the drawn game but, otherwise, it was a sluggish Kilkenny.

A week later and with Kilkenny still struggling to move through the gears, and looking short of match winners, the Dubs got the job done as they finally managed to stop their problem of haemorrhaging goals to the Cats and managed to pip a vital and rare one of their own through Danny Sutcliffe.

The victory was like a release for the Dublin players who met Galway the following weekend. The momentum of playing five weeks in a row and the confidence taken from the Kilkenny scalp enabled them to heap more misery on a Galway team who were locked in the same cycle of decline which also dogged them after their All-Ireland final defeats of 2001 and 2005.

'Cheddar' Plunkett's Laois had come close to causing an upset when they met Galway in what was an impressive first season at the helm for the O'Moore man. But as impressive as Liam Rushe, Danny Sutcliffe, Peter Kelly and Conal Keaney were for Dublin in that memorable Leinster final they will be the first to acknowledge the 'What If' of their season on a

scorching hot Saturday back on June 8 when the unlikely double impact subs Mark Schutte and Eamon Dillon combined to rescue Dublin from the jaws of defeat against Wexford in Wexford Park. Defeat there would have put a different complexion on things.

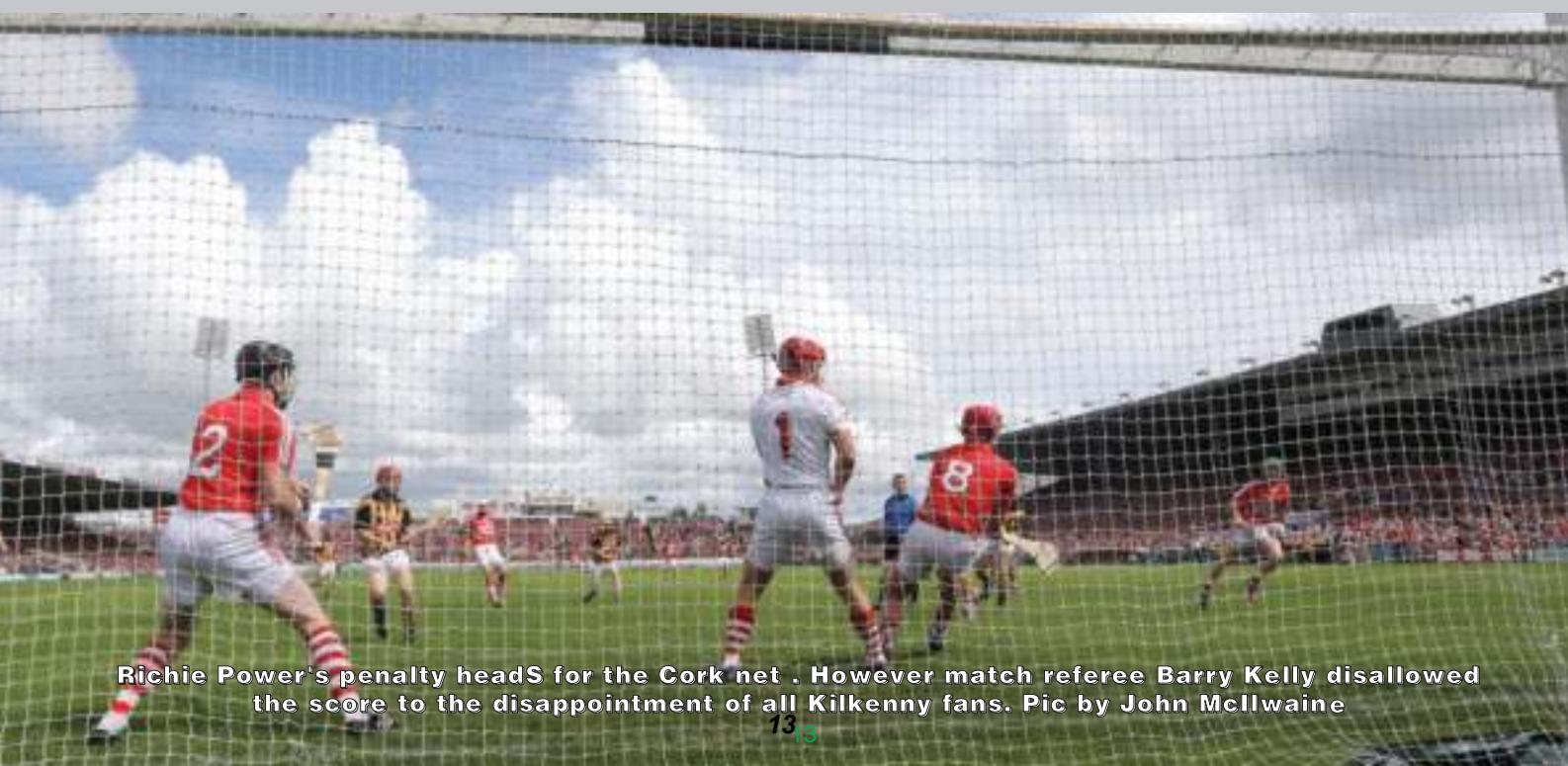
That's because it had already all looked over for Daly and his Dublin adventure when they were sent packing from Thurles last April after a 4-20 to 0-17 scalding from Tipp in the league semi-final.

On that day the Dubs drove home in silence and to the outside hurling world it looked as if Daly had taken the team as far as he could.

It made their recovery from that point all the more impressive and Daly deserves credit for putting so much faith in Tipp's Tommy Dunne who was invited in for weekly coaching sessions on Wednesday nights in Clondalkin. This work, allied to the confidence work done by Tony Griffin managed to get the Dublin effort back on track.

Yet the first day out against Wexford the Dubs were still unsure about their team, trying to play both Keaney and Rushe at centre back and it would be only when they set out their stall with Rushe at 6 and Keaney up front that the team had the balance to deliver on its potential.

The only Dub to emerge from June 8 with his reputation enhanced was Dublin wing back Michael Carton from O'Toole's with the fire man winning the man of the match award for his defiance at left half back. Otherwise it had been the same old Dublin. Hesitant, unsteady and short of confidence. When Daly and his wing man



Richie Power's penalty heads for the Cork net . However match referee Barry Kelly disallowed the score to the disappointment of all Kilkenny fans. Pic by John McIlwaine

Richie Stakelum watched back the tape they decided to use Caron as the example for the rest of the summer. From then on there would be no holding back, it would be an all or nothing effort, a determination to go for every ball and let the final score come what may. It worked.

The All-Ireland semi-final saw them play a frantic clash against a Cork team surfing the wave of euphoria which followed their win over Kilkenny. Just as the Cats scalp had triggered an incredible improvement in Dublin – it had the same impact on Cork and a team that few knew outside of Munster and who were deservedly relegated in the league were almost unrecognisable.

We can but guess at the ‘What If’ that would have been if it had been Kilkenny and not Cork who came through to face Leinster champs Dublin last August. In 2011 the Dubs shocked Kilkenny in the league final only to have the tables spectacularly turned on them in the Championship.

There was always the sense that Kilkenny were chasing time last summer. But if they had got the chance to get more rest and recovery into key men before a Dublin revenge mission, the bookies would have reverted to type and backed Brian Cody’s men to the hilt.

Dublin met Cork. Ryan O’Dwyer’s zest got him into trouble again – although harshly sent off this time. The Dublin defence coughed up a desperate soft goal to Pat Horgan and Jimmy Barry Murphy’s men were in an All-Ireland final where over two days they were second best to a Clare side who grew and grew as summer gave way to autumn.

Yet, you have got to have a ‘What If?’ moment about a Kilkenny-Clare final.

Kilkenny were struggling for form this year and that is obvious. But on their worst day, Brian Cody’s men would have shown more discipline than a Cork defence that allowed itself to be run ragged and pulled apart – particularly in the replay where a 19 year-old Shane O’Donnell couldn’t believe his luck running wild in the acres of space in front of the Cork goal.

All of which brings us to the greatest Kilkenny ‘What If?’ of all. ‘What If this is it for Kilkenny?’ Was 2013 the beginning of the end for the greatest hurling force the game of hurling has ever known?

On balance you have to say that as enjoyable as 2013 was it had more to do with Kilkenny slipping back into the pack than it had with a handful of teams suddenly finding a massive improvement and joining Kilkenny at the top of the ladder.

The reality is that the biggest lesson Kilkenny took from 2013 wasn’t off Dublin or Cork – but off their own stats and the fact that their strength in depth was not and is not at the bullet proof level everyone thought it to be.

The injuries to Henry Shefflin and Michael Fennelly were not as easily absorbed as they might have been in other years. The run of problems to other key men like Paul Murphy and Jackie Tyrrell only exacerbated the problem. Match winners up front weren’t match winners.

Brian Cody has built his massive reputation on his insistence that a Walsh Cup match is as much a must win as an All-Ireland final. But given the age profile of the core of his team that may not be the policy from now on.

We await with interest what shape the Kilkenny panel takes for 2014 and the impact new selectors James McGarry and Derek Lyng have on things.

But for all we saw in 2013 there’s still no one would like to see Kilkenny come out of the draw drum against them.

Galway look in disarray. Tipperary have turned to ex Armagh football captain Kieran McGeeney for guidance to help stop the rot and have lost experienced men like Brendan Cummins.

Cork punched above their weight in 2013 and will now be sent packing into the second tier of the league. A very young Clare squad will need to show serious character and maturity to handle the haul of medals they took in 2013 and be as good and better again next season.

Waterford and Limerick will pick up a bounce from new managers but look short on the quality of the depth needed to go all the way.

Wexford and Offaly are putting their houses in order but are not back yet. Dublin under Anthony Daly have as yet to put two good seasons back to back.

Which leaves Kilkenny, albeit aging in key areas, but with a proven manager and spine of players who know the twists and turns on the rocky road to Dublin in September.

The 2014 hurling season looks wide open and it’s been a while since we could say that after the game had become a two horse race between the Cats and the Premier.

But as for Kilkenny being down and out – we don’t buy it. The Cats have selection issues for sure – but surely more positives than negatives?

What if Kilkenny in the Championship of 2013 was just a glitch?



The Kilkenny Bench look worried during the All-Ireland Senior Championship, Phase III game against Waterford
Photo: John McIlwaine



EOIN MURPHY

John McIlwaine



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Nothing For Anyone To Scoff At

TONY CONSIDINE/CORK EXAMINER

A fantastic championship this year and no, I'm not trying to rub salt in anyone's wounds there in Kilkenny – in fact I would say that Brian Cody's team, tired and injured as they were, more than played their part and another Allianz Hurling League title is nothing for anyone to scoff at.

It wasn't a perfect championship though, and what most struck me about it was the inconsistency, both at team level and at individual level. A team that played well one week was struggling the next time out, a player that played well likewise.

The most inconsistent of all though was the refereeing, and nowhere was that more evident than in the three big red cards issued in the latter stages of the championship, to Patrick Horgan in the Munster final, Henry Shefflin in the All-Ireland quarter-final against Cork and Ryan O'Dwyer in the All-Ireland semi-final, also against Cork.

Two of the above decisions were rescinded, that of Horgan and Shefflin, but what good was that to either Cork or Kilkenny? It was too late, and we can only speculate now as to what might have happened.

The worst of the three was the Patrick Horgan red card, though I know that might be disputed in Kilkenny! For me, that ruined the Munster final. It wasn't a sending-off offence, simple as that, and I'd say the same thing if it had been a Limerick player who got the line.

The question that arises from all of that, what happens to a referee who makes a massive mistake? If a manager, a player, a club or a county board crosses the line in the GAA there's a price to pay, what about referees? Because far from being punished, the man who made the mistake in the Munster final – James McGrath – actually refereed the All-Ireland final replay. That's wrong and it's something the GAA has to look into. The officials too should be subject to punishment, and it should be made public. If fines and suspensions can be announced for players/managers/clubs/county boards, why not for match officials?

Moving on to the hurling, and we'll start with the Leinster championship. Kilkenny were beaten fair and square by Dublin in the semi-final, after a replay, and they can have no complaints about that, but then came the qualifiers.

One of the highlights of the year for me was the game against Tipperary in Nowlan Park. Who can ever forget that evening? It was as close as we're going to get in hurling to Celtic/Rangers, the rivalry was that intense. A great venue, Nowlan Park, I'm sure the players could almost feel the breath of the crowd on the backs of their necks!

A great game too, a massive occasion, the All-Ireland finalists in three of the last four seasons, one of the big guns going to be gone. We all know the result but I think Kilkenny too paid a heavy price that evening. It took a huge amount out of them, not just because of the heat that evening but because of the effort they put into winning.

Then you add to that the injuries Kilkenny were carrying all year. They were managing to win but it was taking a bigger and bigger effort, and with the games coming thick and fast it meant they were getting no chance to recover. Big games too. Having got over Tipperary it was Waterford next; they got over that, then met a Cork team on the rise. It was a bridge too far.

Despite that loss though, I'd say that even in Kilkenny you'd find agreement that it was a great year for hurling in general, surprise



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Tommy Walsh v Cork in Thurles
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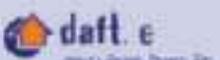
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after surprise, starting with Limerick toppling Tipp in Munster. No-one would have predicted the two All-Ireland finalists, and certainly after the Munster championship you wouldn't have gone for Cork and Clare to meet in September.

Clare were probably the biggest surprise of all. Something happened after the Cork loss, in the Munster semi-final. I think they changed their style, or perhaps modified their style would be more accurate. They didn't go away from the possession game completely, the short-ball game, but they did introduce a lot of more direct ball and refined their tactics. They also introduced a few new players and that made a difference.

Nevertheless they nearly came a cropper against Wexford in Thurles in the qualifiers, were by far the better team and showed as much in extra-time, but they could have been caught in normal time.

The real difference was in the Galway game, that was when the youngsters began to really hit their stride, the x-factor! That too was when the hurling supporters began to warm to them.

They beat Limerick in a bit of a battle, then came the All-Ireland final and boy, were they lucky to survive the drawn game! Cork led for less than a minute in the whole of the 140+ minutes over the two days but it was a vital few seconds, well into injury-time of the drawn game. It would have been a shame though had Clare been denied because there was no doubting which was the better side.

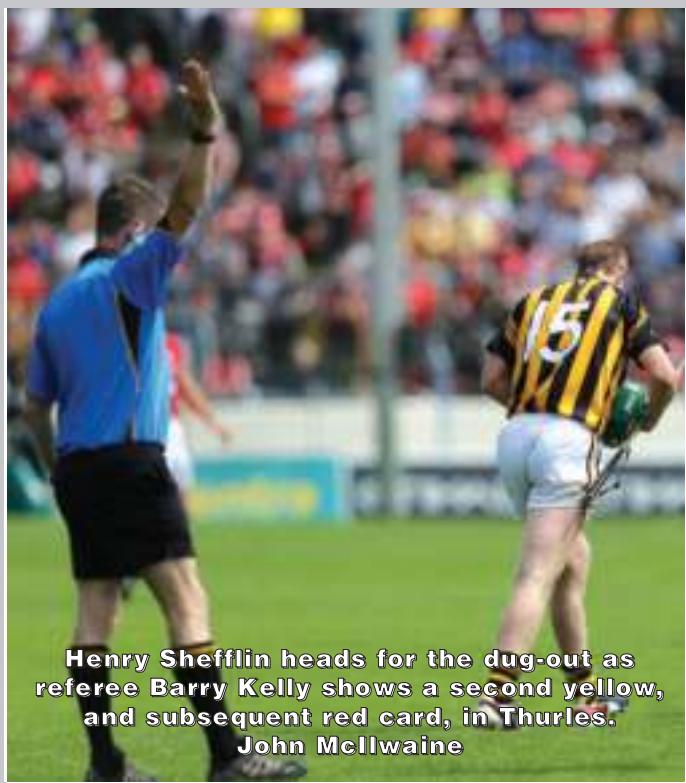
As a Clareman I'm delighted, proud to be once again All-Ireland champions and especially so in the style with which it was done. I do have reservations about that All-Ireland final and replay, however, about the defending especially, and by both teams. Eleven goals and 73 points scored/conceded over the two games - great if you like that kind of high-octane high-scoring encounter, and it is certainly entertaining, but it's also an indictment of the defending. Maybe though, it's the game we're going to see from now on. This brings me to another question - have Clare now changed the game again? Are we going to see other teams trying to duplicate their style, as teams tried to duplicate Kilkenny for the last decade and more? It's a young Clare team, exceptionally skilful, playing without fear, high-paced hurling - is that the way it's going to go now?

From a Clare perspective I hope we're here to stay, I hope this team grows again next year. It's an exceptionally young side, an average age of only just 23, youngest ever All-Ireland-winning side; I hope they come back next year and repeat.

Will they? That's the question. Limerick will still be a force in Munster, Cork have shown they still have the players, Tipperary will be back, Waterford won the minor All-Ireland and will have new impetus under Derek McGrath. In Leinster, Kilkenny haven't gone away, Dublin will be bulling to move up a step on this year, and Galway can never be written off.

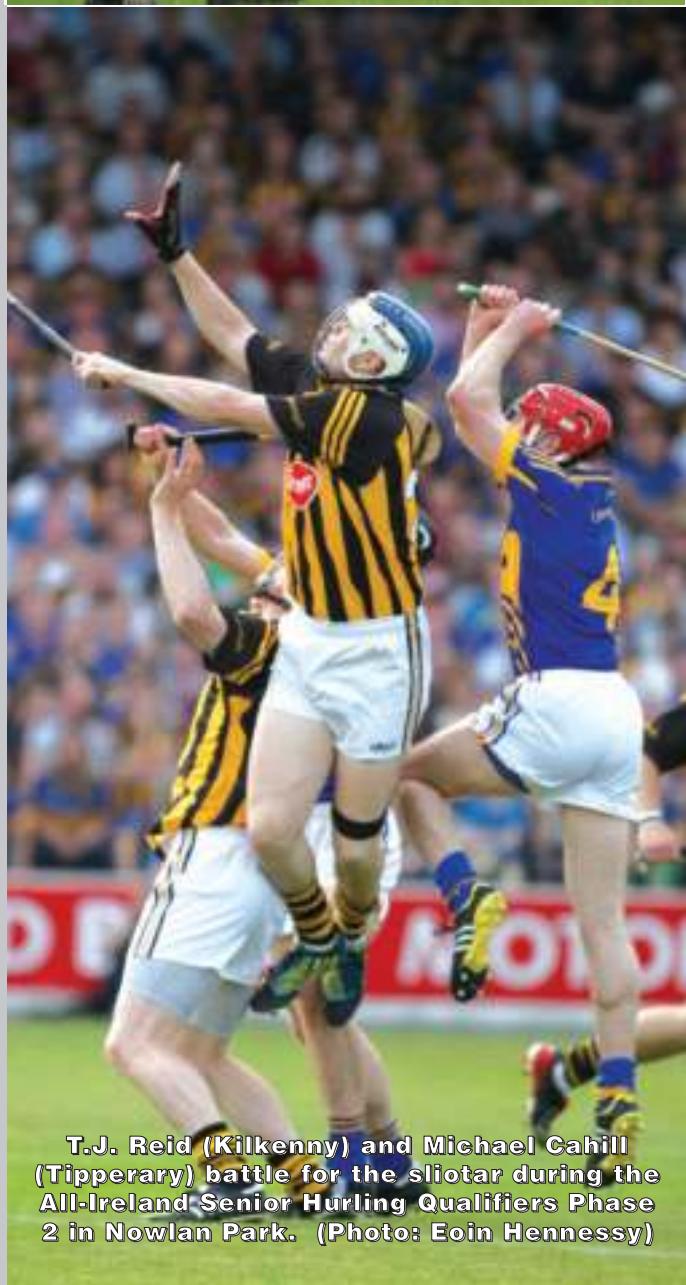
I'll say this now though; the team that learns to defend this new Clare game will go a long way towards winning the 2014 championship. Kilkenny perhaps? I note that Brian Cody has shuffled his management team, James McGarry and Derek Lyng now on board. Maybe they'll just go their own way - I expect they will. What's this about not teaching your granny to suck eggs? I don't think Brian Cody will be taking a leaf from anyone's book. Rest assured, the big Village-man won't be resting over the next several months, already plotting and planning. Clare are coming though. D'ye know that the only county to have won more All-Ireland senior titles than Clare over the last 22 years is Kilkenny??? Finally, looking specifically to Kilkenny, will Clara winning the senior championship give the county a new spurt, some new blood perhaps? No harm to see new champions there either, a break-up of the old Ballyhale Shamrocks/James Stephens duopoly, just as we saw the break-up of Kilkenny/Tipperary on the inter-county scene.

A great season then; not classic hurling by any means but everyone gripped from first game to last, exactly as you want it. And you know what - next year could be even better, a higher standard again. Can't wait...



Henry Shefflin heads for the dug-out as referee Barry Kelly shows a second yellow, and subsequent red card, in Thurles.

John McIlwaine



T.J. Reid (Kilkenny) and Michael Cahill (Tipperary) battle for the sliotar during the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Qualifiers Phase 2 in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



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Missing from picture above: Seamus Brophy (Greyhound Racing), Paraic Treacy (Rugby),
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KIERAN JOYCE: AN EMERGING LEADER

By Kieran Cuddihy

Counting the cost is something that Kilkenny hurling fans haven't been accustomed to in recent years. The county has been spoiled with more than a decade of unparalleled success under the tenure of Brian Cody. 2013, however, saw a quarter final defeat, no appearance in Croke Park and not a single All Star award for the first time since 1996.

People could be forgiven for consigning memories of the hurling year to the recesses of their mind, for writing it all off and crossing their fingers that 2014 will see a return to Jones's Road and winning ways.

That however would be a disservice to some players who, despite finding themselves in the unfamiliar position of being on the back foot in games, emerged as possible leaders of the team for the years ahead.

Just such a player was Kieran Joyce. Lining out in defence with some of the greatest players of the modern era, the Rower-Inistioge clubman stood out amongst them. His performances on the pitch, coupled with an apparent maturity off it, mean that at this stage, it would be hard to imagine Brian Cody selecting a team without him for the foreseeable future.

Growing up close to the same pitches where the great Eddie Keher plied his trade with stick and ball, it's no surprise that hurling would play a big part in young Joyce's life.

"My mother Kathleen played some camogie with Blacks & Whites in her day but dad (Joe) was probably more into the soccer out in Urlingford than the hurling. But down in the Rower we were hurling from day one. I attended the national school in the village and went from there down to Good Counsel in New Ross. While I was there I won an under 16 Leinster medal but mostly we'd only go so far before St Kieran's would come along and beat us."

Despite his taste of defeat at the hands of St Kieran's, his time in Good Counsel instilled a love of the game, thanks in large part to the mentors he was fortunate enough to cross paths with.

"We had some great trainers in Good Counsel who really had a big impact on me and plenty of other lads too to be fair. It's funny though because a lot of them would have been Wexford men like Benny Houlihan who was a mentor to everybody from about 12 years old to 17 years old. They brought us along from kids really up until most of us were minors and looking back now, they did an awful amount of hard work with us outside school hours. They worked on improving every aspect of your game so it was great."

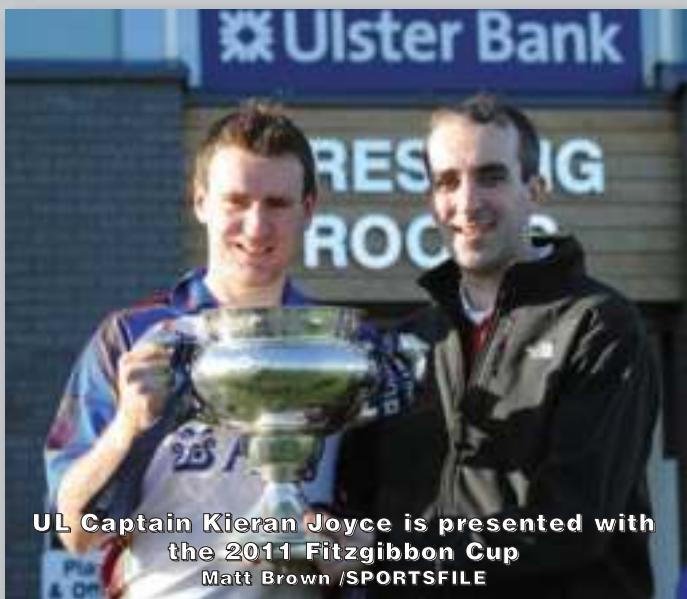
Rising through the ranks in Good Counsel and playing a commanding role for his club through the juvenile grades, it came as no surprise to many when Br Damien Brennan came knocking on his door in 2004 to join the county minor panel. There began a two year involvement with a team that Kieran still looks back on with the fondest of memories, despite All Ireland success falling just beyond their reach.

"My first year with the minors we had a great team with the Penders, Matty Ruth, Pat Hartley and Eddie O'Donoghue. Maurice Nolan would have been the star of that team though, he was brilliant for us all year. Unfortunately, though, we lost out to Galway in the final. They had some decent players themselves. I was marking Joe Canning in the final who was only 16 at the time I think and could still throw sidelines over the bar."

"Minor is very competitive and it was an achievement I suppose to get to an All Ireland but still I remember just feeling sick when

that final whistle went and I realised we had lost. We had chances to win on the day but it just didn't happen. Looking back it's still a tough one because I have an under 21 medal and obviously the senior one too but I'm missing the minor medal. It's a special one to have, people love to say that they have minor medal but I can't say that I'm afraid."

"Then after all that, the following year was over before we knew it. We went out to Dublin very early and again we were unlucky. I remember that they got a very lucky goal from a high ball into the



UL Captain Kieran Joyce is presented with the 2011 Fitzgibbon Cup
Matt Brown /SPORTSFILE

square and that was it. It was tough to think that it was over after going all the way to the All Ireland the year before."

"Even though both years were disappointments in some way, I did love playing minor with Kilkenny. You're still young and most lads wouldn't be driving so you just have friends really at home and at school and that's it, you wouldn't really know many lads yet from other clubs around the county. But then with the minors you spend all this time with new people and you would have some laughs sharing cars with lads going to trainings and games. It was great."

Success can elude certain players for only so long however and in 2006, in his debut year with the Kilkenny under 21 team, Kieran took possession of his first Celtic Cross when they beat Tipperary by a single goal in the All Ireland final.

His teammates at the time included Mick Fennelly, John Dalton and Richie Power and while they appeared clearly on the radar of Brian Cody that year, the young defender from the Rower felt slightly more peripheral. Unsurprisingly, this worried him.

"At times of course you would be anxious that you wouldn't make it, that maybe you're not doing it right. Eventually I got in with the extended training squad but really was there just making up some numbers and filling gaps at training. Then what happened was we lost to Offaly early in the under 21 (2007) and I pulled my hamstring and I knew I was going to be out for a while so I said I'd just head off over to Boston for the summer and it ended up being the best thing I ever did. It cleared away all the cobwebs, I got refo-

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Kieran Joyce rises highest to grab the sliotar in the Championship match against Cork.
John McIlwaine

cussed and just relaxed the head. I hurled over there with Tipperary and had a great time. It meant when I got back at the end of the summer, I was sort of reenergised for the year ahead."

That renewed energy and focus quickly began to pay dividends.

"I had a good winter then with UL. We won the Fitzgibbon Cup and I was lucky enough to play well and come away injury free. I was called back into the Kilkenny squad then and really just took it from there. When I was brought into the full squad, I realised that the time I spent making up numbers at training had actually stood to me. It meant I knew most of the players and the set up wasn't all new to me. It's a good system for bringing lads along."

It didn't take Kieran very long to realise that making the panel was still a long way from making the team. He was competing for a starting position with players who had won several All Irelands and All Star each. Four years of hard slog ensued and when the break ultimately came, it was simply down to another's misfortune.

"It does seem sometimes that the only way to get into the Kilkenny team is if a lad gets injured. I got in at Hogie's (Brian Hogan) expense. He got a bang and then it was between myself and Paddy Hogan for the place. Brian told me that I was in the running to start so I just made a real push and I managed to get the nod last year during the league. Sure I didn't really look back from there."

By the end of the year, Kieran had collected a senior All Ireland medal but 2013 would see sharp reversal of fortune. Soon after crashing out of the championship to Cork, questions began to be asked about Kilkenny's future - did the players still have the appetite for victory and had the game evolved around them and left them behind?

"I actually think it wasn't one thing this year, it was a lot of little things that didn't go our way. You need the luck on your side and we didn't have it this year. It certainly wasn't a lack of hunger. I see Tommy Walsh and Jackie Tyrell training and they are as up for every match as ever, Walsh Cup games, everything."

"Maybe it took us too long this year to get used to the possession style game. We probably didn't deal with it as well as we could have. I don't think we'll go out next year and totally switch to that type of game but maybe we need to be a little more careful about trying to find a man when we are clearing it. Probably my first instinct is to launch the ball up the pitch when I have it but certainly next year when we have the ball in midfield and half back, we need to look more for the free man."

Disappointment with his county in 2013 was offset by club success. After knocking on the door so often over the last 10 years, the Rower-Inistioge finally sealed a berth in the senior club championship next year. What has made the difference? For Kieran it's been largely due to a steely resolve that had been sadly lacking on other big occasions in the clubs recent history.

"One thing that has stood out all year has been our comebacks. Other years we would collapse as soon as we went a few points down but then that didn't happen this year. Lads stood up, including the young lads on the team. We were also lucky to have a good minor team. We've lost a few lads to emigration but having the minors there meant that we had good numbers at training and that was great."

"Also you had the likes of Paul Sheehan and Mick Grace who felt that they didn't have too many years left where they could get up and play senior club hurling. Thankfully that new mindset has worked out."

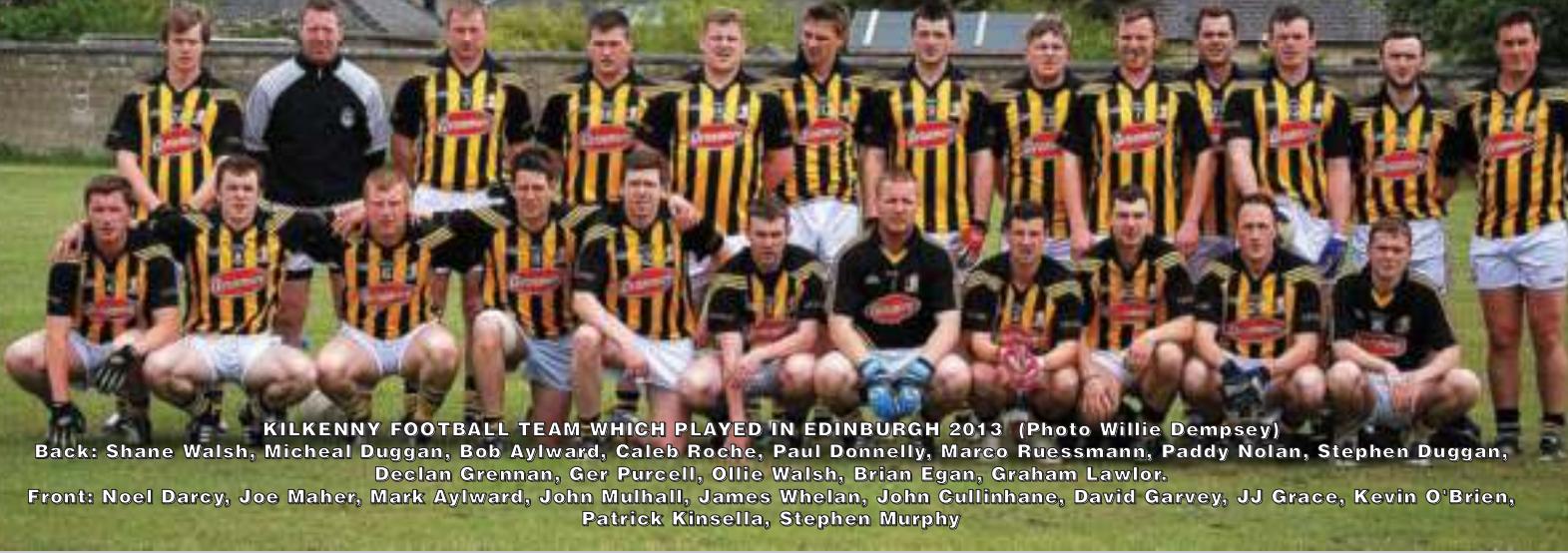
And after victory over Emeralds, Kieran was left with little doubt as to just how important the win was for his fellow club members.

"Eddie Keher nearly broke my ribs when he hugged me on the pitch after the match. Grown men were walking around with tears in their eyes. It just means that much to people."

KILKENNY FOOTBALL GOES INTERNATIONAL

By Barrie Henriques

Photos: Willie Dempsey



KILKENNY FOOTBALL TEAM WHICH PLAYED IN EDINBURGH 2013 (Photo Willie Dempsey)

Back: Shane Walsh, Micheal Duggan, Bob Aylward, Caleb Roche, Paul Donnelly, Marco Ruessmann, Paddy Nolan, Stephen Duggan, Declan Grennan, Ger Purcell, Ollie Walsh, Brian Egan, Graham Lawlor.
Front: Noel Darcy, Joe Maher, Mark Aylward, John Mulhall, James Whelan, John Cullinane, David Garvey, JJ Grace, Kevin O'Brien, Patrick Kinsella, Stephen Murphy

Whilst Kilkenny did not feature in the National Football League, nevertheless they embarked on a rather adventurous ground-breaking experiment which had them competing on an International stage rather than the NFL. For the first time they competed in a UK football competition which saw them plying their skills in places like Luton, Birmingham and Edinburgh. It cost a lot of money, a lot of time, and a fair injection of player interest. Slow to catch on, but as their Manager, Christy Walsh would tell, "eventually, most of the lads and then some, bought into the idea, and it went quite well". From the outset, the enthusiasm was not exactly blue chip. Starting a training schedule in the early weeks of March, the response was less than inspirational, but eventually through some convincing cajoling and strong representation by the Management Committee, a decent number of decent footballers got on board.

"In fairness", said manager Walsh, "I would have to pay a strong vote of gratitude towards the reigning County Champions, Muckalee. They certainly honoured their status as County Champions with half a dozen players. They

were joined by some good lads from around the County like Bob and Mark Aylward from Ballyhale Shamrocks, Paul Donnelly and Graham Lalor from Railyard, Steven Murphy from Erins Own, David Garvey from Glenmore, JJ. O'Sullivan from St Patricks (Ballyraggett), and others". The Committee decided that it would be a foolhardy exercise to call for a three-night training schedule given the focus of clubs apropos hurling at that time.

"We decided that we would train once a week, and we decided, from a practical viewpoint that Monday was the only night that didn't impinge on Club training schedules", said Secretary Tom O'Reilly. "We never missed a training session, with good numbers for the entire programme, even though there were three Bank Holidays in the time", said Christy Walsh. "In addition", said Railyard man, O'Reilly, "the County Board Officers, in particular Ned Quinn, Barry Hickey, and Jimmy Walsh never faltered once from their commitment. Every facility was made available, every service was ours for the use of, every element of help that could be rendered was given with a heart and a half", he intoned.

Playing three games so far away was a logistical nightmare. The first game was flagged well in advance but the following week's match, the venue of which was not known until the Monday evening caused all sorts of organisational problems. Similarly, the third game again was not venued until the Monday evening previously.

"Whilst it was a good idea, three games on the bounce on successive weekends was far from ideal", said Manager Walsh. "If there was only one game fixed for a home venue it would have been better, and the scheduling could be stretched to one per two weeks. Then it would be a better proposition", he said.

The first outing was in Luton against Hertfordshire. The team travelled by bus (JJ Kavanagh). It was a long haul, and one not conducive to ideal preparation. From the outset, their departure from Rosslare on the Ferry was delayed by four hours due to a technical hitch on the Ferry. Consequently, their arrival in Luton afforded them very little rest, before the game. In light of that it was tremendous that they recorded a great victory. Nevertheless, the team played very well and defeated



The Kilkenny Football Team UK Touring party

Hertfordshire by 2-14 to 0-6.

Their next outing was against Lancashire in Páirc na hÉireann in Birmingham. The team and mentors travelled by air. It was expensive, but the experiences of the previous week were not ideal for a no-nonsense football game, so at least the air travel was a justifiable expense in that regard. After a tough battle, the Lancastrians emerged victorious by the shortest of margins, winning by 0-9 to 1-5. A couple of injuries to vital players certainly mitigated against a victory. Football Secretary Tom O'Reilly travelled in advance of the party by van with all the gear.

The final game was played in Edinburgh. This was a game that they should have won, but as against Lancashire in the second encounter, fate took its toll in the shape of a double injury to the Aylward brothers, Mark and Bob simultaneously. They were a dreadful loss. The game was played in Edinburgh at the Dunedin Connolly's Ground. Scotland eventually won by 2-8 to 2-6

The Final analysis

Was it worth the effort?

"It certainly was from the point of view that the lads really are looking forward to next year, and if we could get the programme tweaked, and probably get a game in Ireland, they feel that they would have a great chance of success", said Tom O'Reilly.

"I feel that everybody was delighted with it", said Christy Walsh. "It was tough for some of the lads who had families etc., but the enthusiasm was tremendous, and even when things went wrong as in Rosslare, the lads responded in a very positive way. It was good character-building stuff, and you could see the enthusiasm during the games, and the joy or otherwise afterwards", he said.

"It was a great experience, and a very worthwhile exercise", said JJ O'Sullivan, a veteran of many National League campaigns. There was a great sense of camaraderie, and oneness, and I feel that nothing but good for football can come of it".



Tom Brennan County Chairman, Tom Duggan Vice Chairman & Eugene Dunphy on Tour



Football Secretary, Tom O'Reilly on the Royal Mile in Edinburgh



Kilkenny Manager Christy Walsh

The backroom team was as follows:

Manager Christy Walsh (Bennettsbridge)

Tom Brennan (Chairman Football Board)

Tom O'Reilly (Railyard) (Sec Football Board)

Selectors: Pat Mulrooney (Clara), Malachy Hogan (Kilmoganny), Frank O'Meara (Muckalee), Eugene Dunphy (Mooncoin).

ans, David Garvey Glenmore, JJ Grace

Grangenolvin, Patrick Kinsella Mooncoin, Noel Darcy Muckalee, Ollie Walsh Muckalee, Paddy Nolan Muckalee, John Mulhall Muckalee, Fionn Lawlor Muckalee, Joe Maher Muckalee, Michael Duggan Mullinavat, Stephen Duggan Mullinavat, Kevin O'Brien O'Loughlin Gaels, Paul Donnelly Railyard, Sean Geoghegan Railyard, Graham Lawlor Railyard, Caleb Roche Railyard, JJ O'Sullivan Saint Patrick's, David Lyng The Rower, John Cullinane Thomastown, Declan Grennan Tullogher Rosbercon, Ger Purcell Windgap, Shane Walsh Windgap.

The panel was:

Bob Aylward Ballyhale Shamrocks, Mark Aylward Ballyhale Shamrocks, Karl O'Mara Clara, George Smyth Danesfort, Marco Ruesmann Dicksboro, Micheál Seoigh Dicksboro, Brian Egan Dicksboro, Stephen Murphy Erin's Own, James Whelan Fen-



Action & Running Repairs from Kilkenny UK Games



4 IN A ROW FOR MUCKALEE

Photos Eoin Hennessy and Willie Dempsey

County Football Report



Muckalee - County SF League & Championship Winners 2013 (Photo: Willie Dempsey)

Back: Larry Maher, John Maher, FR. Martin Ryan, Eugene Maher, Martin Dowd, Noel Darcy, Mick Morrissey, John Coonan, Tom Morrissey, Martin Dowling, Canice Maher, James Maher, Shane Coonan, Bryan Byrne, Oliver Walsh, Luke Maher, Pakie Lalor, Patrick Nolan.
Front: Stephen Murphy, Shane Egan, Eoin McGrath, Fionn Lalor, Aidan Murphy, Paul Maher (Capt.), Joe Maher, Colin McGrath, John Mulhall, Robert Shore

On the Local Scene

Within the County, Muckalee completed a fine double taking the Senior League and Championship titles. This was their fourth successive Championship win.

St Patrick's and Ballyhale Shamrocks shared the Intermediate spoils, while Rower Inistioge and Young Irelands took the Junior Championship & League respectively.

J. J. KAVANAGH AND SONS SF CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

Scoreboard

1st. Round

Conahy Shamrocks 5-9	Thomastown 5-8
Mullinavat 4-6	O'Loughlin Gaels 0-9
Glenmore 1-7	Mooncoin 0-9
James Stephens 1-9	Dicksboro 0-12
James Stephens 2-12	Dicksboro 0-5

2nd Round

Kilmoganny 3-12	Conahy Shamrocks 1-9
James Stephens 3-8	Clara 3-7
Glenmore 0-13	Railyard 0-10
Muckalee 0-12	Mullinavat 0-6

Semi-Finals

James Stephens 0-9	Kilmoganny 0-6
Muckalee 3-6	Glenmore 0-6

Final

Muckalee 2-10	James Stephens 1-9
---------------	--------------------

Relegation Final

O'Loughlin Gaels 4-9	Thomastown 2-2
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J. J. KAVANAGH AND SONS IF CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

1st. Round

Blacks & Whites 1-6	Danesfort 0-6
Piltown 3-12	Erins Own 2-6

Semi-Finals

B'hale Shamrocks 0-9	Piltown 0-8
St. Patrick's 2-8	Blacks & Whites 0-3

Final

St. Patrick's 2-6	B'hale Shamrocks 1-8
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Danesfort Relegated.



St Patricks - IF Championship Winners & League Finalists 2013

Back: Seoirse Kenny, Bill Staunton, John Butler, John Phelan
Middle: Alan Ruth, Paddy Cahill, Michael Stapleton, Jody Phelan, Shaun McGrath, Anthony Butler, Geoff Morrissey, JJ O'Sullivan
Front: Michael Gannon, Mark Staunton, James Staunton, Barry Staunton, Conor Delaney, Sean Mooney, Dermot Brophy, Liam Brennan, Kevin Fitzpatrick.
(Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



Ballyhale Shamrocks - IF League Winners 2013

Back: Bob Aylward, Alan Cuddihy, Gavin Butler, Kieran Grace, Keith Murphy, Conor Walsh, Michael Darmody, Eoin Doyle, Enda Fitzpatrick.
Front: Paul Shefflin, Willie Coogan, Keith Nolan, Joseph Holden, David Hoyne, Eoin Reid, Stephen Donnelly, Eoin Cody.

**J. J. KAVANAGH AND SONS JF CHAMPIONSHIP
2013**

1st Round

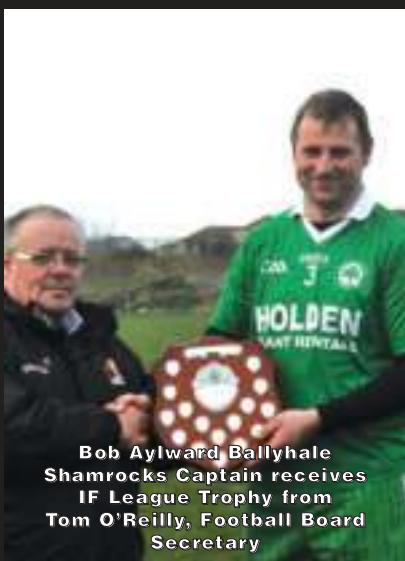
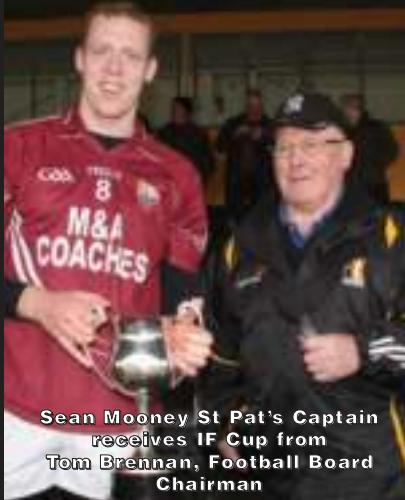
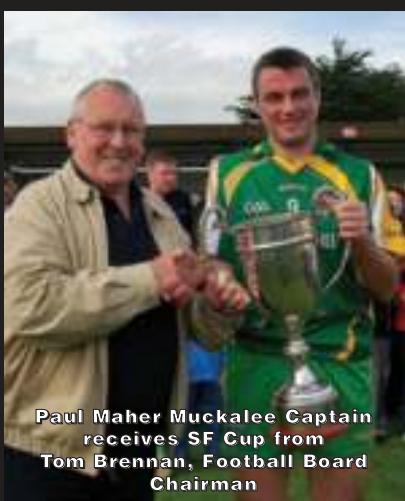
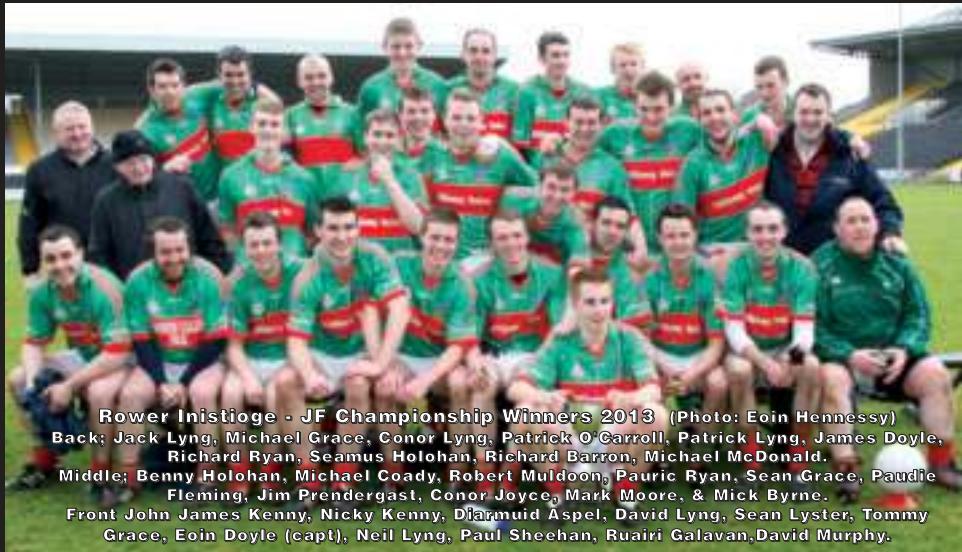
Rower Inistioge 2-6	Graigue Ballycallan 0-9
Young Irelands 4-17	Carrigeen 1-4
Tull/Rosbercon 3-9	Muckalee 2-7
Railyard 0-13	Windgap 1-6

Semi-Finals

Rower Inistioge 3-7	Railyard 0-6
Young Irelands 0-12	Tull/Rosbercon 1-7

Final

Rower Inistioge 1-7	Young Irelands 0-8
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KILKENNY MINOR FOOTBALL TEAM WHICH PLAYED KILDARE IN APRIL

Back: Tarek O Connor, Luke O Connor, Darren Close, Maurice Costelloe, Cormac Connolly, Barry Hennessy, James Rafter (Captain), Aaron Doherty, Eoin Purcell, Brandon Sheehan, Aaron O Neill, Eoin Doyle, Pádraig Ó Fearghail.
Front: Ben Hickey, Jodie Dwyer, John Phelan, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Darragh O Shea, Paul Coss, John Hanrick, Liam Hearnes, Kieran Dunphy, Jason Byrne, Mark Dowling, Dermot O Dwyer.



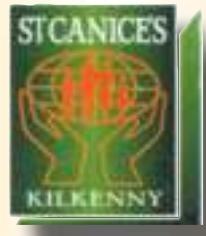
Indy and St. Louis Hurling Clubs visit Kilkenny for the Gathering

The Indy (Indianapolis) Hurling Club and the St. Louis Hurling Club were the welcome guests at the Kilkenny Co Board Gathering Event. The all American Clubs came together under Group Leader Ciarán Connery of Conahy to make the trip to Kilkenny. Among the highlights was a coaching session given by Kilkenny Senior Hurling coach Martin Fogarty in Nowlan Park, a dinner with Guest Speaker Brian Cody, the Kilkenny Senior Hurling Manager in Langtons, and a trip to the Kilkenny Waterford game in Thurles.



Community Games All-Ireland Win for Aghaviller/Kilkenny.

The Aghaviller Under-11 Hurling team won Kilkenny's 1st All-Ireland of 2013 in thrilling fashion at the Community Games National Finals in Athlone on 18th August last. This makes an incredible total of 4 victories out of the last 5 finals for the Ballyhale/Carrickshock Durnamaggin combination.



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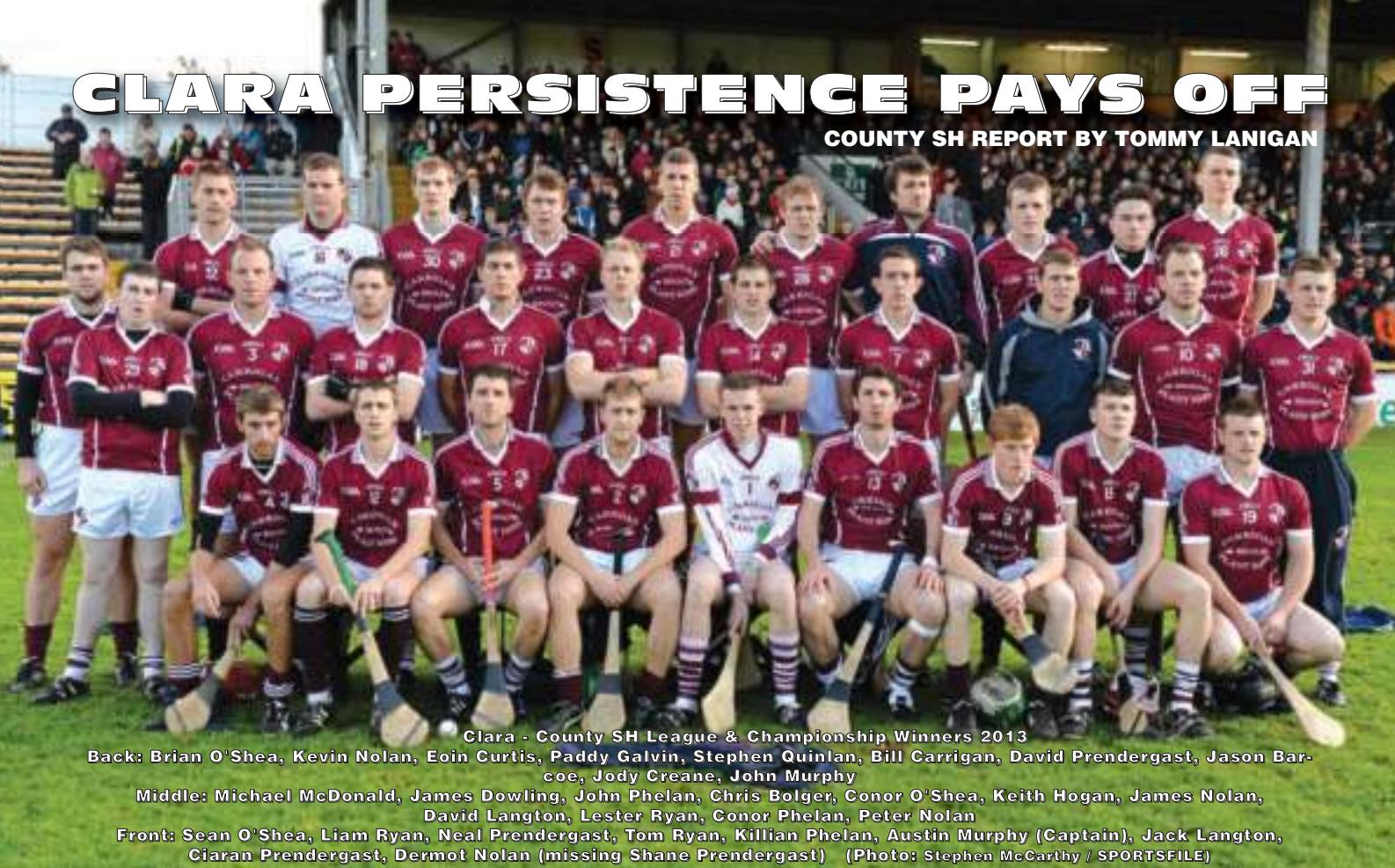
Clara captain Austin Murphy is presented with the Senior Hurling County Final cup by Declan Wall, President, St. Canice's Kilkenny Credit Union and Ned Quinn, Chairman, County Bord, in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

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CLARA PERSISTENCE PAYS OFF

COUNTY SH REPORT BY TOMMY LANIGAN



Clara - County SH League & Championship Winners 2013

Back: Brian O'Shea, Kevin Nolan, Eoin Curtis, Paddy Galvin, Stephen Quinlan, Bill Carrigan, David Prendergast, Jason Barcoe, Jody Creane, John Murphy

Middle: Michael McDonald, James Dowling, John Phelan, Chris Bolger, Conor O'Shea, Keith Hogan, James Nolan, David Langton, Lester Ryan, Conor Phelan, Peter Nolan

Front: Sean O'Shea, Liam Ryan, Neal Prendergast, Tom Ryan, Killian Phelan, Austin Murphy (Captain), Jack Langton, Ciaran Prendergast, Dermot Nolan (missing Shane Prendergast) (Photo: Stephen McCarthy / SPORTSFILER)

Last year's review of the senior championship in the Yearbook finished as follows: The young and thriving Intermediate champions should add some spice to the 2013 fare.

Prophetic words indeed!

Few punters thought that the Clara men would have been persistent and confident enough to sustain their surge of 2012 and emerge as county senior hurling champions in 2013. They deserve the highest plaudits. They have become a team without stars. But possessed of several other fine and essential qualities.

Their traditional toughness remains, they have physical strength in abundance in crucial areas, the middle third where most of the battles for possession take place. They have pace and power at half back, midfield and half forward. This compensates somewhat for their shyness in front of goal and the fear that their poor goal-scoring record would militate against them at the top of the senior game.

Their age profile optimises their prospects of continued success, their brightest and best being between 23 and 28 years. The multiplicity of family members, Phelan's, O'Shea's, Prendergast's, Ryan's, Langton's and Nolan's helped to forge the camaraderie and spirit necessary to rise above the ordinary.

We all tend to view the state of the senior hurling championship by reference to the quality or otherwise of the county final. It is not necessarily the most reliable yardstick, certainly not when the blue riband of the hurling year is contested on a sodden surface on the cusp of Winter.

There were thirteen games played in this year's championship, including one draw and a fearsome relegation final. None produced a massacre result, two were won by nine and six points respectively and the remaining eleven were very close contests, with victory only being assured in the final moments. One could not argue against the highly competitive na-



Clara captain Austin Murphy lifts the Tom Walsh Cup
(Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

ture of the competition.

As for standards, there are grounds for concern only in that there was no stand-out team for the first time in over a decade. That is not necessarily a bad situation. Clara's victory demonstrates that one can come to victory from a long way off. That surely is the hope and well spring for the ambition of many clubs. The county final itself will not go down in folk memory as a classic. On the contrary it was a poor contest, skilful yes, but lacking fire and incident. Players were confounded by the dead surface, sodden after days of heavy rain. There were far too many rucks and the ball seemed to be out of play far too frequently. The current obsession with maintaining pos-

session at all costs contributed to a surplus of hand-passing and short stick passes that did not always work well.

It was generally accepted the county final would be Carrickshock's game to lose. Three years ago they had a wonderful opportunity against O'Loughlins and they never turned up for the contest. This year was no different. Packed with six players who had significant inter-county experience and carrying the disappointments of the past few seasons, their prospects for success seemed very good. However the old problems returned to haunt them, conceding too many frees, easing off when in the lead, looking to others to dig them out of difficulty. Nevertheless, they are a very good side, skilful and clever and were worthy of their place on county final day.

Carrickshock began in whirlwind fashion with a superb John Power goal inside four minutes. The pattern was set. Keith Hogan nailed every free in his usual way and Clara edged in front without showing that they could stay there. The 'Shock survived a horrendous second quarter when they seemed to think they were playing a challenge game and Brian Donovan's strike just at the interval brought the sides level at 2-5 to 0-11.

The third quarter gave no indication of who might win but it was clear that Clara were going to be close at all times, given their relentless pursuit of every ball and man. Carrickshock managed to go two points clear with five minutes remaining and then the crucial incident of the game.

A soft free awarded to Clara about thirty yards from goal was verbally contested and referee Sean Cleere rightly advanced the ball. Lester Ryan's bravery in attempting a goal, when two points adrift and with lots of time remaining, was well rewarded. His point from the ensuing puck-out gave Clara breathing space for the first time in the game and they were never

going to allow the opposition back. Clara's defensive defiance in those closing minutes were symptomatic of how they played over the past two years. They were now a winning team and, more importantly, knew how to win. They closed down every potential Carrickshock attack at inception and were more than well deserving of a two point gap at the final whistle.

Credit to Mick Purcell, their coach. The Good Counsel, New Ross based teacher has laboured for long and with mixed fortunes with hurling teams. Invariably he brings an honesty, discipline and spirit to his charges and he deserves much praise.

A word too about referee Sean Cleere. In an era when every decision is under intense scrutiny, he performed very well and should take much satisfaction from the game.

The semi-finals were solid contests. Carrickshock saw off their nemesis Ballyhale Shamrocks, shorn of the presence of Michael Fennelly and Eamonn Walsh, by 4-14 to 2-14. The Shamrocks, so dominant for so long had become overly dependent on the playmaking and scoring exploits of Colin Fennelly and Carrickshock were due a result after several years of heartache. Perhaps the 'Shock read too much into their victory over the old enemy?

Clara had a much tougher task against local rivals St. Martins. This contest mirrored the eventual county final in many ways, with Clara hanging in through the bad times and finally running the Martins men ragged in the last few minutes of a very good contest. Clara's three point victory was well deserved and by defeating a genuine quality side the men in maroon gave themselves a great boost.

The quarter finals had produced three very close contests. Clara struggled badly, as they always seemed to do, against a grimly determined Erin's Own side, whose defensive capabilities confounds the best of teams. Clara did well to survive, winning by 0-14 to 0-11. Erin's Own continue to prove their worth as a genuine senior side, but their scoring capabilities must improve substantially if they wish to progress.

St. Martins came through the championship to the semi-final the hard way. After an indifferent league campaign which only fired when the

defeated James Stephens in Round 4, they had a straightforward win over struggling Danesfort. Their quarter final Tagainst the Village could have gone to the City side but for a very late goal by Eoin McGrath. Martins continue to be a formidable outfit and a very small improvement could see them vie for honours in the coming years.

In 2012 the three City teams contested the county semi-finals and there was much speculation that this trend would continue because of the huge supply of young players at their disposal. This year, all three bit the dust at quarter final stage. James Stephens reached the league final, an almost annual event, but failed badly against Clara who showed how to win a match on points scored (0-24 to 1-13). The Village championship performance again depended too much on the remarkable Eoin Larkin to garner most of the scores, and one man, no matter how good, can only bring a team so far.

O'Loughlins had a tough assignment against Tullaroan and needed a replay to see them off.



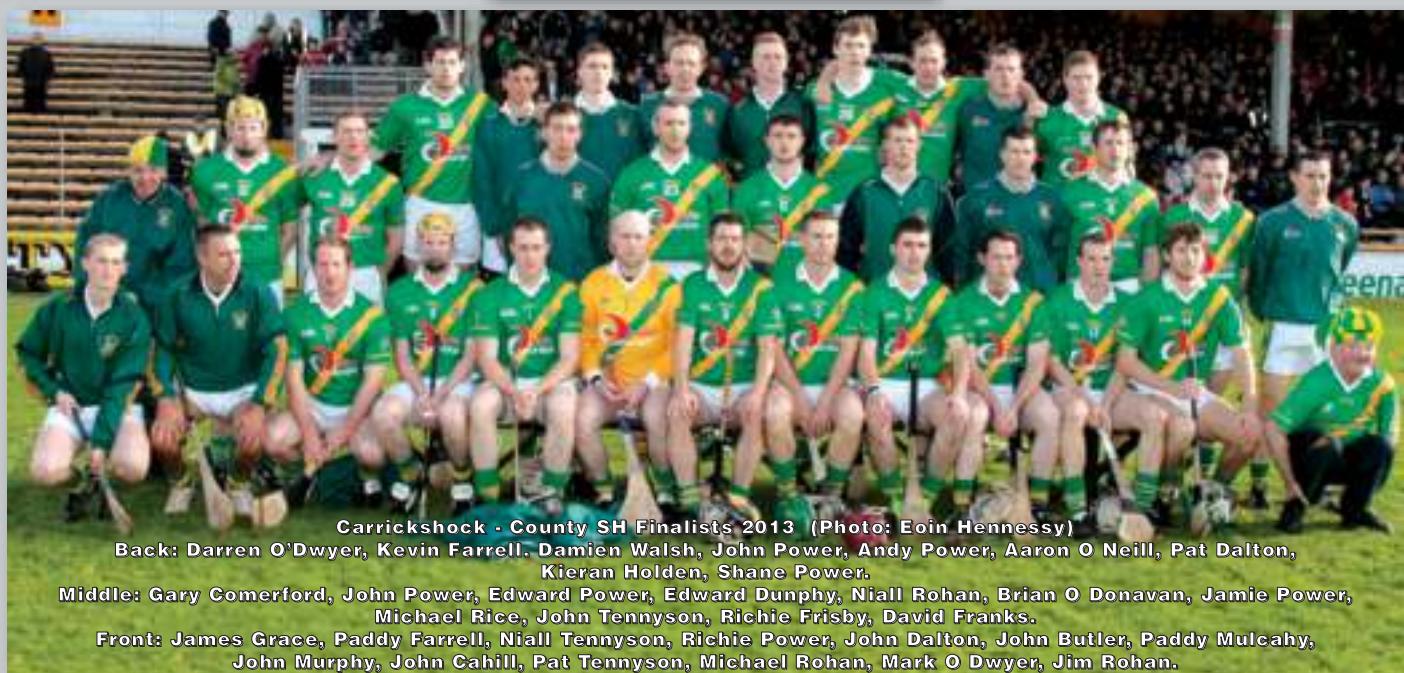
Sean O'Shea (Clara) clears the sliotar during the Senior Hurling County Final in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

St. Canice's Credit Union Senior Hurling Championship 2013 Scoreboard	
1st Round	
Dicksboro 1-16	Fenians 1-14
Erins Own 0-18	Graigue Ballycallan 1-10
St. Martin's 1-18	Danesfort 0-12
O' Loughlin Gaels 3-10	Tullaroan 0-14
2nd Round	
B'hale Shamrocks 1-21	O' Loughlin Gaels 1-17
Carrickshock 0-17	Dicksboro 1-8
Clara 0-14	Erins Own 0-11
St. Martin's 2-14	James Stephens 1-16
Semi-Finals	
Carrickshock 4-14	B'hale Shamrocks 2-14
Clara 1-17	St. Martin's 1-14
Final	
Clara	1-15
Carrickshock	2-10
Relegation Final	
Fenians	0-18
Graigue Ballycallan	1-14

They put up a solid show against Shamrocks, but the City side are in a rebuilding process. They have sufficient building blocks if they can place them to advantage.

Dicksboro continued their dismal relationship with the League. Without a win again this year, they could not rekindle the fireworks of 2012 and they barely scrapped past Fenians (1-16 to 11-14) in a dour first round. Carrickshock defeated them easily in the quarter final, but the 'Boro, like both of their City rivals, will always pose a significant threat to any opposition.

For many years Tullaroan have battled with relegation. This year they have unearthed some fine young players and their great competitiveness saw them perform well in the league and give O'Loughlins a right fright in the championship. They are the unlucky team of the year in that they deserved to travel farther in the competition. Danesfort hung in well



Carrickshock - County SH Finalists 2013 (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

Back: Darren O'Dwyer, Kevin Farrell, Damien Walsh, John Power, Andy Power, Aaron O'Neill, Pat Dalton, Kieran Holden, Shane Power.

Middle: Gary Comerford, John Power, Edward Power, Edward Dunphy, Niall Rohan, Brian O'Donovan, Jamie Power, Michael Rice, John Tennyson, Richie Frisby, David Franks.

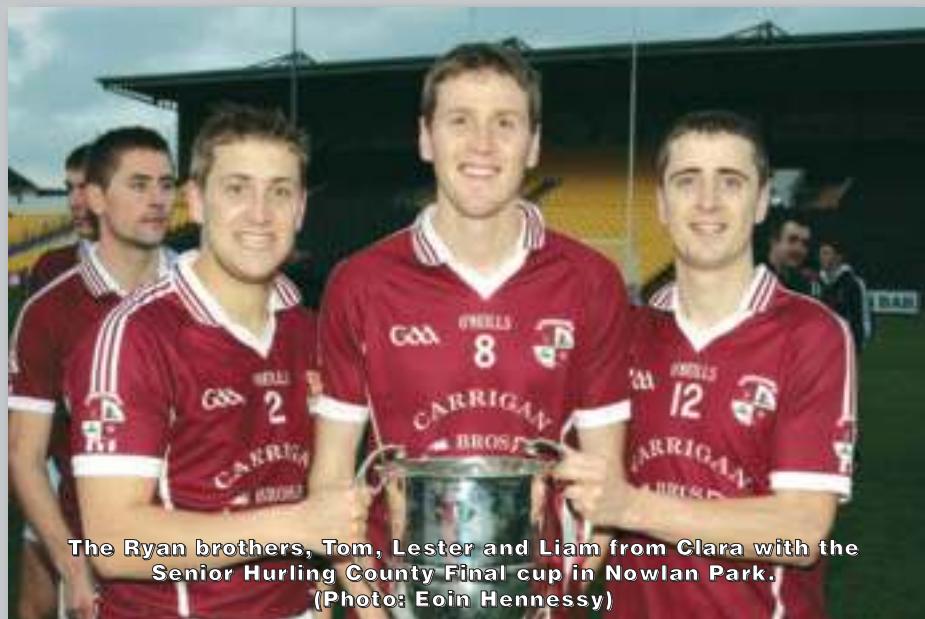
Front: James Grace, Paddy Farrell, Niall Tennyson, Richie Power, John Dalton, John Butler, Paddy Mulcahy, John Murphy, John Cahill, Pat Tennyson, Michael Rohan, Mark O'Dwyer, Jim Rohan.



The Goal! Lester Ryan (Clara) scores his crucial goal. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

during the league but were no match for a rampant St. Martins in the championship. Depending too much on the lion-hearted Paul Murphy and the Hogans, nevertheless they have survived longer in the top ranks than most had predicted.

The relegation final matched Fenians and Graigue-Ballycallan. Fenians have been perennial contestants in the game nobody wants to contest. They won an U21B title last year and the victory helped nourish their youngsters sufficiently to win a grim battle to remain in senior ranks. Graigue finally descend after over twenty years at the top table. They have some fine young hurlers but will need a quick bounce back. That might prove difficult. But the championship, and indeed the Intermediate and minor contests too, prove that a club that pays assiduous attention to juvenile development will prosper. The Rower-Inistioge are well placed to prosper if they can bring forward those excellent young minors.



The Ryan brothers, Tom, Lester and Liam from Clara with the Senior Hurling County Final cup in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

THE FOLLOWING PLAYERS TOOK PART IN THE 2013 KILKENNY SH CHAMPIONSHIP

Ballyhale Shamrocks: Richard Reid, Paul Shefflin, Aidan Cummins, Michael Dermody, Joseph Holden, James Fitzpatrick, Henry Shefflin, Colin Fennelly, Conor Walsh, Eoin Reid, Patrick Reid, David Hoyne, Alan Cuddihy, Mark Alyward, T. J. Reid, Robert Alyward, Ronan Corcoran, Tom Coogan.

Carrickshock: John Dalton, David Franks, John Murphy, John Tennyson, Pat Tennyson, John Power, Richie Power, Mark O'Dwyer, Michael Rohan, William Hoyne, John Butler, Paddy Mulcahy, Niall Rohan, Brian Donavan, Niall Tennyson, John Cahill, Jamie Power, Darren O'Dwyer, Andrew Power, Michael Rice.

Clara: Killian Phelan, Tom Ryan, John Phelan, Sean O' Shea, Neal Prendergast, Shane Prendergast, David Langton, Lester Ryan, Jack Langton, Conor Phelan, Keith Hogan, Liam Ryan, Austin Murphy, James Nolan, Ciaran Prendergast, Conor O'Shea, Chris Bolger.

Danesfort: Frank Minogue, Liam Forrestal, Michael Cunningham, Paul Murphy, Philip Walsh, Padraig Forristal, Paddy Hogan, Tony Woodcock, David Forristal, Richie Hogan, Robbie Walsh, Cillian Treacy, Cathal O'Neill, Darren Booth, Jim Phelan, Paddy Hickey.

Dicksboro: Aaron Duggan, Kieran Cuddihy, Enda Malone, Michael Fagan, David Glynn, Robbie Fitzpatrick, Cillian Buckley, John Fagan, Martin Gaffney, Ollie Walsh, Shane Maher, Paul O'Flynn, Killian Starr, Kevin Kenny, Oisin Walsh, Tom Manning, Evan Cody, Derek O' Gorman, Marco Ruesmann

Erins Own: Tom Brophy, Pauric Keating, Peter O' Donavan, Gerry Callinan, Damien Fogarty, Conor Fogarty, Jimmy Byrne, Aidan Moran, Declan Dunne, Peadar Moran, Martin Boran, Michael Murphy, Robert Moran, Eddie Brennan, Michael Owens,

Fenians: P. J. Ryan, Declan Garrett, J. P. Grehan, John Henderson, J. J. Delaney, Conor Tobin, Cathal Ryan, Kieran Grehan, Willie Brennan, Tommy Bowe, Rory Phelan, John Broderick, Kevin Power, Mark Webster, Darragh Tobin, Danny Dermody, Sean Brennan.

Graigue Ballycallan: P. J. Trant, Darragh Egan, Ger Teehan, Shane Murphy, Bob Murphy, James Ryall, Jimmy Murphy, Dermot Heafy, Eddie Brennan Niall Millea, Tomas Ryan, John Purcell, Dara Walton, Ciaran Hoyne, John Cleere, Vinny Teehan, Philly Cahill.

James Stephens: Derrick Brennan, Niall McQuillan, Tomas Keogh, John Comerford, Donnacha Cody, Jackie Tyrrell, Eamon Sheehy, Ray Cody, Niall Tyrrell, Matt Ruth, Eoin larkin, Diarmuid Cody, Luke Hickey, David Walton, Luke Scanlon, Ben Lahart.

O'Loughlin Gaels: Stephen Murphy, Eddie Kearns, Brian Hogan, Paddy Butler, Niall Bergin, Alan Geoghegan, Niall McEvoy, Mark Kelly, Mark Bergin, Martin Comerford, Conor Bergin, David Burke, Jack Nolan, Danny Loughnane, Eoghan Grant, Anthony Forristal, Shamie Cummins, Jason Quan.

St. Martin's: Colin McGrath, Ollie Walsh, Ronan Maher, Shane Cadigan, Niall Moran, Paddy Nolan, James Dowling, Paul Maher, Thomas Breen, Eoin McGrath, Brian Mulhall, Joe Maher, John Mulhall, Robert Shore, Michael Morrissey, Bryan Byrne, Canice Maher, James Maher, John Maher, David Breen.

Tullaroan: Richard Holland, Paddy Campion, Michael Maher, Eddie Campion, David Dowling, Stephen Maher, Richard Maher, Tommy Walsh, Ken Coogan, Padraig Walsh, Shane Cuddihy, Martin Walsh, Mark Walsh, Jimmy Coogan, Mark Simpson, Peter Walsh, Paul Buggy, Diarmuid Doheny.



SH CLUB ACTION



ROWER INISTIOGE ARE SENIOR AGAIN!

Michael Lyng Motors Intermediate Hurling Championship 2013 by Conor Brennan

Photos Eoin Hennessy
& Willie Dempsey



Rower Inistioge - County IH Champions 2013

Back: Richard Ryan, David Tennyson, James Roche, James Cassin, Conor Lyng, Padraig Tierney, Bob Grace, Luke Tennyson, Tony Whelan,

Middle: Michael Doyle, Sean Cummins, Tadgh Leahy, Pauric Ryan, Michael Grace (capt), Sean Grace, David Lyng, Paudie Fleming, Neil Lyng, Nicky Kenny, Patrick O'Carroll, David Dunphy.

Front: Eoin Doyle, Ruairí Galavan, Sean Lyster, Paul Sheehan, Cathal Bolger, Liam Tierney, Tom Murphy, James Doyle, Kieran Joyce, Ciaran Ryan, Joe Lyng, Conor Joyce.
Missing from Photo: John James Kenny, Tommy Grace, Michael Cassin.

While the outcome may have been one that a sizeable minority may have predicted, it is fair to say that once again, the second tier of Kilkenny hurling continued to intrigue all hurling spectators throughout this season. With the vast majority of teams showing potential signs of making a serious impact at various stages in the season, one could not have said with any great certainty who would eventually take the championship crown until the climax had been reached. As it was, it was The Rower-Inistioge who laid low the ghosts of previous losses to eventually secure a well merited return to the senior ranks for 2014. For the county final opponents, Emeralds, it was a heart-breaking end to a roller coaster of a season which could not have been genuinely predicted at the height of the summer.

The opening rounds of the league showed some glimpses of what was to come for teams at both ends of the spectrum. Last year's defeated finalists, St. Patrick's (Ballyragget) and Dunnamaggin, who were hoping for a quick return to the senior grade, led the way in Group A while The Rower-Inistioge topped Group B closely followed by St. Lachtain's (Freshford) and Glenmore. The resulting league and shield finals saw St. Patrick's secure the major honours over The Rower-Inistioge on a 3-10 to 2-10 scoreline while St. Lachtain's scored an impressive win over Dunnamaggin by 2-20 to 2-11.

The resulting pairings for the opening round of the championship threw together some interesting combinations. A southern derby involving Tulloher-Rosbercon and Mooncoin looked particularly intriguing with the spectre of a relegation final looming in the background, while the clash of Glenmore and reigning junior champions Thomastown brought its own level of interest. Conahy Shamrocks and Mullinavat, after some positive results in the league, looked to advance their own individual case, while Emeralds and Young Irelands were looking to bounce back from disappointing performances during their respective league campaigns.

Tulloher-Rosbercon and Mooncoin served an entertaining game in spite of the nervousness that may have been underlying both side's performances. In the end, Tulloher proved to have the edge, as they advanced on a 2-18 to 1-14 score line. Thomastown had made a positive start to their return to the intermediate grade, but should have expected a stern test of their credentials from Glenmore, who themselves had high hopes of success after almost upsetting last year eventual winners Clara in the 2012 semi-final. What transpired was an excellent game between two even teams, with the Thomastown men upsetting the odds somewhat by just about holding out for a single point win (3-13 to 2-15). Conahy Shamrocks looked like they were the team in control with their clash with Mullinavat in Bennettsbridge as they held a five point lead at the half-time break, but their performance dipped dramatically in the second half and the Southerners took full advantage. Conahy could not stem the flow coming against them, as Mullinavat advanced to the quarter-finals on a 1-15 to 1-10 score line. Emeralds and Young Irelands, it's fair to say, probably could not have anticipated that one of the sides would eventually find their way towards a county final when they faced off in the opening round.

As it was, the Urlingford men showed signs of what was to come from them in future games as they battled their way to a 1-14 to 0-14 victory over the Gowran side.

The quarter-finals eventually proved to be as equally open and unpredictable as the first round. As it turned out, one result stood out above the others-the derby clash between Emeralds and St. Lachtain's in Johnstown. The motivation of defeating their neighbours seemed to have a serious effect on the Emeralds, who thundered into the game from the first whistle and left the Freshford men in a whirlwind. Despite being forced to play without the experience of Derek Lyng due to injury, they produced a savage display. Two goals from full-forward Alan Guilfoyle and with Aidan Fogarty showing his class, they blitzed a



Rower-Inistioge captain, Michael Grace, lifts the Hanrahan cup

MICHAEL LYNG MOTORS KILKENNY



The Winning Team!



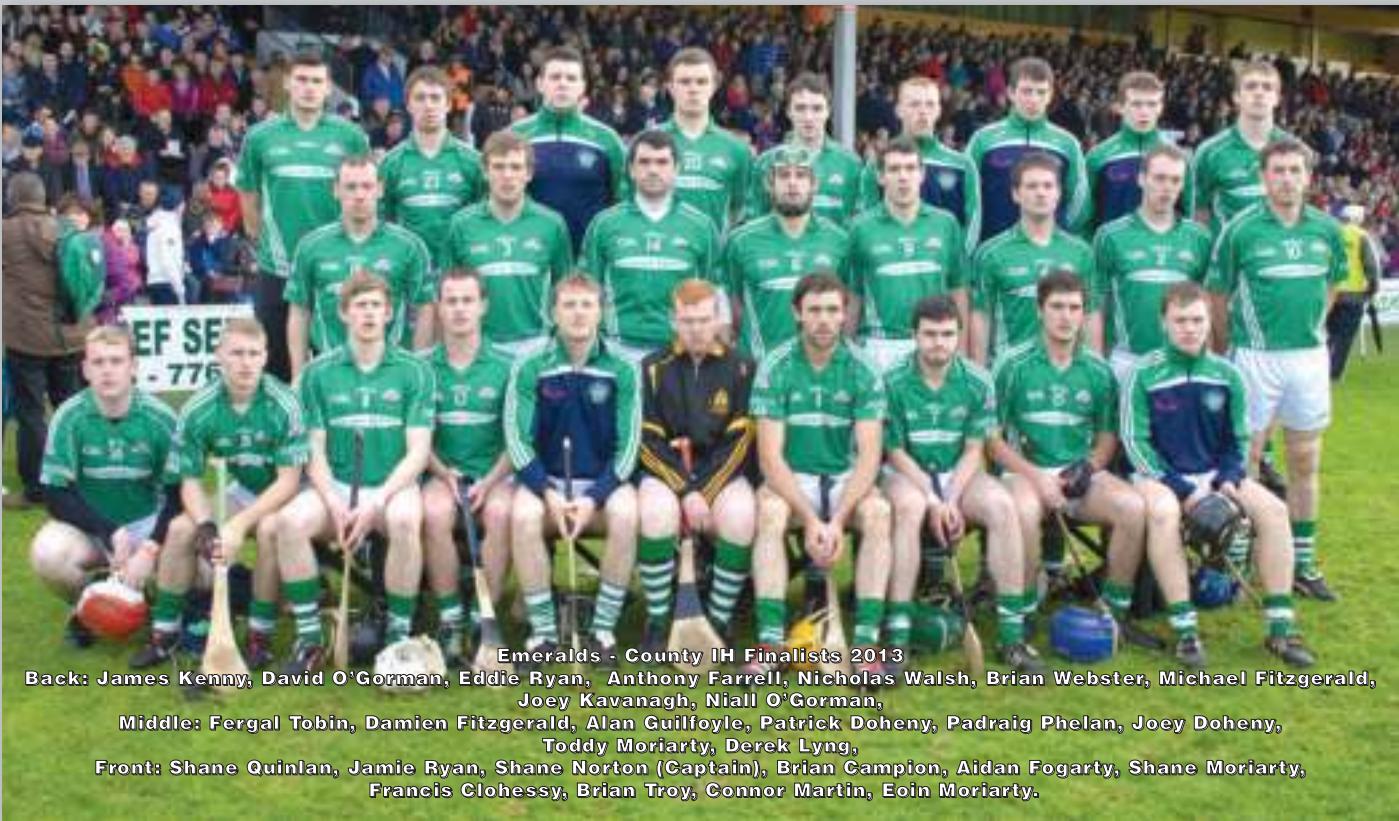
Rower-Inistioge captain, Michael Grace, is presented with the Intermediate Hurling Championship cup by Michael Lyng, Sponsor, Michael Lyng Motors and Ned Quinn, Chairman, County Bord, after the Final in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

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dazed St. Lachtain's by 2-20 to 2-9.

St. Patrick's showed their intent in their quarter-final clash with Tullogher-Rosbercon in Bennettsbridge. Despite a wonderful display from Walter Walsh who scored a hat-trick for his side, the Balllyragget men always looked to have the ability to maintain their distance ahead of the Tullogher side. This was how it indeed turned out, as the Northerners advanced to the semi-finals on a 3-21 to 3-11 score line. Dunnamaggin and Mullinavat was a pairing that was least likely to predict, though the former would have seen to have had the edge. There were very impressive individual performances on both sides, but Dunnamaggin's tenacious defence and greater fluency in attack meant that they continued to the final four by winning 1-17 to 0-14. The final game between near neighbours Thomastown and The Rower-Inistioge proved to be equally intriguing. It was clear from early in the game that The Rower had the stronger scoring power, but Thomastown showed their durability and doggedness that marked their march towards an All-Ireland junior club title earlier in the year. But The Rower would not be denied, as they made it through what could have been a possible banana skin by winning out 1-20 to 3-8.

At the other end of the spectrum, the relegation battle between Young Irelands and Mooncoin brought its own drama. It looked like it was all done and dusted with the game entering the final minutes, as Mooncoin held a comfortable over the Gowran men. But two late goals brought Young Irelands back from the brink, as they salvaged an unlikely draw (3-5 to 0-



14). Having been forced into a replay of a game that they had all but won seemed to take a considerable amount of confidence out of the Mooncoin men, and this was reflected in their performance in that replay. A strong final quarter from Young Irelands meant that Mooncoin could not find the answers as the Gowran men held onto their intermediate status, winning 1-11 to 0-8.

Meanwhile, the semi-final pairings saw Emeralds face Dunnamaggin and St. Patrick's take on The Rower-Inistioge in

Nowlan Park. After their heroics in the quarter-final, experts felt that it would be extremely difficult for Emeralds to raise their efforts to a similar level against what was guaranteed to be a tough challenge provided by Dunnamaggin. But they not only performed up to that standard, they exceeded it. Their cause was certainly boosted by the inclusion of Derek Lyng, whose ability to use the ball effectively and rouse his colleagues proved a massive advantage as they led by 0-8 to 0-4 at the half-time break.

Dunnamaggan must have realised that they needed to up their performance, particularly in attack. They certainly enjoyed good fortune when a long range shot found its way into the Urlingford net early in the second half to close the gap. But Emeralds refused to panic, and Aidan Fogarty was the catalyst for a period of dominance as he scored a brilliantly taken goal. This was followed by a series of points to give them a 1-13 to 1-7 lead. Dunnamaggan's Kenny Moore showed great leadership by finishing a 20 metre free to the net to close the gap. Three points followed this, including a massive point from the wonderful Noel Hickey to leave a single point between the sides. But the Urlingford men again found a second wind, with Conor Martin leading their response on this occasion with two crucial points. Two more followed and so victory was assured in fine style, as Emeralds won out by 1-18 to 2-10.

St. Patrick's and The Rower-Inistioge would have done well to match the second half drama of the other semi-final, and the early stages seemed extremely tentative from both sides. The Rower held a 1-6 to 1-4 lead at the half-time break thanks to a well taken goal from youngster Cathal Bolger, who looked very sharp all through. The early stages of the second half were the crucial period as the Rower men blitzed their opponents with 1-4 without reply to open up a nine point lead. To their credit, St. Patrick's did respond, led effectively by Kevin Kelly, closed the gap to five points with a four point burst. But The Rower showed that they did not want to suffer a repeat of last

MICHAEL LYNG MOTORS IH CHAMPIONSHIP 2013 RESULTS

1st Round

Tul/Rosbercon 2-18	Mooncoin 1-14
Emeralds 1-14	Young Irelands 0-14
Thomastown 3-13	Glenmore 2-15
Mullinavat 1-15	Conahy Shamrocks 1-10

Quarter-Final

St. Patrick's 3-21	Tull/Rosbercon 3-11
Emeralds 2-20	St Lachtain's 2-9
Dunnamaggan 1-17	Mullinavat 0-14
Rower-Inistioge 1-20	Thomastown 3-8

Relegation Final

Young Irelands 3-5	Mooncoin 0-14
Young Irelands 1-11	Mooncoin 0-8

Semi-Finals

Rower-Inistioge 2-14	St Patrick's 2-9
Emeralds 1-18	Dunnamaggan 2-10

County Final

Rower-Inistioge 2-13	Emeralds 2-11
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Grace and Ciaran Ryan after some good direct play by The Rower.

Emeralds badly needed a break, and they got it when Aidan Fogarty sensed a goal opportunity from a close in free and duly blasted the ball to the net. This eventually meant that there was only a four point lead by the Southerners at half-time (2-6 to 1-5), despite the fact they had the vast majority of the play.

Both sides were far more cautious in the opening stages of the second half and one sensed that Emeralds would need a second goal sooner rather than later if they were going to work the game back into their favour. Having done it in the first half, Aidan Fogarty repeated the dose as he goaled his second close range free, despite the best efforts of Liam Tierney in the Rower goal. The Urlingford men must have thought that the game may have been there for the taking as substitute Jamie Ryan pointed to give them the lead for the first time (2-10 to 2-9), but they didn't count on The Rower's experience and how well they might utilise it. Sean Cummins, Kieran Joyce, Joe Lyng and Michael Grace provided the leadership their team badly needed and steadied the ship. Every score was bound to be crucial at this stage, and the Rower got the points that mattered, one from a Michael Grace 65 and from sub James Cassin (2-13 to 2-11). The final whistle soon followed to end The Rower's 25 year wait for a return to the senior ranks, and delirium naturally followed for all their supporters. Having been so close in the past, it was surely well deserved.

year's defeat at this stage to the same opponents and battled back with Michael Grace and Cathal Bolger once again to the fore. Kevin Kelly did snatch a goal from a late penalty, but it was never going to be enough at that stage, as The Rower men advanced by winning 2-14 to 2-9.

And so, the county final produced a pairing who, in all honesty, one could not have imagined together as the final pairing. Indeed, when the sides met earlier in the season in the league, The Rower blitzed the Urlingford men by 1-21 to 2-5. This time, however, would surely be a lot closer. The opening quarter suggested not, as The Rower raced into a 2-4 to 0-3 lead, with the goals coming from Sean



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Martin Phelan (Lisdowney) is presented with the Junior Hurling Championship cup by Paul Kavanagh (Sponsor, J.J. Kavanagh & Sons) and Ned Quinn (Chairman, County Bord) after the Final in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

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LISDOWNEY TAKE TITLE IN THRILLER

COUNTY JH REPORT BY NED BUGGY



Lisdowney County JH League & Championship Winners 2013 (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

Back: Ciaran Bergin, Conor O'Carroll, Jamie Bergin, Jack Dunphy, Brian O'Carroll, Eoin Lyons, Jimmy Delaney, Antony O'Hara, Niall Kenny, Padraig Kenny, Paddy Bowden.
Middle: Declan O'Shea, Ciaran O'Carroll, Shane Clyne, Michael Bergin, Peter Bergin, Rory Hickey, Eoin Walsh, Michael Kenny, Aaron Fogarty, Eoin Delahunt, Brian Campion, Pat O'Carroll, Vincent Fitzpatrick, Ciaran Mackey.
Front: Laurence O'Carroll, Paul Murphy, Edward Kenny, Niall Mackey, Raymond Fitzpatrick, Niall Grogan, Niall O'Hara, Martin Phelan (Captain), Sean Phelan, Eddie Hickey, Kevin Sweeney.

J. J. KAVANAGH AND SONS JUNIOR HURLING LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

22 clubs took part in this year's league championship. The 12 junior proper clubs played in section A of the championship, while the ten junior teams of the senior clubs played in section B. Three teams from section A and one team from section B qualified for the semi-finals.

The draws for the championship were determined by the finishing places in the league which was played earlier in the year.

The 12 junior proper teams played in section A in two groups of six while in section B the 10 second teams of the senior clubs played in two groups of five.

J. J. Kavanagh and Sons Junior Hurling Championship 2013

Section A

Preliminary Round		
Windgap	2-10	Cloneen
Bennettsbridge	2-21	Piltown

1st Round

Blacks & Whites	2-13	Graignamanagh	0-10
Barrow Rangers	1-17	Kilmacow	1-15
Galmoy	1-18	John Lockes	2-9
Lisdowney	3-16	Sliieverue	0-13

2nd Round

Barrow Rangers	1-18	Blacks and Whites	1-15
Bennettsbridge	4-23	Galmoy	2-12
Lisdowney	5-16	Windgap	2-10

Section B

Preliminary Rounds			
Dicksboro	3-20	Dunnamaggin	0-8
St. Martin's	3-13	Tullaroan	2-11

1st. Round

St. Martin's	2-11	Mooncoin	0-10
James Stephens	0-14	Dicksboro	0-12
Erins Own	2-18	Clara	1-17
O'Loughlin Gaels	2-18	Mullinavat	3-12

2nd Round

St. Martin's	0-18	Erin's Own	1-13
James Stephens	4-12	O'Loughlin Gaels	2-14

3rd Round

James Stephens	2-22	St. Martin's	0-13
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Semi-Finals

Lisdowney	1-18	James Stephens	1-9
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Bennettsbridge 1-18 Barrow Rangers 2-12

Final
Lisdowney 2-16 Bennettsbridge 1-18

In the first semi-final Lisdowney proved too good for an inexperienced James Stephens team and ran out winners on the score 1-18 to 1-9.

Lisdowney scorers: R. Hickey 1-6, A. Fogarty 1-2, L. Carroll 0-3, P. Carroll 0-1, E. Hickey 0-1, M. Kenny 0-1, C. Mackey 0-1, E. Kenny 0-1

Bennettsbridge scorers: N. Cleere 0-10, K. Blanchfield 0-3, B. Lannon 1-0, H. O'Neill 0-2, S. Morrissey 0-2, L. Blanchfield 0-1.

James Stephens scorers: C. McQuillan 1-6, H. Wallace 0-1, A. Tyrrell 0-1, R. Drennan 0-1.

In the second semi-final Bennettsbridge overpowered resilient Barrow Rangers by 1-18 to 2-12.

Bennettsbridge scorers: N. Cleere 1-6, S. Morrissey 0-4, B. Lannon 0-2, H. O'Neill 0-2, L. Blanchfield 0-2, A. Cleere 0-1, K. Blanchfield 0-1.

Barrow Rangers scorers: C. English 1-3, D. Maher 0-4, R. Doyle 1-0, C. Kenny 0-2, M. Bambrick 0-1, S. McEvoy 0-1, Whitley 0-1.

In the final which many people claim was the best for a long number of years a point in injury time by Rory Hickey proved to be the winner



Lisdowney captain, Martin Phelan, lifts the JH Championship cup after the Final.
(Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

and consigned brave Bennettsbridge to defeat in the junior final for the second successive year. The final score was
Lisdowney 2-16 Bennettsbridge 1-18

Lisdowney scorers: R. Hickey 1-6, A. Fogarty 1-2, L. Carroll 0-3, P. Carroll 0-1, E. Hickey 0-1, M. Kenny 0-1, C. Mackey 0-1, E. Kenny 0-1

Bennettsbridge scorers: N. Cleere 0-10, K. Blanchfield 0-3, B. Lannon 1-0, H. O'Neill 0-2, S. Morrissey 0-2, L. Blanchfield 0-1.

Lisdowney: Niall Grogan, Niall O'Hara, Martin Phelan (Capt), Niall Mackey, Ray Fitzpatrick, Sean Phelan, Peter Bergin, Pat Carroll, Kevin Sweeney, Lar Carroll, Eddie Hickey, Aaran Fogarty, Edward Kenny, Rory Hickey, Ciaran Mackey.

Subs Used: Michael Kenny, Owen Delahunt, Vinny Fitzpatrick, Conor Carroll.

Other panel members: Padraig Kenny, Paddy Bowden, Owen Walsh, Niall Kenny, Shane Clyne, Anthony O'Hara, Ciaran Bergin, Jimmy Delaney, Michael Bergin, Brian Campion, Eoin Lyons, Brian Carroll, George Healy, Paul Murphy, Declan O'Shea, Jack Dunphy, Brian Purcell, Damien Clyne, Jamie Bergin, Joe Bergin.

Selectors: Martin Power, Eddie Brennan, Shay Downey, Patsy Murphy, Jimmy Gogarty.

Bennettsbridge: Enda Cleere, Paul O'Neill, Robert Lennon, Cormac Wafer, Jason Cleere, Enda Morrissey, Aidan Cleere, Darragh Wafer, Kevin Blanchfield, Liam Blanchfield, Hugh O'Neill, Nicky Cleere, Brian Lannon, James Moran (Capt), Sean Morrissey.

Subs used: Sean Wemyss, William Murphy.

Other panel members: Tom Kiely, Edward Fitzgerald, Patrick O'Neill, Michael Shiel, Edward Murphy, Dylan Walsh, Shane Nolan, Tim Dooley, Kevin Brennan, Bill O'Neill, Michael Power, Aidan Byrne, Damien Donovan.

Selectors: Christy Walsh, Tim Drea, Tommy Lennon, Michael Walsh.

Referee: Gavin Quilty (Sliieverue)

JJ KAVANAGH & SONS JUNIOR A HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

15 clubs entered teams to play in the junior A leagues and championship



Bennettsbridge - County JH Championship Finalists & All County League Winners 2013 (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)
Back: Edward Fitzgerald; William Murphy; Dylan Walsh; Patrick O'Neill; Micheal Shiel; Shane Nolan; Edward Murphy; Bill O'Neill; Kevin Brennan; Damien Donovan; Aidan Byrne
Middle: Sean Wemyss; Aidan Cleere; Robert Lennon; Cormac Wafer; Brian Lannon; Liam Blanchfield; Enda Morrissey; Tom Kiely; Michael Power; Tim Dooley; Enda Cleere; Shane Byrne
Front: Paul O'Neill; Sean Morrissey; Hugh O'Neill; Jason Cleere; James Moran; Darragh Wafer; Nicky Cleere; Kevin Blanchfield; Ben Tynan; Luke Dowling.

The Iverk Produce Southern junior A hurling championship was played on a league basis with 7 teams taking part in one group with the team finishing top of the league table receiving a bye into the semi-final of the championship. A total of 21 games were played, the placings in the league tables determined the draw for the championship which resulted as follows.

Scoreboard

1 st Round	
B'hale Shamrocks	1-15
Tull/Rosbercon	2-10
Thomastown	1-15
Glenmore	2-9
Carrickshock	1-18
Kilmacow	0-14

Semi-Finals

B'hale Shamrocks	1-20	Thomastown	0-11
Rower Inistioge	1-19	Carrickshock	4-9

Final

B'hale Shamrocks	4-10	Rower Inistioge	1-10
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J. J. KAVANAGH AND SONS NORTHERN JUNIOR A HURLING LEAGUE/ CHAMPIONSHIP

8 teams took part and were divided into two groups of four. A total of 12 games were played, the placings again determined the draw for the championship.

Scoreboard

1 st Round	
Emeralds	1-17
Lisdowney	1-16
Young Irelands	1-17
St. Lachtain's	1-10
St. Lachtain's	3-14
St. Martin's	1-14
Conahy Shamrocks	1-12
Fenians	1-16
Graigue Ballycallan	1-10
Graigue Ballycallan	0-11

Semi-Finals

Young Irelands	2-18	St. Lachtain's	1-16
Lisdowney	5-16	Emeralds	0-4

Final

Young Irelands	2-13	Lisdowney	1-16
Young Irelands	2-13	Lisdowney	1-10

J. J. Kavanagh and Sons County Junior A Hurling Final
 B'hale Shamrocks 2-13 Young Irelands 2-11

A battle of nerves saw Ballyhal Shamrocks out-

last Young Irelands to land the county junior A hurling championship title for the second time in their history.

Their last win in this competition was back in 1982, when, captained by Michael Hoyne, they beat James Stephens by 3-10 to 1-1 after a replay. The same Michael Hoyne was one of the four selectors of the winners.



DJ Carey and son Sean playing together in North JH "A" Final

Shamrocks led at half time by 1-6 to 0-5. Early in the second half Young Irelands introduced both DJ Carey and his son Sean and both were very prominent in Young Ireland's fight back and both played their part in giving the large crowd at immaculate Grennan pitch great entertainment.

Within minutes of his arrival on the field DJ blasted home the first of his two goals from 20 metre frees.

For the winners: Eoin Knox, Tom Coogan, Gavin Butler Brian Butler, Liam Grant, T. J. Reid, And Enda Fitzpatrick were best.

For Young Irelands Martin Carey, J. P. Treacy, Eoin Farrell, Willie Bolger, and D. J. Carey were best.

Scorers for the winners: TJ Reid 1-3, E. Fitzpatrick 0-4, D. Fitzpatrick 0-3, P. Mullen 1-0, R. Corcoran

0-2, L. Grant 0-1.

Scorers for the losers: D J Carey 2-0, J P Treacy 0-6, W. Bolger 0-1, O. Carter 0-1, P. Delahunt 0-1, T. Drennan 0-1, J. Morris 0-1.

Ballyhal Shamrocks: Eoin Knox, Eugene Aylward, Tom Coogan, Brian Butler, Keith Nolan, Gavin Butler, Willie Coogan, Eoin Doyle, Enda Fitzpatrick, Michael Carroll, TJ Reid, Liam Grant, Donnacha Fitzpatrick, Patrick Mullan, Ronan Corcoran,

Subs: Brian Cody, Kevin Mullen.

Young Irelands: Martin Carey, Martin Carter, Eoin Farrell, Ciaran Carroll, Patrick Drennan, JP Treacy, Willie Bolger, Oliver Carter, Eoin Walsh, Paul Delahunt, Jodie Foley, Tom Drennan, Gerard Corcoran, Peter Carroll, John Morris, Subs; Sean Carey, DJ Carey, Charlie Carter. Ref. Eugene Ryan (Fenians)

JJ KAVANAGH & SONS JH B LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

25 clubs entered teams to play in the junior B leagues and championships. The Country Style Foods South Junior B hurling championship was played on a league basis. 10 teams took part and were divided into two groups of five.

After 20 games were played, the placings in the league tables determined the draw for the championship which resulted as follows.

Country Style Foods Southern Junior B Hurling Championship Scoreboard

1 st Round	
Graignamanagh	2-14
Piltown	2-17

2 nd Round	
Graignamanagh	2-25
Slieverue	2-19
Windgap	1-19
John Lockes	2-17

Semi-Finals	
Graignamanagh	3-13
John Lockes	2-11

Scorers for the winners: TJ Reid 1-3, E. Fitzpatrick 0-4, D. Fitzpatrick 0-3, P. Mullen 1-0, R. Corcoran



Ballyhale Shamrocks - County JH "A" Champions 2013 (Photo: William Maher)

Back (players only): Willie Coogan, Darren Mason, Conor Phelan, Brian Cody, Mark Phelan, Kevin Mullen, Liam Elvidge, Joe Cuddihy, Rónan Corcoran, Gavin Butler, Patrick Mullen, Eugene Aylward, Enda Fitzpatrick, Brian Butler, TJ Reid, Eóin Doyle.

Front (players only): David Harrington, Michael Carroll, Keith Nolan, Donnchadh Fitzpatrick (captain), Dylan Doran, Eóin Knox, Tom Coogan, Liam Grant.



Young Irelands - Northern JH "A" Champions 2013 (Photo: Pat Farrell)

Back: DJ Carey, Tom Drennan, Liam Drea, Eoin Walsh, Patrick Drennan, Philip Dreeling, Peter Carroll, Niall Walsh, JP Treacy, Declan Bennett, Eoghan Farrell, Jody Foley, Peter McBride, Vinny Hogan, Willie Bolger, Dick O Neill
Front: Peter Hutchinson, Ciaran Carroll, Alan Roche, Ollie Carter, Ger Corcoran, Martin Carey, Paul Delehantry, Gearoid Kennedy, Michael Lennon, Sean Carey, Charlie Carter, Martin Carter



The Rower Inistioge - Southern JH "B" League Champions 2013

Back: Patrick Lyng, Tomas Lyng, Kieran Meaney, Shane Foskin, Eugene Murphy, Padraig Lyng, James Roche, Michael White, P.J. Wilmot, Shane Ryan, David Dunphy, Padraig Ryan, Michael Cassin.

Front: Dylan Kehoe, Paul Grace, Conor Lyng, Dean Kehoe, Danny Cotterall, Michael Doyle, Paul Flood (Capt), Michael McDonald, John Murphy, Robbie Muldoon.

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Final
John Lockes 2-9 Graignamanagh 1-9

J. J. Kavanagh & Sons Northern JH B Championship

The northern Junior B hurling championship was also played on a league basis to determine the draw for the championship. 15 teams took part and were divided into three groups of 5 teams each. After 30 games were played, the league tables were as follows:

J. J. Kavanagh & Sons Northern JH B Championship Scoreboard

Preliminary Round
Clara 3-16 Threecastles 3-9
Dicksboro 1-13 St. Lachtain's 2-7

1st Round
Blacks & Whites 1-16 Clara 0-12
Galmoy 3-12 Danesfort 0-12
Erin's Own 0-15 Cloneen 1-7
Dicksboro 3-16 Bennettsbridge 1-14

2nd Round
James Stephens 2-19 Erins Own 1-14
Dicksboro 3-14 Barrow Rangers 1-15
Blacks & Whites 3-16 Galmoy 2-11
St. Patricks 1-16 O' Loughlin Gaels 1-16
St. Patrick's 1-20 O' Loughlin Gaels 0-11

Semi-Finals
St. Patrick's 0-13 Blacks & Whites 0-10
James Stephens 1-11 Dicksboro 0-9

Final
St. Patrick's 2-16 James Stephens 2-9

JJ Kavanagh & Sons County JH B Championship Final
 Played in Palmerstown on the 4th September 2013

St. Patrick's 3-10 John Lockes 2-10

St. Patrick's (Ballyraggett) won their first ever county junior B title when they defeated John Lockes (Callan) in a very exciting final played in Palmerstown. A goal after 3 minutes by Conor Delaney set the tone for the whole game and they led all the way for a well deserved victory.

Conor Delaney was the man of the match, while others to shine for the saints were David Kelly, Alan Ruth, Paddy McEvoy, Gerry Kennedy, Niall Staunton, and Conor Foley.

Martin O' Connell, Keith Doheny, Liam Kennedy, Dan McCormack, and Jim Power were best for the Lockes.

Scorers for the winners: C. Delaney 2-4, D. Kelly 0-4, M. Staunton 1-1, C. Foley 0-1, G. Kennedy 0-1

Scorers for the losers: D. McCormack 1-4, N. Hennessy 0-2, B. McCormack 1-0, K. Fitzpatrick 0-2, D. Doheny 0-1, N. Dawson 0-1

St. Patrick's: Mark Tyler, Dermot Brophy, James Staunton, Brendan Dooley, Paddy Cahill, Paddy McEvoy, Alan Ruth, Gerry Kavanagh (capt.), Stephen Roberts, David Kelly, Niall Staunton, Mark Staunton, Conor Delaney, Conor Foley, Jack Ryan. Sub. Michael Kenny.

John Lockes: Martin O' Connell, Keith Doheny, Eoin Fahy, James Mackin, Mark Nolan, Bill McCormack, Liam Kennedy, Bill McDowell, Jim Power, Mark Shelly, Niall Hennessy, Keith Fitzpatrick, Brian McCann, Dan McCormack, Dan Doheny. Subs. Noel Dawson, JJ Corrigan. Referee: Paddy Neary (James Stephens)

CARLOW/KILKENNY ALL COUNTY JH LEAGUE 2013
 (SPONSORED BY J.J. KAVANAGH & SONS)

26 teams took part and were divided into four groups of five and one group of six.

A total of 78 games were played.

The following are the final league tables when all the league games were played.

Format:

*Top 2 teams in each group qualify for quarter Finals
 The 3rd & 4th qualify to play in the Cahill Cup
 The 5th team in each group qualify to play in Fennelly Cup together with the 6th team in group E*

All County Junior Hurling League (Knockout)

Knockout stages

Preliminary Rounds

B'bridge 2-14	Piltown 2-12
Kilmacow 0-17	Tullaroan 1-13

Quarter finals

O'Loughlin G's 2-11	St. Martin's 0-13
B'bridge 3-13	Galmoy 3-10
Lisdowney 3-18	M. L. R. 1-13
N Moling 2-9	Kilmacow 1-9

Semi-finals

B'bridge 1-13	N Moling 2-8
Lisdowney 3-18	O'Loughlin G's 2-11

Final

B'bridge 2-16	Lisdowney 2-11
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All County Junior Hurling League Final 2013
 Bennettsbridge win their First

Bennettsbridge 2-16 Lisdowney 2-11

Bennettsbridge upset the odds and caused a major surprise when they unseated heretofore unbeaten champions Lisdowney in a lively All County hurling league final in Palmerstown. This was the first time for the 'Bridge to win this competition in its 19 year history and it augurs well for their chances in the forthcoming championship. Lisdowney also can take heart from this match as they registered 16 wides which would suggest they were creating chances.

Bennettsbridge scorers: L. Blanchfield 0-6, A. Cleere 0-4, P. O'Neill 1-1, B. Lannon 1-0, H. O'Neill 0-2, J. Moran 0-1, S. Morrissey 0-1, W. Murphy 0-1.

Lisdowney scorers: R. Hickey 0-6, P. Bowden 1-0, E. Hickey 1-0, S. Phelan 0-1, P. O'Carroll 0-1, C. Mackey 0-1, E. Delahunt 0-1, L. O'Carroll 0-1.

Bennettsbridge: Enda Cleere, Edward Murphy, Robert Lennon, Cormac Wafer, Jason Cleere, Enda Morrissey, Aidan Cleere, Hugh O'Neill, Kevin Blanchfield, Liam Blanchfield, Patrick O'Neill, William Murphy, Brian Lannon, James Moran, Sean Morrissey.

Subs. Edward Fitzgerald, Michael Shiels.

Lisdowney: Niall Grogan, Niall O'Hara, Martin Phelan, Padraig Kenny, Niall Kenny, Sean Phelan, Peter Bergin, Pat O'Carroll, Joe Bergin, Aaron Fogarty, Eddie Hickey, Kevin Sweeney, Paddy Bowden, Rory Hickey, Ciaran Mackey.

Subs. Shane Clyne, Conor O'Carroll, Niall Mackey, Eoin Delahunt, Laurence O'Carroll.

Referee: John Bennett (Tullogher Rosbercon)

Paddy Cahill Memorial Cup

1st. Round

Mullinavat 1-14	Naomh Brid 0-14
Clara 0-17	Naomh Eoin 1-9

2nd Round

B & W's 2-12	G'namanagh 2-8
John Lockes 4-11	Mullinavat 3-13
B Rangers 2-16	Windgap 1-17
Clara 3-14	Dicksboro 4-10

Semi-finals

B Rangers 2-16	B & W's 0-11
----------------	--------------

John Lockes 1-14 Clara 0-15

Final

B Rangers 3-15	John Lockes 3-7
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Kevin Fennelly Memorial Cup

1st Round

Slieverue 6-23	Dunnamaggin 0-2.
Cloneen 1-10	Erins Own 1-18

Semi-finals

Slieverue 2-11	Mooncoin 1-5
Cloneen w/o	James Stephens Scr

Final

Slieverue 0-19	Cloneen 1-10
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J. J. KAVANAGH AND SONS NORTHERN JH CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

1st Round

O'Loughlin G 2-16	St. Martin's 0-14
Clara 2-9	Bennettsbridge 0-13
Galmoy 1-14	Cloneen 0-13
B Rangers 2-12	James Stephens 0-12
Lisdowney 1-16	Blacks & Whites 0-14

2nd Round

O'Loughlin G 2-15	Clara 1-9
B Rangers 2-19	Erins Own 2-6
Galmoy w/o	Tullaroan scr
Lisdowney 2-12	Dicksboro 0-16

Semi-finals

B Rangers 1-16	Lisdowney 0-13
Galmoy w/o	O'Loughlin Gaels scr

Final

Galmoy 1-21	Barrow Rangers 2-16
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11th Northern JH Championship Title For Galmoy.

It took extra time to separate Galmoy and Barrow Rangers in this cracking northern junior hurling championship final played in Clogh. Although both teams may have exited the county championship, the commitment shown in this clash was never less than whole-hearted.

Barrow Rangers dominated this game for most of the hour but once Noel Doherty levelled the match in the last minute of ordinary time at 1-14 each, it was Galmoy who seized the initiative and showed the greater hunger in extra time.

Galmoy scorers: P. Russell 0-10, N. Stanley 1-3, J. Dunne 0-3, D. Grey 0-1, J. Stanley 0-1, S. Maher 0-1, Noel Doherty 0-1, Niall Doherty 0-1. **Barrow Rangers scorers:** C. Kenny 1-5, J. Holden 1-3, M. Whitley 0-2, C. English 0-2, E. Prendergast 0-1, M. Bambrick 0-1, T. Brennan 0-1, B. Hanlon 0-1.

Galmoy team: Stephen Murphy, Brian Doherty, Brendan Phelan, Thomas Phelan, Jason Stanley, Niall Doherty, John Phelan, Stephen Maher, Phil Russell, Donnacha Gray, Nigel Stanley, Noel Doherty, Padraig Gray, James Dunne, Joe Doherty. **Sub:** Michael Murphy.

Barrow Rangers: Graham English, Tom Brennan, Patrick Purcell, Ciaran Breen, Thomas Whitley, Richie Doyle, Edward Prendergast, Martin Bambrick, Cathal Kenny, Michael Whitley, Timmy Brennan, Shane McEvoy, Billy Hanlon, Cathal English, Jason Holden. **Sub:** Joe Hughes.



IVERK PRODUCE SOUTHERN JH CHAMPIONSHIP 2013

Preliminary Round

Piltown 2-16 Graignamanagh 2-13

1st Round

John Lockes 3-14	Piltown 2-16
Kilmacow 3-21	Dunnamaggan 0-9
Windgap 1-13	Mooncoin 0-14
Mullinavat 2-17	Slieverue 0-10

Semi-Finals

Mullinavat 3-16	Kilmacow 2-16
Windgap 1-10	John Lockes 1-8

Final

Windgap 3-18	Mullinavat 3-12
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4th Southern JH Championship Title For Windgap.

Windgap won their 4th southern junior hurling championship title when they defeated Mullinavat by 3-18 to 3-12 in Piltown in a great contest with an extraordinary surprising end game. Mullinavat looked home and hosed after 10 minutes of the 2nd half when they led by 3-10 to 0-4 but in a rousing finish Windgap scored 3-10 to Mullinavat's 0-4 to collect the Fr. John Kearns cup for the 4th time.

Incidentally when Windgap won their first southern title back in 1970 they also beat Mullinavat by 2-13 to 1-13.

Windgap scorers: P. Lonergan 2-9, T. Lonergan 1-3, J. Murray 1-0, G. Purcell 0-1, P Walsh 0-1, S. Purcell 0-1.

Mullinavat scorers: M. Murphy 2-0, J. Walsh 1-1, P. Rafter 0-3, M. Jones 0-2, P. Mulhearn 0-1, J. Reade 0-1, M. Murphy 0-1.

Windgap: Niall Walsh, Aidan Mackey, Peter Lundy, Vincent Lundy, Conor Lonergan, Matt Enright,

William Phelan, Ger Purcell, Cian Ryan, Eoin Cody, Philly Lonergan, Tommy Fleming, Eamon Hawe, Tom Lonergan, Pauric Walsh.

Subs: Dara O' Shea, James Murray, Steven Purcell.

Mullinavat: Paddy Jones, Conor Duggan, Kevin Aylward, Brian Kenneally, Derek Kenneally, Brian Phelan, Liam Murphy, John Walsh, Paddy Raftice, Joe Gahan, Michael Murphy, Pat Mulhearn, Michael Jones, Mossy Murphy, John Reade.

Subs: Andrew McGovern, Richie Raftice, Liam Fennelly.

Referee Jim Fitzgerald (Piltown).

KILKENNY JUNIOR A HURLING LEAGUE 2013

18 teams entered this competition. Nine teams played in the northern division which was divided into two groups. Nineteams played in the southern division which was divided into two groups

Iverk Produce Southern Junior A Hurling League

Semi-finals

R/Inistioge 2-16	Glenmore 2-7
Ballinkillen 1-22	Erin's Own 4-13
Ballinkillen 1-11	Erin's Own 1-10

Final

R/Inistioge 2-13	Ballinkillen 0-13
------------------	-------------------

Rower Inistioge won the Iverk Produce southern junior A hurling league title for the fifth time in their history when they defeated Ballinkillen by 2-13 to 0-13 in a thoroughly entertaining, fine piece



Mooncoin - Joe Walsh Cup Winners 2013

Back: Eddie Crowley, Tom O Hanlon, Mark Sullivan, Patrick Wall, Sean Wall, Ian Walsh, Thomas Hennebry, Stephen Wall, Eugene Fitzgerald, Connor Brophy, Joe Kearns, Shane (Mossy) Walsh, Niall Blanchfield, Mark Fitzgerald, Jackie Ryan, Christopher Walsh, Robbie Walsh, Eric Wall, Maurice Flynn, Eoin Doyle.
Front: John Phelan, Robbie Cody, Niall O Hanlon, Eamon Hennebry, Richard Mackey, Patrick Kinsella, Liam Walsh, Kevin Crowley, Stephen Crowley, Shane Walsh, Martin Murphy Ciaran Dunphy and Andy Brennan.



Slieverue - Fennelly Cup Winners 2013

Back: David Walsh, Francis Walsh (Mentor) Sean Roche, Jamie Murphy, Cian Tyler, Brian Grant, Martin Knox, Rickie Hogan, Eoin Kenny, Joe Irish, Noel Wall (Sub Goalie) Alan Atkins, Richie Roche, Aaron Cullinane and Eddie Rockett (Mentor)
Front : John Rellis, Jamie O'Brien (Goalie) Bill Irish, Stephen Dolan, Martin Dowling (Captain) Paul Rockett, Niall Walsh, Dounacha Griffin, Michael Forristal, Ross Kelly.



WINDGAP - SOUTHERN JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 2013

Back: William Phelan, Phillip Lonergan, Kieran Purcell, Cian Ryan, Darragh O'Shea, Vincent Landy, Paul McKenna.
Middle: Peter Hennessey, Daniel Cashin, Adrian Landy, Paraic Walsh, Edward Cunningham, James Murray, Stephen Purcell, Patrick Moore, Peter Landy, Paul Comerford, Shane Walsh.
Front: Eamon Hawe, Matthew Enright, Conor Lonergan, Tommy Lonergan, Niall Walsh, Eoin Cody, Tommy Fleming, Aidan Mackey, Gerard Purcell.



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of hurling endeavour, played at a fast pace, with plenty of honest endeavour, good nuggets of skill and very well refereed by John Bennett (Tullogher Rosbercon).

Ballinkillen could have won but they were denied the ultimate accolade by a combination of poor shooting, over use of the hand pass and their inability to punch home a goal or two. They also shot an inordinate number of wides, many of which were of a rather easy variety.

Rower Inistioge Scorers: J. J. Kenny 0-6, N. Lyng 1-1, T. Murphy 1-0, C. Bolger 0-2, D. Dunphy 0-2, S. Grace 0-1, P. Tierney 0-1.

Ballinkillen Scorers: D. English 0-6, S. Murphy 0-3, M. Dalton 0-2, D. Roberts 0-1, C. Wall 0-1.

Rower Inistioge: David Dunphy, Nicky Kenny, Sean Cummins, John Murphy, Neil Lyng, Padraig Lyng, David Tennyson, Sean Grace, John James Kenny, Padraig Ryan, Tom Murphy, Padraig Tierney, Cathal Bolger, Conor Lyng, Michael Doyle.

Subs: Dean Kehoe, Danny Cottrell, Dillon Kehoe.

Ballinkillen: artin Minchin, John Hughes, Michael Ryan, Lauren Kinsella, Colm Hughes, David English, Padraig Kinsella, Craig Wall, Darren Dalton, Andrew Gaule, Vincent Meany, Sean Murphy, Marty Minchin, Damien O' Neill, Daryl Roberts.

Subs: Declan Foley, John Ryan.

Referee John Bennett (Tullogher Rosbercon)

JJ Kavanagh Northern Division.

Semi-Finals

Y Irelands 1-20	Con Shamrocks 0-12
Fenians 2-14	Lisdowney 1-13

Final

Y Irelands 0-14	Fenians 1-9
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There was no match report in the local papers of the above game.

The county final between Rower Inistioge and Young Irelands was not played

KILKENNY JUNIOR B HURLING LEAGUE 2013

25 teams took part. 15 teams played in the northern section and were divided into three groups of five. Ten teams played in the southern section and were divided into two groups of five.

The top two teams in each group qualified for the knockout stages of the league with the remaining teams qualifying to play in the Joe Walsh Memorial Cup.

The following teams qualified in the north- James Stephens and Blacks and Whites both of which received byes into the semi-finals, Barrow Rangers, Danesfort, St. Patrick's and O'Loughlin Gaels.

Northern Junior B Hurling League Knockout Stages

Quarter finals

B Rangers 0-14	Danesfort 0 - 10
St. Patricks 2 -16	O' Loughlin G. 0- 13

Semi-finals

St. Patricks 1-15	James Stephens 2-8
B & W's 1-12	Barrow Rangers 0-12

Northern Final

St. Patrick's 3-11	B & W's 2-12
--------------------	--------------

The following teams qualified in the south: Rower Inistioge, Piltown, John Lockes, Slieverue



GALMOY - NORTHERN JUNIOR CHAMPIONS 2013

Back: Joe Ryan, Kieran Phelan, Tom Phelan, Padhric Gray, John Phelan, Jason Stanley, Nigel Stanley, Phil Russell, James Dunne and Georgie Leahy (Manager).
Front: Martin Phelan, Charles Brennan, Niall Doherty, Stephen Maher, Stephen Murphy, Donncha Gray, Brendan Phelan, Brian Doherty, Joe Dollard, Noel Doherty & Michael Murphy.



MULLINAVAT - SOUTHERN JUNIOR FINALISTS 2013

Back: Richie Raftice, Shane Frisby, Pat Mulhearn, Darren Kenneally, John Walsh, Conor Duggan, Mossy Murphy.
Middle: David Murphy, Patrick Murphy, Brian Phelan, Liam Fennelly, Conor Frisby, Michael Murphy, Kevin Aylward, Derek Aylward.
Front: Paddy Raftice, Ryan Bland, Ciaran Boyle, Paddy Jones, Joe Gahan, John Reade, Brian Kenneally, Mikey Jones

Southern JH B League Knockout Stages

Semi-finals

R/Inistioge 1-14	Piltown 1-11
John Lockes 2-16	Slieverue 0-16

Final

R/Inistioge 3-11	John Lockes 0-11
------------------	------------------

County Final

St. Patrick's 3-10	Rower Inistioge 2-10
--------------------	----------------------

Final

Mooncoin 3-12	St. Lachtain's 1-8
---------------	--------------------

Mooncoin won the Joe Walsh Memorial Cup for the first time when they beat St. Lachtain's by 10 points in a very disappointing game played in Thomastown.

Playing against a strong breeze in the first half Mooncoin still led at half time by 2-8 to 0-4, and when Shane Walsh scored Mooncoin's third goal immediately after the interval the game as a contest was over.

Mooncoin scorers: L. Walsh 1-2, C. Brophy 0-4, K. Dunphy 1-1, S. Walsh 1-1, E. Wall 0-1, S. Crowley 0-1, E. Hennebry 0-1, Sean Walsh 0-1.

St. Lachtain's scorers: J. Doheny 1-1, S. Rafter 0-3, S. McGree 0-1, R. Dowling 0-1, J. Kavanagh 0-1, K. Hughes 0-1.

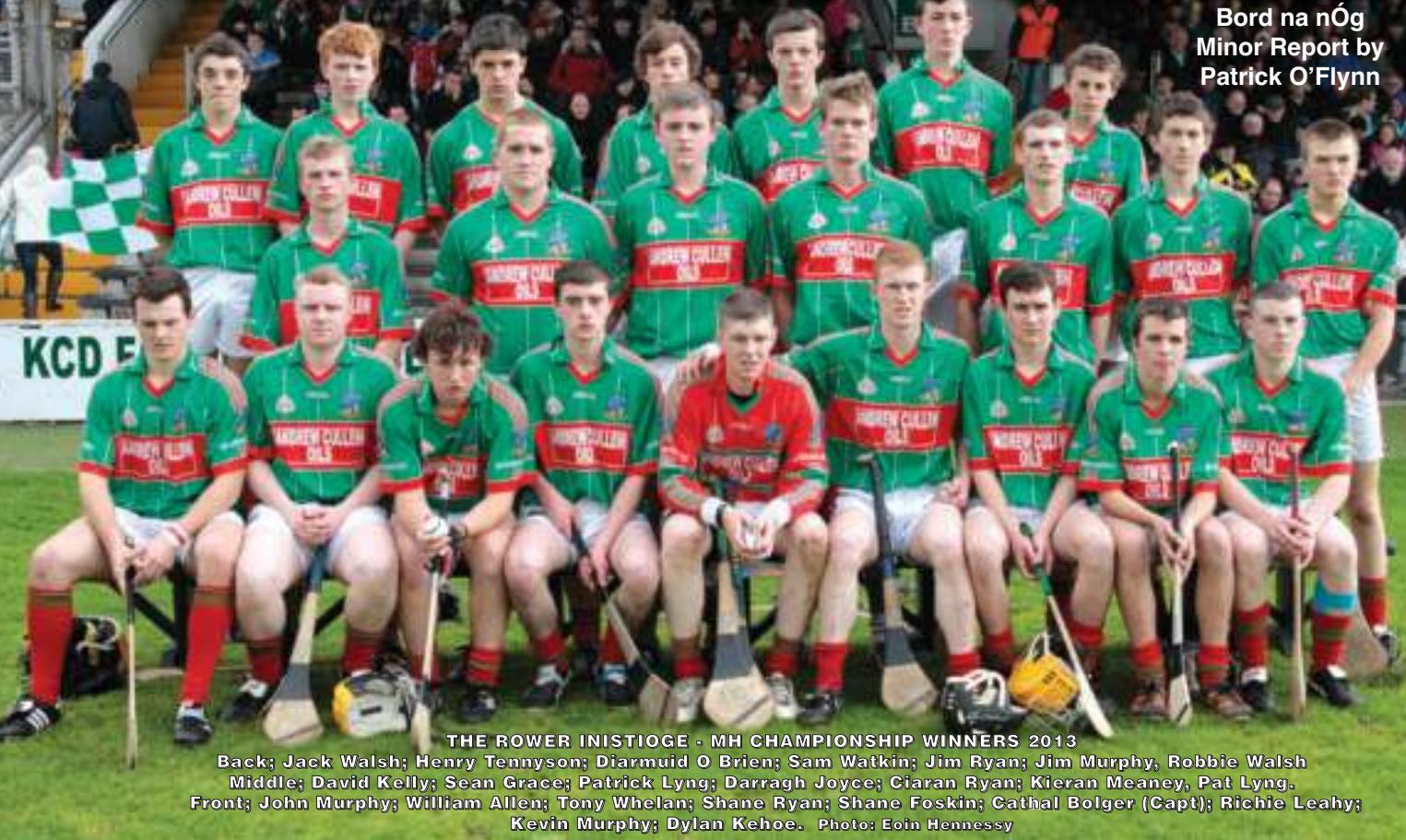
Mooncoin Team: Niall O'Hanlon, Jackie Ryan, Thomas Hennebry, Dick Mackey, Conor Brophy, Sean Wall, Niall Blanchfield, Stephen Crowley, Shane Walsh, Liam Walsh, Eamon Hennebry, Sean Walsh, John Phelan, Eric Wall, Kieran Dunphy.
Subs: Robbie Coady, Ian Walsh, A. J. Wall, Joe Kearns, John Fitzgerald.

St Lachtain's: Gavin Burke, Dara Quinn, Paul Dowling, Michael Cormack, Nicholas Maher, David Burke, Simon Rafter, Shane McGree, Robbie Dowling, Michael Farrell, James Kavanagh, Keith Hughes, Ger Doheny, Donal O'Sullivan, Shay Burke.
Subs: Joe Crosby, Andrew Martin.



GREAT YEAR FOR THE ROWER

Bord na nÓg
Minor Report by
Patrick O'Flynn



THE ROWER INISTIOGE - MH CHAMPIONSHIP WINNERS 2013

Back; Jack Walsh; Henry Tennyson; Diarmuid O'Brien; Sam Watkin; Jim Ryan; Jim Murphy, Robbie Walsh
Middle; David Kelly; Sean Grace; Patrick Lyng; Darragh Joyce; Ciaran Ryan; Kieran Meaney, Pat Lyng.
Front; John Murphy; William Allen; Tony Whelan; Shane Ryan; Shane Foskin; Cathal Bolger (Capt); Richie Leahy;
Kevin Murphy; Dylan Kehoe. Photo: Eoin Hennessy

Minor Hurling Championship Roinn A

Thanks to Kilkenny's huge success in the under age inter-county tournaments & the annexing of the Leinster Championship by the Kilkenny minor team, interest in the Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor Hurling Championships was particularly high this year.

Twelve teams went to post in Roinn A and all would have fancied their chances in such an open and exciting competition. In the first round James Stephen's defeated Thomastown in Bennettsbridge whilst Rower Inistioge easily accounted for the 'Bridge. Ballyhale Shamrocks ability to get goals saw them have enough to get past the challenge of Mooncoin whilst Dicksboro defeated Erin's Own in Ballyragget.

St Lachtain's clashed with James Stephens in the quarter finals and the Village men had too much fire power up front to win 3-18 to 3-11. O'Loughlin Gaels had five points to spare over Glenmore with both sides fielding many young hurlers in their starting 15's.

The Rower Inistioge saw off last year's U-16 B Champions Tullaroan in a convincing manner whilst Dicksboro eventually got over the line against Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-17 to 1-14.

Thomastown was the venue for a double header of both semi-finals with a large crowd descending on the South Kilkenny venue. In two somewhat surprising results O'Loughlin Gaels and the Rower Inistioge qualified for this year's Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor A County Final. Defences very much dominated in the first game with only 4 points coming from play. However, O'Loughlin Gaels hit two crucial goals to edge out James Stephens 2-08 to 0-09.

After a low scoring opening half in the second game, Dicksboro held a narrow two point lead at the break. however this game really came to life on the resumption. A goal from Sean Grace midway through the half gave the Rower side the confidence to push ahead and roared on by their vociferous supporters they had a well merited five point victory at the finish.

The final itself proved to be a slow burning affair with O'Loughlin Gaels having the advantage of the elements in the first half. They didn't have a big advantage at the break having played a conservative game by taking a man from attack and fielding him as an extra defender.

The first sign of real threat from the Rower forward line wasn't seen until the stroke of half time. Cathal Bolger won possession in the far right corner. He took on two men as he raced towards goal. With 20 yards left he was tripped up, leaving David Kelly to convert the resulting handy free.

At half time O Loughlin's were two points to the good, leading by 0-5 to 0-3.

The winners charged into the opposition from the start of the second half.

Just two minutes into the second half and the Rower got the score they wanted. They dealt a crushing blow to the city side. Ciaran Ryan came out of defence and struck a long hopeful ball up towards target man Sean Grace.

The lively full-forward used his body to good effect, holding off defender Paddy Deegan before converting his first goal chance of the game. Five minutes later the Rower looked to have sealed the deal . This time the goal was the result of another long ball, a tactic which was causing serious problems for the O'Loughlin's

defence.

The ball bounced awkwardly on the edge of the square. 'Keeper Sean Bolger appeared to lose sight of the ball and Sean Grace, with a deft flick of the wrist, finished to the net on 38 minutes. In fairness to O'Loughlin Gaels they never gave up but could not close the gap significantly.

Rower Inistioge - Shane Foskin, Kieran Meaney, John Murphy, Dylan Kehoe, Pat Lyng, William Allen, Shane Ryan, Ciaran Ryan, Tony Whelan, David Kelly, Darragh Joyce, Richie Leahy, Cathal Bolger, Sean Grace, Kevin Murphy. Subs - Diarmuid O'Brien, Patrick Lyng.

O'Loughlin Gaels - Sean Bolger, Vinny Wallace, Paddy Deegan, Dan O Driscoll, Gary Bryan, Hugh Lawlor, Thomas Gleeson, Luke Rafter, James Lenihan, Ross Butler, Ben Leydon, Daniel O'Connor, Shane Maher, Cian Loy, Robbie Buckley. Subs - Danny Bolger, Seamus McGrath, Brian Buckley, Jamie Kavanagh, Shane Mahony

Minor A League Final

This saw the original favourites for the Championship clash a week earlier in the League Final rather than the championship final. In an exciting game James Stephens gained some silverware defeating Dicksboro by 2-11 to 2-10.

Minor B Championship

This was the championship where league form went completely out the window and there was nothing but shocks during the course of the campaign. There was only one preliminary round which involved St Martins and Kilmacow and this saw the northerners come out on top. In

the first round proper the winners met Clara and it was only after extra-time Clara emerged victorious by a solitary point 2-15 to 2-14. Arguably the tie of the first round was always going to be Conahy Shamrocks versus Tullogher Rosbercon with both sides fancied to go far. Instead of the anticipated tight game Conahy produced a superb display to win comfortably. Graigue Ballycallan defeated Galmoy/Windgap, Danesfort had too much fire power over the James Stephens B team, while Fenians, John Lockes, Barrow Rangers and Lisdowney all had victories.

The quarter finals proved to be tight affairs with Danesfort having a solitary point to spare over Barrow Rangers. It took Lisdowney all their time to get over their neighbours Fenians, Clara caused another upset when they defeated a high flying Graigue Ballycallan whilst Conahy saw off John Lockes.

Freshford was the place to be for the Kilkenny Citroen Centre Minor B Semi Finals. First up was Lisdowney against Conahy Shamrocks. It proved to be a tough tight affair in the first half with both sides having periods of dominance but it was Conahy who led at the break 0-7 to 0-5. The second half belonged to two 15 year olds from Conahy- Edmond Delaney who lorded midfield and James Bergin who caused havoc at corner forward ending with 1-5 whilst Delaney helped himself to 0-10.

Lisdowney did manage two late goals through Jack Dunphy & Michael Kenny but Conahy were already in the final on a scoreline of 1-18 to 2-8. The second semi-final proved to be more of a see-saw affair with Danesfort leading in the early exchanges before a double goal blast from Gary Kehoe saw Clara lead at the break 2-4 to 0-7.

The breakthrough and game changer for Danesfort came in the 39th minute when Brendan Hyland goaled and they never looked back to finish winners 2-6 to 1-14.

In a year of firsts at minor level Conahy Shamrocks created a significant piece of history on Saturday 2nd November when they captured the minor County Roinn B title for the very first time after a hard fought victory over Danesfort in Callan. The first half could not have gone any better for the Conahy as they led by 2-9 to 0-3 at the half time break. An early goal from Tom Phelan set them on their way and enjoyed a large amount of good fortune on the stroke of half-time when a Gary Dunne shot, which appeared to hit the crossbar, was judged to have been a goal.

The second half was a much more even affair as Danesfort came storming back into the game to eventually leave only a goal between the sides. But Conahy regained their composure and scored a number of crucial points in the final minutes to secure a well merited victory on a 2-13 to 1-11 win.

Conahy Shamrocks: Padraig Delaney, Sean Walsh, Nicholas Feehan, Niall Coogan, Simon Callinan, Philip Cass, Donal Cass, Edmund Delaney, Liam Cass, Pat Byrne, Sean Brennan, Oliver Feehan, Tom Phelan, Gary Dunne, James Bergin, Kieran De Laney, Adam Dempsey, David Kennedy, Joe Mullan,



O'Loughlin Gaels - MH "A" Championship Finalists 2013



Conahy Shamrocks - MH "B" ChampionshipWinners 2013



Galmoy/Windgap - MH "B" League Winners 2013



Dunnamaggin - MH "C" League & Championship Winners 2013

Jack Kelly, Padraig Walsh, Bill Murphy, Ben Lawlor

Danesfort: Jake Cullen, Jack McHugh, Michael O Neill, Harry Bruton, Ronan Leahy (C), James Tynan, Conor O Neill, Colm Phelan, Gary Tynan, Brendan Cullen, Brendan Hyland, Ger Dunne, Dion Fitzpatrick, Tom Whitty, Dylan Dunphy Wallace, Conor Hackett, Philip Cooney, James Mulally, Padraig Mullen, Jack Tynan, Tom Rossiter, Michael Dowling, Sean Nolan, Timmy Howes.

The Minor Hurling League at this level was won by Galmoy/Windgap who defeated Tullogher Rosbercon by 3-11 to 3-8 in the final while Conahy Shamrocks and John Lockes will contest the Shield final.

Minor C Championship

Dunnamaggin & Young Irelands clashed in the quarter final of the Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor C Championship with Dunnamaggin holding out for an impressive seven point victory. St Patrick's defeated Cloneen/Railyard whilst Slieverue had a victory over the Dicksboro B Team.

Carrickshock were very impressive in their semi-final defeat of St Patrick's whilst the Slieverue/Dunnamaggin semi-final was right in doubt until the dying embers of the game with Dunnamaggin holding on 2-9 to 1-11.

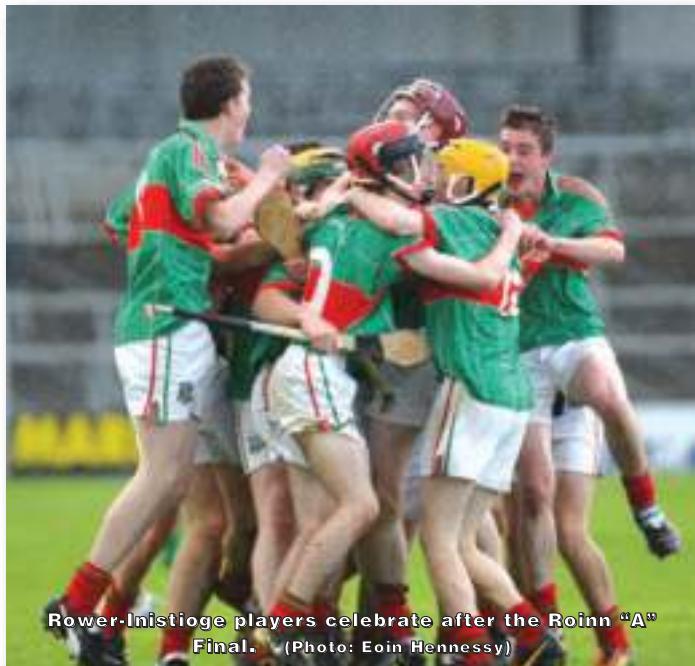
It was a derby clash for the county final as near neighbours Dunnamaggin & Carrickshock squared up in a fiercely contested game but the former had too much to spare and held for a 2-9 to 1-8 victory.

Dunnamaggin:

1. Adam Kenneally 2. Stephen Lawlor 3. Eoghan Kearney 4. Jack Brett
5. Michael Cody 6. Aaron Doherty 7. Willie Bergin 8. Chris Keane 9. Andrew Fitzpatrick (Capt) 10. Ronan Coffey 11. Paul Kirwan 12. John Fitzpatrick 13. Roy Cullen 14. Ray Cody 15. Brian Farrell 16. Victor Costello 17. Ryan Thomas 18. Greg O'Donnell 19. Conor Fennelly 20. Luke Fitzpatrick 21. Killian Lafford 22. Jamie McLoughlin 23. Conor Lawlor

Carrickshock:

1. Aaron Roche, 2. Steven Mackey, 3. James Grace, 4. Jody Dwyer, 5. Conor Aylward
6. Ian Dunphy 7. Dylan Halligan 8. Aaron O'Neill 9. Eamonn Power 10. Darragh



Rower-Inistioge players celebrate after the Roinn "A" Final. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

Brennan 11. Padraig O'Fearghaill 12. Kevin Farrell 13. Sean Grace 14. Paddy Foran 15. Stefan Maher 16. Ciaran Lennon 17. Kieran Conway 18. Mikey Kenneally 19. Rory Doyle 20. Darragh Doyle 21. David Kedney 22. Michael Murphy

Minor C League

Dunnamaggin and Carrickshock clashed again in the final of the Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor League Final but this time it was Dunnamaggin who emerged victorious with a 0-11 to 0-9 victory.

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Rower-Inistioge captain, Cathal Bolger is presented with the Minor Roinn A Hurling cup by John O'Neill, Sponsor, Kilkenny Honda Centre, and Willie Dempsey, Chairman, Bord na nÓg, after the Final in Nowlan Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

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B.	Round Robin Runners Up	v	Galway	1.6.2014	TBA
C.	Kilkenny	v	Offaly	7.6.2014	Kilkenny

SEMI FINALS:

1.	Dublin	v	A	14.6.2014	TBA
2.	B	v	C	22.6.2014	TBA
FINAL:	1	v	2	6.7.2014	Croke Park



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'BORO ARE U16 KINGS

Bord na nÓg U16 Report by Patrick O'Flynn

Photos Willie Dempsey



Dicksboro U16 Roinn "A" League & Championship Winners 2013

Roinn A

The Duggan Steel Under 16 Roinn A Championship was full of twists and turns that ended with Dicksboro as the 2013 County Champions. The first round saw James Stephens defeat Slieverue.

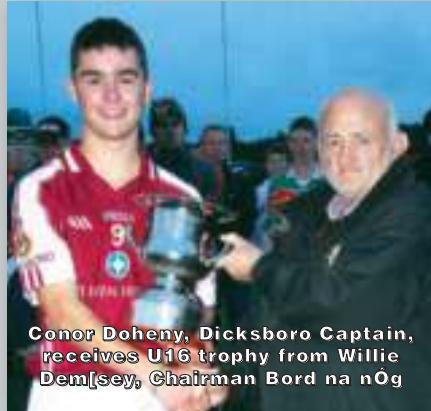
The quarter finals saw John Locke's cause an upset when they defeated a fancied Rower Inistioge side in the quarter finals. James Stephens defeated Ballyhale Shamrocks in a six goal thriller that the Village men eventually won pulling away. Dicksboro and O'Loughlin Gaels completed the semi final line up with wins over Mooncoin & Glenmore.

In the first semi final James Stephens needed all their wit & skill to defeat John Locke's to 0-18 to 2-4 with the result very much in the melting pot right up until the dying embers of the game.

One of the games of the year was the semi-final which took place in Jenkinstown which eventually ended in a draw on a scoreline of Dicksboro 6-11 to 3-20 for O'Loughlin Gaels. The replay took place a couple of days later and again Dicksboro made a sensational start but this time they held on to win by 2-12 to 1-13.

The final itself was a full bloodied contest that was there for the taking right up until the 50th minute where Dicksboro made the burst for home. The early stages were scrappy and after ten minutes play James Stephens were ahead 0-3 to 0-. It was a lead they wouldn't surrender until well into the second half. Aided by the breeze the Larchfield based team extended their lead with fine points from play by John McEvoy & Tadhg O'Dwyer to leave the Village 0-9 to 0-5 up at the break.

The second half proved to be a slow burning affair with Dicksboro eventually pulling level largely through the accuracy of Andrew Gaffney. The game was evenly poised but an inspirational point from Aidan Nolan on top of a Robbie Murphy goal swung the game and title towards the Palmerstown outfit which was richly deserved by 1-17 to 0-



Conor Doheny, Dicksboro Captain, receives U16 trophy from Willie Dempsey, Chairman Bord na nÓg

10. The difference between the sides was that Dicksboro had more scorers with six players contributing to their tally from play compared to James Stephens who had two players contributing.

Dicksboro Panel: Oisín Gough, Cian Butler, Jim Dollard, Evan Carroll, Thomas Kenny, Aidan Nolan, Aaron Malone, Chris Kavanagh, Conor Doheny, Andrew Gaffney, Kieran Ryan, Conor Fitzpatrick, Bill Sheehan, Edward Moylan, Robbie Murphy, Gavin Byrne, Liam Kennedy, Robert Crotty, Alan Phelan, Adam Clifford, Alan Corcoran, Peter Lynch, Dara Lynch, David Ryan, Panos Brennan, Kieran Dunne, Cormac Buggy, Shane O'Gorman, Brian Power, Travis Fahy.

James Stephens Panel: Patrick Kennedy, Jack Butler, Niall Delaney, Noel Whelan, Noah Canty, Conor Byrne, Thomas Murphy, Brian Crowdle, Jake McDonald, Tadhg O'Dwyer, William Spencer, John McEvoy, Jake Scanlon, Naimul Hossain, Nathan Donoghue, James Walton, Declan Wall, Liam Rafter, Andrew Parsons, Robert Butler, Shane Donoghue, John Connick, Tommy Walton, Stephen Bateman, Ben Lawlor, Eamon Fennelly.

The Duggan Steel Under 16 Roinn A League saw ten teams take part and the League final saw Dicksboro overcome O'Loughlin Gaels - 1-16 to 2-7, while Mooncoin took the Shield on a score of Mooncoin 2-18 James Stephens 1-10.

Roinn B

The Duggan Steel U-16 Roinn B Championship saw 17 teams go to post in what many believed to be one of the most open Roinn B Championships in years with many sides fancying their chances of landing the title. There was one preliminary tie with Clara's ability to get goals proving invaluable as they defeated Tulloher Rosbercon 5-6 to 1-4.

In the tie of the round two fancied sides in the shape of St Martins & Thomastown clashed in a ferocious battle in Paulstown in which Thomastown raced into a six point lead but by the 4th minute of injury St Martin's had earned a two point lead before Thomastown snatched a goal to win with the last puck of the game.

Reigning champions Tullaroan defeated Kilmacow 2-18 to 2-8, Danesfort edged out Graigue/Ballycallan 1-13 to 1-9, Piltown had a goal to spare over Erin's Own 2-13 to 1-13 and Conahy Shamrocks defeated James Stephens B side in a humdinger by 3-20 to 3-15. St Lachtain's defeated St Fiacre's while Dunnimaggin defeated Lisdowney in the other Round 1 games.

Piltown ended Tullaroan's reign as champions in the quarter finals with a 4-14 to 1-11 win whilst Conahy were equally impressive in their win over Danesfort. Thomastown & St Lachtain's defeated Bennetsbridge & Dunnimaggin respectively.

John Locke's Park held the first semi final where the heavens opened up and in a gripping battle Piltown held on to win 2-6 to 1-10 over St Lachtains. Thomastown easily defeated Conahy Shamrocks in the other semi final. Conahy had to play without the talented Edmond Delaney but he was later to have a telling impact in the Minor B Championship.

The final itself proved to be a tense affair with both sides trying to cancel each other out. Piltown found it that little bit easier to get scores and they eventually landed the spoils in a game played in Mullinavat on a final score of Piltown 0-16 to 0-11 for Thomastown.

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Piltown: Ronan Ryan, Michael Dineen, Oisin Brophy, Robert Kent, Darragh Walsh, Shane Walsh, Peter Tobin, Jamie Norris, Shane O'Dwyer, James Kirby, Ian Long, Michael O'Dwyer, Micheal Dunne, Conor Friend, Evan Murphy, David Tobin, Richard Brophy, Cian Kinsella, Richard Norris, Andrew Long, Alex Byrne, John Kenny, Aaron Gallagher & Kieran Reid

Thomastown: Brian Staunton, Jack Delahunt, Tom Delahunt, Eamon Forristal, Luke Gibbons, Craig Butler, Brian O Hanrahan, Aaron Kehoe, Paul Burke/Kelly, Eddie O Keefe, John Donnelly, Cathal O Neill, Adam Power, Dylan Caulfield, Stevie Wemyss, Tom Lawlor, Frank Carroll, Jack Cullen & Cian Kelly.

The Duggan U-16 Roinn B League Final took place in October featuring St Martin's and St Lachtains both of whom topped their groups. Played out in wintry conditions in Palmerstown St Martins raced into a 0-4 to 0-2 lead but St Lachtains were ahead at the break 1-5 to 0-5. St Martins did come storming back in the second half but St Lachtains held on for a two point victory 1-7 to 0-8.

Roinn C

The Duggan Steel Roinn C Championship saw 10 teams take part and there were first round victories for Galmoy/Windgap over Cloneen and for Fenians over O'Loughlin Gaels B.

Carrickshock exited at the quarter final stage to a very strong Dicksboro B team. Galmoy/Windgap accounted for Young Irelands thaks to some late scores whilst Mullinavat and Emeralds defeated St Patrick's and Fenians respectively.

In a entertaining game Galmoy/Windgap were caught by some sucker punch goals by Dicksboro which gained them a final berth for the second year where they would meet Emeralds who had quite a good win over Mullinavat.

An Emeralds side that had been knocking on the door for quite a few years at both Under 14 and Under 16 level got their just rewards with a victory in the county final, a game in which they never looked in trouble.

Emeralds: John Phelan, James Hayes, Justin Cleere, Matthew Keating, Eoin Doyle, Andrew Morgan, Ciarnan Dawson, Michael Troy, Darragh Phelan, Sean Power, Gavin McCarthy, Liam Grant, JJ McLoughlin, Gearoid Troy, Jack Kavanagh, Harry Kavanagh, Dylan Neary, Darren Quinlan, Ollie Kenny, Ciaran Norton, Calvin Ryan, Keith Wellwood, Brendan Fitzgerald.

Dicksboro B: Gavan Byrne, David Ryan, Panos Brennan, Eoghan Moylan, Johnny Manogue, Shane O Gorman, Peter Lynch, Cormaic Buggy, David Campion, Darra Lynch, Adam Clifford, Alan Corcoran, Brian Cleere, Brian Power, Kieran Dunne (capt), Sean Boyd, Kieran Galvin, Travis Fahy, Joe Sheehan, Jack Connolly, TJ Stynes, Gavin Walsh, Nicky Burke, Stephen Cass, Cillian Timmons, Mark Nolan, Justin Cahill, Liam Brennan Smyth, Liam Stynes, Tadhg Butler.

The League final, played in November, saw Dicksboro B and Emeralds meeting again, this time with the 'Boro turning the tables to win 4-12 to 1-9, while Galmoy/Windgap beat Young Irelands in the Shield final on a score of 4-10 to 1-8.



Piltown - U16 "B" Championship Winners 2013



Thomastown - U16 "B" Championship Finalists 2013



Emeralds - U16 "C" Championship Winners and League Finalists 2013



Dicksboro 2nd Team - U16 "C" League Winners and Championship Finalists 2013

O'LOUGHLIN'S SWEEP THE BOARD

Bord na nÓg U14 Report by Patrick O'Flynn



O'Loughlin Gaels - U14 A League, Championship and Féile Champions 2013

Under 14 Hurling Championship

The Duggan Steel Under 14 Roinn A Hurling Championship saw a new initiative this year where a back door was introduced for the losing quarter finalists. Undoubtedly the tie of the quarter finals was the clash of city rivals James Stephens and Dicksboro which saw the reigning champions from Palmerstown win out on a score-line of 3-15 to 3-9. In the other quarter finals O'Loughlin Gaels and Thomastown had convincing victories over Ballyhale Shamrocks and Graigue Ballycallan respectively. The first round of the back door saw James Stephens defeat Ballyhale Shamrocks. In the next round Graigue Ballycallan and James Stephens played out an epic in Bennetsbridge before the men from the Village won out by 2-11 to 2-6. O'Loughlin Gaels took the champions Dicksboro out of the equation with a 3-16 to 3-8 victory whilst James Stephens in the other semi-final had a similarly impressive victory over Thomastown.

In a repeat of the league final James Stephen's and O'Loughlin Gaels squared up again in the championship decider.. O'Loughlin Gaels were attempting the clean sweep of Roinn A Hurling League/Championship and Féile na Gael titles and swept into a 0-9 to 0-3 half time lead. It was a lead which they would not surrender.

Soon after half time Ben Maher goaled for the St John's parish side with Eoin Wall adding a further point. James Stephen's did hit back with points from Adam Morrissey, Sam Hickey & Niall Brassill.

O'Loughlin's then put the foot down landed points Ben Maher (2), Eoin Wall and Adam Flynn and they were not going to be caught. However Robert Butler did grab James Stephens a consolation goal in injury time.

O'Loughlin Gaels: Jamie Malone, Shane O'Reilly, John Delaney, Mickey Butler, Ian Clifford, Jordan Molloy, Luke Hogan, Ronan Buckley, Eoin O'Shea, Eoin Neary, Ryan Poyntz,

Dacel Fwamba, Ben Maher, Adam Flynn, Eoin Wall, David McCormack, Padraig Nolan, Barry Lawlor, Joe Murphy, Jack Kearns, Oisin Murphy, Jamie Ryan, Robert Boyd, Sean Kenny, John Collins, Matthew Russell, Odhran Lawlor & Conor Heary.

James Stephens: Sean Manogue, James Dwyer, Luke Murphy, Niall Doheny, Michael Byrne, Niall Brassill, Fergus Byrne, Ross Whelan, Ryan Scanlon, Jason O'Keeffe, Killian Duffy, Sam Hickey, Adam Morrissey, Andy Whelan, Robert Butler, Shane Murphy, Sean Breathnach, Eric Kearney, Cian Kenny, Michael Shaughnessy, Eoin Guiltyoyle, Sean Comerford, Jake Bourke, Tom Kennedy, Jeffrey Coyne, Liam Fennelly.

Roinn A Under 14 League

Ten teams take part in this competition O'Loughlin Gaels and James Stephens topped the group and it was the county champions who also triumphed in the league final by 3-16 to 3-5. The shield final between Ballyhale Shamrocks and Dicksboro has yet to be played.

Roinn B Under 14 Championship

As usual the U-14 Duggan Steel Roinn B Hurling Championship had a big entry and Erin's Own signalled their early intentions with a fine win over Bennetsbridge in a game that involved eleven goals. Kilmacow just had enough to defeat Emeralds 4-9 to 2-8, whilst Danesfort, Rower Inistioge, Piltown, Lisdowney and Mooncoin all registered big wins in their first round victories over St Lachtain's, Slieverue, Dunnamaggin, Clara and St Fiacc's respectively.

In the quarter finals again Erin's Own posted a big victory when they defeated Mooncoin. Kilmacow were once more involved in an exciting game when they out goaled Danesfort 5-4 to 2-9. Lisdowney and Glenmore were both made to work for their victories as they defeated Piltown and a fancied Rower Inistioge.

The semi-finals saw good wins for Erin's Own over Kilmacow and Glenmore over Lisdowney.

In the final itself Erin's Own proved to be worthy winners and had built up a seven point lead by half time and looked to be cruising. However Glenmore produced a brilliant second half display including a hat trick of goals but they ran out of steam as that effort took its toll and they were outgunned by Erin's Own in the final stages of the game by 1-8 to 0-1. This victory ended a 35 year wait for the men from 'Comer.

Erin's Own: Declan Buggy, Christopher Korff, Sean Coogan, Liam Holland, Conor McMahon, Dan Coogan, Cathal Holland, Jack Buggy, John Dwod, Adam Brennan, James Brennan, Eoin O'Rourke, Ross Connolly, Conor Clarke, Richie Brennan, Kevin Brennan, Thomas Dwyer, James Buggy, Conor Normoyle, David Ferris, Alan Mullanly, Joe Hickson, Billy O'Neill, Kealan Ring, Peter Carroll, Jordan Fanning & Nicky Connolly.
Glenmore: Aaron O'Neill, Paul Michael Fitzgerald, James Aylward, Eoin Doolan, Luke Whelan, Darragh Hartley, Dylan Garvey, David Burke, Richard Hennessy, Thomas Dunne, Ethan Phelan, Gary Mernagh, Jack Elliot, Robert Fitzgerald, Ian Byrne, Michael Phelan, Sean Phelan, Eoin Roche, Patrick Aylward, Ryan O'Donohue, Aidan Dunphy, Ronan Doherty, Kieran Ennett.

Under 14 Hurling League Roinn B

The Duggan Steel U-14 Roinn B League saw Danesfort defeat Mooncoin in an entertaining match on a scoreline of 3-9 to 1-13. Bennetsbridge defeated St Lachtains in the Shield Final by 3-8 to 2-8.

Roinn C Championship

Conahy Shamrocks clashed with St Martin's in the first round of the Duggan Steel Roinn C Championship with the men in Black and Yellow winning by 1-13 to 1-7. Barrow Rangers suffered defeat to James Stephens

B in the first round also going down by 2-12 to 4-9.

Tullogher Rosbercon entered at the quarter final stages with a fine victory over Young Irelands. Conahy Shamrocks were impressive when they defeated John Lockes. Mullinavat ended Dicksboro B's interest in the competition whilst James Stephen's defeated O'Loughlin Gaels in the battle of the B teams!

In thesemi-finals James Stephens B bowed out with 1-5 to 2-13 defeat against Tullogher Rosbercon whilst Conahy Shamrocks were involved in a thriller against Mullinavat winning by a single point 2-18 to 5-8.

Tullogher Rosbercon finally exorcised their demons of past Under 14 final defeats when they defeated Conahy Shamrocks in this Duggan Steel Roinn C county final played at Danesfort.

The Southern men got off to a flying start with Dylan Morrissey, Frank Power & Thomas O'Connor all pointing early before Frank Power bundled over a goal.

Conahy came roaring back into contention when Tommy Hennessy made a searing solo run up the field before Vincent Brophy flicked the ball to the roof of the net which was quickly followed by a Daragh Dooley pointed free.

Tullogher then upped the ante again with Frank Murphy sending the green flag waving with O'Connor helping himself to two quick minors.

As half time approached Conahy seemed to have weathered the storm and the elements with Dooley & Brophy both grabbing points but then Tullogher made their run for glory with Thomas O'Connor blasting home two goals with a Frank Power goal sandwiched in between to leave them 5-6 to 1-3 up at the break.

It would have been very easy for Conahy Shamrocks to have thrown in the towel but right from the start of the second half they gave it everything with Brophy goaling straight from their first attack but a number of missed chances probably ended their hopes of a comeback with Dooley, Conor Blanche and Brophy all pointing in the second half.

Tullogher's only score of the second half was a thing of beauty with O'Connor slicing through the heart of the Conahy defence to goal.

Teams: Tullogher Rosbercon: Anthony O'Connor, Ronan Moore, David Walsh, Kyle Bookie (C), Niall O'Beirne, Shane Lyng, Richard Aylward, Dylan Morrissey, Thomas O'Connor, John Kehoe, Liam Furness, Mark McGrath, Terence Lawlor, Frank Murphy, Frank Power.
Sub: Coleman O'Sullivan

Conahy Shamrocks: Cian Harding, Thomas Rice, Karl Downey, Ciaran Rice, Conan Dunne, Frank Gunner, Tommy Hennessy, Laurence Feehan, Geoffrey O'Shea, Darren Cuddihy, Conor Blanche, Ethan Butler, Darragh Dooley, Vincent Brophy, Eoin Cahill.

Roinn C League

Conahy Shamrocks were to be one of the unluckiest teams at Under 14 level this year as they also lost out in the Duggan Steel Under 14 Roinn C League final to Young Irelands. James Stephens B picked up the shield when defeating Dicksboro B.



Erin's Own - U14 "B" Championship Winners 2013



Danesfort - U14 "B" League Winners 2013



Tullogher Rosbercon - U14 "C" Championship Winners 2013



Young Irelands - U14 "C" League Winners 2013

Roinn D Championship

Eight teams competed in the Roinn D Hurling Championship. Fenians, Galmoy, St Patrick's and Cloneen/Railyard all had quarter final victories. In the semi-finals Cloneen/Railyard defeated St Patrick's whilst Fenians & Galmoy played out one of the games of the year with Galmoy winning 6-6 to 4-6. The final itself proved to be every bit as close with Galmoy winning the title 2-8 to 2-7 against Cloneen/Railyard.

The Shield Semi Finals saw O'Loughlin Gaels C team defeat Tullaroan whilst Windgap edged out Carrickshock 3-11 to 4-5. In the final Windgap had six points to spare over O'Loughlin Gaels C.

Roinn D League

Galmoy also defeated Cloneen/Railyard in the league final whilst the Fenians defeated Windgap in the Shield Final.



Galmoy - U14 "D" League & Championship Winners 2013

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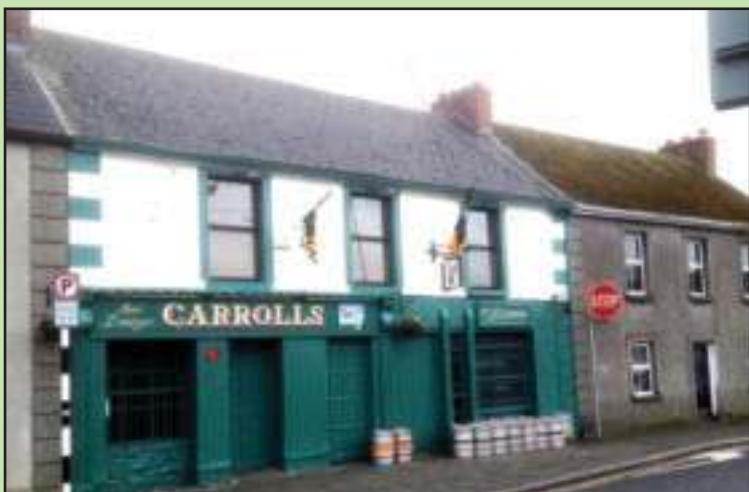


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Clara, Everything is Possible

Trevor Cummins

Clara's Hurling Heroes

As dawn breaks over Crook Hill,
All in the parish is quiet and still,
The day has come, the time is here,
For our hurling heroes to hear our cheer.
All Ireland glory awaits our players,
At Mass, Fr. Larry has them in his prayers.
Into history, Captain David leads his team,
To try and fulfil Clara's dream.
Croke Park is a sea of maroon and white
The hurlers play with all their might.
At last the final whistle blows,
The crowd are standing on their toes.
The boys from Clara have fulfilled their dream.
They are the winning All Ireland team.
As David holds the cup up high,
Their fans let out a mighty cry.
Friends, family and neighbours unite
The party will surely last all night.
As the sun sets over Crook Hill
All is not quiet and still.
Forever in Clara's hearts will stay
Brilliant memories of this great day!

by Peig Carrigan 4th Class St Colmans N.S. Clara -
winner of a competition run in the school by the club.

5pm, February 10th 2013, the sound of Shane Hourigans whistle vibrates around Croke Park and a small country club from Kilkenny write themselves into the history books by winning the AIB All-Ireland Intermediate Club Final. As the management and players of Clara pile onto the pitch and the thoughts of winning an All-Ireland starts to sink in, you see exactly what this



Captain David Langton

means to everyone. Not just the players and management but the entire parish of Clara. You look into the crowd and see young and old jumping, cheering, hugging and some in tears. This team had done it.

To get to this final, Clara came through a hard Kilkenny championship. They met St. Oliver Plunkett's in St. Peregrine's Club in Dublin in the Leinster semi-final. On what was a dry day, the Clara team felt the afters of winning/celebrating the county final the week before and started

slowly. As the game developed Clara became more and more dominant and eventually won out.

Next up was Oylegate/Glenbrien of Wexford in the Leinster Final. This game was played in Nowlan Park and, as on the county final day, the weather was terrible. Clara were the stronger team from start to finish, leading at half time 1-11 to 0-3 and by this time the Wexford side was down to fourteen men. The second half got worse for Oylegate/Glenbrien as two more players were sent off and Clara ran out winners 3-20 to 0-5.

The hardest battle of the year came against Silvermines of Tipperary, in Portlaoise on Sunday 27th January. This was the All Ireland semi-final and was to be the greatest club game of the year. For the supporters of Clara it was the most nail biting finish to a game in the club's history. Nine times the teams were level on nine occasions during the game. The half time score was Clara 0-7 Silvermines 1-5. The weather had all seasons, snow included. Hurling wise it had everything, heart on your sleeve defending from the Clara backs, well worked points by the forwards and extra time for the neutrals.. With three minutes remaining Silvermines were leading by a point when Keith Hogan stood up to take a free. The Silvermines crowd booed and shouted as Keith stood over the ball. After he struck it, he turned with his fist in the air, he knew it was over the bar and the Silvermines crowd fell silent. Clara had a chance in the dying seconds to win the match only for a Silvermine's defender who seemed to come out of nowhere



CLARA - ALL IRELAND IH CLUB CHAMPIONS 2013

Back: John Phelan, David Prendergast, Declan Rafter, Peter Nolan, Shane Prendergast, Conor O'Shea, Keith Hogan, Eoin Curtis, Conor Phelan, James Nolan, Jack Langton, Stephen Quinlan, Micheal McDonald, Killian Phelan, Bill Carrigan, Nicky Creane, Neal Prendergast, Austin Murphy, Micheal Bergin, Kevin Nolan, Patrick Galvin.

Front: Dermot Nolan, Ciarán Prendergast, Chris Bolger, Brian O'Shea, Séan O'Shea, David Langton(Capt), Jodie Creane, Tom Ryan, Liam Ryan, James Dowling, Shane Cassin, Lester Ryan.

Front Kneeling: Dillon Cummins (Mascot) Photo Paul Mohan/SPORTSFILE

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Clara manager Robert Shortall.
Photo Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE



Leading Score Keith Hogan
Photo John McIlwaine



Man of the Match James Nolan
Photo John McIlwaine

to block a shot from Liam Ryan Even up to the last five minutes of extra time the sides couldn't be separated and a replay seemed on the cards until Chris Bolger gathered a nice ball from Jack Langton and struck it sweetly over the black spot to put Clara ahead. Silvertmines pushed hard again but the Clara backs held strong and when Keith Hogan pointed another free the Clara supporters started to breathe again. Still nobody dared to think that Clara had the game won until referee Eoin Elliot blew the final whistle. Players fell to the ground suffering from cramp, knocks, exhaustion and relief. It was like the aftermath of a battle, a battle in which every player on both sides gave everything. In an outstanding show of sportsmanship, supporters from both teams gave a standing ovation as the players made their way into the dressing rooms. Clara were through to the AIB Intermediate All Ireland Club Final on February 10th 2013 and the opposition was to be St Gabriel's of London. It had already been a long hurling year.

All Ireland Final Day arrived and nerves of every supporter sprung to life as soon as their eyes opened. The players bus left Clara community hall at 10.30 to cheers from supporters and went to Clontarf GAA Club in Dublin to have a light lunch and a puck around. Five supporter's buses left Kilkenny an hour later, packed with eager people hoping and praying for a win.

When the team got to Croke Park some players went out to pitch side to take in the atmosphere and to see how Thomastown were getting on in the Junior Final. Others stayed in the dressing room. With the start of the second half in the Thomastown game Robert Shortall got the team into the dressing room to get ready and to lay down his final instructions. All the preparations were done, all that could be said was said, the team was ready.

The team ran out onto the hallowed ground of Croke Park, led by their team mascot Dylan Cummins to the roars of excited supporters. First the picture, then straight down to the Hill 16 corner for their warm-up with Liam Egan. Captain David Langton took time out to go up for the toss as the floodlights around Croker burst into life. This was going to be two hours that nobody in the club was going to forget.

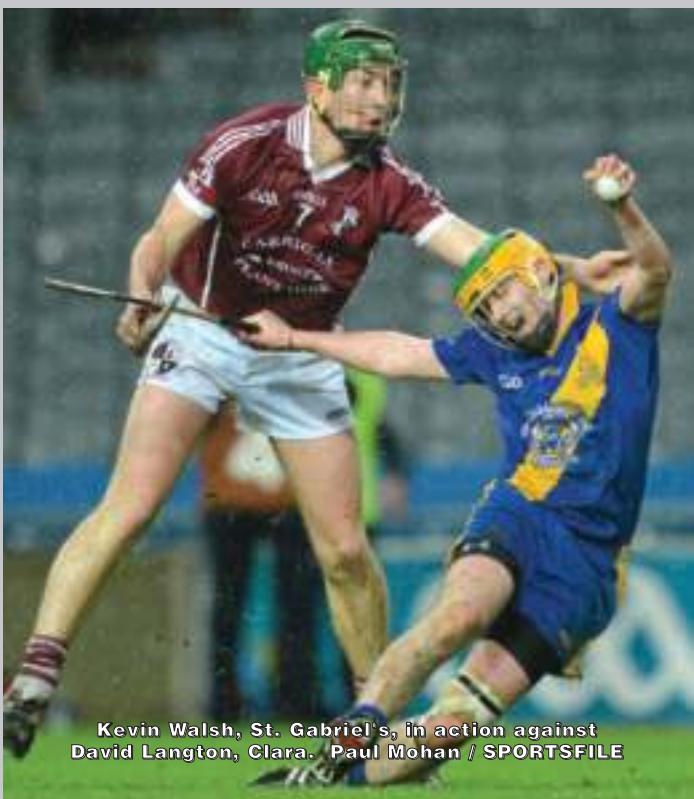
The first half burst into life with goal chances at both ends of the pitch. The first score of the game came from a pointed free by Keith Hogan and St. Gabriel's responded with a point of their own. That was to be St. Gabriel's last point for nearly 20 minutes as Clara registered six more points from Brian O'Shea, Keith Hogan, David Langton, James Nolan, Lester Ryan with a nice free from his own 65' line and Liam Ryan. St Gabriel's got their next two points from frees before Keith Hogan added four more points, one from play and three from frees. St. Gabriel's finished the scoring in the half with a point from play. This left the half time score Clara 0-11 St Gabriel's 0-4. Nobody dared to think that they had it won but Clara supporters were starting to smile.

Within minutes of the second half starting St. Gabriel's broke through the Clara defence and you could hear the relief coming from the stands as the ball went wide of the post. This was the warning that Clara needed and after some hard work done by Conor Phelan, Keith Hogan put the ball in the St. Gabriel's net to extend the margin to ten points. St. Gabriel's responded immediately with a pointed free, which Clara cancelled out

after Keith Hogan pointed another free. Both Keith and Jack Langton added two more points for Clara before St. Gabriel's got another pointed free. St Gabriel's had two goal chances, the first from a 21 yard free which was deflected over the bar by Kevin Nolan, while the second came as snap shot found its way through the defence but narrowly went over the bar. Neal Prendergast added another point for Clara before St. Gabriel's got their 9th point from a free. St Gabriel's nearly found the net only for a well timed block from Tom Ryan saw the ball go out for a 65' which they pointed. They pointed another free a few minutes later. St. Gabriel's weren't giving up but the Clara defence held strong. Keith Hogan secured the win with a pointed free in the last minute after man of the match James Nolan was fouled. The final score Clara 1-16 St Gabriel's 0-11.

In an interview after the match Keith Hogan said he remembered being at home as a young lad with his friends pretending that they were playing in Croke Park and now here he was playing in Croke Park with those same friends. Nothing gets better than this.

So as the final whistle sounded on this great day, it is not the end of the story for this team, the next challenge for them is to build on the success of 2012/2013. This young team's future is bright and anything is possible. Up Clara!



Kevin Walsh, St. Gabriel's, in action against
David Langton, Clara. Photo Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE

'TOWN DARE TO DREAM

THOMASTOWN'S AIB ALL IRELAND JH CLUB VICTORY



THOMASTOWN - ALL IRELAND JH CLUB CHAMPIONS 2013

Back: Ray Challoner, John Donnelly, John Fitzgerald, David Prendergast, Padraig Caulfield, Robert O'Hanrahan, Dylan Waugh, Peter O'Hanrahan, Sean Mahoney, Richard O'Hara, James Hoyne, Andy Walsh, Edward Tennyson, Cian O'Mara, Michael Mahoney, James Burke, Darren Burke, Dessie Walsh, Gary Lehane, Brian Murphy, Dylan Walsh, Paddy Whitty, Paul Treacy.
Front: Paul Barron, Shane Lanigan, Stuart Waugh, Michael Cullen, Derek Lanigan, Fergal Challoner, Eddie Corrway, Darragh McGarry, Luke Blanchfield, Jonjo Farrell (Capt.), Thomas O'Hanrahan, Adrian Burke, Michael Donnelly, Colin Clarke, Barry Whelan, Kieran Treacy, Mark Coone. Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE

Thomastown's victory in the 2012 Kilkenny Junior Hurling championship achieved the primary goal set by the management team at the start of the year, the real prize being the opportunity to see how we would fare at the intermediate grade in 2013. However, it also meant that Thomastown would be entitled to a tilt at provincial, and dare we dream, All Ireland honours.

One week after the county final win over Bennettsbridge, the Town travelled to Offaly to take on Lusmagh who had just qualified for the senior grade in that county. Following a tight first half, Thomastown pulled away in the second half and ran out winners by 0-17 to 0-7.

The following Sunday saw a large blue and white contingent descend on Gorey where recently crowned Wexford intermediate champions Naomh Eanna were the hosts in the Leinster semi-final. Thomastown turned in a huge performance in the first half to lead at the break by fifteen points. That gap gave the management team the chance to look at some of the players knocking on the door, and to give some tired legs a rest after three consecutive weeks on the road. Thomastown ran out comfortable winners by seventeen points on a scoreline of 1-24 to 0-10.

With a two week gap to the Leinster final, Thomastown used the opportunity to get niggly injuries sorted out, and to re-group properly in time for the trip to Navan to



Thomastown captain Jonjo Farrell lifts the cup.
Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE



Thomastown goalkeeper Darragh McGarry celebrates at the final whistle.
Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE

meet Rathmolyon. After a cagey opening 15 minutes, Thomastown hit a purple patch and landed six points to leave themselves four points up at the break. That lead was extended to six points in the second half, before Rathmolyon netted a penalty with three minutes to play. Thomastown's response was immediate with two goals that left the large Thomastown support in raptures. When referee Gerard McGrath blew the final whistle, the roof was almost lifted off the old stand in Páirc Tailteann as the realisation set in that Thomastown had won their first Leinster junior title. The final scoreboard read Thomastown 2-13 Rathmolyon 1-07.

After a well deserved break, the panel was back in training in early January with the focus on a semi-final clash with Minster champions Kildorrery of Cork. The Thomastown travelling support had swelled in numbers as all roads led to Cashel in Co. Tipperary on 27th January. Cashel King Cormacs were hosting the match, and credit must go to all at that club for the superb condition of the playing surface in the depths of winter and for their general running of the occasion.

Playing in their change colours of white, Thomastown started the game brightly and had scored two goals in the opening twenty minutes, but a levelling goal by Kildorrery just on the stroke of halftime looked to be a defining moment in the game. In a follow up altercation, Thomastown's goalkeeper was red carded just before the break. The ground was alive with



Thomas O'Hanrahan, Thomastown, in action against Eoin O'Brien, Fullen Gaels. Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE



Thomastown celebrate after the game. Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE

anticipation during halftime at how this would affect the game. Thomastown answered all doubts in a 15 minute burst after half time that below the opposition away, scoring 1-4 without response, and maintaining that gap to win the match by seven points on a scoreline of 3-14 to 1-13. An incredible performance from Thomastown had seen them go to the well and get their reward, and the scenes of joy on the pitch after the game will live long in the memory. If the excitement leading up to the semi-final was high, it was nothing to compare with the following two weeks as Thomastown dressed itself up for the occasion with the town emblazoned in blue and white. It was a strange, but an incredible experi-

ence to travel to Croke Park on the 10th February dressed in Thomastown colours instead of the by now customary Kilkenny colours. Fullen Gaels of Manchester were the opponents and it was clear from the outset that they had not travelled across the Irish Sea to make up the numbers. The game was a very tight affair throughout, with no more than a handful of points separating the teams either way. Thomastown were two points up at the break, but an early second half goal from the Gaels saw them edge into the lead. Thomastown's response was positive and they regained the lead midway through the second half. Fullen Gaels had a number of opportunities near the end of the game from placed

balls to force the game to extra time, but Thomastown held out to record a three point win and take home the All Ireland Junior Club All Ireland title, winning on a scoreline of 2-17 to 2-14.

Scenes of wild jubilation ensued and many a tear was shed as the panel ascended the famous steps to collect the cup in front of their families, neighbours and friends. Hundreds of people gathered in torrential rain that night to celebrate the return of the team and the cup to Grennan. The following days saw visits to the local schools as the next generation of Thomastown hurlers and camogie players got to meet their new heroes.

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KILKENNY 1963 CHAMPIONS REMEMBERED

This year Kilkenny County Board welcomed to the County SH Final the surviving members of the victorious Kilkenny 1963 All Ireland SH team. The event was sponsored by the Springhill Court Hotel who afterwards provided a reception for these great players.



Kilkenny All-Ireland winning Senior Hurling team from 1963 who were honoured in Nowlan Park at half time in the Senior Hurling County Final, pictured with Seamus O'Carroll, sponsor, Springhill Court Hotel and Ned Quinn, Chairman, County Bord.

Back: Noel Skehan, Oliver Gough, Fr Tom Murphy, Eddie Keher, Sean Clohosey, Paddy Moran, Fan Larkin.

Front: Billy Dwyer, Denis Heaslip, Martin Treacy, Ned Quinn (Cathaoirleach), Seamus Cleere (Captain), Seamus O'Carroll (Springhill Court), Jim Treacy, Johnny McGovern. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



Kilkenny – All Ireland SH Hurling Champions 1963

Back Row: Billy Dwyer, Tom Walsh, Eddie Keher, Cha Whelan, Tom Murphy, Martin Coogan, Ted Carroll, Alfie Hickey, Tim Kelly, Noel Skehan, Pa Dillon, Ollie Walsh.

Front Row: Fan Larkin, Oliver Gough, Denis Heaslip, Paddy Moran, Martin Treacy, Sean Clohosey, Seamus Cleere (Capt.), Johnny McGovern, Willie Murphy, Sean Buckley, Tony Kelly, Jim Treacy.

BILLY DWYER: KILKENNY'S GREATEST FULL-FORWARD?

by Enda McEvoy (Irish Examiner)

We're in Billy Dwyer's house in Perrystown, Dublin 12, his home for the past half a century, and Harry Keane, a proud Kilmallock man and old friend of his from Faughs, is reminiscing about the first time he saw Dwyer in action. The year was 1970, Faughs were playing Young Irelands in a Dublin senior hurling championship match and were trailing by a point with time running out. At this stage Dwyer was closer to 40 than he was to 30. Yet if the legs were slower than they used to be, the brain and the hands emphatically were not.

"He caught the ball and shaped to hit it right-handed," Harry recalls. "The Young Irelands goalie saw what he was doing and dived early. Then Billy turned around and hit it left-handed. Bang. Goal. A point would have levelled the game – but he wasn't settling for a point."

Billy Dwyer. If the name will be unfamiliar to many readers under the age of 40 it is a pity. It is also their loss, for there was never a Kilkenny full-forward like the man from Foulkstown. He was explosive and volatile, quick of wrist and eye, not tall at 5'8 but set low to the ground, armed with a powerful ground stroke off both sides and as colourful off the field as on it. John Doyle, not a man to dispense unearned plaudits, described him as "tough but also a great hurler". Nick O'Donnell, the full-back on the Team of the Century, declared he had to watch Dwyer "more carefully than any other player I played on". This was no empty compliment from one old hurler to another; valid witness testimony comes from the eminent hurling writer Kevin Cashman, who once confessed that he was a little slow in recognising O'Donnell's greatness as a consequence of the difficulty the adopted Wexford man had had in coping with Billy Dwyer over the years.

“.....Had they had yellow cards in our time there'd have been no one left on the field only the referee.”

Dwyer won All Ireland medals in 1957 and '63, at a time – the quarter of a century after 1939 – when Kilkenny men didn't tend to win All Ireland medals. (Two medals in that era equates to five or six medals in the Cody era, you might say.) He was one of the heroes against Waterford in 1957, hitting two goals, but perhaps his greatest game in the black and amber was the 1962 National League final versus Cork in Croke Park.

In the general scheme of the county's triumphs since 1957 it is a game that has largely been forgotten about. That is a pity, because it was a fine contest that sent the media into transports of joy. "A contest in the classic mould," said John D Hickey in the *Irish Independent*. "Give us a Kilkenny-Cork hurling final at any time; they will never fail to produce the fireworks," declared Paddy Downey in *The Irish Times*. In spite of heavy rain and a bus strike in Dublin, an attendance of 40,157 saw Kilkenny come from four points down at half-time to hit seven points without reply in the closing ten minutes and win by 1-16 to 1-8. Among the heroes of the hour was Billy Dwyer, who hit 1-5, doing most of the damage when switched to wing-forward. He had one more golden hour left to him, the 1963 All Ireland final.

Kilkenny 4-17 Waterford 6-8. Granted, he didn't score that day, but then – odd as this sounds – only four of the winners' players did. What Dwyer did do was make space for others to do the job and the two young Toms beside him, Tom Walsh from Thomastown and Tom Murphy from the Rower, did precisely that, bagging two goals apiece. And that was that for Billy Dwyer, who wore the colours at a time when it was possible to be both an intercounty hurler and enjoy a social life. He did both. These days he'd be a meteor, flashing across the skies for a year or two before fading. But what light he cast in his prime.

Born on June 2nd 1934, he grew up in Foulkstown and learned his hurling locally, "in the Pump field after your tea, banging away for a couple of hours".

He began his career with James Stephens and played minor and junior with them, but in the winter of 1952 his father helped re-establish the Foulkstown club and Billy returned to the mother ship. To raise money for the jerseys he "went around collecting tuppences and thruppences". Eventually a set was purchased. Black and white stripes, "just like Newcastle United".

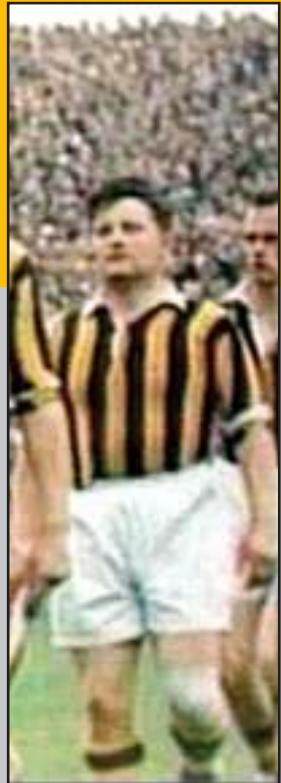
“Nick O'Donnell: “A fair man. Nice fellow. I liked him. But I managed him handy enough.”



Billy Dwyer in action in the 1963 All Ireland SH Final v Waterford

Foulkstown weren't slow about making their mark. They beat Lismore in the northern junior decider in 1953 before losing to Glenmore in the county final. Dwyer had begun to make a name for himself and in 1956 he and another promising youngster called Ollie Walsh were promoted from junior ranks to the senior team in mid-season. He still blames himself for Kilkenny's defeat in the Leinster final – harshly, surely, given that they were facing the reigning All Ireland champions. "I was the top scorer that day. The best forward on the field, they told me. But I got a chance of a goal and went to go rise it instead of kicking it into the net. I was blocked down. We lost by a point and Wexford went on to win the All Ireland."

It all came right in the provincial showdown the following year. Dwyer scored the second goal in the rout of Wexford as the pendulum swung Kilkenny's way at last. He was on target at the double in the All Ireland final, which marked a signal triumph not only for the county but also for their young trainer. Fr Tommy Maher hadn't just trained Kilkenny for the match, he'd coached them, as beffited a man with all sorts of ideas about how the game should be played. He gave specific instructions to his corner-backs and corner-forwards; he gave none to Billy Dwyer, as if recognising that the Foulkstown man was uncoachable. "Fr Maher never told me to do anything. 'Play your own game,' he said. That was it."



The celebrations – it was the county's first All Ireland title in ten years - lasted for ages. Among the celebrants was Chew Leahy, who worked behind the bar in Langton's in John Street and was a fervent Kilkenny supporter. A few days after the final a crew of them travelled out to Callan for a function to mark Mick Kenny's role in the victory (Kenny had scored 2-5). They stopped off en route in the Mowler Gorman's. "There was an old gate in the back way and a pigsty there. Chew jumped in over the gate and landed in the pigsty. When we were finished in Callan he brought us back into Langton's. Being the barman there, he had the keys. A great character."

MOVED TO DUBLIN

Dwyer moved to Dublin the following year out of economic necessity. He wasn't working. Things were quiet. Then Tommy Moore, a native of Ballyouskill and a publican in Cathedral Street, came down from Dublin with a delegation and asked him if he would be interested in moving to the capital and declaring for Faughs. There was no earthly reason for him to say no. Faughs installed him in the Castle Hotel for three weeks and soon he was working as a carpenter on the construction of the then-new Hogan Stand. A fresh phase of his life had begun.

His intercounty career ended in 1964 during Kilkenny's trip to New York. He played in the match against Tipperary and stayed out on Long Island with friends, 12 carloads of whom travelled in to see him line out in the subsequent fixture against New York. He didn't make the team, he wasn't happy and he made his feelings perfectly clear to the county board. "Ye wanted me against Tipp and ye don't want me now. Don't ask me to play again. I'm finished." In true Billy Dwyer fashion it was a decision made impulsively, though for all that it was not a rash decision. "I was probably finished at that stage anyway," he acknowledges. But he played on with Faughs for years afterwards, even coming out of retirement in 1972 to win a Dublin championship with them.

Being Billy Dwyer, he has firm opinions on any number of subjects. A few soundbites as follows...

On his old foe Nick O'Donnell: *"A fair man. Nice fellow. I liked him. But I managed him handy enough."*

On hurling in his era: *"There was a lot of fouling in it. You were only as tough as you were let."*

On the modern sliotar. *"The ball is too light. I'd love to do something about that because the slightest tip and it's gone the full length of the field. The O'Neills ball in our time, it was like a stone. If you got a belt of it you'd be killed."*

On the men in black: *"I hate red and yellow cards being flashed at the drop of a hat. Had they had yellow cards in our time there'd have been no one left on the field only the referee."*

On the men in white: *"Oul' fellas doing umpire, which I don't like to see. Tsk. They're hardly able to walk and they wobbling around."*

On Hawkeye: *"I'd do away with it. It's unnecessary – and as we saw during the summer, technology can fail. Make the goalposts higher and put a net between them. That would work perfectly."*

On Paddy Grace: *"I was working in Newpark at the time when those houses were being built, working on the stairs of the houses, and I saw the Grace kids growing up. Paddy and Maureen. What a pair. You were always welcome. To me, Paddy was number one. A great man. And he wasn't afraid of the top dogs in the GAA. He'd put them in their place alright. Paddy Grace will never be replaced."*

And on Grace's grandson Tommy Walsh: *"I've great time for him. The best Kilkenny have had during Brian Cody's time. I love looking at him."*

Billy has been married for half a century to the delightful Anne, a native of Boyle in Roscommon. They have four children and nine grandchildren. He watches the sport on TV, has a flutter on the nags and if he isn't as mobile as he was during his heyday, his mind remains as sharp as ever. "You have to be a rogue to get on in life," he says with a twinkle in his eye.

Billy Dwyer. A lovable rogue and a great hurler. And still never settling for a point.

(Thanks to Harry Keane for his help with the interview)

**The Kilkenny team which visited the US after the 1963 All Ireland Final
Billy Dwyer sixth from left front row.**



KILKENNY TAKE FIRST SONNY WALSH TITLE

DEVELOPMENT SQUADS NEWS



Under 14B Squad who won the Sonny Walsh Tournament in Waterford

Sonny Walsh Tournament

This is the Annual Inter-County Under 14 Hurling Tournament hosted by Waterford on the last weekend in August each year. The Division One winners receive the Tony Forristal Cup named after the late Mount Sion man Tony Forristal with the Division Two winners receiving the Sonny Walsh cup in memory of the De La Salle man.

Eighteen clubs were represented on the Kilkenny team which won this tournament for the first time.n for the first time. Interestingly, only seven points were conceded in total by Kilkenny in the first half of their four games of which four were frees.

1st Round (Poleberry)

KILKENNY 2-12 WEXFORD 1-4

SCORERS: Brian Cleere (1-2), Martin Davis (0-4), Ben Maher (1-1, 0-1 free), Billy Delahunt (0-2 frees), Conor Murphy, Cian Dawson and David Campion (0-1 each)

2nd Round (Poleberry)

KILKENNY 4-9 LIMERICK 1-3

SCORERS: Brian Cleere (1-4), Martin Davis (1-1), Ben Maher (1-2, 0-2 frees), Billy Delahunt (1-1, 1-0 '65 and 0-1 free), Cian Dawson (0-1)

Semi Final (Poleberry)

KILKENNY 2-3 TIPPERARY 1-5

SCORERS: Ben Maher (1-2 frees), Stephen Weymss (1-0), Cian Dawson (0-1)

FINAL (Walsh Park)

KILKENNY 3-14 WATERFORD 0-3

SCORERS: Stephen Weymss (3-1), Ben Maher (0-7, 5 frees), Martin Davis (0-2)

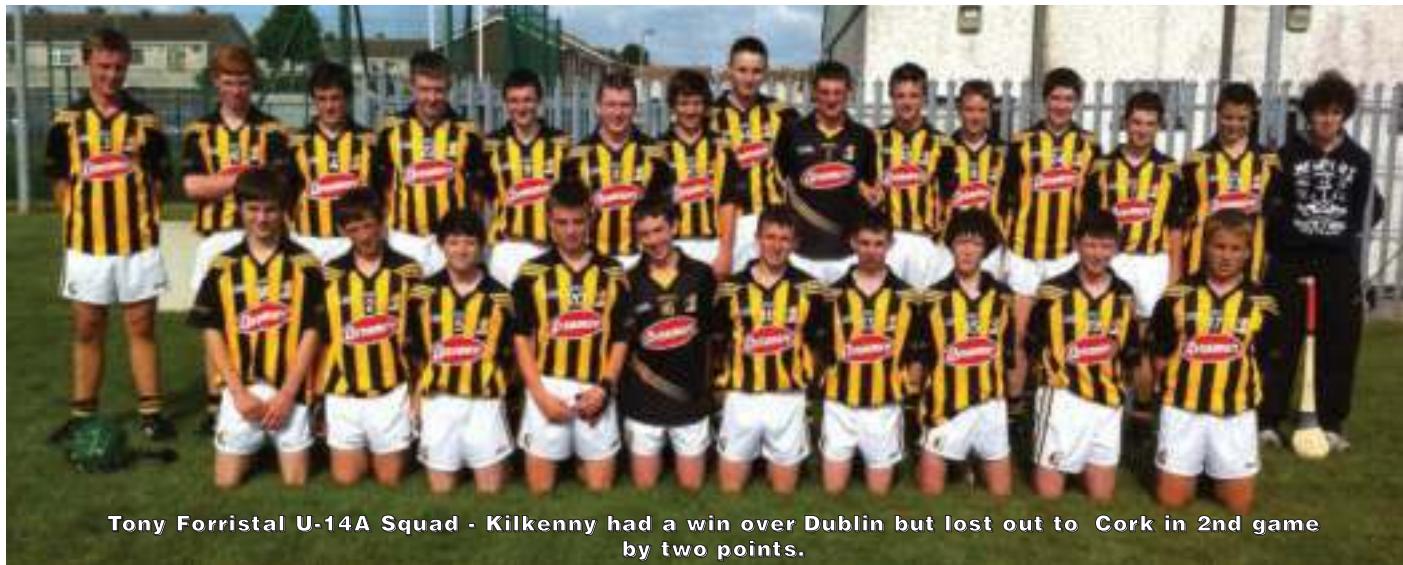
Brian Cleere, Eoin O'Rourke and Ross Connolly (0-1 each), Billy Delahunt (0-1 free)

Man of the match – Stephen Weymss

Kilkenny Panel

Squad: 1. Niall Hayden (St. Fiacres), 2. Conor O'Keeffe (Danesfort), 3. Darragh Walsh (Piltown), 4. Jack Cleary (Mooncoin), 5. James Bergin (Clara), 6. John Dowd (Erins Own), 7. Laurence Feehan (Conahy Shamrocks), 8. Luke Fitzpatrick (Dunnamaggan), 9. Sam Hickey (James Stephens), 10. Sean Rafter (St. Lachtains), 11. Conor Grace (Galmoy), 12. Conor Murphy (John Lockes), 14. Ben Maher (O'Loughlin Gaels), 15. Billy Delahunt (Mooncoin), 16. Thomas Dunne (Glenmore), 17. Brian Cleere (Dicksboro), 18. Cian Dawson (St. Lachtains), 19. David Campion (Dicksboro), 20. Eoin O'Rourke (Erins Own), 21. Jack Cullen (Thomastown), 22. Martin Davis (Ballyhale Shamrocks) (Capt), 23. Paul Rellis (Sliieverue), 24. Ross Connolly (Erins Own), 25. Stephen Weymss (Thomastown)

Mentors: Lar McEvoy (St. Patricks), Seamus Norris (Piltown), Jim Neary (Dicksboro), James Dowling (St. Patricks),
Medic: Richie Costello



Tony Forristal U-14A Squad - Kilkenny had a win over Dublin but lost out to Cork in 2nd game by two points.

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Tipperary Supporters Club U-16A: Won 3 Group games against Limerick, Offaly & Wexford.
Qualified for Final by beating Waterford 4-7 to 0-2. Kilkenny won Final 2-4 to 0-8.

The U-17 squad reached the final of the Eugene Carey Tournament in Mallow where they lost to Cork, 2-15 to 1-13.

Development Squad Coaches

Under 14: Pat Power (Sliieverue), Jim Norris (Piltown), Michael Duggan (Mullinavat), Paddy Phelan (John Lockes), Seamus Norris (Piltown), Paddy Crowley (Mooncoin), Eoin McCormack (Jas Stephens), Jim Neary (Dicksboro), Matt Ruth (Jas Stephens), Murty Kennedy (St Lachtains), John Carroll (Blacks and Whites), Simon Walton (Dicksboro), Sean Brennan (Jas Stephens), Lar McEvoy (St Patricks), Tommy Brennan (Erins Own), Conor Brennan (Conahy Shamrocks), John Buggy (Erins Own), James Dowling (St Patricks), Derek Lyng (Emeralds).

Under 15: Noel Skehan (Bennetsbridge), Paddy Neary (Jas Stephens), Angelo Cullen (Danesfort), Gerard Kirwan (Thomastown), Martin Gordon (Piltown), Dan O'Neill (Dicksboro), Patrick O'Flynn (St Martins), Liam Smith (Jas Stephens), Tom Hogan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Ollie O'Conner (St Lachtains), Aiden Fogerty (O'Loughlins), Adrian Ronan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Robert Shortall (Clara).

Under 16: Pat Nolan (Blacks and Whites), Mark Dowling (Dicksboro), Willie O'Conner (Glenmore), Michael Walsh (Dicksboro), James Grace (Mooncoin), Pat Tynan (Danesfort), Tommy Bawle (Dicksboro).

Under 17: James McGarry (Bennetsbridge), Tom Doheny (St Lachtains), Adrian Burke (Thomastown), Michael Kavanagh (St Lachtains).

Football: Níoclás Ó Cearbháill (Jas Stephens), Jim O'Conner (Thomastown), Pat Nolan (Blacks and Whites), Angelo Cullen (Danesfort), Brendan o'Sullivan (Thomastown).

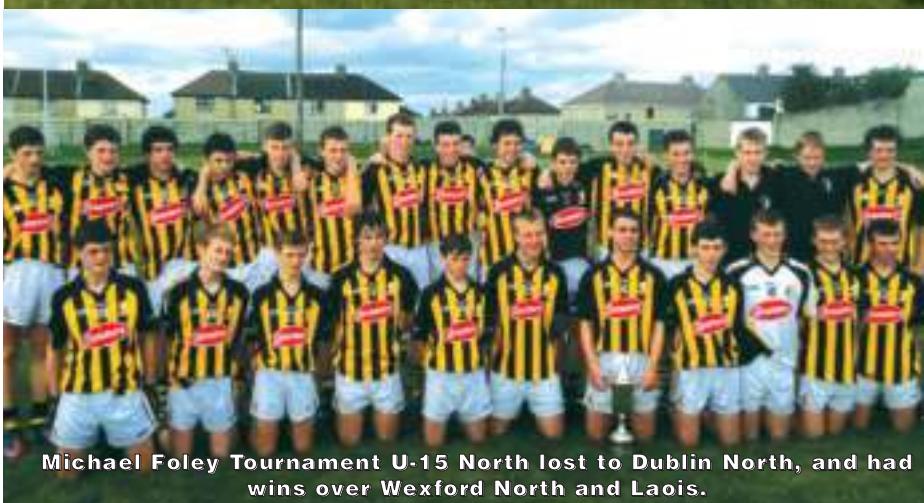
Committee: Pat Henderson (Fenians), Joe Pyke (Clara), Briain Ryan (Fenians), James Meagher (St Lachtains), Ned Quinn (Mooncoin), Brendan O'Sullivan (Thomastown).



Tipperary Supporters Club U-16B: Lost to Kerry and Tipperary but ended with a win over Clare in final game.



U-15 South had wins over Dublin South and Offaly and lost to Wexford. Kilkenny North beat Kilkenny South in Cup



Michael Foley Tournament U-15 North lost to Dublin North, and had wins over Wexford North and Laois.

2014: BRING IT ON!

Richie Power talks to Mark Townsend

Living in the shadow of a former sporting great, can be either a blessing or a curse to a young hurler. To some, it is a burden, a pressure they feel they cannot live up to. To others, such lineage can be an inspiration, and they go on to emulate, or even, surpass, their predecessor's achievements.

Richie Power senior was a good hurler, who made himself great through his endless dedication. Coming from an unfashionable intermediate club in Carrickshock, he would, in time, regale his sons about the extra effort and training he put in, in order to reach inter-county standard. Although he won three All-Irelands between 1982 and 1992, he was, in the best sense of the word, an artisan. His son, however, was born an artist.

Richie Power Junior was a child prodigy, who thankfully for club and county, carried that promise into adulthood. Coming from a Carrickshock group of players that produced himself, John Tennyson, John Dalton and Michael Rice-a golden generation if ever there was one- his card was well marked in advance.

At 15 years of age in 2001, he was called up to the Kilkenny county minor panel, whilst simultaneously winning an under 16 All-Ireland in the same year. The following autumn he captured his first All-Ireland in the minor grade. By the time he played in the minor All-Ireland final against Galway in 2003, his reputation preceded himself to such an extent that he was double marked. Even so, as captain, he still stepped up to score the winning point in that game, a feat he ranks among his greatest.

After a barren debut campaign in 2005, His first All-Ireland victory came the following year against Cork. It feels churlish sometimes, to ask players how to rate All-Ireland victories, akin to asking parents which child they love most, but there seemed to be something about that game that made it extra special. Coming into the final, Kilkenny were in the unusual position of being rank outsiders,

with Cork, on the back of two previous wins, warm favourites. Nevertheless, the feeling within the dressing room that day was one of supreme confidence.

"We knew we were as good as them if we performed. There was a lot of talk beforehand about Cork's style of hurling(their running game)and how we would counteract it, but I'll never forget that day, Donal og Cusack played a short puck-out to, I think, Brian Murphy corner back early on and within 5 seconds 5 Kilkenny forwards were around him and that really set the tone. There was never a doubt in that All Ireland that we were going to lose the game, and when the final whistle went then, it was just pure elation"

Amongst many highlights in a glittering inter-county career, possibly his greatest moment in a

Kilkenny jersey came in a supporting role; Henry's match changing penalty in the four in a row decider in 2009. Kilkenny were two points down with five minutes to go when he was fouled in the large rectangle by Paul Curran. Except, of course, maybe he wasn't. Talk of it, brings a familiar grin. "I thought myself it was, I mean, I was, I was definitely fouled, whether I was inside the square or not, looking back it could be argued I wasn't. I personally

think it was a penalty, but then they say I pushed the corner back for the second one too, so I like to think I had a hand in



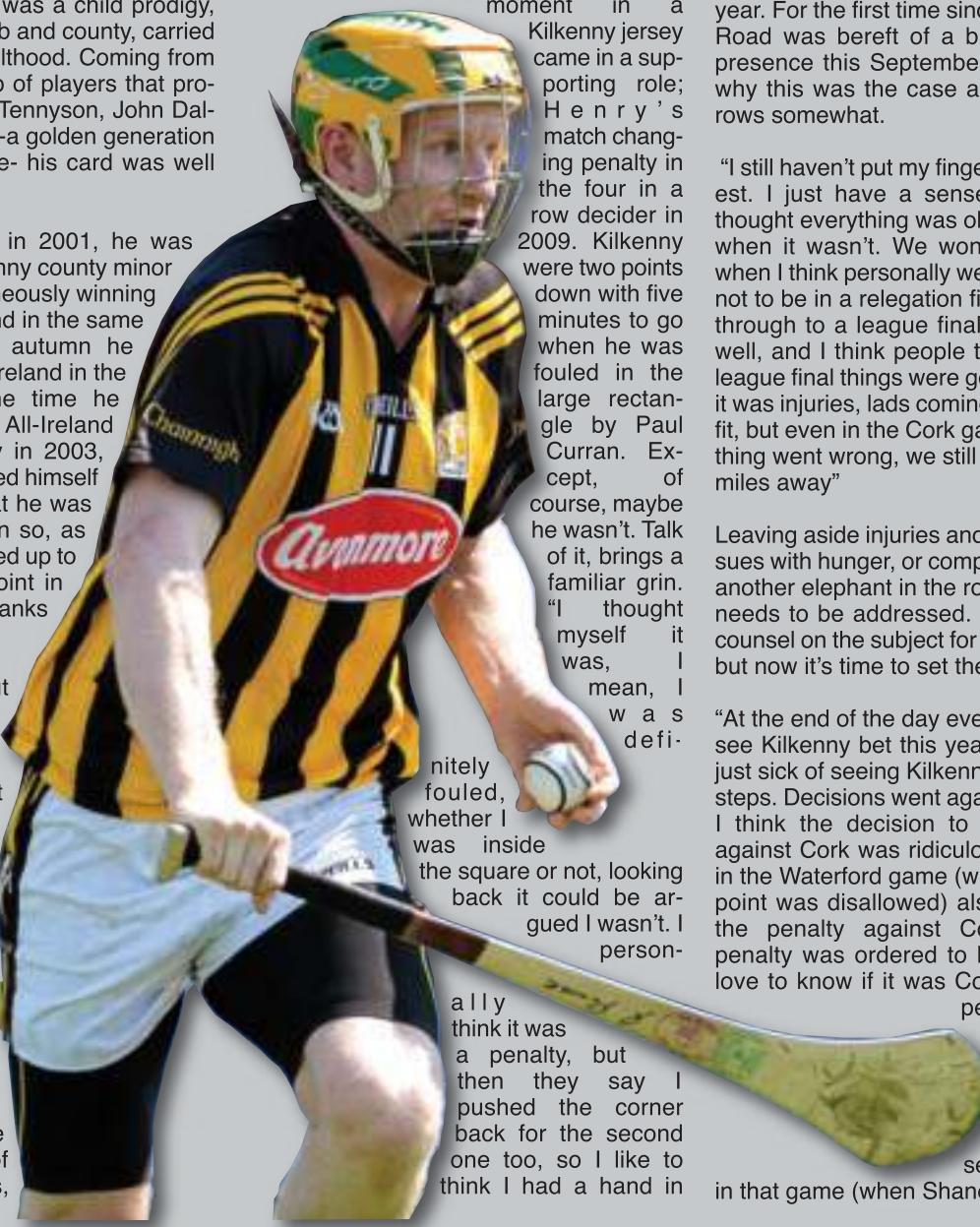
both goals!" As if to prove how contentious a decision it was, a Tipperary man approached us during the interview to argue otherwise. Needless to say, it will continue to be disputed, long after his playing days fade into the sunset.

In his first eight seasons on the Kilkenny Panel, Richie Power acquired six All-Ireland medals. When added to his brace and minor and Under 21 level, he could be forgiven for thinking this level of success came naturally. And then...there was this year. For the first time since 2005, Jones's Road was bereft of a black and amber presence this September. Ask him as to why this was the case and his brow furrows somewhat.

"I still haven't put my finger on it to be honest. I just have a sense that everyone thought everything was ok during the year when it wasn't. We won a league final, when I think personally we were very lucky not to be in a relegation final. We scraped through to a league final without playing well, and I think people thought after the league final things were going well. Maybe it was injuries, lads coming back not 100% fit, but even in the Cork game, after everything went wrong, we still weren't a million miles away"

Leaving aside injuries and any possible issues with hunger, or complacency, there is another elephant in the room that he feels needs to be addressed. He has kept his counsel on the subject for a while this year, but now it's time to set the record straight.

"At the end of the day everyone wanted to see Kilkenny beat this year, everyone was just sick of seeing Kilkenny walking up the steps. Decisions went against us this year. I think the decision to send off Henry against Cork was ridiculous, the decision in the Waterford game (where Matt Ruth's point was disallowed) also. I think about the penalty against Cork (where his penalty was ordered to be re-taken), I'd love to know if it was Cork had had that penalty would the referee have brought it back. I thought Cork could have got a man sent off for striking in that game (when Shane O'Neill hit Eoin

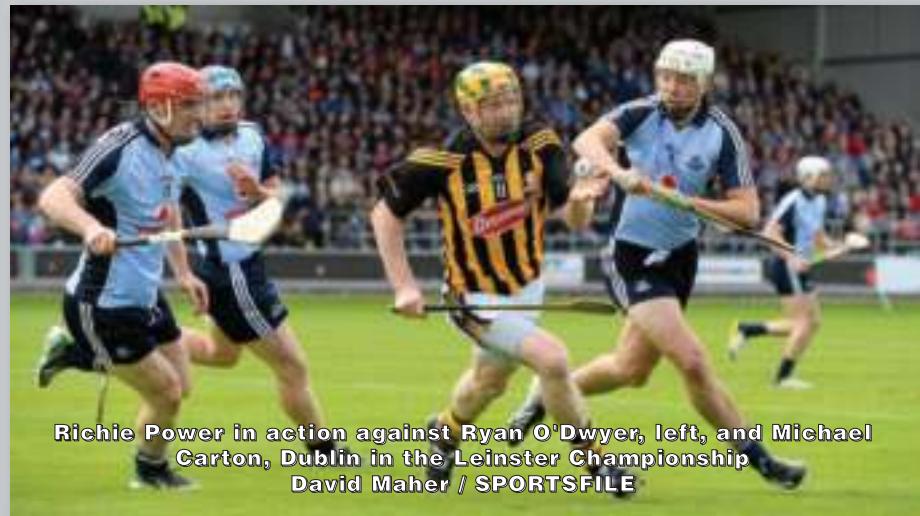


Larkin for Kilkenny's penalty). I got two months for striking in a league game in Cork, even though I didn't strike and I had video evidence to prove it"

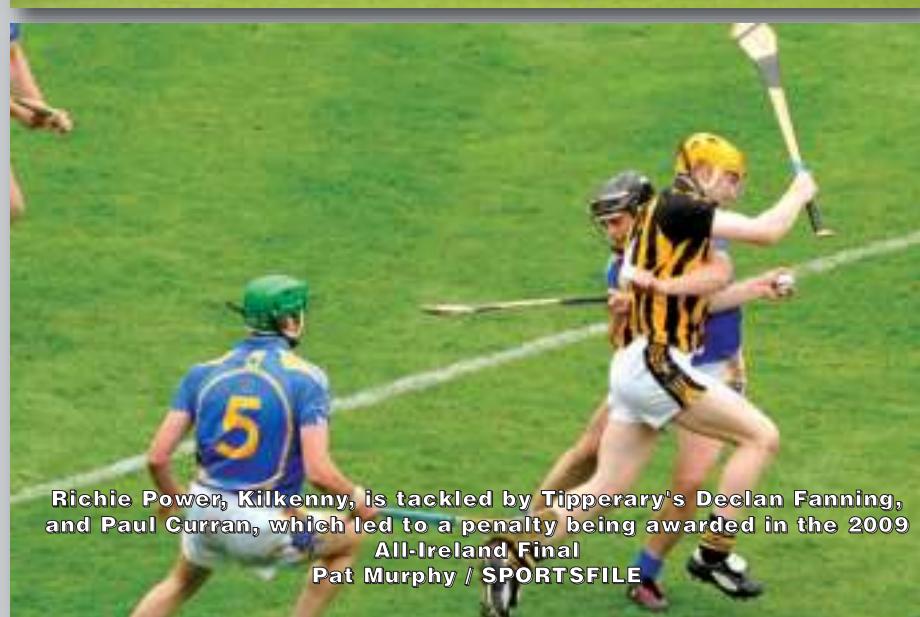
How and ever it came to pass, it transpired that he was just a spectator this Autumn as Clare romped home to their 4th championship victory. Like everyone else, he was awe-struck by their skill, pace and hunger in defeating Cork, a reminder of Kilkenny's own ravenous appetite in 2006. Back then, Kilkenny were winning all around them at underage, now, after Clare's third under 21 win in 5 years, the tables have turned.

But he is eager to point out that underage success does not necessarily guarantee senior titles, witness Limerick's under 21 hat-trick of All-Irelands in the 00's not translating to senior ranks. And in particular he is quick to dismiss any Noreside obituaries. "There was an article in the independent last week (Tommy Conlon's incendiary piece that derided Kilkenny's All Ireland winning achievements) that added a bit of fuel to the fire for next year. I don't know how you can discriminate against Kilkenny for being successful. I mean, we train as hard as anyone else, we want to win as much as any other county. I don't understand how people can disrespect that. People are beginning to write us off now, but once 2014 comes we won't be too far away come September hopefully. I think we'll have a big year."

As to what will transpire next year, having been written off in the media, and with a, hopefully, refreshed side with him, he won't struggle for motivation. As far as Richie Power is concerned, it's a case of 2014: Bring it on.



Richie Power in action against Ryan O'Dwyer, left, and Michael Carton, Dublin in the Leinster Championship
David Maher / SPORTSFILE

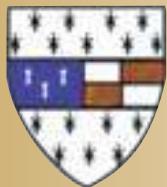


Richie Power, Kilkenny, is tackled by Tipperary's Declan Fanning, and Paul Curran, which led to a penalty being awarded in the 2009 All-Ireland Final
Pat Murphy / SPORTSFILE

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PADDY BUGGY:

1929 - May 2013

by Nickey Brennan

In 1984 the GAA reached an historic milestone. It was the centenary of the founding of the Association and the planning for the year-long celebrations had begun some years earlier.

When Michael Cusack, Maurice Davin and their associates founded the GAA in Hayes Hotel Thurles in 1884 they could never have imagined that the organisation would have such an impact on Irish society.

The road to centenary year was paved with many challenges. Nevertheless, the GAA continued to leave an indelible mark on Ireland's landscape. Centenary celebrations would afford the Association an opportunity to acknowledge the achievements of the many men and women who had provided support, leadership and commitment over the previous century.

At the 1981 GAA Congress in Killarney one of the main items on the agenda was the election of the GAA President-Elect. The successful individual would have the great honour of both planning for centenary year and leading the Association at home and abroad through the celebrations.

Paddy Buggy may not have been the favourite to win that election but thanks to his own efforts and that of the Kilkenny delegates who travelled to Congress he was elected the 27th President of the GAA.

Paddy was born in the parish of Sliieverue on the 15th March 1929. Both of his parents came from my own parish of Conahy. His mother was born and reared next door to my family home in Suttonsrath, while his father was born a short distance away in Ardaloo, close to Threecastles.

Not surprisingly Paddy was a regular visitor to Suttonsrath and dropped into our house on many occasions. Little was I to know that as I chatted to Paddy over the years that I would follow in his footsteps in GAA administration and officer roles.

Winning a senior county championship in Kilkenny is a wonderful honour for any player and Paddy achieved that milestone on the 10th October 1954 when Sliieverue defeated Tullaroan on a score of 6-5 to 4-3. That success remains Sliieverue's only senior county title to date. He had earlier won a junior county title with the club in 1950.

He first came to prominence on the inter-county scene as a member of the Kilkenny senior team in the late 1940's. Paddy made his championship debut in 1949 and won his first Leinster title the following year. Kilkenny later played Tipperary in the All-Ireland Final which was won by the Premier County by a point. Three years later in 1953 he won a second Leinster medal. Kilkenny was later defeated by Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final.

In 1957 he won his third Leinster title before lining out in his second All-Ireland final. Waterford provided the opposition on that occasion. Playing Waterford had huge personal sentiment for Paddy as Waterford City was almost in his own back-yard. He had particularly strong links with the famed Waterford College, Mount Sion.

Waterford led by six points with fifteen minutes to go in the 1957 final, but Kilkenny stormed back with two quick goals to win the game by a point giving Paddy a much cherished All-Ireland medal. The following year he won a fourth Leinster title but Kilkenny lost the subsequent All-Ireland semi-final to Tipperary.



September 1983: Uachtarán CLG Paddy Buggy presents Kilkenny captain Liam Fennelly with the McCarthy Cup



In 1959 he won his fifth Leinster title and later lined out in his third All-Ireland final. Once again Waterford provided the opposition and the final ended in a draw. The Déise finally exacted sweet revenge on their neighbours in the replay when winning by seven points. Paddy retired from inter-county hurling in 1960.

Paddy also represented Leinster and won a Provincial title with his native Province in 1954. A successful managerial role was to follow when Leinster won five consecutive Railway Cup titles between 1971 and 1975.

Paddy's administrative career began with his local club Slieverue in which he served as Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-Chairman. He was later elected to the Southern Board GAA.

His experience in Slieverue and with the Southern Board GAA were to stand Paddy in good stead as he was elected Chairman of the Leinster Council in 1978 following in the footsteps of fellow Kilkenny men James Nowlan and Bob O'Keeffe. His work with the Provincial Council brought him to the notice of many fellow GAA officers around the country.

He was nominated by a number of counties to contest the 1981 Presidential election in Killarney where he defeated Mick Loftus (Mayo) on the final vote to be elected President-Elect of the GAA. One year later in St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny he took over as head of the largest sporting organisation in Ireland from Paddy McFlynn (Down). Kilkenny had the honour of hosting that year's GAA Congress.

The late Tom Ryall describes Paddy's election eloquently in his publication 'Kilkenny: The GAA Story' – "Buggy's rise to power showed the democratic workings of the Association. It was the story of an ordinary member working his way up to the highest position in the organisation. Paddy Buggy has always been an excellent ambassador for the GAA, be that as a player, legislator or referee. Time should prove how fortunate the GAA was to have a man of his calibre as its leader".

Paddy's term as GAA President turned out precisely as predicted by the late Tom Ryall. Centenary year was undoubtedly the highlight of his three-year term.

I am sure he must have visited every parish in Ireland during 1984 plus many overseas locations where Gaelic games were being played. As I travelled the length and breadth of Ireland during my own three-year term as GAA President I was asked on numerous occasions 'how is Paddy Buggy'? Many plaques adorn club

houses and dressing rooms inscribed with Paddy Buggy's name as the buildings were opened in 1984.

What is particularly worth noting is that during Paddy's three-year term as GAA President he continued his work with Kilkenny County Council regularly leaving late in the afternoon to attend a GAA function in another part of Ireland. While his employers recognised the importance of his GAA role, Paddy was equally conscious of the need to get the day-job done as efficiently as possible. .

In 1984 he was conferred with an Honorary Degree in Law for his services to the GAA and in recognition of the GAA's centenary.

Former GAA Director General Liam Mulvihill in an interview with Jim O'Sullivan in the Irish Examiner following Paddy's death described him as "a warm person, very caring and very much a family man. He was a passionate Kilkenny man, you'd know, if you sat beside him at a hurling game, and it was ironic that he lived all his life just across the bridge on the outskirts of Waterford!"

Liam Mulvihill's description of Paddy as a passionate Kilkenny man sums up what we all saw in the former GAA President. One had only to be present at a Kilkenny GAA Convention not too many years ago when he spoke passionately about the Kilkenny team and what he felt were unacceptable comments about the players and their style of play. He displayed the same passion whether Kilkenny was playing in Nowlan Park or Croke Park.

In 1990 Paddy decided to return to GAA administration when he was elected Chairman of Kilkenny GAA County Board. His term lasted one year.

Paddy was one of the first Kilkenny people to congratulate me on my own election as GAA President-Elect in 2005 in Croke Park. He knew my father well and commented on how proud he would have been had he been present that day. I am not ashamed to say that those comments saw both of us shed a few tears.

Paddy Buggy was called to his eternal reward on the 15th May 2013 at the age of 84. Maybe there was something prophetic about being 84 because in 1984 his leadership of the GAA shone like a beacon across the land and in many parts of the world where Gaelic games have found new homes.

Suaimheas síoráí dá anam.

PA DILLON:

1938 - June 2013

by Paddy Butler

Pa Dillon first came to prominence on the GAA scene in 1951 when, under the watchful eye of the late Tom Waldron, he was at full back on the Freshford parish schools under 14 team that won the first title for the club when they beat Graignamanagh in the final. Some impressive displays in the championship earned Pa his first appearance on a county team when he was picked at corner back to play Limerick that year in a primary schools competition. He won a county U16 championship medal in 1954 and the following year added a minor county title. Pa played full back on the Kilkenny minor team in 1955 and 1956 winning two Leinster medals. They reached the All-Ireland final in 1956 where they were beaten by a Tipperary team that included Jimmy Doyle who later became one of Pa's great friends. Pa added to his collection in 1959 when the club won the county junior title and he completed his club collection with senior titles in 1961 and 1963.

Pa made his debut on the Kilkenny senior team against Waterford in early 1960 and was at full back in the Leinster Final when they were beaten by Wexford but it took him until 1964 to command a regular spot on the Kilkenny team, having been on the panel for the 1963 winning All-Ireland side. Although Kilkenny were well beaten by Tipperary in the 1964 final, Pa had a good campaign and received the Cuchalainn award as the number 1 full-back for that year. He also received this award again in 1967. (This award preceded the all-stars). In 1966 Kilkenny were again in the All-Ireland and Pa was picked at full-forward to add a bit of steel up front. Pa had earlier that year played full-forward for the rest of Leinster selection in a game against Wexford and scored three goals. On the night of Pa's "This is your Life" organised by St. Lachtain's Gaa Club, compere Micheál O Muircheartaigh asked Pa what he remembered of the three goals, "well" said Pa "the first one I headed it, the second one I fell over and the third one hit me as it crossed the line". After scoring those goals Lum Kennedy described Pa as the best full-back full-forward he ever

"...the first one I headed it, the second one I fell over and the third one hit me as it crossed the line"

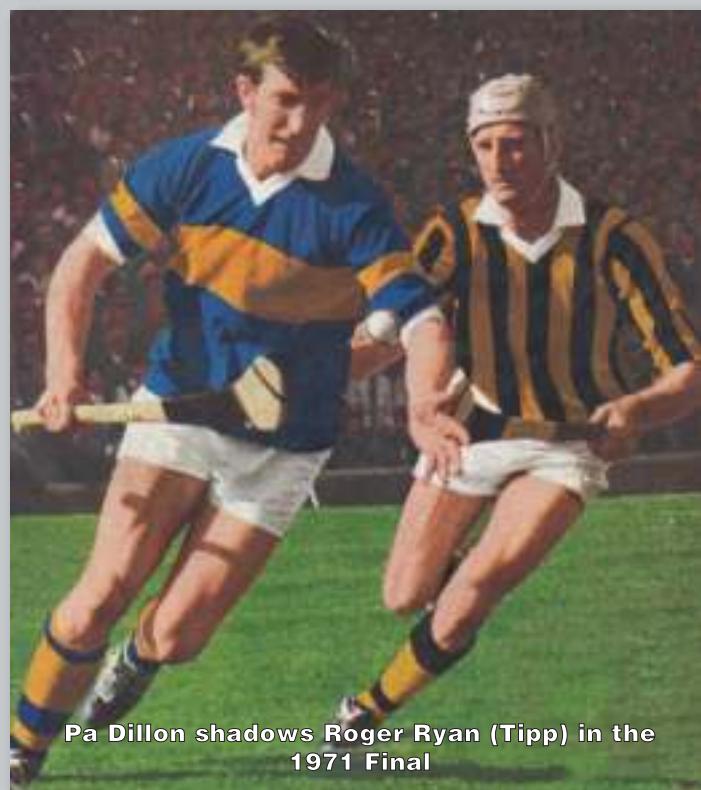
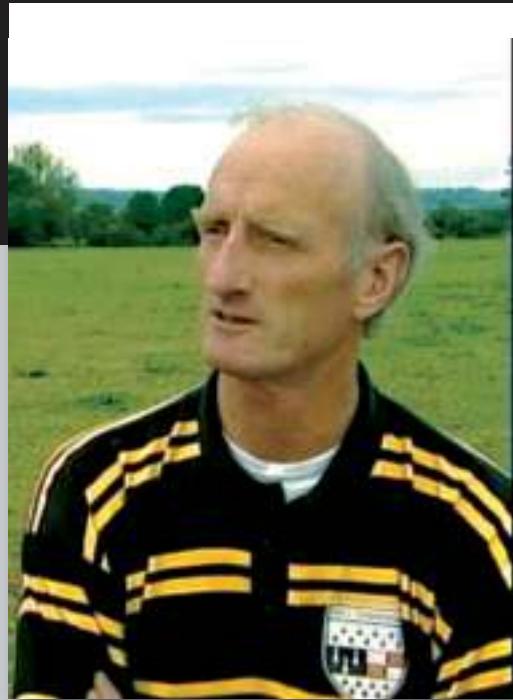
saw. 1967 was a great year for Kilkenny as they beat Tipperary in the All-Ireland final, their first victory over their great rivals since 1922. Pa was restored to full-back and was having an outstanding game and he certainly left his mark on that game when he made a valuable interception towards the end when Kilkenny were a few points ahead. Donie Nealon broke through and his intended pass to Liam Devaney, inside on his own, was intercepted by Pa as he stretched up his long arm and hurley, brought down the sliothar and cleared to safety and Kilkenny went on to win. Pa added another All-Ireland medal in 1969 when Kilkenny beat Cork.

Following their defeat in the 1971 All-Ireland Pa decided to hang up the boots on the inter-county scene. In the 1972 Leinster semi-final Kilkenny trailed Laois midway through the second half and a shock looked on the cards before Kilkenny got through by a few points. On the Monday evening before the Leinster Final, as Pa came out of work from The Three Rivers Oil depot on the Castlecomer Road, he was met by the late and great Paddy Grace. Paddy's first words were "Come Sunday Pa and bring your stuff."

Pa declined the request and thought that was the end of that, but on the Thursday night before the game Grace despatched two friends to meet Pa again and their mission was not to leave until Pa agreed. Pa eventually agreed and

travelled to the game complete with gear. The first quarter of the final was going fine for Kilkenny as they led Wexford by eight points, but from there to the break Wexford took over and led at the interval led by three points with Tony Doran causing all sorts of problems to the Kilkenny defence. On the resumption Pa was at full-back and proceeded to contain Tony.

The game eventually finished level, Kilkenny won the replay, beat Galway in the semi-final and they met Cork in the final. In the final against Cork, things weren't going well in the opening half as Kilkenny trailed Cork by a couple of points. I was in that dressing room at half time and it was certainly a quiet place with very little said and heads dropped. Eventually Fr. Tommy Maher rose to his feet and said "This game is far from over. Raise yer heads and in particular you, Pa Dillon, because only for you, Pa, we wouldn't be here today. On the resumption, Cork continued to dominate proceedings and mid-way through that second half of this 80



Pa Dillon shadows Roger Ryan (Tipp) in the 1971 Final



Kilkenny 1955 Minor Hurling team. Pa Dillon 7th from left in back.

minute final, they went eight points clear. With twenty minutes remaining Kilkenny looked a beaten side and then, all of a sudden, completely took over in every position, scored 2-9 without reply

**“ I felt this called for a bit of an investigation.
I asked the full-forward did he hit me and
he said “no”.... ”**

and ran out deserving seven point winners and Pa collected his fourth All-Ireland medal. Following Kilkenny's defeat by Limerick in the 1973, final Pa finally called it a day on the county scene, but continued to play for the club for a few more years. In an article in one of Brendan Fullam's GAA books, Pa gives an account of his last game for the club. “It was a special junior game and I thought I was 22 again, a high ball came in up I went and got a ferocious belt on the forehead. With blood flowing, I felt this called for a bit of an investigation I asked the full-forward did he hit me and he said “no”. I enquired from the rest of the forwards and they

denied it also. I even asked my own backs so I came to the conclusion I must have hit myself. In the County Hospital a nurse was taking a few particulars and asked me age, I lied and knocked off a few years and I overheard her say to another nurse, “aint it time that fellow got sense”. I felt it was time to go!”

Following his playing days Pa stayed involved with the club and served on committees and played his part in the development of Páirc Lachtain. He was also chairman of the club for a number of years. He followed the fortunes of all St. Lachtains's hurling and camogie teams and got great satisfaction when his daughter Gillian won numerous camogie All-Irelands for club and county, and his son Bobby won All Ireland Colleges and County titles with his club. In later years, with Teresa, he attended all their grandchildrens' games and in St. Johns Park last January, there was no prouder man than Pa where he saw his grandson James play an important part as St Lachtain's won their U21 A championship final.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.



ST LACHTAIN'S - COUNTY SH CHAMPIONS 1961

Back: Jim Bergin, (Trainer), Pa Dillon, Din Maher, Kevin Dalton, Mick Killeen, Billy Dalton, Sean Rafferty, John Teehan, Dick Keoghan, Seamus Cahill, Sean O' Shea, Jim Ryan, Jack Delaney, Alfie Hickey.

Front: Michael Teehan, Johnny Butler, Denis Butler, Wally Cody, Martin Dalton, Jack Cahill, John Manogue, Jimmy Dooley, Jimmy Cullinan, Tommy Butler.

PAT DELANEY:

1944 - August 2013

By Jim Fogarty

Pat Delaney of the Fenians, Kilkenny and Leinster, won many a match for his club, county and province, by the dynamic purpose of his hurling. Pat was low set to the ground and immensely strong. He controlled his team's attacks once in possession. He had a wonderful ability to grab a ball and run. The more opponents hopped off him, the more he liked it. He patented the "Delaney bounce", tapping the sliotar from his hurley to the ground and back into his hand, while running through bunches of opponents. The "Delaney bounce" has been copied by current Hurler of the Year, Tony Kelly of Clare. Defenders found it very difficult to cope with the power of Pat's shoulder and leg muscles, as he burst through the centre. He was teak-tough and mischievous in a humorous way.

Pat first made his mark on the club scene with the Fenians. Two junior teams in Johnstown united under the banner of the Fenians. The club won a county junior title in 1968 and their first senior final in 1970. They contested 8 county senior finals between 1968 and 1978, winning 5. They also won a Leinster club title in 1974/75 defeating St. Rynagh's of Offaly. They lost the All-Ireland final to St. Finnbarr's of Cork. If Pat Henderson was the star of the Fenians' defence, Pat Delaney was their key man in attack and his scores, particularly his goals, were vital to their many successes. On the inter-county scene, although Pat won a minor All-Ireland as a sub in 1960, he did not make his senior inter-county debut at championship level until 1968. He played in 6 Senior All-Ireland finals, winning 4. In his first All-Ireland final of 1969, he was stretchered off, ten minutes into the second half, after a severe blow to the head. The foul stroke, which resulted in his injury, inspired his colleagues to overcome the challenge from Cork on a 2-15 to 2-9 scoreline. In his next All-Ireland final appearance in

1971, he was well marshalled by Mick Roche of Tipperary, as Kilkenny lost by 5-17 to 5-14. He was later to rate Mick Roche as the best opponent he had encountered.

In the All-Ireland final of 1972, he really came into his own as Kilkenny overcame a large Cork lead to win by 3-24 to 5-11 in a great final. John D Hickey in the Irish Independent described Pat Delaney's performance in the last 20 minutes as follows; "Pat Delaney began to tear to shreds a Cork defence which looked ominously unsteady. What a colossus of a man is Delaney. On one of his fierce invasions of Cork territory he repeatedly bounced the ball from hurl to ground. He was then so consumed with hurling fury that one could not help wondering if he were expressing his vexations that earlier on he did not have enough of the play". As in many other big matches, the power and strength of Delaney and Kieran Purcell made the vital openings in play for Eddie Keher and brought the close-in frees that Keher utilised to the full. Pat also contributed 0-3.

Before the 1973 All-Ireland final, Limerick were so worried by the threat that Delaney posed, that they moved one of their greatest ever forwards, Eamon Cregan to centre-back. Though stricken by a flu bug in the week before the final, Pat still managed to score 1-1 despite the attentions of Cregan, as Limerick won by 1-21 to 1-14. Pat was Kilkenny captain. In 1974, as Kilkenny gained re-



The Glory Days: Pat Delaney and Kieran Purcell in action against Pat Hartigan of Limerick



venge over Limerick by 3-19 to 1-13, Pat scored his customary goal. Kilkenny had an easy victory over Galway in the 1975 final twinning by 2-22 to 2-10, with Delaney creating many of the scores and directly contributing 0-1.

Pat's last game for the county was in the 1976 Leinster final. Although he did not officially retire from inter-county hurling until 1977, he had not taken part in either of Kilkenny's 2 championship games that year, due to injury. Pat had a tremendous goalscoring record. He scored 22 goals in 27 championship games. He had a three-goal haul in the 1969 Leinster final, which helped Kilkenny defeat Offaly by 3-9 to 0-16 and set the black and amber brigade on the way to an All-Ireland victory. In the 1976 National Hurling

League final replay against Clare, Delaney scored another hat-trick.

Pat won 5 successive Railway Cup medals with Leinster in 1971, 72, 73, 74 and 1975. He captained the Leinster team in 1973. He won All-Stars in 1972 and 1973. Pat's son, PJ scored the crucial late goal for Kilkenny in the 1993 All-Ireland senior final. Pat was uncle to current Kilkenny stalwart JJ Delaney.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam uasal.

Jim Fogarty is author of the Dan Breen Cup Tipperary County SH finals 1931-2011. www.jamesfogarty.ie.



Fenians 1970 Senior Champions

Back: Gerry Henderson, Eddie Curran, Pat Delaney, Martin Fitzpatrick, Billy Watson, Nicky Orr, Michael Garrett, Michael Dillon, P.J Ryan, Shom Delaney, Frankie Hawkes, Mick Dowling, Seamus Grace.
Front: Paddy Broderick, Pat Murphy, John Moriarity, Tommy O'Connell, Pat Henderson, Dickie Dowling, Donal Walsh, Paddy Fitzpatrick, Mick Gannon, Jimmy Ryan.



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Congratulations again to the Kilkenny Senior Hurling Team on a very successful year and to Henry on his outstanding achievement of 9 All-Ireland titles

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AROUND THE COLLEGES



Kilkenny CBS - Leinster Sh "A" Champions, Leinster League Champions & All Ireland Sh Finalists 2013

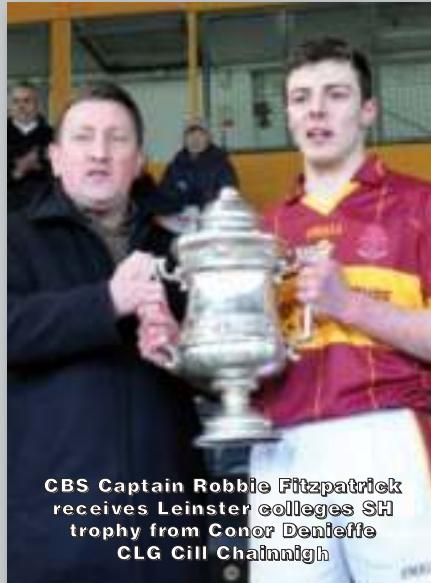
Front: David Kennedy-Cleere, Kevin Galvin, Darren Knox, Matthew McWey, Luke Scanlon, Robbie Fitzpatrick (Captain), Michael Power, JP Tracy, Kevin Kenny, Huw Lawler, Conor Doheny.

Middle: Niall Tyrrell, Gerard Momsscy, Daragh Houlihan, Andrew Gaffney, Corey Cahill, Dylan Scott, Robbie Buckley, Danny Bolger, Daniel O'Driscoll, Robbie O'Driscoll, Matt Ruth, Pat Tracy.

Back: Gary Bryan, Paul Delahunt, Paddy Deegan, Jamie Byrne, Cathal McGrain, Jason Carroll, Gary Kelly, Conor Cleere, Shane Cuddihy, Evan Cody, Niall Mullins, Chris Kavanagh, Paddy Cahill. (Missing from Photo - Criomhthain Bergin)

KILKENNY CBS HURLING 2013

The Senior Hurriers won the Leinster Senior College's League by defeating Good Counsel. This was followed by a Leinster Final victory in Nowlan Park against St. Kieran's College in a hugely entertaining and absorbing final. CBS had to work very hard to overcome their Semi-Final opponents Mercy Colleges of Galway in Banagher but managed to achieve victory and reach the All-Ireland Colleges decider for the second year in a row. The Final was played in Semple Stadium but unfortunately the disappointment of the previous year was repeated as CBS succumbed to Dungarvan Colleges. Management team Niall Tyrrell, Matt Ruth and Ger Morrissey. CBS students Kevin Kenny, Robbie Fitzpatrick, Evan Cody, Niall Mullins, Daragh Houlihan and Luke Scanlon represented Kilkenny at Minor level this year winning the Leinster Final. Kevin Kenny was the Senior Hurler of the Year in CBS in 2013.



JUNIOR HURLING - FR. COSGROVE CUP

Kilkenny CBS captured their second Cosgrave Cup in three years when they defeated a rugged St. Peter's College in the final at Kennedy Park, New Ross on 25 October. Having met Peter's in the first match at the League stage of the competition where CBS emerged 4 point victors after a close and competitive encounter in Wexford, it was surprising that both teams would later clash in the final. CBS narrowly got the better of Good Counsel in their semi-final on Monday October 21st in Thomastown to book their place in the decider. The following day St. Peter's shocked everyone by dismissing St. Kieran's College by 2 points in New Ross. When Carlow referee David Hickey threw in the ball CBS had the aid of the significant wind at a rain-soaked Kennedy Park. Thankfully the incessant rain of the previous 24 hours had abated and a large attendance witnessed a final full of



Kilkenny CBS Cosgrave Cup Winners 2013



Castlecomer CS - All Ireland Junior Colleges Camogie Champions 2013

incident, controversy, drama, excitement, tension and two thoroughly honest teams who went at it hammer and tongs over the sixty plus minutes of a memorable decider. Despite the assistance of the breeze CBS struggled to convert scoring chances and held a mere 2 point half-time advantage. The major talking point of the half was the dismissal of Peter's midfielder Finn O'Driscoll following a nasty melee on the stand side of the pitch 8 minutes before half-time. An injury to CBS defender Aaron Malone halted proceedings with 7 minutes remaining and the teams level. What transpired thereafter was bizarre when CBS had 4 goal attempts in 30 seconds of madness before the sliothar ended up in Chris Kavanagh's hand. Kavanagh backed himself and shot a great goal. Peter's finished with two frees which were 'lobbed' into the CBS square in search of an equaliser. The sense of relief at the final whistle was palpable and wild scenes of celebration followed. Manager PJ McCormack, selectors Alan Healy and Paul O'Donoghue.

CASTLECOMER CS Senior Hurling 2013

Castlecomer CS competed strongly in the Leinster Colleges Hurling A league this year. The team had very competitive games against St. Brendan's Birr, Kilkenny CBS, Good Counsel and Dublin South. The league was a great workout to prepare the team for the Leinster Colleges Senior Hurling A quarter final against a much fancied St. Peter's Wexford. This proved to be a tough encounter with the Comer boys holding on to win by three points to secure a semi-final place against St. Kieran's College. The semi-final went right down to the wire with St. Kieran's edging it out on a score line of CCS 0-6 to St. Kieran's 1-8. We would like to thank the clubs for their continuing support with players and pitches and to Joe Comerford for his support during the year. Finally we must thank Mr. Seamus O'Connor, Principal, for his great support to the players and mentors.

Castlecomer CS Senior Hurling Panel 2013: Jason Shore, Padraig Delaney, Paddy Brennan, Ciaran

Wallace, Dean Shortall (Captain), Eoin Brennan, Donal Shore, Darragh Brennan, Shane Kinsella, Nicholas Feehan, Fabian Jacob, Philly Cass, Padraig Delaney, Shane Rice, Andrew Dowd, Liam Cass, Jimmy Comerford, Conor Delaney, Ollie Feehan, Niall McMahon, Donal Carroll, Damien Egan, David O'Neill, John Callinan, Shane Donnelly, Stephen Walsh, Billy Morrissey. Mentors: Pat Tynan and Peter O'Donovan.

U-16 Hurling and Football

Our U-16's had mixed fortunes this season. Unfortunately they came up against stiff opposition in their first two games, losing both to Kilkenny CBS and St Peters' Wexford. In their third game they beat Colaiste Eoin comprehensively, however this was not enough to keep them in the championship proper. They then faced a stiff challenge from Johnstown whom they beat after a replay. This qualified our lads for the shield final. However this year, the Offaly boys proved too strong, winning by four points after a hugely competitive game. On the football front, we fielded an U-16 Football team in the Leinster Roinn C championship for the first time in five years. We won our first game against Heywood C.S. before falling Mountmellick CS. U-14 Hurling and Football Our U-14's were busy in September and October with the First Year and the First and Second Year Leagues. We played three games, drawing against Kilkenny CBS, beating Heywood and losing to Mountrath, not enough to qualify from the group. So far this year we have played 14 hurling matches between the 'A' and 'B' team, with the 'A' team scoring good wins over Johnstown, Kilkenny C.B.S., Birr and Offaly Schools and losing two matches to very strong teams from Dublin North and St Kieran's.

Camogie - Finals, Tears, Heartbreak and Eventually All Ireland Success

For camogie in Castlecomer Community School it was a year full of highs and lows. The first silverware of the year was claimed in October when the Junior team claimed the Leinster 7 a side B Title after a great win over Borris. The team contested the All Ireland Series where they

had two very convincing wins and reached the final against Laurel Hill of Limerick but unfortunately suffered defeat by one point.

The Senior team reached the Leinster B Final against St. Marys, New Ross. The Comer women fought hard but came up short by three points. This was a huge performance as St. Mary's New Ross went on to be crowned All Ireland B Champions. Junior Glory! The big day for CCS camogie came when the junior team won the Junior B All Ireland Final on Friday March 29th 2013 in St. Brendan's, Birr. CCS's toughest contest in Leinster was their Leinster semi-final win over a highly fancied Colaiste Bhride in horrible conditions in Enniscorthy. This set up a clash with Loreto Wexford fell in the final in Bunclody. The Comer women put in a good performance all over the field and were convincing winners on a score line of 3-8 - 1-1. Next was the All-Ireland semi-final against St. Patrick's, Keady. Keady were well organised and the Comer women took a while to settle but came out top in the end 2-6, 0-4. The Comer ladies faced Our Lady's Templemore in the final. Our Lady's were hot favourites to claim All Ireland Gold. The first time the teams met in Urlingford they trailed by four points at half time but a never say die attitude earned them a replay. And this attitude and team spirit is what broke Templemore hearts. One can summarise the game as a series of wonderful performances by the Comer girls. This victory has left team management Mr. Nolan, Mrs. Clifford and Mr. Browne dreaming of further All Ireland glory in the future. The management and school would like to thank all for the support over the year, in particular Paddy Coady of Castlecomer who generously sponsored a set of jerseys.

ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE Junior Hurling 2013

Almost 100 students turned out for trials, which ran for over two weeks. The first outing was a home match against Coláiste Eoin. Next up was an away game against last year's winners Good Counsel. Conditions were very tough but goals from an impressive full forward line of Tom

Whitty, Ed Delaney and Sean Carey ensured a comfortable win. This good run continued into the Borris V.S game when Kieran's overcame a very strong Carlow side. Kieran's topped the group only to lose narrowly in the semi-final against St Peter's of Wexford. Kieran's fought hard on the day with Darren Mullen, Shane Byrnes and Niall Walsh turning in great performances. Juvenile Hurling 2013 Mr. Tom Hogan and Mr. Philip Walsh managed the juvenile hurling side. Our league began in Mount Bolus tagainst an Offaly Schools combination which we won by 1-08 to 0-6. We then just edged out a very determined St. Peter's outfit. Next up was Castlecomer Community School. We played an A and a B game and managed to win both. Dublin North proved formidable opposition but our lads rose to the occasion and we had a great win. We won the league semi-final against Good Counsel by two points. Our league final versus Dublin South in Athy was our worst performance of the year. We played poorly but were still level at half time. As the second half wore on the Dublin lads got better and we were eventually beaten by 4-12 to 4-03. On May 1st in New Ross we met St. Peter's for the second time this year in the semi-final. We led by 5 points with ten minutes to go but St. Peter's narrowed the gap to just a goal with a few minutes remaining. Our backs played heroically to hold out by that goal. SKC 2-09, St. Peter's 1-09. It was now back to Thomastown to meet Good Counsel again in the Leinster final. The final was played on Friday May 10th. Great credit is due to all thirty four members of the panel who trained hard and were rewarded with a Leinster championship medal.

Junior Football

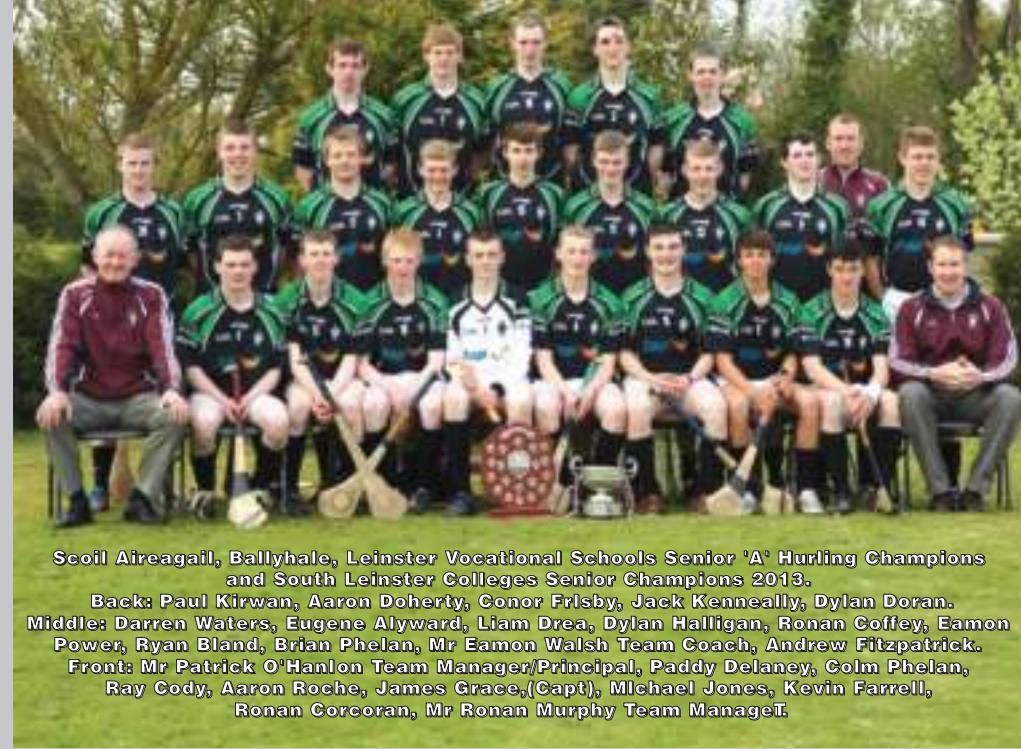
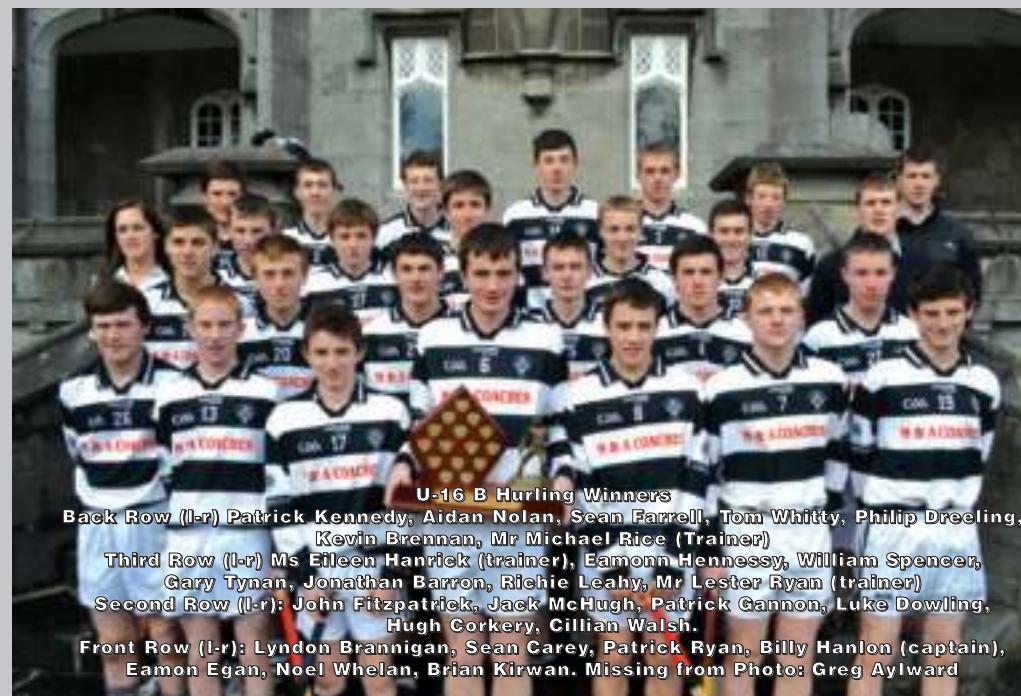
The junior football team in St. Kieran's got off to a flying start beating Tullow, Carlow by 4-12 to 0-9 points in Tullow. Following a bye in the next round the team were beaten in the last group game by Portlaoise CBS on a score line of 2-12 to 1-6. This left the team as runners up in-group 2. Next up was a South Leinster semi-final away to the winners of group 1, Coláiste Isogáin from Portarlington. A fantastic game of football ensued which saw the teams play out a draw 1-12 to 1-12 but lost the replay by five points.

Juvenile Football

The juvenile team started with a hard fought game against Portlaoise CBS which we lost by two points, but then defeated Athy CBS. We had a great five point win over Portarlington CBS to reach the league semi-final against FCJ Bunclody. Early in the second half we led but due to a late Bunclody surge we were narrowly defeated. Bunclody went on to contest the Leinster final. We would like to thank Mr Connolly and Mr Fitzgerald for all their help.

Handball

St Kieran's College once again had a very successful year in handball. Throughout the years we have had a very good record and this year was no different. Nine of our students competed in a number of competitions. Eoin Brennan and



Conor Condon in First Year were new additions to the group. The other competitors were Brian Mahon, Brendan Hyland, Dylan Walsh, Dion Burke, Sean Carey, Jack Crehan and Colin McKenna.



ST KIERAN'S HANDBALLERS

Back: Dion Burke (U-16 S), Conor Condon (1st Yr Dbis), Middle: Ger Dunne, Brian Mahon, Sean Carey (U17 S)
Front: Ryan Scanlon (1st Yr S), Eoin Brennan (1st Yr S), Michael Carey (U15 Dbis), Jack Crehan (U15 Dbis)

SCOIL AIREAGAIL, BALLYHALE **Senior Hurling**

On December 5th in Eire Og, Carlow Ballyhale played the South Leinster Final Of the Post Primary Schools Senior Hurling C against a Wicklow Combined Schools Team. In perfect playing conditions overcame this capable Wicklow side 3-18 to 1-7

The Leinster A Vocational Schools Final against Rathdowney was played in Dr. Cullen Park Carlow on March 3rd an early Kevin Farrell goal set up a lead that was never caught and a brilliant all round team performance assisted in no small part by 0-10 from Ronan Corcoran resulted in a 1-14 to 0-10 win and captain James Grace was able to lift the Cup for the first time on behalf of his team and school since 1998



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ANOTHER FANTASTIC YEAR FOR LORETO!



LORETO KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SENIOR COLLEGES CHAMPIONS FOR A FOURTH SUCCESSIVE YEAR

Back: Katie Doheny (Freshford), Kate Holland (Lisdowney), Niamh Leahy (Emeralds), Kirsty Maher (Dicksboro), Róisín Breen (Paulstown/Goresbridge), Lydia Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Anna Brennan (Lisdowney), Orla Hanrick (Dicksboro), Amy Bryan (O'Loughlin Gaels), Clodagh Power (Freshford), Sarah Lanigan (Freshford), Kate Walsh (O'Loughlin Gaels), Danielle Kenny (Dicksboro), Sarah Kent (Danesfort), Aoife Prendergast (Dicksboro), Anna Buggy (Conahy Shamrocks), Kathryn Leahy (O'Loughlin Gaels), Megan Foley (Lisdowney), Jenna Sherwin (Dicksboro), Niamh Phelan (O'Loughlin Gaels), Chloe Power (James Stephens).

Front: Stacey Nugent (Graigue-Ballycallan), Eimear Keoghan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Jenny Clifford (Dicksboro), Miriam Walsh (Tullaroan), Laura Greene (O'Loughlin Gaels), Laura Murphy (O'Loughlin Gaels), Marie Doheny (Graigue-Ballycallan), Rachel Lynch (Dicksboro), Fionnuala Quinlan (Young Irelands), Ciara Byrne (Clara), Ciara Phelan (Emeralds), Megan Walsh (Danesfort), Aoife O'Carroll (Lisdowney), Michelle Teehan (James Stephens), Sophie O'Dwyer (James Stephens), Eva Maher (Dicksboro), Niamh Deely (James Stephens).

In another fantastic year for Camogie in Loreto Kilkenny, the school won the All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Final for the 4th year in a row & the All-Ireland Colleges' Junior Final for a record-making 5th year in a row. Having also regained the All-Ireland Colleges' 7-a-side title, this gave the school their 3rd clean sweep of all the available All-Ireland Colleges' Roinn A Camogie titles.

Two 5th year players, who have each won seven All-Ireland Camogie medals with the school, Laura Murphy (O'Loughlin Gaels) & Megan Walsh (Danesfort), describe what all this has meant to them:-

"Camogie has played a hugely significant role in our lives, its impact has made us who we are today. Winning All-Irelands in Loreto is not taken for granted so each time we win a title it feels as great as the very first time. It's so hard to put into words how it feels when achieving something that we have trained so hard for. Winning All-Irelands with people who began as strangers, but are now our friends, is the best feeling in the world. On the pitch we each fight for every ball to get that bit closer to winning, not just for ourselves but for our teammates. We would lay everything on the line and put in all we have for the team. Winning an All-Ireland is a feeling we cannot describe adequately. When we hear that final whistle blow it's as if nothing else matters but that moment, the joy it brings, not just to the players but also to everyone involved. We couldn't have asked for a better group of girls to share those experiences with. Our motto: "Winning isn't everything, but wanting to win is."



Lydia Fitzpatrick (Freshford) in action during the All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Camogie Roinn A Final against St Brigid's, Loughrea.

THE RESULTS

Leinster Colleges' Senior Camogie Championship Final:

Loreto, Kilkenny 0-7 Presentation, Kilkenny 0-6

All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Camogie Championship semi-final:

Loreto, Kilkenny 0-11 St Patrick's, Maghera 1-8

All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Camogie Championship semi-final (replay):

Loreto, Kilkenny 2-5 St Patrick's, Maghera 0-8

All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Camogie Championship Final:

Loreto, Kilkenny 1-11 St Brigid's, Loughrea 1-6

Miriam Walsh (Tullaroan) was selected as the "O'Neill's Player of the Match" in the Senior Final.

Leinster Colleges' Junior Camogie Championship Final:

Loreto, Kilkenny 4-13 St Mary's, New Ross 1-4

All-Ireland Colleges' Junior Camogie Championship semi-final:

Loreto, Kilkenny 0-10 St Mary's, Magherafelt 2-3

All-Ireland Colleges' Junior Camogie Championship Final:

Loreto, Kilkenny 1-14 St Brigid's, Loughrea 2-2

Jenny Clifford (Dicksboro) was selected as the "O'Neill's Player of the Match" in the Junior Final.

Loreto Junior Camogie Team Celebration
Niamh Deely (James Stephens), Megan Walsh (Danesfort), Michelle Teehan (James Stephens), Jenny Clifford (Dicksboro), Laura Murphy (O'Loughlin Gaels) & Aoife O'Carroll (Lisdowney).



LORETO JUNIOR CAMOGIE TEAM - PANEL

Lauren Blake (Paulstown), Róisín Breen (Paulstown), Ciara Butler (St Martin's), Jenny Clifford (Dicksboro), Ann Doheny (Graigue-Ballycallan), Laura Greene (O'Loughlin Gaels), Rebecca Holden (Paulstown), Róisín Kealy (St Martin's), Sarah Kent (Danesfort), Kirsty Maher (Dicksboro), Laura Murphy (O'Loughlin Gaels), Megan Walsh (Danesfort), Carole Manning (Danesfort), Siobhán Curtis (Clara), Lauren Dermody (Ballyragget), Eadaoin Doheny (Dicksboro), Lisa Kehoe (Clara), Charlotte McCluskey (Graigue-Ballycallan), Caoimhe Murphy (Graigue-Ballycallan), Róisín Phelan (Conahy Shamrocks), Sorcha Ryan (Dicksboro), Lucy Teehan (James Stephens), Alice Byrne (Danesfort), Emma Bawle (Dicksboro), Megan O'Keeffe (O'Loughlin Gaels), Niamh Delaney (Conahy Shamrocks), Niamh Treacy (Clara), Grace Byrne (Danesfort), Niamh Deely (James Stephens), Eimear Keoghan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Ella Moore (Tullaroan), Aoife O'Carroll (Lisdowney), Sophie O'Dwyer (James Stephens), Michelle Teehan (James Stephens) & Ciara Deely (James Stephens).

Loreto Junior Camogie Team ~ All-Ireland Colleges Roinn A Champions 2013



CANICE'S RETAIN TITLE

CUMANN NA MBUNSCOILEANNA REPORT 2013



EDUCATIONAL SUPPLIES ROIINN A FINAL St. Canices 2-9 Castlecomer 1-7

An exciting and tense Cumann na mBunscoil, Educational Supplies, Roinn A Final was played out in warm and sunny Nowlan Park. St. Canices were bidding to hold onto their title against the boys from Castlecomer. This proved to be an entertaining and tight final with the sides level going into the final fifteen minutes.

St. Canices hit the ground running with an energetic start. However it was Castlecomer who opened the scoring when Kevin Brennan lifted the sliotar and crashed a great ball to the back of the net. St. Canices responded almost immediately with a nice point from Dacel Fwamba and another from a well-struck free by Darren Mullan. Kevin Holland burst through the Canices defense for a 'Comer point from close range and Donal Coughlan added another from a mid-field free. The game was evenly balanced as both sides tagged on points. A fine save from Ronan Lavelle in the Canices goal and a great clearance from Patrick O' Shea kept Canices in touch. For 'Comer, James Brennan was coming into his own, ably assisted by Liam Holland at full back. Then, within one minute of the half-time whistle, Darren Mullan collected a low ball for Canices, turned, ran for goal and blasted an unstoppable shot to the net, to send Canices in at half-time one point ahead 1-5 to 1-4.

James Brennan pointed a 65 for 'Comer early in the second half to bring the sides level. 'Comer now began to dominate and applied all the pressure with good work from Conor McMahon and Kevin Brennan. However they failed to find enough scores during this period. Tommy Farrell and Mark Power were hurling well for Canices as was Darren Mullan who scored a badly needed point. Canices confidence was now growing as Richard Obisanya worked a great ball in from the wing, passed it to Mullan,

who pointed to give Canices a two point cushion.

Despite the narrow margin, St. Canices now looked in control but the contest was put beyond doubt with two minutes to go when Dacel Fwamba cut through to score a great goal for the city side. 'Comer gave it everything in the dying minutes but it wasn't to be. St. Canices ran out winners with 2-9 to Castlecomers 1-7.

TOYMASTER ROIINN B FINAL Mooncoin 5-8 Bennetsbridge 3-10

The Allianz Cumann na mBunscol finals got off to a rip roaring start in sun drenched Nowlan Park on Sunday evening. Mooncoin and Bennetsbridge squared up in the Toymaster Roinn B Final and produced a brilliant game of hurling which was thoroughly enjoyed by a good sized crowd. Both sides had periods of dominance in this game but it was Mooncoin who produced it when it matters most and just about deserved the spoils. Mooncoin got off to a bright start and led by three points after five minutes Bennetsbridge gradually settled and hurled their way back to level the game by the tenth minute. David Blanchfield and Ciarán Brennan were causing problems for the Mooncoin defence and points from this pair saw Bennetsbridge two points ahead by the midway stage of the first half. Then Bennetsbridge struck for their first goal from David Blanchfield. Martin O'Neill replied with a point for Mooncoin. Bennetsbridge tacked on two more points and Mooncoin were under siege. Jamie Harkin made the first of a series of wonderful saves to deny Mooncoin a goal. Lee Tracey then grabbed the sliotar and burst through the 'Bridge defence to crash home a super goal in the eighteenth minute. Back came Bennetsbridge and Ciarán Brennan who was having an outstanding game got his sides second goal five minutes before the break. Mooncoin keeper Darragh Murphy was called into action and he made an excellent save to

keep his side in touch. Both sides traded points and when the half time whistle sounded the score was Bennetsbridge 2-7 Mooncoin 1-5. Bennetsbridge had finished the stronger side but had they done enough with the aid of a stiff breeze? We awaited the second half eagerly. Bennetsbridge got the opening score of the new half with a point from David Blanchfield in the first minute.. Mooncoin made some positional switches and Sean Gannon went from defence into attack and was only denied a goal by a brilliant save from Jamie Harkin. Mooncoin were on the rampage and Killian Hogan scored a brilliant goal in the third minute. Sean Gannon then set up a third Mooncoin goal for Lee Tracey to level the game; 3-5 to 2-8. Back came Bennetsbridge to edge ahead with a point from Ciarán Brennan. Sean Gannon replied with another goal for Mooncoin after good work from Adam Croke. Lee Tracey then scored a wonderful point for Mooncoin to put them two points ahead. It was rip roaring stuff and wonderful entertainment. Ciarán Quilty and Killian Hogan added two points for Mooncoin who were now in control. Bennetsbridge were far from finished and the excellent Ciarán Brennan grabbed a long range free and buried the sliotar in the net in the fourteenth minute. Bennetsbridge now threw everything at the Mooncoin goal in an effort to get on terms. Laurence Mahon was switched to full forward and somehow the Mooncoin defence saved his shot at the expense of a '65. Mooncoin were now forced to defend for all their worth as 'Bridge piled on the pressure. Ciarán Brennan added another point from a free but Mooncoin had the final say when Adam Croke got a just reward for all his hard work with a goal in the final minutes. It was a fabulous game and full credit to two outstanding teams for providing wonderful entertainment.

Mooncoin: Darragh Murphy, Ryan Carroll, Cormac Kinsella, Padraig Delahunt, Máirtín Gannon, Sean Gannon, Donnacha Hogan, Killian Hogan, Aidan Doyle, Martin O'Neill, Eva Aylward, Adam Croke, Ciarán Quilty, Lee Tracey, Rory Lehane, Eoin Grant, James Aylward,

Oisín Hennebry, Aoife Purcell, Niamh Crowley, Jack Conway, Jack Ryan, Luke O'Brien, Ben Skehan-McDonald, Alicia Delahunt, Kate Cooney, Aron O'Neill. Bennetsbridge: Jamie Harkin, Laurence Mahon, Barry Lennon, Rachel Kelly, Troy Walsh, Danny Coyne, Mikey Lewis, Tim Corkery, Conor Murphy, Sean O'Connell, David Blanchfield, Ciarán Brennan, Hannah Kelly, Tom Bolger, Ciarán Mullen, Gary Anderson, Tom O'Donnell, Aaron Varley, Johnny Waugh, Conor Campion, John Doyle, Ivan Kelly, Dylan Kenny, Daniel Madigan, Michael Molloy, Charlie Nolan, Conor Nolan, Niamh O'Connell, Matthew Treacy, Adam Walsh Brennan, Niamh Walsh, Abby Wemyss, Sean McBride.

Referee: Paschal Connolly

ALLIANZ ROIÑN C FINAL

Dunnamaggin 4-4

Glenmore/Ballyfacey 1-2

Dunnamaggin claimed the Allianz / Cumann na mBunscoil Roïnn C title at sunny Nowlan Park on Wednesday with a hard-fought win over Glenmore/Ballyfacey.

Dunnamaggin captain, Eddie Dunne won the toss and decided to take advantage of the breeze and the sun – a decision which would turn out to be a wise one. Dunnamaggin began the game in lively fashion, controlling the midfield area and, after two minutes, Eddie Dunne, following a neat lift and turn, drilled a low shot to the net. Glenmore came back with two scoring chances of their own, one of them a goal chance. Unfortunately they didn't manage to convert either. Dunnamaggin came back immediately and Eddie Dunne again goaled from close range with a smart lift and strike.

Glenmore defended stoutly for the remainder of the first half and conceded no score for the next fifteen minutes. Captain Dylan Garvey led the defence, who contested every ball but they could not manage to get themselves on the scoreboard. After 13 minutes Glenmore full forward, Ruairí Gill had a great shot which forced Dylan Carroll to deflect it out for a '65'. The '65' was dropped in around the square but Dunnamaggin saved and cleared their lines again.

Dunnamaggin finished the half strongly with two points, one from Eddie Dunne and a pointed free from Adam Fitzpatrick, giving them an eight-point half-time lead. The scoreline did not reflect the first half effort put in by Glenmore.

In the second half Glenmore were hoping to take early advantage of the wind but they were dealt a cruel blow in the very first minute. A shot by Darragh O'Keefe was well saved by Dylan Carroll in the Glenmore goal but Eddie Dunne was following up and finished the rebound to the net. Two minutes later Eddie Dunne soloed in along the end line. His shot was saved but the rebound was again finished to the net by Dylan Wall.

To their credit Glenmore never gave up and played their best hurling for the remainder of the game. They began to pile pressure on Dunnamaggin and finally registered their first score when Ian Byrne scored a good point from the left hand side. Three minutes later Glenmore added a goal. Aaron O'Neill goaled with an unstoppable shot, after good work down the left. This score gave the entire team a lift. Dunnamaggin steadied the ship with a pointed free from Adam Fitzpatrick but Glenmore continued to press for goals, forcing Dunnamaggin into some stout defending. Dylan Carroll made a number



Castlecomer - Country Cup Champions & Roïnn "A" Finalists 2013



Mooncoin - Roïnn "B" Champions 2013



Bennettsbridge - Roïnn "B" & Country Cup Finalists 2013



90
Dunnamaggin - Roïnn "C" & O'Brien Cup Champions 2013

of very good saves in the Dunnamaggin goal. Glenmore did get the final score, a neat point on the run from Aaron O'Neill but, try as they might, they couldn't get through for the goals they needed.

Dunnamaggin were worthy winners, with their defence, midfield and attack all having periods of dominance and contributing to a very good team effort. The Glenmore/Ballyfacey lads can be very proud of their contribution to a fine game. They fought all the way to the finish and never gave up. If they had managed to make the breakthrough on the scoreboard earlier it could have been a very tight finish.

Referee: John Minogue.

ALLIANZ ROIINN D FINAL

Clogh Mooneenroe 4-7

Tullaroan 3-5

Clogh-Moneenroe National Schools played a very strong Tullaroan team in the Roinn D Cumann na mbunscoile final, 15 minutes into the game trailing by 7 pts it looked as if the game was going away from Clogh-Moneenroe, but the Clogh-Moneenroe chaps dug deep and showing maturity way beyond their years and a goal on the stroke of half time had the deficit down to 3 pts.

An early goal in the second half followed by two quick points put Clogh-Moneenroe two points in front. For the next 10 minutes the game hung in the balance but again the Clogh-Moneenroe lads with "a never say die" attitude ran out eventual winners by 5 pts.

Clogh-Moneenroe National Schools made history as they were the first schools team in the Parish to claim a schools title, great praise goes to all the panel of players as they all put in tremendous effort during the year and a big thank you goes to the two teachers Mr. Philip Lonergan and Miss Claire Dunne for the tremendous work they put in with the schools and also to Alan Hosey and John Doyle in the background.

Clogh-Moneenroe: Brandon McCarthy, Eamonn Brennan, Diarmuid Rowe, Dara Delaney, Thomas Brennan (0-2)(capt), Tom Buggy (0-2), Michael Doyle (0-1), Adam Maguire, Ciaran Cooney (1-0) Kyle Dunne (1-0) Conor Byrne (1-0) Dylan McDonald (1-01) Niall Egan, Martin Brennan, James Love, Diarmuid Meally, Adam Purcell, Darragh Brennan, Ciaran Burke, Michael O Keefe.

Tullaroan: Niall Holland, Brendan Walsh, Richard Cash, Sinead Keoghan, Tomas Dunne, Joe Coughlan, Caoimhe Holland, Rebecca Cuddihy, Tommy Walton (Capt), Gearoid Dunne, Jack Keogh, David Fitzgerald, Sam Coughlan, Bill Walton, Eamon Óg Holland, David Hoyne-Casey, Paul Óg Mulligan, Liam Walsh

Allianz Tommy O'Brien Cup Final

Dunamaggin 2-12

Mullinavat 1-2

Dunamaggin brought the dominance they displayed in Roinn C all year into this Tommy O'Brien cup final in a warm Nowlan Park. Their statement of intent was clear when they opened up three point lead in the first seven minutes with the scores coming from wing back Alex Moore the excellent Adam Fitzpatrick and his at-



Glenmore/Ballyfacey - Roinn "C" Finalists 2013



Clogh/Mooneenroe - Roinn "D" Champions 2013

tacking partner up front Daragh O Keefe. In the ninth minute Mullinavat opened their account with a point from full forward Luke Byrne /Doyle. Mullinavat keeper denied Dunamaggin their first goal with a super save from Stephen Law. Not put off by this denial they went on to add three further points from the O Keefe (2) and Fitzpatrick. Mullinavat full back Mark Mc Namara was doing all in his powers to keep his side in the game with some fine clearances but on the 20th minute Dunamaggin broke through the defence with a fine goal from Daragh O Keefe. This was followed up by another by master midfielder Adam Fitzpatrick who was everywhere by now. His control on the ball and coolness under pressure were a joy to watch. The half time whistle sounded and Dunamaggin were in a commanding position leading 2.8 to 0.2 with Mullinavat's second point, a free coming from the stick of Bill Dempsey.

On the resumption of play Dunamaggin upped the tempo even more and some great play by Conor Hoban, Jamie O Keefe Andy Hickey and captain Dylan Crehan ensured a steady supply of ball to star forwards O Keefe and Fitzpatrick. They built on their two goal foundation of the first half and added four additional points, two from frees to complete their scoring in this final. Mullinavat battled hard in this half lead from the back by Mark Mc Namara and assisted greatly by Michael Walsh at centre forward and midfielders Bill and Padraig Dempsey. However such was Dunamaggin's control and dominance that nothing was going to upset their

game on the day. The Tommy O'Brien Cup was presented to captain Dylan Crehan by Cumann na mBunscol Chairman Niall Bergin in front of a jubilant Dunamaggin crowd.

Dunamaggin: Dylan Carroll, Cathal Ryan, Conor Hoban, Ger Coffey, Alex Moore, Dylan Crehan (Capt), Jamie O Keefe, Adam Fitzpatrick, Conor Brett, Andy Hickey, Darragh O Keefe, Daniel O'Neill, Dylan Wall, Eddie Dunne, Sean O'Keefe, Subs: Derek Carroll, Kieran Buckley, Oisin McDermott, Joe Fitzpatrick, Jack O'Connell, Darragh Walsh, Luke Dunne, Aidan O'Neill, Conor Denny, Cathal Pearse,

Mullinavat: Stephen Law, Paul Hennessy, Mark Mc Namara, Conor Walsh, Robin Davis, Jake Morrissey, Darragh Tynan, Bill Dempsey, Padraig Dempsey, Fiachra Knox, Michael Walsh, Ian Mansfield, Sean Fitzpatrick (Capt), Luke Byrne Doyle, Paraic Delahunt, John Mc Carthy, George O'Connor, Tadhg Knox, Tomas O'Malley, Billy Delahunt, Niall Maher, Jack Jenner, Richard Kenneally, Shane Aylward, Sean O Malley, Ryan Conway, James O'Keefe, Aaron Clarke, Michael Holden

Allianz Corn de Bhaldraithe

Final

Castlecomer 6-15

Bennetsbridge 1-03

This was an excellent display from both Castlecomer and Bennettsbridge in this year's Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Country Cup final. Both teams showed great promise during their respective league matches, proving too strong

for their opponents.

From the onset in this fiercely contested final , James Brennan showed his utter dominance at centre back for Castlecomer. He was a tower of strength throughout. James was ably assisted by all of his fellow team mates but in particular Jack Buggy, Kevin Brennan, Conor McMahon, Conor Clarke,Dan Coogan and Declan Buggy played outstanding hurling throughout.

Bennetsbridge registered their first score in the 10th minute of the first half with a free from Ciarán Brennan. This followed an excellent passage of play from Troy Walsh,Danny Coyne,Tim Corkery and David Blanchfield.

Castlecomer scored a great goal from Kevin Brennan minutes after this point.

At half time , the score stood at Castlecomer 3-7 Benetsbridge 0-2.

Castlecomer scored 3-8 in the second half with Bennetsbridge scoring 1-1.

Bennetsbridge fought right to the final whistle. Jamie Harkin was excellent in goal. There were flashes of brilliance from Ciarán Brennan,Seán O'Connell and David Blanchfield on the half forward line also.

The dominance of the Castlecomer backs was evident throughout. The Bennetsbridge puck outs were swallowed up by their blanket defence.

Both teams are to be complimented on their high levels of skill and determination.

Scorers were as follows:

Castlecomer: James Brennan (2-7),Conor Clarke (1-1), Billy O'Neill (1-1),Kevin Brennan (1-1), Dan Coogan (1-1), Declan Buggy (0-2), Jack Buggy (0-1),Conor McMahon(0-1)

Bennetsbridge: Ciarán Brennan (1-2), David Blanchfield (0-1).



Tullaroan - Roinn "D" Finalists 2013



Mullinavat - O'Brien Cup Finalists 2013

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Congratulations to All Cumann na mBunscoileanna

Winners in 2013

PRIMARY SCHOOLS CAMOGIE

By Michael O'Leary PRO

Roinn A Final

Thomastown 3-7 St. Canice's 0-4
5-Star Farrell leads the way for Thomastown

The last of the Primary Schools Finals saw Eimear Farrell score 1-6 from play in an awesome individual performance to lead Thomastown to a comprehensive display.

St. Canice's started brightly with three early points from Ruth Kent with two frees and an effort from play by Jane Cass.

However, Thomastown grew in stature. Laura Quigley and Eimear Farrell were on target from play, while the duo combined for Thomastown's opening goal in the 17th minute.

Quigley was the provider and Farrell cracked home a delightful unstoppable shot that gave Catriona Gough no chance – 1-2 to 0-3. Within seconds, Farrell pointed from play, before Ruth Kent narrowed the gap to two points with a pointed free – 1-3 to 0-4.

Thomastown put clear daylight between the two schools when Laura Quigley added a second goal.

Thomastown led 2-3 to 0-4 at the interval.

It was all one way traffic during the second-half. Farrell added four further points from play including a brilliant solo effort, where she displayed a blinding turn of pace and sublime skill before firing over.

The third goal came with 11 minutes remaining, and amidst a goalmouth scramble involving Farrell and Quigley, it appeared that Roisin Galway was on hand to get the final touch.

Apart from the brilliance of Farrell, Laura Quigley lurked a potent threat in front of goal. Eva Hynes performed magnificently, constantly running at the Canices defence, while Ciara Prendergast did well also.

Scorers – Thomastown: Eimear Farrell 1-6, Laura Quigley 1-1, Roisin Galway 1-0,
St. Canice's – Ruth Kent 0-3 (all frees), Jane Cass 0-1

Thomastown: Alicia Minogue, Dearbhail O'Keeffe, Cara Gibbons, Ava Kavanagh, Ciara Prendergast, Eva Hynes, Caoimhe Kelly, Ciara Morrissey, Sinead O'Keeffe, Eimear Farrell, Roisin Galway, Laura Quigley,

Rest of squad – Ciara Mason, Ruth Ryan, Chantelle Wemyss, Jessie Murphy, Caitlin Walsh, Shauna Dack Kennedy, Isabelle McNenana, Lizzie Buckley, Ellie Walsh, Emily Skehan, Jodie Lancashire, Hannah Whelan, Chloe O'Brien, Laoise Fennelly Hunt, Michelle Donnelly, Roisin O'Keeffe, Nicole Dunne, Orla O'Keeffe, Una Donnelly, Edie Maher, Jessie McCabe,

St. Canice's: Catriona Gough, Ella Brennan, Aideen Ryan, Ciara McPhilips, Aine Trait, Sinead Flynn, Ruth Kent, Kate Dempsey, Bronagh Doheny, Jane Cass, Abby McIlroy, Moli Byrne,



Thomastown NS - Roinn A Champions 2013



St Canice's NS - Roinn A Finalists 2013



Kilmanagh NS - Roinn B Champions 2013



Coon/Muckalee NS - Roinn B Finalists 2013

Subs: Sarah Smith, Kate Ryan,
Rest of squad – Lucy Keane, Jessie Oyenuga, Lauren Walsh, Grace O'Neill, Eimear O'Reilly, Ciara Davis, Alannah Treacy Kennedy, Doireann Sloyan, Leah Treacy.
Referee: Julian O'Dwyer (Windgap)

Roynn B Final
St. Aidans ease to victory
Kilmanagh 4-2 Coon Muckalee 0-1

St. Aidans National School Kilmanagh eased to victory in the B decider as they swept aside the challenge of Coon Muckalee with consummate ease.

A goal after just 45 seconds from Claire Quigley sent them on their way, and the margin of victory at match end would have been much greater, only for the fact they shot a staggering 16 wides. Coon Muckalee's best performer, team captain Therese Kelly pointed a '45 in the 7th minute for their only score of the game.

The only other score of the opening-half came in the 11th minute. The highly industrious Laoise Prendiville shot from an acute angle across the face of goal. Her attempt was saved by Coon Muckalee goalkeeper Caoimhe McGuinness, before Lucy Egan slotted home on the rebound. 2-0 to 0-1.

Seven minutes into the second-half, a well worked move was created. Leah Lanigan sent a diagonal shot goalwards. The sliothar appeared to be going wide, but the highly alert Molly Butler kept it in play. Butler's shot across the face of the goalmouth was blocked amidst a scramble, before the persistent Laoise Prendiville was on hand to poke the sliothar to the net.

Butler turned goalscorer two minutes later. A '45 from Laoise Prendiville dropped short, and Shona O'Brien pulled on the sliothar, before Molly Butler applied the finishing touch from close range – 4-0 to 0-1.

Claire Quigley added two points from play in the 37th and 47th minutes respectively to complete the scoring as they ran out resounding winners. Despite the wayward shooting, it was a very impressive performance from the Kilmanagh school.

Team captain Maebh Ging and Suzy Kelly performed well in defence, while the highly tenacious Tara Walsh was magnificent. Shona O'Brien and Leah Langian performed solidly also, while the forward trio of Claire Quigley, Molly Butler and Laoise Prenderville were a constant menacing threat throughout.

Therese Kelly at full-back was easily Coon-Muckalee's best performer, and she gave a sterling defensive display which prevented an even heavier defeat.

Scorers: Kilmanagh – Claire Quigley 1-2, Molly Butler, Laoise Prendiville and Lucy Egan 1-0 each
Coon Muckalee – Therese Kelly 0-1('45),

Teams:

St. Aidans National School Kilmanagh – Katie Brennan, Maebh Ging(captain), Suzy Kelly, Tara Walsh, Abby O'Keeffe, Shona O'Brien, Leah Lanigan, Tara Ronan, Lucy Egan, Claire Quigley, Molly Butler, Laoise Prendiville

Sub: Katie Dunne

Rest of Squad: Helen Roberts, Ciara Wall, Rebecca O'Halloran, Cliona Teehan, Faith Delaney, Hannah Murphy, Rachel Power, Isabel Caldbeck, Sarah Harrison, Aoibhe Murphy, Carragh K Cullen, Kate Everard, Roisin Casey, Kelly Lanigan, Margaret Maher,



Graig/Skeough NS - Roynn C Champions 2013



Conahy NS - Roynn C Finalists 2013

Recce Delaney,

Coon Muckalee – Caoimhe McGuinness, Clodagh Hanlon, Therese Kelly (captain), Chloe Dooley, Hannah Doyle, Hazel Moore, Grainne Kelly, Laura McDowell, Aoife Murphy, Katie O'Neill, Alannah Keegan, Aoife O'Neill

Rest of Squad: Caoimhe Downey, Kate Cullen, Caoimhe Hayes, Darcy Hutchinson, Sinead Healy, Laura Bolger, Molly Ryan, Anna Fahey, Saoirse Hayes, Elli Duggan, Orla Nolan, Kate Ring, Sarah Murphy, Leah Finnegan, Niamh Buggy, Ava O'Shea, Ava Coogan, Chloe Allen, Rebecca Walsh, Noelle Dowling, Siobhan Coady, Shauna Coady, Eadaoin Coady,

Referee: Julian O'Dwyer(Windgap)

A '45 dropped in around the goalmouth by Aisling Prendergast and O'Shea was on hand to get the vital touch.

Conahy responded and Hannah Murphy struck a magnificent goal. Murphy found time to create the space, and her spectacular effort was struck with precise accuracy giving Georgia Barcoe no chance. 3-0 to 1-0.

The same player pointed a free early in the second-half, before Aisling Prendergast and Alice Byrne exchanged points from placed balls, as Graig/Skeough continued to lead by five points. The contest really came alive with 12 minutes remaining with Claire Maher adding a second Conahy goal after Hannah Murphy's shot was deflected clear by the Graig/Skeough goalkeeper – 3-1 to 2-2.

Significantly boosted by the momentum of that goal, Conahy were motoring and seconds later Alice Byrne pointed from play to leave just a solitary point between the sides.

Co-captain Kate Drennan steadied the Graig/Skeough ship with a pointed free, before Hannah Murphy, also from a free, restored the one point gap that existed.

There were no scores over the closing five minutes of playing time including injury-time, but there was plenty of drama with goal chances at both ends.

First, Eimear O'Shea soloed through the Conahy defence, and she set up Sinead Nolan who attempted to divert the sliothar towards goal with her back to goal.

However, Conahy goalkeeper Grace Mulhall came to the rescue and they survived.

Conahy themselves created a move as the

The Roynn C decider between Graignamanagh/Skeoghvosteen and Conahy was the best final of the afternoon as the contest went right down to the wire.

The standard of shooting was off-cue as there were 19 wides (12 Graig/Skeough 7 Conahy) throughout, but one could not fault the skill, heart, commitment and courage of both schools as they gave it every ounce in pursuit of victory. Graig/Skeough were dominant for the majority of the opening-half as they 3-0 to 0-0 after just 15 minutes, while they also shot 7 wides during that opening quarter hour.

Sinead Nolan grabbed a brace of goals after good work involving Sophie Phelan and Eimear O'Shea, and O'Shea herself added the 3rd goal.

match approached injury-time. Hannah Murphy and Alice Byrne combined for the latter to shoot goalwards. The sliothar landed ideally in front Eve Ring, but unfortunately for her, the sliothar took the faintest of touches off Graig/Skeough goalkeeper Gerogia Barcoe.

The final whistle blew moments later much to the joy, delight and relief of the Graig/Skeough contingent.

There were excellent performers on both teams. For the winners, goalkeeper Georgia Barcoe pulled off a string of fine saves. Diane Foley and Kate Drennan were solid, while the superbly tenacious Aisling Prendergast and the highly imperious Sinead Lanigan (also co-captain) excelled greatly in defence.

Lanigan in particular was an inspiring driving force constantly surging forward with driven determination during that closing quarter of an hour.

The forward division constantly possessed an eye for goal with Sophie Phelan and Sinead Nolan a constant livewire, while Eimear O'Shea played a 5-star role. O'Shea displayed such elegant skill and poise when in full flight, and always posed a potent threat.

Conahy had their share of good performers also. Team captain Cara Brenna was excellent, while Alice Byrne was superb particularly during the second-half when she led the Conahy revival. Claire Maher and their best forward Hannah Murphy made an impression also.

Scorers – Graig/Skeough: Sinead Nolan 2-0 each, Eimear O'Shea 1-0, Kate Drennan and Aisling Prendergast 0-1 (both frees)

Conahy – Hannah Murphy 1-2 (0-2 frees), Claire Maher 1-0, Alice Byrne 0-2

Teams

Graig/Skeough – Georgia Barcoe, Diane Foley, Elise Holden, Aisling Prendergast, Darcy Bolger, Kate Drennan (co-captain), Sinead Lanigan (co-captain), Ellen Delaney, Gemma Dunne, Eimear O'Shea, Sophie Phelan, Sinead Nolan

Sub: Roisin Moran

Rest of squad: Eimear Holden, Faith Savage, Alanna O'Brien Connolly, Ciara Dowling, Ciara Lyng, Holly Brooks, Leah Doyle,

Conahy – Grace Mulhall, Amanda Molloy, Megan Cuddihy, Cara Brennan (captain), Ruth Hennessy, Claire Maher, Alice Byrne, Shannon Connery, Roisin Nolan, Hannah Murphy, Eve Ring, Chloe Leahy

Subs: Lisa Coogan, Yvonne Dooley

Rest of squad: Aoife Mulhall, Lydia O'Mahony, Niamh O'Loughlin, Laura Kennedy,

Referee: Julian O'Dwyer (Windgap)



Tullaroan NS - Roinn D Champions 2013



Slieverue NS - Roinn D Finalists 2013

However, it was Tullaroan who had the brighter start on the scoreboard, and Cuddihy opened the scoring with a point from play in the 4th minute. A minute later, and Tullaroan opened up daylight between the two teams with Cuddihy involved again. Her shot about 40 metres from goal bounced in front of Sinead Murphy, before the sliothar deceived Slieverue netminder Molly Dunphy – 1-1 to 0-0.

Caroline Kennedy, with a long distance pointed free, opened Slieverue's account in the 9th minute. Rebecca Cuddihy had a goal chance that flew wide in the 15th minute, before making amends 90 seconds later. The Tullaroan captain found space to create, and her dipping shot goalbound was struck with perfection and accuracy as they opened up a decisive advantage – 2-1 to 0-0.

Amy Cleere added a 3rd goal in the 19th minute before Beth Grace added a point as they led 3-2 to 0-1 at the interval.

Rebecca Cuddihy completed her hat-trick five minutes after the restart when she soloed through the Slieverue defence unmarked to strike home.

Cuddihy was once again involved in the game's most spectacular goal. She set off on a solo run, and her advancing shot was brilliantly flicked overhead into the net by Amy Cleere to assure of victory. 5-2 to 0-1.

However, Slieverue to their eternal credit kept plugging to the bitter end with the excellent of Laura Mulcair and Caroline Kennedy leading the way.

Caroline Kennedy pointed a free with less than five minutes remaining, and they were rewarded for their persistent battling determination with

goals from Lana White and Aoife Slattery. Tullaroan finished the game with a 6th goal from Anna McCabe in injury-time.

A well merited win for Tullaroan, and apart from the class, skill and composure of Rebecca Cuddihy, the winners had other star performers in Sinead Keoghan, Beth Grace, the industrious Caoimhe Holland and double goalscorer Amy Cleere.

For a hard battling Slieverue, Laura Mulcair and Caroline Kennedy excelled, while Aoife Slattery performed well also.

Scorers: Tullaroan – Rebecca Cuddihy 3-1, Amy Cleere 2-0, Anna McCabe 1-0, Beth Grace 0-1
Slieverue – Lana White and Aoife Slattery 1-0 each, Caroline Kennedy 0-2 (frees)

Teams

Tullaroan – Ciara Walsh, Leanne Cleere, Aislinn Treacy, Sinead Keoghan, Laoise Holland, Beth Grace, Ella Dillon, Caoimhe Holland, Amy Cleere, Rebecca Cuddihy (captain), Sinead Murphy, Anna McCabe

Rest of squad: Shannon Bush, Jade Hennessy, Lily Braben, Ciara O'Shea, Grace Keoghan, Laura McCabe, Leona Lanigan, Leanne Simpson, Chloe Glennon, Rionnach Maher, Ciara Walsh, Leanne Cleere, Aislinn Treacy

Slieverue – Molly Dunphy, Ciara Atkins, Kate O'Connor, Laura Mulcair, Niamh Burke, Molly Plunkett, Caroline Kennedy, Alisha Finn Tomms, Jane Rochford, Aoife Slattery, Emma Gaynor, Ellen Kennedy

Subs: Sara Phelan, Lana White

Rest of squad – Keela Doyle, Amy Redmond, Aoife Temple.

Referee: Julian O'Dwyer (Windgap)

A hectic day of Primary Schools finals commenced at 10.30 am as Tullaroan and Slieverue contested the D final. Captain fantastic Rebecca Cuddihy was the star on show as she scored a hat-trick of goals to inspire Tullaroan to victory. Rebecca had to go off for a period of time during the second-half as she sustained a very heavy knock. However, she recovered sufficiently to re-emerge on the field of play, and collected the cup as captain afterwards.

Slieverue who battled hard to the end started brightly and they had two goal chances early in the match.

Roinn D Final

Captain Cuddihy inspires Tullaroan
Tullaroan 6-2 Slieverue 2-2

A hectic day of Primary Schools finals commenced at 10.30 am as Tullaroan and Slieverue contested the D final. Captain fantastic Rebecca Cuddihy was the star on show as she scored a hat-trick of goals to inspire Tullaroan to victory. Rebecca had to go off for a period of time during the second-half as she sustained a very heavy knock. However, she recovered sufficiently to re-emerge on the field of play, and collected the cup as captain afterwards.

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DICKSBORO ARE ROINN A FÉILE CHAMPS



DICKSBORO Camogie U14 squad set out at 8:30 on Friday morning, July 5th for Kilkishen, Co. Clare, to represent Kilkenny in Féile Luimneach 2013.

First match vs Kilkishen:

After a slow start, Dicksboro found themselves 2 goals down. The girls kept their heads and dug deep to go in at half time with a 1 point lead, 2-1 to 2-0. In the second half the Dicksboro girls drove on to win by 3-3 to 2-1.

Saturday morning, blistering heat and off to Crecora, County Limerick.

Dicksboro vs Crecora:

A slow start again, but the girls came back into the game aided by Caoimhe Dowling's free taking. The half time score, Dicksboro 0-6 to Crecora 2-0. The 'Boro again took command in the second half, winning by 2-7 to 2-1, Caoimhe Dowling 2-6, Annie O'Connor 0-1.

The final group match at 1:30pm.

Dicksboro vs Truagh Clonlara:

This was the toughest yet, against the dogged, determined Clare county champions. Half time and the 'Boro trailed by 0-2 to 1-3, two points from Caoimhe Dowling. The second half was fought from end to end, the 'Boro gradually closing the gap, with a goal from Ashling Morrissey, and two points from Caoimhe Dowling, to see Dicksboro win by the narrowest of margins to top the group and go through to a semi-final on Saturday evening against St. Ibers / Shelmaliars of Wexford.

Dicksboro vs Shelmaliars:

This match was played in Patrickswell at

6:15, still very hot, with a slight breeze. The Wexford side fought hard but were no match for the Dicksboro girls, who gave an exhibition of Camogie skills to finish the day's business, 2-6 to 0-2.

Scorers: Ashling Morrissey 1-2, Caoimhe Dowling 0-3 Sarah Walsh 1-0 and Bronagh Doheny 0-1.

Dicksboro Camogie Club had reached the All Ireland Féile Final!

Sunday morning, and mass in Kilkishen after which we all said goodbye to the host families who looked after us so well. A light stretch and puck around and off to the

Gaelic Grounds in Limerick to face Éire Óg, Nenagh.

Dicksboro vs Éire Óg Nenagh:

The 'Boro girls started strongly but despite intense pressure failed to score, while the Nenagh girls settled and began to raid up the field. Nenagh were awarded a free, which they pointed, leaving them ahead by the only score. One minute to half time when a low dropping ball was met by Gráinne Hennessy and sent to the net! Half time, Dicksboro 1-0, Nenagh 0-1. The sun was strong but the 'Boro girls were stronger, they fought and chased, never gave up and began tagging on the scores, 0-2 from Caoimhe Dowling, then a goal from Ashling Morrissey. Dicksboro kept piling on the pressure and were rewarded with a third goal from Niamh Mulrooney. This was to be the final 'Boro score, Nenagh replied with a goal at the other end, and the match finished, Dicksboro 3-2, to Éire Óg Nenagh 1-1.

Dicksboro are Division 1 Camogie Féile Champions for the first time in the club's history!

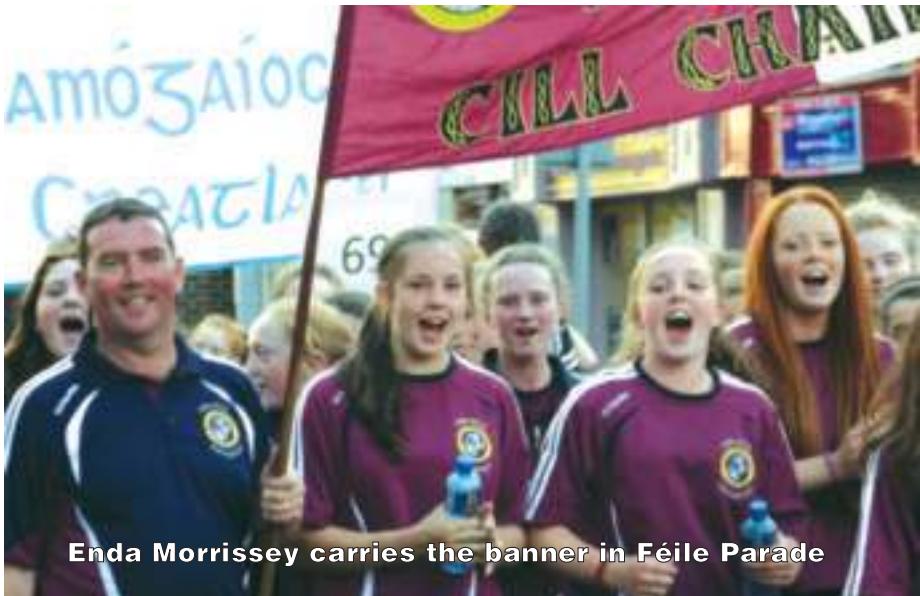


**Tara Clifford, Captain,
makes her
acceptance Speech**

The Club would like to thank their host club Kilkishen, for the wonderful hospitality and for looking after the girls so well, Crecora for their hospitality on Saturday, the trainers and mentors, parents, sponsors of Dicksboro GAA Club for a wonderful homecoming BBQ on Sunday night. Thanks to our bus driver, Tom, who had us everywhere we needed to be when we needed to be there, and most of all the girls, who gave everyone involved a weekend never to be forgotten.

The Dicksboro U14 girls finished off a fantastic season with a great win over Glenmore in the Roinn A County Final in Callan in late August. This completes the treble of County Féile, All Ireland Féile and County Championship, a great year and congratulations to the team and mentors who have put in so much effort to make this happen.

Combined Panels: Leah Dunne, Ella Dowling, Issey Carroll, Orlaith Moore, Ella Brennan, Tara Clifford, Ciara O'Shea, Annie O'Connor, Aobha O'Gorman, Jane Cass, Caoimhe Dunne-Dowling, Niamh Mulrooney, Gráinne Hennessey, Ashling Morrissey, Kate Dempsey, Sarah Walsh, Bronagh Doheny, Catriona Gough, Leah Raggett, Kate Ryan, Grace O'Neill, Aine Trait, Aideen Ryan, Amy Lennon.
Trainers: Enda Morrissey, Alan Dowling, Marie Gough, Lucy Ryan, Pauline Carroll.



U15 Camogie Development Squad 2013

This was just the second year of U15 Development Squad activity in Kilkenny. The first session took place in Ballyhale on 17th February and the squad attended their final Blitz in Tipperary on the 17th August. Over the duration of the squad activities 50 girls participated from 23 different clubs. Trainers were David Gallagher (Ballyhale) Mike Dolan (Kilmacow) David Williams (Kilmacow), Marina Malone (The Rower/ Inistioge) provided dressing room support and first aid. The following were the main activities undertaken:

Leinster Camogie Coaching Course for Coaches given by Martin Fogarty 23rd February
 Kilmacow U16 Blitz 30th March

Ball Wall and training session at Kilmacow 6th April

Goalkeeping workshop given by KK Senior Keeper & U21 Coach Richie O'Neill 13th April

Lifestyle Weekend 25/26th May

Combined training sessions with U16 squad (run in to exams) June

Bag Packing at McDonagh Junction 21/22nd June

Ennis Blitz 27th July

Rathkeale Blitz 10th August

All Ireland Blitz in Tipperary 17th August.

23 training sessions

The Coaches would like to express their thanks to the many people who helped out with activities during the year; a special thanks to the girls and their parents for the commitment they gave to squad all year.



MIKEY WALSH: 1934 - OCTOBER 2013

By John Hartley

It is with much sadness, that we record the passing of Michael (Mikey) Walsh who departed this life in early October. Sliieverue – or Sliabh Ruadh as we like to be called – is a small, predominantly hurling and camogie club from the smallest parish down deep-south. It was quite a proud and remarkable achievement then for us to provide three playing members on to the successful Kilkenny team that won the 1957 All-Ireland senior hurling title. Mikey Walsh was one of those three team-members, the others – as is well known – being Paddy Buggy, RIP and Dick Rockett.

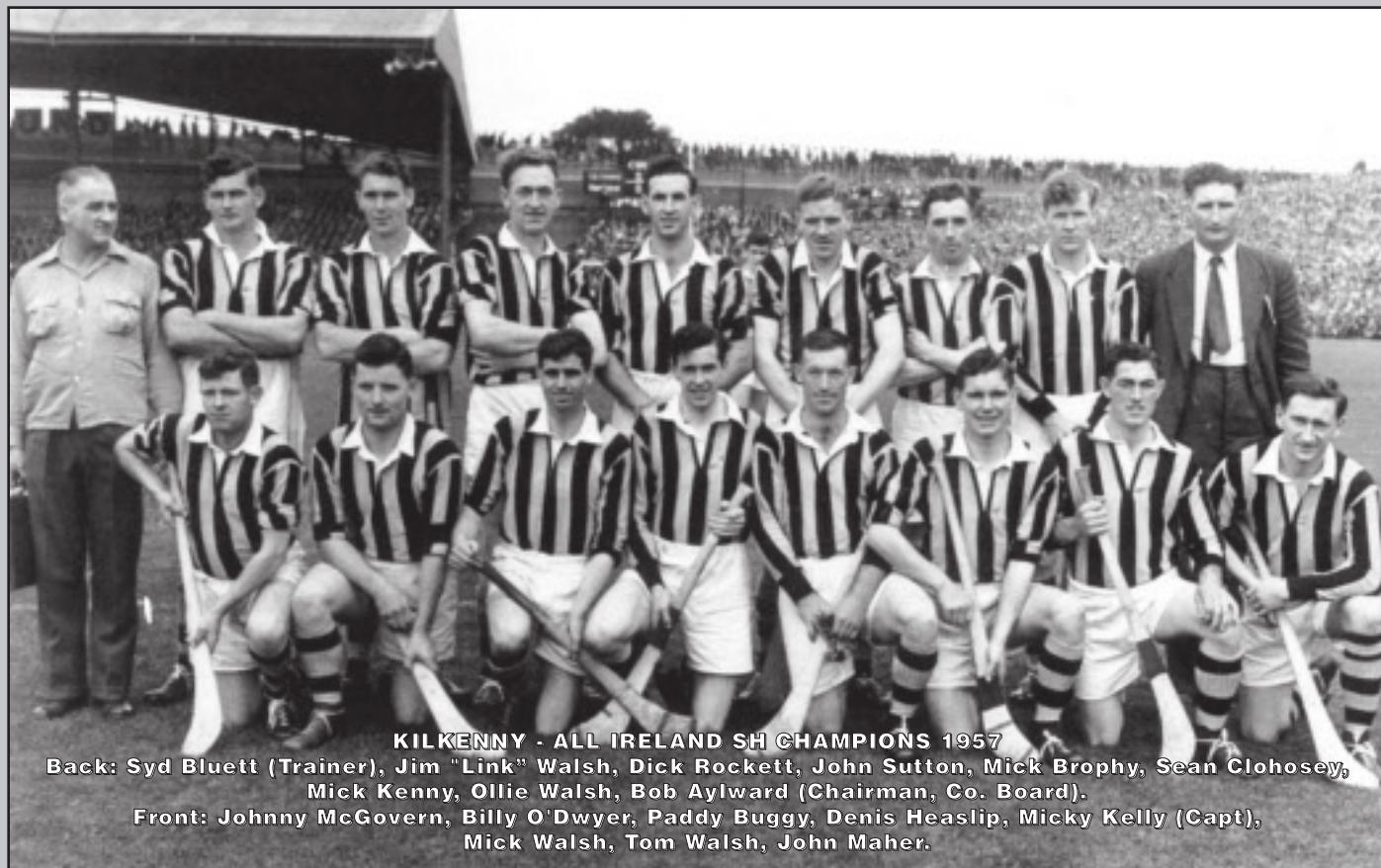
Paddy's Buggy's exploits on the field of play, as well as his huge contribution to C.L.G at all administrative levels is well documented in a fine obituary to him elsewhere in this yearbook. While Mikey and Paddy have both gone to their eternal rewards during the course of 2013, happily Dick Rockett is with us still, hale and hearty and farming with his son Michael and extended family at Airmount. The 1957 win was a significant double celebration. Kilkenny held – and still holds the proud distinction of annexing at least one All Ireland title in each and every decade since the start of the 1900's. As our most recent triumph had been in 1947 we maintained – but only just – our ten year achievement!

Mikey was a step-nephew of Tom ("Builder") Walsh of Sliabh Ruadh, Carrickshock and Kilkenny vintage. The Builder won county senior titles with both clubs and proudly collected a senior All-Ireland medal with the Black and Amber in the thunder and lightening final of 1939. It has to be mentioned here that Builder's grandson Niall is ensuring meaningful continuity in modern present-day hurling. Niall holds the proud and unique record of winning two All-Ireland medals in the same year! He was a playing member of both U-21 and Intermediate teams that brought All-Ireland honours to Kilkenny in 2008. For good measure he was also successful in 2010, being a playing member of the Intermediate

team that brought further honours Noreside. He also played in the 2012 final but sure we can't win 'em all! Sliabh Ruadh, the south and the entire county are justly proud of Niall's achievements to date.

Mikey began to come to prominence in 1952-'53. Sliabh Ruadh had claimed county junior honours in 1950 and green shoots were emerging around the parish with serious promise of better things to come. And so it turned out to be! We contested the 1953 senior final, unluckily losing out to Bennetsbridge, the "kings" of Kilkenny and, indeed, further afield during that era. We made amends in 1954, successfully defeating Tullaroan in the final. To put our win in perspective Tullaroan had already accounted for Bennetsbridge in the semi-final! Mickey played a key role in that memorable and historic 1954 successful campaign. Operating at left-corner back it was a joy to behold him gather a ball in around the square, wriggle his way clear before turning a dangerous situation into an attacking one with one of his brilliant, lengthy clearances. Our success, unfortunately, was short-lived as, apart from unsuccessfully contesting the 1957 County Final, versus John Lockes of Callan, no further honour came our way.

Mikey came to the notice of the shrewd and vigilant Kilkenny selectors of the time and soon after made the No 6 jersey his own. He was flanked during the whole 1957 campaign, including the final, by none other than Paddy Buggy RIP and Johnny McGovern. What a formidable half-line of defence! He contested four All-Irelands from 1957 to 1963, winning '57 and losing the '59 replay he was also on the losing side of 1963, playing for Waterford which ironically lost out to Kilkenny!



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1957

Back: Syd Bluett (Trainer), Jim "Link" Walsh, Dick Rockett, John Sutton, Mick Brophy, Sean Clohosey, Mick Kenny, Ollie Walsh, Bob Aylward (Chairman, Co. Board).

Front: Johnny McGovern, Billy O'Dwyer, Paddy Buggy, Denis Heaslip, Micky Kelly (Capt), Mick Walsh, Tom Walsh, John Maher.

Mikey had transferred to Faugh's in Dublin where he was helped to gain meaningful employment at a time when it was quite difficult to do so. Here locally, he had been employed as a Van-Salesman with the late Billy Walsh, father of Brendan who now owns and runs the highly successful wholesale and retail fruit and vegetable enterprise of the same name.

He had met the love of his heart, Noeleen Mulcahy from Newport Square, Waterford around this time. Noeleen was a member of a staunch and committed Mt. Sion family so it was no surprise that Mikey "threw in his lot" with Mt Sion and Waterford on his return to the south-east. Incidentally, Noeleen is a niece of the late Jack Duggan of Farnogue, Bigwood, Mullinavat also a Kilkenny All-Ireland medal winner of an earlier era. Also two of Mickey's brothers won All-Ireland minor titles wearing Black and Amber jerseys. They were Jimmy (1950) and Richie (1960). No wonder they say hurling runs in the blood! After coming back from Faugh's and Dublin and representing Mount Sion and Waterford, Mickey continued to play and maintain his interest in the game he loved. His health had begun to deteriorate in recent years as had his wife, Noeleen's who has been a patient in Rosario Nursing Home for the past few years. Mikey also became a patient of Rosario in recent years from where, as mentioned earlier, he passed away in October of this year.

To his good wife Noeleen, his close and beloved family, his surviving brothers and sisters and his many nieces, nephews and next generation members we extend our sincere sympathies. May he rest in peace.

Ar dheis Dé go Raibh a anam dílis.



Mickey Walsh beside Ned Power on the 1963 Waterford Team



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TOM WALSH: 1930 - Sept 2013

by Barrie Henriques

Tom Walsh passed away quietly, with no fuss, no celebration, with his family gathered round on September 5th in Stratmore Lodge Callan. Tom, who was married to Statia Dunne, lived in Callan for a very long time. They reared a family of two girls, Ann and Mary, and one son John. He was born in Ballintee, in the Parish of Dunnamaggin, and there is no doubt that he was Dunnamaggin to the marrow of his bones. With his three brothers, Jim (Link), Davy and Pat they hurled with the Dunnamaggin team briefly, but when the club went into decline, Jim played with the John Lockes, while Tom played with Carrickshock. Pat and Davy won County minor titles with Moanrue (Hugginstown) in 1940.

After the decline of Dunnamaggin, Tom went on to win a County senior Title with Carrickshock in 1951, the last time such a feat was accomplished, while Jim won a County junior Title with John Lockes in 1952. Tom was not the only Dunna man on that never-to-be forgotten Carrickshock team. With him were his neighbours, Tom Ryan, Dick O'Neill and Billy Treacy. Team mates of Tom on that Carrickshock team and with whom he later joined on the Kilkenny senior team were Jimmy Heffernan, John Sutton and Jimmy Kelly. He won an All-Ireland junior Title with Kilkenny in 1951, and in addition to Sutton, lads like Paul Fitzgerald, Paddy Johnston, Johnny McGovern, and John Heffernan figured very prominently in the win over London.

Kilkenny again won the All Ireland junior crown in 1956 when they defeated Kerry in the Home Final, and headed to London to face the emigrants in a tough, dour, uncompromising encounter. Led by Sean Tyrrell, the cats returned home with the Title, due in no small way to the tenacity of defenders, Tom Walsh and his brother Jim, Dick Bolger, Denis Heaslip, Billy Costigan and Jack Dunne. Twelve months down the road, many on that junior side (Ollie Walsh, Billy Dwyer and Paddy Hoban had been "confiscated" by the senior selectors earlier in the campaign), backboned the senior side to win the senior Title in '57. Tom Walsh lined out at corner back, with his brother, Jim at full back in front of Ollie Walsh. Match reports lauded the contribution of the three Walshes, who stood determined in front of the Kilkenny goal. Tom was as tough a corner back as ever wore the number two jersey. When corner backs were only expected to protect their goalkeeper, Tom Walsh was an exceptional operator in the corner, because in addition to being a very hard opponent, he was an exceptionally skilful corner back.

I remember talking to Tom about those times. He found it very difficult

to accept praise or acclaim. He never felt that he did anything special, even though he marked, and held scoreless some of the greatest corner forwards to play the game. He was a very shy man, but I remember him telling me about the '57 season. "Ten of our team in '57 came from junior clubs". He was very proud of that, and that he and his brother, Link were from a junior side. The Dunnamaggin brothers enjoyed great times beside each other in those days. "John Maher was at left corner back, and we had Ollie behind us. We had tremendous understanding. Any forward that got by Jim or myself, or Maher would earn whatever they got", he smiled. Tom had great regard for the many hurling stars that crossed his path. He faced the likes of Johnny Kiely (Waterford), Paddy Kenny (Tipperary), and Paddy Barry (Cork). He had great admiration for the Tipp lads like Pat Stakelum, Jimmy Finn, Seamus Bannon, Liam Devaney, and the "Rattler" Byrne. There were never better hurlers in the country than the Wexford lads", he would say. "The Rackards, Tim Flood, the Kehoes, Ned Wheeler, and, of course, Jim English, were outstanding men"

Hurling took the brothers to New Eltham and Wembley, to New York too, trips that lived in their minds forever. One has to appreciate that the times we are talking about were far different to what is available to players of the modern generation. He had great respect for Paddy Grace, Msgr. Tommy Maher, Sid Bluett, Bob Aylward, Chew Leahy and others. He loved hurling people. How proud he was when his grandnephew, Brian Hogan brought the Liam McCarthy out to his house a few years ago. It was fitting too that the Hogan lads carried his coffin at his obsequies. His passing will cause much grief and sadness for his wife, Statia, his son John, his daughters, Ann and Mary Conlon, for his son-in-law, Ian Conlon, his many relatives, neighbours and friends. Tom Walsh was a Dunnamaggin man, but it never stopped him from rendering great service to the juvenile hurlers in Callan, one of whom came under the influence of two Callan icons, one being Tom Walsh, and the other, the great Pat "Diamond" Hayden. His name—John Power. Tom's brother Pat, passed to his Eternal Reward three weeks after Tom's departure.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.

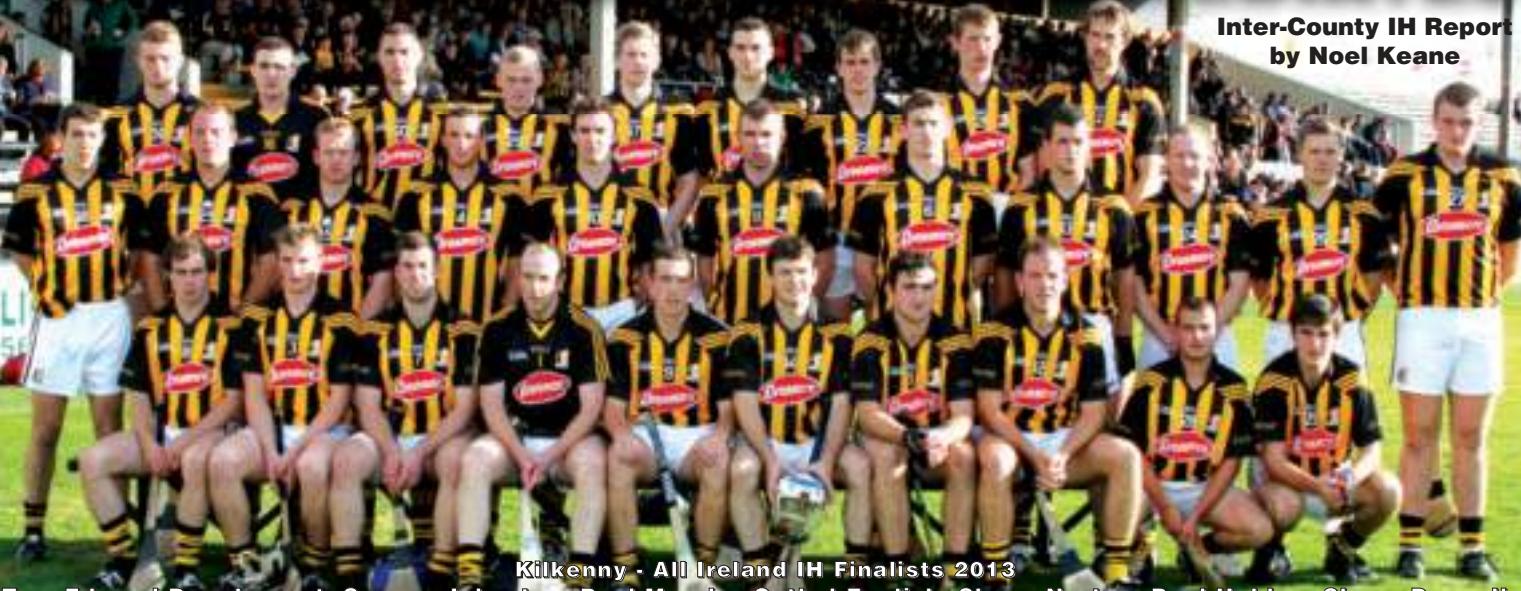


KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND JH CHAMPIONS 1956

Back: Mick Larkin, Bob Aylward, Phil Murphy, Jimmy Coyne, Rody O'Neill, Peter Fennelly, Donal Gorey, Paddy Lacey, Jack Murphy, Florrie McCarthy, Billy Costigan, Jim "Link" Walsh, Tom Ryan, PJ O'Neill
Front: Dixie Brennan, Dinny Hogan, Sean Tyrrell (Captain), Jack Dunne, Tom Walsh, Dick Bolger, Denis Heaslip, Jimmy Bourke, Mick Fleming, Joe Grace.

TREBLE TRAUMA FOR INTERMEDIATES

Inter-County IH Report
by Noel Keane



Kilkenny - All Ireland IH Finalists 2013

Top: Edward Prendergast, Sammy Johnston, Paul Murphy, Cathal English, Shane Norton, Paul Holden, Shane Donnelly, Joe Lyng, Sean Cummins,
Middle: Padraig Phelan, John Phelan, David Walton, Shane Prendergast, Bill Beckett, Rory Hickey, Pat Hartley, Joe Brennan, Kevin Power, John Hayes, Conor Joyce,
Front: Brian Kennedy, Michael Walsh, Michael Maloney, Richie O'Neill, David Langton, John Joe Farrell, Luke Harney, Conor Phelan, Tomas Flynn, Conor Martin. Photo Eoin Hennessy

The Kilkenny Intermediate Hurling Team was gunning to successfully win the All Ireland Intermediate Championship after failing at the final hurdle the previous two years against Clare and Tipperary respectively. This year, as there was no Leinster Intermediate Championship, the Cats were given a bye into the All Ireland Semi Final against Galway on 17th August in Semple Stadium. This would be a repeat of last year's semi-final where Kilkenny came out trumps in Tullamore.

Due to the disappointments of the Seniors, Minors and U-21s this year, the Intermediate team were the last team with a chance of taking All Ireland hurling honours. And, in truth, they turned in an assured and stylish performance when they breezed past the tribesman and into the All-Ireland intermediate hurling final, winning the semi-final in Thurles by 0-16 to 0-8.

Galway, who were able to field a shadow senior side with the likes of Damian Joyce, went step for step with the opposition during the opening 16 minutes when six points were shared equally. The Noresiders took up the running in the 18th minute when free taker Rory Hickey pointed following a foul on Conor Phelan.

Within a minute Jonjo Farrell rose the while flag, and Kilkenny were on their way to an interval lead of 0-9 to 0-4 after playing against the breeze.

The winners benefitted from the Galway tactic of playing only five attackers. Consequently, the Kilkenny defence never came under serious pressure and, more crucially, the backs were able to get in well-directed clearances that hurt the opposition.

Confident and assured Kilmacow stalwart Richie O'Neill was like a 'sweeper' behind the defence at times, and his smart use of possession set up several attacks from deep in the Noreside half.

The Westerners missed two chances of scores immediately after the turn before David Langton pointed at the other end. Substitute Shane Moloney, one of Galway's better players during this half, drilled a free over the bar before Kilkenny replied through Rory Hickey (0-11 to 0-5). As the game wore on Kilkenny grew more and more confident, and the best hurling flowed from the fleet-footed Joe Brennan and Brian Kennedy while Pat Hartley, Michael Moloney and Shane Prendergast stood tall and firm throughout.

Altogether this was a more than decent showing from the Cats, who, in the absence of a Leinster championship, were having their first outing.

Full Time Score: Kilkenny 0-16 Galway 0-8

Scorers: Kilkenny - R. Hickey (0-6); J. Brennan (0-5); J. Farrell (0-2); D. Langton, B. Kennedy, B. Beckett (0-1 each).

Galway - D. Joyce, N. Keary, S. Moloney (0-2 each); E. Concannon, J. Carr (0-1 each).

Kilkenny - R. O'Neill, S. Cummins, M. Walsh, S. Prendergast, L. Harney, P. Hartley, M. Moloney, D. Langton, B. Kennedy, C. Phelan, R. Hickey, B. Beckett, J. Brennan, J. Farrell, D. Walton. Subs - J. Lyng, S. Don-

nelly.

Galway - C. Fahy, S. Caulfield, S. Morrissey, C. Burke, K. Kennedy, G. McInerney, M. Keating, D. Joyce, C. McDonagh, M. Mullins, E. Concannon, L. Smith, N. Keary, N. Lynch, E. Forde, Subs - J. Gantley, S. Moloney, J. Carr, C. Keane, P. Flaherty.
Referee - J. Sexton (Cork).

Now it was on to the All-Ireland Final which was to be played on home soil on 31st August as the previous instalment of Kilkenny v Tipperary was played in Semple Stadium. Of the decider, which is a repeat of last year's showdown, Kilkenny manager Pat O'Grady said: "We are really looking forward to it after losing to Tipp last season." This was a big opportunity for the cats to revenge last year's loss. and win their fourth Michael Cusack Cup - Kilkenny's previous successes were in 1973, 2008 and 2010 - while Tipperary were aiming to win their seventh title to join Cork at the top of the Roll of Honour.

Despite Kilkenny's best efforts, they were to come up three points short. Goals either side of the break from Tipp's Ruairí Gleeson were crucial to the Premier County's victory.

Tipperary, who opened the scoring through a Willie Ryan point, followed by two more from Niall O'Meara, led for most of the first quarter. The game was level at 0-5 apiece when Gleeson found the net for the first time on 26 minutes. However, Thomastown's Jonjo Farrell's goal for Kilkenny, just shy of half-time, left Tipperary just one ahead at the interval, 1-7 to 1-6.

It took six minutes of the second half to produce a score - a point by Timmy Hammersley. This was followed a minute later by another goal by Ruairí Gleeson which helped Tipperary into a 2-10 to 1-7 lead, and they looked to be in total control until a second Farrell strike left just two points between the sides as the closing stages approached. There was no doubt Tipp's superiority, but a failure to turn good possession into account left them vulnerable right to the finish. Tipperary held firm though, and, fittingly, it was Gleeson who hit the final point of the game to wrap up the win.

Full Time Score: Tipperary 2-14 Kilkenny 2-11

It was the Premier County's second title in a row in the competition, and their seventh overall. Also, the success meant Tipp did the 'home and away' double over Kilkenny in the final in successive years. The champs have the advantage of being allowed able to pick players from senior club, while Kilkenny are confined to junior and intermediate outfits.

Scorers for Tipperary: R. Gleeson 2-1, T. Hammersley 0-5 (2f, 1 '65); N. O'Meara 0-4, D. Fox 0-1 (1f), W. Ryan 0-1, D. O'Hanlon 0-1, C. Kenny 0-1
Scorers for Kilkenny: J. Farrell 2-0, R. Hickey 0-5 (3f), L. Harney 0-1, C. Phelan 0-1, D. Langton 0-1, J. Brennan 0-1, D. Walton 0-1, P. Holden 0-1

Tipperary: D. Egan; S. O'Brien, M. Butler, T. Treacy; J. O'Keeffe, D. Young,

P Heffernan; B Fox, W Ryan; O Quirke, T Butler, N O'Meara; R Gleeson, D O'Hanlon, T Hammersley. Subs: J McLoughney for O Quirke (29), P Molloy for D O'Hanlon (HT), C Kenny for M Butler (46), P Shortt for P Molloy (59).

Kilkenny: R O'Neill; S Cummins, M Walsh, S Prendergast; L Harney, P Hartley, M Moloney; B Kennedy, D Langton; B Beckett, R Hickey, C Phelan; J Brennan, J Farrell, D Walton. Subs: J Lyng for B Beckett (38), P Holden for D Walton (45), S Donnelly for J Brennan.

Despite the disappointment of the defeat, Kilkenny can hold their heads high. They put in a gallant effort throughout the game and take many positives going forward into next year's championship. Again sincere thanks to Pat O'Grady, Pat O'Neill, PJ Kenny and Tom Murphy for all their dedication during 2013. Hopefully the Holy Grail can be reached come August 2014. For the new year, Pat O'Grady will be at the helm once more along with Pat O'Neill and a new selection team in Tom Murphy and Paschal Connolly. We wish them every success for the coming year.

The panel was as follows:

Richie O' Neill, Kilmacow, Mark Phelan, Glenmore, Alan Walsh, Mooncoin, Jason Corcoran, John Locke's, Brian Kennedy, St Lachtain's, Bill Beckett, St. Lachtain's, Padraig Phelan, Emeralds, Jeff Brennan, St Patrick's, Ballyragget, Paul Murphy, Blacks&Whites, Niall Walsh, Slieverue, Rory Hickey, Lismowney, Kevin Kelly, St Patrick's Ballyragget, Robbie Walsh, Danesfort (Capt.), John Joe Farrell, Thomastown, Ger Aylward, Glenmore, James Maher, St Lachtain's, Ian Duggan, Mullinavat, Luke Harney, Kilmacow, Niall Doherty, Galmoy, Michael Malone, Mullinavat, Cathal Kenny, Barrow Rangers, Niall Kennedy, Blacks&Whites, Bill Staunton, St Patrick's Ballyragget, Nicky Cleere, Bennettsbridge, Brian Murphy, Thomastown, Peter Cleere, Blacks & Whites, Keith Nolan, Ballyhale Shamrocks, John Cody, Glenmore, Martin Phelan, Lismowney, Philly Lonergan, Windgap, Brian Cahill, Cloneen, Noel Doherty, Galmoy

Manager: Pat O'Grady

Trainer: Pat O'Neill

Selectors: P.J. Kenny, Tom Murphy

Doctor: Dr Michael Helly

Physio: Cathy Gunner

Kit Man: Alan Kavanagh



Michael Moloney and Brian Kennedy (Kilkenny) contest the sliotar with Danny O'Hanlon and Ruairí Gleeson (Tipperary)
(Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



Joe Brennan (Kilkenny) battles for the sliotar with Brian Fox (Tipperary) **(Photo: Eoin Hennessy)**

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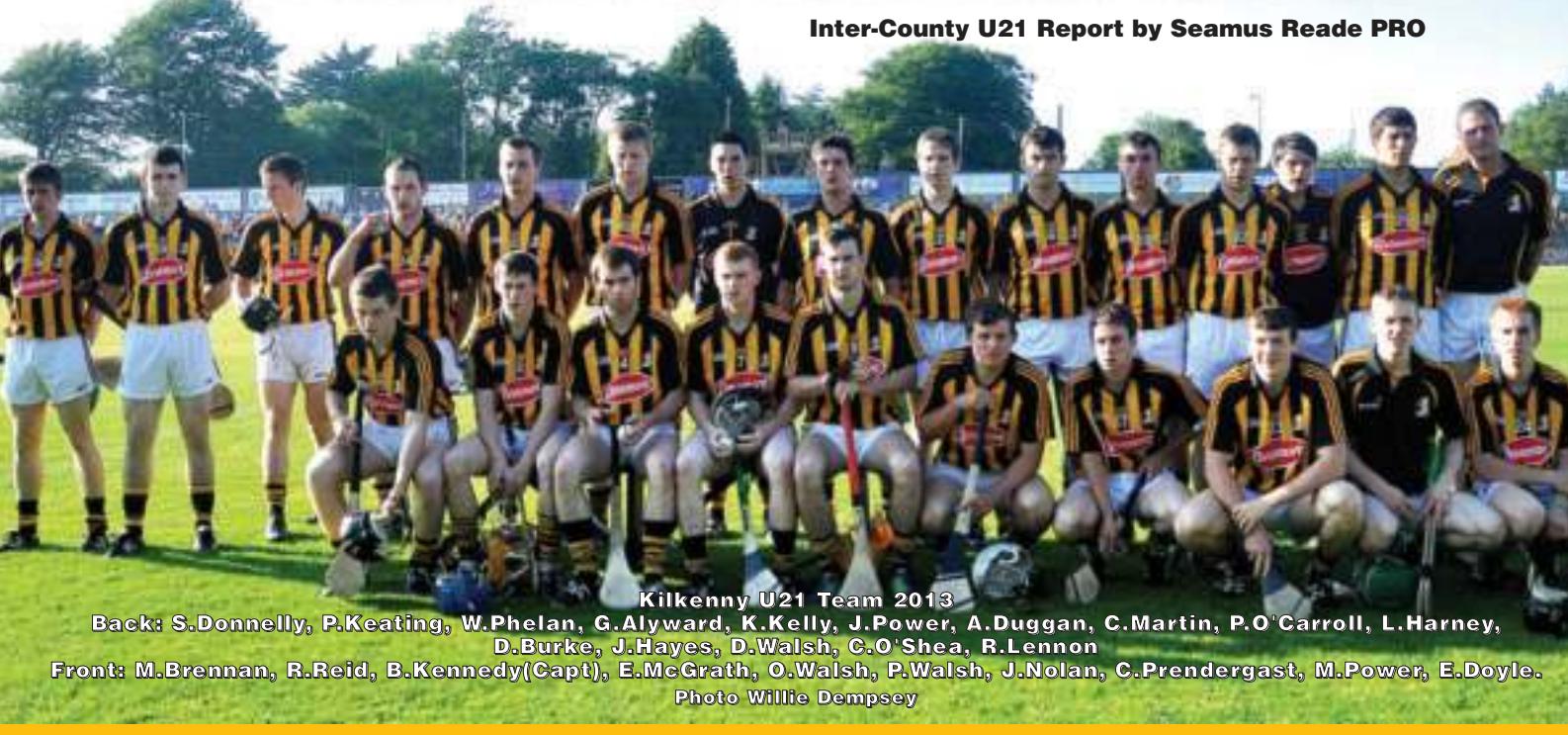
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WEXFORD STUN THE CATS!

Inter-County U21 Report by Seamus Reade PRO



Kilkenny U21 Team 2013

Back: S.Donnelly, P.Keating, W.Phelan, G.Alyward, K.Kelly, J.Power, A.Duggan, C.Martin, P.O'Carroll, L.Harney,
D.Burke, J.Hayes, D.Walsh, C.O'Shea, R.Lennon

Front: M.Brennan, R.Reid, B.Kennedy(Capt), E.McGrath, O.Walsh, P.Walsh, J.Nolan, C.Prendergast, M.Power, E.Doyle.

Photo Willie Dempsey

Following on the disappointment of defeat by Clare in the 2012 decider there was determination in the Kilkenny camp to go all the way in the 2013 campaign. Confidence was also high that the All Ireland winning Minor team of 2010, who defeated Clare 2-10 to 0-14 in the All Ireland Final of that year, would make up much of the panel.

As has been the custom in recent years, Richie Mulrooney and his management team took charge of Kilkenny's early season Walsh Cup campaign. The panel was made up largely of the under 21 team along with some fringe members of Brian Cody's senior squad.

BORD NA MONA LEINSTER WALSH CUP

26/1/2013 at St Johns Park Kilkenny: Kilkenny 0-17 NUIG Galway 0-15
The Kilkenny team, under the management of Richie Mulrooney and Adrian Finan, played against the breeze and went in at the interval two points in arrears (NUIG 0-10, Kilkenny 0-8). The University team featuring Niall Burke, Joseph Cooney and Brian Flaherty of Galway, Aaron Cunningham of Clare and Limerick's Kevin Downes maintained its lead for most of the second half but a strong Kilkenny finish culminating in points from John Power and Mark Bergin was enough to see Kilkenny through to the next round to meet the winners of the Wexford and Offaly tie also being played that day.

Kilkenny: Aaron Duggan (Dicksboro); Jason Corcoran (John Lockes); Padraig Keating (Erin's Own); Brian Kennedy (St. Lachtain's); Conor Martin (Emeralds); Joe Holden (Ballyhale Shamrocks); Owen McGrath (John Lockes); Tom Breen (St Martin's); Richie Reid (Ballyhale Shamrocks) 0-3 of which 0-1 free; Mark Bergin (O'Loughlin Gaels) 0-1; Mark Kelly (O'Loughlin Gaels) 0-1; Rory Hickey (Lisdowney); Matthew Ruth (James Stephens) 0-1; Shane Maher (Dicksboro) 0-1; John Power (Carrickshock) 0-8 of which 0-7 frees; Subs: Ger Teehan (Graigue Ballycallan) for Joe Holden (Half-Time); Martin Power (Piltown) for Rory Hickey (13m) 0-1; Shane Donnelly (St. Lachtain's) for Shane Maher (40m) 0-1; Jack Nolan (O'Loughlin Gaels); Robert Lennon (Bennettsbridge); Eoin Doyle (Rower Inistioge); Kevin Walsh (Piltown); Paddy Butler (O'Loughlin Gaels); David Burke (O'Loughlin Gaels); Enda Morrissey (Bennettsbridge); Conor Joyce (Rower Inistioge); Nollaig Brophy (Piltown); Jack McGrath (James Stephens); Eoin Bergin (St.Patrick's Ballyragget)

3rd February 2013 at Blackwater, Wexford: Wexford 2-18 Kilkenny 0-16
Kilkenny, fielding very much a Development Squad, eventually succumbed to the Wexford Senior Squad in the Walsh Cup Semi-Final at Blackwater on Sunday. Playing with the aid of a strong breeze in the first half the Kilkenny under 21's were full value for their 0.7 to 0.4 lead after the first quarter with Rory Hickey, Mark Bergin and Ger Aylward all on the score-sheet. The lead was extended to 5 points on the half hour the highlight being a delightful point from a side-line cut by Ger Aylward. However, the physically stronger Wexford side began to grow into the game and back to back points in the 31st and 32nd minutes reduced the lead to 3

points. Then a penalty on the stroke of half time by Gary Moore had the teams level and the advantage very much swinging in favour of the Wexford side. Half Time: Wexford 1.7 Kilkenny 0.10

Rory Hickey opened the second half scoring with his 6th score and Kilkenny matched their more senior opponents up until the 14th minute when Padge Dunne pounced to score Wexford's 2nd goal. Another point within seconds put 4 points between the sides and the Wexford side went on to dominate the final quarter. This was a brave effort by the young Kilkenny side who more than matched their opponents for much of this game. Final Score: Wexford 2.18 Kilkenny 0.16

Kilkenny: Aaron Duggan (Dicksboro), Jason Corcoran (John Lockes), Padraig Keating (Erin's Own), Padraig Walsh (Tullaroan), Joe Holden (Ballyhale), Luke Harney (Kilmacow), Brian Kennedy (St Lactains), Owen McGrath (John Lockes), Tom Breen (St Martins), Mark Bergin (O'Loughlin Gaels) 0-2, Rory Hickey (Lisdowney) – 0.11 (10F), Mark Kelly (O'Loughlin Gaels), Matthew Ruth (James Stephens) 0-1, Shane Maher (Dicksboro), Ger Aylward (Glenmore)-0.2. Subs: Ollie Walsh (Dicksboro) for Shane Maher, Conor Martin (Emeralds) for Joe Holden, Shane Donnelly (St Lactains) for Ger Aylward, Richie Reid (Ballyhale) for Owen McGrath, Ger Teehan (Graigue Ballycallan) for Conor Martin, Martin Power (Piltown) Blood Sub for Richie Reid.

Wexford: Niall Breen, Bobby Kenny, Andrew Shore, Eoin Moore, Richie Kehoe, Andrew Kenny, James Tonks, Lee Chin, Eoin Doyle, Harry Kehoe, Paul Morris, Gary Moore, P J Nolan, Michael O'Regan, Padge Doran. Subs: Mark Fanning, Eoin Quigley, David Redmond, Shaun Murphy, Garrett Sinnott, Tomas Waters, Stephen Murphy.

BORD GAIS ENERGY LEINSTER UNDER 21 CHAMPIONSHIP

26th June: O'Connor Park Tullamore: Kilkenny 1-19 Offaly 1-13
Kilkenny under 21's were well warned ahead of their quarter final tie following the senior's recent tie with the same opposition also in Tullamore. And so it proved as Offaly took the game to the favourites with Stephen Quirke pulling the strings in the Offaly attack. Quirke landed seven first half points, including three tasty efforts from play, as Offaly departed 0-9 to 0-8 ahead at the interval. That was chiefly because Quirke was clinical converting chances as Kilkenny were forced to absorb significant pressure from the determined home side. By the 18th minute Offaly led by 0-6 to 0-3 as Kilkenny were relying on the free-taking of John Power. As the first half progressed though, Cillian Buckley's influence increased, while there were also glimpses of Shane Donnelly's promise. But Quirke's efficiency ensured Offaly went in at the break protecting a lead and the issue was delicately poised.

Three points on the trot after the restart from Power (2) and Kevin Kelly nudged Kilkenny 0-11 to 0-9 in front before Offaly pounced for a dramatic goal from a 20 metre free that went through a cluster of Kilkenny bodies. But Kilkenny summoned a response in the 51st minute when substitute Michael Brennan netted a goal from an awkward angle to give Kilkenny a 1-14 to 1-13 advantage. Quirke had a penalty blocked two minutes later

and Kilkenny had sufficient class to close out the game hitting 1-5 without reply in the closing stages.

Scorers for Kilkenny: John Power 0-10 (9fs, 165), Michael Brennan 1-1, Kevin Kelly 0-4, Cillian Buckley 0-1, Richie Reid 0-1, Shane Donnelly 0-1, Ger Aylward 0-1.

Scorers for Offaly: Stephen Quirke 1-10 (1-7fs), Thomas Geraghty 0-2, Aodhan Kealey 0-1

KILKENNY: Aaron Duggan (Dicksboro); Jack Nolan (O'Loughlin Gaels), Willie Phelan (Dunnamaggin), Padraig Walsh (Tullaoran); Jason Corcoran (John Lockes), Luke Harney (Kilmacow), Brian Kennedy (St Lachtain's – captain); Richie Reid (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Owen McGrath (John Lockes); Cillian Buckley (Dicksboro), John Power (Carrickshock), Ollie Walsh (Dicksboro); Ger Aylward (Glenmore), Kevin Kelly (St Patrick's), Shane Donnelly (St Lachtain's). Subs: Jack Langton (Clara) for Nolan (26 mins), Michael Brennan (St Patrick's) for Reid (37 mins), Conor Martin (Emeralds) for O Walsh (50 mins).

OFFALY: Conor Clancy (St Rynagh's); Niall Wynne (St Rynagh's), Dan Kelleher (Brosna Gaels), Michael Cleary (Shinrone); Sean Gardner (Lusmagh), Pat Camon (St Rynagh's), David King (Coolderry); Thomas Carroll (Seir Kieran), Sean Cleary (Shinrone); Sean Dolan (St Rynagh's), Aodhan Kealey (Kinnitty), Peter Geraghty (Kilcormac-Killoughey); Stephen Quirke (St Rynagh's), Thomas Geraghty (Kilcormac-Killoughey), Adrian Hynes (Seir Kieran). Subs: Jason Sampson (Shinrone) for Kealey (57 mins).

REFEREE: Justin Heffernan (Wexford).

10th July Wexford Park: Wexford 1-21 Kilkenny 0-21

AN INJURY-TIME goal saw Wexford snatch a dramatic victory and wrestle the Leinster under-21 hurling title from Kilkenny's hands. Wexford Park erupted in an explosion of noise and colour as sub Niall Murphy netted a late, late winner to sink the Cats on a 1-21 to 0-20 score-line.

The teams looked all set to meet for a second time after 20 minutes of extra-time failed to find a winner. That all changed in injury-time when Kilkenny's Aaron Duggan spilled Murphy's close range shot and couldn't prevent the sliotar from crossing the line. It was a cruel blow to take for Kilkenny, who weathered an early Wexford storm to take control of the game. Having trailed by 0-4 to 0-1 inside eight minutes the accuracy of John Power (four frees, one from play) plus further scores from Ger Aylward (2) and Richie Reid helped them creep two points ahead (0-8 to 0-6) by the 21st minute.

They held the advantage until half-time of what was a tense and tight game. Wexford free-takers Jack Guiney (2) and Ian Byrne kept the Model County in the game, but Kevin Kelly (2) and Power (two frees) ensured Kilkenny led by 0-12 to 0-9 at the interval.

The second half was another cagey affair. Kilkenny's hopes of forging a big lead were dashed when Ger Aylward was denied a goal by Brian Murphy's save. That was a miss the Cats would rue as, by the 50th minute, Wexford had levelled matters after Brady shot the 28th point of the evening from a 65. Kilkenny, who now had Cillian Buckley on the field of play, charged back into the lead when Kevin Kelly and Richie Reid grabbed a brace in quick succession but, buoyed by their fans, Guiney (free) and Brady (sideline cut) restored parity. Wexford's fight looked to be in vain when, following a needless foul, Power tipped the Cats into the lead with a free as time began to run out. Yet they proved they had enough left in the tank for extra-time, Guiney converting an injury-time free to leave the sides facing an additional 20 minutes.

Wexford's proficiency from placed balls dominated the first period of extra-time. Guiney struck two, Ian Brady another, as they opened up a two-point lead with 10 minutes to play. However, Kevin Kelly showed a keen eye too, converting three frees in the second half to leave Kilkenny narrowly ahead (0-21 to 0-20). Wexford were chasing the game again, but looked to have secured a draw when Guiney struck a close-range free to level matters. A replay seemed on the cards, but Murphy's injury-time goal saw Wexford stun the Cats and wrestle the title from their grasp.

SCORERS: Wexford – Jack Guiney (0-9, frees); Ian Byrne (0-5, 0-3 frees, 0-1 65); Niall Murphy (1-0); Conor McDonald, Rhys Clarke (0-2 each); Gary Moore, Barry Carton (0-1 each). Kilkenny – John Power (0-9, 0-8 frees); Kevin Kelly (0-7, 0-4 frees); Richie Reid (0-3); Ger Aylward (0-2).

Wexford: Brian Murphy (Shelmaliers) 2. Garret Foley (Fethard) 3. Conor Goff (Oulart) 4. Eoin Conroy (Naomh Eanna) 5. Andrew Kenny (Buffers Alley) 6. Shane O'Gorman (Adamstown) 7. Dermot O'Leary (St. Pat's Camolin) 8. Lee Chin (Faythe Harriers) 9. Jack Hobbs (Ballygarret) 10. Jack Guiney (Rathnure) 11. Ian Byrne (Ferns) 12. Garry Moore (Glyn-Barntown) 13. Conor McDonald (Naomh Eanna) 14. Barry Carton (Cloughban) 15. Rhys Clarke (Faythe Harriers).

Kilkenny: Aaron Duggan (Dicksboro); Pat Carroll (Lisdowney), Willie Phelan (Dunnamaggin), Brian Kennedy (capt, St. Lachtain's); Padraig Walsh (Tullaoran), Luke Harney (Kilmacow), Owen McGrath (John Lockes); Jack Langton (Clara), Ollie Walsh (Dicksboro); John Power (Carrickshock), Richie Reid (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Kevin



Ciaran Prendergast (Kilkenny) gets a hold on Lee Chin (Wexford) during the Under-21 Leinster Final in Wexford Park.
(Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



Padraig Walsh (Kilkenny) keeps his eye on the sliotar as Barry Carton and Jack Guiney (Wexford) give chase during the Under-21 Leinster Final in Wexford Park.
(Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

Kelly (St. Patrick's); Conor Martin (Emeralds), Ger Aylward (Glenmore), Michael Brennan (St. Patrick's).

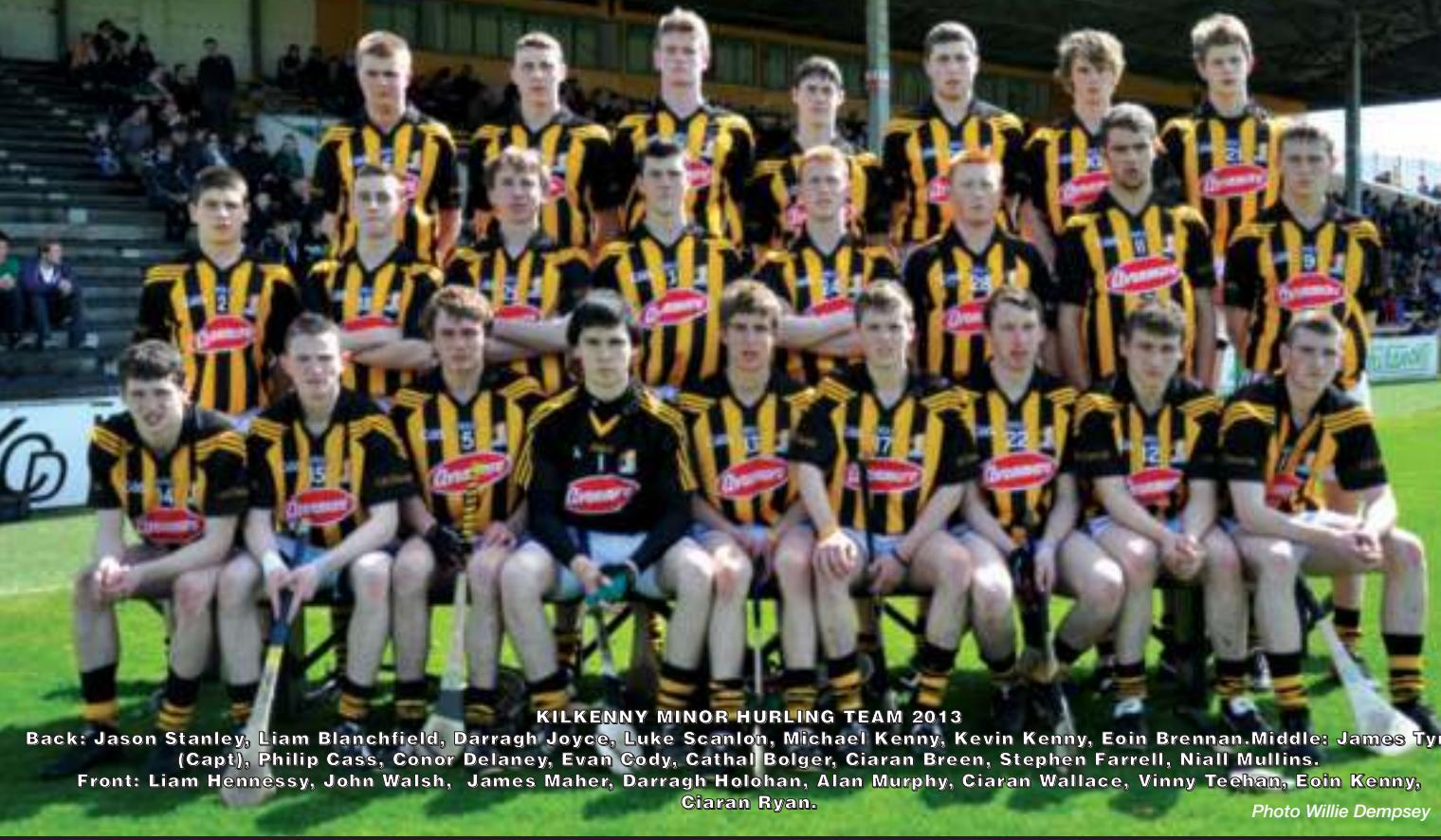
Referee: Pat Murphy (Carlow)

Kilkenny's early season dream of having another crack at Clare in the All Ireland series died in Wexford Park on that lovely July evening. Wexford subsequently were surprisingly defeated by Antrim in the semi-final and Clare's under 21's played their part in a famous year for the Banner by winning the Bord Gais Energy U-21 Final in Thurles in September on a score-line of Clare 2-27 Antrim 0-11.

Sponsors Bord Gais Energy must be complimented on their promotion of the Under 21 Hurling Championship this year. They introduced a number of innovations including Player of the Match, Team of the Year, Score of the Year and Player of the Year. Michael Brennan's goal against Offaly was shortlisted in the Score of the Year and six Kilkenny players were nominated in the Team of the Year. We congratulate Aaron Duggan, Brian Kennedy, Kevin Kelly, Willie Phelan, John Power and Ger Alyward on their nominations with special congratulations to Brian Kennedy, our Captain in 2013, on being selected on the Team of the Year.

CATS STOPPED BY DÉISE

ESB Minor Hurling Championship 2013 by Conor Brennan



KILKENNY MINOR HURLING TEAM 2013

Back: Jason Stanley, Liam Blanchfield, Darragh Joyce, Luke Scanlon, Michael Kenny, Kevin Kenny, Eoin Brennan. Middle: James Tyrell (Capt), Philip Cass, Conor Delaney, Evan Cody, Cathal Bolger, Ciaran Breen, Stephen Farrell, Niall Mullins.

Front: Liam Hennessy, John Walsh, James Maher, Darragh Holohan, Alan Murphy, Ciaran Wallace, Vinny Teehan, Eoin Kenny, Ciaran Ryan.

Photo Willie Dempsey

Having gained many plaudits and generated no little amount of optimism as they marched their way towards a well-deserved Leinster title, the Kilkenny minor class of 2013 were unfortunate to meet what was a most impressive Waterford team who eventually garnered for themselves their first All-Ireland title since 1948. If a number of small factors had worked in Kilkenny's favour, one suspects that this year's title might have worked its way toward the Marble County rather than the Déise. However, team manager Pat Hoban and his management team can feel that significant progress was made during the season and that those who are again available for 2014 will surely benefit from the experience.

Kilkenny's season began in earnest on April 20th when they faced Laois in Nowlan Park in the opening round of the league section of the Leinster championship. One would have imagined that there may have been nerves or some indecision among the home side, but it was not that evident at any stage. They led 1-9 to 0-7 at half-time having played into the breeze, and two goals early in the second half from Alan Murphy and Kevin Kenny opened up a sizeable lead. Kilkenny visibly drew confidence from this, and extended their lead until they eventually won out on a 3-20 to 1-9 score line.

Their second game against Wexford in Nowlan Park two weeks later would naturally provide a much stiffer test of Kilkenny's credentials. It certainly proved to be the case as Wexford scored two goals in the opening half. Stephen Farrell did respond with a Kilkenny goal late in the half but Wexford led 2-4 to 1-4. There was little between the sides during the second half, but when Wexford managed to secure a third crucial goal it left Kilkenny with a mountain to climb. Unfortunately, they could not manage to overcome it, as the away side returned home with a deserved 3-7 to 1-10 victory.

The final match in the round-robin group saw Kilkenny make a rare trip to Newbridge to take on Kildare, with a win required to qualify for the semi-finals. The result was hardly in doubt from an early stage as Kilkenny lead by 5-9 to 1-3 at half-time. It proved to be equally one-sided in the second half as the Cats continued to score at will to eventually win out by 7-16 to 1-9.

Having been the victim of defeats to Dublin in the previous two seasons in the Leinster championship, it must have been a clear target of the Kilkenny panel and management to ensure that a three in a row of defeats to the Metropolitans would be avoided if both sides

happened to meet each other. As it was, they were drawn side by side in a repeat of last year's semi-final.

Kilkenny started the game in Parnell Park brightly and raced into a 0-6 to 0-2 in the opening quarter. The accuracy from Alan Murphy from frees was central to this positive start and it would prove to be equally so later in the game. But Dublin hit back with two decisive blows before the half-time break as their goalkeeper Jonathan Treacy blasted a penalty to the net and this was followed by a second goal from corner-forward Chris Bennett. This ensured that the home side led 2-4 to 0-7 at the half-time whistle.

Kilkenny needed an immediate response at the start of the second half and they provided it in fine style. Six unanswered points, which included a number of Alan Murphy frees to add to his tally and two good points from midfielder Ciaran Ryan, meant that Kilkenny led 0-13 to 2-4 midway through the half. In spite of the lack of a decent goal scoring opportunity, the Kilkenny attack also started to find their feet as the half progressed while the defence continued to deprive the Dublin forward line of time and space on the ball. In the end, Kilkenny had four points to spare, advancing to the Leinster Final by winning 0-17 to 2-7.

The Leinster Final against Laois was one game that Kilkenny could ill afford to prepare for in a casual fashion. Despite the fact that they had enjoyed a comprehensive win over the same opposition in their opening match of the season, Laois's form had taken a serious upturn since that time and had scored some notable victories, in particular their semi-final victory over Wexford in Portlaoise.

As with their previous outing, Kilkenny again started positively and full-forward Michael Kenny marked this with a goal in the third minute. Alan Murphy continued his free-taking master class with seven first half points, which ensured that Kilkenny led by 1-11 to 0-5 at the break. This could have been a bigger lead had half-forward Kevin Kenny not been denied by a super save by Laois goalkeeper Enda Rowland. The Kilkenny management was also forced into a change of personnel in attack after centre-forward Gary Kelly suffered a terrible injury early in the half which required serious medical attention. It clearly galvanised Kilkenny to fight on for their injured colleague as his team mates continued to perform well.

Laois did continue to battle hard all through the second half, and they curbed the Kilkenny attack far more effectively than before. But their

attack did not enjoy similar good fortune, as they added only three points to the first half tally. Meanwhile, Kilkenny finished strongly with points from the likes of James Maher and Luke Scanlon to capture a first Leinster title since 2010, winning by 1-18 to 0-8.

Waterford emerged as Kilkenny's opponents in the All-Ireland semi-final. A review of their performances to date would have shown a disappointing conclusion to their Munster championship campaign. Having had the winning of the Munster Final against Limerick in their hands, the concession of a late goal ensured the game went to a replay. A dramatic game in Thurles was the result, with Waterford scoring four goals yet unable to stop Limerick claiming the title by 1-20 to 4-8.

There was relatively little between both sides in the opening minutes of the Croke Park clash, with the scores level on a number of occasions during the half. Waterford scored two goals during the half compliments of Adam Farrell and a fine solo effort from D.J. Foran, while Kilkenny again relied on Alan Murphy, who scored six frees during the half. John Walsh and Liam Blanchfield were also to the fore in the Kilkenny attack but the Deise men held the advantage by two points at the half way mark (2-5 to 0-9).

There was once again very little between the sides as the second half progressed, and one sensed that Kilkenny would need to convert a goal chance at some stage if they were to push the momentum back into their favour. With ten minutes remaining, Waterford were reduced to 14 men and Kilkenny sensed an opportunity. James Maher was the chosen spare man, and he drove the team forward in his new role in defence. Alan Murphy managed to reduce the deficit to two points once again (2-11 to 0-15). The Kilkenny attack plied on the pressure, but some missed chances meant that Waterford still held the advantage. A serious blow was then inflicted on Kilkenny's chances when the hard-working Eoin Kenny received a second yellow card, though it was perceived by many to have been a harsh decision against the Slieverue man.

The disruption caused by the reduction to 14 men meant that Waterford could regain their bearings and hold out for victory, winning 2-12 to 0-16. It brought them eventually onto a first All-Ireland title since 1948, defeating Galway in the final. For Kilkenny, as aforementioned, it was a disappointing end to a year of progressive development and obvious hope for the future.

The full Kilkenny minor panel for 2013 was as follows:

Darren Brennan (St. Lachtain's), Conor Delaney (Erin's Own), Evan Cody (Dicksboro), Ciaran Wallace (Erin's Own), James Maher (St. Lachtain's), Jason Stanley (Galmoy), Darragh Joyce (Rower-Inistioge), Niall Mullins (James Stephens), Ciaran Ryan (Rower-Inistioge), Liam Blanchfield (Bennettsbridge), Vinny Teehan (Graigue Ballycallan), Kevin Kenny (Dicksboro), Alan Murphy (Glenmore), John Walsh (Mullinavat), Eoin Kenny (Slieverue), Darragh Holohan (Dicksboro), Jason Cleere (Bennettsbridge), Sean Morrissey (Bennettsbridge), Michael Kenny (Lisdowney), Liam Hennessy (Glenmore), Eoin Brennan (Erin's Own), Luke Scanlon (James Stephens), James Tyrrell (Captain, James Stephens), Daniel O'Connor (O'Loughlin Gaels), Philip Cass (Conahy Shamrocks), Adrian Burke (Thomasstown), Paul Kirwan (Dunnamaggan), Paddy Deegan (O'Loughlin Gaels), Ciaran Breen (Barrow Rangers), Robbie Fitzpatrick (Dicksboro), Stephen Farrell (Dicksboro), Garry Kelly (O'Loughlin Gaels).

Team Management: Pat Hoban (Manager), Pat Nolan, Sean Kelly & James Meagher.



Eoin Kenny (Kilkenny) keeps his eye on the sliotar as Padraig Foley (Wexford). (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



Liam Blanchfield (Kilkenny) soloing down the line with Liam O'Connell and Colm Stapleton (Laois) in chase during the Minor Leinster Hurling Final in Croke Park. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



James Tyrrell (Kilkenny Captain) raises the Leinster Cup. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

ESB Minor Hurling Championship 2013

Leinster Championship

Kilkenny 3-20	Laois 1-9
Wexford 3-7	Kilkenny 1-10
Kilkenny 7-16	Kildare 1-9

Leinster Semi-Final

Kilkenny 0-17	Dublin 2-7
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Leinster Final

Kilkenny 1-18	Laois 0-8
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All-Ireland Semi-Final

Waterford 2-12	Kilkenny 0-16
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Waterford Institute of Technology Sports Scholarship Program

Support Services Provided:

- Financial Support
- Technical & Injury Management Support
- Access To FREE Medical & Physio Services
- Academic Mentoring & Support
- Strength & Conditioning
- Sport Science Support



Delivering Sporting Excellence In The South East

The main aim of the WIT Sports Scholarship Program is to give talented athletes the opportunity to develop their sporting career by offering a network of support services & expertise which is tailored around the needs of each individual athlete.

Closing Date For Applications is September 2014



For Further Information Contact:

Tel: 051-834132

Email: sport@wit.ie

Web: www.wit.ie/sportrec

NON-STOP ACTIVITY AT WIT

WIT GAA club provides the perfect sporting spectrum for its students with a club that competes in five different sports with a total of 17 teams competing in hurling, camogie, ladies football, men's football and handball. From September to April there is always a ball in action whether it's being struck with the ash, the outside of the boot or off the side wall.

There is a real family environment surrounding the WIT GAA club as there is huge support from within the college through staff, lecturers, and students, where Conor Phelan captains the ship in his role as WIT GAA Development officer.

WIT has seen huge success in its history and the current crop is providing history of its own as the camogie girls won their fifth Ashbourne Cup in a row for the first time in the club's history last February on a memorable night in the University of Limerick, as a last minute free in a second period of extra time by Patricia Jackman won the day against the home college. Again the Deise College was

backed by numerous Kilkenny camogie players namely Ruth Jones, Denise Gaule, Shelly Farrell, Katie Power, Noelle Maher, Emma Comerford, Siobhan Holland, Deirdre Phelan, Jane Cullen, Maeve Mansfield, Aine Doran, Caroline Booth, Ann Marie Lennon, and Aileen Cass.

The WIT Fitzgibbon hurling team of 2013 made huge improvements on recent seasons with two big wins over IT Carlow and Cork IT to set up a quarter final win over Limerick IT before there was a heart breaking defeat to Mary Immaculate College in the semi-final of the Fitzgibbon Cup. On the Men's football pitch there was extra time drama that ultimately went against WIT as they lost out to St Patrick's Drumcondra after a cracking game, there was plenty of involvement from men in the black and amber of Kilkenny, with James Dowling, Luke Hanney, Eoin Murphy, Ger Teehan, Martin Power, Martin Gaffney, John Cahill lining out for WIT hurler's in 2013.

WIT has hosted a major competition for the last three years in the wonderful

sports campus in Carriganore and this year it was ladies football tournament the O'Connor Cup that took centre stage on St Patrick's weekend. A wonderful weekend was held, however the WIT ladies football team lost out in the semi-final going down to NUI Maynooth with Marie Dargan making her comeback from long term injury for WIT.

In the handball courts a first double in history was completed as WIT won the 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 team of four competitions with Ger McGrath, Peter Funchion and Patrick Funchion from Kell's all involved for WIT.

Three Kilkenny football players also donned the blue jersey of WIT in their Trench Cup campaign in 2013, namely, Declan Grennan, Kevin O'Brien and Ger Malone.

For more information on WIT GAA Club please contact
Conor Phelan (WIT GAA Development Officer, 051-302239 cphelan@wit.ie
Facebook (WIT GAA) Twitter (@WITGAA)



Ashbourne Cup 5 in a Row Camogie Champions 2013

Remembering Tommy Moore (1890-1973)

by Seamus O'Doherty

The beginning

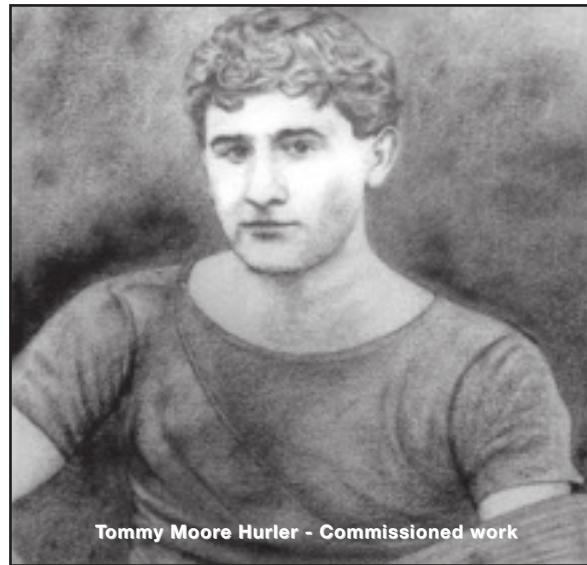
Hurling supporters know that the Tommy Moore Cup is presented to the winners of the All Ireland Club Hurling championship final, which is played at Croke Park, on St. Patrick's day. The younger generation may not know much about the man, his origins, hurling prowess or business acumen. This article is intended to rectify that deficiency and also pay a well deserved tribute to the man, who was described by the legendary GAA writer Padraig Puirseal (another Kilkenny man) as "one of the great inter county players of his time. . . . his outstanding contribution to the game was at club level. Tommy Moore was basically, the club man supreme".

Tommy was born a Kilkenny man, but his contribution to Gaelic Games and to hurling in particular was forged with Faughs and Dublin. Thomas Francis Moore was born at Fier, Lowhill, Ballyragget on October 17th 1890- just six years after the GAA was founded- and was one of a family of ten (eight boys and two girls) of Ellen Bergin (from Kilmacar, in Conahy parish) and William Moore. He was baptised in the Church of the Assumption, Ballyouskill by Fr. Maurice Hawe. Tommy's Baptism sponsors were Pat Phelan and Kate Bergin. His early education, starting in 1897, was at Ballyouskill National School near the Laois/ Kilkenny border. Mr. William K. O' Shea was the Principal, while one of his three assistants and Tommy's teacher was Mr. Dick Purcell - father of Padraig (RIP 1979) - who hailed from nearby Nicholastown.

Mr. Purcell often declared with pride that Tommy Moore was his first pupil to win All Ireland hurling honours. In fairness to Mr. Purcell, he had many more success stories, when he moved to teach in Mooncoin, South Kilkenny. Attending school in those days was tough going, but Tommy never flinched at the long walk to and from the school. A local historian, Larry Cummins, confirmed that Moore's thatched house was the most isolated in the parish. Notwithstanding that, Tommy generally achieved 200 days attendance per school year, which was indicative of his determination to succeed. He attended primary school in Ballyouskill for six years. When Tommy was young there was no hurling played in his area and the only sporting pursuits for the children were informal games of football.

City life

In 1903 he enrolled at Kilkenny CBS moved into the city, where he lived with his aunt, Mrs. Dalton. Tommy admitted that it was the atmosphere there that fired his imagination and enthusiasm. Kilkenny was a hurling county and won their first All Ireland the 1904 title. He recalled that after a match was played outside the city a huge crowd would wait at the railway station for the players/supporters to alight from the train and give the day's result and match details. The main club teams in Kilkenny at the time were Threecastles, Mooncoin, Tullaroan along with Erin's Own in the city. He studied for two years and left in 1905 to work in his aunt's family business. The city base launched Tommy's hurling career and it is noted that a County Junior Championship win, as a seventeen year old- in 1908 with Erin's Own - now defunct- was his first achievement as a player. There were two ways of getting to local matches according to Tommy- you either walked or ran, depending on how much of a hurry you were in. The odd fellow had a bicycle but these softies were regarded as snobs!



Tommy Moore Hurler - Commissioned work

Dublin calling

Around 1909, he moved to Dublin and started his apprenticeship in the licensed vintners trade. Tommy didn't derive much satisfaction from his early years in the Metropolis and often referred to those times as 'a step above slavery'. With a 7 day working commitment and a 7am to 11 pm roster, there was little time for anything else in his life. Financially it was no better - nothing at all in the first year and double that in the second - was how Tommy remembered it. Tommy's move to Dublin came about when he saw an advertisement in the local newspaper, although he declared in later years, that many times during his apprenticeship, he would have been better off not seeing it !

Notwithstanding that he returned to hurling, 'the game of the Gaels', through the Faughs Club. The club, which originally wore amber and black colours, was founded at Easter 1885, under the big tree in the Phoenix Park, Dublin. That location became a popular club training base and Tommy soon made friends in his new environment. One of his best buddies was a Tipperary man, Danny Mc Cormack, who married Bridget Griffith from Castlemarket - a few miles from Tommy's home place. He also knew Andy Harty and other Dublin players who would have played against Kilkenny in competitive & tournament games. Tommy became immersed in the fortunes of Faughs and was an integral member of the club for six decades. He first played Junior hurling in 1911 & 1912, before becoming a senior player in 1913 and representing the club for about twenty years. He was senior captain in 1923 & 1924, before serving as club vice chairman in 1927 then chairman from 1930 to 1968 inclusive. Tommy won seven Senior League and six County titles with Faughs (captain in 1923), while he won four Leinster and two All Ireland titles with Dublin -1917 (with the Collegians selection) & 1920 (with the Faughs selection captained by his friend Bob Mockler from Tipperary).

All Ireland success

His first All Ireland victory was against Tipperary (Boherlahan selection) on October 28th 1917 at Croke Park. Dublin (Faugh selection) won by 5-4 to 4-2 in a game that started at noon. Immediately afterwards Tommy headed to work with no celebrations or after match meal. He recalled in later years that he had breakfast at 8. 30 am went to Mass and then walked to Jones' Road (now Croke Park). Despite the random listing of teams in those years, Tommy recalled clearly lining out in his

usual position of right half forward facing Jack Power. Apart from some water during the game, Tommy didn't have anything to sustain him again until 7 pm. No wonder he considered they were tough times, tough games and tough men.

The Irish Independent dated 29/10/1917 noted that the attendance was 12,000 and that it was a 'fine day of sunshine'. According to its report Dublin won because "they had to put in more brilliant hurling and keep up a faster pace than in any game of their career."

The Dublin team (comprised of 7 Collegians, 6 Faughs - Mick Neville, Martin Hackett, Jimmy Cleary, Hugh Burke, Bob Mockler and Tommy with Brendan Considine coming on as an early substitute - and 2 Rapparees /Commercials) was reported as inclusive of "many seasoned hurlers from the southern counties who had qualified by residence in the capital". The report continued. . " Dublin showed better staying powers as well as superiority in speed".

Tommy Moore was involved in the build up to the first Dublin goal - "Moore led up to a Dublin attack". The Metropolitans led by 2-2 to 2-0 at half time and in the second half Moore "helped to gain further ground" and Dublin were comfortably ahead, when Tipp's late attacking spree, which yielded 2-1, brought respectability to the final score line. This was Dublin's only Senior championship win over Tipperary.

He won another All Ireland title (1920) on May 14th 1922, when Dublin (Faughs) beat Cork (Selection) by 4-9 to 4-3, at Croke Park. This was a sweet win for Tommy, who lined out at wing forward, because his brother in law, Jim 'Builder' Walsh was also on the team. The Irish Independent dated May 15th, 1922 estimated the attendance at 22,000 and considered that none of them regretted attendance at the contest. A 'colour' writer in the same newspaper, under the nom de plume of 'Jacques' bemoaned that he had ". to pay a half crown to get into the enclosure because the man selling tickets had no 6d for change".

Another half crown would gain admission to the sideline, but that was pointless because there were no vacant seats ! Jacques shared more of his opinions. . " It was a victory for team work as against individual effort and lack of morale that comes from lack of practice and competition".

While absorbing that analysis, Jacques moved on to another subject. " What surprised me was the number of women in every part of the enclosure. None stood on ceremony and many stood on orange boxes. "

The attendance included Mr & Mrs Arthur Griffith, while the newspaper carried a photograph of the Dublin captain Bob Mockler receiving the cup from Mr. D. Mc Carthy TD.

Disappointment

Along with his two victories Tommy also played on the losing team in two other finals - the 1919 championship when a Cork Selection beat Dublin Collegians, by 6-4 to 2-4 on September 21st 1919. The attendance was about 20,000 and the game produced only 8 frees, 11 wides and 13 line balls. Tommy was also on the losing team in the 1921 final when Limerick beat Dublin (Faughs Selection) by 8-5 to 3-2, at Croke Park on March 4th 1923. The Liam Mac Carthy Cup was presented for the first time to the Limerick Captain, Bob Mc Conkey, from the Young Irelands club. Tommy captained Dublin in their 1923 Leinster final loss to Kilkenny.

Tommy noted that it was hard to get on club teams in Dublin and that he was 23, before he succeeded in becoming a Faughs regular. The Faughs /Commercials clashes in the Dublin cham-

pionship were considered epics and anticipated as keenly as the All Ireland finals.

Tommy also played some club football in Dublin with "James Stephens" - a club comprised mainly of Kilkenny people, who were resident in the capital city. A man who stood no more than 5' 9" in height -Tommy was a giant among hurling men.

He had to give up playing in 1930 due to a knee injury. Tommy's last inter county game with Dublin was in the National Hurling league of 1927. In his opinion the Golden Age of hurling was from 1916 to 1940. He would surely have enjoyed Kilkenny's success in the modern era.

Further honours

Tommy was elected President of Faughs in 1969 and was also honoured that year with a Cuchulainn Award for his services to Gaelic Games.

It was widely acknowledged that Tommy was an excellent judge of hurlers and hurling and that his understanding of tactics and team management skills ensured much success for Faughs during his time in charge of the club's Senior team.

In 1927 Tommy was invited by the GAA to act on a special committee to commemorate Sam Maguire, who died on February 6th that year. The committee's work produced the cup of the same name, commissioned from Hopkins & Hopkins, the Dublin silversmiths and modelled on the Ardagh Chalice, for the winners of the All Ireland Senior Football championship. The cup was first presented to the Kildare captain, Bill 'Squires' Gannon in 1928.

Family & Business

Off the pitch, Tommy was employed in Nagle's Public House, at North Earl Street. However after several years in the trade he decided to change his status and with the partnership of Michael O' Brien he took over a licensed premises, at 9 Cathedral Street, around 1923. The public house was subsequently renamed 'The Gaelic Bar'. Around the start of World War 2, Michael O' Brien decided to leave the city centre and he sold his share of the bar to Tommy.

Tommy had married Josephine (Jo) Walsh, on January 26th 1921 and they had seven children- five sons and two daughters. Josephine was a member of the renowned Walsh hurling family from Clogga, Mooncoin.

'The Gaelic Bar' quickly evolved into the Faughs Headquarters and also became a firm favourite with Kilkenny hurling people on big match days. The premises hosted a fantastic display of old GAA photographs, trophies, cups medals and other memorabilia, stretching back to the early days of the GAA itself. In the early 1950s the word was that the two best known men in the GAA were the General Secretary, Padraig O 'Caoimh and Tommy Moore. The tales are plentiful too of Tommy's generosity and kindness to many Gaels, who were going through difficult times. He was also noted for helping players with their expenses to get home for games or to emigrate in search of work. The annual GAA Congress was held at the Gresham Hotel, in O' Connell Street for many years but the tired and thirsty delegates traditionally held their final session, in nearby Tommy Moore's. It was also a place that winning teams visited with the Mac Carthy Cup This practice ended in 1962, when Tommy sold the premises to Mr. James Madigan & Sons.

Despite his success in business, , Tommy was like the rest of his



FAUGHS SOCIAL COMMITTEE (1960s)
 (Back Row); Phil Verdon, Eamon Long, Donal Maher, Christy Walsh, Paddy Williams.
 (Front Row); Mick Kennedy, Tommy Moore, Stephen Bourke.

family, modest and quiet. He was considered highly intelligent by North Kilkenny people and hurling was his main pastime. Dick Grace (Tullaroan/Kilkenny) was one of the best men Tommy played on, or saw playing and his tribute was that if you got the odd point off him you counted yourself very lucky.

Local links

Despite the decades away from Kilkenny, Tommy never lost contact with his own place and he regularly returned to his native parish. Indeed Larry Cummins from Castlemarket told me that he remembers family & neighbours watching out for Tommy's Hudson Jet car arriving from Dublin, in the 1950s. The family connection was maintained with his brother, Michael, serving as Kilkenny Co. Board Secretary /Registrar/Trustee from 1919 to 1931. Michael was elected a Trustee again from 1937 to 1957, Tommy's nephew, Liam, served as Kilkenny Co. Board Registrar from July 1957 until 1972. His grand son, Brian Ryan, has made a tremendous contribution to hurling in Kilkenny, as a player with the Fenians (Johnstown), as a Coach/ Trainer/ Selector with Kilkenny under age teams and as a County Games Promotion Officer.

Memories

Tommy's daughter Eileen (Moore) recalled some memories of his influence in the Faughs 125th Anniversary Celebration publication (2010). She instanced a cold and snowy day in 1940, chasing her young brother around the old Hogan Stand in Croke Park, while the Railway Cup games were on. Munster beat Leinster in the hurling final and it was vice versa in the football. The Moore children were present because Tommy had a tradition of selling a number of tickets for the GAA and if he didn't succeed his "little monsters" availed of them. The Moores reserved Mondays for post-mortems on the week end's games, while from Wednesday onwards all attention turned towards the next game and the matter of team selection. Eileen recalled the shouts of "get off the pitch Moore", when Tommy would come on during stoppages to make switches and offer encouragement or worse! Some weekends he would go idown the country to other games seeking out new talent for his beloved club. Eileen was certain that the presentation

of the Tommy Moore Cup to the GAA, by Faughs " would have made him a very proud man indeed. " Eileen considered that one of her father's great skills was in selecting the best "back room boys", whom he considered as important to a club as its players. After his choice of the legendary Mick Clayton to replace him self as club chairman, there is no argument with that assessment.

Sad days

Tommy's wife, Josephine, died on October 29th 1972, at Hume Street Hospital, in Dublin and her funeral was attended by the Taoiseach Mr Jack Lynch TD. A guard of honour was provided by Faughs with Mr Mick Gill (All Ireland medal winner with Galway and Dublin whom he captained in 1927) and Mr. Tony Herbert (All Ireland medal winner with Limerick in 1940) - both close friends of Tommy- leading the club tributes with the officers and members. Tommy himself, then of 100, Vernon Avenue, Clontarf, died suddenly at his daughter's (Eileen Malone) residence, 67 Butterfield Avenue, Rathfarnham, on May 14th 1973. After the funeral Mass in the Church of the Holy Spirit, Ballyroan, on Wednesday May 16th, the burial was in Glasnevin Cemetery.

A huge crowd, including TDs, Senators and Leinster Council representatives attended the obsequies and a guard of honour was provided, by the Faughs club. Tommy was survived by his sons Liam Eamonn (Newfoundland), Tommy, Joseph and Seamus (Dundalk), daughters Eileen Malone (Dublin) and Maura Ryan (Johnstown), brothers Martin, Jim, Bill and Paddy and sister Mrs. C. Brannigan (Lowhill Kilkenny), sons in law Dr. Edward Malone, Bernard Ryan, daughters in law Eileen Moore, Ursula Moore, Vera Moore, Rose Moore, Mary Moore, sisters in law Nora Reynolds and Tess O' Meara, brother in law Pat Walsh, nephews, Rev. Michael Doheny CSSP., Biafran Missionary, and Rev. Kevin. Doheny CSSP., Ethiopia.

*"And the stars of the Faughs
 Out in old Terenure
 Were 'the builder', Bob Mockler
 And the brave Tommy Moore"*

In the bag

An amazing tale is indicative of Tommy's powerful GAA connections. About six months after Michael Cusack's dismissal from the GAA, he produced the first issue of his weekly newspaper "The Celtic Times" in January 1887. Cusack was dismissed on a point of policy and his newspaper (which highlighted native games, athletics and Irish culture generally) would be used to influence thinking on the matter with criticism of the Association's leadership a regular feature. The publication had a short life and was gone within a year. In July, 2003, a facsimile edition (350 pages) produced by Clasp Press, at the Clare County Library was launched in Killarney. In the introduction Breandan Mac Lua - a Clare born journalist and author who once served as a Croke Park official- told the story of how he 'inherited' Michael Cusack's own file of the newspaper. Around 1959 it had been claimed at a lecture in UCD that not a single copy of the newspaper existed in any archive, University or National Library. A decade later Mac Lua received a call from Tommy Moore inviting him to The Gaelic Bar the next day. Moore told Mac Lua that he liked his book (The Steadfast Rule - relating to GAA rule 27 "The Ban") and then handed him a large brown paper parcel. Nothing more was said and Mac Lua went home to Rathfarnham, where he opened the parcel in the presence of his wife, Maeve. Inside was the complete file of The Celtic Times.. Mac Lua was overwhelmed and felt he had been appointed the guardian of the holy grail. How Tommy Moore had acquired the booty was neither asked nor declared!

Perpetual homage

The club hurling championship had only been played to provincial level in its early years, but an All Ireland stage was introduced for the 1970 champions. At the time, the competition trailed by varying degrees and Roscrea (Tipperary) won the 1970 Munster title, at Limerick's Gaelic Grounds, on Wednesday night, August 18th 1971. They beat Clarecastle (Clare) by 4-11 to 1-6. It took another three months before they went North to play Loughiel Shamrocks, Antrim, on November 14th, in the All Ireland semi final. A comfortable win ensued- 6-10 to 2-8 . The first All Ireland final was played in Birr on Sunday December 19th 1971 and Roscrea beat St Rynagh's (Offaly) by 4-5 to 2-5. A beautiful Shield was presented to the captain, Donie Moloney, after the game. That un named trophy - "The All Ireland Club Hurling Shield" - was also the prize for Blackrock (Cork) 1971 winners and Glen Rovers (Cork) 1972 champions.

In 1974, Faughs GAA club presented the Tommy Moore Cup to the GAA for the winners of the All Ireland club championship. According to Tommy's family Mick Clayton purchased the cup from his own resources in deference to his former club President. The All Ireland final (1973 competition) was contested by Blackrock (Cork) and Rathnure (Wexford) on St Patrick's day, 1974, at Croke Park. It was a repeat of the 1971 final which had been played at Waterford's Walsh Park and ended in a one point win for 'the Rockies' - 5-13 to 6-9.

This decider was the first to be played at Croke Park and ended in a draw - another first - Blackrock 2-14 Rathnure 3-11, so a replay was required. The game was played at Fraher Field, Dungarvan, on April 28th 1974 and this time the honours went to Cork, on a 3-8 to 1-9 scoreline. John Horgan was the successful captain and first to be presented with the Tommy Moore Cup. The blonde defender, (who previously led his club to victory in the 1971 competition) repeated the feat in the 1978/79 season, when 'the Rockies' beat the emerging Shamrocks (Kilkenny) by two points, at Semple Stadium (5-7 to 5-5), on March 25th, 1979.

Since 1974, the Tommy Moore Cup has been the ultimate prize in club hurling. The honour of winning it has been enhanced over the decades and clubs relish the opportunity of testing themselves, in Croke Park on St. Patrick's Day.

Many great teams have won the cup over the years, but Sarsfields of Galway was the first to retain it. Their double was achieved in the 1992/93 and 1993/94 seasons. The cup has gone to all four provinces since first presented and some of the greatest hurlers in the country, have played on and captained winning teams. country, have played on winning teams.

Linking the clubs

Tommy kept in touch with his native place and the St. Patrick's Ballyragget club didn't forget him either. Accordingly, the North Kilkenny club was invited to visit Faughs to celebrate the link between the two clubs. The day of celebration was Sunday April 18th, 2010 and a sizeable party of players and officials travelled to the Faughs GAA club in Templeogue, for an occasion which will long be remembered, by all who attended. The day included the official opening of the ball wall and all weather facility. Further progress was made to enhance the original playing facilities and clubhouse, which had been officially opened by His Excellency Dr. P Hillery, (RIP), President of Ireland, on November 30th 1986. In a lively and competitive adult hurling match, St. Patrick's won by 3-11 to 0-10. After the game, Bill Staunton, the St. Patrick's captain was presented with a plaque to mark the occasion. The plaque bears the crests of both clubs and carries the legend "Winners of the commemorative match between Faughs & St. Patrick's Ballyragget 18th April 2010".

An historic moment followed when the St. Patrick's club presented a specially commissioned portrait of Tommy Moore - superbly produced by John Walsh, Artist, of Donoughmore, Ballyragget - to the Faughs Club in the presence of GAA President Mr. Christy Cooney. The Faughs presented their guests with a beautiful plaque, incorporating the crests of both clubs and the Moore family. The citation reads "Celebrating the Tommy Moore connection between Faughs in Dublin and St. Patrick's Ballyragget in Kilkenny, on the 125th anniversary of Faughs GAA Club 2010." The two plaques are proudly on display in the St. Patrick's clubhouse.

Thanks were formally extended to St Patrick's for their much appreciated gesture to Fag a Bealach, a club which held its first meeting in Michael Cusack's house and benefited from Tommy Moore's presence for so many years.

This link up was timely as the GAA celebrated its 125th anniversary the previous year, the Faughs Club reached that milestone in 2010, so a significant contribution to Gaelic Games was marked in an appropriate manner, by two clubs, which were linked by one man - the great Tommy Moore.

Seamus O' Doherty is a member of the St. Patrick's GAA Club in Ballyragget. He was Editor of their two, recent publications "Bally Boys Abu" (December 2011) and "Maroon Days" (April 2012).

Information sources -

The Irish Press newspaper archives (Mainly articles written by Padraig Puirseal in 1973/74 and interviews that Tommy Moore gave to 'a Sunday Press reporter' in 1964/65)

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The Chapel District of Ballyouskill Attanagh, The History and people of a community on the Kilkenny Laois border, by Dermot Dorgan (1996)

The Register of Baptisms, Parish of Ballyragget, Diocese of Ossory, by kind permission of Canon Tom Murphy P. P.

One hundred years of Faughs Hurling, Club History (1885 -1985).

Faughs GAA Club 125th Anniversary Celebration publication (2010).

James Nowlan

The Alderman and the GAA in his Time

The above is the title of the book by Jim Walsh of Slieverue on Kilkenny's James Nowlan, the longest serving President in the history of the GAA, due for publication on December 3rd. There follows below a brief extract, supplied by the author, on the life of James Nowlan.

James Nowlan played a prominent part in the Gaelic Revivalist Movement at the end of the 19th and into the 20th century. He was very much to the fore in support of the promotion of the traditional Irish sports of hurling, Gaelic football and athletics and was also passionate in encouraging the use of Irish as a spoken language.

This participation leads him to be elected in 1901 to the Presidency of the GAA at a time when the Association was 'on its knees'. Within a few years he, supported by a few fellow enthusiasts, saw the Association recover and reach new levels of popularity and support. This was the foundation on which the present great organisation was built.

James was born in Monsterevin, Co. Kildare, in 1862. His father, Patrick, was a cooper and had been employed as such in Kilkenny but was obliged to move his young family to the Kildare town in 1861 in search of work. James was the 6th child and was baptized in the Parish Church of Monsterevin. The family returned to Kilkenny a few years later and James grew up to be very much a Kilkenny man.

While the principal citizens of Kilkenny were then of the Anglo-Irish political persuasion there was also a core group with strong militaristic republican sentiments. Patrick Nowlan was such a person. He was a confidant and neighbour of James Stephens, a fellow Kilkenny man, who was of course the founder in 1858 of the Irish Republican Brotherhood. The movement was strong in Kilkenny and James no doubt frequently attended meetings and rallies with his father and absorbed the Fenian philosophy.

In the aftermath of the Fenian Rising of 1867 the county branches of the police force, the Royal Irish Constabulary, were obliged to observe and report the movements of 'revolutionary suspects'. In time James became a subject of their observations and so 'subversive' was he that it was deemed necessary to take him, and hundreds of others, out of circulation. He was imprisoned and harshly treated in 1916 and again in 1919.

James was apprenticed to the cooperage trade in the footsteps of his father and worked in Sullivan's Brewery in the City. When Sullivan's closed they both worked with Smithwicks and James spent a short period in Guinness's circa 1898.

James was a prominent member of the Commercials Hurling Club in the City in the 1880s. He represented the club on the County Board in the 1890s and when his work required him to move to Dublin for a period he represented Kilkenny on Central Council. He quickly gained recognition at that level and was elected Vice-President of Central Council in 1899. He was elected President at the Annual Convention in 1901.

Meanwhile Central Council had decided to establish Provincial Councils. The Leinster Council was formed in November 1901 and James was elected its first President, a position he held until 1905.

As National President he was recognised as being very much a hands-on President. Apart from filling the usual administrative and representative roles he is recorded as having been happy to assist in manning the turnstiles or marshalling for big games or indeed assisting in marking the pitch in preparation for matches.

During his Presidency many challenges confronted the Association and many difficult hurdles, frequently of a political nature had to be faced and negotiated. It is recognised that by the force of his personality and his reasoned approach the President played a key role in steering the Association through the trying 1913 to 1921 period.

Many rule changes relating to administration and the playing of the games were introduced during his Presidency and are still unchanged having stood the test of time over the subsequent almost 100 years.

No doubt the greatest physical monument from that time resulted from the decision to purchase the property, which is now Croke Park. Our members are justifiably very proud of this wonderful stadium but we must never forget the role of the pioneers of the time who made the whole thing possible by their confidence, astuteness and vision.



James resigned from the Presidency at Annual Convention in 1921 after a reign of 20 years. Convention made him an Honorary Vice-President for life, the only person so honoured.

James Nowlan also played a major citizenship role in his hometown. He offered himself for election to Kilkenny City Council in 1899 and was elected an Alderman (one of the first three members elected in each ward). He was subsequently elected an Alderman at every election until he retired from local politics in 1919 - again a contribution of 20 years service to his own community.

So well recognised was he that he was often simply referred to as 'the Alderman' without the use of his name, even in the national press.

Around the time James retired from the Presidency he fell into indifferent health. He retired from his work and went to live with his brother John in Dublin. His health continued to deteriorate and he died on June 30th 1924.

Jim Walsh.

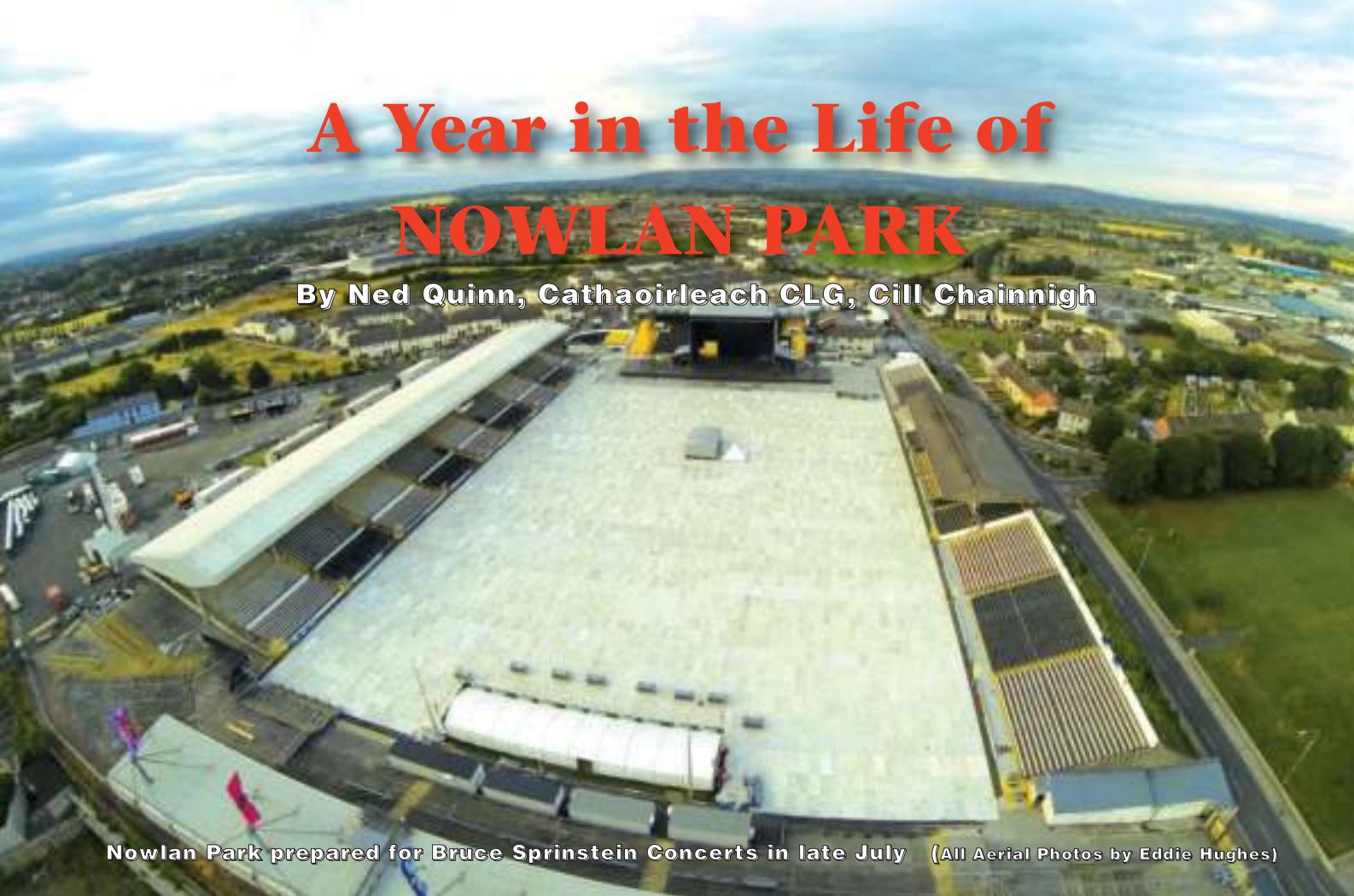
The family of James Nowlan, wish to express their appreciation for the manner in which James has been acknowledged by the GAA.



Jim Walsh at the gravestone he helped erect on the unmarked grave of James Nowlan.

A Year in the Life of NOLAN PARK

By Ned Quinn, Cathaoirleach CLG, Cill Chainnigh



Nowlan Park prepared for Bruce Springsteen Concerts in late July (All Aerial Photos by Eddie Hughes)

Nowlan Park enjoyed one of its busiest years to date, this year featured both major games and two sell out musical events that between them attracted record attendances to the venue.

The National Hurling League Final, the first to be played there for many years, took place on Sunday the 5th of May featuring the home team and our great rivals Tipperary. This game which attracted an attendance of 21,477 had all the trappings of a National Final including live TV coverage and a huge media presence. The colourful parade of the teams behind the Saint Patricks Brass and Reed band prior to the game drew rounds of applause from both sets of supporters and set the scene for what was to follow. The game itself more than lived up to expectations with the result in doubt until the final minutes. Thankfully at the call of time the home team were a couple of points to the good and our sixteenth National Hurling League title was won.

When both teams subsequently suffered defeats in their respective provincial championships the draw for the Qualifies ordained that a game of even greater consequence between them, described in the Irish Times in their pre match build up as a seismic All Ireland hurling qualifier, would take place in the Park on Saturday evening July the 6th. Tickets for this game were sold out well in advance and on the day supporters began to arrive at the ground a full three hours before the official starting time with the majority of the almost 24,000 crowd in their positions a full ninety minutes ahead of the throw in. The Tipperary team were first to take the field and they received a great welcome

from their fans, and shortly afterwards the Kilkenny team emerged and were greeted by a huge standing ovation. The announcement that number 28 Henry Shefflin had been added to the panel for the game drew a further huge response from Kilkenny supporters. The prevailing atmosphere in the ground for this game was likened by some commentators to that experienced by the gladiators in the Coliseum long ago. It is to the great credit of the players on both teams that they delivered yet another epic sporting contest at the end of which our team prevailed by a narrow margin. Occasions such as the one we enjoyed that evening are an example of all that is great about our National games with followers of both teams intermingling freely and yet fully supporting their own teams. We must also acknowledge that it is only a visit from our blue and gold clad neighbours and great rivals that could have generated both the atmosphere and the occasion that prevailed that evening It will live long in the memory of all who were fortunate enough to be there.

A unique event that took place there this year was the visit of the joint St Louis and Indianapolis Hurling teams from the United States as part of the "Gathering 'on July 10th. The Indianapolis team had former Conahy Shamrocks player Ciaran Connery amongst their ranks and subsequent to having been put through a full training session under the guidance of Martin Fogarty the teams participated in what turned out to be a very competitive game.. Overall the event was a great success with many of those from both the St Louis and Indianapolis clubs promising to make a return visit to our City in the

not too distant future.

The announcement by Aiken Promotions that Bruce Springsteen and his E Street band would end their 'Wrecking Ball' European tour with two performances in Nowlan Park on Saturday July 27th and Sunday July 28th was greeted with much excitement by followers of the Rock star everywhere. Tickets for both concerts were sold out within twenty four hours of going on sale having been purchased by fans in eighteen countries around the world. Hotels and B&B's in Kilkenny and surrounding counties were likewise fully booked out within days of the Concerts been announced. The benefit accruing to Kilkenny as a tourist destination from having such a recognised World Star perform here is inestimable while the benefit to the local economy this year alone was said to have amounted to tens of millions of Euro's. The first of the twenty seven trucks required to transport all the necessary gear venue rolled in to the venue on the Monday prior to the event accompanied by a small army of well drilled and skilled personnel who worked long and hard each day erecting the stage and putting in place all of the ancillary equipment necessary for the successful staging of such shows. The first fans from four different countries arrived at the ground on the Wednesday leading up to the concerts and these numbers gradually swelled in the days that followed. It was fascinating for those of us without experience of these events to watch the military type precision with which the fans who wanted to gain access to the "Pit" for each performance would turn up in O Loughlins Gaels ground at the appointed time each day to have their allot-

Nowlan Park hosting a capacity crowd at the NHL Final in May 2013



ted place validated. The elaborate event plan put in place in conjunction with the Gardai regarding traffic management, parking, stewarding etc worked extremely well and the capacity attendances on both days enjoyed trouble free access and egress to and from the ground. The sight of the entire pitch populated by fans with thousands more in both Ardan de Gras and Ardan Breathnach was something to behold and the general consensus of all present was that the "Boss" as he is known as had provided two great nights of nonstop entertainment for his adoring fans. Within an hour of the last notes fading away the work of dismantling and removing all of the equipment erected during the preceding week got underway leaving us with great memories of the visit to the Park by a world famous performer and leaving Timmy and Mick with the task of restoring the pitch to its usual

pristine condition.

In August there was an unusually large attendance present for the All Ireland Intermediate Hurling Final proving once again the attractiveness of games between Kilkenny and Tipperary no matter what the grade. This was a repeat of last year's final which had taken place in Semple Stadium and unfortunately from our point of view the result was also the same with Tipperary deservedly emerging victorious despite an intensive late rally by our own team. The after match singing of "Slievenamon" together with the celebrating by the visiting supporters on the pitch at the end of the game proved once again how much both counties enjoy putting one over on their neighbours.

County Finals bring the curtain down on activities in the Park each year and these are special occasions for the participating clubs and their

supporters as they watch their teams strive to win the most treasured medal of all. Victory in these games brings ecstasy and unbridled joy to the players, officials and supporters of the winning teams while desolation is the unfortunate lot of the vanquished. The result of this year's Junior, Intermediate and Senior finals were in doubt right to the end of each game before ultimately the honours rested with Lisdowney, Rower/ Inistioge and Clara respectively with Rower/ Inistioge also taking the Minor 'A' title.

The story of Nowlan Park like the story of Kilkenny hurling is a continuing one and so as we say goodbye to a year of great excitement there we are already looking ahead with anticipation to more of the same to come in the year and the years ahead.



Kilkenny Veterans of 1973 All Ireland SH Final v Limerick invited to Opening of Staker Wallace Pitch in May 2013
Back: Fan Larkin, Nicky Orr, Liam O'Brien, Claus Dunne, PJ Delaney (representing Pat RIP) Pat Henderson, Mick Crotty, Jim Lynch, Mick Moore, Kieran Purcell, Billy Harte, Martin Fitzpatrick, Eddie Keher.
Front: Frank Cummins, Noel Skehan, Pat Lawlor, Jim Treacy, Gillian Dillon (representing Pa RIP), Mick Brennan, Pat Kavanagh, John Kinsella, Paddy Broderick, Senan Cooke.



The 1973 Limerick Team

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CÚL CAMPS 2013

CASTLECOMER

FRESHFORD



MULLINAVAT



FRESHFORD



THOMASTOWN





GRAIGNAMANAGH



CLARA

SUCCESSFUL YEAR ALL ROUND

HANDBALL REPORT by JOSEPHINE COONEY PRO

Another year has passed and what a successful year it was in both alleys for Adults and Juveniles in Leinster and All Ireland grades. We had players who took part in the 40x20 Nationals, juvenile clubs participated in the Feile na nGael in Limerick, clubs participated in the interclub competitions, we had participation in One Wall events and a lot of our schools took part in the Cumann na mBunscoileanna and secondary schools took part in their respective competitions.

2013 Adult Report

Big number of adults competed in the county singles and doubles in both alleys, at provincial level in 40x20 Kilkenny competed in 23 finals winning 12 Leinster titles, Kilkenny competed in 7 All Ireland finals winning 5 gold and 2 silver medals. In the 60x30 Kilkenny competed in 19 provincial finals winning 16 titles and competed in 12 All Ireland finals bringing home 6 gold medals and 6 silver medals

40x0

County Finals:

Minor Singles:

JJ English (Goresbridge) dft Brian Mahon (Clogh)

Minor Dbls: Brian Mahon/Eoin Doyle (Clogh) dft Paddy Brennan/Mark Dowling (Mothel)

Junior B Singles: PJ Barron (Windgap) dft Fergal Lalor (Talbots Inch)

Junior B Dbls: Cian Ryan/Shane Walsh (Windgap) dft Sean Foley/Michael Power (Windgap)

Junior Singles:

James Bourke (O'Loughins) v Sean Foley (Windgap)

Intermediate Singles:

Diarmuid Burke (Kells) dft John Morrissey (O'Loughlins)

Intermediate Dbls: Brendan Hosey/Andrew Lawlor (Clogh) dft (O'Loughlins)

Senior B Singles:

Brendan Burke (Kells) dft Philip Lonergan (Windgap)

Senior Singles:

Peter Funchion (Kells) dft William Love (Clogh)

Senior Dbls: Ducksy Walsh/Ciaran Neary (Talbots Inch) v Patrick/Peter Funchion (Kells)

Master Singles: Philly Parsons (Talbots Inch) dft Martin Lalor (Talbots Inch)

Masters Dbls: Philly Parsons/Billy Walsh (Talbots Inch) dft Eamon/Jimmy Purcell (Windgap)

Masters A Singles:

Eamon Purcell (Windgap) dft Colm Love (Clogh)

Master B Singles: Tom O'Keeffe (Kilfane) dft John Duggan (O'Loughlins)

Master B Dbls: Tom O'Keeffe/Tom Dooley (Kilfane) dft Pat Funchion/Paddy Fennelly (Kells)

Masters C Singles: Michael O'Shea (Windgap) dft Eddie English (Goresbridge)

Masters C Dbls: Michael O'Shea/John Ryan (Windgap) dft Michael Dalton/Jimmy Shanahan (Kilfane)

Emerald Masters Singles: Jimmy Neary (Talbots Inch) dft Willie Pratt (St. Canices)

Ladies B Singles: Aishling Maher (Clogh) dft Julie Walsh (Windgap)

Ladies Senior Singles: Ciara Mahon (Clogh) dft Mary Phelan (Clogh)

Leinster Finals:

Ladies Junior Singles: Rachel Hogan (Kk) dft Una Wrynn (Kd)

Ladies Junior Dbls: Rachel Hogan/Marie Walshe (Kk) dft Una Wrynn/Ellen O Connor (Kd)

Ladies Intermediate Singles: Mary Phelan (Kk) dft Ciara Mahon (Kk)

Ladies Intermediate Dbls: Mary Phelan/Ciara Mahon (Kk) dft Ciara/Roisin Mullins (Cw)

Minor Dbls: Evan Sheridan/Dylan Sheridan (M) dft JJ English/Brian Mahon (Kk)

U21 Singles: Peter Funchion (Kk) dft Shane Walsh (Kk)

U21 Dbls: Peter Funchion/Sean Butler (Kk) dft Eoghan Hennessy/Padraig Maher (Kk)

035B: Stephen Barcoe (Kk) dft Oliver Ryan (Cw)

035B Dbls: Stephen Barcoe/John Morrissey (Kk) dft Christy Browne/Noel Winder (Kd)

Junior Singles: William Love (Kk) dft Jerome Willoughby (Ww)

Masters A Singles: Michael Walsh (Kk) dft Adrian Benson (D)

Silver MasB Dbls: David & Danny Bourke (Kk) were dft by Tom Dooley/Tom O'Keeffe (Kk)

Golden Masters A Singles: Billy Bourke (Kk) was dft by Michael Dowling (Kd)

Golden Mas B Dbls: Gerry Murphy/John Duggan (Kk) were dft by Ritchie Culleton/John Ball (Wex)

Emerald Masters A Singles: Johnny Brennan (Kk) was dft by Tony Breen (Wex)

Emerald Mas A Dbls: Sean Ryan/Martin Clancy (Cw) dft Johnny Brennan/Joe Hennessy (Kk)

Diamond Masters B Singles: Michael Dalton (Kk) dft John O'Donnell (Kd)

Diamond Masters B Dbls: Michael Dalton/Jim Dooley (Kk) winners

Ruby Masters Singles: Paddy Reilly (Kk) was dft by Ned Buggy (Wex)

Ruby Mas Dbls: Ned Buggy/Garrett Somers (Wex) dft Paddy Reilly/Seamus Reade (Kk)

Leinster Open Singles: Peter Funchion (Kells) dft Ian Griffin (Dublin)

All Ireland Finals:

Ladies Junior Singles: Rachel Hogan Kilfane dft Sarah Flavin from Limerick,

Masters A Singles: Michael Ducksy Walsh Talbots Inch dft David Maloney Tipperary

Junior Singles: William Love Clogh dft Barry Devlin Tyrone

Silver Mas B Dbls: Tom O'Keeffe/Tom Dooley Kilfane dft Kevin McParland and Stephen Brady Antrim

Ladies Junior Dbls: Marie Walshe Kells and Rachel Hogan Kilfane dft Sinead Ni hAnili and Roisin Ni Chonghaile Galway

035B Singles: Stephen Barcoe Goresbridge was dft by Dale Cusack Cork

MasA Dbls: Ducksy Walsh and DJ Carey Kilkenny were dft by Tipperary

Irish Nationals Results

Open:

Peter Funchion (Kilkenny) dft Richard McCann (Antrim),

Brian Carroll (Meath) dft Peter Funchion (Kilkenny)



Kilkenny All Ireland Winners 2013



County One Wall Participants



US Nationals 2013
Jimmy & Ciaran Neary



Girls C na mB
National Day 2013

Mens 23 and Under B: Anthony Crotty (Tipperary) dft Dan Breen (Kilkenny)

Ladies 23 and Under: Aoife McCarthy (Westmeath) dft Mary Phelan (Kilkenny)

Masters A

Semi Final: Ducksy Walsh (Kilkenny) dft Edward Bourke (Kilkenny)

Final: Ducksy Walsh (Kilkenny) dft Egin Jensen (Dublin)

Golden Masters A: Michael Dowling (Kildare) dft Martin Lalor (Kilkenny)

Diamond Masters A: John Rossiter (Carlow) dft Jim Neary (Kilkenny)

US Nationals

Kilkenny were represented at the US Nationals by Jimmy and Ciaran Neary. Jimmy was dft in the quarter finals. Ciaran was dft in the Mens A Singles final but won the Mens A Dbls Final

Hardball

Kilkenny had participants in the Minor Grade Brian Mahon and Eoin Doyle from Clogh, Junior Grade Daniel Love Clogh and Ciaran Neary Talbots Inch and Masters Grade Ducksy Walsh and Eddie Bourke Talbots Inch in the Hardball competition, winning All Ireland in two grades and runners up in One grade.

Junior Dbls Final:

Daniel Love/Ciaran Neary (Kilkenny) dft Eamon Davern/John Keyes (Limerick)

Masters Dbls Final:

Ducksy Walsh/Eddie Bourke (Kilkenny) dft Michael Dowling/Neil Morrison (Kildare)

County One Wall

Windgap Handball Club hosted the county one wall competition. The lovely weather brought out a large crowd. There were 5 grades with a total of 25 participants. For some it was the first time to play one wall but all the competitors provided some very entertaining games. Before the finals took place we were entertained with a GU11 exhibition game between Roisin O Keeffe Kilfane and Noelle Dowling Mothel with Roisin O Keeffe winning. All five finals were played with great spirit and displayed some great handball.

Mens Open Final Ciaran Neary Talbots Inch dft Dan Breen Kells.

Masters A final Jimmy Purcell Windgap dft Tom O'Keeffe Kilfane.

Masters B Final Eddie English Goresbridge dft Simon Walsh Windgap.

Juvenile u17 final Padraig Cooney Clogh dft JJ English Goresbridge.

Juvenile U15 final Aoife Holden Kilfane dft Ciaran Cooney Clogh.

National One Wall – Breaffy House, Castlebar, Mayo

Masters Final: Ducksy Walsh Kilkenny dft Adrian Hedeghan Roscommon

Kells Handball Club claim Junior B 40x20 and 60x30 All-Ireland InterClub Titles

Kells won the 40x20 JuniorB Interclub All-Ireland, defeating Nenagh (Tipperary) in the group stage, Coolgreany(Wexford) in the semi-final and claimed the title in a closely contested encounter against Broadford(Limerick). Team members were Diarmuid Burke, Anthony Martin, C.J. Delaney, Brendan Burke and Dan Breen. The club made it a double when they won the

60x30 title, defeating Monavea(Laois) in the Leinster Final, Castleconnor(Sligo) in the semi-final and Broadford(Limerick) in the final. Team members were Diarmuid Burke, Anthony Martin, Brendan Burke, Dan Breen and Brendan Hyland.

Clogh win Leinster Intermediate 60x30 Interclub

Clogh team of William Love, Daniel Love, Andrew Hosey and Andrew Lawlor travelled to Garyhill to play Na Fianna from Dublin in the Leinster Final. The final was a tough and long encounter with the Clogh boys winning by a couple of aces.

Waterford Institute of Technology win the Double

WIT completed a unique double in All Ireland Intervarsities winning the 40x20 and 60x30 within a month of one another and first 3rd level college to do so. All four players displayed all the skills of the game. The team consisted of Patrick Funchion, Peter Funchion and Ger McGrath Kells and Noel Holohan Wexford.

USHA National Collegiate

Sean Foley from Windgap played in the USHA National Collegiate representing UCD. Sean partnered up with Martin Mulkerrins from Galway and reached the final where they were narrowly defeated in the tie break. Sean and Martin were awarded certificates and were honoured as All Americans for handball. This award is of the highest standard in the US for excellence in ones chosen sport and is a fantastic achievement for both players and Irish handball

Adult 60x30

County Finals

Minor Singles Brian Mahon Clogh dft Eoin Doyle Clogh

Minor Dbls Brian Mahon and Eoin Doyle Clogh dft Patrick Brennan and Adrian Farrell Mothel

Junior Dbls Graham Lawlor and Ronan Egan Clogh winners

Intermediate Singles Andrew Hosey Clogh v Brendan Burke Kells

Intermediate Dbls Brendan and Diarmuid Burke Kells dft CJ Delaney and Anthony Martin Kells

Senior Singles Ducksy Walsh Talbots Inch dft Eddie Bourke Talbots Inch

Senior Dbls Ducksy Walsh and Ciaran Neary Talbots Inch winners

Masters Singles Noel Holden Kilfane dft William Holden Kilfane

Masters A Singles Billy O Keeffe Kilfane dft Tom O Keeffe Kilfane

Masters B Singles Jim Kenny McGrath Kilfane dft Mick Dalton Kilfane

Masters Dbls Noel and William Holden Kilfane dft Billy and Tom O Keeffe Kilfane

Masters C Dbls Mick Dalton and Jimmy Shanahan Kilfane dft Jim Kenny McGrath and Pat Caulfield Kilfane

Ladies A Singles Ciara Mahon Clogh dft Rachel Hogan Kilfane

Leinster Finals

Ladies Intermediate Singles Rachel Hogan Kilfane,Kilkenny dft Ciara Mahon Clogh,Kilkenny

Ladies Intermediate Dbls Ciara Mahon and Mary Phelan Clogh dft Rachel Hogan Kilfane and Marie Walsh Kells

Minor Dbls Evan Sheridan and Robert Fox Meath defeated Patrick Brennan and Adrian Farrell Mothel

U21 Singles Eoghan Hennessy Clogh dft Padraig Maher Clogh

Junior B Singles Brendan Burke Kells, Kilkenny dft Conor O Connor Meath

Junior B Dbls Brendan and Diarmuid Burke Kells dft Andrew Dowling and Peter Whelan Laois

035B Singles Stephen Barcoe Goresbridge, Kilkenny dft John Morrissey O'Loughlins, Kilkenny
035B Dbls Stephen Barcoe Goresbridge and John Morrissey O Loughlins defeated Gary Balfe and Gary Archibald Kildare

Mas A Singles Michael Ducksy Walsh Talbots Inch, Kilkenny dft Tommy Hynes Wexford

Mas A Dbls Michael Ducksy Walsh and Eddie Bourke Talbots Inch, Kilkenny were dft by Tommy Hynes and Paul Carthy Wexford

Mas B Singles Willie Holden Kilfane, Kilkenny dft John Roche Wexford

Masters B Dbls Willie and Noel Holden Kilfane dft David and Paul Clifford St Canices

Silver Mas B Singles Noel Holden Kilfane, Kilkenny dft Ricky Barron Wexford

Silver Mas B Dbls Tom O Keeffe/Tom Dooley Kilfane dft Frank Maddock/Donal Doyle (Wex)

Emerald Masters A Singles Johnny Brennan Mothel dft Tony Breen Wexford

Emerald Masters A Dbls Johnny Brennan Mothel and Joe Hennessy Talbots Inch, defeated Jimmy Reilly and Anthony McConnell Meath

Diamond Masters A Singles Jimmy Neary Talbots Inch was dft by John Rossiter Carlow

Ruby Masters Singles Paddy Reilly Talbots Inch dft Eugene Kennedy Dublin

Ruby Masters Dbls Paddy Reilly and Seamus Reade Talbots Inch dft Anthony Campbell/Dermot Howard Kildare

All Ireland Finals

Masters Singles Ducksy Walsh Talbots Inch dft Josie O Dwyer Tipperary

Silver Masters B Singles Noel Holden Kilfane dft Denis McCarthy Limerick

Ruby Masters Singles Paddy Reilly Talbots Inch rec w/o from Francis O Toole Limerick

Ladies Intermediate Singles Rachel Hogan Kilfane was dft by Martina McMahon Limerick

Junior B Singles Brendan Burke Kells was dft by Conor McElduff Tyrone

Masters B Singles William Holden Kilfane was dft by John Corbett Tipperary

Emerald Masters A Singles Johnny Brennan Mothel was dft by Billy Mullins Tipperary

Ladies Intermediate Dbls Mary Phelan and Ciara Mahon Clogh were dft by Martina McMahon and Sarah Flavin Limerick

Junior B Dbls Brendan and Diarmuid Burke Kells were dft by Conor McElduff and Pol Clarke Tyrone

Masters B Dbls William and Noel Holden Kilfane dft Mike O Connor and Pat Murphy Limerick

Silver Masters B Dbls Tom O Keeffe and Tom Dooley Kilfane dft Denis McCarthy and Pat Hefernan Limerick

Emerald Masters A Dbls Johnny Brennan Mothel and Joe Hennessy Talbots Inch dft Billy and Pakie Mullins Tipperary



Kilfane Handball Club Winners 2013



Clogh Handball Club Winners 2013



Goresbridge Handball Club 2013



Hal Clarke Presentation 2013



Windgap Handball Club Winners 2013



Keells Jnr B 40x20 Interclub Winners

Mens and Ladies Open

Mens Singles

Rd 16 Nicky Anthony Mullinavat was dft by Gavin Buggy Wexford

Rd 16 Ciaran Neary Talbots Inch was dft by Eoin Kennedy Dublin

Rd 16 Ducksy Walsh Talbots Inch dft Vinny Moran Mayo

Quarter Final Ducksy Walsh Talbots Inch dft Stephen Cooney Mayo

Semi Final Ducksy Walsh Talbots Inch was dft by Robbie McCarthy Westmeath
Mens Dbls

Quarter Final Ducksy Walsh and Ciaran Neary Talbots Inch were dft by Robbie McCarthy and John O Shaughnessy Westmeath

Ladies Singles

Quarter Final Ciara Mahon Clogh was dft by Amy Corrigan

Quarter Final Mary Phelan rec w/o from Pauline Gallagher Mayo

Semi Final Mary Phelan was dft by Maria Daly Kerry

Ladies Dbls

Quarter Final Mary Phelan and Ciara Mahon Clogh dft Martina McMahon and Sarah Flavin Limerick

Semi Final Mary Phelan and Ciara Mahon Clogh were dft by Pauline Gallagher and Amy Corrigan Mayo

Hal Clarke Tournament

Hal Clarke tournament took place in Kilfane with some great games on display from all participants. The final was between Brendan Burke Kells and Noel Holden Kilfane which turned out to be a great game going to a tie break with Brendan Burke winning in front of a packed gallery.

2013 Juvenile Handball

A large number of juveniles participated in the County boys and girls Singles and Doubles Championship. Kilkenny participated in Juvenile singles and doubles in the Leinster Championship, the county won 9 gold medals and 3 silver medals in 40x20 and 13 gold medals and 8 silver medals in 60x30. Kilkenny competed in four 40x20 All Ireland Juvenile Finals in which they won 2 gold medals and 2 silver medals and in eight 60x30 All Ireland Juvenile Finals in which they won 5 gold medals and 3 silver medals. In 40x20 Colleges the county schools won a gold and silver All Ireland medal.

County Juvenile boys and girls winners are as follows:

U10S Conor Holden (Kilfane) dft Sean Purcell (Windgap)

U10D Kyle Jordan/Cillian Kelly (Kilfane) dft Shane Wall/Aaron Hosey (Goresbridge)

U10BS Sean Purcell (Windgap) dft Padraig Lennon (Kells)

U10BD Padraig Lennon/Shawn O'Keeffe (Kells) dft David Holden/Sean O Keeffe (Kilfane)

U11S Peter McDonald (Kilfane) dft Joe Cowhig (Kells)

U11D Kyle Dunne/Jamie Maher (Clogh) dft Jack Doyle/Pauric Foley (Windgap)

U11BS Louis Brennan (Goresbridge) dft Tom Holden (Kilfane)

U11BD Jack Doyle/Pauric Foley (Windgap) dft Eoin/Niall O'Brien (Windgap)

U12S Jack Holden Kilfane dft Luke Whelan Goresbridge

U12D Dylan Crehan/Mikey Prendergast (Kells) dft Thomas/Eamonn Brennan (Clogh)

U12BS Jack Buggy (Clogh) dft Billy O'Neill (Clogh)

U13S Eoin Brennan Kells dft Robert Dowling Mothel

U13D Shane Cullen/Jack Hayes (Windgap) dft Michael Power/Colin McKenna (Kells)

U13BS Conor Hoban (Kells) dft Pauric O'Neill (Goresbridge)

U14S Conor Murphy (Kells) dft Michael Carey (Goresbridge)

U14D Ciaran Cooney/Aidan Barry (Clogh) dft Conor Condon/Cillian Lafferty (Kells)

U14BS Cillian Lafford (Kells) dft Rory Lodge (Kells)

U15S Marc Purcell (Clogh) dft Roy Cullen (Kells)

U15D Roy Cullen/Jack Crehan (Kells) dft James Culleton/Pat Grace (Windgap)

U15BS Patrick King (Goresbridge) dft Niall Doheny (Goresbridge)

U16S Sean Carey (Goresbridge) dft Dylan Caulfield (Kilfane)

U16D Padraig Cooney/Shane Dunne (Clogh) dft Niall Walsh/David Doyle (Windgap)

U16BS Darragh Simpson (Goresbridge) dft Morgan Crane (Goresbridge)

U17S Darragh O'Shea (Windgap) dft Mark Dowling (Mothel)

U17D Conor Lyons/Paulie Clifford (St. Canices) dft Mark Dowling/Robert Fahey (Mothel)

GU10S Cliodha O Shea (Windgap) dft Sonya Stanley (Kells)

GU10D Sonya Stanley/Sarah Condon (Kells)

GU11S Roisin O Keeffe (Kilfane) dft Noelle Dowling (Mothel)

GU11D Noelle Dowling/Orla Nolan (Mothel) dft Hannah Lodge/Breanna O Dwyer (Kells)

GU12S Edel Mulholland (O Loughlins) dft Roisin O Keeffe (Kilfane)

GU12S Rosin O Keeffe/Eva Hynes (Kilfane) dft Laura Foley/Rosin Foley (Windgap)

GU13S Dearbhail O Keeffe (Kilfane) dft Margaret Foley (Windgap)

GU13D Caoimhe Kelly/Eimear O'Farrell dft Orla Grace/Kate Cowhig (Kells)

GU14S Sorcha Delaney (Clogh) dft Margaret Purcell (Windgap)

GU14D Margaret Foley/Margaret Purcell (Windgap) bt Kerrianne Power/Kim Ryan (Kells)

GU15S Aoife Holden (Kilfane) dft Trisha Buggy (Clogh)

GU15D Caoimhe O'Shea/Aine Dunne (Windgap) dft Catriona Lawlor/Cora Delaney (Clogh)

GU16S Kirsty Maher (Kells) dft Deirdre Purcell (Windgap)

GU16D Eilish Regan/Aoilean Hennessy dft Elaine Power/Aoife Walsh (Kells)

GU17S Denise Love (Clogh) dft Karen Walshe (Kells)

GU17D Karen Walshe/Sarah Molloy (Kells)

Girls B Singles Tournament

GU10B Singles: Aisling Cooney (Clogh) dft Sonya Stanley (Kells)

GU11B Singles: Hannah Lodge (Kells) dft Ciara Walsh (Kells)

GU12B Singles: Rebecca Roche (Mothel) dft Brona Nash deAndrade (Clogh)

GU13B Singles: Laura Foley (Windgap) dft Kym Ryan (Kells)

Leinster Finals:

U12S Jack Holden (Kilfane) was dft by Glen Murphy (Wexford)



Kells Jnr B 60x30 Club Winners



WIT 40x20 and 60x30 Intervarsities Winners



Kells Handball Club winners 2013



Girls B Cumann na mBunscoileanna

U13S Eoin Brennan (Kells) dft Ciaran Power (Wexford)

U14S Conor Murphy (Kells) dft Ben Devlin (Louth)

U16D Padraig Cooney (Clogh)/Dylan Caulfield (Kilfane) dft Daniel Kavanagh/Dylan Bolger (Wexford)

U17D Conor Lyons (St. Canices)/Mark Dowling (Mothel) dft Nicky Lawlor/Liam Shannon (Wexford)

GU12S Edel Mulholland (O Loughlins) dft Cliodhna O Connell (Wexford)

GU13S Dearbhail O Keeffe (Kilfane) was dft by Cora Doyle (Wexford)

GU15S Aoife Holden (Kilfane) dft Ciara Jordan (Wicklow)

GU15D Caoimhe O Shea/Aine Dunne (Windgap) dft Roisin Walsh/Sarah O Connor (Wexford)

GU16S Kirsty Maher (Kells) dft Meadhbh Ni Dálaigh (Dublin)

GU17S Karen Walshe (Kells) was dft by Niamh Dunne (Laois)

GU17D Denise Love/Aoilean Hennessy (Clogh) winners

Leinster B Championship

U12BS Jack Buggy (Clogh) dft Finn Dempsey (Offaly)

U13BS Shane Murtagh (Offaly) dft Michael Power (Kells)

All Ireland Finals:

BU16Doubles: Padraig Cooney Clogh and Dylan Caulfield Kilfane dft Jason English and John Ryan Tipperary

GU17 Doubles: Aoilean Hennessy and Denise Love Clogh dft Limerick

BU14S: Tipperary (Colin Ryan) dft Kilkenny (Conor Murphy)

GU15D: Clare (Evelyn Duggan & Aoife Tuohy) dft Kilkenny (Caoimhe O Shea & Aine Dunne)

Gael Linn:

Two clubs from Kilkenny went on to play in Leinster

Jack Holden/Dearbhail O Keeffe (Kilfane) won the County Gael Linn and also won Leinster final and were dft by Tyrone in the All Ireland semi final.

Eoin Brennan/Kerrianne Power (Kells) won the county Gael Linn but were defeated in the Leinster final by Meath

Cumann na mBunscoileanna

106 boys and 32 girls represented 23 Primary Schools in Kilkenny in this years competition. A and B grades were played with the B grade proving very popular as it gave the beginners a much more enjoyable experience of handball.

Girls A

U11 Singles Róisín O'Keeffe (Thomastown NS) dft Emer Dunphy (Windgap NS)

U11 Dbls Noelle Dowling/Orla Nolan (Muckalee NS) dft Jade O'Gorman/Heather O'Brien (Windgap NS)

U13 Singles Dearbhail O'Keeffe (Thomastown NS) dft Molly Walsh (Windgap NS)

U13 Dbls Edel Ni Mhaolchallain/Rebecca De Roiste(Gaelscoil Osraí) dft Emer O'Farrell/Caoimhe Kelly(Thomastown NS)

Kilkenny's Orla Nolan,Roisin O'Keeffe & Noelle Dowling represented Leinster at the National Girls Cumann na mBunscoileanna Event in Kingscourt.

Boys A

U11S Kyle Dunne Moneenroe NS dft Jamie Maher Boys School Castlecomer

U11D Joe Cowhig/Tomas Leahy Danesfort NS dft Sean Barron/Jack Doyle Windgap NS

U13S Ciaran Cooney Clogh NS dft Jack Buggy Firoda NS

U13D Jack Barcoe/Jack Holden Thomastown NS dft James Love/Eamonn Brennan Clogh NS

Girls B

U11S Olivia Mahony Burnchurch NS dft Hannah Lodge Stoneyford NS

U11D Breanna O'Dwyer/Ciara Walsh Stoneyford NS dft Emily Culleton/Clodhna O'Shea Windgap NS

U13S Bronagh Nash De Andrade Clogh NS dft Catherine Shirley Bunscoil McAuley Rice Callan

U13D Natasha Mayo/April Nash-Noronha Clogh NS dft Sharon McGarrion/Sarah Bergin St. Johns NS

Boys B

U11S Billy Drennan Galmoy NS dft Tom Holden Thomastown NS

U11D Andy Hickey/Shaun O'Keeffe Dunamaggan NS dft Jake Hickey/Alex Molloy St. Johns NS

U13S Michael Doyle Clogh NS dft Jack Kerins Thomastown NS

U13D Patrick Doyle/Conor Drennan Galmoy NS dft Conor Hoban/Darragh O'Keeffe Dunamaggan NS

Colleges

Seven Secondary Schools in Kilkenny entered the 40x20 colleges handball with approximately 40 juvenile handballers competing in the following grades in both singles and doubles, First year, Junior, Intermediate and Senior for boys and girls claiming three Leinster titles and one All Ireland title.

Junior Doubles:

Padraig Cooney and Shane Dunne Castlecomer Community School dft St. Camins Shannon (Cathair Agnew/Jamie Keane) in the All Ireland Final

Ladies Senior Singles:

Ciara Mahon Loreto Kilkeny dft Dublin in Leinster Final. Had to withdraw from All Ireland semi final due to illness

Ladies Senior Doubles:

Aishling Maher and Denise Love Castlecomer Community School were dft by Roisin Ni Chonghaile/Adhna Ni Bhraonain Colaiste na Corbie, Galway in All Ireland Final.

40x20 Juvenile Teams of 6

Kilkenny U12/13 team of 6 were dft by Wexford in the Leinster Final, on the team were Ciaran Cooney (Clogh), Jack Hayes (Windgap), Jack Holden (Kilfane), Dylan Crehan (Kells), Eoin Brennan (Kells), Mikey Prendergast (Kells), Eamon Brennan (Clogh), Davy Blanchfield (Kilfane) with coaches Tom O Keeffe and Noel Holden.

Kilkenny U14/15 team of 6 were dft by Kildare in the Leinster final, on the team were Marc Purcell and Aidan Barry (Clogh), Dion Bourke (Mothel), Eoin Regan (Clogh), Roy Cullen and Conor Condon (Kells), James Culleton (Windgap), Cathal Barry (Clogh). Coaches were Colm Love and Watty Cullen.

Kilkenny U16/17 team of 4 defeated Wexford in the Leinster Final and went on to defeat Galway in the All Ireland semi final and were unlucky to be defeated by Cork in the All Ireland Final. On the Kilkenny team were Paulie and Adam Clifford St Canices and Darragh O Shea and David Doyle Windgap with coaches Michael O Shea and Ger Doyle.

Interprovincial Team of 10

Three Kilkenny girls Denise Love Clogh, Aoife Holden and Dearbhail O Keeffe Kilfane travelled to Kingscourt, Cavan to represent their province in the Interprovincial Team of 10 event. The girls gave their all but unfortunately came up against a strong Connacht team.

Irish Junior Nationals

19 Juveniles took part at the Irish Juvenile Nationals in Clare, Edel Mulholland, Dearbhail and Roisin O Keeffe, Noelle Dowling, Eilis Regan, Caoimhe O Shea, Ailis O Shea, Sean Carey, Shane Dunne, Aidan and Cathal Barry, Eoin Regan, Darragh O Shea, Brian Mahon, Jack Buggy, Billy O Neill, Jamie Maher, Peter McDonald, Kyle Jordan, the majority of our Juveniles got to the quarter finals with Edel Mulholland O Loughlins been dft in semi final by eventual winner in GU11S and Darragh O Shea Windgap was unfortunate to be dft in Final of U17BS.

Feile na nGael

Three clubs from Kilkenny competed in Feile na nGael in Limerick in June.

Clogh 60x30 Division 1 (Cathal Barry, Aidan Barry, Eoin Regan, Ciaran Cooney) Clogh 40x20 Di-

vision 5 (Michael Doyle, James Love, Eamonn Brennan, Thomas Brennan, Sorcha Delaney). Kells 40x20 Division 1 (Conor Murphy, Conor Condon, Rory Lodge, Cillian Lafford, Eoin Brennan) Kells 40x20 Division 6 (Michael Power, Colin McKenna, Darragh O Keeffe, Conor Hoban, Dylan Crehan). Windgap 40x20 Division 4 (Pat Grace, Aidan Culleton, Shane Cullen, Luke Ward) Windgap Girls Division 3 (Margaret Purcell, Margaret Foley, Alanna Dunphy, Mya Travers. The county was also represented in the Feile Handball skills with Conor Murphy from Kells winning the gold medal in the 40x20 section, Ciaran Cooney from Clogh winning bronze in the 60x30 section. Sorcha Delaney Clogh Handball Club was the Kilkenny representative in the girls section.

2013 60x30 Juvenile Handball

County Juvenile

U10S Conor Holden Kilfane dft Kyle Jordan Kilfane

U10D Kyle Jordan and Killian Kelly Kilfane dft Sean O Keeffe and David Holden Kilfane

U11S Kyle Dunne Clogh dft Peter McDonald Kilfane

U11D Jamie Maher and Jack Brennan Clogh dft

U12S Jack Holden Kilfane dft Jack Buggy Clogh

U12D Eamonn and Thomas Brennan Clogh dft James Love and Conor Byrne Clogh

U13S Eoin Brennan Kells dft Robert Dowling Mothel

U13D Colin McKenna and Dylan Crehan dft Michael Doyle and David Langton Clogh

U14S Conor Murphy Kells dft Eoin Regan Clogh

U14D Ciaran Cooney and Eoin Regan Clogh dft Conor Condon and Cillian Lafford Kells

U15S Shane Dunne Clogh dft Marc Purcell Clogh

U15D Marc Purcell/Aidan Barry (Clogh) dft Dion Bourke/Sean Reilly (Mothel)

U16S Padraig Cooney Clogh dft Roy Cullen Kells

U16D Dylan Caulfield/Maurice Walsh (Kilfane) dft Roy Cullen/Conor Dwyer (Kells)

U17S JJ English Goresbridge dft Darragh O Shea Windgap

U17D Darragh O Shea and Philip Cahill Windgap dft Mark Dowling and Robert Fahy Mothel

GU11S Roisin O Keeffe Kilfane dft Noelle Dowling Mothel

GU12S Edel Mulholland O Loughlins dft Roisin O Keeffe Kilfane

GU12D Noelle Dowling/Rebecca Roche Mothel dft Roisin O Keeffe/ Eva Hynes Kilfane

GU13S Dearbhail O Keeffe Kilfane dft Caoimhe Kelly Kilfane

GU13D Caoimhe Kelly/Eimer Farrell (Kilfane) dft Kerrianne Power/Kym Ryan (Kells).

GU14S Sorcha Delaney Clogh dft Margaret Purcell Windgap

GU14D Windgap

GU15S Castriona Lawlor Clogh dft Cora Delaney Clogh

GU15D Caoimhe O Shea and Aine Dunne Windgap dft Cora Delaney and Trish Buggy Clogh

GU16S Aoife Holden Kilfane dft Ellis Regan Clogh

GU16D Aoilean Hennessy and Ellis Regan Clogh

GU17S Karen Walshe Kells dft Niamh O'Shea Kilfane

GU17D Sarah Molloy/Aoife Walsh (Kells) dft Niamh O'Shea/Ailish O'Shea (Kilfane).

Leinster Juvenile

U12S Jack Holden Kilfane dft Glen Murphy Wexford

U13S Eoin Brennan Kells was dft by Todd Hynes Wexford

U13D Colin McKenna Kells and Robert Dowling Mothel dft William Murray-Byrne/Mi Curran Wexford

U14S Eoin Regan Clogh was dft by Ben Devlin Louth

U14D Ciaran Cooney Clogh and Conor Murphy Kells dft Patrick Browne/Joseph Stewart Meath

U15S Shane Dunne Clogh dft Peter Smith Meath

U15D Dion Bourke Mothel and Mark Purcell Clogh dft Ciaran Busher/Kevin Shannon Wexford

U16S Padraig Cooney Clogh dft Keith Armstrong Wexford

U16D Dylan Caulfield Kilfane and Roy Cullen Kells were dft by Thomas Hall/ Daniel Kavanagh Wexford

U17S JJ English Goresbridge dft Bryan Kehoe Wexford

U17D Darragh O'Shea Windgap and Mark Dowling Mothel dft Liam Shannon/Jack Roche (Wex)

GU12S Edel Mulholland O Loughlins was dft by Molly Dagg Kildare

GU12D Noelle Dowling Mothel and Roisin O'Keeffe Kilfane were dft by Cliodhna O'Connell/Leanne Boland Wexford

GU13S Dearbhail O'Keeffe Kilfane dft Cora Doyle Wexford

GU13D Caoimhe Kelly and Eimer Farrell Kilfane were dft by Lauren Flanagan/Eva Creane (Wex)

GU14S Sorcha Delaney, Clogh was dft by Holly Hynes Wexford

GU15S Castriona Lawlor Clogh was dft by Roisin Walsh Wexford

GU15D Caoimhe O Shea Windgap and Aoife Walsh Kells received bye

GU16S Aoife Holden Kilfane dft Meadhbh Ni Dalaigh Dublin

GU16D Ellis Regan and Aoilean Hennessy Clogh were dft by Hannah & Kate Dagg Kildare

GU17S Niamh O'Shea Kilfane dft Rachel Malone Dublin

GU17D Sarah Molloy and Karen Walshe Kells received bye

Juvenile All Ireland Finals

U15S Shane Dunne Clogh dft Pauric Mullan Tyrone

U15D Marc Purcell Clogh and Dion Bourke Mothel dft Gerry Cronin and Oisin Hickey Cork

U17S JJ English Goresbridge dft Ciaran O'Neill Waterford

U17D Darragh O Shea Windgap and Mark Dowling Mothel were dft by Shane Murphy and Ben Walsh Limerick

GU15D Caoimhe O Shea Windgap and Aoife Walsh Kells were dft by Cathy Foley and Clodagh Neville Limerick

GU16S Aoife Holden Kilfane dft Roisin Cahill Tipperary

GU17S Niamh O Shea Kilfane was dft by Brid Horgan Cork

GU17D Sarah Molloy and Karen Walsh Kells dft Michelle and Niamh McCarthy Limerick

60x30 Juvenile Teams of 6

U12/13 Team of 6 played Wexford in the Leinster Final and were dft by 3 aces. On the team were Jack Holden Kilfane, Eoin Brennan, Colin McKenna, Dylan Crehan Kells, Billy O Neill, Jack Buggy, Thomas Brennan Clogh, Robert Dowling Mothel. Coach was Noel Holden.

U14/15 Team of 6 played Kildare in the Leinster Semi Final and were dft by one ace. On the team were Eoin Regan, Aidan Barry, Cathal Barry Clogh, Conor Condon, Cillian Lafford, Jack Crehan, Rory Lodge Kells, with coaches Colm Love and Tom Condon.

YOUNG FOOTBALLERS STILL TO THE FORE

Ladies Football Report by Noelle Curran PRO



Kilkenny U14 Div 2A Winners

While Kilkenny's juvenile girls' football continues to prosper, the county reached a low at adult level in 2013 when a lack of adult membership forced the county to withdraw from the National League and All Ireland series. To give Kilkenny an opportunity to regroup the Ladies Gaelic Football Association allowed the county a reprieve for 2013 and 2014 during which much emphasis is to be placed on juvenile development. Six juvenile clubs, Thomastown, Kilkenny City, Piltown, Barrow Gaels, Erins Own and Muckalee continued their activities and hopefully in the coming years will ensure that Kilkenny can remain competitive at adult level.

Under 14 Leinster Championship Division 2A Winners

Kilkenny set their targets high for the Leinster Division 2 Under 14 football championship and achieved it in some style going unbeaten in six games to claim the Division 2A title. Backboned by a strong City side who would go on to taste Féile glory for the second year in a row the girls got their campaign off to a nervous start in March with a 0-10 to 2-02 win over Longford in Castlecomer before kicking into gear against Carlow in round 2 to win 2-11 to 0-01. A trip to Louth brought a 3-04 to 2-05 win and when Wexford visited Larchfield in April they were shell shocked by a superb second half display

from Kilkenny. The cats trailed by a point at half time but rallied to claim win number four on a 2-10 to 1-08 scoreline. Offaly pushed Kilkenny all the way in Daingean but the cats held on for a 4-01 to 3-03 win earning a spot in the Division 2A final against Division 1 opposition. Kilkenny faced Wicklow in Tinryland in June and a tense game saw Kilkenny hold a 2-03 to 1-03 lead at half time. A Kate Drennan goal proved crucial with ten minutes left and Kilkenny were victorious 3-06 to 3-03 and were crowned Division 2A winners.

Niamh Deely was named Player of the Match after a great performance and her pacy solo runs resulted in a number of Kilkenny scores. Leinster secretary Cathal Friel congratulated Kilkenny on their third Under 14 title in four years.

Kilkenny U 14 Panel: Laura Tynan, Andi Snyder, Neasa Galwey, Shauna Valentine, Eadaoin Murphy, Aobha O'Gorman, Emily McCarthy, Niamh Deely (Capt), Bláthnaid Galway, Ciara Delaney, Jennifer O'Keeffe, Hannah Scott, Aoife Doyle, Kate Drennan, Nicole Carter, Eva Hynes, Beth Behan, Saoirse Comerford-Liston, Rebecca Nevin, Lucy Power, Jane Cass, Laoise Prendiville, Rebecca Roche, Sinead Fitzpatrick, Kate Dempsey, Hannah Kelly, Rachel Kelly, Lizzie Buckley, Emma Nolan, Holly Smith, Roisin Allen, Danielle Morrissey. **Management:** Eoin Hennessy, Ray O'Keeffe,

John Gorey, Tom Deely, John Valentine, John Scott, Breda Tynan

Under 16 Leinster Championship Division 2B Winners

A new look Under 16 side assembled for this year's Leinster championship with many of the girls making their debut at under 16 level while six players were donning the county jersey for the first time. Newcomers like Ciara Cody and Frances Farrell of Erin's Own blended well with the experienced Ellie Barcoe and Enya Foley to form a solid defence. Kilkenny claimed a 4-05 to 2-9 win and defeated Carlow 3-07 to 2-05 a week later. The trip to Drogheda in round 3 saw Kilkenny come out on top in a cracking game 5-06 to 2-09. Westmeath and Wicklow were racking up huge scores in their respective campaigns and Kilkenny fell to the midlanders 3-17 to 2-05 at Moate. Despite a heavy defeat in Tinahely, Kilkenny finished in third spot to qualify for the B' final against Longford. In the final played at Stradbally the cats looked to be in command with a five point lead at half time but Longford reduced the margin to a single point. With Aoife Cantwell and Jane Walker regaining control Kilkenny sealed a 4-06 to 1-08 win and like the Under 14s, their third Under 16 title in four years. Captain Ellie Barcoe was presented with the Provincial Shield by Leinster



Leinster U16B Shield Winners 2013

Ladies Football President Marie Hickey and Thomastown's Becky Walsh was named as Player of the Match after a hard working display at corner forward.

Kilkenny u16 panel: Niamh Sheehy, Lauren Valentine, Enya Foley, Caitlin Skehan, Lucy Teehan, Jane Walker, Aoife Cantwell, Aine Murphy, Michelle Teehan, Jenny O Keeffe, Aoife Naddy, Ria Lawson, Ally O Keeffe, Megan Walsh, Becky Walsh, Ruby Harvey, Brianna Mallon, Ciara Cody, Ellie Barcoe, Frances Farrell, Lauren Dermody, Laura Walsh, Anita Brennan, Sophie Dwyer, Ailis O Shea, Lucy Elvidge. Management: Richy Windle, Paul Whelan

UNDER 18 LEINSTER CHAMPIONSHIP

Despite having no club competition a panel of twenty three minors assembled for the Leinster Under 18 championship. After a heavy defeat to Westmeath in round 1 Kilkenny were in goal scoring mode against Carlow and claimed a 7-06 to 2-09 win with Sinead Whelan bagging 3-03 and Megan Walsh 2-0. Louth visited Thomastown in round 3 and in a thrilling game the visitors grabbed two late goals to come out on top 6-12 to 4-07. With both sides finishing behind Westmeath, Louth and Kilkenny were to meet again in the semi final but an unavoidable clash with the replay of the minor all Ireland camogie final forced Kilkenny to concede the tie to Louth. While the backbone of the team came from Thomastown's victorious under 14 squad of four years ago, a total of eight juvenile and adult clubs were represented on the panel showing how underage development can lead to a well balanced adult side.

Kilkenny minor panel: Enya Foley, Niamh Quigley, Nelle Henderson, Michaela Reilly, Ellie Barcoe, Jennifer Norris, Maeve O Connor, Aine Gannon, Emer Fitzpatrick, Niamh Nolan, Sinead Whelan, Jessie Carroll, Megan Walsh, Katelyn Phelan, Lucy Teehan, Aisling Foley, Eibhlín Walsh, Lena Butler, Claire Manning, Becky Leahy, Shauna Kenneally. Management: PJ Whelan, Seamus Norris, Seamus Quigley.

PROVINCIAL BLITZES

Kilkenny have taken part in the Leinster Under 12 and Under 14 blitzes for the past six years and squads participated in this year's blitzes with all juvenile clubs represented and many donning the county jersey for the first time.

U12 blitz panel: Laura Power, Laura Falconer, Jenny O Dea, Marlise Flynn, Anna O'Brien, Sarah Tobin, Sarah Jane Brophy, Chloe Power, Danielle O'Brien, Ciara Farrell, Cliodhna Donnelly, Leah Brennan, Maddie Lawson, Nicole Allen O Keeffe, Katie Holohan, Karen Lucas, Niamh Moore, Sarah Smyth, Meabh Walsh, Rebecca Ward, Rebecca Roche, Aoife Cosgrave, Ali Flood, Kate Cullen, Hazel Moore, Clodagh Hanlon, Aoife Murphy, Caoimhe McGuinness, Sophie Phelan, Roisin Moran, Faith Savage

U14 blitz panel: Lisa Norris, Megan Byrne, Rebecca Brennan, Emma Cahill, Leah Maher, Evelyn Phelan, Meabh Delaney, Kate Maher, Roisin Allen, Michelle Farrell, Emma Fox, Kate Drennan, Ciara Malone, Lizzy Buckley, Eva Hynes, Rachel Walsh, Ashley Morrissey, Niamh Costigan, Blathnaid Galwey, Iona Gardiner, Jill O'Neill, Rebecca Nevin, Tara O'Neill, Jenny McGuinness, Eimear Farrell, Laura Quigley, Ava Kavanagh, Jessie Maher.

FÉILE PEIL 2013

All six juvenile clubs took part in the county Féile competition which was played in Thomastown in April as a one day blitz. Barrow Gaels, Castlecomer and Muckalee were competing in their Féile competition while the City, Thomas-



Thomastown U14's at Kilkenny Feile 2013



Erins Own U14B Winners 2013



Muckalee U14C Finalists 2013

town and Piltown brought experience to the day. In the opening game Erin's Own defeated Barrow Gaels 3-02 to 0-03 with the Gaels' side pushing 'Comer every inch of the way. The win put the 'Comer side into the semi final against neighbours Muckalee. Thomastown and Piltown was an eagerly awaited encounter with both sides vying for a spot in the second semi final against Kilkenny City. Thomastown held a 1-02 to 0-0 half time lead and scores from Ava Kavanagh and Eimear Farrell secured a 2-04 to 0-0 win and a semi final meeting with reigning champions Kilkenny City.

Semi Final: Erin's Own 3-07 Muckalee 0-0

The two north Kilkenny sides were evenly matched in the opening quarter of their semi final but Danielle Morrissey and Kate Maher led the scoring and steered Erin's Own to a 3-07 to 0-0 win. In their first Feile outing the girls in blue had secured a place in the final.

Semi Final Kilkenny City 4-01, Thomastown 0-0 Kilkenny City were raging hot favourites to claim the Kilkenny title for a second year in a row and despite a great battle from Thomastown the city girls eventually wore the opposition down. Goals from Ciara Delaney and Kate Drennan helped make it 4-01 to 0-0 for the City side.

City retain county title with ease

The City were odds on favourites going in to the final against a young and inexperienced Erin's Own who had achieved their target of reaching the final on their first outing. Scores from Hannah Kelly, Ciara Delaney, and Lucy Power gave the champions a 3-07 to 0-0 half time lead and a well drilled Kilkenny City gave an exhibition of scoring to reclaim the county Féile title and subsequently head to Derry where they outshone all to claim the Division 2 All Ireland title.

Féile Panels:

Muckalee: Claire Moore, Martina Morrissey, Ciara Malone, Emma Kelly, Chloe Dooley, Siobhan Coady, Grainne Kelly, Kate Geoghegan, Clodagh Hanlon, Aoife Murphy, Laura McDowell, Hazel Moore, Fiona Manning, Katie O'Neill, Catriona Murtagh, Saoirse McGuinness, Anna Healy.

Barrow Gaels: Aoife Cleere, Kate Drennan, Louise Murphy, Aine Ryan, Faith Savage, Roisin Moran, Sorcha Moran, Maeve Ryan, Megan Ryan, Leah Carroll, Emma Fox, Darcy Bolger, Diane Foley, Abby Bolger, Denise Byrne, Aisling Prendergast, Eimear Holden, Sophie Phelan, Ali Flood, Brid McCabe, Jo Anna Galavan, Hannah Moran.

Erins Own: Katie Tynan, Michelle Farrell, Aoife Dowling, Katie Holohan, Laura Mullally, Rebecca Brennan, Leah Maher, Roisin Allen, Meabh Delaney, Meabh Walsh, Danielle Morrissey, Sinead Brennan, Sarah Smyth, Kate Maher, Leah Brennan, Ellie Boland, Molly Boland.

Thomastown: Leah Brennan, Jenny McGuinness, Jill O'Neill, Ashleigh Morrissey, Rebecca Nevin, Iona Gardiner, Niamh Costigan, Erin Barcoe, Georgia Barcoe, Ava Kavanagh, Blaithnait Galwey, Ciara Morrissey, Maddy Lawson, Jessie Maher, Eimear Farrell, Lizzy Buckley, Sarah Gittens, Laura Quigley, Roisin Galway, Ruth Ryan, Tara O'Neill, Rachel Walsh, Cara Gibbons, Hannah Brennan, Sinead O'Keefe, Ciara Prendergast, Eva Hynes.

Piltown: Avril Hogan, Niamh Foley, Amy Walsh, Emily McCarthy, Alanna Dunphy, Clodagh Butler, Aoife Doyle, Alanna Gallagher, Caoimhe O'Callaghan, Lisa Norris, Megan Byrne, Sine Kavanagh, Aoibheann Kavanagh, Marie Beth Kirby, Sophie Holden, Laura Falconer, Laura Power, Sara Jayne Brophy, Sarah Tobin, Chloe Power, Emer Dunphy, Marlise Flynn.



U14 Team Leinster Blitz 6 July 2013



Piltown U14B Finalists 2013



Barrow Gaels U14C Winners 2013



Kilkenny City Ladies Gaelic Football Team 2013

**All Ireland Féile Finals –
City crowned Div 2 champions**

Kilkenny City were well prepared for the national finals having won the Division 3 title last year and topped their group with ease beating Glensties 5-9 to 1-0, St Eunan's Letterkenny 5-4 to 0-0 and West Clare Gaels 5-4 to 1-0. In a tough semi final City overcame Bailieboro of Cavan 3-03 to 0-01 and headed to Celtic Park, Derry for the final. Nothing would now stand in City's way and after a nervous start the

Kilkenny side pulled away to beat Moyle Rovers of Tipperary 3-02 to 1-01 and were crowned Division 2 All Ireland winners. The team celebrated all the way back to the marble city and were greeted with a civic reception in honour of their great achievement.

Kilkenny City Féile panel: Laura Tynan, Andi Snyder, Neasa Galway, Hannah Kelly, Aobha O Gorman, Kate Dempsey, Jane Cass, Ciara Delaney, Hannah Scott, Beth Behan, Nicole Carter, Claire Curtin, Ciara Deely, Lucy Power, Laoise Prenderville, Sarah Smith, Shauna Valentine, Rachel Kelly, Rebecca Roche, Saoirse Comerford Liston, Kate Drennan, Eadaoin Murphy, Jennifer o Keeffe, Niamh Deely, Emma Nolan, Holly Smith, Lucy Keane: Management : Eoin Hennessy, Maria Twomey, John Gorey and Ray O'Keeffe. Management: Eoin Hennessy, Maria Twomey, John Gorey, Ray O'Keeffe.

Féile Skills Competition:

Thomastown's Blathnaid Galway was selected to represent her club and county in the Féile Skills competition in Derry. The Thomastown starlet came through the group stage to the final and was pipped for top spot having achieved a score of 75pts with the winner scoring 83pts. A remarkable achievement for one of Kilkenny's brightest young stars.

UNDER 14 CHAMPIONSHIP

The six juvenile clubs played each other on a league basis to decide placings for three county finals in October so each club had a chance of claiming silverware. In the Roinn A final played at Ballyhale, Kilkenny City proved too strong for Thomastown winning 8-07 to 2-03. The 'B' and 'C' finals were played at Nowlan Park with Erin's Own Castlecomer defeating Piltown 3-06 to 0-01 in the 'B' decider and Barrow Gaels easily claimed the 'C' title 6-11 to 1-02 over Muckalee.

Erin's Own also took part in the Carlow Under 16 league and were unlucky to lose out to Ballinkillen at semi final stage 3-08 to 4-03. Kilkenny City Under 16's participated in the Sarsfields Under 16 tournament in Kildare and reached the Plate Final where they saw off the challenge of St Conleth's of Laois.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS FOOTBALL

The 2013 schools competition is currently at semi final stage with 30 schools taking part in this year's league. Despite inclement weather conditions the 2012 finals were wrapped up last November.

2012 Finals:

Roinn A Final: Thomastown 2-10 St Canices 2-01. **Player of Match:** Eva Hynes (Thomastown)

Roinn B Final: Owning/Templeorum 3-06 Kilmanagh 1-0. **Player of Match:** Sophie Holden (Owning/Templeorum)

Roinn C Final: Tullaroan 4-04 Urlingford 1-01. **Player of Match:** Rebecca Cudihy (Tullaroan)

Roinn D Final: Coon/Muckalee 4-01 Conahy 3-02. **Player of Match:** Aoife Murphy (Coon/Muckalee)

This is the first year that Kilkenny have had six clubs active at juvenile level which undoubtedly bodes well for the future. However it is essential that we commence Under 16 and 18 competitions to cater for the number of under 14s ready to progress through the ranks.

It is also imperative that Kilkenny return to adult football so that this promising young talent can continue to enjoy the game for many years to come. Just one adult club participated in 2013 with the setting up of Three Friars club in the south of the county. With no adult club competition in Kilkenny this year Three Friars were allowed to enter the Tipperary league where they claimed the Division 3 title. A new club was set up in Callan also and will be ready for competitive action in the new year. Kilkenny had 7 com-



U12 Mini Panel 2013



Barrow Gaels U10's



Thomastown U10's



Muckalee U10's



Erin's Own U10's

petitive adult clubs just 2 years ago and it is only six years since the county won an All Ireland junior title. With a big effort at club level adult football will return in the near future.

SENIORS SUFFER CROKER HEARTACHE

Camogie Report by Michael O'Leary PRO



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SENIOR FINALISTS 2013

Back: Sonia Buggy, Mary O'Connell, Lisa Carey, Emma Comerford, Leann Fennelly, Grace Walsh, Sarah Anne Quinlan, Kelly Hamilton, Lydia Fitzpatrick, Aisling Dunphy, Denise Gaule, Edwina Keane, Anne Marie Lennon, Elaine Aylward, Claire Phelan, Claire Aylward, Aine Fahey, Aine Kinsella, Aisling Nolan,
Front: Niamh Bambrick, Megan Farrell, Maeve Mansfield, Emma Kavanagh, Collette Dormer, Shelley Farrell, Michelle Quilty, Mairead Power, Jacqui Frisby, Kate McDonald, Katie Power, Anne Dalton, Mags Fennelly, Miriam Walsh, Aoife Neary. Photo Paul Mohan/SPORTSFILE)

INTER-COUNTY YEAR REVIEW

SENIOR

Following the disaster of 2012, when Kilkenny were defeated at the quarter-final play-off stage by Dublin, attention turned to finding a new manager.

In December of last year, Dublin natives Graham Dillon and Niall Williams were appointed as new managers, with Tom Doheny (St. Lachtains), John Joe Aylward (Mullinavat) and Liz Dempsey (Thomastown) appointed as selectors.

A players meeting took place in Springhill Hotel on Friday 28th December, before the first of a succession of trial matches took place in Thomastown on Sunday January 6th to begin the year, as the year would end in an All-Ireland final appearance in Croke Park.

Attention then switched to the start of the National League in late February, and Kilkenny began their campaign with an easy victory over Derry. Despite losing at home to Cork on Easter Sunday, victories against Tipperary and Offaly secured a semi-final spot, and a clash with defending All-Ireland Champions Wexford. Kilkenny got off to a disastrous start conceding a first minute goal from Ursula Jacob, and they trailed 1-4 to 0-0 after 20 minutes.

To their credit, they kept battling away, before losing out 1-10 to 1-5.

Attention switched to the championship, and Kilkenny laid down a marker for the year on the June Bank Holiday weekend in the Leinster Senior Final.

They travelled down to New Ross to play Wexford, and a superb team display saw them secure their first provincial title since 2009 as they won out 4-5 to 1-10.

Following the Leinster final victory, the focus changed to the Champi-

onship, and Kilkenny were drawn in a tough group with Galway, Derry and Clare.

The championship began with a trip to Athenry to play Galway, with Kilkenny surviving a late rally from the Westerners to hang on for a 1-10 to 1-8 victory. It would not be the last time in 2013 the two counties would contest one another.

Another tough battle followed a week later in round two, and Kilkenny ground out a 1-10 to 0-11 against Clare.

A much easier game transpired in round 3, as Denise Gaule grabbed a hat-trick of goals to easily defeat Derry 6-12 to 1-5.

Those three games set them up ahead of their final group game against Wexford on Saturday July 13th knowing that victory would assure them of a semi-final spot.

Played in the boiling hot heatwave, a magnificent game in front of glorious atmosphere transpired.

Shelly Farrell grabbed both goals as they easily defeated the All-Ireland Champions 2-15 to 2-9.

Having qualified automatically for the semi-finals, Kilkenny had a 5 week break before they played Cork on Saturday 17th August. The semi-finals were switched from their usual venue of Nowlan Park to Semple Stadium, Thurles due to the effects of the Bruce Springsteen concert on the Nowlan Park surface. However, the change of venue didn't deter Kilkenny in the slightest as they won one of the greatest Camogie games ever played winning out, 2-12 to 2-11 following a pulsating battle.

Kilkenny played with the strong wind for the first-half, and they won a penalty in the very first minute but Aoife Neary elected to tap over instead of going for goal. Cork struck two early goals from Katriona Mackey and



Katie Power, Kilkenny, celebrates after scoring her side's first goal in the Semi-Final

Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE



Ailish O'Reilly, Galway, in action against Kate McDonald, Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Final.

Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND MINOR CHAMPIONS 2013

Back: Sarah Whelan, Alice Talbot, Eimear Fitzpatrick, Miriam Walsh, Ailish Butler, Niamh Sweeney, Ciara Byrne, Aine Gannon, Eimear Moylan (wearing glasses) Mary O'Connell, Aisling Nolan, Katie Doheny, Emily O'Dwyer, Ciara Holden, Deirdre Walsh, Catherine Foley, Jennifer Norris, Sinead McCarthy,
Front: Noelle Murphy, Ciara Farrell, Deborah Phelan, Michaela Kenneally, Niamh Donnelly, Megan Farrell (captain), (partially hidden), Niamh Bolger, Mary Corcoran, Siobhan Corcoran, Roisin Crowley, Lorraine Long,
Seated: Lydia Fitzpatrick

Julia White, but Kilkenny did respond. Despite a second penalty from Aoife Neary which was well blocked by Cork defender Rena Buckley, Katie Power scored an excellent individual solo goal as Kilkenny led 1-7 to 2-3 at the interval. Aisling Dunphy and Denise Gaule added early second-half points, but Cork responded with five unanswered points as they led again 2-8 to 1-9 entering the closing ten minutes. However, Kilkenny displayed admirable reserve strength to fight tenaciously. A long distance free from Anne Dalton was flicked to the net, and Kilkenny regained the lead. Orla Cotter pointed within seconds to draw Cork level, before Katie Power and Michelle Quilty pointed to regain the initiative. Angela Walsh blazed a goal chance inches over the cross-bar, but Kilkenny replied with a sublime point from substitute Kelly Hamilton. Aisling Thompson added a late point, but Kilkenny held out for a memorable one point triumph.

Galway ended Wexford's reign as All-Ireland champions as they easily won 1-12 to 0-6, so a first ever All-Ireland final between Kilkenny and Galway would be played on Sunday September 15th. There was great excitement and expectation around the Marble City that the O'Duffy Cup would return Noreside for the first time since 1994.

However, it wasn't to be.

A mostly disappointing final saw Galway prevail 1-9 to 0-7, and Galway's 1-2 tally in the closing 5 minutes of the first-half proved to have a decisive effect.

An opportunist goal by Ailish O'Reilly followed by two points from substitute Noreen Coen gave the westerners a 1-5 to 0-4 lead at the interval, and it was a lead they would not relinquish.

It was a day of such major disappointment as the famine extends for at least another year.

Kilkenny scorers All-Ireland Final: Shelly Farrell, Ann Dalton (0-1 free), and Michelle Quilty (frees) 0-2 each, Aisling Dunphy 0-1.

Kilkenny: Emma Kavanagh (Rower-Inistioge), Mairead Power (Carrickshock), Kate McDonald (Thomastown), Jacqui Frisby (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Leanne Fennelly (Mullinavat), Edwina Keane (St. Martins), Elaine Aylward (Mullinavat), Grace Walsh (Tullaroan), Ann

Dalton (St. Lachtains), Claire Phelan (Lisdowney), Aisling Dunphy (St. Brigids), Katie Power (Piltown), Shelly Farrell (Thomastown), Denise Gaule (Windgap), Aoife Neary (James Stephens)
Subs: Collette Dorner (Paulstown) for Phelan 21 minutes, Kelly Hamilton (Rower-Inistioge) for Walsh 40 minutes, Michelle Quilty (Mullinavat) (captain) for Neary 47 minutes, Miriam Walsh (Tullaroan) for Gaule 55 minutes.

INTERMEDIATE

As well taking over the Senior management, Niall and Graham, along with the rest of the crew, took charge of the Intermediates.

The group stages of the League went superbly as some of last year's Senior absentees returned to gain much needed game experience. Victories away over Tipperary and Down were secured, before they played out a pulsating draw with Cork on Easter Sunday in which, at one stage, they trailed by 11 points.

They defeated Offaly 3-9 to 1-9 to qualify for the semi-final, but they were soundly beaten 4-12 to 0-12 by eventual league champions and All-Ireland Intermediate finalists Limerick.

Attention switched to the championship, and Kilkenny were involved in a tough group with Limerick, Waterford, Cork and Antrim.

Despite battling performances in all of their matches, Kilkenny were on the losing end in each of their games

The harsh sending-off of Ciara Lyng proved costly against Limerick as they lost out 1-12 to 1-8, before they lost to Waterford 7 days later, 0-15 to 1-9.

Their championship prospects ended up North when losing out to Antrim 2-14 to 2-13. Their final group game was complete with defeat by Cork

MINOR

Kilkenny Minors began the year on St. Patrick's Day with a 1-10 to 1-8 victory over Tipperary in Conahy when Miriam Walsh scored the all-important goal.

Defeat by Dublin on the Easter weekend followed, but they had another chance to rectify the situation as a Tipperary victory over Dublin meant a play-off was required between Kilkenny



Lydia Fitzpatrick and family, Player of the Match.



Meighan and Helen Farrell, captain and selector - "A proud mother!"

and Dublin to see who would qualify for the semi-final.

Kilkenny got revenge on the metropolitans prevailing 0-11 to 0-7 in dreadful weather conditions in Clara, and they qualified for an All-Ireland semi-final showdown with Galway in a repeat of last year's final.

Kilkenny emerged victorious 1-13 to 1-12 having trailed 1-2 to 0-1 early in the match. Key to Kilkenny's victory was the introduction of substitute Mary Corcoran who scored 0-3 from play. They had little time to recover from their semi-final victory as the All-Ireland final was played only a week later.

Cork were the opponents, and an absorbing contest saw Kilkenny on the verge of victory deep into stoppage time as a goal from substitute Niamh Donnelly appeared to have put Kilkenny on their way.

However, Cork responded and an Orla Cronin goal snatched a late equaliser to force a replay and break Kilkenny hearts. 1-10 to 3-4 was the

full-time

Kilkenny made no mistake in the replay in Dungarvan as their defence was a lot more secure, and they cruised to victory - 1-12 to 0-6, with Mary Corcoran scoring the all-important goal.

Kilkenny Team All-Ireland Minor final replay:
Noelle Murphy (Lisdowney), Ciara Farrell (Thomastown), Catherine Foley (Windgap), Michaela Kennealy (Windgap), Meg Farrell (Thomastown), Mary O'Connell (Clara), Ailish Butler (Thomastown), Lydia Fitzpatrick (St Lachtain's) 0-4, Aisling Nolan (Clara) 0-1, Miriam Walsh (Tullaroan) 0-3, Sarah Whelan (St Anne's), Aine Gannon (Rower/Inistioge), Alice Talbot (Piltown), Ciara Holden (Mullinavat) 0-1, Mary Corcoran (St Anne's) 1-2, Niamh Bolger (Thomastown), Niamh Sweeney

(St Anne's), Niamh Donnelly (Thomastown), Katie Doheny (St Lachtain's), Deirdre Walsh (Mooncoin), Emer Moylan (Windgap), Lorraine Long (Piltown) 0-1, Siobhan Corcoran (St Anne's), Emily O'Dwyer (Ballyhale), Sinead McCarthy (Piltown), Debbie Phelan (Piltown), Ciara Byrne (Clara), Jennifer Norris (Piltown), Roisin Crowley (Moocoin) Eimear Fitzpatrick (Ballyhale Shamrocks)

UNDER-16s

The All-Ireland Championship was a disappointment for the Under-16s as they didn't qualify for the semi-finals. They were drawn in a tough group involving Tipperary, Galway and Clare. The first game played against Tipperary in Thomastown ended in a 2-10 to 1-11 having

trailed 1-8 to 1-4 at the interval.

Jenny Clifford scored a superb individual goal and having played against the wind during the opening-half, hopes were high that Kilkenny could turn it around. Alas, it wasn't to be, as a second Tipperary goal proved critical and decisive to secure victory.

The trip West of the Shannon to Galway was a daunting prospect and Kilkenny, short several players for various reasons, came unstuck losing out 4-14 to 0-5.

With Galway and Tipperary each winning their first two games, Kilkenny were out of the reckoning for All-Ireland honours. Their final game in Clare was a dead rubber with just pride at stake, but Kilkenny won out 0-15 to 1-7 to end their championship on a winning note.

CLUB SEASON REVIEW



SENIOR

The league stages began in April, and in their very first game in the Senior grade, Rower-Inistioge fresh from the disappointment of their All-Ireland Intermediate final defeat by Castlegar of Galway, played out a battling draw with Thomastown. Mullinavat overcame Windgap, while St. Martins defeated Lisdowney.

The second round of fixtures played on the May Bank Holiday weekend saw St. Martins qualify for the league semi-final, courtesy of victory over Windgap, while Mullinavat easily defeated Lisdowney.

Thomastown and Rower-Inistioge recorded comprehensive victories against St. Lachtains and Dicksboro respectively, and the two clubs also won their final group games to qualify for the league semi-final.

In the league semi-finals, Thomastown overcame St. Martins, while Mullinavat easily prevailed against Rower-Inistioge.

The league final itself was an absorbing thriller with Mullinavat winning out a hard fought battle 2-11 to 1-12 as both clubs also qualified for the Championship semi-finals.

Meanwhile, Rower-Inistioge defeated Windgap 1-9 to 0-5 at the quarter-final to qualify for the semi-finals, while St. Martins ended St. Lachtains long standing record of consecutive county final appearances as they also qualified for the last four.

Mullinavat qualified for their 5th consecutive county senior decider with a 5-12 to 2-6 victory

against St. Martins, while Thomastown overcame a spirited Rower-Inistioge 2-7 to 1-9, following a pulsating battle, to set up a repeat of the league final showdown.

At time of writing, Mullinavat are preparing for their first Leinster Senior Club final against St. Ibars Shelmalier of Wexford.

INTERMEDIATE

The Intermediate grade saw nine teams competing as Tulloher-Rosbercon re-emerged in 2013, while Junior Champions James Stephens and St. Brigids were also newcomers to the grade this year.

The league final was the Katie Power show as she gave an astonishing display scoring 0-11 – 0-5 from play – as Piltown secured their first Intermediate league title easily defeating Ballyhale Shamrocks 0-13 to 1-0 in John Locke Park, Callan.

In the Championship semi-finals, Katie Power gave an inspired performance scoring 1-8 as they defeated St. Brigids 3-14 to 1-8, while Ballyhale Shamrocks overcame Tullaroan.

Shamrocks gained revenge for their league final defeat, as they overcame Piltown 1-9 to 0-11 after extra-time following a dour struggle.

A Kellyanne Cotterell goal from a free late in the first-half proved to be the clincher as Shamrocks began their Leinster Championship the following day, less than 24 hours after their county championship success.

They showed no ill effects of the bruising battle from the previous day as they defeated Oyle-

gate-Glenbrien of Wexford 2-18 to 3-5, before qualifying for Leinster Final courtesy of a 1-12 to 1-2 victory over Lucan Sarsfields in Leinster Semi-Final.

At time of writing, Ballyhale Shamrocks play Camross of Laois in the Leinster Final.

MINOR

At time of writing Thomastown and Piltown are to contest Rinn A final.

Thomastown easily defeated Windgap 5-13 to 0-3 in semi-final, while Piltown continued their remarkable progress, having won Rinn B, defeated Clara 4-11 to 3-5.

Thomastown would be expected to retain their crown as they feature five of the county panel that won the Minor All-Ireland.

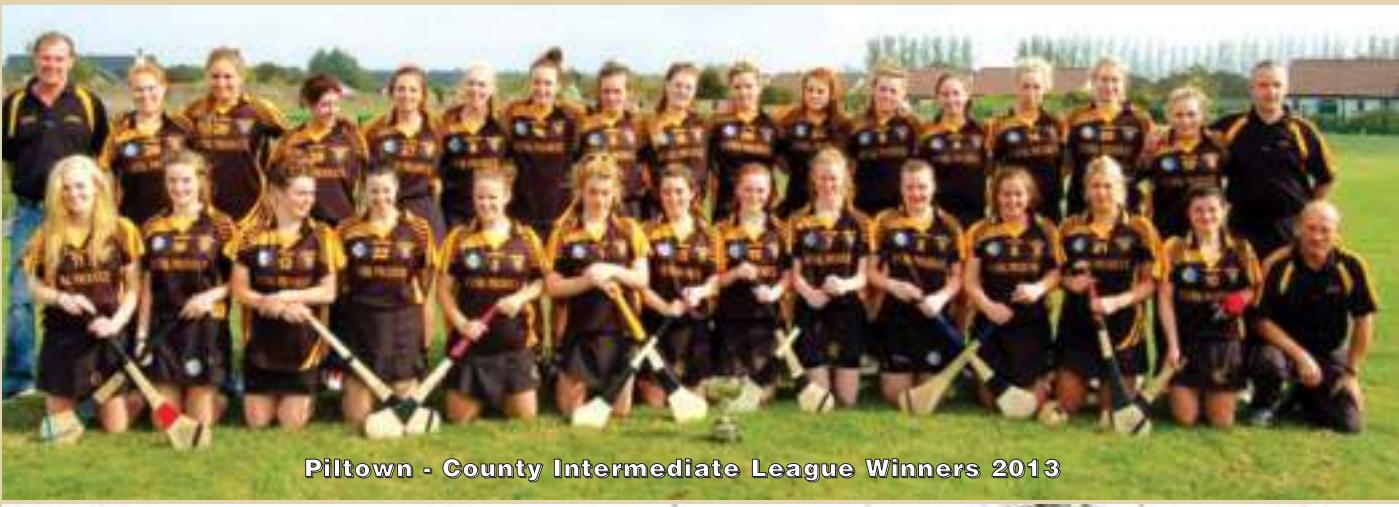
St. Martins defeated St. Lachtains/Conahy 3-6 to 2-3 to win the Rinn B final, while Paulstown defeated Kilmacow by a point to win a thrilling Rinn C final. 0-13 to 2-6.

JUNIOR

The Junior grade produced some epic battles throughout the year.

The league final played in early September was a memorable classic with Glenmore eventually prevailing after extra-time by a solitary point against Danesfort 3-16 to 2-18.

Both clubs ended up in the championship semi-finals with Danesfort defeating O'Loughlin Gaels 2-8 to 1-9, however, Glenmore's prospects of a league/championship double were ended by Mooncoin after extra-time – 3-11 to 2-12.



Piltown - County Intermediate League Winners 2013



Ballyhale Shamrocks - County Intermediate Championship Winners 2013
& Leinster Intermediate Club Champions 2013



Danesfort - County Junior Championship Winners 2013

Danesfort gained compensation for their league final defeat as they defeated the Suirsiders 2-17 to 3-5.

Meanwhile, Carrickshock landed the Junior B Championship as they easily defeated Blacks and Whites 4-8 to 1-3.

UNDER 16

Glenmore have been progressing well at underage over the past few years, and in early September they won the Roinn A Championship defeating Piltown in a thriller 5-3 to 2-8.

However, Piltown gained revenge later in the month in the league final against Glenmore on an emotional evening in Piltown.

Following the passing of club stalwart Tom

Holden in December last year, the cup named for the league title was called the Tom Holden Memorial Cup, and it was only appropriate that Piltown would win.

How fitting it was that Tom's daughters Sophie and Chloe were amongst the goalscorers as they easily ran out 5-10 to 2-8 winners on a memorable and emotional Friday evening in Piltown.

Conahy Shamrocks won the Roinn B title as two early goals helped them to a 3-9 to 1-8 victory over O'Loughlin Gaels.

UNDER 14

Dicksboro were the team of the year at Underage level.

On the May Bank Holiday weekend, Dicksboro defeated Glenmore 3-1 to 1-2 to win the County Féile final, and that meant they represented Kilkenny in the National Feile in Limerick in the first weekend in July.

(See Dicksboro's Féile Report elsewhere in this book)

Meanwhile, Danielle Morrissey from Conahy Shamrocks made it a memorable weekend for Kilkenny Camogie at the Feile as she won the skills competition with a highly impressive score of 205.

It's been a great year for Danielle as she was part of the Castlecomer Community School Team that defeated Our Ladys of Templemore in the All-Ireland Junior B Colleges Final replay,



Rower Inistioge - All Ireland Intermediate Club Camogie Finalists

while she was also part of the Conahy Team that won the Under-16 County Championship.

It's the 3rd time a Kilkenny player has won the Feile Skills competition following Marie Fitzpatrick's success in 1980 and Glenmore's Bridget Mullally in 1988.

What a memorable weekend all round!

Dicksboro completed the year winning the Under-14 County Championship as they defeated Glenmore 3-4 to 1-4.

Meanwhile, James Stephens and St. Lachtains landed the Roinn B and Roinn C Championships respectively.

County Final teams

Senior Final:

Mullinavat - Mullinavat: Valerie Law, Sinead Phelan, Sinead Aylward, Joanne Quinn, Paula Butler(captain), Elaine Aylward, Claire Aylward, Amy Butler, Aine Kinsella, Miriam Frisby, Leann Fennelly, Ciara Holden, Michelle Quilty, Julie-Ann Malone, Rebecca Haberlin,

Sub: Niamh Walsh

Thomastown: Niamh Bolger, Niamh Quigley, Kate McDonald, Chloe Corrway, Megan Farrell, Ailish Butler, Ciara Farrell, Lisa Carey, Maeve O'Connor, Sinead Brennan, Jenny Reddy, Catherine Walsh, Shelly Farrell, Anna Farrell, Niamh Donnelly,

Subs: Eimear Corr, Aoife Farrell

Intermediate Final

Teams

Ballyhale Shamrocks - Ciara Fennelly, Clodagh Corcoran, Roisin Fennelly, Orna Fennelly, Emily O'Dwyer, Jacqui Frisby, Brenna Fennelly, Catherine Connolly, Edel Frisby, Margaret Fennelly, Kellyanne Cotterell, Keeva Fennelly, Eimear Fitzpatrick, Emma Nolan, Emilie Darmody(captain), Sub: Lucy Elvidge

Piltown - Chloe Blackmore, Katelynn Phelan, Elaine Kenny, Jennifer Norris, Debbie Phelan, Karen Duggan, Kelly Ann Doyle, Alice Talbot, Laura Norris, Mairead Power, Lorraine Long, Katie Power, Sinead McCarthy, Georgina Culleton, Niamh Culleton, Subs: Edel Long, Carol McCarthy, Sinead Long.

ALL-IRELAND FINAL HEARTACHE FOR ROWER-INISTIOGE

There was heartbreak for Rower-Inistioge last March as they were defeated by an Aislinn Connolly inspired Castlegar 1-8 to 1-6 in the All-Ireland Intermediate final in Ashbourne.

Hopes were high for an All-Ireland title having won the County and Leinster Intermediate Championships in late 2012, while they booked their All-Ireland final appearance as two goals from Aoife Lyng helped them to a 2-9 to 1-5 victory over Kilmaley in the All-Ireland semi-final in Nowlan Park in early February.

However, Castlegar upset the applecart.

A Lizzie Lyng goal early in the match had the South Kilkenny girls a 1-2 to 0-1 lead, but Castlegar responded and an Aislinn Connolly goal from a free late in the first-half drew them level at 1-3 each at half-time.

The Galway club located on the outskirts of the city totally dominated the third quarter, but they only had a Connolly free as sole reward for their dominance.

Rower-Inistioge responded and Kelly Hamilton pointed three times from placed balls as they led 1-6 to 1-4 entering the closing 10 minutes.

However, that was to be their last score, as Castlegar pointed 4 times without reply to break the Rower hearts.

Rower-Inistioge scorers All-Ireland final: Kelly



St Paul's Captains of All Ireland Winning Teams 1964-1984 honoured at County Final.

Back: Pat McCorry representing his wife Mary (1970), Carmel Mooney (nee O'Shea) 1974.

Front: Mary Fennelly (1974), Angela Downey (1976), Teasie Brennan (1968)

Hamilton 0-5(0-5 all frees), Lizzie Lyng 1-0, Catriona Ryan 0-1,

Rower-Inistioge Team All-Ireland final: Emma Kavanagh, Jane Cullen, Eimear Lyng, Becky Dempsey, Emma Hynes, Kelly Hamilton, Ciara Lyng, Aine Gannon, Briona Langton, Sarah O'Mahoney, Lizzie Lyng, Bridin White, Christine Lyng, Catriona Ryan, Aoife Lyng, Sub: Tara Kennedy for White



Four Kilkenny Camogie players after winning the New South Wales Camogie Championship Final with the Central Coast Club in Sydney.

From left: Deirdre Delaney St Lachtains, Keira Kinahan and Assumpta O'Farrell Ballyhale Shamrocks, Loretta Murphy Blacks and Whites.



Geraldine Fennelly is heavily involved in both Central Coast GAA Club and NSW GAA Committee. She recently won the NSW person of the year for 2013. In the picture, Geraldine is being presented with her award from Steve Carey President of the NSW GAA Committee.

Geraldine is also treasurer of the Central Coast Club and long standing member.

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



CARRICKSHOCK



Carrickshock U6 - Up and coming stars of Carrickshock trained by Paula Kenneally, Anne Healy and Catherine Duggan.



Carrickshock U10 panel trained by Pat and Jimmy



Our Joint Captains accepting the plaque.



Carrickshock U8 panel trained by James and John



Carrickshock/ Cloneen
U16 Roinn C Champions 2013!!!



Carrickshock - Junior B Champions 2013

Carrickshock
Camoige Club would
like to thank all
Managers/ Trainers,
Parents and Players
for all their support
this year and wish
you all the Best of
Luck for 2014.

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS

CLARA



All County League Winners



Enjoying their day in Croke Park for the Ladies Football open day



U12's before Shield Final



Clara Camogie Club,
Ciara Byrne, Mary O'Connell,
Michael Rice, Clare Nolan,
Aisling Nolan.
All Ireland Minor Champions



Winning Day for U10's



G4M+O after Blitz in Thomastown

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



CONAHY



Under 12 Camogie Team beaten finalists,

Panel: Ellen Gunner Amanda Molloy Emma Molyneaux Roisin Nolan Cara Brennan Shannon Feehan Laura Kennedy Shannon Conroy Alice Byrne Ruth Hennessy Megan Cuddihy Grace Mulhall Eve Ring Yvonne Dooley Aoife Mulhall Lydia O Mahony Caomhín Hennessy Emma Mulhall Chloe Leahy.
Mentors Kieran Cuddihy, Mary Mullen, Ria Molyneaux and John Feehan



U-16 (Roinn B) League and Championship double winners

Panel: Sarah Molloy, Evelyn Phelan, Aimee Morrissey, Jennifer Healy, Marie-Claire Gamble, Roisin Phelan, Siobhan Mullen, Aisling Maher, Megan Randle, Eva Minogue, Carrie Randle, Niamh Delaney, Caomhín Bergin, Danielle Morrissey, Emma Cahill, Hannah Murphy, Claire Maher. Mentors Paddy Delaney, Mairead Lawler, Hilda Butler and Áine Phelan.

Danielle Morrissey - All Ireland Feile na nGael Camogie Skills Champion 2013 with Aileen Lawlor and Liam O'Neill, Presidents of Camogie Association and GAA respectively.



CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



DANESFORT



Danesfort U16 Camogie Team



Anne Neary Ryelands Cookery School Sponsors Danesfort Junior Camogie Team



U6 Camogie Medal Presentation night in Danesfort Community Centre



Danesfort U10 with Management



Danesfort U12 Camogie Team

U12 Danesfort Camogie Team

The U12 camogie season this year kicked off with a series of blitzes to determine our league groups. In the 4 blitzes we played Conahy, Lisdowney, St Annes, Bennetsbridge, St Brigid's, Dicksboro, Tullaroan, Naomh Brid, St Martins, Cloneen, Emeralds in some hard fought games, and we were triumphant in some. A big thanks to all the parents who travelled to and from the blitzes and were great supporters to us all throughout the season.

There were 6 league groups and we were selected for Group 3. We had to play Ballyhale Shamrocks, Kilmacow, St Brigid's, Graignamanagh and got to the group quarter finals against Mooncoin. The girls showed great determination and spirit and were bitterly disappointed to lose this match. However all was not lost and we got a playoff against Windgap on Saturday 21st in Danesfort. This was a hard fought game right up to the end and we won narrowly by a point. The excitement was fantastic and it was a great way to finish up the season. The U12 team for 2013 was as follows:

Sinead Bass, Susan Breen, Sadhbh Cassidy, Maria Comerford, Laura Condon, Aisling Cowley, Caoimhe Doyle, Eva Dunne, Maria Godden, Niamh Homan, Emily Hughes, Hannah Lodge, Olivia Mahony, Mairiann McIver, Molly O'Keefe, Niamh O'Shaughnessy, Aisling Quinn, Mia Ryan, Denise Sheehan, Naomi Tynan, Ciara Walsh, Ciara Murphy, Lisa Dobbins. (Amy Barden and Zoe Atkinson who trained with us during the summer)

Coaches: Tom Mahony, Emer O'Shaughnessy, Ann-Marie Brennan and Bill Quinn. First Aid: Mary Tynan



Danesfort U14/15 Camogie Team



Aoife Walsh of Croan, Danesfort won the U16 doubles 60x30 county final along with Sarah Molloy representing Kells handball club (green and white jersey) and went on to represent Kilkenny with Caoimhe O'Shea from Windgap (black and amber jersey) they won Leinster and were defeated in the All Ireland final by Limerick in Cashel handball alley.

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



DICKSBORO



U10 Faith Festival Blitz



Tara Clifford, Féile Captain, with Mam & Dad, Statia and Michael



Under 12's Maroon & Whites



Under 14 County Champions

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



EMERALDS



Emeralds U10's



Emeralds U8's



N Walsh Memorial Cup



Emeralds Banner at
All Ireland Camogie Final



Emeralds Minors



Emeralds U12's

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



GLENMOR



Our Junior team also have a lot to be proud of this year, remaining unbeaten all the way through their League campaign and eventually winning the Junior League in a hard fought battle versus Danesfort. This finally brought to an end a long wait for silverware for this team!



2013 has been a busy and successful year for Glenmore Camogie Club, the club is thriving and Camogie is by far the most popular sport played by girls of all ages in the parish. Congratulations and thanks to the mentors, trainers and selectors of all of our teams for making this a reality.

We are delighted to report we have a strong presence on the County underage scene with the following girls involved at this level; Clara Hendrick, Suzie-May Aylward, Helen Hoyne, Michelle Doherty, Sarah Connolly and Eimear O'Neill (U.14 panel), Cecilia Roche and Regina Delahunt (U.15 Development Squad), Marguerite Hoyne, Nicole Garvey and Mia Griffin (U.16 panel). Well done to all and thank you for representing your club so well all year.

This was a season rich in finals for the Camogie Club in Glenmore. The U 12s reached the shield final but were defeated by Piltown, the U.14s were County Finalists but missed out to Dicksboro



The U16s had a great year, reaching both their Roinn A County Final and also their League Final. They came up against Piltown in both cases, ending with Glenmore being crowned County Champions and Piltown taking the League title.

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



GORESBRIDGE PAULSTOWN



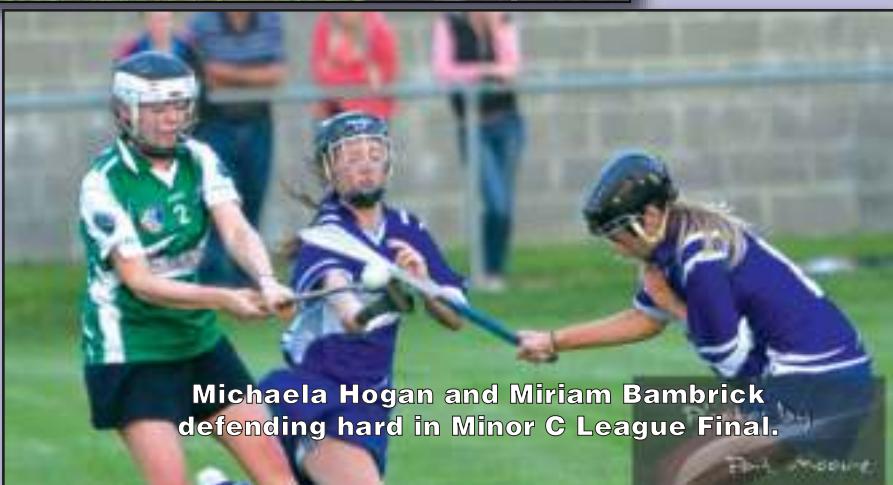
Minor team celebrating after winning the League Final



Lauren Blake from Paulstown/Goresbridge Camogie club taking part in a fashion show fundraiser



Supporting the Kilkenny girls on All Ireland Final day.



Michaela Hogan and Miriam Bambrick defending hard in Minor C League Final.



Our U14 team who qualified for the shield final this year.



Chloe Doyle making a run for it!

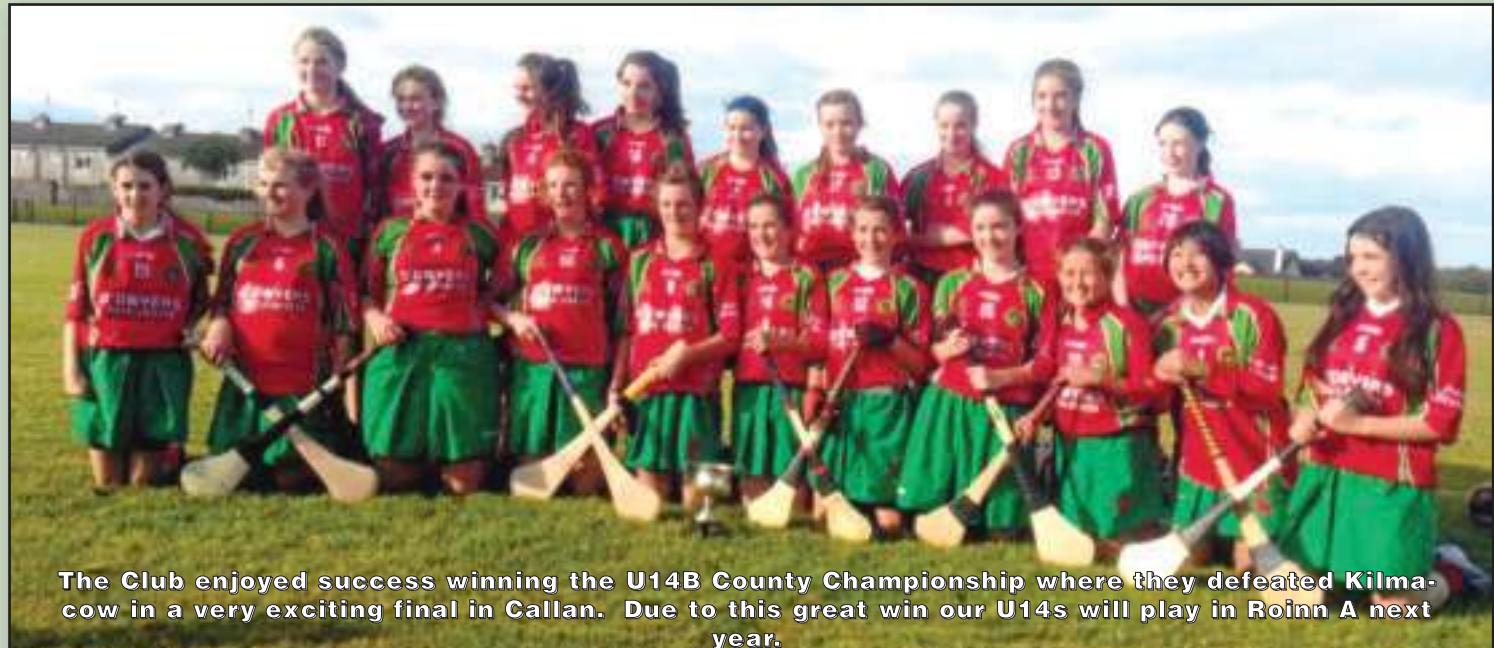
CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS

GRAIGNAMANAGH



CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS

JAMES STEPHENS



The Club enjoyed success winning the U14B County Championship where they defeated Kilmarcow in a very exciting final in Callan. Due to this great win our U14s will play in Roinn A next year.



Aoife Neary represented the Club playing on the Kilkenny Senior Camogie Team. Aoife has been nominated for her 3rd All Star Award and we wish her the best at the All Star Awards Night.



Caoimhe Moran became the first player from James Stephens to win the National Community Games long puck title. A great achievement by Caoimhe who is also a member of our U14 team.

2013 was a year of continued progress for James Stephens Camogie Club. We had a great turnout at U8, U10 and U12 training every week. The blitz days were very competitive and great fun for all with the Club stars of the future on display. The U16 girls played very well in their first year in Roinn A. They beat Dicksboro and Danesfort and then bowed out to a very strong Thomastown team but they showed that they will be major contenders in 2014.

The Intermediate team retained their status in a very competitive championship and following on from their promotion from Junior last year they will learn from the experience of playing at a higher level.

All in all 2013 has been a year of progress and consolidation for the Club. Many thanks to all those involved with the teams and Club for all their hard work during 2013.

We look forward to 2014 and welcoming back new and existing members.
Thanks to all.



Presentation night after winning the Junior League and County Final 2013 which saw us go up to Intermediate grade. It includes team panel, management and club officials.

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



KILMACOW



Cáman & Run: Sheonagh Croke, Tara Lacey, Ann Hayden & Eimear Dolan who were winners of the National Cáman & Run Competition held in Croke Park on All Ireland Camogie Finals day this year.



U12 Team
Trainers/helpers: Jo Rockett, Rory Williams & David Phelan



U10 Team
Trainers/helpers: Liam Rockett, John Sutton, Colm Sheridan & Collette McKenna



U8 Team
Trainers/ helpers: Brian Williams, Seamie Ryan, Geraldine Williams, Grainne Dolan, Maeve Cleary & Bernadette Deegan



U14 Team, Roinn B County Championship Runners Up 2013
Trainers: Mike Dolan, Paul Grace, David Williams, Frank Hayden & Sharon Houlihan.

U16 Team: Roisin Cleary, Becky Dowling, Ann Hayden, Fiona Cullinane, Eve Lacey, Tara Lacey, Kirsten Mate Maher, Mollie Harney, Sheonagh Croke, Anne-Marie O Neill, Eimear Dolan, Cliona Murphy, Ciara Doody, Clare McEvoy, Danielle Dempsey, Orlaith Deegan, Amy Ahearn, Sallyanne Williams, Kathleen Croke, Sinead McEvoy
Trainers: Mike Dolan, Paul Grace, David Williams, Frank Hayden & Sharon Houlihan.
At the time of going to print the U16 girls were waiting to play the U16 Roinn B Shield Final.

Minor Team: Leanne Purcell, Becky Dowling, Ann Hayden, Sinead Doody, Tara Lacey, Kirsten Mate Maher, Mollie Harney, Sheonagh Croke, Anne-Marie O Neill, Eimear Dolan, Claire Purcell, Ciara Doody, Clare McEvoy, Danielle Dempsey, Orlaith Deegan, Amy Ahearn, Kate Kelly, Ciara Kelly, Sinead Deegan
Trainers: Mike Dolan, Paul Grace, David Williams, Frank Hayden & Micky Lannon.
At the time of going to print the Minor girls were waiting to play the Minor Roinn C County Semi Final.

Junior Team: Leanne Purcell, Helena Walsh, Ann Hayden, Sinead Doody, Tara Lacey, Kirsten Mate Maher, Leanne Ivory, Kate Hennessy, Anne-Marie O Neill, Ciara Kent, Claire Purcell, Ciara Doody, Clare McEvoy, Grainne Langan, Orlaith Deegan, Kate Irish, Kate Kelly, Ciara Kelly
Trainers: Mike Dolan, Paul Grace, David Williams, Frank Hayden & Micky Lannon.
Our Junior team travelled to Clane, Co. Kildare to take part in their annual blitz.

U21 Team: Leanne Purcell, Ann Hayden, Sinead Doody, Tara Lacey, Kirsten Mate Maher, Leanne Ivory, Kate Hennessy, Anne-Marie O Neill, Claire Purcell, Ciara Doody, Clare McEvoy, Grainne Langan, Orlaith Deegan, Kate Irish, Kate Kelly, Ciara Kelly
Trainers: Mike Dolan, Paul Grace, David Williams, Frank Hayden & Micky Lannon.
This was our first year fielding an U21 Team.

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



LISDOWNEY



Lisdowney - U14 Roinn "D" Champions

A lot of hard work was put in by all girls this year as they all felt the loss of last year when they were beaten in the county final. Lisdowney won their preliminary matches by beating Paulstown, Ballyragget, Mooncoin and O'Loughlins. From there they went on to meet Mooncoin in the semi-final where the team gave a brilliant performance to come out on top. All sights were now on the county final on the 31st August against O'Loughlins. This game ended up in a draw. The replay took place on the 13th September in Ballyragget. The girls put every bit of their heart and soul into this game and came out worthy winners beating O'Loughlins on a score of 4-0 to 2-2.

Special thanks to all the girls for their hard work all year under the watchful eyes of mentors John Cashin, Frank Jordan, Kay Phelan and Padraig O'Carroll. The Team- Emma McEvoy, Rhea Grace Cashin, Aisling Phelan, Ellen O'Carroll, Ruth Campion, Mairead Kennedy, Chloe Mullins, Claire O'Carroll, Holly Moore, Aoife Jordan, Eimear Walsh, Laura O'Sullivan, Aoibheann Murphy, Eimear Kenny (Captain), Amy Dunphy, Aoife Grogan, Sarah Phelan, Caoileann Kenny, Tessa Doyle, Eimear Tallis and Emily Grogan.



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CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



MULLINAVAT



Mullinavat U12 Team Group 5 Finalists 2013

U12 Group 5 Finalists

The girls had some fine wins over the Rower Inistioge and Slieverue to reach the final but unfortunately were beaten by a strong Tullaroan team.

Picture includes Ciara Walsh, Aisling Walsh, Sophie Morrissey, Ciara Woods, Anna Malone, Hannah Dunphy, Aoife Fitzpatrick, Sarah Aylward, Sophie Bland, Ciara Phelan, Amber Clarke, Jessica Catt, Grace Aylward, Aoife Woods and Amy Aylward



Jersey Presentation



Ciara Holden,
Mullinavat Camogie Club,
All Ireland Minor Champion

Pictured (far left) are Danny McLaughlin and Richard Walsh of Corraig Construction sponsoring a new set of jerseys for our senior team.

Senior League Champions 2013

After a hard fought victory over Thomastown on a score of 2-11 to 1-12. Panel includes Valerie Law, Sinead Phelan, Sinead Aylward, Joanne Quinn, Paula Butler (Captain), Elaine Aylward, Claire Aylward, Amy Butler, Aine Kinsella, Miriam Frisby, Leann Fennelly, Julie-Ann Malone, Ciara Holden, Michelle Quilty, Rebecca Haberlin, Shauna Kenneally, Ellen Waters, Eileen McEvoy, Nieve Walsh, Lisa Ryan, Vivienne Law & Ciara Phelan.



Senior League Champions 2013

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS

O'LOUGHLIN GAELS



U14 ROIINN D COUNTY FINALISTS 2013



**U14 Kilkenny Development Squad
Johanna Murphy, Sarah Bergin,
Rebecca Keane.**



U-10s & U-12s outside Croke Park at the Camogie All-Ireland Final



**U10s at the Kilkenny All-Ireland Press Night
in Nowlan Park**



U12 SEMI FINALISTS 2013

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



PILTOWN



U8 Team 2013



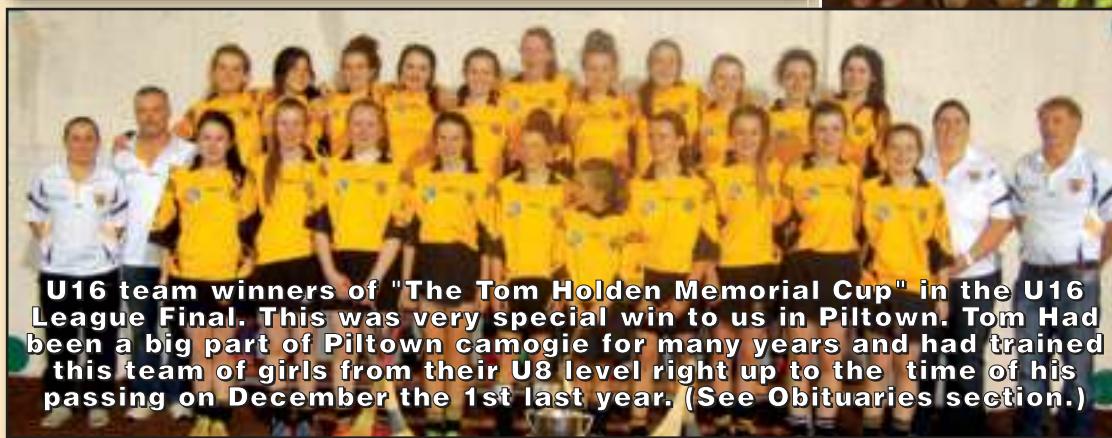
U12 Team - U12 B Winners 2013



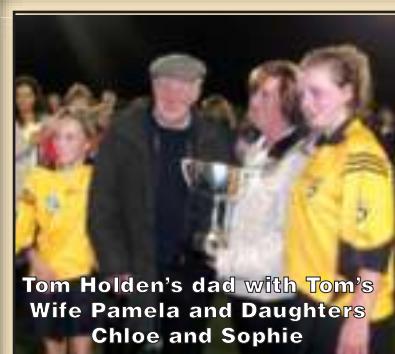
U10 Team - Unbeaten all Year



U14 Team - Roinn A Shield Finalists 2013



U16 team winners of "The Tom Holden Memorial Cup" in the U16 League Final. This was very special win to us in Piltown. Tom Had been a big part of Piltown camogie for many years and had trained this team of girls from their U8 level right up to the time of his passing on December the 1st last year. (See Obituaries section.)



Tom Holden's dad with Tom's Wife Pamela and Daughters Chloe and Sophie

Piltown Ladies Gaelic Football has made further strides in 2013. Sixteen players have represented the club on Kilkenny inter county teams from under-12 to Minor with Emily McCarthy and Aoife Doyle picking up Leinster Under-14 Shield medals. At club level the Under-12's have been done very well and the Under-14's have qualified to meet Erins Own in the Roinn B county final. As we have no adult team, our older players have been playing with the South Kilkenny based Three Friars. Jennifer Norris, Lorraine Long and club coach Aine Knox picked up Tipperary Junior county medals when Three Friars beat Moyle Rovers. A further expansion of the club came in the form of Gaelic4Mothers and Others which introduced the sport in a fun way to almost 40 ladies of varied ages and experience on a trial basis. They played their first match against Thomastown in September and it is planned to formalise this in 2014. In addition, Jennifer Norris, Kelly Ann Doyle, Lorraine Long and Sinead McCarthy won Munster Senior Colleges medals with Scoil Mhuire Carrick-On-Suir with Kelly Ann Doyle picking up the player of the match in the final.



Piltown Girls that won Munster Senior Ladies Gaelic Football Colleges Medals with Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-On-Suir



Piltown Under-12 Girls Gaelic Football Squad

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



SLIEVERUE



SLIEVERUE MINORS



SLIEVERUE U6's & U8's



SLIEVERUE U10's



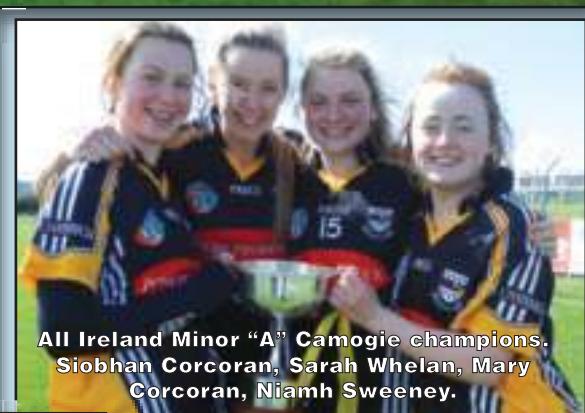
SLIEVERUE U12's



U16 SLIEVERUE SHIELD WINNERS

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS

St Anne's



A SINCERE THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED IN ANY WAY IN 2013 INCLUDING PLAYERS, MANAGERS, SELECTORS, TRAINERS AND ALL THE VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION WITH REGARD TO ORGANISATION, COACHING AND TRAINING, TRANSPORT TO MATCHES, FUNDRAISING ETC. WE ARE VERY GREATFUL TO YOU ALL. WE LOOK FORWARD TO A BRIGHT AND PROMISING 2014.

THE CAMOGIE CLUB WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE GALMOY AND THE FENIANS GAA CLUBS FOR THE USE OF PITCHES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO PAUL WEBSTER AND EUGENE RYAN, CARETAKERS OF BOTH GROUNDS, WHO DID A WONDERFUL JOB AND HAD BOTH GROUNDS IN EXCELLENT CONDITION ALL YEAR.

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



ST LACHTAIN'S



Our U14 Team who successfully beat a very strong Windgap team in this years Roinn C competition.



St Lachtain's U10 Camogie Team at their medal presentation.



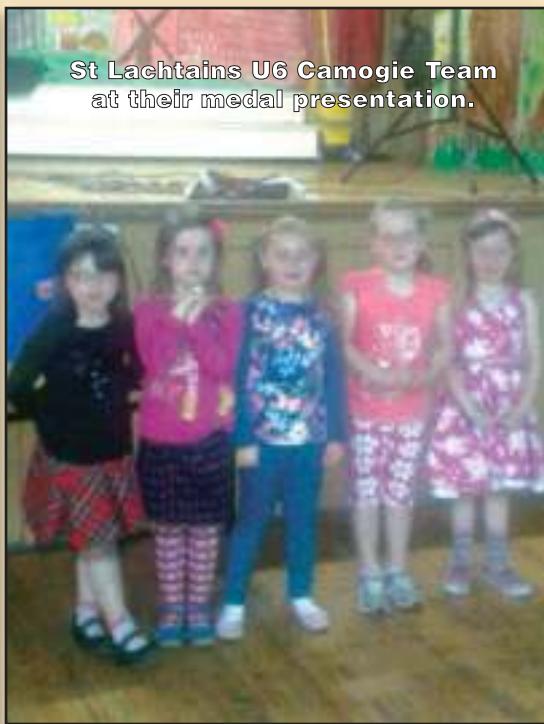
Lydia Fitzpatrick receiving woman of the match, St.Lachtains Camogie Club, All Ireland Minor Final



St Lachtain's U8 Camogie Team at their medal presentation.



A group of local girls who travelled to Dubai in March, to participate in "The Dubai 7's 2013 Tournament". They went on to win the Camogie Tournament and reached the final in the Football Tournament.

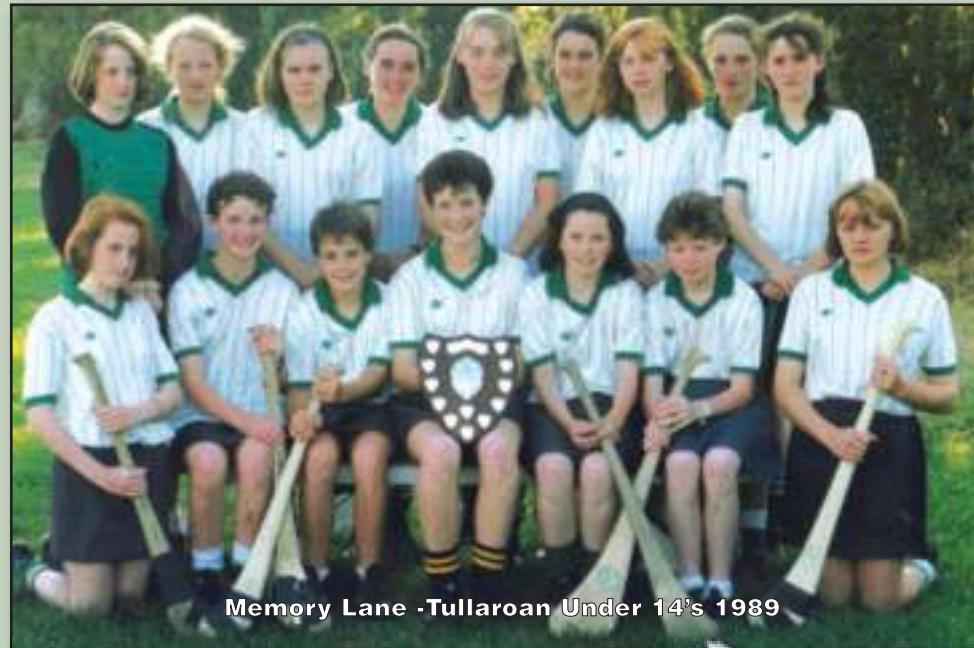


St Lachtain's U6 Camogie Team at their medal presentation.

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



TULLAROAN



Memory Lane -Tullaroan Under 14's 1989



Tullaroan under 6's 2013



Tullaroan Under 10's



Michael Rice and Miriam Walsh, Kilkenny All Ireland Winner



Tullaroan Under 8's



Tullaroan Under 14's

CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



WINDGAP



WINDGAP U14 COUNTY FINALISTS



WINDGAP U10's 2013



WINDGAP ALL COUNTY SENIOR CAMOGIE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS: Back: Phena Heffernan, Niamh Phelan, Deirdre Purcell, Elaine O'Shea, Clare Grace, Eimear Moylan, Ann-Marie Phelan, Terri Mackey, Ciara Molloy, Nicola Moore, Gemma Long, Aisling Cody, Amanda Power. Front: Joanne Cody, Catherine Foley, Julie Walsh, Suzie Dunphy, Michaela Kenneally, Emily Murphy, Aisling Foley, Ali Bergin, Sarah Grace. Trainers: Pat Walsh, Denis Gaule and John Bergin



Denise Gaule in action in the All Ireland Semi-final



BUS TRIP TO ALL IRELAND
Club members and players on the steps of Clonliffe College at the All Ireland Senior Final supporting Kilkenny team member and full forward Denise Gaule

ALL IRELAND MINOR MEDAL WINNERS
Michaela Kenneally, Emer Moylan,
Catherine Foley



CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS

YOUNG IRELANDS



Young Ireland girls at Kilkenny Camogie Senior Open Night 2013



Young Irelands - Under 12 Group 1 Camogie Champions 2013

CLUB ROUND UP

BALLYHALE SHAMROCKS



Donny boy: Donnchadh Fitzpatrick receives the JHC A trophy from Ned Quinn

The Junior A hurlers, looked after by Bobby Aylward, Seán Holden, Michael Hoyne and Patrick O'Sullivan (Manager), went all the way for the first time since 1982. An excellent County Final saw Young Irelands overcome by 2-13 to 2-11.

JHC A Eóin Knox, Eugene Aylward, Tom Coogan, Brian Butler, Keith Nolan, Gavin Butler, Willie Coogan, Eóin Doyle, Enda Fitzpatrick 0-4, Michael Carroll, TJ Reid 1-3 (0-1 pen, 0-1 65), Liam Grant 0-1, Donnchadh Fitzpatrick (captain) 0-3, Patrick Mullen 1-0, Rónan Corcoran 0-2 (f).

Subs: Brian Cody for Michael Carroll (inj, ht), Joe Cuddihy, Dylan Doran, Liam Elvidge, David Harrington, Darren Mason, Kevin Mullen for Brian Cody (inj, 42m), Conor Phelan, Mark Phelan.

Our four underage sides competed in the A grade — a considerable achievement in itself for a country club. Led by Juvenile Chairperson Noreen Malone, much good work was done at U8 by John Shefflin (Manager); at U10, by Jim Cullen and John Kennedy (Manager); at U12, by Michael Carroll and Paul Coady (Manager).

The U14 panel, looked after by John Corcoran, Séan Holden, Paul O'Donoghue and John Shortall (Manager), had a testing season. Defeated by O'Loughlin Gaels, 7-16 to 3-8, in the quarter finals, they lost a playoff to James Stephens, 9-19 to 0-8. This group will know far better days.

U14HC A Dean Mason, Keelan O'Donoghue, Patrick Hearne, Conor Doyle, Eóin Walsh, Adrian Mullen (captain) 0-4 (2f), Jason Devereux, Darragh Corcoran, Eóin Kenneally, Rónán Hayes 0-1, Martin Davis, Eóin Cody 0-2 (1f), Stephen Barron, Evan Shefflin 0-1, John Shortall.

Subs: Liam Barron for Stephen Barron (43m), Christopher Coady (sick), Casey Corcoran for Eóin Cody (59m), Cian Cullen for Conor Doyle (43m), Dylan Drennan Smyth (inj), James Reid for John Shortall (58m). Encouragingly, Adrian Mullen hurled centre back in the Tony Forristal Tournament Final. Martin Davis, from right half forward, captained the B panel to victory in the Sonny Walsh Cup.

Unfortunately, the Lisdowney Sevens title was not retained. Having beaten Moycarkey-Borris, we exited by losing to Danesfort. Panel: Christopher Coady, Eóin Cody, Darragh Corcoran, Jason Devereux, Conor Doyle, Dean Mason, Billy Moran, James Reid, John Shortall, Eóin Walsh.



Inter' Certs: Ballyhale Shamrocks footballers that won the 2013 IFL title

The Intermediate footballers, managed by Tom Coogan and Liam Grant, did really well, capturing their league.

The only loss all season was the Intermediate Final to St Patrick's, 2-6 to 1-8. IFC Keith Murphy, Paul Shefflin 0-1, Bob Aylward (captain), Kieran Grace, Gavin Butler, Mark Aylward, Willie Coogan, David Hoyne 0-3 (f), Richie Reid, Alan Cuddihy, Colm Fennelly 1-1, Eóin Reid, Brian Cody, Conor Walsh, Keith Nolan 0-3.

Subs: Brian Butler, Michael Dermody (away), Dylan Doran, Liam Elvidge, Donnchadh Fitzpatrick, Enda Fitzpatrick for Brian Cody (46m), James 'Cha' Fitzpatrick, Joe Holden (inj), Éamonn Walsh (inj).

Another distinction, football wise, saw brothers Bob and Mark Aylward wear the county jersey at Junior level.



Bob Aylward receives Intermediate Football League Trophy 2013

The U16s, looked after by Tom Coogan, Pat Cullen, Enda Fitzpatrick, Tommy Phelan (Joint Manager) and Séan Reid (Joint Manager), went down to James Stephens in the preliminary round, 4-21 to 2-14. Late goals flattered the opposition and these players made progress.

U16HC A Conor Reid, Enda Kenneally, Conor Phelan (captain), Martin Davis, Patrick Doyle, Darren Mullen 0-8 (5f), Patrick Hearne, Dylan Aylward, Adrian Mullen 1-0, Sulayman Masood, Joe Cuddihy 1-3, Adam Brenner 0-1, Evan Shefflin, John Hession 0-1, Kevin Fennelly 0-1.

Subs: Eóin Kenneally, Dean Mason, Andrew Moran for Martin Davis (inj, 42m), Keelan O'Donoghue.



Michael Fennelly's serious ankle injury in May 2013 had serious repercussions for Kilkenny

The Minors, with the same selectors, took Mooncoin in the first round, 3-13 to 0-13. Then, with key players not fully fit, they were but three points adrift of Dicksboro in the quarter finals, 1-17 to 1-14.

MHC A Conor Reid, Patrick Doyle, Brian Butler, Conor Phelan, Darren Mullen, Kevin Mullen, Eugene Aylward, Rónan Corcoran 0-8 (7f), Tom O'Keeffe, Adrian Mullen 0-1, Joe Cuddihy 0-1 (f), Dylan Aylward, Brian Cody 0-1, Patrick Mullen (captain) 0-2 (165), James Deasy 0-1.

Subs: Adam Brenner, Martin Davis, Séan Donnelly for Patrick Doyle (60+m), Kevin Fennelly, Patrick Hearne (inj), John Hession 1-0 for Tom O'Keeffe (47m), Sulayman Masood, Kevin Mullen for Mark Phelan (34m), Mark Phelan for Kevin Mullen (inj, ht), Mark Phelan for Dylan Aylward (43m).

The 21s, looked after by Aidan Cummins, John Drennan (Manager) and Michael O'Sullivan, were beaten in the South quarter finals by Mullinavat, 3-13 to 1-9.

U21HC A Conor Reid, Conor Phelan, Brian Butler, Eugene Aylward, Jack Kenneally, Gavin Butler (captain), Kevin Mullen, Eóin Doyle, Dylan Doran, Joe Cuddihy, Richie Reid 0-7 (5f, 1 65), Brian Cody, Liam Elvidge, Conor Walsh 0-2 (1 st), Rónan Corcoran 1-0.

Subs: James Deasy for Dylan Doran (ht), Séan Donnelly, Patrick Doyle for Kevin Mullen (inj, 29m), Darren Mason for Liam Elvidge (54m), Patrick Mullen (inj), Mark Phelan.

RIP

The club was profoundly saddened to lose two great hurling people in 2013, Fr Anthony Heaslip and Bill Walsh.

CLUB ROUND UP

BARROW RANGERS



Thomas Brennan (Barrow Rangers) solos away from Bill McDowell (John Lockes) in the Paddy Cahill Final. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



BARROW RANGERS JUNIOR HURLING COUNTY CHAMPIONS 1982
Back: Mick Doyle (Hill), Tom O'Neill (RIP), Eamon Cahill, Ger Lawlor, Larry Gittens, Liam Whitley, John Murphy, Jack O'Neill, Mick Doyle (G'duff), Phil Walsh (Chairman), Charlie Purcell, Martin Hanlon.

Front: Hugh Doyle (RIP), Andrew Whelan, Pat Purcell, Seamus Brennan, Michael Staunton, John Lawlor (Captain), Jimmv Morrissey, Jerry Hennessy, Gerry Purcell, Syl Hennessy



UNDER 13 ROIÑN D SCHOOLS HURLING CO FINALISTS 1997
Back: Ricky Murphy, Shane McEvoy, Darren O'Neill, John Lyons, Andrew Healy, Billy Murphy, Colm Purcell, Michael Brennan, Richard Connolly, Joseph Kealy, Tomas Quinn.

Middle: Collette Byrne, Maurice Drennan, Derek Whelan, Joseph Hughes, Ian Holden, Aidan Brennan, Paddy Barcoe, William Hennessy, John Byrne, Zak Shermer.

Front: Seamus Brennan, Richard Kelly, Mark Lillis, Sean Barcoe.

CLUB ROUND UP

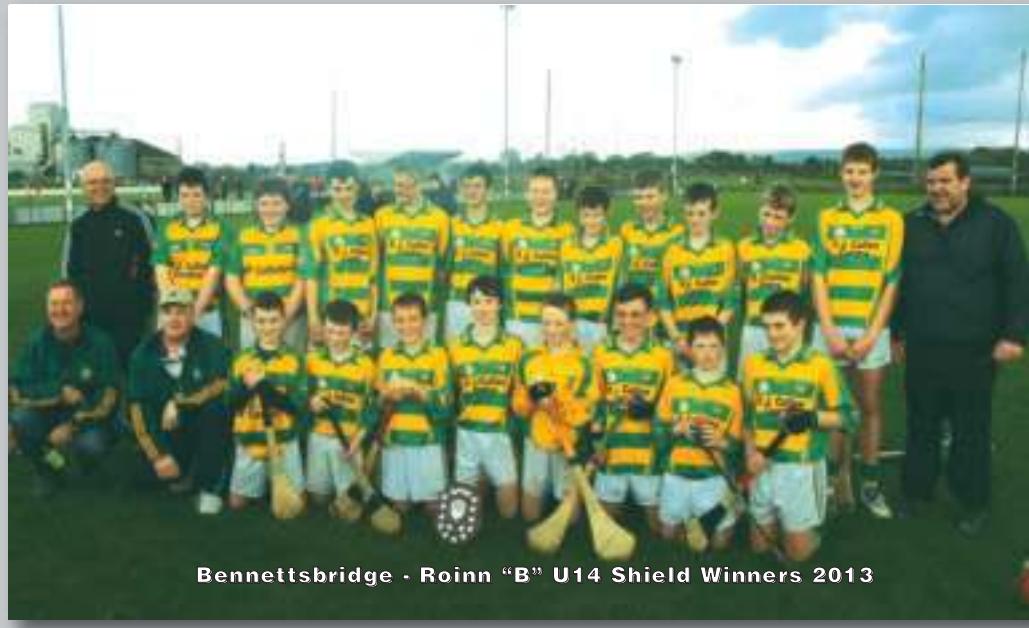
BENNETTSBRIDGE



Bennettsbridge U10's at the Go Games Finals in Nowlan Park.



Bennettsbridge U12's Callan Shield Winners



Bennettsbridge - Roinn "B" U14 Shield Winners 2013



Bennettsbridge fans at the
County JH Final



CLUB ROUND UP

BLACKS & WHITES



B&W U8's - Inistioge Blitz 31-08-13



B&W U12 - Nowlan Park 14-09-13



B&W U10 - Conahy Blitz 23-06-12



B&W U12 - Nowlan Park 25-08-12



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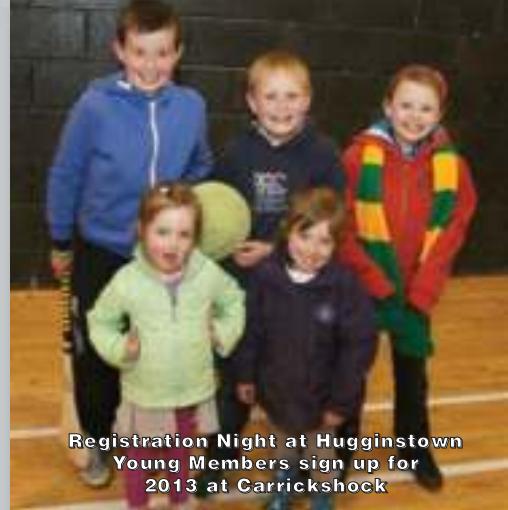
CENTRA

CLUB ROUND UP

CARRICKSHOCK



Under 10 Hurlers who took part in Tomas O Shea Tournament in Callan on Sat 21st Sep.



Registration Night at Hugginstown Young Members sign up for 2013 at Carrickshock



Young Carrickshock supporters on quarter final day at Nowlan Park.



Scrap Metal Saturday at Hugginstown, Padraic Rohan, Nicky Murphy and John Barron on duty at the Gaa grounds



The Backroom team on county final day
Pat Dwyer, Mandy Ireland, Tris Power, Bill Cassin, John O Flaherty,
Padraic Rohan, Mary Carroll, Tommy Murphy and Tom Cassin oversee
final preparations



Carrickshock GAA Golf Classic Committee 2013
Liam Duggan, Laura O Shea, Paul Cassin (chairman Callan golf club 2013),
Kathleen Farrell, Sharon Ireland, Mary Carroll,
Pat Power, Richie Power.

CARRICKSHOCK JUVENILE HURLING

Carrickshock juvenile hurlers (Under 6-10s) finished up their season recently after a very enjoyable summer of hurling.

The Under-6 and Under-8 groups had their last training session on Sat 21st. The Under-8s had a busy summer of games against many of our neighbouring clubs, as well as a number of blitzes. The Under-6s too had a number of games to prepare them for many summers of competitive hurling ahead. Their final training session was rounded off with a presentation by senior star David Franks of a little reward for their hard work all year. The boys and their Coaches Matty, Valerie, Martin, Lorcan & Neill are already looking forward to next year!

The Under-10s rounded off their season at the Dunamaggin Under-10 blitz on Sat 28th. They too had a busy year, between Go Games matches, an outing to Nowlan Park, plenty of challenge Matches, and a couple of blitzes. Coaches John & Declan would like to thank the boys and their parents for all their efforts and ferrying around the county.

Also, special thanks to Matty Murphy Hurleys, Kilkenny Fish Centre and SurfBox Ltd for the end of season treats.

CLUB ROUND UP

CARRIGEEN



Football Team 2013

Back: Wally Morahan, Anthony Walsh, Michael Moran, Johnny Cooney, Mark Dempsey, Paul Walsh, Richie Roche, Jamie Moore, Richie O'Brien, Anthony O'Brien, Adam Skehan.

Front: Mickey O'Hanlon(Coach), Andy Kelly, Chris O'Hanlon, Jonny Jacob, Jamie Cody, Brian Gallagher, Hilary Delahunty, Niall Gallagher, Pa Walsh.



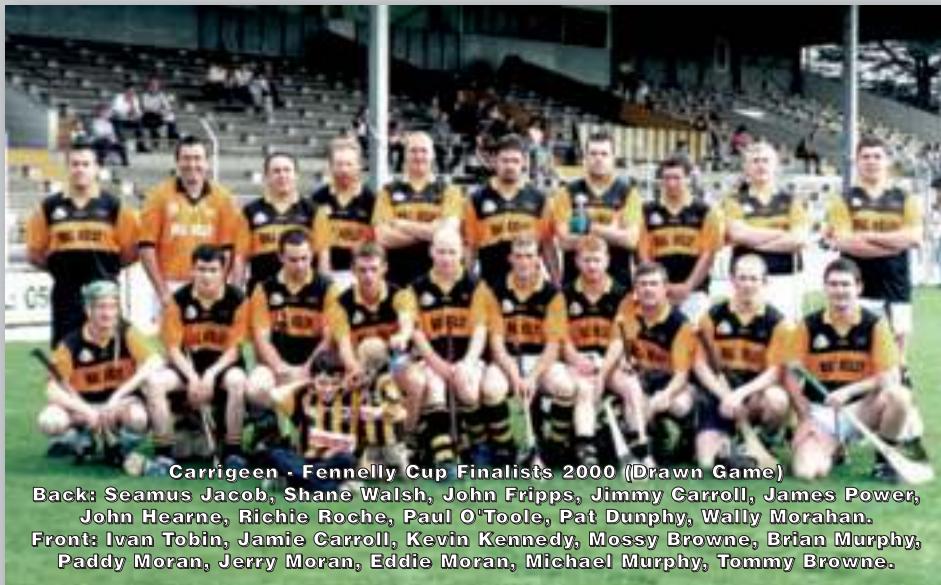
Club members visiting the grave of **Bob O'Keeffe** (former President of GAA and a native of Glen-grant Carrigeen) in Borris on Ossory in May 2013. Included in picture is a Peggy O'Meara a niece of Bob.



Hurling Team 2013

Back: Seamus Dunphy, Peter Dunlea, Richie Roche, Fintan Dermody, Richie O'Brien, Paul Walsh, Liam Roche, Sean Purcell, Cathal o Keeffe, Johnny Cooney, David Byrne, Kevin White, Jamie Cody, Stephen Jacob, Jonny Jacob.

Front: Owen Byrne, Stephen Blackmore, Marcus Dunlea, James Power, Chris O'Hanlon, Anthony O'Brien, Brian Gallagher, Hilary Delahunty, Adam Skehan, Niall Gallagher, Mark Long, Jamie Carroll, Michael Moran.



Carrigeen - Fennelly Cup Finalists 2000 (Drawn Game)

Back: Seamus Jacob, Shane Walsh, John Fripps, Jimmy Carroll, James Power, John Hearne, Richie Roche, Paul O'Toole, Pat Dunphy, Wally Morahan.

Front: Ivan Tobin, Jamie Carroll, Kevin Kennedy, Mossy Browne, Brian Murphy, Paddy Moran, Jerry Moran, Eddie Moran, Michael Murphy, Tommy Browne.



Carrigeen v Callan in 2013 C'ship with club's new complex in background.



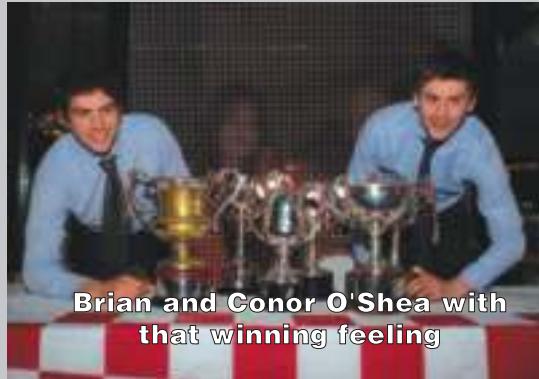
Pete Conway Ramie Foran

2013 saw the passing of two former players of the 1960's and 1970's.

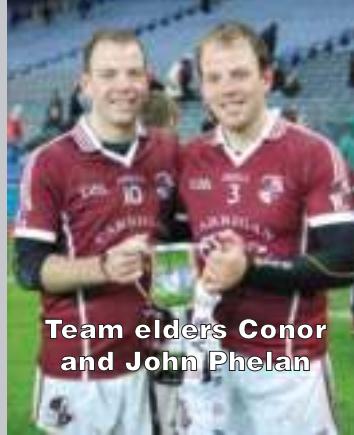
Ramie Foran (R.I.P.) was a very stylish forward in his time. **Pete Conway (R.I.P.)** was an uncompromising and dependable defender. **May they Rest in Peace.**

CLUB ROUND UP

CLARA



Brian and Conor O'Shea with that winning feeling



Team elders Conor and John Phelan



Tommy and Mae Brennan up for the Match.



If the Seniors can do it so can we. U8's in Croke Park



Micheal getting the place ready for the new ball wall



U6's getting their new club jerseys

CLUB ROUND UP

CONAHY



The annual end of year activity, namely the juvenile street leagues, was once again a great success. Games took place for under-6's, under-8's, under-10's & under-12's. Medals were presented to the players by the club's Féile na nGael skills winners, Danielle Morrissey and Edmond Delaney.



Conahy Shamrocks Bórd na nÓg and Camogie Club once again held a very successful Field Day during the summer. Particular thanks to all those involved in planning the day, organising the events and those giving up their time on the day and to all those who donated and/or sponsored prizes. The success of the day was down to the wonderful community spirit within Conahy Parish.



BLAST FROM THE PAST - Conahy Schools Hurling Team 1998



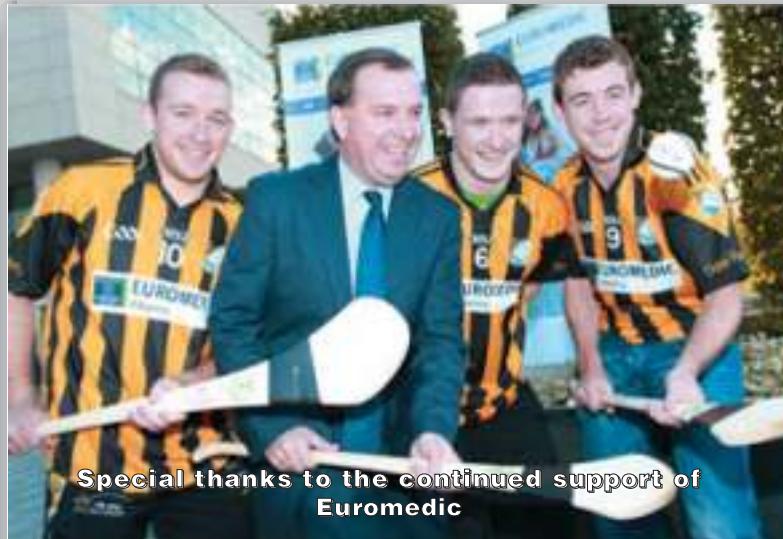
Conahy Shamrocks played host to players and supporters from both Indianapolis and St. Louis GAA Club with a set of exhibition games being played in the Polo Grounds in both hurling and camogie. Former Conahy Shamrocks player Ciarán Connery led the group back to his home club and following the games, the clubs were given a reception in the GAA Clubhouse.

CLUB ROUND UP

DANESFORT



Runners get ready for the annual JJ Reddy 10K Run, another great fundraiser for the club



Special thanks to the continued support of Euromedic



Danesfort U8s 2013, who proudly represented the club in Croke Park this year



Work being completed on the new Ball Wall. This and the new clubrooms were financed by the continued success of the club & parish Lotto. Special thanks to all involved.



Danesfort - Roinn B MH County Finalists 2013

Back: John Cooney, Pat Tynan, Angelo Cullen (all selectors), Philip Cooney, Michael Dowling, James Mullally, James Tynan, Ger Dunne, Ronan Leahy (capt), Brendan Cullen, Michael O'Neill, Colm Phelan, Dion Fitzpatrick, John Devane (selector), Des Dunne

Front: Jake Cullen, Brendan Hyland, Tom Whitty, Sean Nolan, Gary Tynan, Harry Bruton, Jack Tynan, Dylan Dunphy-Wallace, Padraig Mullen, Jack McHugh, Conor O'Neill, Thomas Rossiter

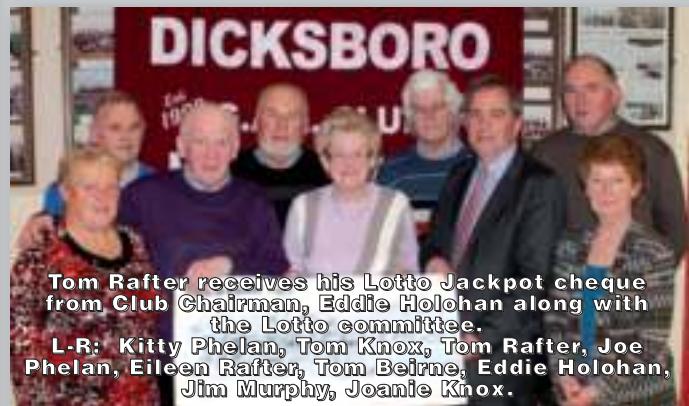
CLUB ROUND UP

DICKSBORO



Dicksboro GAA Club's Five Year Strategic Plan was launched by Mr. Liam O'Neill, Uachtarán C.L.G at a special function in Palmerstown.

Standing: Patsy Dempsey, Sean Keane, Ted Carroll, Frank Morrissey, Edmund Nolan, Seamus Rochford, Tom Beirne.



Tom Rafter receives his Lotto Jackpot cheque from Club Chairman, Eddie Holohan along with the Lotto committee.

L-R: Kitty Phelan, Tom Knox, Tom Rafter, Joe Phelan, Eileen Rafter, Tom Beirne, Eddie Holohan, Jim Murphy, Joanie Knox.



183 children attended Dicksboro's 2nd annual Summer Camp which included a visit from Kilkenny hurlers, Michael Rice and Lester Ryan. A very special thank you to John and Gráinne Timmons, the chief organisers and also to all the coaches and numerous background helpers,



Dicksboro under 8's in Croke Park to play Borris/Kilcotton from Laois in April with Mentors, Dan O'Neill, Sean Fitzpatrick, Adrian Keogh and Noel Kavanagh. Panel: James Brennan Smyth, Ryan Butler, James Cleere, Joey Dalton, Killian Dollard, Fionn Drago, Billy Fitzpatrick, Ryan Gorman, Kealan Gray, Adam Hayes, David Hennessy, Matthew Kane, Enda Kavanagh, Sean Keogh, Matthew McCarthy, Tom McPhillips, Mark McPhillips, Brian Moore, Christy Murphy, Evan Murphy, Jamie O'Brien, Charlie O'Neill, Tom O'Neill, Nathan Pollard, Josh Quirke Duggan, Liam Richardson, Sam Shortall, Michael Stynes, Marcus Trait, David Fitzpatrick.

CLUB ROUND UP

DUNNAMAGGIN



The U6 & 8 teams had a number of games throughout the season and large numbers at training. This picture shows the U6 & 8's after one of their games against Piltown.

Noel Hickey, announced his retirement from Inter-County Hurling earlier this year. Noel won 9 All-Ireland medal with Kilkenny in just 13 years on the panel. Noel joined the panel in 2000 and his arrival coincided with a golden era for Kilkenny hurling. He made an immediate impact in his first year being named "Young Hurler of the Year" in 2000.

He also has 11 Leinster Senior Championship Medals, 6 National League Medals and 3 All Stars and much more. He is hugely popular on and off the field and we look forward to seeing him continue on the edge of the square with his beloved Dunnamaggin in the years ahead.



In March the club launched its 5 year strategic plan, which sets out the clubs development plans over a number of areas for the coming years. Our picture shows Club Chairman John Hickey, Juvenile Secretary Denis Walsh, Co.Chairman Ned Quinn and John Buggy Co.Board at the launch night.



Early in the year the juvenile club held an internal skills competition. Robbie McCauley won and went on to represent the club in the County competition held in Nowlan Park.



As part of the parish gathering celebrations there were a number of club related events. There was an internal u6 blitz which preceded a Father's Vs Daughters game (below) and also a very novel Cross-country Poc Fada competition from Dunnamaggin to Kilmoganny (above).



The Cross Country Poc Fada competition was a great success this summer. This picture shows Competitors trying to get a "hole in one" midway through the course and if successful had points deducted from their final score.



Obituary Notes:-

Dunnamaggin GAA club extends its condolences to all club members who suffered bereavement during the past year. Tom's Walsh of Balintee, former Kilkenny All Ireland winner, whose obituary appears elsewhere in this book; Tom's brother Pat who passed away one month later. Pat was also a club hurler of exceptional ability with Dunnamaggin; Paddy Daniels, Kilmoganny; Bea Martin, Rathduff; George O'Neill, Kells; Ger Flemming, Dunnamaggin. Ar Dheis Dé go raibh siad.

CLUB ROUND UP

CLONEEN



Cloneen/Railyard U14 League and Championship Finalists



Cloneen Junior Team 2013

Back: Pat Hickey (Manager), Sean O'Neill, Don Lawlor, Brian Cahill, Kevin Phillips, Graham Lawlor, Fergal Brennan, Paul Donnelly, David Wilson, Ronan Walsh, Cormac McDonald, Eddie Roche, Eamon Mooney, Gavin O'Dowd

Front: Sean Geoghegan, Kieran Whelan, Philip Roche, Paul Kelly, Dean Shortall, Conor Delaney, Kevin Delaney, Mark Maguire, Padraig Delaney, Padraig Maher, Liam O'Neill

Cloneen Hurling Club

In 2013 the Junior team were defeated in the Kevin Fennelly Cup final, they also ended in the relegation final but thankfully on the day things went well for the lads and they regained Junior status. Our Juveniles did very well on the hurling field with the high light been the Cumann na mBunscoile win, this was a first title ever for the Clogh & Moneenroe National Schools. Our U14 hurlers gave a great account of themselves reaching the championship and league finals for the second year in a row, but were narrowly defeated by 1 pt in the championship final which turned out to be a brilliant game. Great credit goes to these chaps and not before long will bring silverwear to the club.

Clogh Handball Club

2013 has been a great year for Clogh Handball Club in both alleys for Juveniles and Adults. The club participated in county, leinster, all Irelands, inter-club, Nationals, Feile na nGael, One Wall, Cumann na mBunscoile and Colleges. Some of our Juveniles represented Kilkenny on team events. The club won 31 county titles, 15 Leinster titles and 7 All Ireland titles. Great credit goes to our coaches who put in tremendous work and to our committee for their help in running the club.



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CLUB ROUND UP

EMERALDS



U8 team with trainers Fintan Deegan and Pakie Lawlor in Croke Park:

The U8s had the added bonus of a lifetime experience when back in March, they were afforded the opportunity to play in Croke Park! Many thanks to all of our underage trainers who put in endless hours developing all our underage hurlers from u6 to u18 throughout the year.



Emeralds fighters line up for Cross Border Punch Up:

Our fundraisers were a huge success this year. Commencing with the Cross Border Punch Up the club raised €13,000. Many thanks goes to Urlingford Boxing Club for all their assistance with training our boxers and to all local business and families who were so generous with sponsorship for this event, the Golf Classic, the Piltown Ticket Draw, the County Final Training Fund and currently the Lord Mayor Campaign.

Aidan Fogarty and Brian Campion celebrate at the final whistle IH Semi-Final in Nowlan Park.
(Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

Derek Lyng is congratulated by his daughter Ruth and son Jack after the IH Semi-Final in Nowlan Park.
(Photo: Eoin Hennessy)

CLUB ROUND UP

ERIN'S OWN



Mixed Football teams that took part in the Gathering Festival Weekend.



U8 Team that played in Croke Park



U12 – Winners of Andy Egan Tournament 2013



U6's Tournament in O'Loughlins

CLUB ROUND UP

FENIANS



One of The Fenians first membersh ips cards signed by then secretary Paul Skehan(RIP) who passed on in 2013.



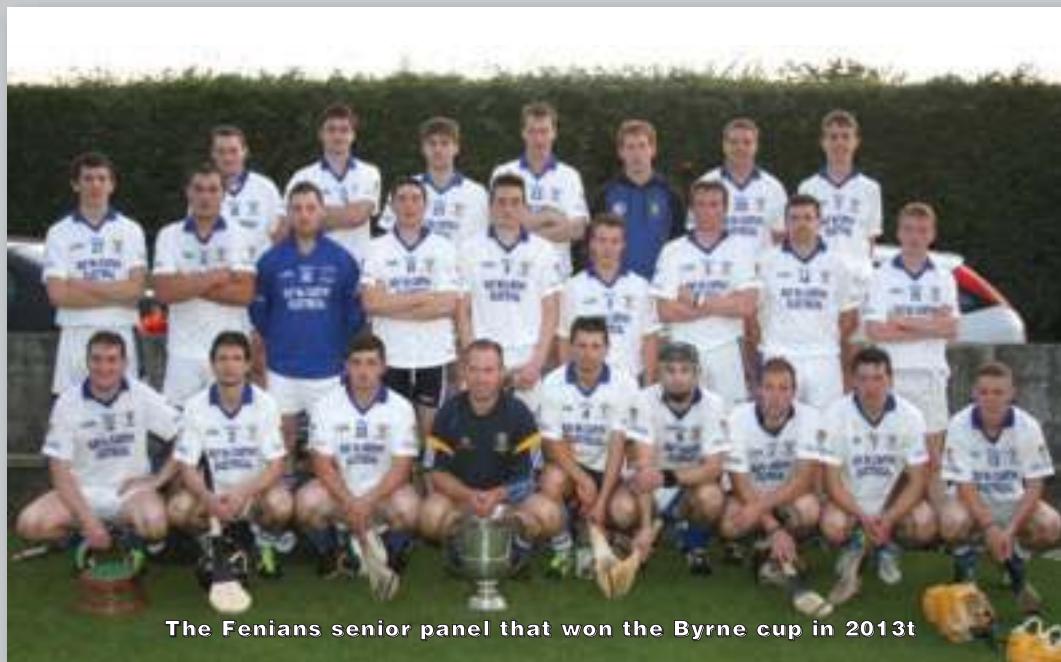
Fenian greats at Fenians dinner in Langton's Billy Fitzpatrick, Ger Henderson, Michael Duignan special guest, JJ Delaney, PJ Ryan and Pat Henderson.



Fenian U14 captain Diarmuid O'Gorman being presented with the Tommy Ryan memorial shield by juvenile Chairman John Wilson,



The Fenians under 14 team and mentors that won the Tommy Ryan Memorial in Johnstown in 2013.



The Fenians senior panel that won the Byrne cup in 2013t



Fenian captain PJ Ryan being presented with the Byrne cup by Kilkenny chairman Ned Quinn.

PAUL SKEHAN RIP
Paul Skehan was a founder member and treasure of the Fenians GAA Club, Johnstown. He was a selector on the Kilkenny team that beat Cork in the 1972 All-Ireland Hurling final by 3-24 to 5-11. Paul was also a selector on the Kilkenny team that beat Galway in the 1975 All-Ireland Hurling final by 2-22 to 2-10.



CLUB ROUND UP

GALMOY



Galmoy's Conor Drennan receives his trophy from Joe Pyke after winning the Kilkenny Feile Skills competition. Conor came fourth in the All Ireland Feile Skills.



From Left: Galmoy's Jason Stanley who played at centreback on the Kilkenny Minor team in 2013. Conor Grace who captained Galmoy U-14s to victory in the Roinn D Championship and who was a member of the victorious Kilkenny U-14 Sonny Walsh Team. Oisín Phelan who captained Galmoy U-14s to victory in the Roinn D League and who was a member of the Kilkenny U-14 Tony Forristal team. Galmoy's Jack Delaney was a member of the victorious Kilkenny U-15 team in Wexford.



Galmoy Club Committee 2013.
Back:Liam Drennan (Secretary), Charles Brennan (Northern Board Rep), Sean Doherty(County Board Rep), Jerry Fogarty (Asst. Sec), Jerry Drennan(P.R.O.)
Front: Brian Doherty (Chairman), Fr Tom Coyle (Joint President), Leo Doherty (Treasurer), Nicky Maddock (Asst.Treasurer).



Galmoy U-10 team 2013



Galmoy U-14 Panel received a set of tracksuits sponsored by Jim Doyle and Nickie Grace.



Galmoy Club Secretary Liam Drennan presents Jerome Fogarty with his cheque having won first prize of 10.000 euro in the Kilkenny Hurlers Co Op Draw.Also included is winning ticket seller Kevin Lonergan.

CLUB ROUND UP

GLENMORE



Glenmore GAA Indoor Astroturf Hurling Pitch



Glenmore U14 Roinn B Hurling Finalists 2013



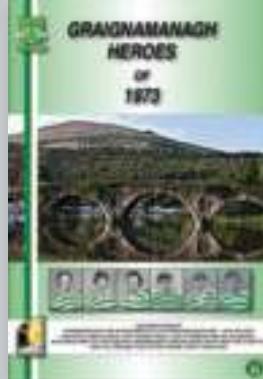
Sincere thanks to all our members who have supported the club financially in 2013. Without this support we would be unable to provide our players and mentors with the facilities and support to help them compete in their relevant competitions.

We wish our members and players a very happy Christmas and a healthy new year in 2014.

Glenmore U10 Caulfield Cup winners 2013 and Slieverue Eamon O'Donovan Tournament Winners 2013

CLUB ROUND UP

GRAIGNAMAGH



- Jim Whelan's Book honouring the 7 Graignamanagh men who were part of Kilkennys 1st Intermediate All Ireland winning team in 1973 was launched at the Gathering celebrations in the Duiske Inn on Friday 23rd Aug. This is a well-researched and beautifully put together publication and will form another part of our proud Clubs history. The book is on sale in local Shops costing €3

40th + 60th Anniversary Celebrations: The night began with a lovely Mass in Duiske Abbey for deceased members of our club. There was a great night of celebrations in The Duiske in afterwards with food & music and plenty of craic. Guests of honour on the night were the six Graignamanagh men who won Intermediate All Ireland medals with Kilkenny in 1973. Back row L-R Paddy Grace (Captain), Jack O'Connor, Tom Tucker Foley, & Pat Kavanagh. Front L-R Jack Bolger, Kitty Meaney representing her late husband Jim Meaney RIP selector. & Liam Ryan. We were also very proud to welcome Cathaoirleach Ned Quinn, new County Secretary Jimmy Walsh & Barrie Heniques to the event.



U12 Hurlers 2013



U10 Go-Games Team 2013



New Fence and extended Stop Nets

Pitch developments: The pitch was sanded early in the year. A new fence was erected on top of the wall at the soccer pitch end, and the stop nets have been replaced and extended by adding an extra pole. The nets at the town end have also been replaced. These works along with the laying of Astro turf in the goals and in front of the dugouts was partly funded with the proceeds of the Piltown Draw and these works will leave our playing field in good stead & ready for action in 2014.



Aspiring Graignamanagh Players 2013

BEREAVEMENTS

Liam Walsh RIP.

Graignamanagh GAA Club was saddened at the recent passing of Liam Walsh RIP. Liam was a lifelong member of our club, a true gentleman and great friend. Liam served on the committee for a number of years, there is not a day that passed that Liam didn't pay at least one visit to our playing field. He took great pride in the upkeep and maintenance of the field and he was one of the main instigators in the levelling and drainage of our grounds. Liam's late wife Anne also was a very prominent and hardworking member of the Club and held a variety of positions including treasurer up until the time she became ill. At the removal on Wednesday morning the GAA Club along with over 130 children from the Cul Camps provided a very moving Guard of Honour. The huge numbers that turned out was a fitting tribute and showed the high esteem in which Liam was held in our Club and community.

Colm McDonald RIP

We extend our sympathy to the family of the late Colm McDonald, Bohemore, RIP. Colm was a passionate lifelong supporter of Graignamanagh and kilkenny hurling, he was a member of the Graignamanagh team that won the first Junior County title in 1972 and many of his team mates turned out to provide a guard of honour at his funeral. Colm was caretaker of the grounds for a number of years a job which he carried out with great care and attention. Ar Dheis De Go Raibh a anam Dilis.

Teddy Duff RIP

Sympathy is extended to the Duff Family, Ballyogan on the tragic sudden death of Teddy RIP. Teddy hurled with Graig in the 70's & 80's and remained a great supporter of the Club when his playing days were over, he was always there at our beck & call when we needed his help at field days ect. Teddy will be sadly missed throughout the community of Graignamanagh. Ar Dheis De Go Raibh a anam Dilis.

CLUB ROUND UP

GRAIGUE BALLYCALLAN



CLUB ROUND UP

JAMES STEPHENS



James Tyrrell became the fourth James Stephens player to captain Kilkenny minors to Leinster victory following Murt Leahy (1958), Brian Cody (1972), Shane Doyle (1993). Club Officers and players celebrating the Leinster minor hurling success. Niall Mullins, Liam Tyrrell, Tom Keane, Tommy Lanigan, Val Malone, James Tyrrell (capt), Seamus Daly.



Rooting Ash 1979
 Jimmy Coyne, (RIP), Paddy Larkin (RIP), Liam Tyrrell and Dominic Bolger. One of the major cost savings in the club was purchasing ash trees, rooting them out, delivering the trees to Bretts Mill for planking and then supplying local hurley makers Mick Neary and Ramie Dowling with up to 200 planks.



Club Sponsors

Taxback.com renewed their sponsorship of James Stephens GAA Club this year.
 Val Malone (PRO), Brian Cody, Eoin Larkin, Terry Clune, (MD Taxback.com), Seamus Daly (Secretary), Matthew Ruth, Tom Keane (Treasurer), Mark Graham (Taxback.com).



First Game on Kells Road
 James Stephens played Thurles Sarsfields in a senior challenge game on the Kells Road grounds in late August. David Walton scored the first Village point in the game. Pictured are Kevin O'Gorman, captain Thurles Sarsfields and David Walton, captain James Stephens.

CLUB ROUND UP

JOHN LOCKES



U12 team which played in the Go Games blitz in Nowlan Park.



John Lockes u-10 team which played in the Mullinahone Tournament representing Kilkenny



John Lockes - U10 & U12 Camogie 2013



View of new floodlit Astroturf facility in John Locke Park



Car Park View



View from Pitch



New Developments in John Lockes Park

CLUB ROUND UP

KILMACOW



Coaching and Development - we have been rewarded for our coaching and development work, by being awarded the Club Kilkenny Best Practice Two Star Standard. A strategic decision was made by the club in 2010, and while its still very early days, we are on the right track. The ongoing development can be seen again in 2013 where we had players reperesenting Kilkenny A squads at U14, U15, U16 and U17. Plus the results of our U14s in the Roinn B league and championship.

Thanks to ALL the clubs coaches for their ongoing hard work and commitment.



On Oct 13th we hosted an U9 Festival of Hurling - this involved 112 kids of ages 8 & 9 from Lucan Sarsfields, Dicksboro, Mullinavat, Tullogher, Rosbercon and Kilmacow playing a total of 12 games in the Complex and heading to the Community Hall for refreshments afterwards. It was a wonderful event, and a great 'GAA day'. Thanks again to all who helped



Michael O'Neill Memorial Cup - On Monday 10th of June the Kilkenny Minors scored an impressive win over neighbours Waterford in the Annual Mick O Neill Memorial Tournament, hosted by the club. The final score was Kilkenny 2-28... Waterford 2-08. Photo shows Mick's grandson Jack O'Neill presenting the trophy to Kilkenny's Niall Mullins



Our U6s had a great summer of hurling, being developed under the watchful eye of John Daniels, Shane Power, Sean Rea and Christy Flynn. Well done and thanks to all



In mid September our U10s took part in the annual Eamonn O Donovan blitz (photo shown) where they hurled really well, and were runners up in the Shield competition. This group of 9 and 10 year olds met a total 41 times over the year including training, Go Games and Blitzes (including trips to Carlow Town and Kilmacud Crokes). Well done to all involved.



Our U12 players had another very busy year, playing games in both the Waterford City League and Kilkenny Go Games. More great work being done, and great thanks goes to Keith, Dennis and Tommy. Photo shows the panel at the Carlow Town Leinster Blitz in late September.



In late December 2012 the club won its first U21 South Final since 1995. It took a huge effort to overcome Carrickshock (after extra time) in the semi and Dunnamaggan in the south final. We went on to contest the Co Final with the Fenians, going to a replay, but finishing runners up. Well done to the players and management team on a great achievement

U14 - Well done and thanks to the U14 team and management on their great year reaching semi-finals in Roinn B league and championship

CLUB ROUND UP

LISDOWNEY



Above: The Lisdowney team who won the JJ Kavanagh & Son's U-13 Hurling 7's.
The winning panel was made up of James Phelan (Capt), Garry O'Sullivan (player of the tournament), Lee McCann, Cathal Jordan, David O'Carroll, Jack McGree, Luke Champion, Aidan Tallis, Marty McEvoy & Conor Tallis.



New club sponsors, The Fire Centre (Kilkenny) were secured this year. At the jersey presentation was Martin Phelan (Capt.), Pauric Morrissey (Fire Centre, Sponsor), PJ Kenny club secretary and Ciaran Mackey .



Left: LISDOWNEY COUNTY JUNIOR CHAMPIONS 1960
Back Row: John Fogarty, Michael Bowden, Paddy Grace, Mick Blanchfield, Mick Holahan, Jim Delaney, Dick Blanchfield, Noel Murphy, Richard Mackey, Mick Moylan, Lar Carroll
Front Row: Martin McEvoy, Ted Carroll, Mick Henderson, Mick Gannon, Joe McGree, Paddy Ryan, Ber Drennan, Mick Carroll, Martin Ryan

CLUB ROUND UP

MOONCOIN



Camogie Girls return for Family Fun Day



Set dancers entertain the crowd at Fun Day



Urban Van Blue entertains the crowd at Fun Day



U6 team at Family Fun Day 2013



U8 girls team at Family Fun Day 2013



Club hurlers of the past return for Family Fun Day 2013



Eamon Holden being presented with a plaque by club Chairman Paddy Crowley at the 2013 AGM for his dedication to the club over the years.

CLUB ROUND UP

MUCKALEE GFC



Colin McGrath scores a penalty for Muckalee in the County Final

2013 was a historic year for the club with the senior football team winning its fourth Senior championship in succession and also collecting its second league title in a row.

The league commenced on the 2nd February 2013 and the team had wins over Glenmore, O' Loughlins, Conahy and the Railyard.

The league final was played against Kilmoganny on 16th March 2013 which the club was successful on a score line of Muckalee 0-11 to Kilmoganny 1-04 after a well contested game.

The championship first outing was a win over Mullinavat by 0-12 to 0-06. The semi final, played against Glenmore and was won by score line 3-06 to 0-06 and thus the club qualified for its fifth senior county final on the trot.

The final was played against James Stephens on 01st September 2013 and after a very exciting game the club won its twelfth senior championship on a score line of Muckalee 2-10 to James Stephens 1-09.

The junior football team completed well in its matches in the league but the team lost the first round of the championship in an excellent game to Tullogher Rosbercon by 3-09 to 2-07.

The club was represented this summer by Frank O Meara (Selector), Paddy Nolan (Capt), John Mulhall, Ollie Walsh, Noel Darcy, Joe Maher and Fiann Lawlor on the Kilkenny Football team at the international tournament in the UK.

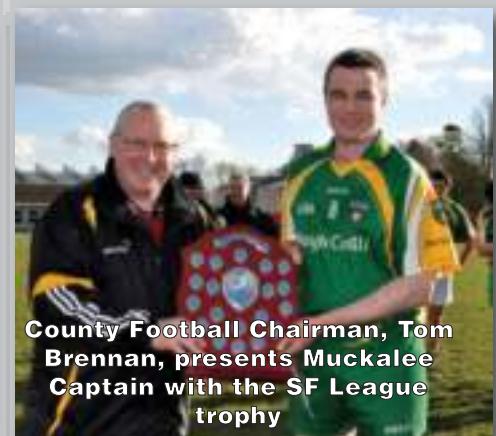
Special thanks to our team sponsor Mr Jim Bolger and all those that helped the club in any way during the year.

Club Development

A new front exit for players and supporters was completed with the help of a strong working committee during the year. Fundraising is on going to raise the finance needed to complete the next stage of development on the dressing rooms.



Muckalee - SF County Champions 1987



County Football Chairman, Tom Brennan, presents Muckalee Captain with the SF League trophy



Muckalee - MF County Champions 2004

CLUB ROUND UP

MULLINAVAT



The South Kilkenny players on the Good Counsel College Leinster Colleges A Champions 2009 Panel:
L-R : Bob Grace, Sean Lyster, James Cassin, Conor Joyce (all Rower Inistioge), Colm Foran (Glenmore), Ian Duggan (capt.) and Joe Fennelly (both Mullinavat), Joe Lyng (Rower Inistioge), Walter Walsh (Tullogher Rosbercon), Ger Aylward (Glenmore), Darren Kenneally (Mullinavat).



Above Left: Bigwood 1969
Back: Philly O'Neill, Jim Dollard, Michael Fitzgerald, Jim Freyne, Sean O'Neill, Sean Fitzgerald, Tommy Reddy, Tom O'Neill, Garda Vincent O'regan, Eddie Doyle, Michael Dollard.
Middle: Paddy Phelan (Chairman), Martin O'shea, Denny Duggan, Davy Aylward, Tony Atkins, Jim Phelan, James Aylward, Larry Forrester, Pat O'Brien, Willie Doyle.
Front: Pat Atkins, Tommy Duggan, Jimmy Reddy (Treasurer)

Above Right: Mullinavat Under 14 Féile Na Ngael Finalists 1978
Back: Liam Law, John Haberlin, Paddy Frisby, Fergal Tynan, Joe Walsh, Richard Kent, Michael Purcell, Seamus Walsh, Kevin Duggan, Andy Phelan, Ned Conway
Front: Michael Knox, Eamonn Lent, Martin Walsh, Pat McEvoy, Michael Law, John Dunphy, Seamus Aldridge, John Joe Aldridge, Paul Phelan.
Right Background: Eddie Aylward

CLUB ROUND UP

O'LOUGHLIN GAELS



Brian Hogan with Group 1 at the O'Loughlin Gaels Summer Camp 2013



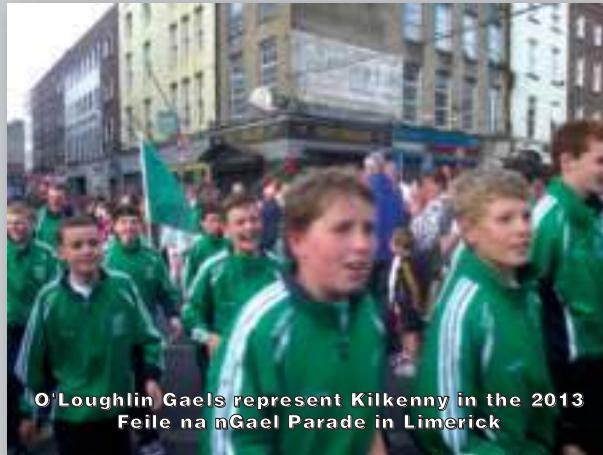
O'Loughlin Gaels U8s who played Bennettsbridge recently



Kids at Eurospar For Cat Run



Under 8s at the Kilmacud Crokes tournament in October.



O'Loughlin Gaels represent Kilkenny in the 2013 Feile na nGael Parade in Limerick



Under 6s 2013 at Training

CLUB ROUND UP

PILTON



Jim Fitzgerald, Billy Norris & Robert Keane involved in removing the old concrete posts).

In 1965 Piltown GAA Club undertook a project to enclose the Hurling field fully with a combination of concrete posts, chain link fencing and gates. GAA Stalwarts at the time who were involved in that development included Denis Horgan, Scot O'Neill, Larry Gorman, Billy Norris & Project Foreman Robert Keane.

48 years later Piltown GAA Club has undertaken to replace that fence with a modern spectator friendly fence, and work commenced during 2013 to remove the existing roadside fence and erect the new barrier, and over time will replace the other three sides.



Picture of completed roadside fence.

Together with the FAS Workers, work has been progressing well, and almost half a century later, two men who were involved in the original development were back to help out, namely Former Chairmen Billy Norris and Robert Keane, ably assisted by former Vice Chairman Jim Fitzgerald.

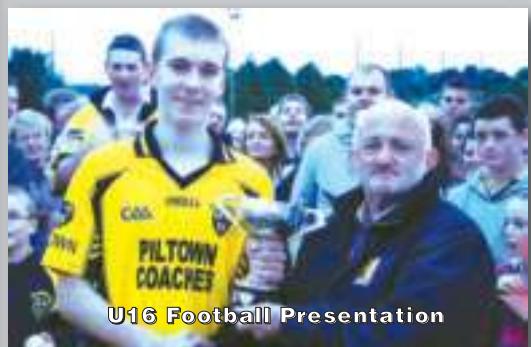
Piltown GAA Club started to use the re-seeded Pitch & Putt area this Summer, for training purposes and Parish League Games. The Juvenile Parish League was run for several age groups from Under 12 down, with all teams involved in Finals on a highly successful Family Day organised by the Juvenile Club.



Piltown - U16 "B" Football Champions 2013

Other Club activities; Piltown GAA Club was heavily involved with "Piltown Enterprise" in the organisation of a "Start Your Own Business Competition", which resulted in three organisations receiving support in their business ideas including business support and cash prizes.

The next stage of Piltown Enterprises activities include the development of the Old Creamery Building in the village, for which they received Planning Permission recently for several small business units.



U16 Football Presentation



Picture of the Piltown U-14 County Final Team 1962 that played St. Johns.



O'Brien Brothers from Oldcourt, Piltown with League Final Man of the Match Lester Ryan at Nowlan Park.

CLUB ROUND UP

RAILYARD



Moneenroe National School celebrated its 100th year and to mark this occasion Railyard had a Present v Past match.



**Presentation of new training gear
for U14 team.**

Adults in back from left: Dave Buggy (sponsor), Paul McGuire (mentor),
Donal O'Neill (sponsor), Caleb Roche (mentor).



Railyard - Roinn "D" U14F Champions 2013



Railyard SF Team 2013

CLUB ROUND UP

ROWER INISTIOGE



Rower-Inistioge Under 8 Team receiving their medals in the Luke Roche Memorial Tournament.

Guests on Day; Brian Cody, Eddie Keher, Michael Rice, Walter Walsh



Annual Golf Classic.
Eddie Keher, Noel Skehan, Eddie Brennan and Micheál O Muircheartaigh taking part in the Annual GAA Club Golf Classic held in New Ross Golf Club.



Young Rower Inistioge Fans at the Final
(Photos Eoin Hennessy & Willie Dempsey)



Morrissey Family enjoy County Final success..
Tom Morrissey with sons David and Tom and grandson Tom celebrate the Intermediate County Final success with Team Captain Michael Grace.



At Last!
Rower-Inistioge supporters in Nowlan Park for the presentation of the Intermediate Cup to Michael Grace.

CLUB ROUND UP

SLIEVERUE



The Club were presented with a new set of Jerseys during the start of the year. Present were Club officers and Proprietor Michael Murphy of Euro Fuels Slieverue during the hand over along with some team "models" for the photo album!



Slieverue U8's 2013



Our U10s completed the season by winning the Shield section in our Annual Eamonn O'Donovan U10 Tournament held at the end of September. This followed on from last year's Cup victory in the same tournament. Glenmore won the Cup this year but our lads are determined to win it back for the "Rue" next year!



More silverware came to the club later in the season when the Minor team won the League Shield Final. The team with Captain Stevie Dolan had a pretty good season overall considering we had only one player up to the age, they were also unlucky to lose the Championship Semi-Final by a point with no player up to the age due to injury, so the future for next season looks bright.

Fennelly Cup Winners:

The Junior team had a great win in the Fennelly Cup this year. It was a special and emotional day for our mentor Liam Fennelly who guided us to secure the Cup named after his late father. The team with Captain Martin Dowling were most appreciative of his effort during the season.

U12/14s Day Out:
The lads had a great day in August during a coach trip to Kilkenny. The first stop was a visit to James Stephen's Military Barracks and Museum, then on to the local Bowling Alley and completed the day with a session in the local swimming pool. Our photos show

the lads inspecting some of the Military hardware in the barracks along with some of the lads trying on the different style army hats on display in the Museum.

CLUB ROUND UP

ST FIACHRA'S



St. Fiachra's U14's 2013



St Fiachra's U16's 2013



St. Fiachras Minors 2013

PAT MOORE



De-Laval Main Dealer

MILKING MACHINES SALES,

SERVICE & TESTING, FEEDING SYSTEMS,

AUTOMATIC SCRAPER SYSTEMS, WATER HEATERS, SLURRY PUMPS

& WASH PUMPS



Birchwood, Carrick on Suir.

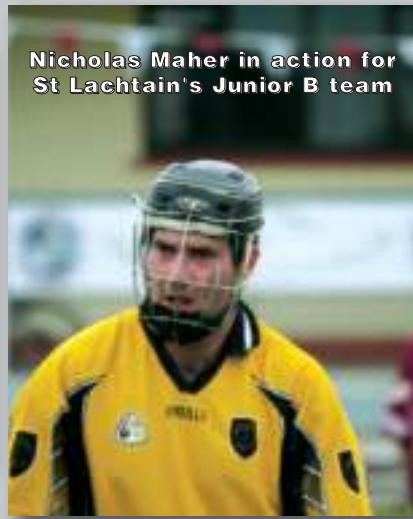
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CLUB ROUND UP

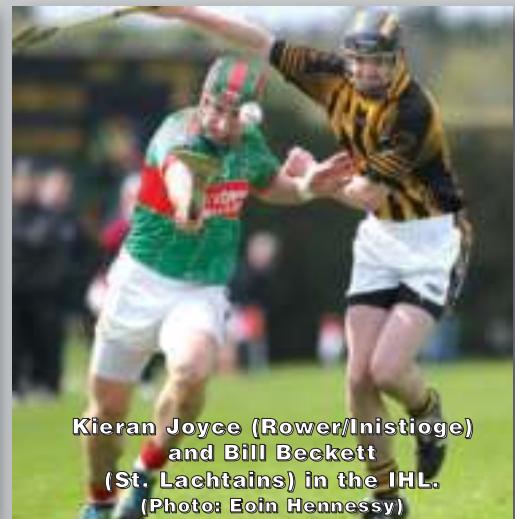
ST LACHTAIN'S



Noel McGree, Captain IH team receiving the League Final Shield from Barry Hickey.



Nicholas Maher in action for St Lachtain's Junior B team



Kieran Joyce (Rower/Inistioge) and Bill Beckett (St. Lachtains) in the IHL. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



The coaches/helpers at the St. Lachtain's Easter Coaching Camp



Steven Farrell, St. Lachtain's Captain, receives the under-21 Roinn A Hurling cup from J.J. Kavanagh, Sponsor, with Ned Quinn, Chairman, CLG (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



St. Lachtain's U16 team. Winners of Shield League Final V St. Martin's

CLUB ROUND UP

ST MARTIN'S



Minor Captain Shane Kinsella receives the John Ryan Cup from Anna Ryan, after defeating Danesfort in the final.
Also pictured is Patrick O'Flynn, Bord na NÓG chairman.



Congratulations to Mark Murphy who captained the Irish Racquetball Team to win the European Racquetball Championships in Italy earlier this year. Mark also won the Doubles Championship partnered with Stephen Quinn. He is pictured left with a crystal frame of the team which was presented to him by Muckalee Community to honour his achievement.

St. Martin's Hurling Club would like to extend our sympathies to all those who have been bereaved during the year.
Ar dheis de go raibh siad.



Cyril Farrell, former Galway manager, made himself available to give our U16's and U18's a very unique, insightful and encouraging night of hurling excellence.



St. Martin's U12's who beat Danesfort in the Dowling Cup played in Coon.

CLUB ROUND UP

ST PATRICK'S



1982 Minor Panel with Mentors



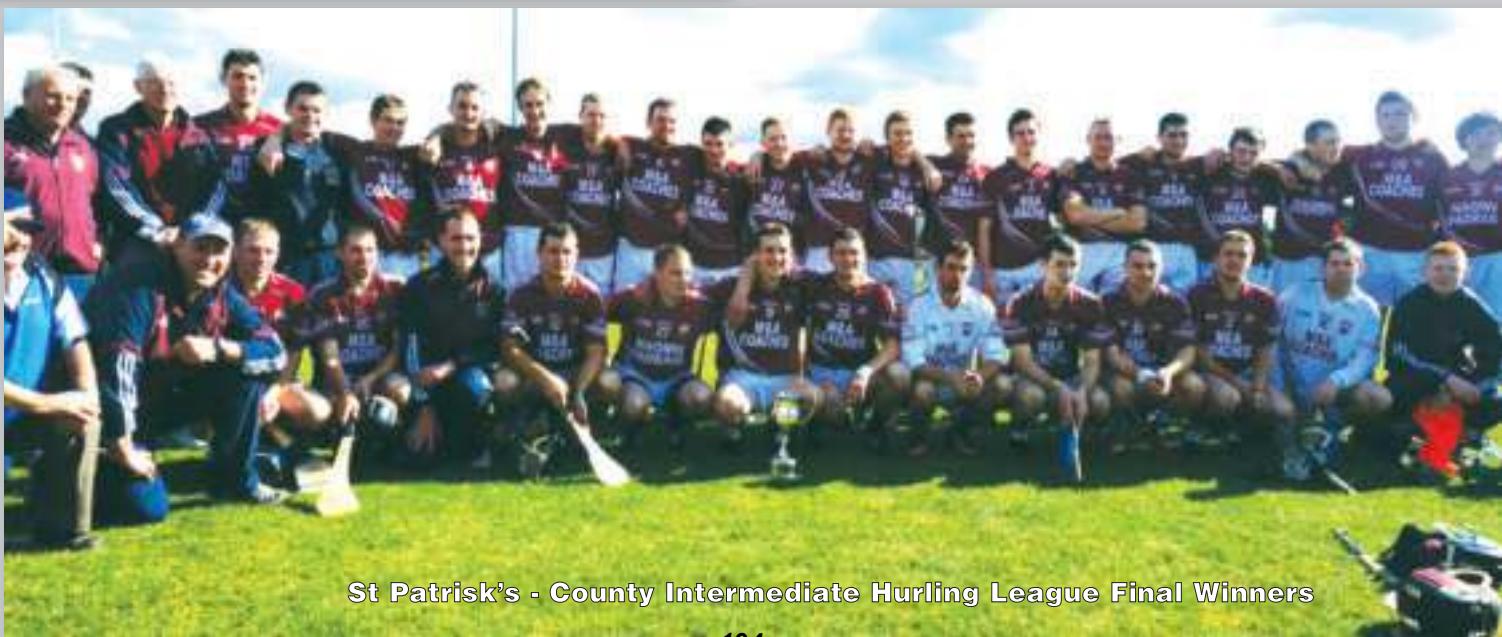
Michael Dowling, M & A Coaches, signing the new sponsorship with St. Patrick's, Ballyragget, pictured at the launch from back were, Michael McCraith, John Glennon, Jim Mooney, Treasurer, Tomas Healy, Joint Treasurer, Noel Cummins and front, Geraldine McGrath Secretary and Philip Kenny, Chairman. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy)



Roanmore Waterford Tournament



End of Year Street League Medal Presentation



St Patrisk's - County Intermediate Hurling League Final Winners

CLUB ROUND UP

THOMASTOWN



Blue & White Mannequins on display in Market Street



U8s at the FaithFest in St. Kierans College



U8s lining up for Medals at FaithFest in St. Kierans College



U14 County Football Champions and Feile Reps



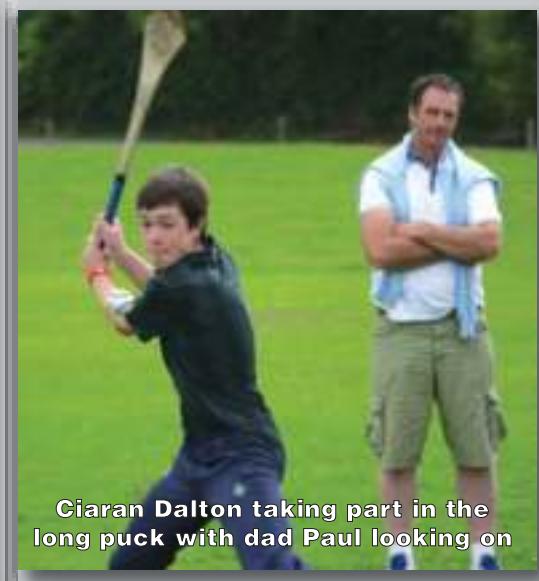
U14 footballers Parading in Derry



Under 16 Roinn B County Runners Up and Shield Winners

CLUB ROUND UP

THREECASTLES



CLUB ROUND UP

TULLAROAN



1997 All Ireland Feile Winning Team



Tullaroan Underage team which won the Urlingford cup in 2013



Tommy Walsh with the Liam McCarthy & Daire & Lory Hogan at the club's first Breakfast Morning Fundraiser



2013 Under 10 Team



2013 Under 14 Team

CLUB ROUND UP

TULLOGER ROSBERCON



Tulloher Rosbercon U7's 2013



Tulloher Rosbercon U12's 2013



Tulloher Rosbercon U10's 2013



Tulloher
Rosbercon
U7 Player 2013

Tulloher Rosbercon - 2013 Roinn "B" MH League Finalists 2013

CLUB ROUND UP

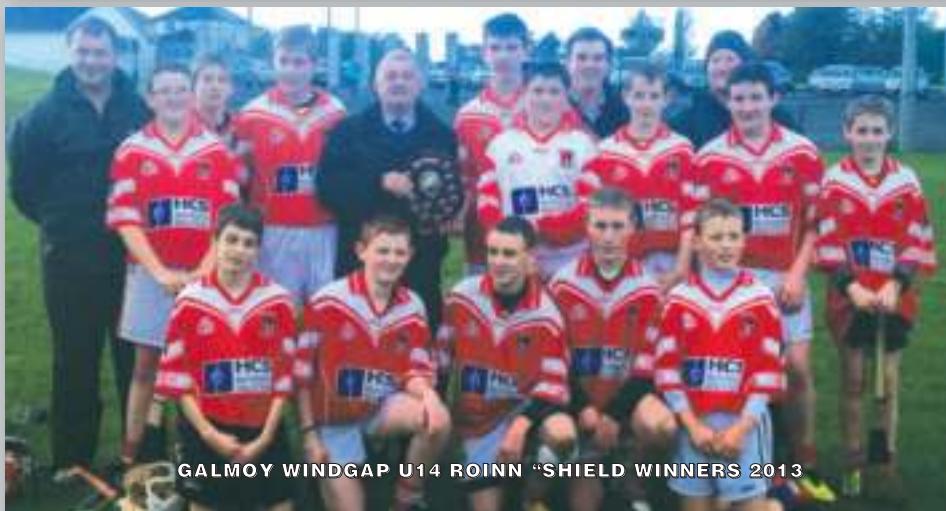
WINDGAP



GALMOY WINDGAP U16 ROINN "C" SHIELD WINNERS 2013



JUNIOR HURLING TITLE PRESENTATION
Joint Captains Conor Lonergan and James Murray receive the Southern JH Cup from Paul Brophy of Iverk Produce.



GALMOY WINDGAP U14 ROINN "C" SHIELD WINNERS 2013



GALMOY WINDGAP MH "B" LEAGUE
Joint captains Daniel Cashin and Jason Stanley share the trophy.



GATHERING OF WINDGAP VETERANS:

The centrepiece of the sporting activities of the Gathering weekend in July saw two competitive Windgap sides relive memories of other times in front of a great crowd.

Back Row: Nicky Landy, PJ Barron, Frank O'Brien, Jimmy Purcell, Joe Murray, Bobby Jackman, Alan Hearne, John McKenna, Tommy Lanigan, Michael Saunders, Brian Hickey.

Middle Row: Enda Hawe, Eamon Murray, Paul McKenna, Gay Doyle, Laurence Doyle, Matthew O'Shea, Dermot O'Shea, Seamus Norris, Pat Foley, Denis Foley.

Front Row: Shem Power, Brendan Cronin, Pat Walsh, PJ Egan, Jimmy Walsh, Joe O'Shea, Christy Whelan (Referee) Matt Doran, Dermot Houlihan, John Ryan, Mascot Eoin O'Shea,



Joint Captains Kieran Phelan and Niall Walsh receive the Roinn "C" U16 Shield from Bord na nÓg Treasurer Joe Pyke



Club Chairman PJ Egan makes a Presentation to newly appointed County Secretary Jimmy Walsh and wife Therese as part of the gathering events.

CLUB ROUND UP

YOUNG IRELANDS



On Saturday August 10th 2013 the club marked The Gathering in Gowran when the members of the Senior team which won the County Championship in 2002 played the team of 2013. A great evening was had by all and this picture captures some of the atmosphere of the evening.



Ground work has commenced on our new Club grounds at Castlellis. Over the next few years we hope to develop 2 playing pitches with associated facilities.

Dick Carroll, Jack Glendon & J P Treacy after crossing the line in the inaugural Stook 10 in November 2012. J P was the first club member to cross the finish line in the event which was organised in conjunction with Gowran AC.



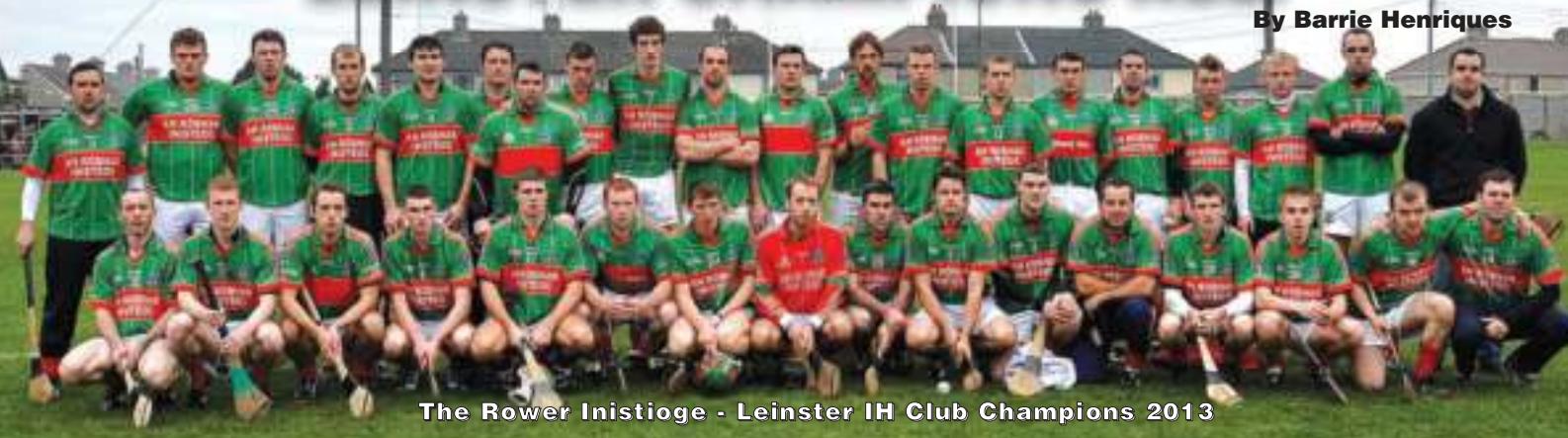
Young Irelands Junior Team of 1957 who played Tullogher in the County Junior final.
Back: Denis Fowler, Nick Dunphy, Richie Bryan(Capt), Jimmy Byrne, John O Neill,
Andy Comerford, Mick Shea,
Martin Murphy, Tommy Roche
Front: Podge McCarthy, Frankie Farrell, Joe Doyle, Jim Fowler, Richie Moylan, Jimmy
Brennan, Terry Brennan,
Jim McCarthy, Tommy Murphy



Irish Coastguard Helicopter lands at Family Fun Day in September

LEINSTER CHAMPIONS ALL!

By Barrie Henriques



The Rower Inistioge - Leinster IH Club Champions 2013

What had already been a year of wine, roses and Championship wins for the Rower Inistioge did not grind to a halt end at the traditional conclusion of the hurling season. With their first Intermediate Championship in the bag after a period of 25 years, seven days later, they won the County Minor Binn A Championship in style. This is well recorded elsewhere in this Yearbook. All of this propelled them into the Leinster Intermediate Championship for the first time in their history. It is their first time to compete in any Leinster Championship.

Facing into the demands, and possible pitfalls of a Championship with which they were totally unfamiliar, they faced Kildare Champions, Celbridge in their first outing. Played in Newbridge, on a very tight pitch, the Rower Inistioge played second fiddle to the more physical, hard-running Kildare Champions. At half time the Rower led by the odd point in eleven. The Kildare lads were a more difficult proposition than expected in all probability. James Cassin grabbed the only goal of the match. That coupled with a very successful take of seven points from Michael Grace got the Kilkenny Champions over the line in front by 1-14 to 0-13.

The Leinster Final against famed Buffers Alley in Enniscorthy was a fixture fraught with danger for the Rower. A stunning last minute point by one of the youngest players on the pitch, Ciaran Ryan, really broke the Wexford Champions. From an impossible angle, the County Minor really had no right to go for the score, but he did, and the Leinster crown was on its way back to Inistioge. Buffers Alley led at half time by 0-8 to 0-5, and deserved to do so. However between the 30th and 34th minutes the foundation for the win was laid, with the Rower bagging 1-3 to no reply from the Wexford men-David Lyng getting the goal. It was tough, tight, and abrasive, but the Kilkenny lads, for the first time in their history came home with the crown, and the celebrations went into the late hours of a number of days and nights. Leinster Champions---- it has a nice ring to it.

Panel: Liam Tierney, Eoin Doyle, Shem Cummins, James Doyle, Rory Galavan, Kieran Joyce, Sean Lyster, Sean Grace, Pauric Tierney, Michael Grace, David Lyng, Conor Joyce, Cathal Bolger, Joe Lyng, James Cassin, Paul Sheehan, Ciaran Ryan, Tom Murphy, David Dunphy, Neil Lyng, Conor Lyng, Richie Ryan, Michael Doyle, Nicky Kenny, David Tennyson, Paulie Fleming, Luke Tennyson, Padraig Ryan, James Roche, Tadhg Leahy, Robbie Grace, Michael Cassin, John James Kenny.

At the time of writing, Lisdowney are facing into the Leinster JH Club final against Ballinamore of Offaly.

Leinster titles also came our way in Camogie, with Mullinavat taking the Senior title beating St Ibers Shelmalier (Wexford) 3-12 to 3-10 while Ballyhale Shamrocks bagged the Intermediate title with a 3-3 to 1-4 victory over Camross (Laois).



Mullinavat - Leinster Senior Club Champions 2013



Ballyhale Shamrocks - Leinster Intermediate Club Champions 2013



Above: Martin Skelly, Leinster Chairman presents Michael Grace, Rower Inistioge captain with the Leinster trophy.
Right: Leinster Camogie Chairperson, Rachel Hogan presents Paula Butler & Julianne Malone (Mullinavat), and Emily Dermody & Mags Mary Fennelly (Ballyhale) with the Leinster trophies and Player of the Match awards respectively

KILKENNY SUPPORTERS IN THE BIG APPLE



SOME OF THE NEW YORK SUPPORTERS AT THE RECEPTION FOR THE KILKENNY HURLERS

From Left: Henry Holden, Martin Murphy, Dick Dunne, Jim Collins, Roddy Butler, Brendan Murphy, Caitriona Murphy, Kathleen and Dick Lyons, Tim Doheny (with Aidan Fogarty), Roddy Butler & Vincent Kehoe (with Dr Tadhg Crowley).

The New York Association were big supporters of Eamon Langton's Golf Classic in Mount Juliet recently, which raised enormous money for the Eamonn Hennessy Charity. (Missing from photograph is Simon Kearney (Fort Lauderdale Organiser).



ST LACHTAINS WHO WON THE COUNTY ROINN "A" U21 FINAL IN JANUARY 2013, DEFEATING MULLINAVAT

Back: John Kennedy, Bill Beckett, James Meagher, Odrán Waldron, Michael Burke, Denis Lennon, Fintan White, Liam Hickey, David Fitzpatrick, Criomhthann Bergin, Colin Corcoran, Lachlain Kennedy, Bernard Mullan, James Maher, Cillian Hughes, Shea Burke, John Quinn, David Allen, Eoin O'Donnell, Michael Kavanagh.

Front: John Flynn, Robbie Dowling, Ollie O'Connor, Philip Campion, Ally Rafter, Brendan Quinn, Shane Donnelly, Brian Kennedy, Paul White, Steven Farrell, Darren Brennan, Simon Rafter, Jack Boland, Daragh Quinn, John Campion, Johnny Fitzpatrick.

Kilkenny's 2013 All Stars



KILKENNY CAMOGIE ALL-STAR AWARD WINNERS 2013
Shelly Farrell, Mairead Power represented by her mother Ann, Katie Power and Edwina Keane.
©INPHO/James Crombie

Camogie All Stars for 2013

Goalkeeper

Susan Earner (Galway)

Backs

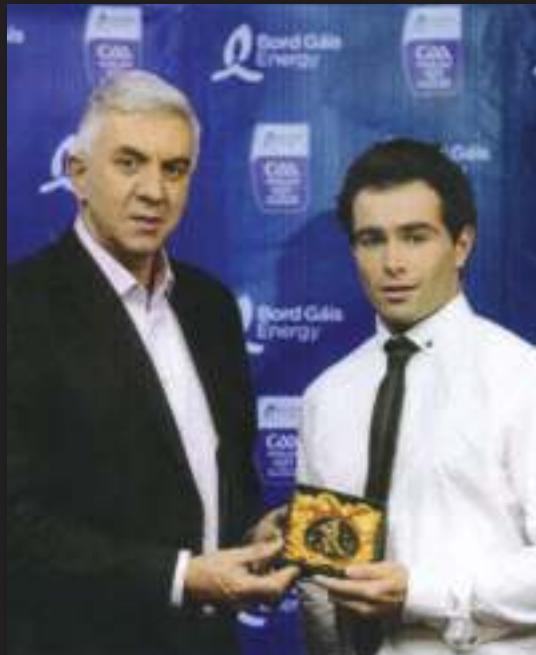
Mairead Power (Kilkenny)
Sarah Dervan (Galway)
Lorraine Ryan (Galway)
Edwina Keane (Kilkenny)
Therese Maher (Galway)
Chloe Morey (Clare)

Midfield

Niamh Kilkenny (Galway)
Jennifer O'Leary (Cork)

Forwards

Katie Power (Kilkenny)
Niamh McGrath (Galway)
Kate Kelly (Wexford)
Shelly Farrell (Kilkenny)
Elaine Dermody (Offaly)
Ailish O'Reilly (Galway)



Left corner back on the inaugural Bord Gáis Energy Under 21 Team of the Year, Brian Kennedy, Kilkenny, pictured with Ger Cunningham, Bord Gáis Energy Ambassador and Team of the Year Judge.
Picture credit: Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE

GAA/GPA Hurling Team of the Year 2013

Goalkeeper

1. Anthony Nash (Cork)

Full-Backs:

2. Richie McCarthy (Limerick)
3. Peter Kelly (Dublin)
4. David McInerney (Clare)

Half backs

5. Brendan Bugler (Clare)
6. Liam Rushe (Dublin)
7. Patrick Donnellan (Clare)

Midfielders

8. Colm Galvin (Clare)
9. Conor Ryan (Clare)

Half forwards

10. Séamus Harnedy (Cork)
11. Tony Kelly (Clare)
12. Danny Sutcliffe (Dublin)

Full forwards

13. Pádraic Collins (Clare)
14. Patrick Horgan (Cork)
15. Conor McGrath (Clare)

Obituaries



Tom Holden

It is still with great sadness that we remember the death of Tom Holden, Lickawn, Piltown, on the 1st of December 2012 after a very brave battle with cancer. Tom was highly regarded and very fondly remembered for all his hard work and commitment to Piltown camogie club and also for his work earlier in the hurling club. Tom was survived by his wife Pamela, son Aaron, daughters Chloe and Sophie, his father John, sisters and extended family. It was a night of mixed emotions on the 27th of September when the first ever "Tom Holden Memorial Cup" was played for in the new U16 Roinn A league competition - Piltown V Glenmore in Piltown, memorable and special as Tom had trained these girls from their U8 level up to the time of his passing. The team included Tom's two daughters, Chloe and Sophie. Tears of joy and sadness were shed as the Cup was presented by Tom's wife Pamela to the captain of the winning team, Piltown's Kellyann Doyle. A great way to remember Tom as the game was his passion, as well as his family and his farming.'

Ar Dheis De go raibh a anam.



Willie Delaney

1948 - 2013

The sad and untimely passing of Willie Delaney on 6th June was a great loss to his family, his many friends and Young Irelands GAA Club. While everyone had been aware of Willie's battle with serious illness, his death cast a dark cloud over the communities of Gowran & Skeoughvosteen.

Willie was born in Cloghala and the family later moved to live in the village of Gowran. When Willie married Mary Cullen from Boherkyle in neighbouring Skeoughvosteen, they set up home there. However, his heart was never far from his native Gowran.

Willie was a staunch and loyal supporter of the Gowran hurling. He made a major contribution to many aspects

of club life. He was always on hand when there was work to be done in the pitch. He liked nothing better than to hold up the traffic to have the chat with supporters of other clubs when acting as a steward at the gate for various games. Willie was always willing to volunteer to take the linesman's flag for Young Irelands Club games. His involvement in fundraising was legendary and whether it was club, parish or any other good cause Willie had you buying a ticket from him before you knew he had asked !

From an early age, up to the time he became ill, he served on the club committee. Many a tense debate at a meeting was broken with laughter as Willie served up one of his witty comments to which there could be no reply! He served as Club Chairman from 2002 to 2006. In his first year as chairman in 2002 the club won the County Senior Title for the second time and went on to contest the Leinster Club Final. This was also the year in which the 50th anniversary of the club was celebrated. It was with great pride that he welcomed the then President of the GAA Se-n McCague to the annual club dinner dance in Gowran Park. Willie also served as club delegate to the Northern Board for many years.

Willie will be greatly missed by his wife Mary, his son Paul, daughters Catriona & Marie, grandchildren, his mother Johanna, brothers, sisters, family and a wide circle of friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam díllis.



John O'Neill

1935 - 2013

John O'Neill of Neigham, Gowran passed away on January 1st 2013. He lived and farmed his entire life in Neigham.

John was a stalwart on the half back line of the Gowran team of the 1950s. The team played in many local tournaments at the time including Carrickshock, Muckalee, Paulstown & Goresbridge. In 1957 he was on the Young Irelands team which reached their first ever county final when they qualified to meet Tullogher in the county junior final. They were defeated on the day.

John married Kathleen Brennan from Dunnasmaggin. They had four sons Michael, Matt, Shane & Pat, all of whom donned the red and white of Gowran for many years. From the time the boys began to line out for the Gowran school team, John went on to spend many years supporting them. He was immensely proud of all of their achievements as they were involved with various suc-

cessful Gowran teams. When Pat began to play with St Kieran's College, and subsequently on Kilkenny teams a new journey had begun and John rarely, if ever, missed a game.

John is survived by his wife Kathleen, sons Michael, Matt, Shane & Pat, his daughter Mary, grandchildren, relatives and friends.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh sé



Jimmy Heffernan

Jimmy Heffernan joined the Kilkenny senior hurling panel in 1946 and was a sub on the team beaten by Cork in the All-Ireland hurling final on the score 7-5 to 3-8.

In 1947 he won his All-Ireland medal when Kilkenny gained revenge for their defeat the previous year when they beat Cork 0-14 to 2-7 in the final. He also won an Oireachtas medal in 1947 when Kilkenny defeated Galway by 2-12 to 2-6.

Jimmy played in his third All-Ireland final in 1950 where he lined out at right half forward to be marked by John Doyle but again Kilkenny were defeated by 1-9 to 1-8. He retired from inter-county hurling after the 1953 All-Ireland semi-final when Kilkenny were beaten by Galway 3-5 to 1-10.

Jimmy Heffernan made his senior club hurling debut with Mullinavat in 1943. They qualified for the county final by beating Threecastles in the first round and Mooncoin in the semi-final but were beaten by Carrickshock in the final on the score 3-6 to 1-3. In 1944 Mullinavat were again beaten by Carrickshock in the 2nd Round on the score 4-4 to 3-3, and again in 1945 were beaten in the first round by Carrickshock on the score 6-4 to 2-9.

In 1946 Jimmy transferred to Carrickshock and helped them qualify for the county final, only to lose to Thomastown on the score 5-4 to 4-5. Carrickshock again reached the county final in 1948, but were beaten by Tullaroan 1-12 to 2-3.

He finally got his Kilkenny senior championship medal in 1951 when Carrickshock defeated Tullaroan in the county final by 5-6 to 4-5. Jimmy retired from senior club hurling in 1952 following the semi-final defeat by Tullaroan 4-9 to 4-4.

In 1953 Jimmy returned to his native parish Glenmore and helped them win the junior hurling championship, defeating Foulkstown by 6-4 to 2-5. He won four county senior football championship medals with Glenmore in

1949, '50, '54 and '55.

He also played football with Kilkenny and played in the Leinster junior final in 1953 when Kilkenny were defeated by Longford 3-5 to 1-5 and also in the final of 1957 when they lost to Louth by 2-6 to 1-5.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh sé.



Bill Walsh

The sad passing of Bill Walsh on March 26th 2013 saw another of the links with the Kilkenny All Ireland winning team of 1947 broken. Born in Ballyhale in 1922 Bill was to win club senior hurling championship medals in two different counties, bookending each end of his career. Beginning his club hurling career in Kilkenny with Carrickshock he captured a coveted Kilkenny senior hurling championship medal in 1942. He added a second Kilkenny senior medal the following year, 1943. A move to Dublin for employment reasons in later years saw him join the Young Irelands club in the capital with whom he won a Dublin Senior Hurling championship in 1965 defeating a U.C.D team in that final.

His talent as a hurler saw him join the Kilkenny senior team in 1944 and in 1945 he lined out in Kilkenny's victory in the provincial decider against Dublin and later that year he came on as a substitute in the All Ireland defeat to Tipperary. He added five further provincial medals as part of Kilkenny's victories in 1946 and 1947 against Wexford, and 1950, '53 and '57 at the expense of Wexford. Bill played in Kilkenny's All Ireland defeats of 1946 and 1950, and was a substitute in what is regarded as one of the greatest finals of all time in 1947 when Kilkenny defeated Cork. He came on as a substitute for the injured John Sutton in Kilkenny's all Ireland victory over Waterford in 1957. He also won Oireachtas medals in 1947 and 1957. He retired from inter county hurling in 1957.

Bill's talents did not go unnoticed at inter provincial level either and he represented Leinster in the 1956 inter-provincial decider when a 5-11 to 1-7 victory over Munster saw him add a coveted Railway Cup medal to his collection.

Bill was predeceased by his wife Mary and children Theresa and Liam and is sadly missed by his loving family, children Seamus, Eamonn, Antoinette and Sean, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, great-grand children, brothers, sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces, relatives and many friends. A large crowd attended his requiem in St. Jude the Apostle Church, Wellington and his interment in Bohernabreena Cemetery, Dublin.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.



Colm McDonald

We extend our sympathy to the family of the late Colm McDonald, Bohermore, RIP. Colm was a passionate life-long supporter of Graignamanagh and Kilkenny hurling, he was a member of the Graignamanagh team that won the first Junior County title in 1972 and many of his team mates turned out to provide a guard of honour at his funeral. Colm was caretaker of the grounds for a number of years a job which he carried out with great care and attention.

Ar Dheis Dé Go Raibh a Anam Dilis.



Johnny Canning

Johnny was a founder member of St. Vincents Hurling Club now known as Graignamanagh. As a minor he went for trials with Kilkenny and played a number of games with them. Unfortunately Johnny had to retire early due to injury. He held a great interest in the Graignamanagh Club and was heavily involved with the juveniles in the 70's & 80's. To his wife Christina & Family we extend our deepest sympathy.

Ar Dheis Dé Go Raibh a Anam Dilis.



Liam Lennon

Liam Lennon was one of the founder members of Graignamanagh GAA Club & a great supporter of Graig & Kilkenny hurling. He donated the use of a playing field to our Club when our own pitch was under construction in the 70's which was of great benefit to the club at the time. We extend our sympathy to his wife Kathleen, sons Willie & John, daughters Margaret, Anne Marie & Kay and their Families.

Ar Dheis Dé Go Raibh a Anam Dilis.



Liam Walsh

Graignamanagh GAA Club was saddened at the recent passing of Liam Walsh RIP. Liam was a lifelong member of our club, a true gentleman and great friend. Liam served on the Committee for a number of years, there is not a day that passed that Liam didn't pay at least one visit to our playing field. He took great pride in the upkeep and maintenance of the field and he was one of the main instigators in the levelling and drainage of our grounds. Liam's late wife Anne also was a very prominent and hardworking member of the Club and held a variety of positions including treasurer up until the time she became ill. At the removal on Wednesday morning the GAA Club along with over 130 children from the Cul Camps provided a very moving Guard of Honour. The huge numbers that turned out was a fitting tribute and showed the high esteem in which Liam was held in our Club and community.

The club would like to extend sympathy to his Family and friends.



Pierce PJ Brett

Pierce PJ Brett won two Minor All Ireland Medals with Kilkenny in 1960 & 61 when playing with his native Club Inistioge. PJ married Nan Martin and came to live in Graignamanagh. He then transferred his allegiance to Graignamanagh and was a prominent playing member

Ar Dheis Dé Go Raibh a Anam Dilis.



Teddy Duff

Sympathy is extended to the Duff Family, Ballyogan on the tragic sudden death of Teddy RIP. Teddy hurled with Graig in the 70's & 80's and remained a great supporter of the Club when his playing days were over, he was always there at our beck & call when we needed his help at field days etc. Teddy will be sadly missed throughout the community of Graignamanagh.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.

"Ducky" as he was better known was born in Dunkitt, Kilmacow on 29th August 1944 and worked in Bus Eireann (Formerly C.I.E.) garage in Ferrybank for 45 years. He had a keen interest in sport and was a member of Waterford Golf Club for many years and travelled regularly to Spain and Portugal to play the "Little ball". "Ducky" was passionate about hurling, especially Kilmacow and Kilkenny hurling. He started to travel to matches from an early age and rarely missed a contest which involved Kilkenny teams. He attended his last All Ireland Final in 2012 and was a very proud Kilkenny supporter later that evening in The Citywest Hotel. He was also heavily involved with the Kilmacow club as a player, coach and at committee level. Here he took the reins as Chairman of Kilmacow, such was his passion for his local club.

"Ducky" will be sadly missed around the hurling fields and golf courses of the country.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.



Con O'Sullivan

Con O'Sullivan was a great Community man in Callan, with a big interest in the progress and affairs of the John Lockes Club. His sons were very active members, with son Denis developing to a very high standard in the Refereeing element of the game inside and outside of the County. Con was married to Tess O'Brien, who was a sister of the iconic, and much loved Seamus O'Brien, Secretary of the John Lockes Club for years longer than one could remember. He was a very highly respected, and thought of GAA Official. Con, who was a brother of "Golly" (his obituary is reported elsewhere) was a tremendous supporter in a wide variety of ways of the Callan club. A member of the farming Community, Con was a willing volunteer with the club, and his attendances at every John Lockes game in the company of his wife, Tess was testament to his interest, and support. His death will have been the cause of dreadful grief for his wife Tess of course, his three sons, Denis, Brian and Niall, his daughters-in-law, his numerous nieces, and nephews, his brother, and sister.



Sean Brennan 1927- 2013



Raymond Anthony (1930 - 2013)

**(Kilkenny County Board Auditor
for over 50 Years)**

The Officers and members of Kilkenny County Board were deeply saddened last April to learn of the Death of Raymond Anthony, who had been the Board's Auditor for over half a century.

Raymond was born in Owning, Piltown in 1930, and came from a family steeped in Kilkenny G.A.A. tradition.

He was a keen follower of the Black and Amber and rarely missed a game. He was usually one of the first into Croke Park on All-Ireland Day.

His Uncle Jack Anthony was on the first Kilkenny All-Ireland winning team in 1904 and also played on the 1905 and 1907 winning teams.

Raymond trained as an Accountant in Waterford and acquired Chartered Status in 1957. He established Raymond Anthony and Company, Chartered Accountants, in Carrick-on-Suir, in 1960.

That same year he was appointed Auditor to Kilkenny G.A.A. County Board, a position he was very proud of, and which he carried out with great diligence up until the time of his death last April.

Raymond was always present at the Top Table at County Convention, to present his detailed set of accounts and expand on any item as required. He never missed this Annual event until failing health prevented him from doing so in December 2012.



Jack Lynch

Jack Lynch was a hugely staunch GAA man, with a tremendous allegiance to his beloved John Lockes. Having reached his 91st year, he passed to his Eternal Reward in the caring company of his family on Monday morning, Oct 7th. A farmer by profession in every sense of the word, Jack was not influenced by the trappings of Tiger economics, or the fall-outs from same. Enough for his needs was his mantra, and he lived his life within such dictates, rearing a superb family of four boys, Michael, Jim, Jack, and David, and two daughters, Ann and Katie. As tough as African teak, Jack fitted the requirements of what a corner back needed, as he manned the area close to his goal with determination, guile, and not too little skill. He took the knocks, and bruises that were the order of the day, but he more than balanced the book in that department of his game too. A couple of lacerations here and there, he was not a frequent visitor to a medic. In his ordinary life too, he enjoyed tremendous good health all of his life, and as his son, Michael, remarked at his



Peter (Ducky) Sweeney

The sad passing of Peter (Ducky) Sweeney, on January 11th 2013, after a long illness borne with courage and dignity was a great loss to his family and friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam

eulogy, he called the vet more often than he called a doctor.

He was a member of the only John Lockes team to win the senior County Title in 1957, and he won Leinster and All Ireland Honours with the Kilkenny junior team in 1951. On the same Kilkenny team were such luminaries as Dick Rockett, John Sutton, Paddy Johnston, Johnny McGovern, Tom Walsh, and Jimmy Heffernan. He followed his club through the stormy waters, and smooth. He was no less enthused by the Kilkenny scene which he followed with equal interest, and nothing gave him finer enjoyment as watching his nephew, John Power thunder towards the opposition danger zones.

All of his sons have won County Titles with the John Lockes, and are stoically immersed in the affairs of the club to the present day.

His passing will have caused much grief to his wife Mary, his sons, daughters, sister, grandchildren, daughters-in-law, son-in-law, nephews, nieces, neighbours and friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis



Johnny Wall

Johnny Wall was one of four members of the John Lockes team who passed away during 2013. All four won the club's solitary senior Title back in 1957, when they beat Slieverue by 4-4 to 0-5. He played at right corner forward on the day, and he contributed a very creditable 1-1 from play. Johnny, with his great friend and confidante, Nell, his wife of 58 years, made an enormous contribution to their Community of Callan. They made an even bigger contribution to the John Lockes GAA Club, Johnny being a selector on Championship-winning teams at all grades, a President of the Club, and a tireless worker for the cause. With his wife Nell, like many of the members at the time, they were enormously prominent in the chase and procurement of John Locke Park back in the 1970s, when it was purchased for a mind-blowing figure. Like the rest of the courageous men and women of the day, they took their ambitions in their hands, drove a tough road, faced obstacles along the road, travelled through dark tunnels, but eventually came out the other end with a facility that was the envy of many. Over the following years, Johnny was forefront in the on-going developments in the Park. He could be relied upon to do the right thing by his club. He had a tremendous ability to encourage, and solicit help from a wide range of family relatives, neighbours and friends. The John Lockes Club was Johnny's life, and woe betides any who castigated his club. Johnny was a true GAA man, who was never last to attend when the work had to be done. He was also hugely involved with the development of Coláiste Eamonn Ris, which was fund-raising simultaneously with the John Lockes Club. One thinks now about the dedication of so many of the same people to that duel

mandate, in times where funding from a Central source was scarce, and money from supporters was even scarcer. But Johnny Wall was never perturbed with the problem. He just gave it his best shot, and as he often remarked, "If that is not enough, there is nothing I can do about it". They fired away the mould that made the likes of Johnny Wall. His brother Maurice, well familiar to attendees in Nowlan Park, passed away two days before Johnny. May they both rest in the arms of their Creator. They have earned that.



Denis "Golly" O'Sullivan

Denis O'Sullivan formed a deadly duo of midfield adventurers in that John Lockes outfit that brought fame and glory to the Parish in 1957. His fellow Lieutenant, Pat Lennon manned the other cannon, and between them they offered service to colleagues, stability to the team, passion - buckets of the commodity - and a willingness to do whatever was best for the team at all times. Stories abound about the contributions made by this oft-quoted duo. He laboured long and hard on the pitch for his Callan team. Tough and uncompromising, his contribution was never less than full-blooded, honest, and inspirational. He was an Honorary Life president of the club, and he never, not even when it was difficult to do so, missed a club game. With the rest of his John Lockes colleagues, they were honoured by the County Board of the GAA when they were presented to the crowds in Nowlan Park during the 1995 County Final, a Final in which his son-in-law, Martin Phelan was playing at full back for the James Stephens Club. Golly was many things to many men in his time. He was an extraordinary family man, with a tremendous loyalty ethic. He immersed himself in his farming business which probably defined his entire existence. He was a valued member on the Board of Callan Co-op, and served for over 33 years. He was a great Father to his children, Chriona, Donncha, Olive, Mia, Breda, Mary T, and Denise. He was a caring, loving husband to his wife of 43 years, Kathleen. He was a tremendous supporter of the Augustinian Friary on Mill Street, until its demise in 2005. Even though he had a terrific affinity with his ancestral Kerry roots, Golly was a Callan, and as a consequence a John Lockes man to the marrow of his bones. Stories of confrontation, ash breaking, balls won, scores recorded or missed, friendships on and off were common place when Golly and the lads got chin-wagging. It was good to be the fly on the wall. He never missed a Callan game, and additionally, he never missed a Kilkenny game. He loved his black and amber, and even when his mobility failed, his caring wife, Kathleen, would insure that he was present on the side-line when the lads were playing. Golly passed away in the company of his wife and family on May 18th last. The world is a poorer place for the loss of Golly O'Sullivan.

Go ndéana Dia trocaire ar a anam Dílis.



Nicky Tierney

Nicky Tierney was yet another member of the Championship-winning John Lockes team of 1957. Not the biggest, or strongest player on the field, but whenever he was called upon, Nicky Tierney acquitted himself in exemplary fashion. He was a valued panellist of the team, but having said that, he was not into twenty years of age. Either a half forward or a midfielder, there was plenty of competition on both lines for inclusion on the starting fifteen against Slieverue. He didn't make it on the day, but he was not alone in that regard, as the Lockes selectors did not see the need of making changes. Nicky continued to play with the Lockes after that famous win. He was gainfully employed in the Callan Creamery, a real hive of Industry in the life of the town. His Dad was Foreman in the Creamery at the time. Nicky, like many more of his age group probably didn't see a promising future in his employment at the time, so like thousands of other young men and women, he left Cobh on an Ocean going Liner for the United States of America around 1961 or '62. He was destined to join up with his brother Jim in the Windy City of Chicago. Eventually after settling down he was married, and the marriage produced two sons. Nicky would have visited his home in Kilbricken on a few occasions since emigrating, but his last visit was some twenty odd years ago. The few people who would still have memories of Nicky Tierney will mourn his passing, as will his nephews Tom, Brian, and Kevin. His nieces Mary, Peggy, Anna and Jacqueline Kelly will mourn his passing too.



Philly Tobin

The fifth member of that John Lockes team passed to his Eternal Reward on the 25th of May in St. Lukes Hospital, after a short illness. Philly Tobin was a no-nonsense defender, who played his part in a team that had his brothers Johnny and Paddy in the ranks during the 1950s. Philly was a plumber by trade, and he was employed by the Board of Works all of his working life, based in James Stephens Barracks in Kilkenny. Philly was a superbly fit man, and he maintained a high level of fitness well into his late 40s. Of course hurling was his first love, but he was an avid cyclist at a time when automatic gear shifts were still a developing

thought in the minds of the bicycle engineers. During the fund-raising time for the building of the brand new Coláiste Eamón Ris when upwards of eighty cyclists would leave Callan to do a 100-mile sponsored cycle, Philly Tobin vied with the late iconic Jim Bergin for every yard of the hundred miles. Philly was born in Ahenure. He also played football for Coolagh in the company of "Golly" O'Sullivan and others of the John Lockes team. He married Maura Sommers, and they had two daughters- Mary and Helen, and a son, John who is living in Australia for over 16 years. His passing will have caused much grief for his wife, Maura, his daughters, and son, for his many nieces and nephews, and his five grandchildren.

Go nDéana Dia trocaire ar a anam dilis.



Tom Ryan

Even though he was an unconditional Tipperary GAA man - born in Waterloo, Ballynonyt - Tom Ryan was, nevertheless, a tremendous supporter of the John Lockes Club. He was a President of the Club right up to the time of his passing. He never missed a game whenever the Lockes were playing, and his support for the club was of immense value. Being a President, he took great pride in the achievements of the club, and even when things were not so rosy, Tom Ryan would be first with the words of consolation and encouragement. Mind you it did help that the club wore - as he would call it- the Tipp colours. Some would vehemently challenge such an observation. Tom was of the soil, and he farmed a mighty tract of land on the outskirts of the town, where his neighbours were also hurling people. He was very much involved in the machinery of agricultural development. He was hugely active in Macra, as an organiser, immersed in its activities from drama production, to talent competitions, public speaking competitions, crafts, to seminar attendance. He led the movement in Callan culminating in the building of the Macra Hall on Mill Street. He was very proud of that. Tom Ryan was a valued and respected Community man, generous with his time, his support, and his interest. He was closely associated with farming organisations like the IFA, the ICMSA, and others. He was a pragmatic who valued his friendships, his God, his Fi-

anna Fail party and his beloved Tipperary roots. To Tom Ryan though, family was the highest decade on his beads. He adored, and joyed at the success of his three daughters, Margaret, Anne Marie and Catherine. But top of the list was his devotion to his wife Sheila- always top of the list. His contribution to the many elements that made up his lifestyle was thorough, honest and valuable. While Tipp was his favourite team, the colours never changed. As President of the John Lockes club, he never had to change the colours!

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.



Seamus Grace 1938-2013

Johnstown lost one of its most esteemed residents at the end of November, when Seamus Grace passed to his eternal reward after a short illness. Seamus was Johnstown to his fingertips, but he was Fenians to the depths of his soul. A carpenter by profession, Seamus was a highly respected and regarded tradesman. A fine right half back, Seamus Grace won a County Junior Title with his beloved Fenians in 1968. He followed that with a great Senior Title win in 1970, when the Fenians won the very first of their five titles by beating James Stephens by 2-11 to 3-5. He won his second senior medal when the Fenians were again victorious in 1972, beating Bennettsbridge. Because of poor eyesight, Seamus was forced to play with glasses. He wore goggles over the glasses to protect them. His trademark in addition to the goggles was the wearing of his peaked cap backwards.

Seamus worked tirelessly for the Fenians after retiring from playing. He was Chairman for a ten year period in the 80s, and he trained numerous underage teams for a long number of years. He had a tremendous rapport with the many young lads whom he trained over a long number of years.

His greatest achievement with the youngsters was the winning of the County Roinn A minor title in 1988 when the Fenians beat Thomastown by 4-16 to 1-8. He was a County minor and under-21 selector, but his greatest thrill was following the Kilkenny team wherever and whenever they played. Of course with such a Fenians all-star representation, Seamus thrilled to their achievements in the black and amber.

Seamus was an excellent cueist, playing in the very prestigious Ossory League. He had a tremendous interest in developing his Community of Johnstown and involved himself in many Community activities, and he was a more than respectable player with the local dramatic group. He was a very proud Fenians man, and will be sadly missed by his immediate family, relatives, and a wide range of friends.

Suaimhneas sioráí dó.



Marty Roche

At the young age of 66, Marty Roche died at his home in Skeaugh, Callan, in the grieving company of his family. Marty had not been too well for a while, but he bore his illness with fortitude, and courage. Marty had hurled with the John Lockes until he was seventeen years of age, when the curse of emigration, and lack of work forced him, like thousands of others to take the boat to England. His brother Eric too had to avail of the boat, and Marty joined him in London at the height of the depression at home. In London, Marty hurled with the North London Club, Wedger Meaghers, where Eric played at full back, and Marty lined out beside him at corner back. Returning to Kilkenny in the late 60s, Marty was employed as a carpenter with McInerney Homes, a major builder in the City at the time. He hurled with the John Lockes for a few years as well. Later, during the purchase and development of John Locke Park, he was instrumental in the construction of the dressing rooms, and the unique underground tunnel from the dressing rooms to pitch side. His sons, Declan and Michael came through the underage ranks of the club to win Championships with Club and County. Declan is presently the Secretary of the Club, while Michael was the trainer of the Rower Inistioge minor team that captured the Roinn A County Title for the first time in their history. Marty is survived by his wife, Maureen, his sons, Declan, Martin, and Michael and his only daughter, Helen. He is also survived by his brother Eric, and his sisters, Bea Donovan, Mary Walsh (Cotterstown) and Patricia Anderson (Freshford), and by a wide number of nieces, nephews, cousins, and of course by his grandchildren.

Solas na bhflaitheas ar Anamnacha na Marbh



Kilkenny GAA Results 2013



SENIOR HURLING		UNDER 21 HURLING	
County SH Championship Final	Clara 1-15 Carrickshock 2-10	Roinn "A" U21H Championship Final	
SH League Final	Clara 0-24 James Stephens 1-13	Roinn "B" U21H Championship Final	
SH Shield Final	Ballyhale Shamrocks 2-16 Carrickshock 1-11	Roinn "A" U21H C'ship Northern Final	O'Loughlin Gaels 1-12 Erin's Own 2-7
SH Relegation Final	Fenians 0-18 Graigue Ballycallan 1-14	Roinn "A" U21H C'ship Southern Final	Mullinavat 2-15 Glenmore 0-21 Mullinavat 4-11 Glenmore 2-13
INTERMEDIATE HURLING		Roinn "B" U21H C'ship Northern Final	Bennettsbridge 1-16 Tullaroan 0-10
County IH Championship Final	Rower Inistioge 2-13 Emeralds 2-11	Roinn "B" U21H C'ship Southern Final	Dunnamaggan 1-12 Kilmacow 1-6
IH League Final	St. Patrick's 3-10 Rower Inistioge 2-10	MINOR HURLING	
IH Shield Final	St Lachtain's 2-20 Dunnamaggan 2-11	Roinn "A" MH Championship Final	Rower Inistioge 2-9 O'Loughlin Gaels 1-7
IH Relegation Final	Young Irelands 3-5 Mooncoin 0-14 Young Irelands 1-11 Mooncoin 0-8	Roinn "B" MH Championship Final	Conahy Shamrocks 2-13 Danesfort 1-11
JUNIOR HURLING		Roinn "C" MH Championship Final	Dunnamaggan 2-9 Carrickshock 1-8
County JH Championship Final	Lisdowney 2-16 Bennettsbridge 1-18	Roinn "A" MH League Final	James Stephens 2-11 Dicksboro 2-10
Northern JH Championship Final	Galmoy 1-21 Barrow Rangers 2-16	Roinn "B" MH League Final	Galmoy/Windgap 3-11 Tullogher Rosbercon 3-8
Southern JH Championship Final	Windgap 3-18 Mullinavat 3-12	Roinn "C" MH League Final	Dunnamaggan 0-11 Carrickshock 0-9
County JH League Final	Lisdowney 0-17 Bennettsbridge 0-13	UNDER 16 HURLING	
JH Relegation Final	Cloneen 0-15 Dunnamaggan 1-9	Roinn "A" U16H Championship Final	Dicksboro 1-17 James Stephens 0-10
JUNIOR HURLING "A"		Roinn "B" U16H Championship Final	Piltown 0-16 Thomastown 0-11
County JH A Championship Final	Ballyhale Shamrocks 2-13 Young Irelands 2-11	Roinn "C" U16H Championship Final	Emeralds 2-19 Dicksboro B Team 2-7
County JH A League Final	Young Irelands 0-19 Rower Inistioge 0-10	Roinn "A" U16H League Final	Dicksboro 1-16 O'Loughlin Gaels 2-7
Northern Junior A Hurling Championship	Young Irelands 2-13 Lisdowney 1-16 Young Irelands 2-13 Lisdowney 1-10	Roinn "B" U16H League Final	St Lachtain's 1-7 St Martin's 0-8
Southern Junior A Hurling Championship	Ballyhale Shamrocks 4-10 Rower Inistioge 1-10	Roinn "C" U16H League Final	Dicksboro 4-12 Emeralds 1-9
Northern Junior A Hurling League	Young Irelands 0-14 Fenians 1-9	UNDER 14 HURLING	
Southern Junior A Hurling League	Rower Inistioge 2-13 Ballinkillen 0-13	Roinn "A" U14H Championship Final	O'Loughlin Gaels 1-17 James Stephens 1-7
County Junior A Relegation Final		Roinn "B" U14H Championship Final	Erins Own 3-15 Glenmore 3-8
JUNIOR HURLING "B"		Roinn "C" U14H Championship Final	Tullogher Rosbercon 6-6 Conahy Shamrocks 2-8
County JH B Championship Final	St. Patrick's 3-10 John Lockes 2-10	Roinn "D" U14H Championship Final	Galmoy 2-8 Cloneen/Railyard 2-7
County JH B League Final		Paddy Grace Féile na nGael Final	O'Loughlin Gaels 2-9 Dicksboro 1-9
Northern Junior B Hurling Championship	St. Patrick's 2-16 James Stephens 2-9	Roinn "A" U14H League Final	O'Loughlin Gaels 3-16 James Stephens 3-5
Southern Junior B Hurling Championship	John Lockes 2-9 Graignamanagh 1-9	Roinn "B" U14H League Final	Danesfort 3-9 Mooncoin 1-13
Northern Junior B Hurling League	St. Patrick's 3-11 Blacks and Whites 2-12	Roinn "C" U14H League Final	Young Irelands 2-14 Conahy Shamrocks 2-5
Southern Junior B Hurling League	Rower Inistioge 3-11 John Lockes 0-11	Roinn "D" U14H League Final	Galmoy 1-15 Cloneen/Railyard 2-6
CUP COMPETITIONS		PRIMARY SCHOOLS HURLING	
Byrne Cup Final	Fenians 1-18 Erins Own 0-11	Roinn "A" U13H Championship Final	St. Canice's NS 2-9 Castlecomer BNS 1-7
Aylward Cup Final	St Martin's 2-15 O'Loughlin Gaels 2-13	Roinn "B" U13H Championship Final	Mooncoin BNS 5-8 Bennettsbridge NS 3-10
Paddy Cahill Cup	Barrow Rangers 3-15 John Lockes 3-7	Roinn "C" U13H Championship Final	Dunnamaggan NS 4-4 Glenmore NS 1-2
Kevin Fennelly Cup	Slieverue 0-19 Cloneen 1-10	Roinn "D" U13H Championship Final	Clogh Mooneenroe NS 4-7 Tullaroan NS 3-5
Joe Walsh Cup	Mooncoin 3-12 St Lachtain's 1-8	Corn de Bhaldraithe	Castlecomer BNS 6-15 Bennettsbridge NS 1-3
Jim Farrell Cup	North Selection 0-21 South Selection 2-8	Corn Uí Bhriain	Dunnamaggan NS 2-12 Mullinavat NS 1-2

SENIOR FOOTBALL		SENIOR CAMOGIE	
County SF Championship Final	Muckalee 2-10 James Stephens 1-9	County SC Championship Final	Mullinavat 4-9 Thomastown 2-9
County SF League Final	Muckalee 0-11 Kilmoganny 1-4	County SC League Final	Mullinavat 2-11 Thomastown 1-12
INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL		Senior/Intermediate All County League Final	Windgap 3-9 Thomastown 1-9
County IF Championship Final	St. Patrick's 2-6 Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-8	SC Relegation Final	Dicksboro 7-24 Lisdowney 1-5
County IF League Final	Ballyhale Shamrocks 2-12 St. Patrick's 2-7	INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE	
JUNIOR FOOTBALL		County IC Championship Final	Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-9 Piltown 0-11
County JF Championship Final	Rower Inistioge 1-7 Young Irelands 0-8	IC League Final	Piltown 0-13 Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-0
County JF League Final	Young Irelands 5-8 Railyard GFC 2-5	All-County League Final	Clara 2-7 St Annes 0-7
MINOR FOOTBALL		JUNIOR CAMOGIE	
Roynn "A" MF Championship Final		Junior "A" Championship Final	Danesfort 2-17 Mooncoin 3-5
Roynn "B" MF Championship Final		Junior "B" Championship Final	Carrickshock 4-8 Blacks & Whites 1-3
Roynn "C" MF Championship Final		Junior Camogie League final	Glenmore 3-15 Danesfort 2-17
Roynn "A" MF League Final		Junior All-County Camogie League final	Glenmore w/o Danesfort scr.
Roynn "B" MF League Final		UNDER 21 CAMOGIE	
Roynn "C" MF League Final		Under-21 Roynn A Final	
U16 FOOTBALL		Under-21 Roynn B Final	
Roynn "A" U16F Championship Final		MINOR CAMOGIE	
Roynn "B" U16F Championship Final		Minor Roynn A Final	Thomastown 3-4 Piltown 0-3
Roynn "C" U16F Championship Final		Minor Roynn B Final	St. Martins 3-6 St Lachtains/Conahy 2-3
Roynn "A" U16F League Final		Minor Roynn C Final	Paulstown 0-13 Kilmacow 2-6
Roynn "B" U16F League Final		U16 CAMOGIE	
Roynn "C" U16F League Final		Under-16 Roynn A Final	Glenmore 5-3 Piltown 2-8
U14 FOOTBALL		Under-16 Roynn B Final	Conahy Shamrocks 3-9 O'Loughlin Gaels 1-8
Roynn "A" U14F Championship Final	Thomastown 1-9 Dicksboro 0-6	Under-16 Roynn C Final	Cloneen/Carrickshock 3-5 Rower-Inistioge 0-5
Roynn "B" U14F Championship Final	Mooncoin 9-10 Kilmoganny 5-5		
Roynn "C" U14F Championship Final	Bennettsbridge 1-7 Conahy Shamrocks 2-0	U14 CAMOGIE	
Roynn "D" U14F Championship Final	St Lachtain's 5-5 Mullinavat 1-4	Under-14 Roynn A Final	Dicksboro 3-4 Glenmore 1-4
Roynn "A" U14F League Final	O'Loughlin Gaels 6-7 James Stephens 4-2	Under-14 Roynn B Final	James Stephens 6-6 Kilmacow 2-2
Roynn "B" U14F League Final		Under-14 Roynn C Final	St. Lachtains 5-2 Windgap 2-4
Roynn "C" U14F League Final	Conahy Shamrocks 4-5 O'Loughlin Gaels B 1-3	Under-14 Roynn D Final	Lisdowney 4-0 O'Loughlin Gaels 0-2
Roynn "D" U14F League Final		PRIMARY SCHOOLS CAMOGIE	
SCHOOLS FOOTBALL		Primary Schools Roynn A Final	Thomastown 3-7 St. Canices 0-4
Roynn "A" U13F Championship Final	St Canice's 2-5 Thomastown 0-1	Primary Schools Roynn B Final	Kilmanagh 4-2 Coon/Muckalee 0-1
Roynn "B" U13F Championship Final		Primary Schools Roynn C Final	Graig/Skeough 3-2 Conahy 2-4
Corn na Tuaithe		Primary Schools Roynn D Final	Tullaroan 6-2 Slieverue 2-2

* As of November 30th 2013. Results of finals too late for inclusion here will be recorded in Kilkenny GAA Bible 2014.

JACKIE TYRRELL



Jackie
Tyrrell