

# KILKENNY GAA YEARBOOK 2021

KILKENNY GAA YEARBOOK 2021



€12.50

GAA



# KILKENNY GAA YEARBOOK 2021

## CONTENTS

<b>Editorial.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Inter County Senior Hurling.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>That was the Year .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Inter County U20 Report.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>County Senior Hurling Report .....</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>County Intermediate Hurling Report.</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>County Junior Hurling Report .....</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>County U19 Hurling Report .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>County U17 Hurling Report .....</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>County U15 Hurling Report .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>County U13 Hurling Report .....</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Dick Rockett Recalls.....</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Football Report .....</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Young Irelands 1996.....</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Pat O'Neill Interview.....</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Inter County Minor Hurling.....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Huw Lawlor Profile .....</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Bennettsbridge 1971 Remembered....</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>PJ Delaney 2021.....</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Handball Report.....</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>PJ Garvan RIP .....</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>Chunky O'Brien RIP .....</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Colleges Report.....</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>Race Day .....</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>Drug Walsh Memorial.....</b>	<b>95</b>
<b>Cúl Camps .....</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Memories .....</b>	<b>109</b>
<b>Faces.....</b>	<b>113</b>
<b>Fans.....</b>	<b>114</b>
<b>Inter County Camogie.....</b>	<b>116</b>
<b>Hurling Club Pages .....</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>25 Years Ago .....</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>Camogie Club Pages.....</b>	<b>145</b>
<b>Ladies Football Report .....</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>All Ireland Finals 1904 - 1957.....</b>	<b>167</b>
<b>Obituaries .....</b>	<b>202</b>
<b>Results 2021 .....</b>	<b>208</b>

## Réamhfhocal



After an unprecedented trí bhliana as a chéile, that went from Normal in 2019, to Abnormal in 2020 and back to Nearer Normal in 2021, the nation has shown a great resilience. As we go to print, the hope is of reaching the promised land of back to Normal do gach duine sa bláthain amach romhainn.

Despite the Covid enforced changes, it was in a memorable year on the GAA fields that swung from a split season, of club before county, to county before club. With the ever-changing guidelines and restrictions, the arrival of the vaccination program was a welcome step. As a result, the sound of the clash of the ash and boots striking leather balls lifted the national spirit and brought a buzz ar ais go dtí ár gclubanna.

Great performances on the inter-county playing fields since the last Year Book production has seen Kilkenny teams appear in two All-Ireland Senior Hurling semi-finals, sharing the National League title and retaining their Leinster Senior and Minor Hurling titles. Also leading the way the Camogie players added All-Ireland Senior, Minor and National League victories.

With no All-Ireland campaign for last year's County Hurling and Football champions, the end of season break and the late start to the championship, saw teams well rested and preparing remotely for the longest ever pre-season. In addition, playing to a finish and the more compact season brought a new mind-set to getting the games played and also saw the greatest ever numbers of teams participating. The result saw the most successful ever completion of games with the Shamrocks, Glenmore and Mooncoin capturing the major titles i gCill Chainnigh.

The recent return of the Post Primary and Third Level games is another green shoot in the return to full playing activities. With continued progress it is hoped it extends quickly to our Primary school players and handballers, who have had an almost two year hiatus in their playing activities.

The oft wrongly used expression "Behind the Scenes" or "The Grass Roots" was where the real heroes and key players were to be found. Despite being isolated, restricted in travel and zoomed out, they continued to do what they could for their clubs, county and caring for their communities. Without this band of volunteers, players, supporters, referees, coaches, parents and teachers etc, of whom an encyclopaedia of books could be written, we would have no sporting heritage, structures, facilities or games.

The Covid break has given time for a wider reflection with consultation on the County Council Draft Development Plan, Geographic Information System Mapping, and plans for new Games Promotion Officers for our Clubs. At county level the new U19 squad and the Michael Dempsey-led Coaching Project team are most welcome developments. Covid too has seen the uncelebrated loss of many of our great Gaels, however memories of them will outlast the pandemic.

Despite the recession at many levels I extend a míle buíochas to all loyally supporting the Kilkenny GAA brand, including our sponsors Glanbia PLC, our various partners, competition sponsors and advertisers. Thanks also to all strands of the media who have provided the ongoing coverage of all aspects of GAA life. They include The Kilkenny People and Observer along with the TV and radio Stations, Sports Beo, TG4 and Nemeton, CRKC, KCLR, the PROs and those behind the new website and the all-inclusive colourful souvenir match programs.

As this year's publication moves from images of our clubs facilities to record our early successes at All Ireland Senior level, ba mhaith liom buíochas ó chroí a ghabháil le gach éinne for another excellent production. The list includes Barrie Heniques, Pat Henderson the committee members, contributors and the stonemason Gerry O'Neill.

Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh as an leabhar seo, this our thirty second edition.

*Seamus Breathnach (Jimmy Walsh)  
Cathaoirleach, Coiste Chontae Chill Chainnigh.*



Official Banking Partner of the GAA.  
Backing Club and County.



#TheToughest



# EDITORIAL

## KILKENNY GAA YEARBOOK 2021

### PRODUCTION TEAM:

Barrie Henriques (Editor)  
 Pat Henderson (Chairman)  
 Gerry O'Neill (Origination)  
 Tommy Lanigan  
 Jimmy Walsh Cathaoirleach CLG  
 Conor Denieffe Rúnaí CLG  
 Paul Fitzgerald PRO CLG  
 Mary Morgan PRO Junior Board  
 Conor Brennan  
 Ned Buggy

### ADVERTISING

Barrie Henriques

### PHOTOGRAPHS

Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE.  
 Willie Dempsey

### PUBLISHED BY:

Kilkenny County Board GAA  
 Nowlan Park,  
 Kilkenny.

### FRONT COVER:

31 October 2020; Kilkenny goalkeeper Eoin Murphy in action against Ronan Hayes of Dublin during the Leinster GAA Hurling Senior Championship Semi-Final match between Dublin and Kilkenny at Croke Park in Dublin. Photo by Ray McManus/Sportsfile

### POSTER :

Denise Gaule  
 Photo by Matt Browne/Sportsfile



Twelve months ago, around “mid-term” in hurling parlance, the barrier came down, and a pandemic called Covid brought everything to a shuddering halt. Words like vaccine, social distancing, hand-washing epidemiology and other “ologies” were conversation pieces. Croke Park came up with a form of round robin solution to inter-County competition.

On the 8th of April the matches took place concurrently. Kilkenny headed Division One Group B while Galway headed up the Group A category. Both sides shared the Title.

The Championship commenced on June 26th. Kilkenny had a facile victory over Dublin to claim the Leinster crown. Dublin had surprisingly taken out Galway in their semi-final joust. Limerick, with a powerhouse second half effort finished Tipperary’s Munster aspirations.

As the Provincial Finals were being played, the newly introduced Qualifiers were kicking into action. By the 7th August Limerick took care of the Waterford semi-final offering while Cork finished the further involvement of Kilkenny. Limerick were worthy winners of the Liam McCarthy Cup.

Our minor hurlers won a good Leinster Final against Offaly in Portlaoise only to have their charge for further honours halted by Galway in their All Ireland semi-final in Thurles, who were themselves flattened by Cork in their All Ireland Final. Our under-21 team were very disappointing as they were played off the park by Galway in Portlaoise in their All Ireland semi-final.

Our camogie girls had a very decent year despite injury and emigration problems. The senior team were narrowly defeated by Cork in the All Ireland semi-final in a rip-roaring encounter. The same result applied to a very good Intermediate unit in their chase for National honours, who were beaten by Antrim in their semi-final. The big win was the very young minor team who beat Cork in a cracking All Ireland Final.

Our oft-maligned County Board earned plenty of “brownie points” for their great dedication in the face of unprecedented pressure in getting every competition completed. It really was a tremendous achievement, so a huge bualadh bos to all concerned.

The word “streaming” was added to words like “zoom”. Closed doors were the order of the day, and Social Distancing was on everybody’s lips. Ballyhale Shamrocks just edged O’Loughlin Gaels in a thriller of a senior Final. Glenmore went to war and won it against a more fancied Thomastown, while Mooncoin eventually made promotion after a facile win over Sliieverue.

Some of the best hurling was seen in the underage competitions, leading one to feel that there is oodles of talent still in our County despite the naysayers.

We hope you enjoy our Yearbook which is bristling with information, great pictures, and interesting profiles. A novel feature of this year’s book is a section featuring contemporary reports of Kilkenny’s first fourteen All Ireland victories - 1904-1957 - from the archives of various newspapers. We hope to continue the series next year.

Please support our Advertisers, by buying local. Thanks to our contributors, camera people and our hard-working Committee led by Pat Henderson and Gerry O’Neil but for whom this Yearbook would not happen. They are listed on the left.

Beannachtaí na Nollag oraibh.

*Barrie Henriques  
 Editor*



**O'Neills®**  
THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONS

1918

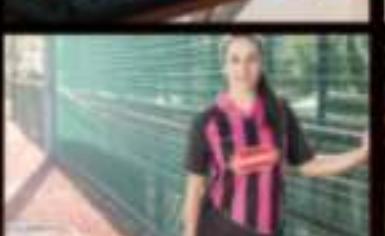
[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#)



OFFICIAL DISTRIBUTOR OF  
**oprosheet**  
MOUTHGUARDS



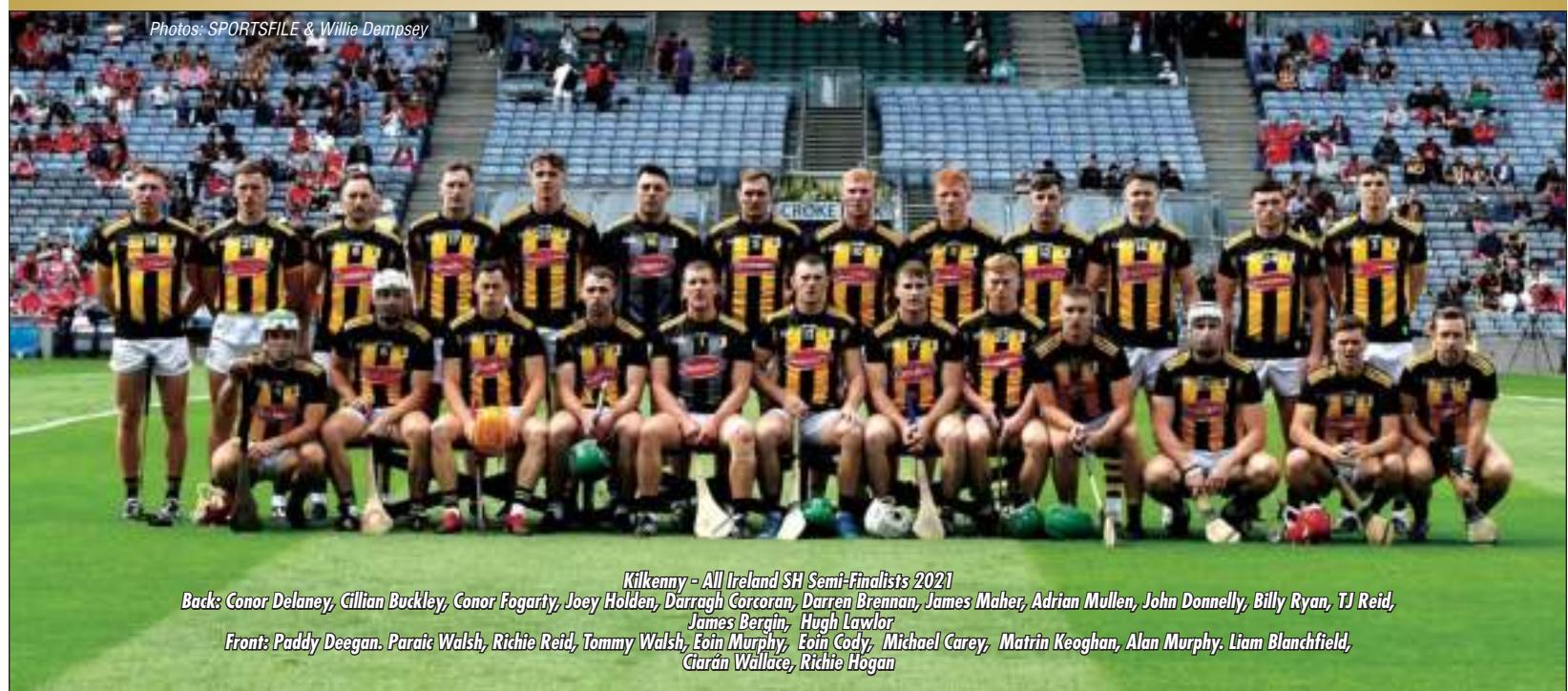
**GPA**



# For a few BRIEF MOMENTS.....

Inter County SH Report by Tommy Lanigan

Photos: SPORTSFILE & Willie Dempsey



**Kilkenny - All Ireland SH Semi-Finalists 2021**  
Back: Conor Delaney, Cillian Buckley, Conor Fogarty, Joey Holden, Darragh Corcoran, Darren Brennan, James Maher, Adrian Mullen, John Donnelly, Billy Ryan, TJ Reid, James Bergin, Hugh Lawlor  
Front: Paddy Deegan, Paraic Walsh, Richie Reid, Tommy Walsh, Eoin Murphy, Eoin Cody, Michael Carey, Martin Keoghan, Alan Murphy, Liam Blanchfield, Ciarán Wallace, Richie Hogan

## All Ireland Senior Hurling Semi-final Sunday 8 August 2021, Croke Park Cork 1-37, Kilkenny 1-32 aet

For a few brief moments we had the greatest of expectations that Kilkenny would somehow manage to reach an All Ireland senior hurling final. For most of the last quarter Kilkenny were dying a slow death against a Cork side who had ran them ragged for much of the game. With seconds remaining the Rebels briefly lost concentration on their last defensive clearance. A superbly opportunist goal by Adrian Mullen in the 74th minute suddenly snatched a draw and the prospect of redemption in extra time.

That left it 1-26 to 0-29 at the close of normal time, Cork momentarily stunned at their advantage having slipped away. However they gathered themselves to mount another charge in extra-time and on this occasion it proved telling. Jack O'Connor's wonderfully executed goal in the 79th minute gave the men in red enough daylight to power into an All Ireland final meeting with Limerick. Therein lay another tale.

The frenetic nature of the action in the second half and extra-time was preceded by a cagey opening period with the teams trading points. It was 0-15 to 0-14 in Kilkenny's favour at the interval. Horgan shot ten points for Cork but at the other end Kilkenny shared the responsibility with Eoin Cody and Billy Ryan landing some terrific scores as they gave the Cork rearguard headaches. It was level, 0-22 apiece by the 55th minute, before Cork produced a telling final quarter scoring spree. The half time introduction of Shane Kingston caused consternation in the Kilkenny defence and he was instrumental in driving Cork into what seemed an unassailable lead.

Kilkenny's revival had been led by the wily old hands of TJ Reid and

Richie Hogan, a man on a mission after the 2019 final debacle. They almost pulled off an unlikely victory. Nevertheless a close analysis of the game puts Cork ahead in most departments. The final thought on the game was how on earth did Kilkenny manage to get so close? Whatever one might say about Brian Cody's teams, and much has been said, they are wonderfully competitive and spirited. Honour in defeat was, in hindsight, the best result.

**Cork:** Patrick Collins, Niall O'Leary, Robert Downey, Sean O'Donoghue, Tim O'Mahony, Mark Coleman (0-1), Ger Mellerick, Darragh Fitzgibbon (0-1), Luke Meade, Conor Cahalane, Seamus Harnedy (0-2), Robbie O'Flynn (0-2), Shane Barrett (0-1), Patrick Horgan (0-15, 9f), Jack O'Connor (1-3). Subs: Eoin Cadogan, Shane Kingston (0-7), Alan Cadogan (0-3), Damian Cahalane, Alan Connolly, Séan O'Leary-Hayes, Declan Dalton (0-1).

**Kilkenny:** Eoin Murphy, Tommy Walsh, Huw Lawlor, Paddy Deegan, James Maher (0-1), Padraig Walsh (0-1), Michael Carey (0-1), Conor Fogarty (0-1), Richie Reid (0-1), Adrian Mullen (1-3), John Donnelly, Billy Ryan (0-5), Eoin Cody (0-4), TJ Reid (0-13, 12f), Alan Murphy (0-1). Subs: Martin Keoghan, Cillian Buckley, Walter Walsh, James Bergin, Richie Hogan (0-1), John Donnelly.

**Referee:** Fergal Horgan (Tipperary).

## Leinster Senior Hurling Final Saturday 17 July 2021 Croke Park Kilkenny 1-25, Dublin 0-19



**Adrian Mullen raises the Bob O'Keeffe Cup**  
(Willie Dempsey)

Dublin had reached the provincial final after an impressive win over Galway and should have posed a serious threat to the champions. Unfortunately whatever chance Dublin had of causing an upset disappeared in a flurry of positive Covid tests that robbed them of four players. Consequently Kilkenny could go about the business of winning their 73rd Leinster title with little fuss. Dublin strove manfully but were always chasing the game. The loss of outstanding full back Eoin O'Donnell in the third minute through injury made it an impossible task for a game city side. Yet they looked quite good for the first half, but shooting seven wides did their cause little good. That could not be said about Kilkenny who mixed the mediocre with the awful at times, yet managed to be three points ahead at the interval.

The subs bench was quickly unloaded to telling effect. Michael Carey, Alan Murphy, James Bergin and Cillian Buckley shot 0-6 between them while James Maher, a late introduction to the starting team, shone at wing-back and fired over three points. Reid did his usual stuff, finishing with 1-10, while Eoin Cody was lively alongside and won the crucial second-half penalty.



# avonmore

AMBITION. NUTRITION. FOCUS.  
**YOU'VE GOT THIS**



#YOUVE GOT THIS

Protein supports the growth and maintenance of muscle mass. Enjoy as part of a varied and balanced diet and healthy lifestyle.



Proud Sponsors of Kilkenny Hurling & Camogie





The third quarter was where the Cats surged clear. By the second water break they extended the lead to six. Kilkenny punished turnovers with scores from Martin Keoghan and sub Alan Murphy, while Dublin's wide tally rose to 12 after a handful of misses at the far end. Walter Walsh was highly influential after his 47th minute introduction.

The game's only goal arrived via the stick of Reid after Eoin Cody was fouled by Jake Malone as he bore down on goal. TJ rarely misses penalties. That left Kilkenny 1-22 to 0-15 clear and they ran out nine-point winners as James Bergin (2) and Michael Carey added scores off the bench in the closing stages. Kilkenny were full value for their nine-point win and headed into the last four of the All-Ireland series in strong form.

**Kilkenny:** Eoin Murphy, Tommy Walsh, Paddy Deegan, Huw Lawlor, James Maher (0-3), Padraig Walsh, Conor Browne, Richie Reid, Richie Leahy, Billy Ryan, Martin Keoghan (0-2), Adrian Mullen, Eoin Cody (0-1), TJ Reid, (1-10, 9f, 1-0 pen), John Donnelly (0-1). Subs; Michael Carey for Browne (25), Alan Murphy (0-3) for Leahy (ht), Cillian Buckley (0-1) for Richie Reid (46), Walter Walsh for Ryan (47), James Bergin (0-2) for Cody (64).

**Dublin:** Alan Nolan (0-1), Paddy Smyth, Eoghan O'Donnell, Andrew Dunphy, Daire Gray, Liam Rushe, James Madden, Rian McBride (0-1), Conor Burke, Danny Sutcliffe (0-2), Donal Burke (0-10, 8f), Chris Crummey (0-2), Cian Boland (0-1), Mark Schutte, Cian O'Sullivan. Subs; Sean Moran, Jake Malone (0-1), Paul Crummey, Malone for Moran (51), Davy Keogh (0-1), Sean Currie, David Treacy.

**Referee:** Johnny Murphy (Limerick).

### Leinster Senior Hurling Semi-final

Saturday 3 July 2021, Croke Park

We were treated to a classic in a Leinster semi-final that needed 100 minutes to find a victor. It was all too much for Wexford's high intensity running game as they finally ran out of legs when Kilkenny pressurized them in extra time. But what a match, good enough to stand comparison with any local derbies that have gone before. In this era of high scoring this contest had it all, wonderful long range scores, well worked goals and terrific contests in every position on the field.

Kilkenny led by a point at half-time. thereafter it took several astute substitutions to give Kilkenny the edge as they led by three points with three minutes remaining. A pair of Lee Chin frees plus a wonderful long range point from Liam Ryan brought extra-time. Wexford scored a penalty to give them an edge but TJ Reid and Eoin Cody shot four great points to restore advantage. Then Walter Walsh goaled early in the final period and Wexford ran out of puff. A memorable game and credit to all involved.

**Kilkenny:** Eoin Murphy (0-1f), Tommy Walsh (0-1), Huw Lawlor, Paddy Deegan, Darragh Corcoran, Padraig Walsh, Conor Browne, Richie Reid (0-2), Richie Leahy, Adrian Mullen (0-1), Martin Keoghan (0-1), Billy Ryan (0-1), Alan Murphy (0-1), TJ Reid (0-16, 12f), Eoin Cody (1-15). Subs; Conor Fogarty (0-1), James Maher (0-2), John Donnelly (0-1), Walter Walsh (1-1), James Bergin (0-2), Michael Carey (0-1), Cillian Buckley.

**Wexford:** Mark Fanning (1-1, 1f, goal pen), Simon Donohoe, Matthew O'Hanlon (0-1), Shane Reck, Kevin Foley, Shaun Murphy (0-2), Liam Ryan (0-1), Gavin Bailey, Diarmuid O'Keeffe (0-1), Liam Óg McGovern (0-2), Rory O'Connor (0-3), Lee Chin (0-14, 13f), Conor McDonald (0-2), Mikie Dwyer, Paul Morris (0-1). Subs; Jack O'Connor (0-1), David Dunne (1-0), Connal Flood, Conor Firman, O'Keeffe for McGovern, Murphy for Bailey, Cathal Dunbar, Conor Hearne.

**Ref:** Fergal Hogan.

The priority in early Spring was to attempt to complete some kind of meaningful NHL and follow it quickly with the Championship. We hope the GAA fixture makers quickly forget the arrangements for this year's NHL as quickly as possible. It was an object lesson on how not to run a competitive NHL. That we were in the throes of a pandemic was no excuse as they had the experience of 2020 to guide them. The counties were divided into two divisions of the same standard, provincially based (except for poor Westmeath). There was to be no League final and so the teams that topped each group would jointly hold the title. All fine in theory.

But anybody who had a tittle of sense knew the inevitable. Laois and Westmeath were subjected to unmerciful hammerings and any interest in how the League might progress was muted at best and deplored at worst. The fact it was played quite close to the championship meant that many teams held back their best efforts and wrapped several crucial players in cotton wool. The results satisfied nobody.

### Allianz National Hurling League Round 5

Saturday 12 June 2021, Cusack Park, Ennis

Clare 4-20, Kilkenny 1-25

Clare maintained their Indian sign over Kilkenny in a thrilling finale to the Allianz Hurling League with a four-point win at Cusack Park, Ennis. Already confirmed as group winners with a perfect four match winning start, Kilkenny put up a very creditable performance before losing for the sixth consecutive time to a fine Clare side.

A Tony Kelly goal either side of the first water break gave Clare a fine impetus but Kilkenny who responded with five of the next six points as Adrian Mullen (2), TJ Reid, Walter Walsh and Billy Ryan lowered the arrears to three at 2-7 to 0-10 by the 28th and only a point separated the sides by the break at 2-09 to 0-14.

Allied to scoring bursts from Eoin Cody and Richie Reid, it was Kilkenny who appeared to be getting on top by the turn of the final quarter at 0-21 to 2-14. The pendulum dramatically swung back in the home side's direction when David Reidy and Aron Shanagher goaled. Again the Cats responded immediately with a good goal by Martin Keoghan to leave the scores at 4-14 to 1-21.

But having emptied their bench, an inexperienced Kilkenny forward division were unable to sustain their advantage. Instead, it was Clare's reinforcements that proved decisive as Gary Cooney, Shane Golden and Ryan Taylor combined for four points to seal victory in a highly entertaining game.

**Clare:** Eibhear Quilligan, Aaron Fitzgerald, Conor Cleary, Rory Hayes, Diarmuid Ryan (0-3), John Conlon, David McInerney (0-1), Tony Kelly (2-5, 1-0 Pen, 0-5f), Colm Galvin, Cathal Malone, David Reidy (1-2), Aidan McCarthy (0-3), Ian Galvin, Aron Shanagher (1-1), Mark Rodgers (0-1). Subs; Paul Flanagan, David Fitzgerald, Domhnall McMahon, Ryan Taylor (0-1), Gary Cooney (0-2), Shane Golden (0-1).

**Kilkenny:** Eoin Murphy, Tommy Walsh, Huw Lawlor, Paddy Deegan, Darragh Corcoran, Padraig Walsh, Conor Browne, Richie Reid (0-3), Richie Leahy (0-1), Adrian Mullen (0-3), Walter Walsh (0-1), Billy Ryan (0-2), James Bergin, TJ Reid (0-09, 7f, 2'65s), Eoin Cody (0-4). Subs; Martin Keoghan (1-0) for W. Walsh, Michael Carey (0-1) for Mullen, Ciaran Wallace for T. Walsh, David Blanchfield (0-01) for Leahy, Niall Brassil for Ryan, Liam Blanchfield for Bergin, Cillian Buckley for R. Reid. Ref; Johnny Murphy (Limerick)

### Allianz National Hurling League Round 4

Sunday 6 June 2021, UPMC Nowlan Park

Kilkenny 1-29, Laois 0-22

Kilkenny enjoyed an impressive if rather facile victory over Laois at UPMC Nowlan Park. Brian Cody made six changes from the side who defeated Wexford but it made little difference as this game was over by half time with the home side holding a nine point lead.. Laois hit four wides in the opening nine minutes as Kilkenny registered four points. PJ Scully finally opened Laois's account but Kilkenny continued to pile on the pressure with Billy Ryan, Richie Reid and Michael Carey joining Bergin and Cody on the scoresheet to leave them eight clear. Paddy Purcell and Scully finally ended the Kilkenny blitz.

Kilkenny led 0-10 to 0-3 at the water break but Laois began the second quarter well with Enda Rowland and Paddy Purcell scoring either side of a Richie Reid point. Disaster struck for Laois on 21 minutes when an Eoin Murphy puck-out landed in the square for Liam Blanchfield to kick the ball past Rowland and into the net. The sides then traded points from there to half as Kilkenny took a 1-15 to 0-9 lead at half time.

Laois were far brighter in the second half and actually outscored their hosts. PJ Scully (4), Aaron Dunphy, Ross King and Lee Cleere all pointed and while Kilkenny replied through Eoin Cody, Adrian Mullen and James Bergin, the gap was back to six. Kilkenny steadied with points from Martin Keoghan, Conor Fogarty, Adrian Mullen and a free from Eoin Cody to lead 1-23 to 0-16 at the water break and end any fleeting hopes that Laois would stage an unlikely comeback. Laois did have two late goal chances through PJ Scully but Eoin Murphy would not be beaten as Kilkenny collected their fourth straight win of the season.

**Kilkenny:** Eoin Murphy, Tommy Walsh, Paddy Deegan, Joey Holden, Darragh Corcoran, Huw Lawlor, Michael Carey (0-1), Richie Reid (0-2), Conor Fogarty (0-2), Adrian Mullen (0-2), Martin Keoghan (0-1), Billy Ryan (0-1), James Bergin (0-5), Liam Blanchfield (1-2), Eoin Cody (0-11, 8f). Subs; Tadhg O'Dwyer (0-1) for Billy Ryan (43), John Donnelly (0-1) for Martin Keoghan (48), Michael Cody for Michael Carey (50), Alan Murphy for Adrian Mullen (56), Padraig Walsh for Tommy Walsh (64).



**Laois:** Enda Rowland (0-1f), Diarmaid Conway, Sean Downey, Donnchadh Hartnett, Jack Kelly (0-2), Ciaran McEvoy, Stephen Maher (0-1), Fiachra C Fennell, Paddy Purcell (0-2); James Ryan, Aaron Dunphy (0-1), Ciaran Collier PJ Scully (0-11, 10f), Ross King (0-3), Eoin Gaughan. Subs; Ciaran Comerford for Eoin Gaughan and Willie Dunphy for James Ryan (both ht), Lee Cleere (0-1) for Diarmaid Conway (37), Eanna Lyons for Ciaran Collier and Ryan Mullaney for Stephen Maher (both 53), James Keyes for Aaron Dunphy (57), Stephen Bergin for Ross King (61).

Ref; Rory McGann (Clare).

**Allianz National Hurling League Round 3**  
**Sunday 30 May 2021, UPMC Nowlan Park**  
**Kilkenny 2-27, Wexford 0-23**

TJ Reid made a sensational return to the Kilkenny team after shaking off a muscle injury, helping himself to a magnificent 1-18 as the Cats maintained their unbeaten run in Division 1B of the Allianz Hurling League at a sun-kissed UPMC Nowlan Park.

Reid hit form as hot as the glorious weather, and he turned all but two shots at goal into scorers. By the break he had 1-10 scored, and while Wexford came more into the game afterwards, Reid hampered them at every turn afterwards as they tried to claw their way back. Kilkenny have suffered in tactical battles against Wexford in recent times, but today they had the visitors in trouble all over and created huge space at times in front of the Slaney goal, and Wexford just couldn't plug the gaps.

Once Kilkenny hit the front in the fourth minute with a pointed free from Reid following a foul on James Bergin, they took off. They galloped into a strong interval lead of 2-15 to 0-7. Roving full-forward and free taker, T.J. Reid was the main man in a fluid and sharp Noreside attack. The second Kilkenny goal was scored by Billy Ryan in the fifth minute.

Wexford opened the second half with two early points from Chin (frees), and while they went on to have the better of things scoring wise, they never looked like saving the game. Their attack was well contained by a solid home defence, and their only real threat on goal came in the 44th minute when Lee Chin had a stinging drive turned out for a 65 by Eoin Murphy. These teams expect to meet again in the Leinster championship and a very different kind of contest can be expected.

**Kilkenny:** E Murphy, T Walsh, H Lawlor, P Deegan (0-1), D Corcoran, P Walsh, C Browne, R Reid, C Buckley, A Mullen, J Donnelly, B Ryan (1-4), J Bergin, TJ Reid (1-18, 0-14f, 1 '65'), A Murphy (0-3). Subs; E Cody (0-1) for J Bergin (23), C Fogarty for Buckley (48), J Maher for B Ryan (48), M Carey for R Reid (63), L Blanchfield for A Mullen (70).

**Wexford:** J Lawlor, S Reck, L Ryan, J O'Connor, G Malone, M O'Hanlon, J O'Connor, D O'Keeffe (0-1), L Og McGovern, A Nolan (0-2), R O'Connor (0-4), C Devitt, L Chin (0-13, 0-10f, 1 '65'), M Dwyer, H Kehoe. Subs; G Bailey, J O'Connor, K Foley, C McDonald (0-1), D Dunne, C Flood, P Morris, S Murphy (0-1).

Ref; C Lyons (Cork).



3 July 2021; Lee Chin of Wexford is held up by Paddy Deegan during the Leinster Semi-Final.  
Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile

**Allianz National Hurling League Round 2**  
**Sunday 16 May 2021, UPMC Nowlan Park**  
**Kilkenny 1-28, Antrim 3-15**

Kilkenny made it two wins from two, but were given some nervy moments by Antrim at Nowlan Park. The hosts were well on course to canter home as they led by nine early in the second period, but were rocked by 2-3 from the visitors that drew the game level. However, they always had answers to Antrim's efforts. Having beaten Clare a week earlier, Antrim had high hopes of a quality performance but failed to play consistently well throughout the game. A lively Kilkenny attack punished them accordingly. An Eoin Cody goal enabled Kilkenny to take control of the first half and they led by 1-11 to 0-6 at the break.

Kilkenny hit two of the first three points of the second period, but suddenly Antrim clicked into gear as they hit three points in succession through James McNaughton (two) and Conor McCann, but it would get even better as they struck back-to-back goals in the 44th and 45th minutes to level. Kilkenny responded brilliantly and just turned it up a notch to wipe out those goals by landing the next six points through Murphy (three), Martin Keoghan, Conor Browne and Bergin to leave them 1-19 to 2-10 ahead entering the final quarter. Further points from Adrian Mullen and Richie Reid appeared to have put them clear, but Antrim hit back and when Neil McManus goaled on 62 minutes, there was just a goal in it. Kilkenny responded well with Mullen, Keoghan, Browne and Murphy all raising white.



12 June 2021; Martin Keoghan of Kilkenny shoots to score his side's first goal despite the attention of John Conlon of Clare during the Allianz Hurling League Division 1 Group B Round 5 match between Clare and Kilkenny at Cusack Park in Ennis, Clare.  
Photo by Ramsey Cardy/Sportsfile



**Kilkenny;** Darren Brennan, Tommy Walsh, Huw Lawlor, Paddy Deegan (0-1), David Blanchfield, Pádraig Walsh, Conor Browne (0-2), Richie Reid (0-1), Cillian Buckley, Liam Blanchfield, Eoin Cody, Martin Keoghan (0-2), James Bergin (0-4), Adrian Mullen (0-3), Alan Murphy (0-13, 9f). Subs: John Donnelly (0-1) for Liam Blanchfield (ht), Joey Holden for Paddy Deegan (45), Conor Fogarty for Richie Reid (56), Tadgh O'Dwyer for James Bergin (61), Michael Carey for Cillian Buckley (66). Blood sub: Eoin O'Shea for Eoin Cody (70+1).

**Antrim;** Ryan Elliott, Stephen Rooney, Gerard Walsh (0-1), Damon McMullan, Eoghan Campbell, Paddy Burke, Joe Maskey, Neil McManus (1-0), Keelan Molloy, Niall McKenna (0-1), James McNaughton (0-6, 2f), Michael Bradley (0-1) Conal Cunningham (1-1), Conor McCann (0-2), Ciaran Clarke (1-3, 3f). Subs: Eoin O'Neill, Conor Johnston, Domhnall Nugent, Phelim Duffin, Dan McCloskey, Shea Shannon, Ciaran Johnston.

Ref: Sean Stack (Dublin)

### Allianz National Hurling League Round 1

Saturday 8 May 2021, Parnell Park

Kilkenny 1-20, Dublin 0-18

A contribution of 1-4 for Martin Keoghan saw Kilkenny open their league campaign with a win as Brian Cody's Cats saw off a dogged Dublin side in sunny Parnell Park. An intense start in Parnell Park saw both sides exchange a pair of scores inside the opening 10 minutes. The pattern continued in a high quality encounter, replete with some tough tackling and there was little to divide the sides until Padraig Walsh and James Bergin nudged Kilkenny ahead before the break. Earlier Darragh Corcoran split the posts from distance to edge Kilkenny narrowly in front before an early blow for the Cats with Richie Leahy limping off with only 10 minutes played.

The second half resumed as a carbon copy of the first, in terms of intensity and pace, with three points converted between the sides inside the opening 90 seconds. A strong response from Dublin and four points on the bounce saw the sides level at the second water break.

The Cats struck with the first goal of the game on the hour mark courtesy of the lively Keoghan. The Tullaroan man had pointed just moments earlier before past a hesitant Dublin defence and firing past Brennan.

With five minutes remaining, things went from bad to worse for Dublin when Liam Rushe received a second yellow card. Kilkenny made the most of the extra man in the closing stages. Points from Reid, Donnelly, and Murphy ensured the Cat's left the capital with a five-point win.

**Kilkenny;** Eoin Murphy, Ciaran Wallace, Hugh Lawlor, Paddy Deegan, Darragh Corcoran (0-1), Padraig Walsh (0-2, 1f), Conor Browne, Cillian Buckley (0-1), Richie Leahy; John Donnelly (0-2), Adrian Mullen, Martin Keoghan (1-4), James Bergin (0-2), TJ Reid (0-7f), Eoin Cody. Subs: Richie Reid for Richie Leahy (9), James Maher for Adrian Mullen (35), Michael Carey for Cillian Buckley (54), Alan Murphy (0-1) for James Bergin (59).

**Dublin;** Sean Brennan, Paddy Smyth, Eoghan O'Donnell, Andrew Dunphy (0-1), Daire Gray (0-1), Liam Rushe, Sean Moran, Conor Burke, James Madden, Danny Sutcliffe (0-2), Chris Crummey (0-2), Ronan Hayes, Donal Burke (0-7, 6f), Eamonn Dillon (0-1), David Keogh (0-1). Subs: Rian McBride, Cian Boland (0-1), Cian O'Sullivan, Jake Malone, David Treacy (0-2f), Oisin O'Rorke.

Overall it could be classed as quite a good year. Retaining the Leinster title and coming so close to victory in the semi-final suggests most things are being done very well. However there are clouds on the horizon.

Most followers look at the club championships for rising stars. Given the mixed fortunes of the county team, fresh blood is urgently needed. But outside of a few of the county senior final protagonists, it is clear that the well of new talent is shallower than any time in the past two decades. Alarmingly there is a serious dearth of athletic players at every level, a problem that has accrued over recent years and to improve it will take much time and a change in coaching focus. The county coaches have been working on these challenges, but clubs are far behind. S&C issues can be fixed in a few years but fixing the lack of serious speed and athleticism is a long term project. Former selector Michael Dempsey is leading a committee to examine coaching and development at all levels. His report will make for interesting reading.

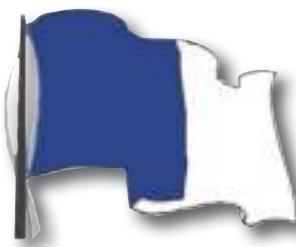
We are far behind at least five other counties in this regard and it is a major concern that cannot be fixed by county senior or U20 coaches alone. On the evidence of the senior championship the skills are fine, the speed of movement and support are lacking. Further afield the current Intermediate and Junior championships have been of generally poor standard with no more than two teams in each division capable of functioning at a higher level. This is the challenge for all clubs to address, in order to develop significant numbers of future inter-county level players.



8 August 2021; Alan Cadogan of Cork in action against Conor Fogarty and Huw Lawlor, during the GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior semi-final.  
Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile



# **HENDERSON CONSTRUCTION LIMITED**



**SUPPORTING THE FENIANS  
& KILKENNY**



**THE PARK  
JOHNSTOWN  
CO KILKENNY**

**TEL: 056 -8831479      TEL: 086 -2446683**



# THAT WAS THE YEAR..... of the dodged bullets.

By Enda McEvoy (Irish Examiner)

## WANTED: S&C MANAGER

The successful candidate will:

- \* Set out, in conjunction with the Team Management, an agreed programme for the Senior Hurling Panel
- Work with the Medical team to ensure injury prevention and manage team loadings
- Develop and manage programmes for prehab and rehab
- Manage day to day athlete monitoring strategies that include various sport technologies (ie GPS etc)
- Work with the team Sports Nutritionist to design meal requirements associated with team training, travel and any other dietary needs
- Develop and execute nutritional plans designed specifically for individual players to enhance on-field performance
- Ensure a safe and functional training environment for the weight room and other conditioning facilities
- Essential qualifications and skillsets required:
- BSc degree or higher in Strength and Conditioning, Sport & Exercise Science or a related field
- Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (NSCA) and/or UKSCA Accredited Strength & Conditioning Coach
- 2+ years' experience working as the Lead Strength & Conditioning Coach in team sport settings
- First Aid Certification – include basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Desirable Qualifications
- MSc Strength and Conditioning or related field
- Experience in data collection, analysis and data supported decision making

(Recent ad seeking a new lead strength and conditioning coach for the Limerick senior hurlers)

Had Kilkenny reached the 2021 All Ireland final, the formbook says that on a line through Cork they'd have lost by – with a certain mordant piquancy - 21 points to Limerick. A defeat of historic proportions. Not so much a defeat, indeed, as an atomisation. A rerun of Kilkenny/Waterford 2008, only with the Doc Marten on the non-Noreside foot this time around.

Had Kilkenny reached the All Ireland under-17 final, the formbook says that on a line through Galway they'd have lost by 22 points to Cork.

And had Kilkenny reached the All Ireland under-20 final, the formbook says that (again on a line through Galway) they'd have lost by 14 points to Cork. Given the prevailing circumstances that might have been viewed as a small triumph.



"Nonsense," you may well respond. "That's not how it works in real life. No two matches are the same. Every match takes place on grass, not on paper or in the form of an algorithm."

Fair point, but you get the gist of what I'm saying. Kilkenny didn't reach any of those three All Ireland finals in 2021 and a very good thing too. The respective upshots would not have been pretty if they had.

In the 13 days between the evening of the All Ireland senior semi-final and the night before the final I had people going out of their way – no exaggeration – to announce that Kilkenny had avoided a gruesome fate in losing to Cork. The events of the final proved them correct. Since then I've heard occasional unconvincing mutterings to the effect that Kilkenny "would have defended better" in the final than Cork did. Hmm. Really? Would the team that conceded 1-27 to Wexford in normal time and 0-29 to Cork in normal time have found a way of confining Limerick to less than the 3-32 they posted? If so, how? Not by playing seven defenders, that's for sure.

## GLASS HALF-FULL?

If you're a glass half full sort of person you'll say that 2021 was slightly better for the county in the adult arena than 2020 had been. But only slightly better. No quantum leap was taken.

This time Kilkenny didn't win the Leinster final against the head or collapse in the second half of the All Ireland semi-final. Their S & C regime was superior, as witnessed not only by the way in which they outlasted Wexford in extra time but also in the manner they stormed back to be level with Cork at the end of normal time. But the provincial showdown was won against a weakened Dublin XV that had lost two of its intended starters on the morning of the game due to Covid protocols. When push came to shove in extra time against Kieran Kingston's charges, meanwhile, the men in stripes were overrun. Not much to boast about there.



8 August 2021; Jack O'Connor of Cork shoots past Kilkenny goalkeeper Eoin Murphy to score a goal in the 10th minute of extra time during the GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship semi-final .. Photo by Ray McManus/Sportsfile



Prior to the All Ireland semi-final Cork expected they'd win on the basis that their pace would run Kilkenny into the ground (it did) and that the longer proceedings went on, the more the lack of cover on their opponents' bench would be exposed (it was). They also expected Eoin Murphy to spend the afternoon depositing his puckouts on the Cork D. Guess what..?

Kilkenny are stunningly predictable in what they do and have been so for a long time. There's not necessarily anything hugely wrong with that; Limerick, when you think about it, are entirely predictable too. But Limerick's predictability doesn't matter because they're so good at what they do whereas Kilkenny's predictability does matter because they're so mediocre at what they do. Kilkenny need to offer something different – a different way of visualising and prosecuting their own game – because they don't possess Limerick's quality. They're comprehensively failing to do anything of the sort.

This is not 2011 and we're not in Kansas any more, Toto. But Kilkenny are still playing 2011 hurling in 2021. Worse, they're still *thinking* 2011 hurling in 2021.

Talking of the MacCarthy Cup holders, they scored a goal in the All Ireland final that appeared so simple it aroused little comment. It ought to have aroused plenty of comment because it was an absolutely brilliant goal in terms of both design and execution.

Nickie Quaid, standing over a puckout, saw Diarmaid Byrnes in space on the half-back line, one of the Cork forwards having failed to get tight enough. Quaid found Byrnes. Byrnes arrowed the ball towards the right-corner forward position, the delivery taking one bounce and hopping up perfectly for Seamus Flanagan. Flanagan caressed the sliotar off his stick to Aaron Gillane, who was waiting in space on the 20-metre line. Gillane buried it. At that moment he and Flanagan were the only two men in green shirts inside the Cork 65-metre line, their colleagues having gathered in midfield and on the other wing. That latter part, it need hardly be added, was not a coincidence.

Three passes and the ball touching the ground once. Quaid may have extemporised with his puckout but imagine the choreography entailed in the ensuing collective creation of space. Imagine the time spent rehearsing it on the training ground. Imagine how often Byrnes practised that one-hop delivery to Flanagan. Imagine how often Flanagan essayed that short pass to Gillane inside him. Now try to imagine Kilkenny replicating the same move.

#### PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

You can't. Kilkenny wouldn't have scored that goal in a month of Sundays. They wouldn't have scored it because they wouldn't have been interested in dreaming up the move, designing it, practising it and perfecting it. The Kilkenny version of Diarmaid Byrnes would have flaked the sliotar down the field and let the pieces fall as they might. If in doubt,

hit the ball as long and hard as possible. Limerick's gameplan is simple; Kilkenny's gameplan is simplistic.

A few seasons ago Gearoid Hegarty wouldn't have made the Kilkenny panel, never mind the starting XV. He was a big ungainly sort and not even close family members would have claimed he had skill to burn. Look at Hegarty now, Hurler of the Year in 2020 and the scorer of 2-2 in the 2021 All Ireland final. This is what imaginative coaching does. It turns average players into good players and good players into superstars.

It's not just Hegarty. Every Limerick player is better than he was two or three years ago. Bigger and bulkier, yes, but also better. Look at their first touch. The ball always sticks. How many Kilkenny players are better than they were in, say, 2019? They are patently not being improved by the coaching regime.

Limerick are ten lengths ahead of a pack featuring aspirants that are much of a muchness. Put Cork, Galway, Kilkenny, Tipperary and Waterford in their own little competition and they'd all end up beating each other on a given day. Waterford are probably the best of the lot right now but it's no leap to venture that in three years' time Cork will be. And in three years' time Limerick will surely have passed their peak and be just another team again.

But what and where will Kilkenny be in three years' time? And will they be any better than they are now? And may they get worse before they get better? And how denuded of nous and experience will the starting XV, or at any rate the panel, be in 2022, with obvious implications for the county's championship challenge?

And – for it's not too early to posit the doomsday scenario and pose the dread question - will Kilkenny win an All Ireland in the 2020s?

As the full ramifications of the thunderbolt that was Henry Shefflin's decision to take the Galway job will not become clear for three or four years, the episode can be left for another day. One thing is certain, however. The current sense of drift on Noreside cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely.

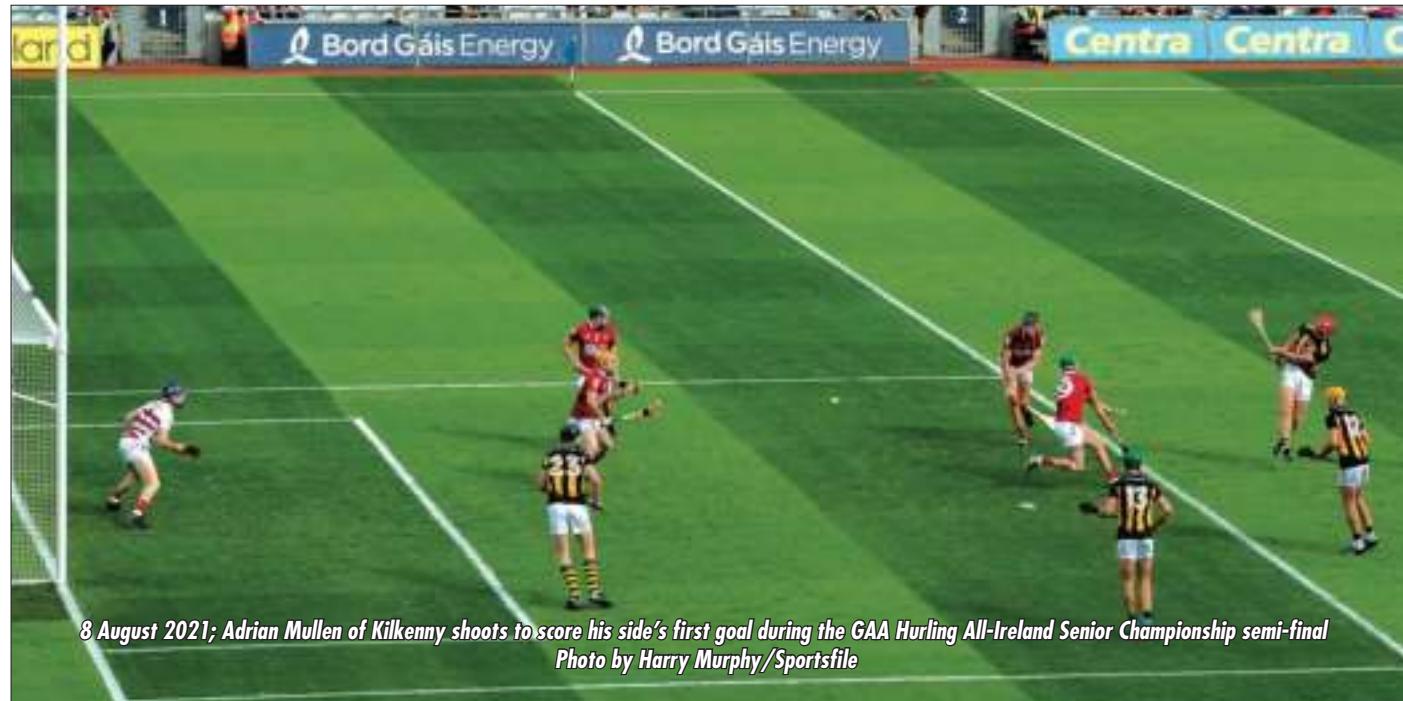
\*\*\*\*\*

Of late I've been feeling like it's 1987 all over again.

I'm now so old I was writing for the Yearbook back then and – you know the way they say that everything comes around again if you wait long enough? Well, that.

Success at senior level had dried up for the county in 1987, the glory days of 1982-83 long past. There hadn't been a good underage team in ages. The whole situation screamed stasis and staleness. Sound familiar?

The county is being left behind on the pitch. The county is being left





behind off the pitch.

The latter development, worrying though it is, may be attributed to the times in which we live. Limerick want for nothing with JP McManus in their corner. Galway have Supermac's. Cork have Sports Direct. Tipperary had Teneo. In the third decade of the 21st century money can buy success in Gaelic games. It doesn't guarantee it but when it comes to the marginal gains it makes a difference.

In a world where Manchester United are in the process of appointing their very own data scientist to head up their very own data and analytics department, it shouldn't come as a wonder that hurling and football are not a million miles behind the curve. Look at the qualifications demanded of Limerick's new S and C guy. Cork GAA's high-performance manager, Aidan O'Connell, came to them from Munster Rugby. Clare's strategic development committee recently recommended the establishment of three new full-time positions in the county: chief executive, finance manager and commercial manager. Among the members of the Galway delegation that interviewed Henry Shefflin was Eddie O'Sullivan, the former Irish rugby manager.

#### **QUOTE THE CV**

Or look at Meath, who've appointed a General Manager of Football, one of whose tasks will be to oversee a development programme from under-13 to under-20 level. His name is Barry Horgan and he came to the Royal County from his role as a performance scientist in the Australian Institute of Sport. Prior to that he was the head of performance, academy and pathways with Brumbies Rugby. Prior to that he was with Munster Rugby and Dublin, Longford and Cavan GAA.

Quite the resumé, eh? Barry Horgan is a big hitter. Meath may only be a middle-ranking football county these days but they decided that nothing less than a big hitter with a wide-ranging CV was suitable. Good for them.

On a parallel rail, for three years until last summer Carrickshock's Eanna Martin was employed as Wexford GAA's commercial manager. In that period the Wexford county board's commercial income increased substantially. Remember: county boards, as Eanna points out, "are businesses too". Granted, getting UPMC on board as naming partners for Nowlan Park was a coup, but why don't Kilkenny have a commercial

manager? How long before the county board is run by a full-time CEO, as – inevitably – it one day will be? This isn't actually 1987, not to mention 2011. Scroll back three paragraphs and see the progressive direction in which Clare are thinking. And Clare are not a GAA behemoth like Cork or Dublin.

In the light of all this it came as encouraging to learn that in his capacity as county secretary Conor Denieffe has empanelled a committee - chaired by Mick Dempsey and featuring, inter alia, Brian Hogan and Paul Murphy - to streamline the local player pathway. One couldn't imagine a better chairman. It is a start, not to mention a tacit acceptance on the part of the county board that standards have slipped. The same for the restructuring of the development squads, which had become too big, with the coaching being too thinly spread as a result. (In passing, a pity the Kilkenny People no longer carries reports of county board meetings. It would be informative for us and good PR for the board.)

Harking back to the aforementioned stasis of 1987, eventually the wheel turned. One of the factors that drove it was the All Ireland-winning minor team of 1988, later the All Ireland-winning under-21 team of 1990. Another factor was the emergence of Glenmore, who captured the county title in '87. Not only were they something new on a jaded-looking local menu, they possessed a trio of future intercounty stars in Michael Phelan and the two O'Connors. Glenmore proved to be a blast of fresh and acutely needed air.

Ballyhale Shamrocks have been wonderful champions. Of all the mighty combinations to represent the club going back to their emergence as a power half a century ago, the current iteration may be the finest of all. But the local club scene needs new contenders who also have something to offer the county. Viewing the 2021 championship didn't suggest any interesting new planets will be hoving into view any time soon. And though a bunch like the 1988 minors cannot simply be willed into existence, it's extremely unlikely Kilkenny will win a senior All Ireland again before they win an under-age All Ireland again.

As things stand, nobody's expecting the county to lift the MacCarthy Cup in 2022. Nor have they any reason to do so. But if Kilkenny don't come by silverware, at least let them fail better – with an approach more expansive, more imaginative, more calibrated to the modern climate – than they did in 2021.

**EARDLY**  
AGRICULTURAL SERVICE

**MAIN DEALER**

**AMAZONE**

**DEUTZ FAHR**

**KRONE**

**SALES OF NEW & SECOND HAND MACHINERY**

**Hebron Ind. Est. , Kilkenny**  
**Tel.056 7763612 Mob.087 7954597**

# FORD HYBRID



## KUGA PLUG-IN HYBRID AND PUMA ECOBOOST MILD HYBRID

Available with 2.9% APR On Ford Options\*

\*Subject to availability. Terms and conditions apply. Selected models only.



CONTACT US AT MICHAEL LYNG MOTORS



MICHAEL LYNG MOTORS

Hebron Road, Kilkenny  
T.: 056 777 0700  
E.: [info@lyngmotors.ie](mailto:info@lyngmotors.ie)



[lyngmotorsford.ie](http://lyngmotorsford.ie)

Opening Hours:  
Mon - Fri 8:30am to 6pm  
Saturday 9am to 2pm

Ford Puma ST-Line: WLTP: CO<sub>2</sub> from 129g/km to 128g/km; Fuel Consumption 5.4L/100km – 5.5L/100km. Ford Kuga ST-Line Edition: WLTP: CO<sub>2</sub> from 132g/km to 135g/km; Fuel Consumption 1.4L/100km – 5.2L/100km.

Passenger Car 2.9% Finance Example: Ford Kuga 3dr Titanium 1.5L Diesel (ZDP); Retail Price £30,986; Customer Deposit / Trade In £10,986.00; Finance Amount £20,000.20; 36 monthly payments of £290.07 Total Cost of Credit £10,862.07 GMFV† (Optional Final Payment) £14,983.00. Ford APR 2.9%\* (Annual Percentage Rate) as at 01/10/21.

Passenger Car 2.9% Finance Example: Ford Puma 5dr Titanium 1.0L EcoBoost (ZDP); Retail Price £25,664.00; Customer Deposit / Trade In £7,669.20; Finance Amount £17,994.80; 36 monthly payments of £423.28 Total Cost of Credit £1,2945.08 GMFV† (Optional Final Payment) £11,314.32. Ford APR 2.9%\* (Annual Percentage Rate) as at 01/10/21.

Excludes delivery & documentation related charges. Model is shown for illustrative purposes only. †The Guaranteed Minimum Future Value (GMFV) is payable if you release or retain the vehicle at the end of the agreement. Further charges may be applied by your Ford dealer subject to kilometre limits/condition of the vehicle.

\*Lending criteria and conditions apply (Over 18's only). APR is indicative of a documentation fee of £63.49. To qualify for this finance offer, a minimum deposit of 10% is required. Rate quoted is correct as at 01/10/21 and is subject to change. Offer available on selected Ford Kuga Models or direct and integrated between October 1st, 2021 and March 31st, 2022 at participating dealers. This is a Consumer Hire Purchase agreement provided by Bank of Ireland Leasing Limited via Ford Credit. Ownership remains with Ford Credit until the optional final payment is made.

# U-20'S SPIRITED REVIVAL AGAINST WESTERNERS FALLS SHORT

Inter County U20 Hurling Report by Michael O'Leary

Photos Willie Demsey and SPORTSFILE



Conor Kelly and Liam Moore in action against Laois



Another year of disappointment for the Kilkenny U-20s, as a second-half revival against Galway fell short after the Westerners built up a commanding first-half lead.

The Championship for Derek Lyng's Men began with a home clash against Laois, and it proved to be a closely and hard fought encounter. Laois had the advantage of two games played against Antrim and Westmeath, and it showed, as Kilkenny struggled to come to terms with their ferocious intensity with a Conor Kelly goal keeping them in contention.

It was nip and tuck throughout the third quarter with Laois maintaining the lead, before Kilkenny started to turn the screw in the final quarter. Ian Byrne, Billy Drennan, Peter McDonald and Eoin Guilfoyle all knocked over points as Kilkenny built up a 6 point lead (1-17 to 0-14). However, Laois kept battling away and a late goal from a penalty by Dan Delaney provided Kilkenny with a few nervy moments, but they held on to win 1-18 to 1-15 and set-up a Leinster Semi-Final clash against Galway.

**Scorers:** Kilkenny- Eoin Guilfoyle (0-8, 0-5fs); Conor Kelly (1-0); Ian Byrne, Liam Moore and Cian Kenny (0-2 each); Peter McDonald, Padraig Moylan, Ciaran Brennan and Billy Drennan (0-1 each) Kilkenny -Aidan Tallis (Lisdowney); David Fogarty (O'Loughlin Gaels), Jamie Young (O'Loughlin Gaels), Peter McDonald (Thomastown); Shane Staunton (Clara), Stephen Keoghan (Graigue-Ballycallan), Padraig Dempsey (Mullinavat); Cian Kenny

(James Stephens), Padraig Moylan (Dicksboro); Liam Moore (Dicksboro), Conor Kelly (O'Loughlin Gaels), Jack Morrissey (St Patricks); Ciaran Brennan (Bennettsbridge), George Murphy (Rower-Inistioge), Eoin Guilfoyle (James Stephens). Subs: Timmy Clifford (Dicksboro) for Murphy 29 mins, Cathal Beirne (Glenmore) for Dempsey h.t., Ian Byrne (Glenmore) for Keoghan h.t., Billy Drennan (Galmoy) for Morrissey 43 mins, Jack Buggy (Erin's Own) for Moore 61 mins.

The Leinster Semi-Final clash against Galway saw the Tribesmen too hot to handle in the first half, as they built-up what appeared to be an unassailable lead 1-13 to 0-3, with a Donal O'Shea goal in the 19th minute confirmation of their superior dominance.

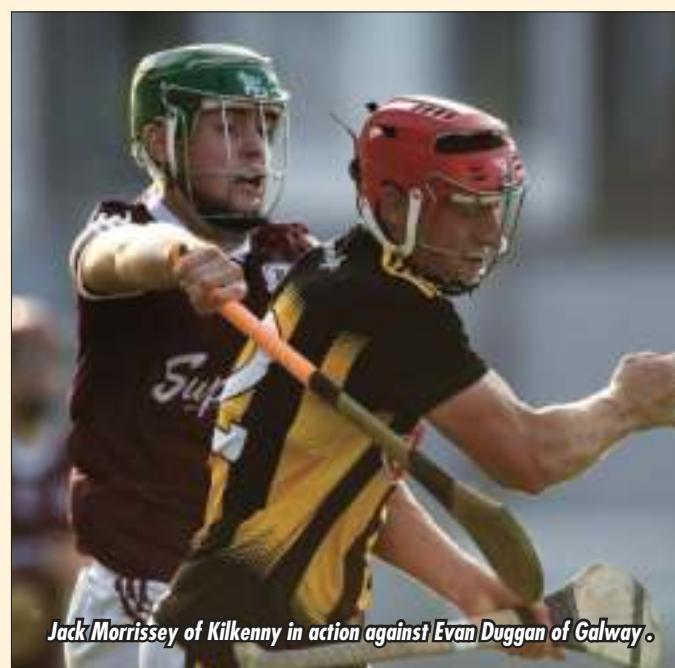
However, Kilkenny displayed admirable battling qualities throughout the second half and they fought manfully but in vain to overhaul the deficit.

Their top scorer Eoin Guilfoyle led the way up front, while Tomás Dunne's goal from a penalty rebound gave them the possibility of producing a Lazarus escape.

Kilkenny got the margin back to four points heading into stoppage time, but after Guilfoyle went for goal and had a shot saved, the game was up for the Noresiders and Galway added a late point to close out the game.



Aidan Tallis, Kilkenny's Keeper



Jack Morrissey of Kilkenny in action against Evan Duggan of Galway.



Galway subsequently won the Leinster Final against Dublin, before losing heavily to Cork in the All-Ireland Final.

**Scorers for Kilkenny:** Eoin Guilfoyle 0-7 (0-5f and 0-1 '65), Tomas Dunne 1-0, Aidan Tallis (f), Peter McDonald, Shane Staunton, Cian Kenny, Conor Kelly and Billy Drennan 0-1 each.

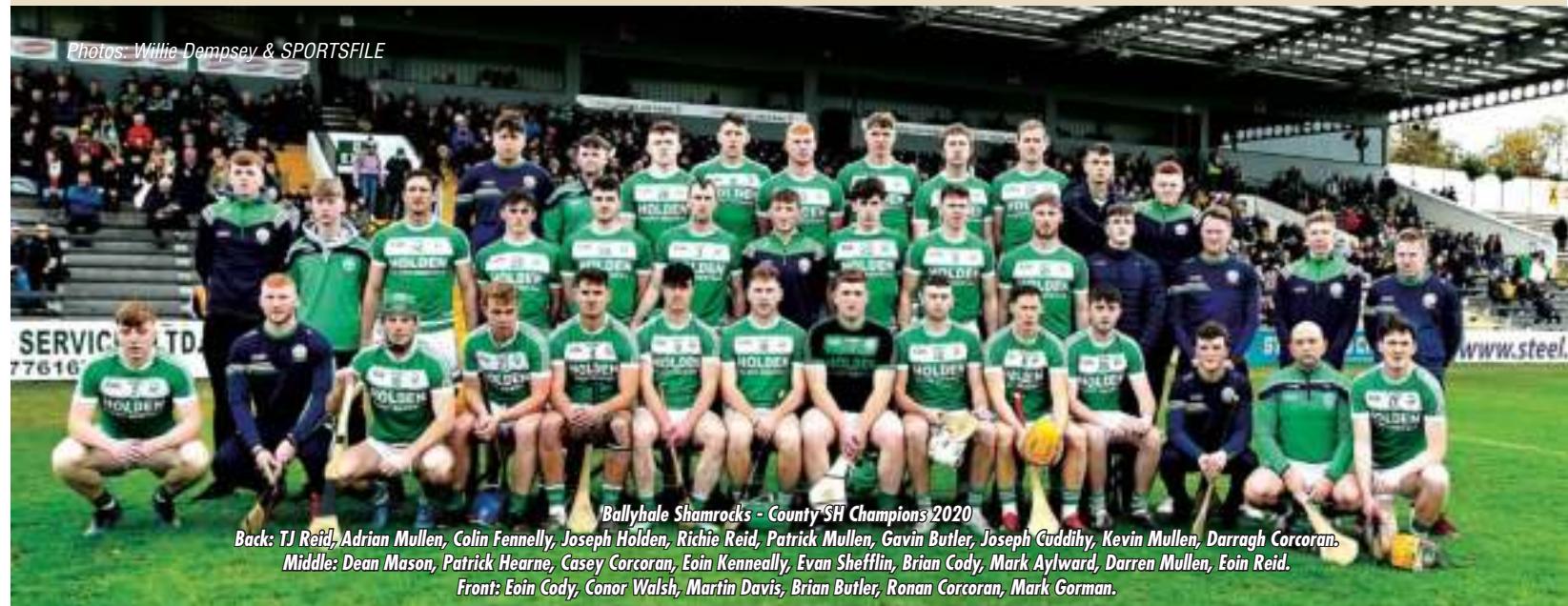
**KILKENNY:** Aidan Tallis (Lisdowney); David Fogarty (O'Loughlin Gaels), Jamie Young (O'Loughlin Gaels), Peter McDonald (Thomastown); Shane Staunton (Clara), Cathal Beirne (Glenmore), Padraig Dempsey (Mullinavat); Cian Kenny (James Stephens), Padraig Moylan (Dicksboro); Ciaran Brennan (Bennettsbridge), Conor Kelly (O'Loughlin Gaels), Jack Morrissey (St.Patricks); Timmy Clifford (Dicksboro), Liam Moore (Dicksboro), Eoin Guilfoyle (James Stephens).  
**Subs:** Paul Cody (Clara), for Liam Moore (20), Ian Byrne (Glenmore), for Ciaran Brennan (25), Tomás Dunne (Tullaroan) for Padraig Dempsey (ht), Billy Drennan (Galmoy) for Jack Morrissey (37), George Murphy (Rower-Inistioge) for Conor Kelly (55).



# Four-in-a-row for SUPER SHAMROCKS

County SH Championship Report by Tommy Lanigan

Photos: Willie Dempsey & SPORTSFILe



Ballyhale Shamrocks - County SH Champions 2020

Back: TJ Reid, Adrian Mullen, Colin Fennelly, Joseph Holden, Richie Reid, Patrick Mullen, Gavin Butler, Joseph Cuddihy, Kevin Mullen, Darragh Corcoran.  
Middle: Dean Mason, Patrick Hearne, Casey Corcoran, Eoin Kenneally, Evan Shefflin, Brian Cody, Mark Aylward, Darren Mullen, Eoin Reid.  
Front: Eoin Cody, Conor Walsh, Martin Davis, Brian Butler, Ronan Corcoran, Mark Gorman.

It took Tullaroan 107 years to win twenty county senior championships. Ballyhale Shamrocks are now one behind them after only 43 years.

How can you stop Shamrocks' relentless march to victory in county senior finals? Has there been a more gallant losing team than O'Loughlins?

They gave it every bit of their considerable might and main, led the county champions quite convincingly just beyond the three-quarter stage of the game. Then within seven minutes, potential victory had slipped away in the most emphatic manner, a veritable storm of scores as Shamrocks hit 1-6 to put the game beyond reach of a really impressive effort by the city men.

A truly great final, filled with skill, athleticism, courage and honesty, one for the ages. It stands comparison favourably with any of the very best deciders we have had the privilege of watching over the past half century. Two superbly fit and skilful teams tearing into each other, the city underdogs dominating most positions on the field for the majority of the game. Who would have thought a Shamrocks full forward line of Colin Fennelly, Eoin Cody and Eoin Reid would be held scoreless and TJ not at his best and the divils could still contrive to win in some style?

Always the little things are the routes to Shamrocks punishing a team irreparably, the stray handpass, the over-hit or miss-hit pass, the dropped ball or extra touch. Thus it was inevitable that a few little errors were cruelly punished with goals. When the Shamrocks ploy of low feed to the full forward line was stymied by a wonderful full-back line of David Fogarty, Tony Forristal and Mikey Butler, they changed tack. They unlocked a mighty defensive effort by isolating two very tall players on the edge of the O'Loughlins box and lobbed a few bombs on them. Two stunning goals for Joe Cuddihy and Adrian Mullen was the immediate result and they broke the hearts of a fine O'Loughlins side.

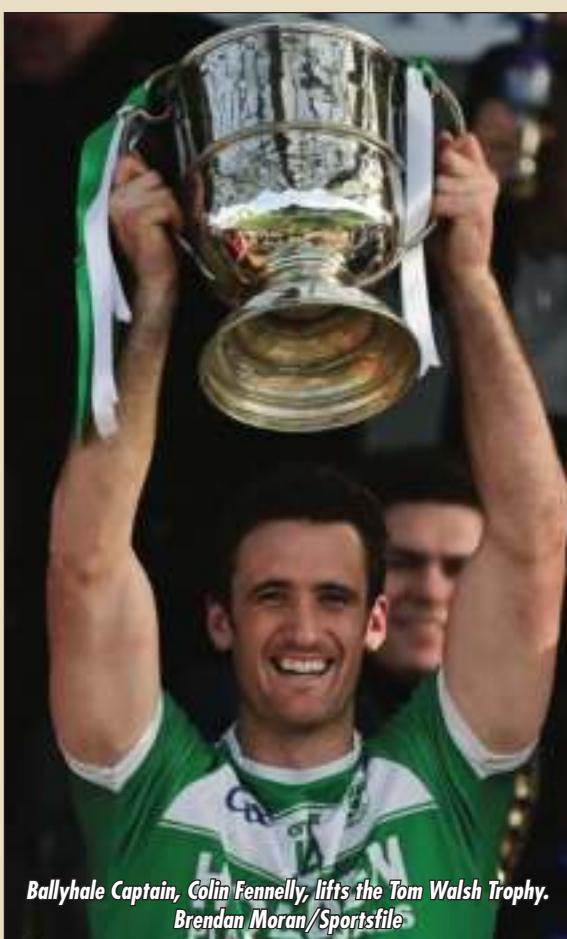
Few teams at top inter-county level can change approach in mid game, but the Ballyhale players know how to eke out victory by many routes. When the stars misfire or are held, the foot-soldiers step up,

as they did in this contest. Ronan and Darragh Corcoran, Brian Cody, Dean Mason, Richie Reid and Cuddihy more than made amends with super performances. But the key is in the collective. When the winning post looms into sight, Shamrocks know how to get their noses in front. No matter how poorly they are performing they can manage their way to victory, while others look at the target and hesitate. That is not to say they performed poorly at any stage, simply they were outshone at times by the stellar endeavours of Paddy Deegan, Conor Heary and that hardy full back line.

We must add a word of praise too for Eoin Beahan, one of the best hurling referees around, who gave the players fair leeway. He ruthlessly punished overcarrying, forcing the players to move the ball or take the consequences and this made for a feast of tacking, moving and reliance on silken first touch by all. To the players credit, with one exception, they revelled in the opportunities that opened to them.

O'Loughlins will undoubtedly continue to be a huge force. Theirs is a young team that improved incrementally as they moved through the championship. They have lots of good players ready to play senior, as their impressive Intermediate campaign amply demonstrated. They should be able to prosper at intermediate level for quite a while and continue to build formidable adult teams. Earlier in the teenage ranks their prospects don't shine as bright, but this is a club which has often produced excellent teams without benefit of chestfuls of underage medals. Perhaps they are better for it. More importantly they learned as they progressed and are one of the most difficult teams to beat in league or championship.

During the interval we were introduced to the surviving members of the great Bennettsbridge team of 1971. One of their greatest, Johnny McGovern holds 11 county senior medals as well as a few Celtic Crosses. Just behind him on ten is the wonderful 'Bridge stalwart Sam Carroll (sad for you young ones who didn't have the privilege of seeing Sam in action). TJ, Eoin Reid and Colin Fennelly



Ballyhale Captain, Colin Fennelly, lifts the Tom Walsh Trophy.  
Brendan Moran/Sportsfile



are now on ten each and who is to say they will not equal Johnny's haul quite soon?

The ravages of the Covid pandemic guaranteed a repeat of the 2020 hurling fixtures formula for this year. Again Kilkenny (and every other County Board) are to be commended for organising and finishing their county championships in a manner safe for all participants, barring the odd on-field dunt or three.

Each team had three league round robin games, then followed by the normal seeding. There were few surprises other than an early Shamrocks league defeat by an eager Bennettsbridge outfit. Indeed the 'Bridge were the only unbeaten side in the league. Little good did it do them as that defeat was brutally avenged in the championship quarter-final where Shamrocks tore them apart with ease. Lesson for the 'Bridge... you need to develop a hard edge to make progress Kilkenny senior hurling. It's there but forget about sweepers and dour defensive tactics when you have forwards who can score heavily.

Apart from a surprise loss to Mullinavat, O'Loughlins glided through the championship relatively unseen. However they had to all to do against a feisty Tullaroan in an excellent semi-final. It took the introduction of Robbie Buckley to enliven a hitherto struggling forward division, though it was clear that Paddy Deegan was beginning to find his feet upfront.

The first round had thrown up two fine contests. After a mediocre league Tullaroan just edged past Erins Own and the 'Boro did well to survive the furious onslaught of Lisdowney.

The city quarter-final between the Village and Boro was an excellent affair that either team could have won. However a powerful last few minutes surge just about was good enough for a good Village win and a rare one over their rivals. Dicksboro had a few injury problems but there is a persistent feeling that they have excellent replacements for almost every position on the field, given their outrageous underage success in recent years. It is a myth and continues to be exploded annually for the past few years.

Tullaroan powered away from a stern Clara test. The Clara men were undone by injuries to Lester Ryan before the game and Seanie O'Shea after half time. Clara set up far too defensively this year and paid the price. A snipers goal by the evergreen Tommy Walsh sent the game to extra time. Brother Padraig took over proceedings and drove a hugely competitive Tullaroan side to a fine victory. As always Tullaroan left nothing on the field while Clara will surely rue setting up very defensively.

The green sash men continued to play well in a thunderous encounter against O'Loughlins in a semi-final which could have gone either way until O'Loughlins shook off some forward lethargy and sneaked home. The other semi-final, a repeat of a 2020 classic meeting, did not live up to expectations. James Stephens chose to play sweet hurling against Shamrocks failing to rigorously confront them, and paid a high price. They were picked off by superior stickmen and stretched to break point all too often. But for a wonderful performance from Niall Brassil, the Village would have been in woeful trouble. Lacking strength and power up front, the city men did not compensate with their usual guile and aggression.



*Evan Shefflin of Ballyhale Shamrocks gathers possession under pressure from Paddy Butler, left, and Mark Bergin of O'Loughlin Gaels during the Final.*

*Photo by Brendan Moran/Sportsfile*



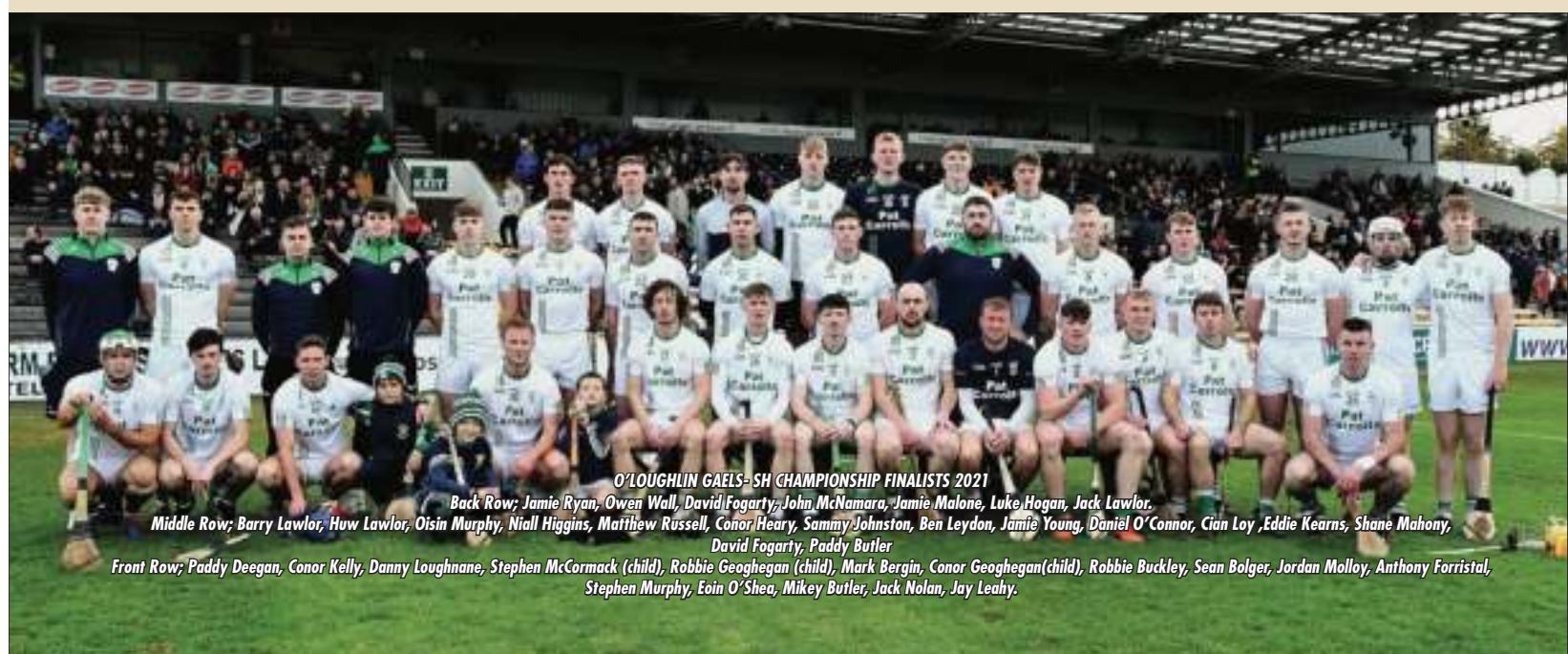
*Jack Nolan gets away from Padraig Walsh in the semi-final.*

*Willie Dempsey*

Shamrocks had improved incrementally from round to round, an ominous sign.

From the start it was clear that Rower-Inistioge and Erins Own would struggle, albeit for different reasons. They lost their respective semi-final relegation games convincingly. The final battle between them was a truly dour affair with the Comer men having a little more fire power to enable them survive the harsh relegation system. The Rower will have difficulty making it back to senior ranks on this year's evidence, lacking a sharp edge and an overreliance on a few strong men leaves them vulnerable.

Comer, on their day, possess one of the very best defences in Kilkenny hurling but the camp needs to be unified and focused. They have a raft of good young 'uns but it will take a while for them to come through to



#### O'LOUGHIN GAELS-SH CHAMPIONSHIP FINALISTS 2021

*Back Row; Jamie Ryan, Owen Wall, David Fogarty, John McNamara, Jamie Malone, Luke Hogan, Jack Lawlor.*

*Middle Row; Barry Lawlor, Huw Lawlor, Oisin Murphy, Niall Higgins, Matthew Russell, Conor Heary, Sammy Johnston, Ben Leydon, Jamie Young, Daniel O'Connor, Cian Loy, Eddie Kearns, Shane Mahony,*

*David Fogarty, Paddy Butler*

*Front Row; Paddy Deegan, Conor Kelly, Danny Loughnane, Stephen McCormack (child), Robbie Geoghegan (child), Mark Bergin, Conor Geoghegan (child), Robbie Buckley, Sean Bolger, Jordan Molloy, Anthony Forristal, Stephen Murphy, Eoin O'Shea, Mikey Butler, Jack Nolan, Jay Leahy.*



senior. They have quite a challenge to remain in senior ranks until those youngsters are blooded in adult ranks.

Graigue-Ballycallan too have lots of good young hurlers but lack a cutting edge that previous generations of Graig men were noted for and sometimes feared. They are a genuine senior team and should be good for the long haul. Their fortunes improved in 2021 and they can look forward with confidence to further improvement next year, provided more self-belief and a harder edge appears.

Like Graig, Mullinavat seem stuck in a mid-range rut, having showed much promise a few years ago. Strong and skilful and difficult to beat when on song, this year they were less than the sum of their parts and a few injuries did them no favours. Time is running out for this generation and they must deliver something good very soon. The challenge is urgent because of their age profile and their limited player pool.

Intermediate champions often suffer badly in senior ranks, but Lisdowney are made of stern stuff. They are young and tough and gave lots of grief to everybody whom they met. The second year is often the most difficult in senior ranks but they should build on present achievement and improve. They have a very competitive junior team and that should add a few fresh faces for next year.

In an era of sweepers and short passing through the lines it was quite refreshing to see most teams take a minimalist approach to such sterile tactics. In the main, most teams kept defensive faffing about to a minimum and tried to pick out stick passes to their forwards. It is the Kilkenny way and has not been superseded by any other systems at club or inter county level. The Shamrocks approach avoids the extravagant passing habits out of defence and relies on first touch, accurate stick work and swift forward movement to devastating effect. Other clubs should take note.



TJ Reid gets away from Owen Wall and Paddy Deegan in the Final.  
Photo by Brendan Moran/Sportsfile

### ST CANICE'S CREDIT UNION SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2021

#### 1st ROUND

B'hale Shamrocks	3-23	Graigue-Ballycallan	2-20
O'Loughlin Gaels	3-25	Rower-Inistioge	0-21
Erins Own	4-11	Tullaroan	2-22
Dicksboro	1-19	Lisdowney	2-15

#### QUARTER-FINALS

B'hale Shamrocks	0-27	Bennettsbridge	1-15
James Stephens	2-16	Dicksboro	2-15
Tullaroan	1-29	Clara	1-19 aet
O'Loughlin	2-19	Mullinavat	0-19

#### SEMI-FINALS

B'hale Shamrocks	2-20	James Stephens	1-17
Tullaroan	0-18	O'Loughlin Gaels	1-18

#### RELEGATION SEMI-FINALS

Graigue-B'Callan	3-16	Erins Own	1-18
Lisdowney	3-18	Rower-Inistioge	1-15

#### RELEGATION FINAL

Erins Own	1-11	Rower-Inistioge	0-09
-----------	------	-----------------	------

#### COUNTY FINAL

B'hale Shamrocks	3-19	O'Loughlin Gaels	3-15
------------------	------	------------------	------

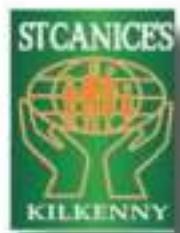


Niall Delaney of James Stephen's in action against Shane Stapleton of Dicksboro during the County Senior Hurling Championship quarter-final between James Stephen's and Dicksboro.  
Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile



Bennettsbridge - SH League Champions 2021

Back: Sean Morrissey, Shane Byrne, Jamie Harkin, Brian Lannon, Conor Murphy, John Doyle, Eoin Stapleton, Stephen Holden, Willie Murphy, Paul O'Neill.  
Middle: Micheál Shiels, Kevin Brennan, Patrick O'Neill, Enda Cleere, Hugh O'Neill, Liam Blanchfield, Darragh Wafer, Jason Cleere, Aidan Cleere, David Blanchfield, Danny Coyne, Cáirán Brennan, Ben King, Sean O'Connell, Robert Lennon, Luke Dowling.  
Front: Harry Murphy, Ivan Kelly, Myles McGovern, Kevin Blanchfield, Enda Morrissey, Nicky Cleere, Maurice Walsh, Tom Bolger, Jack Forristal, Daniel Murphy.  
Mascots (left to right) Lanna Cleere, Larlaith Cleere.



*Invest in your own future with the Credit Union*



Ballyhale Shamrocks Captain, Colin Fennelly, lifts the Tom Walsh Trophy, with support from Jennifer Malone, with Vincent Henrick, St Canice's Credit Union, and Jimmy Walsh, Cathaoirleach, CLG Cill Chainnigh. (Willie Dempsey)

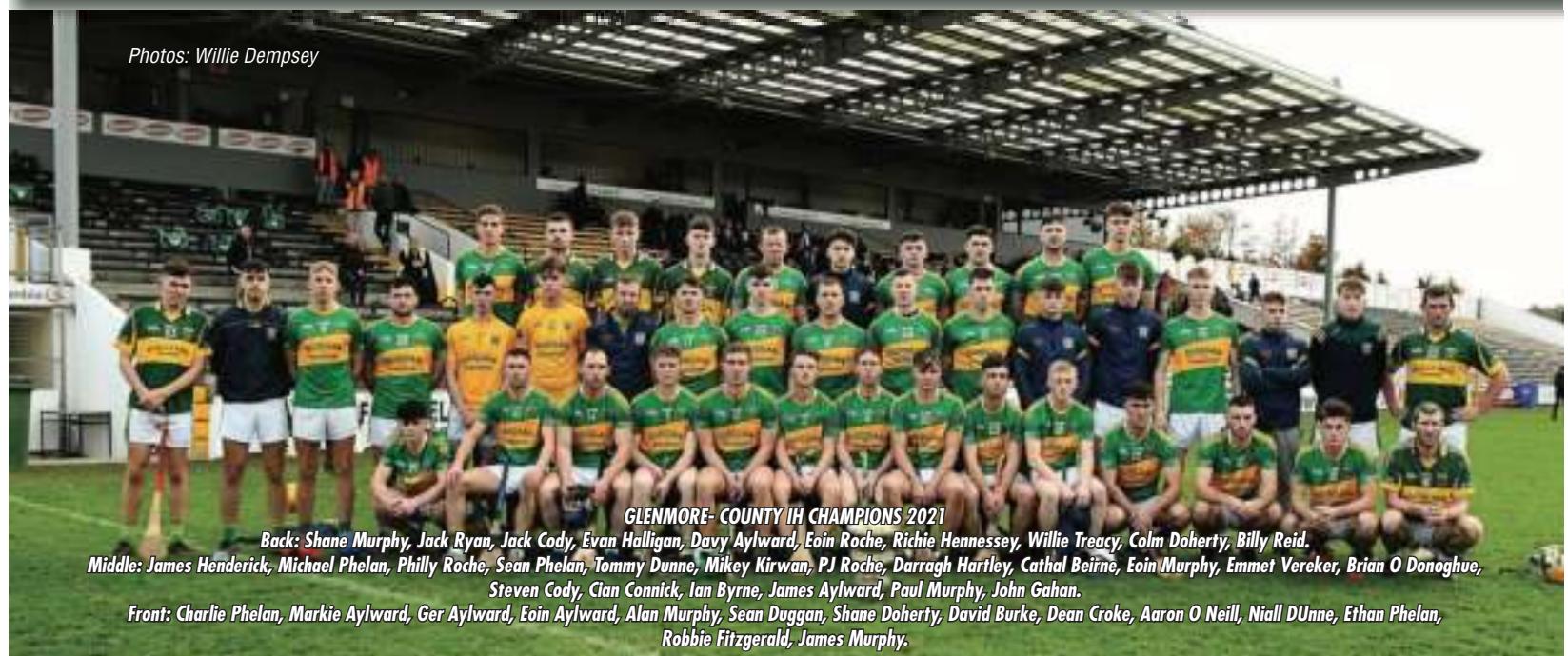
**Not for Profit.....  
....but for service**

St Canice's Kilkenny Credit Union, 78 High Street, Kilkenny.  
Telephone: 056 7722042  
Fax 056 7764811;  
e-mail: [info@stcanicescu.ie](mailto:info@stcanicescu.ie)

# GLENMORE will be a threat to any senior team....

County IH Championship Report by Conor Brennan

Photos: Willie Dempsey



GLENMORE- COUNTY IH CHAMPIONS 2021

Back: Shane Murphy, Jack Ryan, Jack Cody, Evan Halligan, Davy Aylward, Eoin Roche, Richie Hennessey, Willie Treacy, Colm Doherty, Billy Reid.

Middle: James Henderick, Michael Phelan, Philly Roche, Sean Phelan, Tommy Dunne, Mikey Kirwan, PJ Roche, Darragh Hartley, Cathal Beirne, Eoin Murphy, Emmet Vereker, Brian O Donoghue, Steven Cody, Cian Connick, Ian Byrne, James Aylward, Paul Murphy, John Gahan.

Front: Charlie Phelan, Markie Aylward, Ger Aylward, Eoin Aylward, Alan Murphy, Sean Duggan, Shane Doherty, David Burke, Dean Croke, Aaron O Neill, Niall DUnne, Ethan Phelan, Robbie Fitzgerald, James Murphy.

## Michael Lyng Motors Intermediate Hurling Championship 2021

Experience of the big occasion and the value of having key players in form propelled Glenmore to a deserved Michael Lyng Motors Intermediate Championship title for 2021, with little dispute about it following an impressive run to the final, and subsequent victory over St. Lachtain's. There can also be minimal argument, given the calibre of player at their disposal, that Glenmore will be a threat to any senior team next year, should they manage to stay reasonably free of injury.

The year began with an early favourite for the intermediate title, Thomastown, once again taking league honours for 2021 when they defeated Glenmore on a 1-22 to 2-16 scoreline, while Carrickshock were the shield winners with a single point victory over St. Martin's (1-14 to 0-16).

An intriguing first round game was the clash of the Fenians and Dunnamaggan. Fenians, having dramatically held on to their intermediate status in 2020, ensured that they would avoid the same fate this year by defeating the Southerners in Bennettsbridge. A dramatic late goal from Conor Tobin snatched victory at the death for the Johnstown men, after it looked like Dunnamaggan were arguably the better side for the majority of the game. It was Tobin's second goal of the game, as Fenians advanced on a 2-13 to 0-17 scoreline.

O'Loughlin Gaels also continued to solidify their place in the intermediate grade by defeating Young Irelands in fine style in Canon Kearns Park, Castlecomer. It was in the opening half that the city side laid their foundation for victory, leading at the half way point by 1-10 to 0-4, with the O'Loughlin's goal coming from Davy Burke. The Gowran men did try manfully to reduce the lead throughout the second half, but it wasn't until the final score of the game that they managed to find the net, with a Paul Holden close range net. At that stage, it was too little, too late, as O'Loughlin's still had five points to spare, as they won out by 1-19 to 1-14.

Two sides making their return to the intermediate ranks, Danesfort dropping down from senior, and Conahy Shamrocks stepping up from junior, faced off in their first round in Thomastown. From an early stage, and despite the absence of a key player in

Richie Hogan, it was clear that the greater experience that Danesfort had garnered from their time in the senior grade was proving to be of great benefit. Though Kieran Mooney's raising the first green flag for Conahy did give them an early lead, Danesfort responded almost immediately with a well taken goal from Jack Bruton. It ensured Danesfort held a 1-11 to 1-8 lead at half-time. Though Conahy bravely tried to close the gap with a variety of points from the likes of James Bergin and Edmond Delaney, Danesfort were always capable of providing a response, which resulted in a comfortable victory on a 1-23 to 1-16 score line.

The final first round game saw St. Lachtain's (Freshford) advance at the expense of John Lockes (Callan) in Tom Ryall Park, Kilmanagh. Two Shane Donnelly goals, each one scored at either end of the game, were the key scores for the Freshford men, who did not get everything their own way against a very determined and hard-working Callan side. St. Lachtain's led by 1-8 to 0-8 at the break and though John Lockes managed to reduce the gap to two points in the final quarter, Donnelly's second goal gave St. Lachtain's the extra cushion they needed. In the end, they won out on a 2-19 to 0-19 score line.

A dramatic quarter-final game in Ballyragget again saw the Fenians once again sneak out a narrow victory, this time over St. Martin's. The Johnstown men enjoyed a positive first half, leading by 0-12 to 1-7. The St. Martin's cause was certainly not helped during the half as they were reduced to 14 men due to a sending off, but they did have a life line from a goaled penalty from their goalkeeper Colin McGrath, after Robert Shore had been fouled. Fenians then had a dream start to the second half when their great stalwart JJ Delaney, operating at full-forward, scored a goal to open a six point lead. Yet it only served to galvanise St. Martin's, and soon after the impressive Luke Maher scored their second goal and with further points, they soon levelled the game. One of these points came from a second Colin McGrath penalty, which would have really given them an advantage had it found the Fenians net. Points from Shane Kinsella and Brian Coady did give them a short-lived lead, but Fenians finished the game strongly with Mark Webster and Kieran Grehan points to snatch victory by 1-20 to 2-16. St. Martin's will have been hugely



Glenmore Captain, Ger Aylward lifts the Hanrahan Cup.



*James Maher goes past Shane Murphy*

disappointed by the manner of the loss, but credit to Fenians for the character shown in the final frantic minutes.

Glenmore proved too strong for Danesfort in their quarter-final pairing in UPMC Nowlan Park. Two early goals from Ian Byrne and Mark Aylward were the key scores for the Glenmore men, while Danesfort were once again hampered by injury to Richie Hogan, though he did manage to appear as a substitute in the opening half. His presence did give Danesfort some heart as the first half progressed, and they managed to reduce the gap to 2-5 to 0-7 at the half-time break. But Glenmore were comfortably able to regroup for the second half and were able to increase their lead to eight points by the end of the game, winning in the end by 2-15 to 0-13.

The second part of the quarter-final double header in UPMC Nowlan Park saw St. Lachtain's score a victory over Carrickshock. A stunning final quarter, which saw the Freshford men score 1-7 while conceding only a single point to the Carrickshock men, saw them on the road to victory.



*Back in his usual position, Eoin Murphy makes a terrific catch on his goal line*

Up until this point, Carrickshock looked destined for a good win as they led by 1-13 to 0-10, after a well taken goal from Jake O'Dwyer early in the second half had given them a significant advantage. But, not for the first time, the water break proved to be a real momentum changer, as Shane Donnelly immediately scored a goal for St. Lachtain's and when this was followed by a number of Freshford points, suddenly, the teams were level. Though Carrickshock took the lead again, once again St. Lachtain's scored a flurry of points from James Maher, Shane Donnelly and Liam Hickey to grab a 1-17 to 1-14 victory.

As many might have expected, Thomastown had too much fire power for O'Loughlin Gaels in the remaining quarter-final game in Bennettsbridge. Goals in each half from John Donnelly and Daithi Barron set the platform for victory for Thomastown, who led by 1-11 to 0-6 at the half way mark. O'Loughlin's were unfortunate, however, as they had goal chances either side of half-time that, had they been converted, might have made things a bit more interesting in the second half. They did score a deflected goal





**THOMASTOWN - IH LEAGUE AND AYLWARD CUP CHAMPIONS 2021**

**Back:** Conor O'Neill, Shane Maher, Jack Holden, Naoise Dempsey, Paul Barron, Ciaran Sutton, Davey Prendergast, Jack Cullen, Gary Lehane, Richard O'Hara, Dylan Waugh, Adrian Burke, James Burke, Jonjo Farrell, Daithi Barron, Brian O Hanrahan, Peter McDonald, Brian Staunton, Luke Connellan, Dylan Caulfield.  
**Front:** Brian Murphy, Barry Whelan, Darragh McGarry, Liam Treacy, Peter Connellan, Ned Kirwan, Thomas O' Hanrahan, Diarmuid Galway, Aaron Kehoe, Colin Corway, David Griffin, Robbie Donnelly, Des Walsh, Eddie Donnelly, Gian O'Mara.



**DICKSBORO - BYRNÉ CUP CHAMPIONS 2021**

**Back:** Kevin Kenny, Ollie Walsh, Conor Fitzpatrick, Michael Fagan, Kevin Nolan, Oisin Gough, Shane Stapleton, Edward Moylan, Evan Cody, Bill Sheehan, Brian Minogue, Chris Kavanagh, Stephen Farrell, Eoghan Moylan, Cillian Timmons, Padraig Moylan, Niall Rowe, Liam Moore, Martin Gaffney.  
**Front:** Timmy Clifford, Robbie Murphy, Robbie Fitzpatrick, Andy Gaffney, Aaron Murphy, Joe Sheehan, Mark Nolan, Tom Kenny, Alan Phelan, Evan Carroll, Tommy Farrell, Conor Doheny, Liam Brennan-Smith, Liam Stynes.

midway through the second half and another late goal from a Danny Loughnane free, but Thomastown still had plenty of score in reserve, as they comfortably won out on a 2-24 to 2-13 score line.

The opening semi-final provided an interested North Kilkenny derby with St. Lachtain's taking on the Fenians. The Johnstown men enjoyed the ideal start with the opening three points of the game from placed balls from Mark Webster. Indeed, it could have been more had the third point, which came from a penalty, not ended up over the bar. But the Fenians soon suffered a major blow when they were reduced to fourteen men following the dismissal of one of their defenders. It certainly helped St. Lachtain's as the weather conditions worsened, and the additional man would eventually take its toll on the Johnstown men. As it was, the Freshford men held only a marginal 0-9 to 0-7 lead at the break. The Fenians battled gamely throughout the second half, but one never got the sense that they would be able to muster enough scores to reel in St. Lachtain's as the half progressed. The final two scores of the game were the stepping stones to the Freshford men's victory. Liam Hickey was responsible for both, as he struck a penalty to the net, and soon after, broke through to finish superbly past Jason Dermody in the Fenians goal. It finished the scoring, albeit slightly flattering for St. Lachtain's, in a 2-12 to 0-10 win for the Freshford men.

Glenmore had shown glimpses of their ability to have the measure of the more favoured Thomastown in the recent league final, and in this semi-final, they produced a performance that provided a complete reverse in defeating the Thomastown men. From an early stage, it was clear that Glenmore were more than a measure for their opponents, particularly in the wet and windy conditions. However, it was Thomastown who struck an early blow when Thomas O'Hanrahan capitalised on a mistake in the Glenmore defence to finish to the net, and give Thomastown an early advantage. But rather than give Thomastown the confidence to push forward, it was Glenmore who dominated the remainder of the first half. With Eoin and Shane Murphy on top in the Glenmore half-back line, and Alan Murphy, Ger Aylward and Ian Byrne providing the scoring threat in the forwards, Glenmore managed to open up an 0-11 to 1-4 lead at

#### **MICHAEL LYNG MOTORS INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP 2021**

##### **FIRST ROUND**

St. Lachtain's	2-19	John Lockes	0-19
Danesfort	1-23	Conahy Shamrocks	1-16
O'Loughlin Gaels	1-19	Young Irelands	1-14
Fenians	2-13	Dunnamaggan	0-17

##### **QUARTER-FINALS**

Thomastown	2-24	O'Loughlin Gaels	2-13
St. Lachtain's	1-17	Carrickshock	1-14
Glenmore	2-15	Danesfort	0-13
Fenians	1-20	St. Martin's	2-16

##### **SEMI-FINALS**

St. Lachtain's	2-12	Fenians	0-10
Glenmore	0-19	Thomastown	1-13

##### **FINAL**

Glenmore		St. Lachtain's	
----------	--	----------------	--

##### **RELEGATION SEMI-FINALS**

Conahy Shamrocks	0-17	John Lockes	1-10
Dunnamaggan	0-17	Young Irelands	2-9

##### **RELEGATION FINAL**

Young Irelands	3-13	John Lockes	1-7
----------------	------	-------------	-----

the half way mark. With the breeze at their backs for the second half, Thomastown needed to make a swift response to get back in the game, and did so impressively in reducing the gap to two points early on. But Glenmore once again proved their mettle, with some excellent points



# MICHAEL LYNG MOTORS HYUNDAI



Glenmore Captain, Ger Aylward raises the Hanrahan Cup with  
Michael Lyng, Sponsor, and Cathaoirleach, Jimmy Walsh.  
(Willie Dempsey)

**View our Extensive Range of new & Quality Used Vehicles  
New Ultra Modern Motor Garage**

**Tel: 056 777 0700**

**Sales - Service - Van & Car Hire -Body Repairs  
We will NOT BE BEATEN FOR QUALITY, SERVICE or PRICE**



scored by Ian Byrne, Alan and Shane Murphy and Liam Hennessy to increase the lead to six points once again. Thomastown did manage to reply with three more points, and indeed could have had more had a possible penalty been awarded to John Donnelly late on, but was not given. With that opportunity lost, it meant victory, most deservedly it has to be said, for Glenmore on a 0-19 to 1-13 score line.

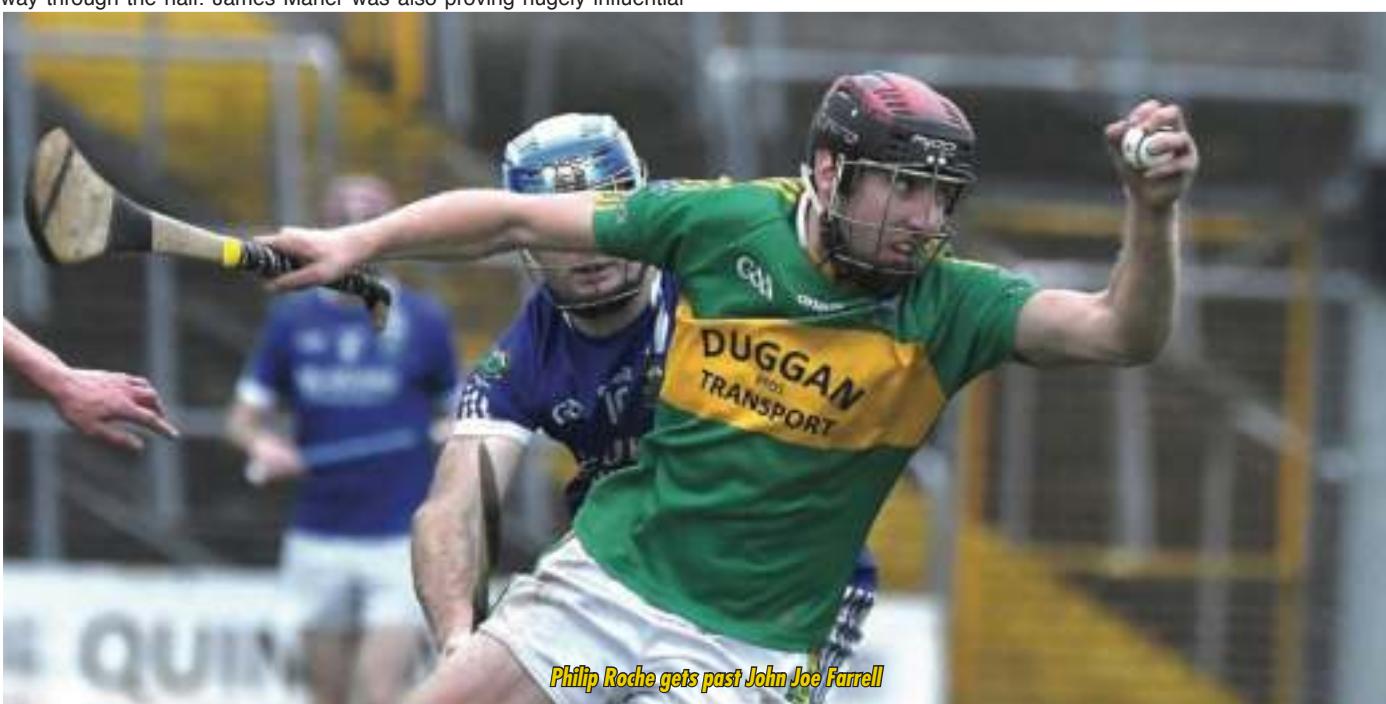
Meanwhile, the dog-eat-dog battle that is relegation saw semi-final pairings of Young Irelands facing Dunnmaggin, while John Lockes took on Conahy Shamrocks. Dunnmaggin produced a more rounded performance in getting the better of the Gowran men by 0-17 to 2-9, while Conahy retained their intermediate status for 2022 with a hard fought win over a gallant John Lockes by 0-17 to 1-10. The subsequent relegation final between Young Irelands and John Lockes played out as a one-sided affair, with the Gowran men well on top from an early stage. Goals from Sean Kehoe and Paul Holden gave them a 2-5 to 1-3 lead at the half way mark, and they gradually built on that lead during the second half to eventually win out by 3-13 to 1-7, and consign John Lockes to the junior grade for 2022.

The county final saw St. Lachtain's enjoy an impressive start to the game against Glenmore, despite conceding a goal to Ger Aylward in the opening minute. They responded in fine style with two goals from Cian Dawson and Liam Hickey to eventually open up a 2-6 to 1-3 lead midway through the half. James Maher was also proving hugely influential

for St. Lachtain's at centre forward in his key battle with Eoin Murphy. But Glenmore managed to regroup extremely well during the second quarter, and points from Robert Fitzgerald, Ger Aylward, Liam Hennessy and a long range effort from Eoin Murphy helped Glenmore to close the deficit to a goal by the half-time break (2-7 to 1-7). However, the Freshford attack always looking threatening given the right possession, in particular Shane Donnelly and Liam Hickey in the corner forward positions.

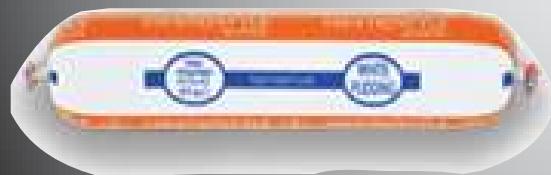
But the second half produced a complete performance from Glenmore, who were absolutely dominant from start to finish. They outscored St. Lachtain's by 2-12 to 0-2 as the Freshford men had no answer to the fast movement and tough tackling of the Glenmore men. Ger and Mark Aylward, Alan Murphy, Liam Hennessy and Ian Byrne all found the range with points to open up a 1-14 to 2-8 lead. Then, as Ger Aylward was fouled in the small square, Alan Murphy scored from a well struck penalty to increase the lead to six points. Try as St. Lachtain's might, they could not contain a now rampant Glenmore. Later on, victory was assured when Ger Aylward found his brother Mark with a neat pass and he forced the ball past Darren Brennan to make the score 3-17 to 2-8 in their favour. Minutes later, referee Conor Everard brought an end to proceedings with Glenmore the winners on a 3-19 to 2-9 score line.

No doubt the victors, and no doubt the best team in the intermediate grade this year!





## **Country Style Foods Champion Rashers, Sausages & Puddings**



**Local Food for Local People**



[www.countrystylefoods.ie](http://www.countrystylefoods.ie)

*Grannagh, Kimacow, Co Kilkenny*

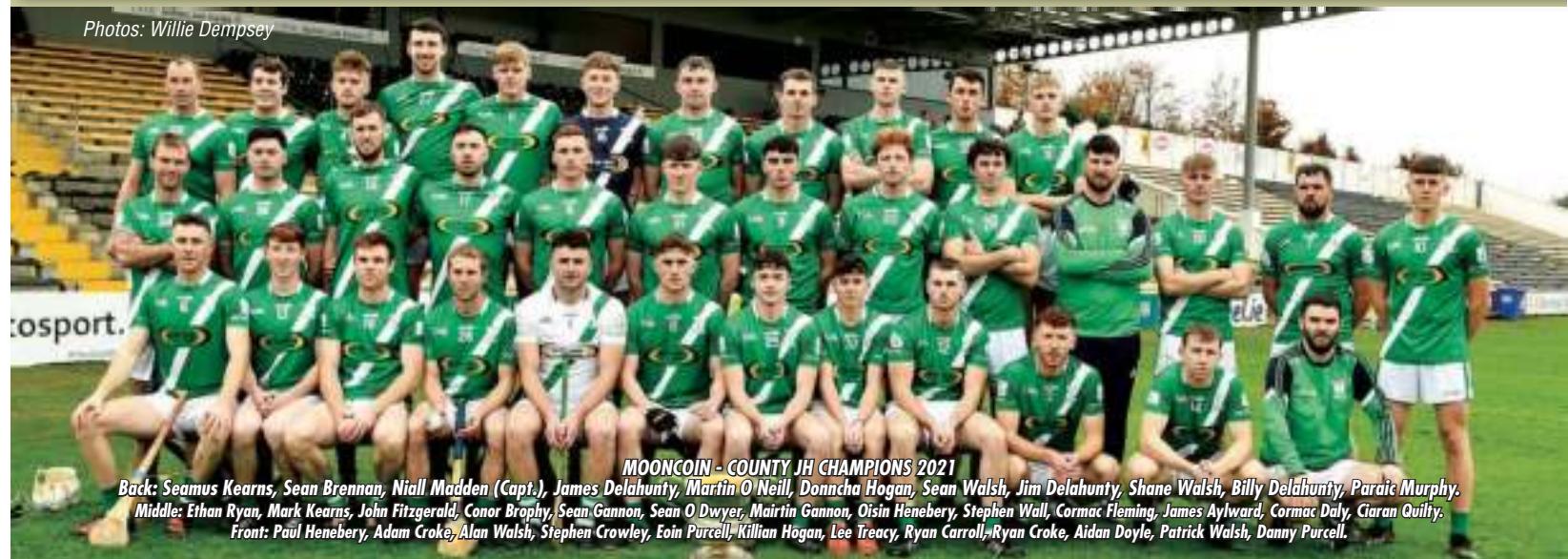


**PROUD SPONSORS OF KILKENNY JUNIOR HURLING**

# MOONCOIN MOVE UP!

Junior Championship Report by Mary Morgan PRO

Photos: Willie Dempsey



MOONCOIN - COUNTY JH CHAMPIONS 2021

Back: Seamus Kearns, Sean Brennan, Niall Madden (Capt.), James Delahunt, Martin O'Neill, Donncha Hogan, Sean Walsh, Jim Delahunt, Shane Walsh, Billy Delahunt, Paraic Murphy.  
Middle: Ethan Ryan, Mark Kearns, John Fitzgerald, Conor Brophy, Sean Gannon, Sean O'Dwyer, Mairtin Gannon, Oisín Henebry, Stephen Wall, Cormac Fleming, James Aylward, Cormac Daly, Ciaran Quilty.  
Front: Paul Henebry, Adam Croke, Alan Walsh, Stephen Crowley, Eoin Purcell, Killian Hogan, Lee Treacy, Ryan Carroll, Ryan Croke, Aidan Doyle, Patrick Walsh, Danny Purcell.

## CHAMPIONSHIP

The full complement of Junior Competitions did not take place in 2021 due to the later than usual start to the season because of the Covid-19 restrictions. However, once the season was up and running, all competitions and all roads led to UPMC Nowlan Park on Sunday the 14th November for the JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior County Final clash between two southern teams, Mooncoin and Tullogher Rosbercon. Tullogher Rosbercon, having been relegated to Junior in 2019, were hoping to get back to the Intermediate ranks as were Mooncoin, having lost their Intermediate relegation final in 2018 after one year at Intermediate level.

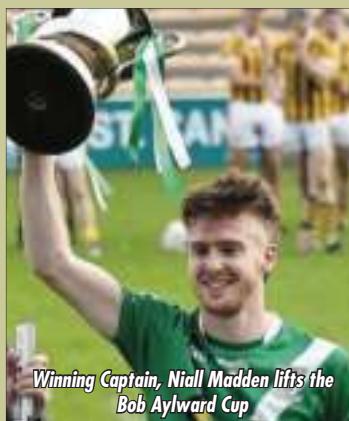
Both teams were impressive as they progressed through the championship and the County Final was an epic affair. It initially appeared as if it would be a one-sided affair with Tullogher Rosbercon having a dream start and notching up an impressive 1-4 from play in the first seven minutes. Tullogher's goal in the fifth minute came from a line ball from Cian O'Donoghue across field into space which was picked up on the run by Walter Walsh whose strike was unstoppable and he buried it in the back of the Mooncoin net. Mooncoin threatened the Tullogher defence for a period and four goal attempts were swiftly dealt with by the Tullogher backs and it was the tenth minute before Mooncoin opened their scoring with a well-taken point from Killian Hogan. At the first water break, Tullogher led 1-6 to 0-3.

After the water break, there was a change in the Mooncoin panel. They were now playing with an intensity not seen in the first 15 minutes. Every score

on both sides was hard-fought and hard-won. Mooncoin kept chipping away at the Tullogher lead with some fine points from Killian Hogan, Patrick Walsh, Sean Gannon and Martin O'Neill. Just before the half-time whistle, Mooncoin led by a point but two minutes into injury time, Tullogher's captain, Conor Hennessy caught a high ball on the edge of the square and, with a quick turn to get around his marker, raised Tullogher's second green flag of the afternoon. A free on Walter Walsh gave Tullogher's Cian O'Donghue an opportunity to convert in the 34th minute and the first half closed out with the Tullogher Rosbercon men leading by three points. Mooncoin 0-11 Tullogher Rosbercon 2-8.

The second half was an even more lively affair. The two sides left nothing on the field as they eyed the prize the title of Junior County Champions. Tullogher were first out of the blocks when a long range free found Walter Walsh who put it straight over the black spot. A threat from Tullogher in the 35th minute was neutralised by centre back Paul Henebry and with the aid of captain Niall Madden who made a run up the wing, Niall offloaded the ball to Killian Hogan whose strike found the back of the net. Mooncoin were now exerting their dominance – they were hunting in packs, they were winning the aerial battles and they outscored Tullogher 1-2 to 0-1 in the third quarter and at the final water break, led 1-13 to 2-9.

The final quarter saw Mooncoin pull away. Mooncoin's second goal in the 50th minute came against the run of play. A mistake by the Tullogher defence in clearing the ball was pounced on by Ciarán Quilty who made no mistake in putting it past the Tullogher keeper. While Tullogher fought hard and managed to score a third goal deep in



Winning Captain, Niall Madden lifts the Bob Aylward Cup



TULLOGER ROSBERCON - COUNTY JH FINALISTS 2021

Back: James Mullally, Pat Doyle, Darragh Murray, Brian O'Shea, Conor Ryan, Mickey Hendrick, Matt Rossiter, Kevin Hennessy, Shane Lyng, Liam Barron.  
Middle: Pat Hartley, Colman O'Sullivan, Paudie Walsh, Peter Meggs, Brian Walsh, Richard Gill, Simon Kennedy, David Walsh, Cian O'Donoghue, Donncha O'Connor, Walter Walsh, James Murphy, Luke Kent, John Crotty, Richard Doherty.  
Front: Liam Walsh, Billy Ryan, Sean Murray, Niall O'Shea, Conor Hennessy, Eoin Kennedy, Tarek O'Connor, John Hartley, Anthony O'Connor, Frank Murphy, Stephen Lawlor, Eoin Ryan.



injury time, it was to be Mooncoin's day in what was a superb team performance. Intermediate grade now awaits Mooncoin in 2022. FT Mooncoin 3-19 Tullogher Rosbercon 3-11.

**Mooncoin:** Eoin Purcell, Aidan Doyle, Shane Walsh, Niall Madden (capt), Jim Delahunt (1-0), Paul Henebery (0-2, 0-1f, 0-1 65), Cormac Daly, Sean Gannon (0-3), Máirtín Gannon, Ciarán Quilty (1-0), Martin O'Neill (0-3), John Fitzgerald (0-1), Adam Croke, Patrick Walsh (0-8, 0-4f), Killian Hogan (1-2).  
**Subs:** Conor Brophy, Lee Treacy, Mark Kearns.

**Tullogher Rosbercon:** Eoin Kennedy, John Hartley, Sean Murray, Niall O'Shea, Donnacha O'Connor, Pat Hartley (0-1), Kevin Hennessy, Stephen Lawlor, Walter Walsh (1-2), Coleman O'Sullivan, Conor Hennessy (capt) (1-3), Tarek O'Connor, Anthony O'Connor, Richie Dollard, Cian O'Donoghue (1-5, 0-5f).  
**Subs:** Simon Kennedy, Liam Barron, John Jack Cotterell, Frank Murphy, Eoin Ryan.

#### Ref: Sean Cleere

The Section B championship kicked off on the 26th September 2021 when Shamrocks Ballyhale overcame Rower Inistioge 2-19 to 1-10. Shamrocks Ballyhale continued their winning streak, overcoming Clara 2-19 to 3-14, until they came up against Dicksboro in the semi-final but the Boro side proved too strong, winning out on a scoreline of 4-19 to 1-12. Lisdowney and Erins Own battled it out in the quarterfinal. There wasn't much between the teams but Lisdowney edged out four point winners in the end, 2-15 to Erins Owns 2-11. James Stephens awaited Lisdowney in the second semifinal and a victory by the Village men set up an all city affair for the Section B final, a repeat of the Section B League Final just a month earlier. It was an exciting final, played out in St John's Park, on the 25th October. This time the James Stephens men held strong and advanced to the Championship semifinal, setting up a showdown with Tullogher Rosbercon.

The Section A championship commenced in early October with Tullogher Rosbercon taking on Cloneen in the preliminary round. Cloneen battled hard and came close to overcoming Tullogher Rosbercon but just couldn't get over the line and Tullogher Rosbercon advanced to the second round, 1-15 to 3-7. In the second round both finalists, Mooncoin and Tullogher Rosbercon, had comfortable victories over Galmoy and St Patrick's respectively. Mooncoin overcame Galmoy 3-30 to 3-19 in a high-scoring and thoroughly enjoyable game while Tullogher Rosbercon edged out eight point winners against St Patrick's, 1-22 to 0-17. Meanwhile, in other second round action, Slieverue overcame Barrow Rangers 2-19 to 1-20, Blacks and Whites overcame Windgap 0-18 to 0-16 and Piltown and Emeralds kept their championship hopes alive with victories over Kilmacow and Graignamanagh – Piltown 2-14 Kilmacow 1-13 and Emeralds 0-25 Graignamanagh 2-17. The three Section A quarterfinals were played on the 23rd October. Tullogher Rosbercon ended Emeralds campaign 2-12 to 1-12 as did Mooncoin end with Blacks and Whites' campaign on a scoreline of 1-15 to 0-14. The surprise for many was Slieverue's comprehensive victory over Piltown in a wet and windy Mullinavat. Slieverue were well in control in the first half, aided by a very strong wind. However, Piltown used that wind to their advantage in the second half, clawing their way back into the game and forcing the match to extra time with a late equaliser. The Slieverue side emerged victorious after an epic encounter, 3-21 to 0-27, and advanced to a semifinal encounter with Mooncoin. The rest, as they say, is history. The two finalists, Mooncoin and Tullogher Rosbercon, put on fine displays in the semifinals, proving they deserved their place in the final. Mooncoin were ruthless in their clash with Slieverue and while the scoreline did not reflect Slieverue's hard work and determination, Mooncoin were laying down a marker for the final with their 6-13 to -0-13 win. In the other semifinal, Tullogher Rosbercon also proved they were contenders for the Junior title with a comfortable victory over James Stephens, 0-27 to 2-14.

None of the Junior teams had to worry about finding themselves in a relegation final as there was no relegation from Junior in 2021 and while one Mooncoin team moves on to Intermediate, Mooncoin's second team takes their place at Junior level, having won the Junior A Championship.

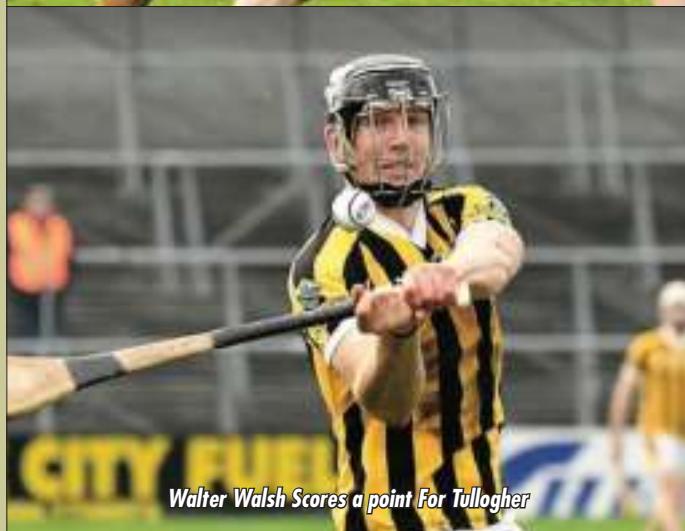
#### JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior Hurling League

The Section A Junior Hurling League again proved to be a great competition with a lot of fine-tuning by the teams in preparation for Championship. The Group A & B rounds began at the end of August and took place over a five week period instead of the normal five month period, culminating in the League Final between table toppers Windgap and Mooncoin in front of a large crowd under lights in Piltown on the 1st October. It was a one-sided affair with Windgap taking an early lead and never relinquishing it, claiming the title with an impressive performance. The final score was 2-21 to 0-13. Piltown and St Patrick's contested the Shield Final in Clara on the 2nd October and Piltown, after a slow start, controlled the pace of the game and emerged victorious, 1-18 to 2-14.

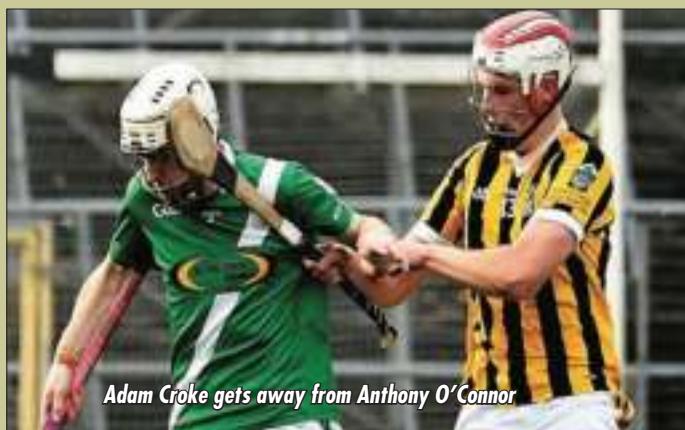
The Section B Hurling League kicked off with Dicksboro and James



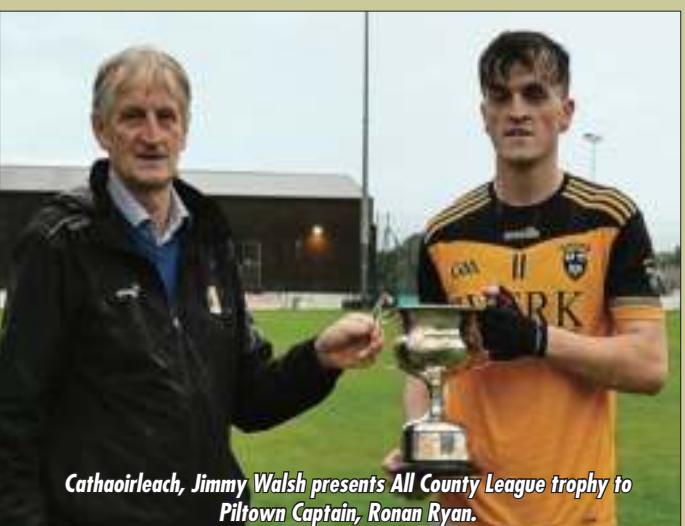
Tarek O'Connor determined not to allow Sean Gannon pass



Walter Walsh Scores a point For Tullogher



Adam Croke gets away from Anthony O'Connor



Cathaoirleach, Jimmy Walsh presents All County League trophy to  
Piltown Captain, Ronan Ryan.



#### MOONCOIN - COUNTY JH "A" CHAMPIONS 2021

**Back:** Alan Hennebry, Eoin Doyle, Ryan Croke, Conor Brophy, Sean Brennan, Stephen Wall, Sean O Dwyer, Cormac Kinsella, James Delahunt, Oisin Hennebry, Paraic Murphy, Niall O'Hanlon, James O'Keefe, Patrick Kinsella, Seamus Kearns, Jimmy Holden.

**Front:** James Aylward, Mairtin Gannon, Sean Wall, Liam Hennebry, Adam Croke, Donnacha Hogan, Ryan Carroll, Lee Treacy, Nicky Hennebry, Stephen Crowley, Danny Purcell, Ethan Ryan.



#### PILTOWN ALL-COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING LEAGUE WINNERS 2021

**Back:** Aidan Ryan; Fiachra Twohig; Eoin Morgan; Tom Reid; Conor McGowan; Aidan Walsh; Conor Hogan; Shane Kinsella; Declan Duggan; Seán O'Neill; John Kenny; Braedon Wheeler; James Norris; Séamus Norris.

**Front:** Aidan Friend; Aaron Kinsella; Ian Long; Robert Tobin; Darragh Walsh; Oran Brophy; Ronan Ryan, Capt., Neil Moriarty; Cian Kinsella; Billy O'Callaghan; Shane Walsh; Tom Kenny; Martin Power.



#### DICKSBORO - ALL COUNTY JH "B" CHAMPIONS 2021

**Back:** Jessie Waters, Liam Brennan-Smith, Eoin de Buitléir, Cormac Kennedy, David Conway, Colm O'Hara, Brian Minogue, Tom Carroll, Rory O'Connor, Niall Rowe, Evan Guilfoyle, Rory Glynn, Paddy O'Shea, Graham Egan, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Eddie O'Donoghue.

**Front:** Shane O'Brien, Eoin Dalton, Nick Doheny, Timmy Clifford, Charlie Nolan, Robert Croft, Eamon O'Reilly, Stephen Dermody, Darragh Maher, Eoghan O'Neill, Evan Clarke, Zac McHardy, James Carroll.



#### FENIANS - ALL COUNTY JH "C" CHAMPIONS 2021

**Back:** JJ Delaney, David Ryan, Podge Sweeney, Kieran Grehan, James Sweeney, Dion Quinlan, Seán Brennan, Mark Hughes, Alex Lawlor, Damien Delaney, Adam Duggan, Bobby Tynan, Jordan Muldowney, Daragh Tobin.

**Front:** Gerry Drennan, Paul Phelan, Kevin Power, Paddy McCormack, Seán Tobin, Aran Dermody, Cillian Walsh (JC), Cormac Ryan, Eddie Highes (JC), Luke Hughes, Jason Dermody, Declan Brennan. (Young Mascot - Fionn Brennan).



# JJ Kavanagh & Sons

*Established 1919*

## Coach Tour Operator & Private Hire Specialists

MAIN SPONSOR OF COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP



Mooncoin Captain, Niall Madden, is presented with the J.J. Kavanagh & Sons Junior Hurling Championship cup by Paul Kavanagh, Sponsor, J.J. Kavanagh & Sons and Seamus Breathnach, Chairman, Kilkenny County Board, after the Final in Nowlan Park. (Photo:Willie Dempsey)

Head Office:

**MAIN STREET, URLINGFORD,  
Co. KILKENNY**

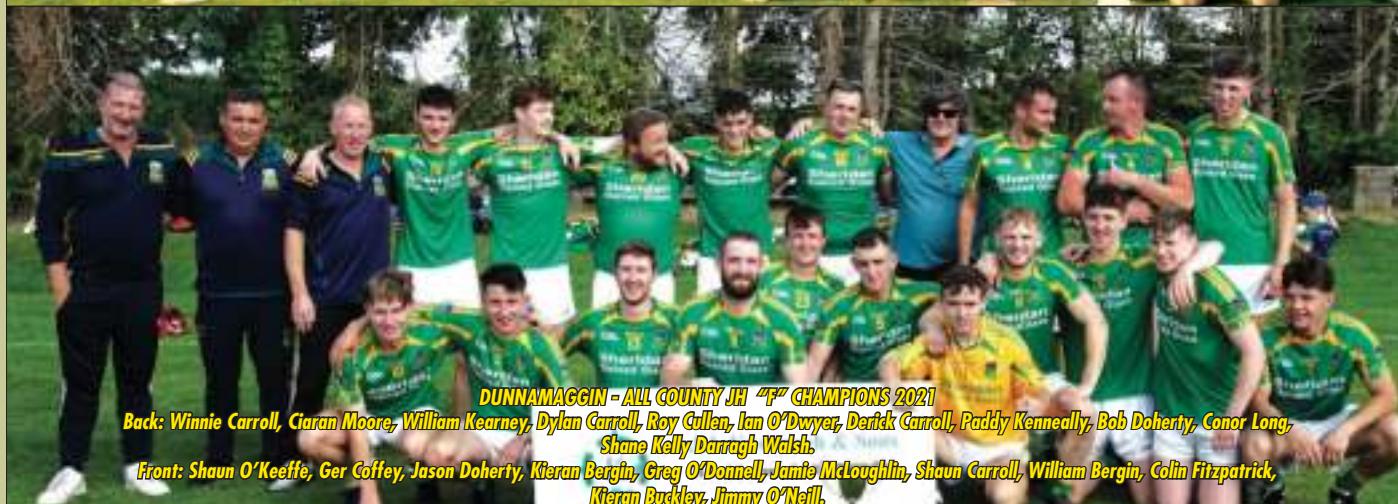
Telephone: 056-8831106

Fax: 056-8831172

E-mail: [info@jjkavanagh.ie](mailto:info@jjkavanagh.ie)

Web: [www.jjkavanagh.ie](http://www.jjkavanagh.ie)

**Official Carriers to all Inter-County  
Hurling and Camogie Teams**





Stephens showing early that they would be serious contenders throughout the league and come championship, recording comprehensive wins over Rower Inistioge and Shamrocks Ballyhale respectively. Clara and Erins Own were very competitive during the league, each recording four victories from six but it was James Stephens and Dicksboro who progressed to the final. The final played out in MW Hire Centre Dunmore on the 24th September and it took extra time to separate the sides in this exciting encounter but a strong performance from Dicksboro in extra time helped them secure the win, 0-24 to 1-18.

#### The JJ Kavanagh & Sons All County Junior Hurling League

The All County Junior Hurling League always promises to be a very competitive competition and this year proved no different when the competition kicked off in June, a number of months later than usual. Group A comprised of Piltown, Barrow Rangers, St Patrick's, Slieverue, Kilmacow, Cloneen and Tullogher Rosbercon. Group B comprised of Windgap, Mooncoin, Blacks and Whites, Graignamanagh, Galmoy and Emeralds. The games came hard and fast over a five-week period and the hot and dry summer weather meant fast-paced, thrilling encounters. Very little separated the top teams in each group but it was Piltown and Windgap who progressed to the Final in Mooncoin on the 5th August. After an intense, fast-paced first half, the sides were level but when rain finally arrived, this made conditions tricky underfoot. Piltown capitalised on this and pulled ahead to give them a five point victory, 2-19 to 3-11.

2021 was the year everyone was looking forward to with a sense of optimism and hope, following the impact Covid-19 had on 2020. And while 2021 was not a normal year by GAA standards, it was certainly an improvement on 2020. Our season may have been shorter than normal but it was no less action-packed and it was a welcome boost to have supporters return to the sidelines, given the restrictions imposed during the latter half of 2020 for attendance at championship games.

The Junior Board is tasked with running the Junior A to F, u-19 and u-21 competitions. This year, the Board was delighted to be in a position to plan for and organise the Junior A to F league and championship and the u-19 and u-21 championship, the league and u-19 & 21 championship not having taken place in 2020 due to the pandemic. The Board was extremely grateful for the continued support of our sponsors, JJ Kavanagh & Sons (Junior A, B, E, F & u-21), Iverk Produce (Junior C), Country Style Foods (Junior D) and Permanent TSB (u-19), all of whom remained on board for 2021.

Such was the interest from clubs this year that 59 teams affiliated across the junior grades, an increase of 11 teams on 2020, with some clubs entering a third and even fourth team. Because of this increase, the Junior Board added a new Junior F category.

And so the Junior A to F season began on the weekend of the 11th June, slightly later than usual! The players were ready, the supporters were ready, pitches all around the county were in perfect condition and enthusiasm was high. We were treated to some very competitive and highly entertaining games throughout the league which culminated in six



Conor Brophy JH "A" Captain with Sponsor Paul Kavanagh and Chairman, John Lacey



Robert Crotty JH "B" Captain with Sponsor Paul Kavanagh and Chairman, John Lacey



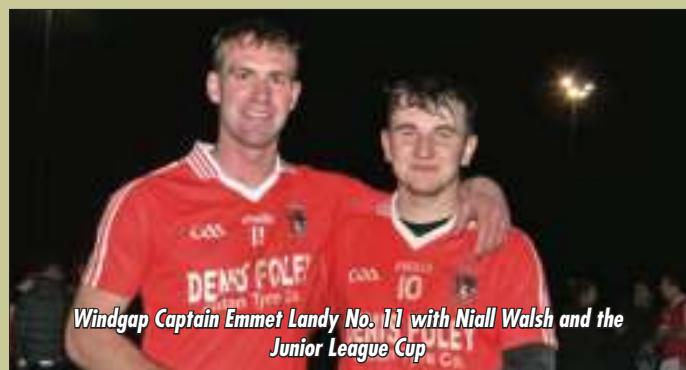
Cillian Walsh JH "C" Captain with Sponsor Dessie O'Dea (Iverk Produce)



Jamie O'Brien JH "D" Captain receives trophy from John Lacey Chairman Junior Board



Conor Lyng JH "E" Captain receives trophy from Sponsor, Paul Kavanagh



Windgap Captain Emmet Landy No. 11 with Niall Walsh and the Junior League Cup



William Bergin JH "F" Captain receives trophy from PRO, Mary Morgan, and Sponsor Frank Kavanagh



exciting league finals, commencing the 18th July, which played out as follows:

**JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior A League Final** – playing on home turf and despite leading by a point at halftime, Mullinavat were not able to hold on to their lead and Thomastown secured the win with a comfortable victory at the final whistle. Mullinavat 1-11, Thomastown 0-22.

**JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior B League Final** – while nothing separated the sides at half time on a balmy summer's evening in Ballyragget, Bennettsbridge took the lead against St Lachtain's early in the second half and never relinquished it. Bennettsbridge 2-24, St Lachtain's 3-17.

**Iverk Produce Junior C League Final** – nothing could separate the Fenians and Piltown, with the sides level at halftime and the second water break but, in the final minutes, Fenians edged ahead by the slimmest of margins in Danesfort. Fenians 2-11, Piltown 0-16.

**Country Style Foods Junior D League Final** – in a high-scoring encounter where the green flag was raised five times, Blacks and Whites managed to edge out two point winners against Slieverue in an exciting game in Tullogher. Blacks and Whites 4-14, Slieverue 1-21.

**JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior E League Final** – in yet another high-scoring final, Lisdowney proved too strong for Dicksboro when the sides met in Jenkinstown. Leading by seven points at halftime, Lisdowney held their nerve in the second half and maintained that seven point lead at the final whistle. Dicksboro 2-13, Lisdowney 3-17.

**JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior F League Final** – St Lachtain's and Tulloher Rosbercon met in picturesque Bennettsbridge to contest the first ever Junior F league final. The youthful Tulloher Rosbercon side proved too strong for St Lachtain's and were deserved winners. St Lachtain's 1-15, Tulloher Rosbercon 5-16.

Less than two weeks after the league finals, the championship got underway. The weather was still very warm and dry, with temperatures hitting 30 degrees on a number of occasions, which meant a continuation of the fast-paced, hard hitting "summer" hurling which the supporters were enjoying. Every game was well attended, aided, no doubt by the good weather.

In what turned out to be a fantastic weekend of hurling, the six county finals took place over a 48-hour period from the 27th to the 29th August. The A to D finals took place in UPMC Nowlan Park and Clara and Hugginstown hosted the E and F finals respectively. 10 clubs competed in the finals with Dunnamaggin and Piltown each featuring in two finals.

**JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior A County Final** – Dunnamaggin and Mooncoin battled it out in UPMC Nowlan Park for the honour of claiming the Junior A title. After a thrilling and close encounter, Mooncoin emerged victorious. Dunnamaggin 1-16, Mooncoin 0-21. Given the success of the Mooncoin Junior team in their County Final victory over Tulloher Rosbercon and their advancement to Intermediate grade, the Junior A Champions can take their rightful position at Junior grade in 2022.

**JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior B County Final** – despite leading by a point at halftime in UPMC Nowlan Park, Conahy Shamrocks were unable to hold off a strong showing from a dominant Dicksboro side in the second half, resulting in a comfortable victory for the Boro men. Dicksboro 3-18, Conahy Shamrocks 2-10.



**Despite losing his helmet a determined Sean Gannon Drives Forward**

**Iverk Produce Junior C County Final** – in a repeat of the league final not two weeks earlier, Fenians and Piltown met again, this time in UPMC Nowlan Park. As in the league final, nothing could separate the sides in this exciting encounter but a penalty awarded to the Fenians in injury time proved the difference in the end. It was a memorable win for the iconic JJ Delaney who was not only instrumental in his team's victory but who claimed his first adult club championship medal. Piltown 1-12, Fenians 1-14.

**Country Style Foods Junior D County Final** – in another repeat of the recent league final, Slieverue and Blacks and Whites fought for top honours in UPMC Nowlan Park. However, it was to be Slieverue's day with a fine performance by the men from the South and a long awaited and deserved county title in the bag. Slieverue 3-20, Blacks and Whites 2-16.

**JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior E County Final** – Clara was the venue for the Lisdowney/Rower Inistioge encounter, with Lisdowney hoping to capitalise on their league victory a couple of weeks earlier. However, a determined Rower Inistioge team, in an intense game, saw the Rower Inistioge men edge out by the slimmest of margins. Lisdowney 0-14, Rower Inistioge 1-12.

**JJ Kavanagh & Sons Junior F County Final** – in the first ever Junior F County Final, Piltown and Dunnamaggin met in Hugginstown. For two small country clubs each fielding a third adult team, it was a great achievement by both clubs to reach not one, but two, county finals. The first Junior F title went to Dunnamaggin after a hard-fought contest. Piltown 1-17, Dunnamaggin 2-17.

The Permanent TSB u-19 Championship is in full-swing as we go to print and the JJ Kavanagh & Sons u-21 Championship is scheduled to start once the u-19 Championship is finished.



**NEWPARK SARSFIELDS – County Junior Hurling Champions 1971 (Veterans were guests of County Board at County JH Final 2021)**  
**Back:** Tim Hickey RIP, Mick Nolan, Jim Byrne RIP, Mick Bourke, Ned Nolan RIP, Rodney McCormack RIP, Martin Hayes, Bosco Buckley RIP, Tom Weadick, Johnny Byrne, Davy Dalton, Dick McGrath.  
**Front:** Sammy Kirwan RIP, Paddy Buckley, Harry Beale, Brendan Corcoran, Sean Fitzpatrick RIP, Mick Power, Tom Brennan, Richie Grace RIP, Noel O'Sullivan, Kevin Byrne, Mick Byrne RIP, Billy Nolan RIP. (Chairman Tommy Long RIP, Manager Paddy Johnson RIP (not in photo)).



# CONSTRUCTION AND PLANT HIRE

***Quality and Professional***

- Site Clearance
- Ground work
- Plant Hire
- Commercial Construction
- Agricultural Construction
- Civil Construction

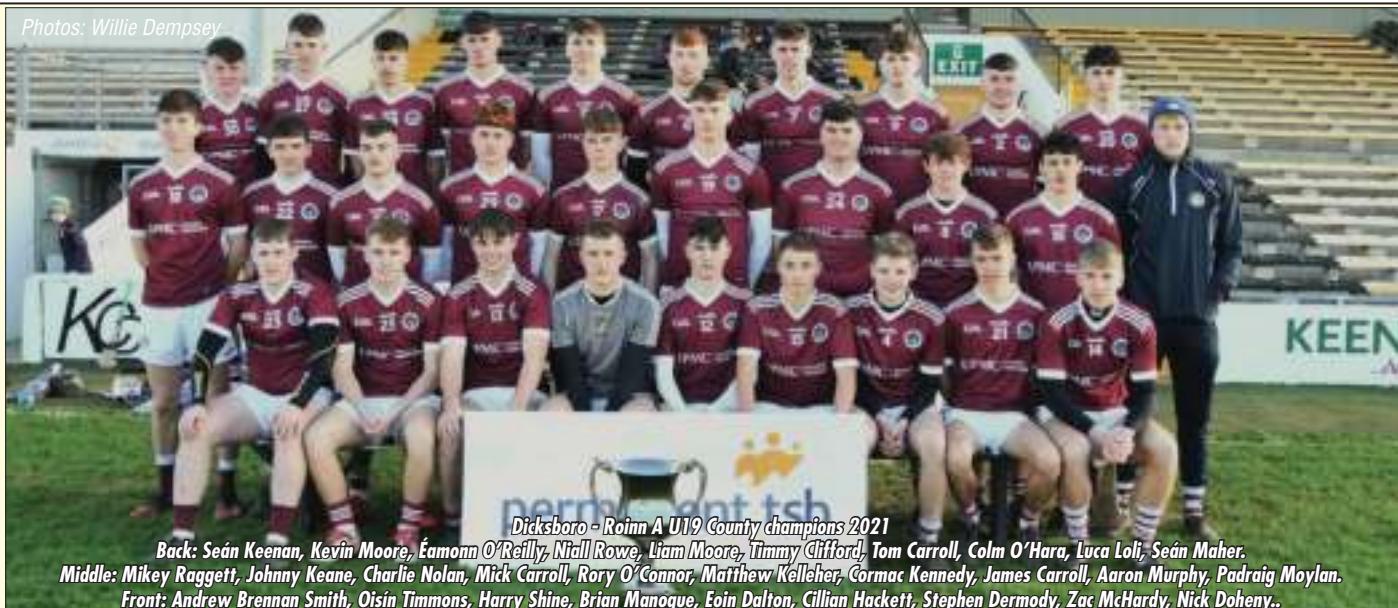
**TD TOM DELAHUNTY  
CONSTRUCTION & PLANT HIRE**

Portnahully, Carrigeen, Co. Kilkenny, X91 Y159. Mob: 0862593042. Email: [info@tomdelahunty.com](mailto:info@tomdelahunty.com)

# DICKSBORO *finish strong*

Permanent TSB U19 Report by Mary Morgan

Photos: Willie Dempsey



Back: Seán Keenan, Kevin Moore, Éamonn O'Reilly, Niall Rowe, Liam Moore, Timmy Clifford, Tom Carroll, Colm O'Hara, Luca Loli, Séan Maher.  
Middle: Mikey Raggett, Johnny Keane, Charlie Nolan, Mick Carroll, Rory O'Connor, Matthew Kelleher, Cormac Kennedy, James Carroll, Aaron Murphy, Padraig Moylan.  
Front: Andrew Brennan Smith, Oisín Timmons, Harry Shine, Brian Manogue, Eoin Dalton, Cillian Hackett, Stephen Dermody, Zac McHardy, Nick Doheny..

## **Roynn A County Final**

### **Dicksboro 3-17 Thomastown 0-15**

(match report –Mary Morgan, Junior Board)

While Dicksboro may have laid down a marker early on in this exciting County Final at UPMC Nowlan Park on the 21st November 2021, it was only after the second water break that they pulled away from their Thomastown opponents to claim the Permanent TSB U-19 Roynn A title. It was a lovely sunny November afternoon but conditions were wet and heavy underfoot after a frosty night.

Thomastown were first to raise the white flag in this double header at UPMC Nowlan Park with a fine point from Peter McDonald just forty seconds after throw-in. A Harry Shine attempt in the second minute came off the posts and was well-cleared by the Thomastown goalie, Luke McNena. However, moments later Dicksboro's James Carroll pounced on a loose ball and found Liam Moore making a run up the middle – Liam cut through the Thomastown defence and made no mistake in finding the back of the net in the third minute. The marker was laid down!

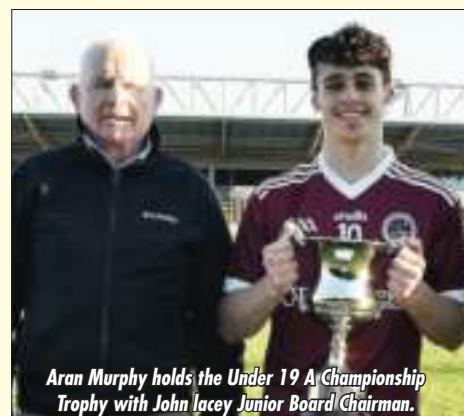
Thomastown's Peter McDonald was a workhorse throughout the sixty minutes and responded to the Dicksboro goal with two points, one from a placed ball. Peter scored all but one of Thomastown's nine points in the first half. Harry Shine put his name on the scoreboard with his first of many scores of the afternoon when he pointed from a placed ball in the sixth minute. James Carroll, working tirelessly at midfield, put over a super point from close to the sideline shortly after. The city side kept the pressure on with Cillian Hackett, Liam Moore and Harry Shine registering points and a goal attempt by Harry Shine just before the water break might have put the Boro men up two goals at the water break but a scramble on the goal line eventually resulted in the ball being cleared away by Luke McNena. At the first waterbreak, it was Dicksboro 1-5 to Thomastown's 0-5.

Thomastown were quick out of the blocks after the water break and a well-worked passage of play up the field, involving Peter McDonald, Luke Connellan, Zach Bay Hammond and Conor Holden, threatened the Dicksboro

defence but they held strong and denied Thomastown a goal. It was the first of many goal attempts by the men in blue and white and credit goes to Brian Minogue for his effort on the day. Not long after, Liam Treacy, took aim at the Boro goal and again, Brian, defended superbly. Luke McNena was also on form in the second quarter, denying Eoin Dalton and Aran Murphy goal-scoring opportunities. The first half closed out with points from Dicksboro's Nick Doheny and Thomastown's Luke Connellan while Peter McDonald and Harry Shine scored two apiece from placed balls. Nothing separated the sides and at half time the score was Dicksboro 1-11 Thomastown 0-9.

Harry Shine was instrumental in setting up a number of the Boro scores in the second half. He was liable to pop up anywhere on the field, laying off the ball to his teammates who were in better scoring positions or back defending. A layoff to Eoin Dalton early in the second half put their side three points up. Liam Moore again showed his might with a rasper of a strike which everyone thought would end up in the back of the net but the rattle of the crossbar echoed around the stadium, to the relief if the Thomastown supporters. Thomastown wasted no time going on the attack and were awarded a free for their hard work. Peter McDonald stood up to take the free but struck it short to Luke Connellan who was in a better position and Luke pointed with ease. Harry Shine, with pinpoint accuracy set up Aran Murphy Dalton and substitute Sean Maher with some fine points. A pointed free from Peter McDonald meant only the early Dicksboro goal separated the sides going into the second water break. Dicksboro 1-11 Thomastown 0-11.

Dicksboro came out after the second water break and dominated all over the pitch, blitzing the Thomastown defence and outscoring them 2-6 to 0-4 in the final 15 minutes. Points from Sean Maher and Harry Shine (free) helped extend their lead out to five points before Zach Bay Hammond, escaping his marker, put over a lovely point. From this point on, Dicksboro took a firm hold on the game and Liam Moore added to his tally with a lovely point in the 50th minute and was instrumental in captain Aran Murphy's goal a minute later. A long ball into Cillian Hackett in the corner was passed to Liam. Liam, spotting the unmarked Aran off his right shoulder, simply and accurately flicked the ball on with his hurl and Aran's strike was unstoppable. Thomastown went on the attack in the dying minutes and were awarded a



Aran Murphy holds the Under 19 A Championship Trophy with John Jacey Junior Board Chairman.

free. There was no option but to go for goal and the Peter McDonald strike looked like it was heading from the back of the net but Brian Minogue just got the tip of his hurl to it and sent it over the bar for a point instead. An injury time goal from Harry Shine sealed the win for the city men. FT Dicksboro 3-17 Thomastown 0-15

**Dicksboro:** Brian Manogue, Luca Loli, Niall Rowe, Stevie Dermody, Charlie Nolan, Timmy Clifford, Tom Carroll, James Carroll (0-2), Colm O'Hara, Aran Murphy (capt) (1-1), Liam Moore (1-2), Eoin Dalton (0-1), Harry Shine (1-6, 0-5f, 0-1 65), Nick Doheny (0-1), Cillian Hackett (0-1).

**Subs:** Sean Maher (0-2), Cormac Kennedy, Mikey Raggett (0-1), Oisín Timmons.

**Thomastown:** Luke McNena, Oisín O'Reilly, Cian Moore, Ben Tennyson, Pauric Kirwan, Peter Connellan, Naoise Dempsey, Rory Connellan, Peter McDonald (capt) (0-12, 0-7f), Liam Treacy, Luke Connellan (0-2), Paddy Collins, Conor Holden, Zach Bay Hammond (0-1), Sean O'Keeffe.

**Subs:** Alex Cass, Conor O'Neill.

**Referee:** Paul Cahill (Dunnamaggin)

## **Roynn A Shield Final**

### **Galmoy/Windgap 2-21 Rower Inistioge 4-12**

(match report – Jerry Drennan, Galmoy)

Just three points separated the sides at the end of this enthralling Permanent TSB U-19 Roynn A Shield Final in sunny Gowran on



**Erin's Own - Roinn B U19 County Champions 2021**

**Back:** Conor Brophy, Ewan Connery, Ashley Kerr (capt.), Kiel Smyth, Tommy Coogan, Ciarán Meagher, Kevin Smyth, Kevin Holland, Jack Comerford .  
**Middle:** Evan Harding, Michael Brennan, Darragh O'Rourke, John Kenny, Shane Holden, Dean Bray, Joey Ryan, Eoin Nolan, Joey Rowe.  
**Front:** James Kenny, Eoghan Moore, Darragh Normoyle, Shane Coogan, Jamie Maher, Lee Holden, James Coogan, Owain Comerford.

Sunday afternoon. Six times, the sides were level throughout this encounter while no more than two points separated them at any of the intervals.

Galmoy/Windgap had a tonic start, when Matt Delaney delivered a good ball in to corner forward Blade O Gorman who turned his marker, sped to goal and despatched the sliotar to The Rower net after just 20 seconds. Lively corner forward Tom O Callaghan responded with a point immediately, before Kilkenny County minor Eoghan Lyng won a ball in the right corner and slammed past James Purcell to put his side in front. Midfielder, Eoin O'Brien added a Rower Inistioge point from 40 metres, as his side had now recovered from their sluggish start. In the fourth minute, Billy Drennan took a pass from Matt Delaney to strike his first of thirteen points. Eoin O'Brien from Galmoy/Windgap added a point from a very acute angle on the right hand side, before Billy Drennan and Eoghan Lyng exchanged frees to leave Rower Inistioge ahead 1-4 to 1-3 at the first water break.

Galmoy/Windgap midfielder Callum Lonergan had a wonderful game throughout and the tougher the going became, the more this athlete loved it. In the 18th minute, he took a pass from Drennan to strike a point off his left. Eoghan Lyng responded from a free before the winners struck three scores in succession. Points from Billy Drennan and Blade O Gorman sandwiched a classy goal from Lonergan. He won the sliotar from a melee 35 metres from goal, turned and set sail up the middle, before rifling a cracker to The Rower net. These scores left Galmoy/Windgap four points ahead by the 20th minute, 2-6 to 1-5. Eoghan Lyng then moved centre stage for the next ten minutes. Like Lonergan, he exited from a ruck of players and struck to the winners' net. Three minutes later, he won a free out to the right of goal on the 20 metre line. As he stood over the sliotar, all and sundry expected him to raise another white flag, but his low trajectory shot went all the way to the roof of the Galmoy/Windgap net. He added a pointed free, which drew a similar response from Callum Lonergan to leave Rower Inistioge ahead 3-6 to 2-7 at half time. They were full value for their lead with impressive performances from Tom Cullen, Jack Morrissey and Eoin O'Brien, but one sensed a reply from the combined forces.

And so it proved, as Galmoy/Windgap came out with fire in their eyes. Spurred on by the strong Sean Purcell, who was tremendous at centre back, Callum Lonergan and Billy Drennan, they took control for the opening stages of the new half. In the first seven minutes, Drennan struck four points, two from frees, and along

with one from young Billy Power, they began to exert their dominance on proceedings. Matt Delaney also worked very hard, although his shooting let him down on occasion. Ciarán Keher Murtagh pulled one back for The Rower. Their goalkeeper and captain Dan Mulholland then brought off a very good save from Mark McCoy which kept his side in the hunt. In the 38th minute Ciarán Keher Murtagh set off on a penetrating run from the right hand side before off loading to Tom O Callaghan who buried the sliotar in the net to put The Rower one point to the good again, 4-7 to 2-12.

Billy Drennan was now winning a lot of ball and two quick points from him saw his side back in front again. By the second waterbreak, Galmoy/Windgap lead 2-16 to 4-8. The final quarter was a fitting conclusion to a pulsating tussle with both sides pulling out all the stops. Billy Drennan and Eoghan Lyng exchanged frees once again, before Callum Lonergan soloed up the middle of The Rower defence to strike an impressive point. Craig Bolger had just been introduced for the southerners and he split the posts in the 54th minute. The next three points all came from the stick of Billy Drennan, two of them being frees from out on the right hand sideline. This left Galmoy/Windgap ahead 2-21 to 4-10 as the game entered added time. Those final moments saw Rower Inistioge throw absolutely everything into attack. They won two frees in quick succession, each forty metres from goal, which Eoghan Lyng pointed, but try as they might, their final attacks were thwarted by a resolute Galmoy/Windgap defence, where Padhraic Foley, Gearóid Phelan and David Sherman defended heroically. FT Galmoy/Windgap 2-21 Rower Inistioge 4-12.

Bob Shortall from Kilkenny Junior Board presented the winning trophy to Galmoy/Windgap's Padhraic Foley and Billy Drennan, to record a first ever Roinn A title at any level for two sides who have been amalgamated since 2006.

**Galmoy/Windgap:** James Purcell, Sean Barron, Padraig Foley, Jack O'Shea, Gearóid Phelan, Sean Purcell, David Sherman, Matt Delaney (0-1), Callum Lonergan (1-3), Billy Power (0-1), Billy Drennan (0-13, 0-7 frees), Adam O'Shea, Eoin O'Brien (0-1), Mark McCoy, Blade O'Gorman (1-2).

**Subs:** James Darcy for Jack O Shea 50 mins, Daniel Hanrahan for Billy Power 51 mins.

**Rower Inistioge:** Dan Mulholland, Tiernan Morrissey, Tom Cullen, Oisin Whelan, David Prendergast, Ruaidhri Delaney, Jack Morrissey, Eoin O'Brien (0-1), Michael Moffitt, Ciarán Keher Murtagh (0-1), Fiachra Farrell, Mark Flood, Eoghan Lyng (3-8, 1-8 frees), Darragh Bolger, Tom O



**Ashley Kerr Erin's Own 19 B Captain with John Lacey Junior Board Chairman.**

**Callaghan (1-1).**

**Subs:** Conor Bolger for Michael Moffitt, Cathal Langton for Oisin Whelan and Craig Bolger (0-1) for Fiachra Farrell.

**Referee :** Colin Tobin (Young Irelands)

### **Roinn B Co Final**

**Bennettsbridge 0-13 Erin's Own 3-8**

(match report – Mary Morgan, Junior Board)

Bennettsbridge and Erin's Own contested the Permanent TSB U-19 Roinn B County Final on Sunday the 21st November in the opening game of a double header at UPMC Nowlan Park. Following a heavy frost overnight, the ground was heavy with the morning dew and, while it was windy, the swirling breeze didn't give either side any advantage. Bennettsbridge went on the attack in the opening minutes and a great save from Erin's Owns Shane Holden meant they had to settle for a point on the rebound by full forward Ben King. Less than a minute later, Bennettsbridge were again denied a goal and Timmy Kelly pointed to keep the scoreboard ticking over. Erin's Owns first point came from a Shane Coogan placed ball in the sixth minute. Erin's Owns were starting to find their rhythm and pointed twice in the space of thirty seconds, the scores coming from Shane Coogan and captain Ashley Kerr. However, it was a low-scoring affair up to the first water break and Bennettsbridge closed out the first quarter with two points from placed ball by Ben King, giving them a 0-4 to 0-3 lead.

Bennettsbridge did most of the hurling in the second quarter and attacked with vigour at every opportunity. However, two great saves from Shane Holden in the space of three minutes kept the Comer men in the game.



**Galmoy Windgap U-19 Roinn Permanent TSB Roinn "A" Hurling Shield Winners**  
**Back:** Matthew O'Shea (selector), Zak Kennedy, Frank Phelan (selector), David Sherman, Eoin O'Brien, James Darcy, Sean Barron, Adam O'Shea, Sean Purcell, Blade O'Gorman, Mark McCoy, Cillian Doyle, Daniel Hanrahan, Jack O'Shea, James Purcell and Philly Lonergan (Selector).  
**Front:** Jack Doyle, Karl McCoy, Matt Delaney, Callum Lonergan, Gearóid Phelan, Billy Drennan, Pauric Foley, Evan Doyle, Billy Power, Killian Enright, and Jim Power.

Another goal opportunity presented itself for the Bridge but they were unfortunate when the breaking ball was accidentally kicked over the end line. While they were denied goals, they did manage to score three points. Timmy Kelly was instrumental in setting up two of those points for Jack Campion and Paddy Walsh and Ben King added another to his tally from a placed ball. It looked like the Bridge would have a four point lead going into the break but a high ball sent in to the Bennettsbridge square by Shane Coogan on the stroke of half time was cleared only as far as full forward Jamie Maher, who made no mistake in finding the back of the net. This was Erin's Owns only score of the second quarter but it meant the Bridge only led by the slimmest of margins at the halfway mark, Bennettsbridge 0-7 to Erin's Owns 1-3.

Erin's Own opened the second half scoring with a pointed free from Shane Coogan. Another Bennettsbridge attack, this time from centre back Daniel Murphy who ran straight up the middle, called upon Shane Holden to defend his goal yet again and defend it he did! A great block by Shane resulted in a 65 being awarded but unfortunately, the Bridge couldn't convert it. The Bennettsbridge men never gave up and points from Jack Campion and Gearóid Kent (2 frees) saw them stretch out their lead by 3 points. However in the 42nd minute, Tommy Coogan picked up a loose ball and handed it off to Lee Holden who had made a run up the middle. Jack Forristal pulled off a great save but, as before, Jamie Maher was in the right place at the right time and he pounced on the rebound to score his second goal of the day. Jamie closed out the third quarter with a lovely point and the Comer men now had a two point advantage going into the last quarter – Bennettsbridge 0-10 Erin's Own 2-6.

By the 54th minute, Bennettsbridge had fought their way back into the game and the sides were now level. It still looked like it could go either way but a point from Shane Coogan in the 58th minute encouraged the Comer side to dig deep and an Erin's Own line ball in the 60th minute found the hand of Jamie Maher and Jamie scored his hat trick which secured the title for his team as the final whistle went just moments later. Winter hurling is never easy and it was Erin's Owns doggedness and sheer determination and great defending by Shane Holden that spurred them on and got them over the line. Credit however goes to both goal keepers who pulled off a number of great saves between them but the Erin's Own forwards were quicker to react, resulting in crucial scores. Full time Bennettsbridge 0-13 Erin's Own 3-8.

**Bennettsbridge:** Jack Forristal, Kyle Ryan, Joe Hughes, Matthew Treacy, James Hughes, Bill Hughes (0-1), Myles McGovern, Ivan Kelly, John Doyle, Gearóid Kent (0-3f), Jack Campion (0-2), Oisín Meegan, Timmy Kelly (0-1), Ben King (0-5, 0-4f), Paddy Walsh (0-1).

**Subs:** Conor Molloy.

**Erin's Own:** Shane Holden, Owain Comerford, Kevin Holland, Darragh O'Rourke, Eoghan Moore, Dean Bray, James Kenny, Ciaran Meagher, John Kenny, Shane Coogan (0-6, 0-4f), Ashley Kerr (capt) (0-1), Tommy Coogan, Lee Holden, Jamie Maher (3-1), Michael Brennan.

**Subs:** Joey Ryan, Brian Holland, Kevin Smyth.

**Referee:** Gay Rafter (Threecastles)

### Roinn C Shield Final

#### Conahy Shamrocks 2-15 Tullaroan 1-15

(match report – Nickey Brennan, Conahy Shamrocks)

Tullaroan led Conahy Shamrocks for much of this Permanent TSB U19C Shield Final in Páirc Lachtain, Freshford, on Saturday the 20th November last, but a strong closing six minutes saw Conahy gain the upper hand to record a good win.

Tullaroan had the better of the opening quarter getting the first score, a point, from Keelan Brennan. By the fifth minute Conahy drew level through industrious midfielder Jack Murphy who was quickest to a breaking ball to score. That point saw Conahy hit a good patch with further points from Brooklyn Synott and Robert Ring. The play was towards the Conahy goal for the remainder of the quarter. Points from Liam Walsh and a Gearóid Dunne free tied the game. The first goal of the game arrived on fourteen minutes when hesitant Conahy defending allowed Gearóid Dunne to steer the ball over the line. Keelan Brennan added another Tullaroan point moments later to see his side leading 1-4 to 0-3 at the first water-break.

Despite playing against the breeze in the opening half Conahy started the second quarter impressively with three points from Mark Gunner, two from frees, to leave the minimum between the teams. Tullaroan played the better hurling in the closing stages of the first half. They scored three unanswered points through



**Galmoy Windgap joint captains Roinn 'A' U19 Permanent TSB Hurling Shield winners**

**Billy Drennan, Bob Shortall Junior Board, Patric Foley**

Bill Walton (2) and Gearóid Dunne to stretch the lead to four points. Robert Ring scored a fine Conahy point from an acute angle to narrow the margin before Charlie Cleere and Bill Walton added points for Tullaroan to see them lead 1-9 to 0-7 at the interval.

Tullaroan extended that lead further on the restart when Keelan Brennan pointed, but Conahy were right back in the game one minute later when a long delivery from Robert Ring ended up in the back of the Tullaroan net. When Mark Gunner (free) and Harry O'Mahony added a brace of points for the winners the margin was back to the minimum.

Tullaroan put Bill Walton on free-taking duties in the third quarter and he scored a good point after fifteen minutes. He got another from a sixty-five moments later after Oisín Cahill in the Conahy goal brought off a terrific save from Keelan Brennan. Another Harry O'Mahony point for Conahy Shamrocks was followed by a similar score from Bill Walton for Tullaroan after a neat pass from Gearóid Dunne. Brooklyn Synott left a point between the sides close to the end of normal time, but the key score of the game arrived one minute later when Billy Mulhall collected a low delivery from Jack Murphy to score a goal.

Gearóid Dunne hit a brace of points for Tullaroan in between Ciaran Rice pointing a seventy-metre free for the winners, but the momentum was now with Conahy Shamrocks. They finished impressively with Mark Gunner and Harry O'Mahony hitting points to record a merited win. Conahy's work rate in the second half was key to their victory, but in the end Billy Mulhall's goal proved the difference between two evenly matched teams.



# UPMC

LIFE CHANGING MEDICINE

**High Quality,  
Expert Care.**

UPMC Kildare Hospital - Clane

UPMC Aut Even Hospital - Kilkenny

UPMC Whitfield Hospital - Waterford

UPMC Hillman Cancer Centre - Waterford, Cork

UPMC Sports Medicine Clinic - Waterford

UPMC Outreach Centre - Carlow

**[www.upmc.ie](http://www.upmc.ie)**



Best for the winners were team captain John Paul Gamble, Conor Duggan, Ciaran Rice, Jack Murphy, Robert Ring and Mark Gunner, while for Tullaroan Bill Walton, Keelan Brennan, Gearoid Dunne, Brendan Walsh Eamonn Óg Holland and Charlie Cleere stood out.

**Conahy Shamrocks:** Oisín Cahill, Conor Duggan, John Paul Gamble (capt), Jack Dempsey, Sean O'Dornan, Ciaran Rice (0-1f), Kieran Brennan, Darragh Hennessy, Jack Murphy (0-1), Harry O'Mahony (0-3), Robert Ring (1-3), Damien Cuddihy, Adam Walsh, Mark Gunner (0-5, 0-2f), Brooklyn Synott (0-2).

**Subs:** Billy Mulhall (1-0), Oisín O'Connor, Jack Joyce.

**Tullaroan:** Niall Holland, Josh Tallis, Tom Dillon, Padraig O'Mahoney, Paul Mulligan, Eamonn Óg Holland, Jack Cleere (joint capt) (0-1), Bill Walton (0-5, 0-1f, 0-1 65), Charlie Cleere, Keelan Brennan (0-4), Gearoid Dunne (1-4, 0-3f), Brendan Walsh (joint capt), Aaron Russell, Liam Walsh (0-1), James Walton.

**Subs:** Bill Coogan, James Cash, Billy Keogh, Matthew Mulligan, Richard Delaney, Richard Cash (inj).

**Referee:** Peter Burke (Emeralds)

### Roynn E Go Final

**John Lockes 1-18 St Patrick's 3-13**

(match report – Bosco Bryan, John Lockes)

St. Patricks, Ballyragget clenched victory from John Lockes, Callan in the dying seconds with a goal from their scorer in chief, Cian Doheny, to claim the Permanent TSB U19 E Championship title at a well-attended St. John's Park on Saturday 20th November 2021. It was an enthralling affair from start to finish with two evenly matched teams giving their all in an attempt to secure victory.

The Callan men were first on the score board, registering a goal and two points before the fourth minute. The goal came from a penalty, awarded as a result of a foul on Ryan Donovan-Cooke, which was dispatched to the back of the net by Adam O'Sullivan. St Patricks were level again by the 12th minute, courtesy of 3 frees from Cian Doheny and one from Kevin Walsh. From there to half time the teams exchanged points with Ciarán Phelan showing great accuracy from placed balls for the Lockes, mirrored for St. Patrick's by Doheny. A major score from Shane Culleton put St. Patrick's ahead by the barest margin at half time, with a score of 1-8 to 1-7.

The second half saw both teams exchanging points, with Callan registering two from the impressive Conor Brett, and two from Paddy Brennan. Culleton and Doheny responded for St Patrick's leaving it 1-12 a piece on the 47th minute. The Lockes men upped the ante with Ciarán Phelan and Adam O'Sullivan thundering into the game to score the next four points to lead by 1-16 to 1-12 as the clock hit the 54th minute. However, the Ballyragget men were not found wanting and a point from Michael Cash and a goal from Séan Brennan left it all square again with just four minutes to go. The Lockes drove on again with two points from Ciarán Phelan just as the game reached the 60th minute. Then a long speculative ball from Christian McInerney found danger man Cian Doheny and he rose the biggest cheer of the day when he rattled the back of the net to secure the title for St. Patrick's by the minimum margin. Final Score John Lockes 1-18 St. Patricks 3-13.

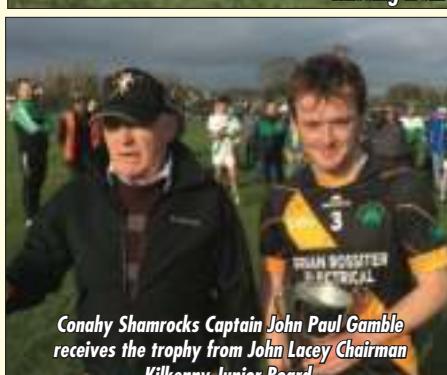
**John Lockes:** Harry Madigan, Edmund Dowling, Stephen Bergin, Ethan Bergin, Ben Corcoran, Adam



**Conahy Shamrocks – U19 C Shield Winners 2021**  
**Back –** Ciarán Rice, Jack Murphy, Darragh Hennessy, Harry O'Mahony; Oisín O'Connor, Kieran Brennan, Conor Duggan, Jack Dempsey, Robert Ring, Adam Walsh.  
**Front –** Sean O'Dornan, Mark Gunner, Damien Cuddihy, Brooklyn Synott, John Paul Gamble (Captain), Billy Mulhall, Oisín Cahill, Jack Joyce.



**St Patrick's U19 – Permanent TSB Roynn "E" Champions 2021**  
**Back:** Christian McInerney, Eoin Southgate, Kieran Walshe, Mick Cash, Conor Phelan, Cian Doheny, Jack Delaney, Shane Culleton, Taras Biletsky.  
**Front:** Niall Kavanagh, Marc Bergin, Aaron Nealis, Dillon Lawless, Matthew Love (capt) Chris Delaney, James Ryan, Harry Culleton, Thomas Love, Sean Brennan, Peter Holohan.  
**Missing from photo:** Ned Cash.



**Conahy Shamrocks Captain John Paul Gamble receives the trophy from John Lacey Chairman Kilkenny Junior Board.**



**Matt Love, St Patrick's U 19 Captain with John Lacey Junior Board Chairman.**

**O'Sullivan (capt)(1-0 penalty), Kevin Lynch, John O'Brien, Ciarán Phelan (0-9, 0-6f), Ryan Donovan Cooke, Emmet Nolan, Ryan Roche, Conor Brett (0-4, 0-1f), Paddy Brennan (0-5, 0-3f), Ben Canavan.**

**St Patrick's:** Peter Holohan, Niall Kavanagh, Eoin Southgate, Chris Delaney, Matt Love (capt), Christian McInerney, Conor Phelan, Jack Delaney, Cian Doheny (1-10, 0-9f, 0-1 65), Mark Bergin, Kieran Walsh (0-1), Michael Cash (0-1), Dillon Lawless, Shane Culleton (1-1), Sean Brennan (1-0).

**Referee: John Bennett (Tullogher Rosbercon)**

In other U-19 action to date, the Roynn C and D County Finals and the Roynn B and Roynn D Shield finals are scheduled for the weekend of the 27th and 28th November.

Tullogher Rosbercon and Graigue Ballycallan overcame Young Irelands and Glenmore respectively at semifinal stage to set up a Roynn B Shield Final encounter.

Lisdowney will face off against Dicksboro's second team in the Roynn C County Final, having overcome Danesfort and Graignamanagh respectively to reach the final.

In the Roynn D County Final, Barrow Rangers will take on Mullinavat. A club record for a Mullinavat player in a championship game was set by full forward Shane Aylward in their semifinal encounter against Blacks and Whites. Shane scored six of Mullinavat's eight goals to help his team advance to the final.

# DICKSBORO x Three!

U17 Bord na nÓg Report by Pado O'Flynn



## ROINN A

Even though only six teams went to post this year's renewal proved to be a fascinating edition of the Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor A Championship. There were first round championship wins for James Stephens over O'Loughlin Gaels & Dicksboro over Young Irelands.

### Dicksboro 3-15, James Stephens 3-9

A strong second half from Dicksboro saw them overcome city rivals James Stephens in a highly entertaining Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor A County semi-final at the MW Hire Centre, Dunmore.

A strong work ethic from James Stephens saw them control the first half and their five point interval lead was deserved. The Boro almost got through for a goal within a minute of the start, but excellent goalkeeping from Daniel Power kept out Harry Shine's effort. One minute later Shine pointed for the Boro for the first score of the game.

The game really came to life in the fourth minute when Stephen Manogue drifted in from midfield to tap a Shane Glynn delivery to the net. Although Dicksboro responded with points from Kyle Maher and the excellent Matthew Kelleher, three Edward McDermott points kept the Village boys ahead.

Similar to the first quarter, Dicksboro almost grabbed a goal at the start of the second quarter with Daniel Power saving a Declan O'Farrell effort. James Stephens were growing in confidence at this stage with Sam McEvoy and Liam Holohan impressing in their central defensive roles and when Sean Casey got their second goal when set up by Edward McDermott they led 2-3 to 0-5.

A pointed free from Harry Shine reduced the margin, but James Stephens finished the first half impressively with points from Edward McDermott (free) and Sean Casey to lead 2-5 to 0-6 at the interval.

Some stern half-time words from their mentors saw a sea-change in attitude from Dicksboro in the second half. The introductions of Mikey Raggett and Evan Murphy as half-time subs also helped. So too did the move of Declan

O'Farrell out the field from his full-forward position with his work rate key to his side's impressive second half revival.

Within a minute of the restart Dicksboro grabbed their first goal through Billy Fitzpatrick. Thereafter the winners played with greater confidence and the work rate which was absent in the first half was very evident during the second thirty minutes.

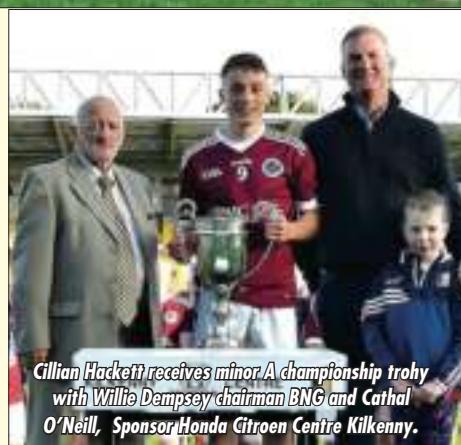
A second Dicksboro goal from Harry Shine after superb build-up play edged the winners ahead for the first time. While they continued to battle bravely, James Stephens never recovered from that second Boro goal.

Outstanding defending from Johnny Keane and Player of the Match Michael Stynes continued to drive the winners forward. Mikey Raggett grabbed a third goal when set up by Harry Shine to see his side ahead 3-15 to 2-9 with time almost up. But credit to the Village boys who continued to battle bravely to the finish and they were rewarded with a Fionn Cody goal. Dicksboro deserved to win, but it needed a big second half effort to defeat their cross-city rivals. The huge work rate in the first half from James Stephens may well have taken its toll on their players, but a big change in attitude from the winners was ultimately key to their deserved victory at the finish.

### Tullogher Rosbercon 4-17, Bennettsbridge 0-10

The second semi-final between Tullogher Rosbercon and Bennettsbridge on Sunday morning at the MW Hire Centre, Dunmore was effectively decided by the first water-break when Tullogher Rosbercon led by ten points. Bennettsbridge were forced to line out without 2021 Kilkenny minor full-back Bill Hughes who was nursing a shoulder injury. His absence was a big loss but throughout the pitch the Southerners were strong in every sector and they dominated the game from the throw-in.

An early pointed free from Timmy Kelly put the 'Bridge ahead for the one and only time in the game. Within a minute, another of this year's Kilkenny minor hurlers Danny Glennon equalised from a free for Tullogher and they never looked back after that score. Three goals in a seven-minute spell before the



Cillian Hackett receives minor A championship trophy with Willie Dempsey chairman BNC and Cathal O'Neill, Sponsor Honda Citroen Centre Kilkenny.

first water-break put Tullogher in firm control of the game. The first came from impressive wing forward Marty Murphy who plucked the sliothar out of the sky from a puck-out and ran fifty metres to score. The second came from Danny Glennon after a neat pass from Niall Mooney, while the third was also scored by Marty Murphy after good build up play among several attackers.

Bennettsbridge never recovered and while they were more competitive in the second quarter, goals were required to narrow the margin between the teams. Tullogher defenders Cathal Mooney and Lar Murphy commanded the centre and few scoring chances came the Bridge's way.

Timmy Kelly was unerring from frees for the 'Bridge but it took until the twenty-fifth minute to get their first score from play, a point from Charlie Fitzgerald. It got no better for Bennettsbridge in the second half despite the side working hard to get back into the game. Points from Jack Campion and Paddy Walsh (2) narrowed the margin, but a fourth Tullogher Rosbercon goal from Danny Glennon ensured that there was no way back for the 'Bridge boys. Tullogher's physical strength in key positions was key to their impressive performance. With an abundance of strong hurlers in their team, their work rate and combination play were superior to their opponents. Marty Murphy continued to impress in the fourth quarter grabbing two more points and so too did team captain Danny Glennon who was a constant



**Danesfort Winners of Minor Roinn B Championship**

threat all through the game.

Three points from Bennettsbridge midfielder Jack Campion was just reward for a strong second half performance from the young player. Dicksboro entered the county final as favourites, but what a great achievement for Tullogher-Rosbercon to have reached a Minor A final.

#### Kilkenny MHC A Final

Boro hold off stubborn Tullogher-Rosbercon to make it three minor titles on the trot  
Dicksboro 0-22, Tullogher-Rosbercon 2-15

Dicksboro are the Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor A hurling champions for a third consecutive year after they claimed a thrilling one-point victory over Tullogher-Rosbercon.

The city side were pushed to the absolute limit by a Tullogher-Rosbercon team that was appearing in their first final. While Harry Shine finished as top scorer for the Boro with 11 points, it was Johnny Keane who proved the ultimate hero as his last gasp block from an effort by Danny Glennon ensured his side held on for a one-point success. Glennon was superb for Tullogher-Rosbercon in scoring 1-11 and his first half goal kept his side in contention after Dicksboro had opened up a 0-7 to 0-5 lead by the opening water break. Glennon's effort arrived directly after the conclusion of the brief break in play but with Shine and Matthew Kelleher in free scoring form the Boro were still ahead by four at half-time (0-15 to 1-8).

Tullogher squandered a number of opportunities at the beginning of the second half to close the gap but with Glennon up top they still had a major outlet as only two points separated the sides at the three quarter mark of a pulsating clash. Tullogher then got a lifeline in the 48th minute when a long distance free from Lar Murphy landed around the square before the sliotar was forced into the net.

Shook by the setback, Dicksboro were forced into action and points from Shine and Declan O'Farrell meant they retook the lead going down the stretch. Tullogher didn't go away quietly though as Glennon knocked over three late points but with Shine and Kevin Moore adding to the Dicksboro tally the champions remained ahead entering stoppage time. Tullogher probably deserved to force the game to extra-time but after Johnny Keane's heroic block, Dicksboro did enough to claim another title.

**Dicksboro;** Michael Clarke, Fionn McGarry, Mick Carroll, Nathan Pollard, Michael Stynes (0-1), Johnny Keane, Tom McPhillips (0-1), Sean Keenan (0-1), Cillian Hackett, Conor Kavanagh, Harry Shine (1-11, 7f), Matthew Kelleher (0-4), Billy Fitzpatrick, Declan O'Farrell (0-2), Kyle Maher. **Subs:** Mikey Raggett (0-1), Kevin Moore (0-1), Evan

**Murphy, Christy Murphy.**

**Tullogher-Rosbercon;** Andrew Murphy, JJ Ryan, Cathal Mooney, David Kennedy, Aidan Lawlor, Lar Murphy (0-1), Padraig Dooley, Jamie Lyng (0-1), Kevin Aylward, Marty Murphy, Ryan Murphy (0-2), Niall Mooney, Jack Handrick, Danny Glennon (1-11, 8f), Sean Ryan.

**Subs:** Dean Kinsella, Finn Kelly.

**Referee:** Paul Cahill

#### ROINN B

Round one saw a good win for Graigue-Ballycallan over Thomastown where Aaron McEvoy was particularly prominent. The next round saw wins for Danesfort, Glenmore, Emeralds, Erins Own, Tullaroan and St. Martins.

The quarter-final saw an epic breakout between St. Martins and Tullaroan where it took extra time to resolve the matter. Gearoid Dunne proved to be the hero of the hour scoring some 1-18. There were also wins for Dunnamaggin, Danesfort and Graigue-Ballycallan.

The semi finals proved to be real ding-dong battles where Danesfort got the better of Graigue-Ballycallan and Tullaroan lost out to a superb Dunnamaggin.

**Kilkenny Minor B Championship Final**  
**Danesfort finish strong to claim maiden Minor B title**  
**Danesfort 0-17, Dunnamaggin 1-10**

The 'Fort and Dunnamaggin were neck and neck for much of this contest but a strong closing twenty minutes where the winners outscored their opponents by 0-7 to 0-1 proved to be the difference.

Danesfort started brightly, racing into a two point lead in the opening two minutes with star man Ben Whitty on target. Ruaidhri Holden opened the Dunnamaggin scoring just a minute later but two further scores from Whitty, one from a free and one from a play put Danesfort into an early 0-4 to 0-1 advantage. Dunnamaggin responded like a house on fire scoring four points without reply over the next five minutes.

Cathal Buckley opened their scoring in this phase to narrow the gap to two before a Noah Gilmore point and a brace of scores from Ruaidhri Holden raced the Dunnamaggin men into a 0-5 to 0-4 advantage after 12 minutes of play. It was nip and tuck for the remainder of the half with both sides looking threatening on the attack. Eanna Cassaide drew Danesfort level midway through the half before Ruaidhri Holden who was influential at centre-forward put Dunnamaggin back into a one point lead. The tension was palpable with great battling



**BNG chairman Willie Dempsey presents Bill Smith, Danesfort Captain with minor B trophy**



**Barrow Rangers Capt. Joe Healy Receives Minor C trophy from BNG Chairman Willie Dempsey**

on show from great teams. The scoreline remained 0-6 to 0-5 for the next 10 minutes with neither set of players willing to give each other an inch. Ruaidhri Holden eventually broke the stand-off with a point in the 28th minute for Dunnamaggin while a Ben Whitty converted free gave Dunnamaggin a 0-7 to 0-6 half-time lead. Danesfort's efficiency in front of goal for the second half was highly impressive. Anthony Ireland Wall immediately drew the game level. It got even better for Ciaran Walsh's charges as Danesfort midfield and half-forward line really came alive and only for a very solid Dunnamaggin defence they could have bagged the game's first goal. A Ruaidhri Holden free narrowed Danesfort's lead to one by the 35th minute. The first and only goal of the game came eight minutes into the 2nd half as Cathal Buckley fired the ball to the net and raced Dunnamaggin into a 1-8 to 0-8 lead. However, this would be a false dawn as far as Dunnamaggin were concerned as they would only manage to score two points in the final 20 minutes with Danesfort completely dictating the remainder of proceedings. A masterclass from Ben Whitty as well as fine scores from Anthony Ireland Wall and Eanna O'Cassaide sealed the title for Danesfort who outscored Dunnamaggin 0-7 to 0-1 in the closing minutes to secure victory.

**Danesfort;** Sam Hayes, Billy Sinnott, Bill Smith, Kieran Walsh, Cian O'Reilly, Louie Jamieson, Jack



**Barrow Rangers - Winners of Minor Roinn C Championship**

**Doyle, Darragh Coverdale, Anthony Ireland Wall (0-3), Harry Lanigan, Ben Whitty (0-11, 9f), Mark Fitzpatrick, Matthew Cowley (0-1), Eanna O'Casade (0-2), Leon Brown.**

**Dunnamaggin; Thomas Deegan, Sean Lawton, Eoin Sheil, Mark McEneaney, Aaron Moore, Cathal Walsh, Killian Tallon, Mikey Thomas, Tom Lodge (0-1), Cathal Buckley (1-1), Ruadhiri Holden (0-7, 3f), Ross O'Neill, Jamie Tallon, Craig Drennan, Noah Gilmore.**

**Referee - Eoin Hayes (Thomastown)**

### **ROINN C**

The first round saw some high scoring with Graiguenamanagh hitting ten goals in their win over James Stephens B. Last year's champions Lisdowney got the better of O'Loughlin Gaels in the quarter final. There were wins for Dicksboro B, Graig and Barrow Rangers. The semi-finals saw a fine bout with Graiguenamanagh getting the better of Lisdowney 1-16 to 1-10. In the other the semi-final Barrow Rangers outpointed Dicksboro B.

#### **Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor C Final**

##### **Barrow Rangers 2-11, 1-11 Graiguenamanagh**

By the first water-break, Graig were gaining an upper hand on the game as Sean Hamilton proved his scoring eye was in with a 65 and a 70-yard free them a 4-3 lead.

The main feature of the 1st quarter was the contest between Graigs centre-back Ivan Bolger and Ranger's centre forward Joe Healy. It was also evident that Rangers had come with a plan to handle Graigs marquee full forward Ted Dunne.

The restart of the game after the 1st water break saw some changes to the Barrow forward line with Dylan Hunsten now moving into the full forward

position as they looked for a key to unlock the Graig backs. It could have been Graig who recorded the 1st goal as Ranger's keeper Jack Doyle had to leave his line to commit to a challenge leaving his goal openbut he did enough to put the ball out for a 65 which Sean Hamilton converted to give Graiguenamanagh a 2 point lead which subsequently proved to be as good as it was going to get for the Graig lads. Barrow Rangers were certainly the happier side at half time with the game lead and having limited Graig to one point from play in the entire half.

The final quarter restarted with Barrow Ranger again spinning the forward roulette and it paid dividends with a second Dylan Hunsten goal. There was surely no way back now for Graiguenamanagh despite a late Ted Dunne goal.

No question that Barrow Rangers were the deserving winners with a well-balanced team that included five scoring forwards and a well drilled set of backs whereas Graiguenamanagh could only register 1-1 from play. This win capped a great year for Barrow Rangers with the U13 Roinn C Co Championship to go in the Trophy Cabinet with the Minor win. They also contested the U15 Roinn C County Final but finished second best that day.

**Barrow Rangers; Jack Doyle, Joey McEvoy, Paul Delaney, Patrick Purcell, Noah Scully, Evan Rudkins, Martin Drea, Darragh Carpenter, Cormac Hogan, Cathal Purcell (0-1), Joe Healy (C, 0-8, 4f), Dylan Hunston (2-0), Charlie Mullins, Paddy Wade (0-1), Niall Carpenter (0-1). Subs: Eoin O'Neill, Liam Healy, Conor Burke.**

**Graiguenamanagh; Bill O'Shea, Martin Barron, Fintan Gahan, Gavin Kielthy, Devin Kielthy, Ivan Bolger, Abhainn Flood, Sean Hamilton (0-10f), Charlie Kielthy, Steven Kinsella, Colin Hamilton, Conor Byrne (0-1), Padraig Cushen, Ted Dunne (C, 1-0), Cian O'Shea**

**Subs: Jack Brown, Conor Houlihan.**



**Graigue Ballycallan - Minor B League Champions 2021**



**Minor B League Trophy Presentation**



**Minor C League Trophy Presentation**



## MARBLE city MOTORS



[www.marblecitymotors.ie](http://www.marblecitymotors.ie)

0879752132



[www.marblecitymotors.ie](http://www.marblecitymotors.ie)

Tel: 087-9752132

Thank you for your business



## DOHENY'S CRASH REPAIRS

Westcourt Business Park,  
Callan, Co. Kilkenny.

[www.dohenycrashrepairs.ie](http://www.dohenycrashrepairs.ie)

Tel: 056-7755588

Mobile: 086-2517030

Fax: 056-7755679

Email: chrisdoheny@eircom.net



- Crash Repair Specialists
- Vehicle Recovery Service
- Replacement vehicle
- Glasmatix estimating  
(preferred tool of the insurance industry)
- Full accident related service, start to finish
- Eco friendly Paints
- Direct billing to insurance companies
- Full Bodyshop Licence
- Insurance Approved



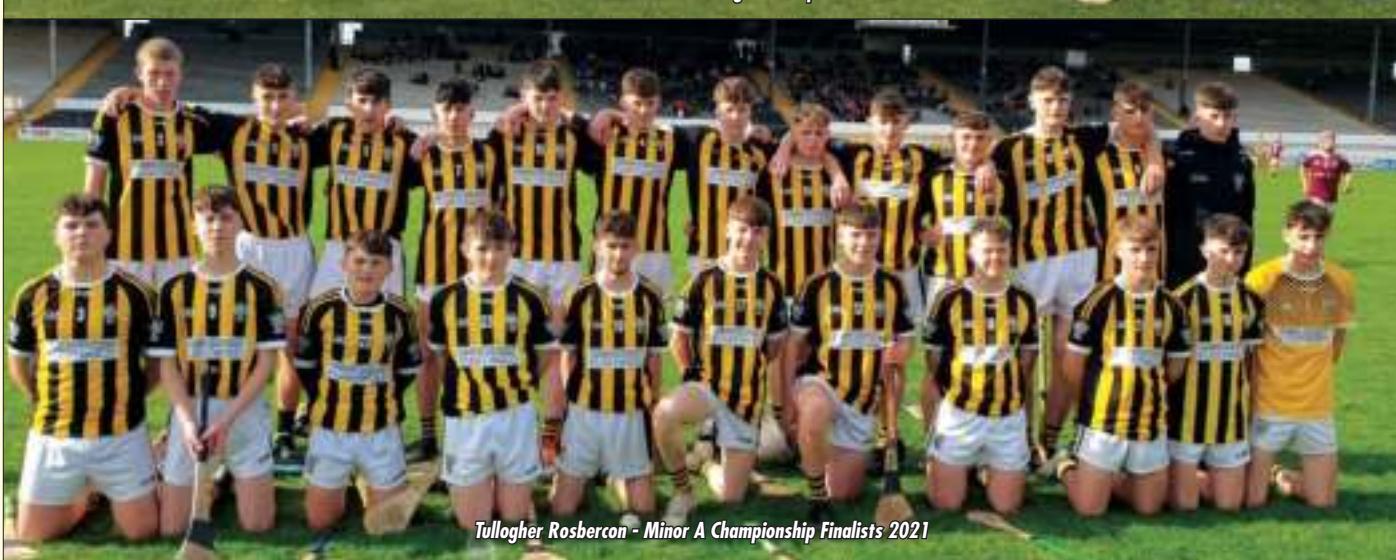
We are an appointed repair contractor  
 FBD



TRAVELERS



*St Patrick's - Minor C League Champions 2021*



*Tullogher Rosbercon - Minor A Championship Finalists 2021*

## **SUPPORTING KILKENNY GAA**



*Cillian Hackett receives minor A championship trophy with Willie Dempsey chairman BNG and Cathal O'Neill, Sponsor Honda Citroen Centre Kilkenny.*



**KILKENNY CITROËN CENTRE**

**KILKENNY HONDA CENTRE**

Callan Road Kilkenny Tel: 056-7722830

Website: [www.kilkennyvehicles.com](http://www.kilkennyvehicles.com)





# STEPHENS set down a Marker

U15 Report by Pado O'Flynn

Photos: Willie Dempsey



*James Stephens Winners Division 1 Feile With Anne Claire Lomond Marketing Manager John West*

## Féile na nGael Roinn A

**James Stephens 1-7 Erins Own 0-3**

James Stephens landed the Paddy Grace trophy with a fine display of fast first-touch hurling but they were made earn their win by a hard working & well coached Erin's Own. Zak Scanlon got a fine point after 20 seconds play with Sean Bergin finding him in space.

James Coogan responded with a point of his own after some good play by Conor Brophy. Sean Bergin fired over a point of his own before Jacob Breslin added one.

Breslin was proving to be a live wire on the edge of the square and he duly goaled with a speculative shot. Bill McDermott added one himself but Erin's own were not going to lie down and James Coogan scored a fine point from the resulting puck out to leave it 1-4 to 0-2.

Brophy fired over a free upon the resumption and the 'Comer men were more than a tad unlucky not to have scored more in this period before Breslin added a point to his tally in the 15th minute. The Village men's

dander was up at this stage and they saw out proceedings with two James McDermot points, one from a free.

Erin's Own can take great solace in their performance and look best to challenge James Stephens in the championship with the talents of the Buggys, Conor Brophy, Bobby Brennan & James Coogan making them a real handful in Roinn A.

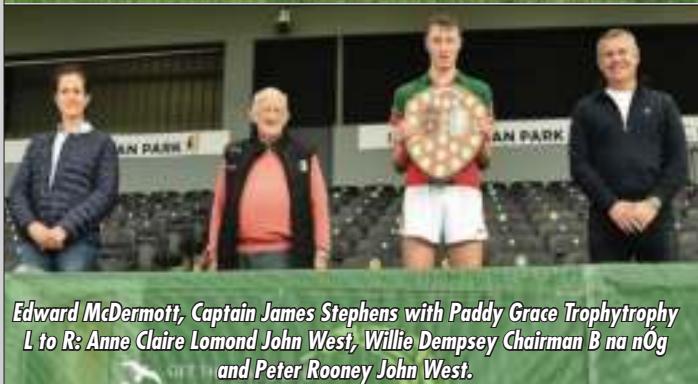
This was a good win for James Stephens who didn't seem to have a weakness on the field and will be hard stopped at the National playoff in Semple Stadium and start the U15 championship as huge favourites.

**Erin's Own:** Conor O'Sullivan, Tristan Daly, Mark Kennedy, Jack Coogan, Robert Coogan, Bobby Brennan, Jack Comerford, Conor Brophy, James Comerford, Eamon Brady, Cian Rothwell, Cathal Dunny, Kevin Buggy, Jack Cooney, James Coogan, Conor Buggy.

**James Stephens:** Billy O'Sullivan, Tuan Hyland, Ruairdi Harrison, Conor Heffernan, Conor McEvoy, Noah Minogue, James Bergin, Sean Bergin, Ed Lahuff, Sean Deely, Ed McDermott, Bill McDermott, Zak Scanlon, Jacob Breslin & Daniel Ring.



*Graigue Ballycallan Winners Division 2 Feile With GAA President Larry McCarthy*



**Edward McDermott, Captain James Stephens with Paddy Grace Trophy**  
L to R: Anne Claire Lomond John West, Willie Dempsey Chairman B na nÓg and Peter Rooney John West.



**Aidan Comerford Captain GBC with Div 2 trophy**  
L to R: Anne Claire Lomond John West, Willie Dempsey Chairman B na nÓg and Larry Mc McCarthy GAA President



## Féile na nGael Roinn B

### Graigue Ballycallan 2-7 Barrow Rangers 0-4

Don't let the score line fool you - this game was in the melting pot until well into the second half when a Tony Butler goal set the Kilmanagh men on their way victory and a complete shut down by the Graigue Ballycallan full back line on a previously dangerous Rangers forward unit led by Aidan Comerford proved to be key.

Pat Purcell got Barrow Rangers off to the perfect start when he landed a monster free from inside his own 65.

The response was swift with Ben McEvoy pointing after the 4th minute before the lightning quick Cormac Neary entered proceedings scoring a fine point after a searing run. The corner forward added a converted free soon after. Robbie Tector set up Ben Young for a point soon after before Neary finished the scoring for the half with a fine pint from distance.

Rangers peppered the goal at the start of the half but Butler struck a real sucker punch soon after when he sent a rasper of a shot to the roof of the net.

Paulstown responded with a fine score by Niall Carpenter after a good

save from Sean McGrath and Patrick Wade added a free soon after.

Wade and Eoghan Cahill swapped points before Cahill sent Ben Young through and he sent the green flag waving giving Seamus Brennan no chance.

Barrow Rangers fought to the bitter end but were unlucky to come up against such a well-drilled Graigue Ballycallan in what was a very high standard Roinn B final.

Along with the already mentioned Comerford & Cormac Neary there was fine performances from Paidi Egan, Eoghan Cahill & Cillian Hoyne whilst best for the eventual losers were Pat Purcell, Patrick Wade & Niall Carpenter.

*Barrow Rangers: Seamus Brennan, Eoin Prendergast, Cian Scully, Eoin Delaney, Brian Mahon, Pat Purcell, Oran O'Keffe, Callum Hughes, Sean Hanlon, Eoin O'Neill, Patrick Wade, Michael Maher, Shane McDonald, Niall Carpenter, PJ Mc Hugh.*

*Graigue Ballycallan: Sean McGrath, Oran Hoyne, Aidan Comerford (Captain), Robbie Lynch, Shane Cody, Paidi Egan, Cillian Hoyne, Frank McCluskey, Michael Tynan, Robbie Tector, Eoghan Cahill, Tony Butler, Cormac Neary, Ben Young, Ben McEvoy.*

## U15 CHAMPIONSHIPS



*James Stephens - U15 Roinn A Champions*

### ROINN A

There was a sense of excitement about this year's Duggan Steel Roinn A Hurling championship despite James Stephens being the stand out side at U-13 level but many sensed standards were levelling. Dicksboro and James Stephens deserved to be commended for entering two equal teams in at U-15 level. It helped develop more players and led to an exciting league with the two Village sides meeting in an aptly drawn final.

The quarter finals in the Championship saw contrasting games as James Stephens had too much for an injury ravaged Erin's Own whilst Young Irelands and O'Loughlin Gaels played out an epic with the John's Park side coming away with the spoils 1-15 to 2-10. The semi finals followed a similar pattern with O'Loughlin Gaels having too much for a young Carrickshock side whilst Dicksboro went toe to toe with James Stephens who over the course of the game probably deserved the win.

### Duggan Steel U15 A Hurling County Final

#### James Stephens 1-17, O'Loughlin Gaels 1-7

An impressive James Stephens eased to a comfortable win over city rivals O'Loughlin Gaels in the Duggan Steel U15A Hurling County Final at the MW Hire Centre, Dunmore. The Village boys were strong favourites coming into the game and while it took them a little time to settle, once they edged ahead in the eighth minute, they never looked back.

O'Loughlin Gaels put up a commendable challenge, but struggled to cope with the impressive passing game from the winners as the sliothar was regularly transferred from defence to attack accurately and at pace. O'Loughlin Gaels' Tadgh Crowley scored the first point of the game with the impressive Jacob Breslin responding for the winners one minute later. On a beautiful morning for hurling, both teams showed honest endeavour, with James Stephens using their superior physicality to good effect to win possession on many occasions. Ed McDermott pointed the first of many

frees for the Village boys and when Greg Kelly pointed for the John's Park side the teams were level for the second time.

Once Ed McDermott pointed a free and impressive midfielder Ed Lauhoff landed another in the eighth and ninth minute, the momentum swung strongly in favour of the Village boys. The McDermott brothers, Ed and Bill were involved in many of the James Stephens scores, but at the other end of the pitch Eoghan O'Brien was battling hard for O'Loughlin Gaels and was rewarded with a well-taken point on twelve minutes.

The winners led 0-7 to 0-3 at the first water-break, but that four point margin had extended to eight points by the interval. A brilliant individual effort from Daniel Ring saw him run fifty metres to score a superb goal. That was a big blow to O'Loughlin Gaels just on the call of half-time.

While James Stephens enjoyed the bulk of possession in the second half, tenacious defending from O'Loughlin Gaels made for a more competitive game. A brace of Ed McDermott points at the start of the half extended



*Joint Captains Ed McDermott and Noah Manogue with Trophy also Willie Dempsey Chairman BNG*



Dunnamaggin - Roinn B U15 Champions



Fenians U15 Roinn C Champions

the winner's margin, but back came the John's Park side with a brace of points from Ruarc Sweeney and a Greg Kelly free.

A solid James Stephens defence in which Tuan Hyland, Noah Manogue and James Bergin excelled ensured that O'Loughlin Gaels had to work very hard for every score. The manner in which that trio and their other defensive colleagues attacked every ball with vigour and determination was impressive.

The winners enjoyed a comfortable nine point lead at the start of the fourth quarter and Ed McDermott, Ed Lauhoff and Conor McEvoy grabbed further points in the closing stages. O'Loughlin Gaels battled to the finish with sub Eoghan O'Callaghan finishing for a good goal. It was no more than their brave efforts deserved.

**James Stephens:** *Billy O'Sullivan, Tuan Hyland, Ruairí Harrison, Conor Heffernan, Noah Manogue, James Bergin, Larry Phelan, Ed Lauhoff (0-1), Sean Bergin, Sean Deely, Ed McDermott (0-10, 7f), Bill McDermott (0-2), Daniel Ring (1-0), Jacob Breslin (0-3), Zak Scanlon. Subs; Rory Holland, Dara Power, James Long.*

**O'Loughlin Gaels:** *Michael Bourke-Lambert, Josh Owens; Jack Johnson, Luke Hanrahan, Luke Quigley, Jeff Tyrell, Conor Murphy, James Holohan, Joe Bolger, Eoghan O'Brien, Greg Kelly (0-3, 2f), Tadhg Crowley (0-1), Cian Byrne, Ruarc Sweeney (0-1) Daniel McCormack (0-1). Subs; Eoghan O'Callaghan (1-0) CJ McChemcheu, Conor Holohan.*

**Referee:** John Kennedy (Shamrocks Ballyhale).

## ROINN B

Early rounds saw some good ties in the Duggan Steel Roinn B hurling Championship with Graiguenamanagh getting the better of John Lockes by 2-12 to 2-6 whilst Dunnamaggin sent out a signal of intent with a big win over Thomastown. Galmoy/Windgap came a cropper to a fine Glenmore display. Conor Hoyne and Michael Keane went to war and Keane came out on top as St Martins won 2-13 to 2-11. Feile champions Graigue-Ballycallan got the better of a game Tulloher-Rosbercon 3-9 to

1-9 whilst a fancied St. Patricks had it all to do to defeat Danesfort 3-8 to 1-15.

In the quarter finals Dunnamaggin were awesome in their defeat of St Patricks whilst James O'Neill hit 4-6 in St Martins defeat of James Stephens. Glenmore had too much for Graiguenamanagh whilst Piltown got the better of Graigue Ballycallan.

The semi finals proved to be close run affairs with late goals doing the trick for Dunnamaggin over Glenmore whilst Piltown had a lucky escape against St. Martins despite leading the whole way.

### Dunnamaggin 2-13, Piltown 1-12

The two stand-out teams from the League, Dunnamaggin and Piltown clashed in the Duggan Steel Roinn B county final. The eventual winners got off to the perfect start with Scott McDonald landing the first point of the afternoon with one from Cathal Buckley.

Piltown turned the game on its head when Eoin Hogan goaled with a powerful shot.

Niall O'Brien slapped over a point before Sam Garbutt and Cathal O'Brien landed points of their own as the two corner forwards caused havoc. O'Brien fired over two quick points before Buckley lifted the siege with a pointed free.

Suddenly Dunnamaggin were back in the game when a long ball was fed to Buckley who rifled the ball to the bottom right hand corner. Conor Long tagged on a minor with Cathal O'Brien adding another. Two quick Buckley points towards the end of the half saw Piltown ahead at the short whistle 1-8 to 1-5.

Dunnamaggin began the new half in whirlwind fashion scoring 1-4 without reply. Buckley (2), Jamie Tallon & Sean Lawton all pointed before Buckley went on a searing solo run and blasted the ball to send the green flag waving.

A hat trick of Niall O'Brien points saw the game back to the minimum.



Kilkenny County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Chill Chainnigh

# Kilkenny County Council

## *Supporting All Kilkenny Teams*

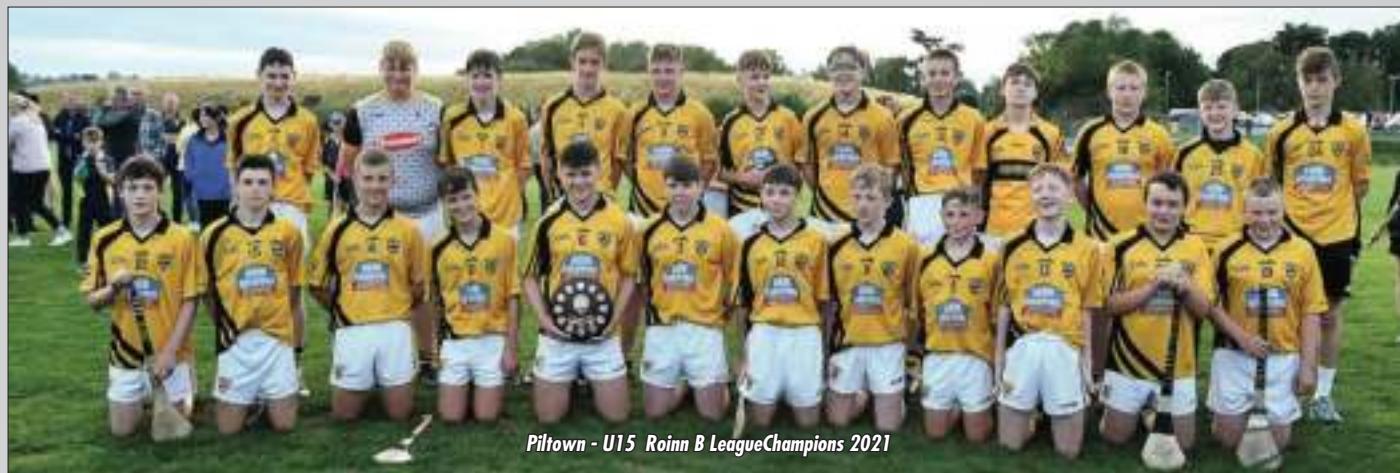
Pobal agus Áiteanna Inbhuanaithe a Chruthú  
Creating Sustainable Communities and Places

County Hall | John Street | Kilkenny | R95 A39T

Tel: 056 779 4000 | Fax: 056 779 4004

Web: [www.kilkennycoco.ie](http://www.kilkennycoco.ie)





Piltown - U15 Roinn B LeagueChampions 2021



Emeralds - U15 Roinn C LeagueChampions 2021

Buckley (2), Noah Cahill & Brian Hickey all pointed as the game headed towards injury time but Niall O'Brien did put the game in the melting pot with a point but Dunnamaggin were not going to be denied.

**Dunnamaggin:** Tim Doherty, Conor Lawton, Pierce Costelloe, Sean Rossiter, David Moore, Eoin Sheil, Thomas Deegan, Ciaran Hickey, Jamie Tallon, Scott McDonald, Sean Lawton, Brian Hickey, John Hayes, Cathal Buckley, Noah Cahill. Sub: Jake Butler.

**Piltown:** Bobby Norris, Henri Culleton, Shane Cronin, Evan Flynn, Liam Downey, Andrew Phelan, Joe Cooney, Eoin Hogan, Ben O'Callaghan, DJ Knox, Niall O'Brien, Cormac Cummins, Cathal O'Brien, Conor Long, Sam Garbutt.

**Ref:** Julian O'Dwyer (Windgap)

#### **ROINN C**

There were round one wins for Fenians over Ballyhale Shamrocks, John Lockes over Young Irelands B and Blacks & Whites over Piltown B. Kilmacow had a narrow win over Lismore, Dicksboro B got the better of O'Loughlin Gaels whilst Barrow Rangers hit 11 goals in their win over Tullaroan. Quarter finals saw a close encounter between Emeralds and Rangers which saw the side in blue and white come out on top 1-13 to 1-10. There was also wins for Kilmacow, Fenians & Dicksboro B.

Semi-final day saw Barrow Rangers hang on for the win over Kilmacow 1-10 to 0-11 whilst Fenians had too much for the 'Boro'.

#### **Duggan Steel U15 Roinn C Hurling Final**

##### **Fenians 5-10, Barrow Rangers 4-6**

Fenians and Barrow Rangers played out an exciting Duggan Steel Roinn C county final at a well appointed Pairc Lachtain. In truth over the 60 minutes most would agree the Johnstown outfit probably deserved to take the spoils but that shouldn't take away from a game Barrow Rangers side who won at U-13 level and at minor level to great excitement. In fact the Paulstown men made quite a lot of the early running in the game.

Eoin Somers fired over the first score with Paddy Wade gaining an instant response. Jack Walsh and Darragh O'Grady added to the Fenians total but were rocked when Niall Carpenter goaled. After an exchange in the penalty area Rangers were awarded a penalty which Wade duly dispatched to the roof of the net. Straight from the puck out Somers fired in a goal of his own leaving it 2-1 to 1-3 at the water break.

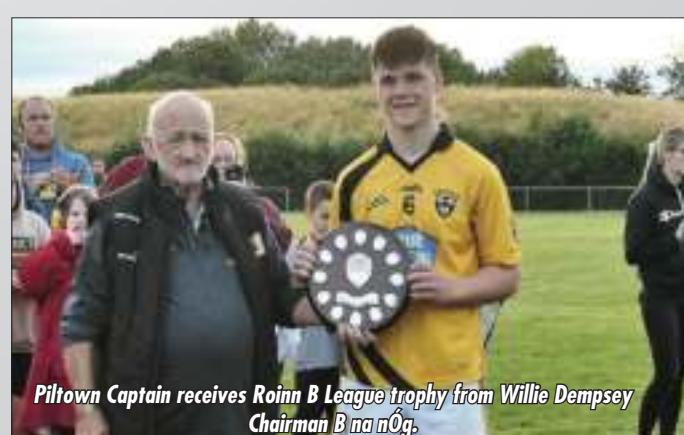
Wade converted a '65 on the resumption but Regan Downey and Garrett levelled matters with points but Carpenter grabbed two minors to put the Paulstown men ahead again but a Regan Downey goal had the eventual winners on the front foot and a O'Grady point had two in it at the break Fenians 2-6 to 2-4.

Carpenter and Paddy Cullen exchanged points upon the resumption of the half before Wade and Cullen did the same. Just at the second water break Downey fired home a goal from play to 3-8 to 2-6.

Straight from the restart Downey rifled the back of the net. It was game set and match there after O'Grady set the green flag waving. Barrow Rangers did fight until the end and had goals from Wade and Niall Carpenter but points from Walsh & Downey ensured the trophy was head back down the road to Johnstown!

**Fenians:** Niall Mackey, Sam Murphy, Jerry Henderson, Evan Ryan, Luke Walsh, Rory Garrett (JC), Matty McEvoy, Paddy Cullen, Darragh O'Grady (JC), Donagh Maher, Eoghan Sumner, Andrew Casey, Cillian Purcell, Regan Downey, Jack Walsh, Tiernan O'Connor, 19 Sean Tierney.

**Barrow Rangers:** Seamus Brennan, Eoin Prendergast, Cain Scully (C), Eoin Delaney, Brian Mahon, Patrick Purcell, Odhran O'Keeffe, Kaylem Hughes, Eoin O'Neill, Michael Drea, Paddy Wade, Michael Maher, Shane McDonald, Sean Hanlon, Niall Carpenter, Shane Hanlon, David Hennessy, PJ McHugh, Danny Patterson, Robert Prendergast, Eoin Clancy, Cian O'Reilly.



Piltown Captain receives Roinn B League trophy from Willie Dempsey Chairman B na nÓg.



# Are you Listening?



THE BEST SPORTS COVERAGE FROM YOUR GOLD MEDAL WINNING SPORTS TEAM:  
Standing L/R: Richie Power (GAA), Seamus Brophy (Greyhound Racing), Paul Brophy (Golf), Ciarán Muldowney (Schools/Collages/Juvenile GAA), Jim Cashin (Offside), Joe Hennessy (GAA), Barrie Henriques (GAA).  
Seated: Pat Treacy (Head of Sport), Declan Gibbons (Manager CRKC), Liam Kelly-O'Rourke (All sport), Nickey Brennan (Talk Sport), Ber Scott (Horse Racing/Offside).

[www.communityradiokilkennycity.ie](http://www.communityradiokilkennycity.ie)

**COMMUNITY RADIO KILKENNY CITY**  
**“Something for Everyone”**

Wishing all our listeners a Happy Christmas  
and a prosperous New Year

Thank you for All Your Support in 2021  
Looking Forward to your Continued Support in 2022



# ERIN'S go Bragh!

U13 Report by Pado O'Flynn



Erin's Own Roinn A U13 Champions 2021

## ROINN A

The 2021 Duggan Steel Roinn A Championship proved to be a high class affair that bodes well for the future of hurling in the county. All six teams who went to post had winning potential. Both quarter finals proved to be epics. James Stephens and Erins Own clashed in Ballycormey before a massive crowd. It was the star turn of Eoin Brennan who hit 2-13 of his sides 3-14 that proved to be the difference between the sides. Meanwhile in James's Park Dicksboro and Ballyhale Shamrocks had a classic of their own. Jake Mullen and Cillian Ryan ran riot but the Palmerstown lads had too many aces with Samuel John O'Shea proving the leader of the pack.

Despite getting 5 goals John Lockes couldn't get the better of Erins Own in the semi-final 3-15 to 5-8. The other semi final was a City derby where Dicksboro came out on top of O'Loughlin Gaels 2-10 to 1-11.

### Erins Own 0-18 1-12 Dicksboro

It took extra time to separate these two sides but a late surge saw Erins Own lift the Tom Ryall trophy amongst jubilant supporters in the Duggan Steel U-13 Roinn A final played at MW Hire Dunmore. It was their first A trophy at U13/U14 since a double in 1960/61.

Both sides had huge talent on display and one had to remind themselves how young these skilful players are.

Dicksboro had the best of the early exchanges and led at the water break 0-6 to 0-3. Straight from the restart Aaron Phelan found Brennan who slotted the ball between the uprights. He got another soon after but the men clad in Maroon and White came storming back into game when Joe Dowling finished a long ball to the roof of the net. Brennan and Samuel John O'Shea finished off the half's scoring with a point apiece leaving Erins Own ahead by two 0-9 to 1-4.

Brennan got the eventual winners off to the best possible scoring points in the 32nd and 35th minute. O'Shea and Dowling popped over points to bring the Palmerstown outfit back into it. A further two points from O'Shea had them level before they hit the front through a fantastic point from Eoin Moore after a searing solo run. O'Shea tapped over a free to go two clear.

A late burst of four points from Brennan looked like it had given the 'Comer men the win but



Young Irelands Winners U13 A1 2

O'Shea showed nerves of steel with two pointed frees to bring the game into extra time 1-12 to 0-15.

Erins Own had the better of the exchange's in extra time but could only muster a Brennan point to be one up at half time in extra. Dicksboro were putting huge tackles but couldn't get into the game as Brennan and Conor Buggy added points to seal a well merited victory in a game that could have gone either way in normal time.

**Erins Own:** Sam Coogan, Ben Sheils, James Brennan, Aaron Phelan, John Brennan, Tristan Daly, Rory Bollard, Jamie Cahalan, Jack Holden, Kevin Buggy, Dylan Brennan, Eoin Brennan, Luke Connery, Conor Buggy, Josh Lawlor. Subs: Billy Byrne.

**Dicksboro:** Rian Dowling, Jack Treacy, Sean Kavanagh, Conor Tynan, Noah Gibbons, Josh Dowling, Jack Delaney, Samuel John O'Shea, Dan Carroll, Luke Browne, Oisin Henderson, Joe Dowling, Ben Henderson, Eoin Moore, James Kavanagh. Subs: Robert Lacey.

### Ref; Conor Everard

Meanwhile in the Roinn A1 final Young Irelands defeated Graigue-Ballycallan 4-10 to 2-7.

## ROINN B

As always this competition was a minefield. Round 1 saw Glenmore get the better of James Stephens B 3-10 to 1-10. Glenmore came unstuck in the quarter-final where a young St. Martins gained a 4-12 to 1-6. Last year's winners Carrickshock lost to Tullogher-Rosbercon in a tight game. There were also wins for a very strong St. Patricks and Lismore. The semi final saw a cracker of a local derby between St. Patricks and Lismore with the Ballyragget men coming out on top 5-8 to 4-9. The other

semi-final saw Tullogher-Rosbercon make amends for last year's semi-final loss against a game St. Martins.

### St Patrick's 1-17, Tullogher Rosbercon 2-12

St. Patrick's and Tullogher-Rosbercon clashed in the Duggan Steel Roinn B Hurling final that flipped destinations on several occasions. However, after extra time St Patrick's were left standing at the end of eighty odd absorbing minutes of hurling.

The key man on show was Josh Dowling for St Patrick's who scored all his sides five points in extra time, but Tullogher Rosbercon were very much the team during normal time and can count themselves unlucky not to have held on for a famous win.

A rip-roaring first quarter saw both sides produce a flurry of scores to leave St. Patricks but one ahead Furlong landed a point from distance to see Tullogher only one behind at the break 1-3 to 0-7.

The third quarter belonged to the men in stripes as Hanrahan pointed upon resumption before Furlong found Kyle Bolger and the nippy corner forward sent the green flag waving.

Furlong nearly had another goal only for an inspirational save from Eoin Healy. Hanrahan converted a free before Dowling brought St Patrick's back into the game with two quick fire points before himself & Dowling swapped frees.

It was down to the minimum when Dowling pointed again but Tullogher started to get back on top with points being grabbed by Sean Walsh and Michael Sydney.

Dowling had the Saints level when he won a soft free but there was nothing soft about



## Nolan's Of Ardnore:

Family Business for over 30 years.  
 Costa Coffee  
 Hot and Cold Deli  
 Full Bakery made fresh every morning  
 Catering Service Available  
 Homemade dinners made in store every day  
 Phone: 056-7765267



### John McGuinness, T.D.

Constituency Office, O'Loughlin Road, Kilkenny

Phone: 056-7770672/3  
 Fax: 056-7770674  
 Mob : 087-2855834

Email: [john@johnmcguinness.ie](mailto:john@johnmcguinness.ie)

For appointments please call Ann Bergin, Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm



 **perfecto**  
print & design  
DUBLIN ROAD, KILKENNY

THE ONE STOP SHOP FOR ALL YOUR PRINTING REQUIREMENTS

# PRINTING

price • service • quality

call us today....you won't be disappointed

056 7715755

vehicle graphics

# SIGNS

large format printing



EMAIL: [SALES@PERFECTOPRINT.IE](mailto:sales@perfectoprint.ie) PHONE: 056 7715755 MOBILE: 087 2855834

**MATT DORAN**  
**(FIANNA FAIL COUNCILLOR)**



*Wishing all my Friends, Constituents and Supporters a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful 2021.  
Thank you for all your Support.*

**Mob: 087-2470458 Ph.051-648220**

the resulting '21 with the towering full forward blasting the ball home. He put them ahead in the 54th minute but Hanrahan levelled matters in the 57th minute to bring the game to extra time.

In first half extra time Dowling took control, landing four points whilst Tullogher responded through Furlong and Hanrahan. Dowling landed a free upon the resumption with Michael Sullivan landing a monster score. The second period of extra seemed to go by in a whirl as Tullogher poured forward but couldn't create the opening to get the score to win the match.

Tullogher should be really proud of being in two finals in 24 hours but saying they have been unlucky is scant consolation. To the victors go the spoils and it'll be great to see St. Patrick's back mixing it up at Roinn A level in 2022.

**Tullogher-Rosbercon; Darren Reddy, Edward Doyle, Phillip Murphy, Rory Tobin, Michael Sullivan, Ciaran Cummins, Darren Ryan, Joss O'Connor, Jack Barron, Sean Walsh, Sean Hanrahan, Michael Sydney, Kyle Bolger, Barry Furlong, Mikey Ryan. Sub: Liam McLoughlin.**

**St. Patrick's, Eoin Healy, Adrian Biletskyy, Charlie Culleton, Tadgh Phelan, Jack Cummins, Cian Stapleton, Kieran Bergin, Cormac Diver, Evan Nealis, James Cash, Tadgh Butler, Evan Coogan, Andrew Lawless, Josh Dowling, Jack Diver. Sub: Michael Cash.**

**Ref: Anthony Barcoe.**

#### **ROINN C**

Many shrewd pundits had Barrow Rangers picked out as the side to beat in this years' competition but there were several twists and turns before the trophy eventually resided in Paulstown for the winter. There was a big win in Round 1 for Mullinavat whilst O'Loughlin Gaels B got the better of a game Graiguenamanagh. The other round 1 result saw Conahy Shamrocks eye for goal get them the win over Clara. This eye for goal saw Conahy get the better of St Lachtain's 7-7 to 3-7. Barrow Rangers, Emeralds & Mullinavat all had convincing quarter final wins. The semi-finals proved to be much tighter affairs. Mullinavat's late flurry of goals saw them overcome Emeralds whilst Barrow Rangers had a ding dong battle before getting the better of a talented Conahy Shamrocks.

#### **C final**

##### **Barrow Rangers 3-7, Mullinavat 0-8**

Barrow Rangers and Mullinavat clashed in the Duggan Steel U-13 Roinn C Hurling final at sunny Pairc Seamroga where the old adage – goals win matches proved to be true where a well drilled Paulstown outfit had the sharper eye in front of goal.

After 5 minutes play Barrow Rangers led 0-2 to 0-1 thanks to Jack Bolger & Jake Barcoe whilst the 'Vat response came from Adam Fitzpatrick. Tom Carpenter scored the opening goal for Rangers after a booming clearance from Cian O'Reilly. Cian Kelly landed a free from distance but a Bolger point left Rangers 1-4 to 0-2 ahead at the water break. The second quarter saw Jack McShane shoot a goal. The rest of the quarter was tight with Fitzpatrick and Bolger swapping frees to see the difference stretch to 2-5 to 0-3 at the break.

Again Barrow Rangers started the quarter with a goal from Cathal Fanning. Lesser teams may have folded in the circumstances but these young men from Mullinavat showed real determination to pull themselves back into the game with Fitzpatrick and Kelly sharing the next four points. But try as they might they simply couldn't breach the defensive



**James Stephens - Winners U13 A League Final**



**St Patrick's -Winners U13 B Championship 2021**



**Barrow Rangers - Winners Of Under 13 Roinn C Championship**



**Tullogher Rosbercon - Roinn B U13 League Champions 2021**



**Mullinavat - Roinn C U13 Finalists 2021**

rearguard action of Jack Keating, Tadgh O'Connor and O'Reilly. Bolger's two late pointed frees ensured the trophy was going to the side clad in blue and white but one had to be impressed at the level of skill on display for a Roinn C final.

**Mullinavat; Eoin Aylward, Shay Maher, Leo Aylward, Ollie Madonna, Seamus Rohan, Stephen O'Shea, Cathal Aylward, Patrick Aylward, Cian Kelly, Edward Bolger, Ben Cantwell, Jack Power, Conor Conway, Adam Fitzpatrick, Jim Cantwell. Subs: Donnacha Corcoran, Conor Kinsella.**

**Barrow Rangers; Jack Keating, Andrew Donohoue, Tadgh O'Connor, Jayden Dermody, Jack McShane, Cian O'Reilly, Odhran Prendergast, Jack Barcoe, Cathal Fox, Daniel Lawler, Pauric Hanlon, Cathal Fanning, Tom Carpenter, Sam Medlar. Subs: James Prendergast, Dylan Kelly, Matthew Mahon, Luke Walsh.**

Ref; Owen Kenny.



**U13 13-a-side Championship**



**Bennettsbridge - Winners U13 13-a-side Championship Winners**



**Blacks & Whites - Winners U13 13-a-side League Winners**



**Roinn A Championship**



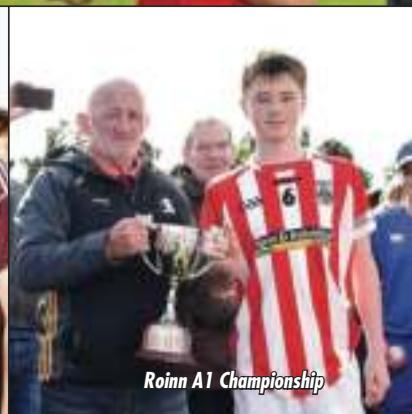
**Roinn A League**



**Roinn C Championship**



**Roinn B Championship**



**Roinn A1 Championship**



**Roinn B League**



**13-a-side Championship**



# DICK ROCKETT

## and his great memories.....

By Barrie Henrques

I'm sitting in the spacious sitting room of one of Kilkenny's finest in the Principality of Sliieverue, just a hen's kick from Waterford City. It is the last day of the Summer solstice, in the year of Our Lord 2021, and Dick Rockett had just celebrated his 91st birthday. Sixty-four years prior, with his favourite number 13 embroidered on the back of his black and amber geansaí he was a member of the Kilkenny team who faced his near Waterford neighbours in the All Ireland Final.

"That was a very special day for you Dick"...

**"It surely was" ----- and away he went.....**

**"For me in particular, and the other Sliieverue representatives on the team-Paddy (Buggy) Sutton (John), and Walsh (Bill)- it was the realisation of every player's ambition. Surely you couldn't ask for more than to play in an All Ireland Final against lads that lived a few miles in the road.**

**"You must remember that back in the day, there was a fair slice of open country between Sliieverue and Waterford, with only the occasional cottage or two-storey dwelling. I was born into a pub - the Milepost - and it was situated in the middle of the country. My mother ran it, because my father had no interest whatsoever, him being employed like many hundreds more around the locality, by Clover Meats. It had a great reputation as a meeting place where farming was discussed in all its vagaries, but in truth down in that neck of the woods where the three counties met (Kilkenny, Waterford and Wexford) it was a hotbed of hurling talk. Cards were played, rings were pegged, and when the porter loosened the tongues the hurling talk took off. There were plenty of hard words spoken, plenty of lies too, and maybe an odd clatter, but invariably most of the lads had a great respect for each other. As a young lad growing up, I was enthralled by the hurling talk especially. That time there was a lot of inter-marriages between the Sliieverue people and the Waterford crowd. You would often hear a lad say that he was involved in a mixed marriage (he roars laughing). I remember the likes of Barron (John), Frankie (Walsh), Morrissey (Martin Og), coming out to the pub. Wheeler too (Ned), the Kehoes, and the Morrisseys (Wexford) were often in the place as well. That's when you would have the craic, and the singing." he paused for a breath. "Wheeler was a terrific singer".**

Dick went to De Le Salle in Waterford for his education. When he finished school he went to work with his grandfather on the Rockett farm. His bachelor uncle was also on the farm, but when he died prematurely, Dick's grandfather turned over the farm to him. In answer to the question as to when he actually started hurling, he went down the road of nostalgia.

**"I cannot remember a time when I didn't have a hurl in my hand. There was little or no organised hurling in De Le Salle, but we all hurled and played football over in the bog across the road from the pub".**

Are we talking about the standard turf-cutting bog Dick?

**"Not at all for God's sake. It was worse. There were bushes and furze and holes, but we managed to create our own Croke Park"**

Dick Rockett played his first competitive game as a 14-year old minor in goal against Clogga in the first round of the South Championship. The following year they got to the South minor Final but were beaten by Moonroe by a point. That time there was no Parish Rule so they could call on lads in Glenmore who had no team. Lads like Paulie Fitzgerald, and Pete Roach came over the road from Glenmore.

**"Anyone could play with anyone else", said Dick. "The Heffernans (Jimmy, John and Paddy) all played with Carrickshock in their glory years. So too did our own John Sutton, Bobby Hinks, Tom "Builder" Walsh, Jimmy Cassin, Paddy Donovan and Tom Wall from Ballyhalla", said Dick.**

Let's fast forward a bit to the post minor days of Dick Rockett. While still a minor Dick played in goal for the junior team. He remembered playing Glenmore and Mooncoin in the Sportsfield (now Walsh Park) in Waterford.

**"There weren't a lot of pitches around the South at that time, but the Sportsfield was more familiar to us down South than Nowlan Park", he stated. "There were plenty of Kilkenny fixtures played there".**

Can you remember your first serious outing with the Sliieverue senior team?

**"I remember we played the great Bennettsbridge team in Nowlan Park in 1948. I was still a minor and I was considered too young and too small to play in the goal. So, I was a sub, and we were thrilled to beat the great Bridge in the Nowlan Park in the Championship. But the 'Bridge objected to Bobby Hinks, and our lads counter objected to one of their players, so the County Chairman of the day, Tom Walsh adjudicated that the game should be replayed in James Park as Nowlan Park was unavailable due to redevelopments. They beat us in the replay".**





**O'DWYERS GOLF**  
everything for golf



**O'Dwyers Golf is a family run business with 25 years experience in golf industry.**

- Explore all leading golf brands in our 3 stores.
- Expert and friendly advice on all your golfing needs.
- Professional after-sales service . All club and electric cart repairs in-house.
- Full club fitting service with Flightscope electronic tracking system to determine the best club for you.
- Corporate branding and events, demo days and much more.

**24 Hebron Business Park, Hebron Road, Kilkenny, 056-7703537**

**4/5 Clonmel Business Park, Clonmel, Co.Tipperary, 052-6182591**

**SHOP ONLINE [WWW.ODWYERSGOLF.COM](http://WWW.ODWYERSGOLF.COM)**



Sliieverue were formidable opponents in the senior grade at the start of the 50s. Your improvement was noticeable for all to see. You were getting ever closer of the County Final rostrum. Your nemeses, the 'Bridge beat ye in one of the great Finals (1953) by five points but ye came roaring back with a terrific win the following year, beating a fancied Tullaroan by 6-5 to 4-3 in yet another memorable Final. What do you remember of that win?

**"I remember that Seanie Griffin scored five of the six goals - a record never equalled in a Kilkenny senior Final since. Dick Mahoney, Bill Cahill and Seanie Griffin was our full forward line, and they were deadly. Tullaroan never knew what hit them", he beamed as the memories came flooding back.**

In case you have forgotten dear reader, I am talking to a remarkable man of 91 years, and he is remembering tales of some 60 years fado, fado. The 50s were a time where the balance of club hurling power was well founded in rural Kilkenny Dick?

**"I suppose you could say that. There were at least four very strong clubs down South with only Bennettsbridge and Tullaroan carrying the flag for North Kilkenny. The 'Bridge was the yardstick for the rest of us, but they were not unbeatable either. Tournaments that time were more important than the Championship. As Seanie Cleere once said to me, we depended on Tournaments to put a new suit or a good overcoat on our backs, and he was right".**

Having won in '54, Sliieverue were knocked in the '55 semi Final but came roaring back to beat the 'Bridge in the semi-final of '57. What happened in the '57 Final against John Lockes?

**"We bet the 'Bridge in the semi-final and we thought that we had nothing to do but go up to Nowlan Park and collect the cup. We were too cocky and Callan made us pay a big price for that".**

Rewinding the tape, a smidgen, I took Dick back to his inter-County career. He came onto the team as successor to Ramie Dowling for the '53/54 League. His opening game was against Cork - Christy Ring et al. His fullback colleague was the legendary Pat "Diamond" Hayden. He recalled a story when he went into the goal before the game started on a wet mucky November day in the Athletic Grounds, the "Diamond" gave him his instructions:-

**"Sonny, anything that goes in over my head is yours. Don't worry about anything else because there will be nothing else going into you".**

**A man true to his word. I never felt safer in my life. He was a great man, and a truly lovely fellow. Strong as a bull, and nobody took any liberties when he was on the edge of that square",**

The Leinster rivalries were formidable. Wexford always posed serious challenges for Kilkenny. Dublin too were decent hurlers.

In fact, it was Dublin who came very close to changing the Provincial annals when they drew with Kilkenny in the first round of the 1957 Championship. Playing in Croke Park, Kilkenny were very fortunate to draw the game (Kilkenny 1-11, Dublin 2-8). The referee blew the full-time whistle as Dublin's Kevin Heffernan was about to belt the winning score standing 30 yards from goal with the ball in his hand. In the replay, Kilkenny made no mistake winning by 6-9 to 1-5. With the sides level at two points apiece, after 16 minutes, Kilkenny suddenly took fire. Johnny Mc Govern soloed through the Dublin defence, passed to Dick Rockett who lifted the net for a classic goal.

**"You enjoyed that game Dick. Do you remember the goal?**

**"A little. Sure 'twas easy score it after Mc Govern came through the middle and passed".** said the ever so modest Sliieverue farmer.

Wexford were put to the sword in no uncertain fashion as Kilkenny-in front of a record crowd of 52,272, Kilkenny won the Bob O'Keeffe cup and a ticket to an All Ireland Final. Little were they to know that their All Ireland opponents would be their near neighbours on the opposite bank of the Suir. Waterford had blasted a trio of Ireland's greatest hurling Counties - Limerick, Cork in the Munster Final and Galway in the semi-final.

IT was Fr. Tommy Maher's first year with the Kilkenny team. Training was upped to every evening for the two weeks prior, with rest on the third week. The mantra as presented by Fr Tommy involved nothing other than ball work. The team travelled by train, with the South Kilkenny lads starting in Waterford. Dick does not remember too much about the game as it was "too tense and exciting". Mick Kenny scored 2-5, with Billy Dwyer bagging two goals. Kilkenny struggled to get to grips with

the Waterford style, but stayed in the ring and on their feet. A last second point by captain Mickie Kelly into the Railway end as he was on one knee sealed a famous victory in one of the greatest All Ireland Finals played.

Dick Rockett won every medal worth the winning except a National League gong. All Ireland, Leinster, Oireachtas, County Championship, and Railway Cup. He enjoyed every moment spent on the hurling pitches of Ireland, and whilst the stories are myriad, and I enjoyed the telling,

I cannot but marvel at the ability of an astonishing 91-year-old Sliieverue man's mental faculties in the telling. This story is not finished --- just yet methinks.



**Brian Cody presents Dick Rockett with the new Kilkenny Training Top which bears his name along with all Kilkenny's Senior All Ireland Winners**



**Dick Rockett reminisces with Jim Walsh (Éigse Slábhra)**

# FIVE GOAL VAT STROLL TO FOUR-IN-A-ROW

Football Report by Michael O'Leary

Photos: Willie Dempsey



Mullinavat - 2020 Senior Football Champions

**Back:** Fiachra Knox, David Maher, Conor Walsh, Mark McNamara, Liam Fennelly, Joe Fennelly, Tom Aylward, Mark Mansfield, Damien Aylward, Conor Frisby, Killian Dunphy, Michael Malone, Luke Byrne Doyle, Ian Mansfield, Robin Davis, Brian Phelan, Adam Mansfield.  
**Front:** Jack Walsh, Pádraic Gahan, Darren Kenneally, Ian Duggan, Richard Devine, Ger Malone, Simon Aylward, Mikey Jones, Shane Kelly (Capt.), John Walsh, Conor Duggan, Gavin Maher, Sean Fitzpatrick, Michael Walsh.

The 2020 Football Championships were incomplete last year due to the Pandemic, but the Senior, Intermediate & Junior Finals were all played off over a Weekend throughout the Summer, as Mullinavat, Thomastown and Graigue-Ballycallan all claimed Silverware.

## SENIOR FINAL

Mullinavat strolled to their 4th consecutive Senior County Title against their Southern neighbours Mooncoin, but they had to endure a Semi-Final scare as they prevailed narrowly against Clara 3-6 to 1-10.

The Suirsiders, by contrast, were impressive in reaching the County Final, having defeated Dicksboro 2-13 to 0-12, before strolling to a 1-13 to 0-4 win against Kilmoganny to set-up an all-South Kilkenny showdown against Mullinavat in the decider.

Brian Phelan was the Hat-Trick Goal Hero as Mullinavat took control from an early stage.

Liam Fennelly got the ball rolling with a goal after just three minutes, before palming to the net the first of his goals after six minutes, and already Mooncoin were in a very difficult situation despite the game being so young. 2-0 to 0-0.

They were in total control by the midway point of the first half, when points were added from Conor and Ian Duggan and John Walsh as they built up a 10 point lead - 2-4 to 0-0.

Mooncoin settled down, and they came into the game during the second quarter.

A superb goal from Wing-Back Sean Gannon narrowed the deficit and the advantage was a more manageable seven points at the interval.

However, Mullinavat were quick out of the blocks after the re-start, and within seconds they added a second goal when Brian Phelan finished off a superb team movement as they restored their 10 point advantage, while victory was virtually assured in the 37th minute when Pádraic Gahan added their 4th goal.

Despite, the enormity of the task, the Suirsiders kept battling away and points from Paul and Oisin Henebry, along with Cormac Daly kept the scoreboard ticking over.

Mullinavat, though, were always in control, and they finished off in style, when adding a 5th goal from Brian Phelan who completed his Hat-Trick.

A very impressive and emphatic performance from Mullinavat who have become the Kingpins of Senior Club Football in Kilkenny.



Shane Kelly, Captain Mullinavat, with the SF Cup

## SCORERS:

**Mullinavat** - Brian Phelan (3-0); Pádraic Gahan (1-1); Liam Fennelly, (1-0); Ian Duggan (0-3, 0-2 frees); Conor Duggan (0-2); John Walsh (0 -1).

**Mooncoin** - Sean Gannon (1-0); Paul Hennebry (0-2, 0-2 frees); Cormac Daly (0-1, 0-1 45); Oisin Henebry (0-1).

**Mullinavat**: Killian Dunphy; Joe Fennelly, Shane Kelly, Simon Aylward; Mark Mansfield, Ger Malone, John Walsh; Tom Aylward, Michael Malone; Conor Duggan, Ian Duggan, Adam Mansfield; Pádraic Gahan, Liam Fennelly, Brian Phelan.

**Subs:** Robin Davis, Michael Walsh, Ian Mansfield, Damien Aylward, Richard Devine

**Mooncoin**: Eoin Purcell; Paddy Kinsella, Sean Wall, Niall Madden; Sean Gannon, Cormac Daly, Seamus Kearns; Ethan Ryan, Paul Hennebry; Ryan Croke, Sean Walsh, Stephen Crowley; Oisin Henebry, Alan Walsh, Patrick Walsh.



*Thomastown - Intermediate Football Champions 2020*

*Back: John Joe Farrell, Jack Barcoe, Naoise Dempsey, Ben Tennyson, Eoin Manning, Richard O'Hara, Patrick Khan, Liam Treacy, Jack Cullen, Brian O'Hanrahan,*

*Shane Maher, Luke Connellan, Brian Staunton, Casper Konopke, Brendan O'Sullivan(Selector).*

*Front: Mark Coone(Selector) Jim O'Conner(Trainer/Selector) Mark Walsh, Cian Sutton, Colin Conway, David Griffin, Ned Kirwan (Captain)*

*Thomas O'Hanrahan, Paul Barron, Rory Monks, Daithi Barron, John McCarthy, David Prendergast.*



*Graigueballycallan - Junior Football Champions 2020*

*Back: Finn Lanigan, Adam O'Brien, Cillian Egan, Eoin Delahunt, Jamie Lawlor, JJ Ryan, George Murphy, Ciaran Dowling, Padraig Dunphy, Tom Dunphy,*

*Keith Coffey, Vinny Teehan, Eamon Egan, Jason Dermody, John Power.*

*Front: Jesse Roberts, Jack Walton, Simon O'Dwyer, Joey Corcoran, Brendan Hayes (capt) Luke Hayes (mascot) Ger Doheny, Bob Murphy,*

*Colum Prenderville, Philly Cahill, Brian Sheridan, Conor Murphy, Jordan Davis, James Ryall.*



*Brendan Hayes Capt Junior football Winners - Graigueballycallan*



*Ned Kirwin Capt winners - Thomastown Intermediate Football Co Final*



**Come  
and  
enjoy the  
atmosphere  
at  
Kilkenny's  
O'Faoláin's  
Bar.**

**KILFORD HOTEL  
JOHN STREET, KILKENNY  
Tel 056 - 7761018**



## **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.

Tel: 051-648142 Mobile No.: 087-2567517



## **PAT CARROLLS BAR & LOUNGE**

After the Match

**PAT CARROLLS**

is the place to be!

OFF LICENCE

Ballybough Street

Kilkenny

Tel: (056) 7722405



**Subs:** James Delahunt, Ray Wall, Cormac Kinsella, Liam Henebery,

**Referee:** John Kennedy (Ballyhale Shamrocks)

## INTERMEDIATE FINAL

### INTERMEDIATE GLORY FOR THOMASTOWN

Meanwhile, Thomastown won the Intermediate County Final when they defeated Glenmore 2-13 to 1-7 in the decider.

The Two Clubs would subsequently become well acquainted in the Intermediate Hurling Championship, when clashing against one another in the League Final along with the County Championship Semi-Final.

Thomastown had to negotiate a very tough Quarter-Final clash when prevailing narrowly against Blacks & Whites 2-14 to 2-12, before firing seven goals past Piltown in a 7-7 to 1-13 triumph in the Semi-Final.

Glenmore had a tough uncompromising Semi-Final battle against Rower-Inistioge, winning 0-10 to 1-4, before losing out to Thomastown in the Final that was played in MW Hire Dunmore.

## JUNIOR FINAL

### JUNIOR SUCCESS FOR GRAIGUE-BALLYCALLAN

The Junior Championship recommenced with Graigue-Ballycallan defeating Tullaroan 2-6 to 0-7 to qualify for the County Final.

On the same night that Graigue-Ballycallan reached the County decider, Carrickshock eased to a 2-8 to 0-5 win over Windgap in the Quarter-Final before strolling to a 3-13 to 1-3 win over Barrow Rangers in the Semi-Final.

The County Final in John Locke Park, Callan was a well contested battle with Graigue-Ballycallan emerging victorious 2-7 to 0-10.

## 2021 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Not surprisingly, the Football Calendar has been curtailed again this year due to the Pandemic, and at time of writing, the 2021 Championships still have to be played, but it was hoped to commence them in November once the Hurling Championships were complete.

# THOMAS BUTLER



**– Simply the Best –**

**VIDEO PRODUCTIONS**

*Freshford, Co Kilkenny*

*Tel: 056 - 8832285 Mobile: 087-2431417*



  
**permanent tsb**

**SPONSORS OF KILKENNY  
U19 CHAMPIONSHIP**

  
**permanent tsb**



**For all your Banking needs contact:**

Louise Lawless Mobile: 087-6095962 or visit the local Branch at High Street.  
Phone No: 056-7722969



# 25 YEARS SINCE 'IRELAND'S BREAKTHROUGH

**By Michael O'Leary**

We are twenty five years on from that memorable triumph in the replayed county senior final against James Stephens.

This was a victory that had been several years in the making, beginning with U-12 success in the early 80s. The U-12 Roinn A League and Championship victories in 1982 and 1983 laid the foundations for a clean sweep of underage titles for the remainder of the decade. Further Roinn A titles followed with the same group of players at U-14 in 1985, U-16 in 1987 before finishing off with a Minor Championship in 1989. All three of those wins came against Mooncoin.

Several of the players involved in the county title victories in the '80s featured in that senior maiden triumph, along with their second senior championship victory in 2002. A number of those players involved also featured for Kilkenny in their All-Ireland wins at Minor and U-21 between 1988 and 1991. Among those who featured were DJ Carey, Pat O'Neill, Charlie Carter, Cathal Fitzgerald, Martin Carey and James McDermott, the latter who captained Kilkenny to a Minor All-Ireland title in 1990. By 1991, DJ, Pat and Charlie were all featuring with the Kilkenny seniors and unquestionably the talent and ability were there to translate that underage success into adult glory.

An Intermediate championship arrived in 1992 under the guidance of former Kilkenny and Ballyhale Shamrocks All-Ireland senior winner Kevin Fennelly, but success didn't come as quickly as anticipated. Kevin took a sabbatical for a few years before returning for the 1996 season ahead of that historic victory. There were three barren years at senior level in Kilkenny, but in 1995, the club gained their first senior silverware as they became the first Kilkenny club to win the Kilmacud Crokes Sevens title. The competition in which they played six matches on the one day - including defeat of Ballygalget of Down in the decider - was to prove a stepping stone towards senior Championship glory the following year.

Kevin Fennelly had returned as manager and he was joined by Gowran NS teacher Dick O'Neill and Charlie Carter Sr. as selectors. They had a tough task to begin their Championship campaign as they were drawn against defending County and Leinster Champions Glenmore. Glenmore were a very strong force in Club Hurling throughout the 90s. During the period 1987-1999, they won 5 county titles, 2 Leinster Championships and an All-Ireland club title in 1991. Five members involved played in Kilkenny's 1992 All-Ireland triumph. The O'Connor brothers Eddie (1993)

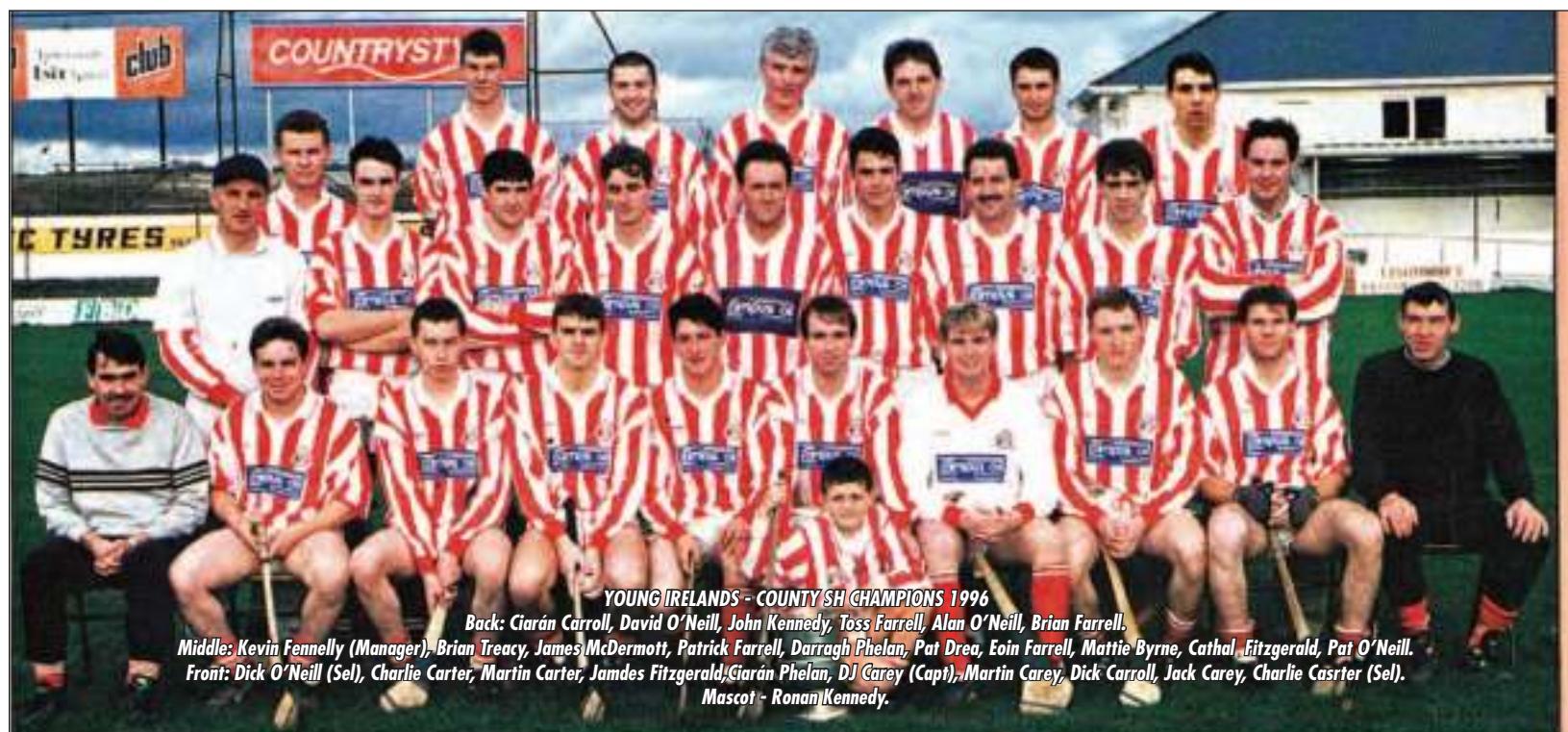
and Willie (2000) were All-Ireland winning captains, while Michael Phelan also featured on the 1993 All-Ireland winning team.

Liam Walsh was right-half back alongside Man of the Match Pat O'Neill in the 1992 final victory over Cork, while Christy Heffernan was entering the twilight of a glorious career.

Indeed Christy was central to an episode that happened during the First Round clash in Ballyhale between Young Irelands and Glenmore in 1996. A streaker appeared on the pitch that interrupted the flow of play, but Christy dealt with the situation. The Gowran men weren't affected went on to dethrone the defending county and Leinster Champions by 3-13 to 3-10. It was a hugely significant victory and it gave them the belief that they could go all the way. Hard fought victories followed against Graigue-Ballycallan and Dunnamaggan in the quarter-final and semi-finals respectively.

It was a very first County Final pairing between Young Irelands and James Stephens. The city team were looking for a first county title since 1981. Not surprisingly, there was huge excitement around the Village and Parish of Gowran and a great sense of anticipation that a historic first County Title might be achieved. The Gowran men made a brilliant start and a Charlie Carter goal gave them a 1-2 to nil lead after five minutes, before a second goal from DJ Carey stretched the advantage by the midway point of the first-half. However, James Stephens settled down and by half-time trailed by just two points, 2-5 to 0-9.

They continued that momentum into the start of the second-half and eventually took the lead. In a see-saw contest with no more than a point separating the sides, the Village men had the final say when Brian McEvoy struck over a late levelling point to force a replay. The replay was played two weeks later before a record crowd and Young Irelands again made the early running. In a dominant opening half performance, the Gowran men buoyed on by a very strong wind advantage built up a 2-7 to 0-4 lead at half-time, with DJ blasting two goals from placed balls - one from a 20m free and another from a penalty. However, James Stephens fought back with the strong wind behind them in the second-half, as scorer-in-chief Richie Manogue led the revival firing over points from play and frees. Entering the closing stages, two goals from Brian McEvoy had drawn the Village Men level (2-9 each) and they were certainly in the driving seat and firmly on course for victory.





But there was late drama that produced a fitting finale. Toss Farrell who had an outstanding game combined with Ollie Carter who set-up Charlie Carter and he passed inside to the forward running Jack Carey who shot to the net, giving James Stephens goalkeeper Frances Cantwell no chance. It was a fitting brilliant finish to a brilliantly worked move. Young Irelands now led 3-9 to 2-10, but there was still an opportunity for James Stephens to rescue the situation with a levelling goal and it almost happened. Former Waterford inter-county senior Liam O'Connor found himself in space and he let fly with a rasping shot that sailed inches over the crossbar. It was that close.

Moments later referee Pat Dunphy blew the full-time whistle following two compelling battles much to the relief, joy and delight of Young Irelands followers. The massive pitch invasion by red and white supporters heralded a famous and historic victory. Winning Captain DJ Carey collected the Tom Walsh Cup and the celebrations began in earnest.

The Young Ireland players who featured in 1996 county final were:

**Martin Carey, Cathal Fitzgerald, Pat O'Neill, Brian Farrell, Pat Farrell, Pat Drea, Eoghan Farrell, Ciaran Phelan, James McDermott, James Fitzgerald, Jack Carey, DJ Carey, Toss Farrell, Charlie Carter, Dick Carroll, Ollie Carter, David O'Neill, Alan O'Neill.**

Later that evening, the Young Irelands panel were welcomed home by a massive crowd in Gowran. As mentioned earlier, those victories had begun a clean sweep of underage titles with several of those players forming the backbone of that senior triumph in 1996. Two men hugely central to the progress and development were Gowran NS teachers Dick O'Neill & John Knox. Dick and John were two passionate, dedicated and loyal hurling men and their influence certainly can't be underestimated. It was through them that so many Young Irelanders over the years began their hurling education. Further success came when a second county



*From left: Liam Smyth, Cathal Fitzgerald, Ciarán Phelan, John Scott, Brian Leahy, Brian Farrell.*

senior title was landed under the stewardship of John Brennan. John had captained Young Irelands to win the Intermediate county title in 1992. On that day DJ gave one of his finest performances when scoring 2-7 (0-2 frees) in a 3-14 to 1-15 win over Dunnamaggin. His brother Martin captained the team to the Tom Walsh Cup. This victory reversed the result from 1997, when they lost the senior county final to a Dunnamaggin outfit trained by the late Brendan Fennelly.

That county final defeat was part of the share of disappointments that the Young Irelands seniors endured. They suffered further county final defeats next in 2003, after a replay against O'Loughlin Gaels. That defeat by O'Loughlin Gaels was heartbreaking in both the draw and replay, as the Gowran men were on the verge of victory on both occasions. O'Loughlins snatched a late levelling goal in the drawn encounter, while they overturned a seven point deficit to oblige in the replay.

James Stephens had their revenge in 2004 when a late hat-trick of goals from DJ Carey

saw Young Irelands come up a point short against the subsequent Leinster and All-Ireland Champions James Stephens, as the Village men won their first county title since 1981. Reflecting on twenty five years from their first county final triumph, there would certainly be an element of regret that they didn't achieve more and unquestionably the potential and ability was there to do so. However, that county final victory is a memory of the greatest day in Young Irelands history where the dream of senior glory became a reality.

**James Stephens:**

**Francis Cantwell, Malcolm Murphy, Philip Larkin, Tobias White, Vinnie O'Brien, Shane Doyle, Martin Phelan, Peter Barry, Liam O'Connor, Brian McEvoy, Tommy Fogarty, Liam Smith, Brian Leahy, Richie Manogue, Noel Brennan.**

**Drawn Game: Same team. Subs: Barry Smith for Vinnie O'Brien, Tommy Fogarty for Noel Brennan.**



*Shane Doyle and DJ Carey get in a tangle.*



*Captains Philly Larkin and DJ Carey with referee Pat Dunphy.*



# PAT O'NEILL

## *breaks his silence.....*

PAT O'NEILL is surprised. More than surprised. Why, he wonders, does the Kilkenny GAA Yearbook want to interview him? After all these years? When he didn't give a single interview during his playing career, which ended 22 years ago?

Good questions, all of them. As for the answers, well, Pat O'Neill is a famous Kilkenny hurler of the past, the last classic Noreside centre-back. And he's always been a keen student of the game and has rarely been short of a word to say for himself. And the very fact that he didn't give interviews back in the day could mean that he might possibly be only too happy to unburden himself now.

Thus it proves. The Gowran man proves a delight to interview. He's chatty and engaging and enquiring. Before the interview proper begins he asks about the newspaper business and we talk about the slow death of print media and he reveals he still loves to read a paper, front and back, both sides of each page, over a cup of tea at the kitchen table. Then we talk about family. Then we talk about a rake of other things. Then, when he's good and ready, the referee throws in the ball and off we go.

In the course of the conversation O'Neill will mention a number of people to whom he owes a debt. Many of them are no longer with us but the memories endure. So...

His parents John and Kathleen. John and Maura Carey. Johnny Comerford. Tommy Phelan. Des Kehoe. John Knox and Dick O'Neill in school in Gowran. Nicky Cashin, his history teacher and coach in St Kieran's who alerted him to the efficacy of diagonal deliveries. Also in St Kieran's, Paddy Bollard and Fr Fergus Farrell and Tommy Lanigan and Seamus Knox. Brendan O'Sullivan with the 1988 Kilkenny minors ("he liked to keep it simple – quick ball into the forwards"). Nickey Brennan with the 1990 Kilkenny under-21s ("he was strict and we were messers – it was a great recipe"). Noel Doyle, the man who gave him his start as an apprentice in Suir Electrical, where he's worked for the past 30 years.

Though they may not have realised it at the time, they all did their bit. They all contributed to the life and times of Pat O'Neill.

*By Enda McEvoy (Irish Examiner)*



### EARLY DAYS

The O'Neill boys had their own pitch at home in the field beside the house in Neigham. Two poles for uprights, a rope for a crossbar. There Pat learned to hurl. There, no less importantly, he learned to mind himself.

There was Michael (Micko) and Matt and Shane and himself, plus their neighbours Tommy and Packie Lennon. Being the youngest, Pat was invariably put in goal. It helped toughen him up.

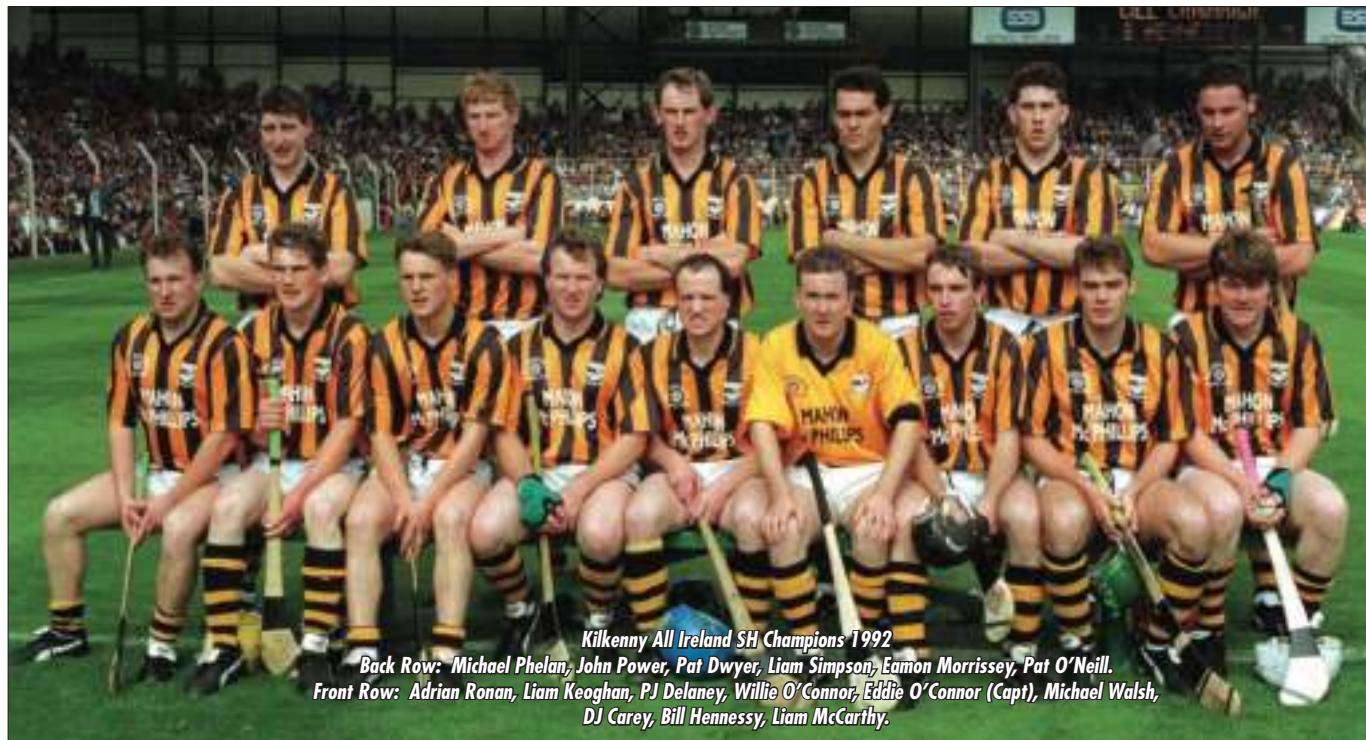
There was also a backyard on the farm. Four walls, a little self-contained square. He "lived there" and it was where he developed his first touch and honed his powerful, fluid striking, equally comfortable left and right.

At school in Gowran, part of a golden generation, he won two Roinn A under-12 titles. Inside in St Kieran's, part of another golden generation, he won two All Irelands (from this vantage point it may strike some readers as bizarre that the first of them, the 1988 triumph, was the school's first since 1975). With Kilkenny, part of yet another golden generation, he picked up All Ireland honours in 1988 and under-21 honours two years later. His senior championship debut came as a forward against Wexford in 1991, the day of DJ Carey's multi-step winning goal.

### GLORY DAYS

They were quite the bunch, the boys of 1992-93. Quiet lads (Pat Dwyer, DJ), talkative lads (O'Neill himself), mad lads (most of the south Kilkenny contingent, basically). Mick O'Flynn did a great job on the physical training. Ted Carroll was county secretary and, although not part of the team management, knew a potentially terrific centre-back when he saw one, having been that soldier himself. "Just look after yourself," Ted advised O'Neill on the evening of the 1991 All Ireland final, "and you'll be centre-back next year."

Above all there was Ollie. Ollie Walsh. The Boss. "The funniest man I've ever met. A rogue. Always brought a smile to your face. Treated you like a human being."





When Ollie asked they listened and said yes. Usually, anyway. Before the 1992 campaign the manager approached O'Neill. "Will you do me a favour? You like to drink pints and smoke fags. Will you give them up?"

"I will, Ollie." Nine months later Kilkenny were All Ireland champions for the first time since 1983.

It was, he muses, an odd feeling. "Are you ever ready for it? There was a lot of relief, a lot of pride. You'd seen your own heroes win All Irelands. Now you've won one yourself. And we'd broken a nine-year losing spell."

Liam Fennelly and Christy Heffernan, the elder statesman on the panel, were very good to him. Eddie O'Connor was, well, Eddie O'Connor. "Crazy," O'Neill giggles, "but if you were in trouble during a match Eddie would be the first man to dig you out of a hole."

His annus mirabilis followed shortly. Having been named man of the match in the 1992 All Ireland final when he shouldn't have been (his storming performance in the closing quarter coloured perceptions), he was patently the best man on the field 12 months later as the MacCarthy Cup was retained, only for the award to go to Galway's Padraic Fahy. "Actually I was man of the match on the radio that day.." He picked up his one and only All Star that season after a summer that would prove the high point of his career. "I was only 22 or 23 but I was in my prime. I never hurled better afterwards. Giving up the fags meant I put on weight. I found things harder."

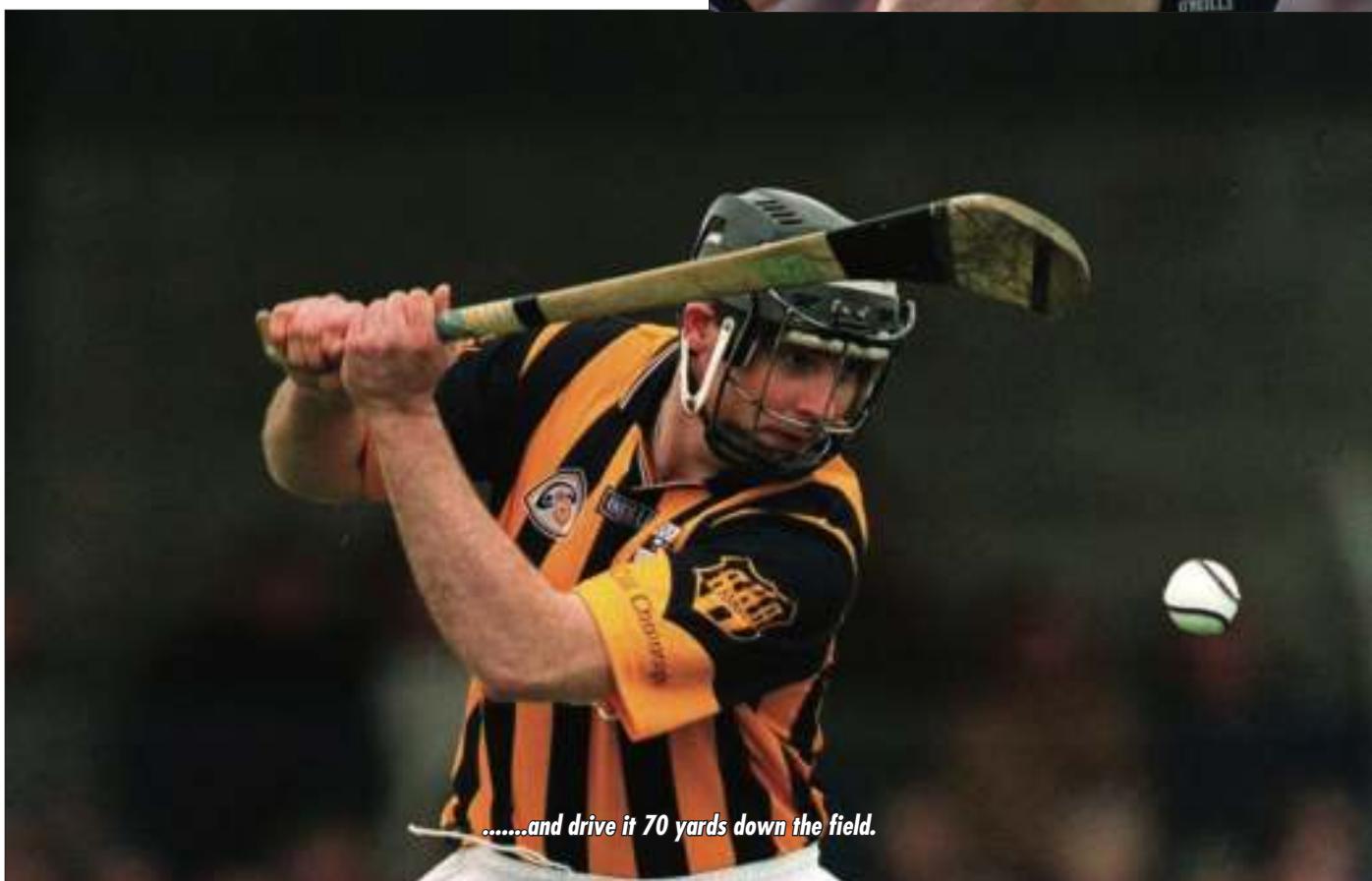
He's glad he hurled when he did. Would he have been a man for contemporary S and C regimes? "I used to winter well. It always took me three or four months to get fit. That wouldn't be allowed to happen now." Nor, he concedes, would he be allowed nowadays to put up his hand, pluck the ball out of the sky and drive it 70 yards down the field. "I'd have had to find another trick."

(You'll probably have surmised that as a stand-up centre-back of the old school, O'Neill might not be a huge fan of the contemporary game. You'd have been correct. "There's not enough off the cuff stuff in it.")

Anyway. Leinster has never been as competitive as it was during the 1990s. But for Offaly, he argues, that Kilkenny team would have won three or four All Irelands. As it was, he was pleased that Offaly



.....pluck the ball out of the sky.....



.....and drive it 70 yards down the field.

# Electro/City

We're open  
at a time that  
**suits you**, shop  
online 24/7 at  
**electrocite.ie**



ONE OF IRELAND'S LARGEST ELECTRICAL RETAILERS

[www.electrocite.ie](http://www.electrocite.ie)



Ormonde Retail Park, Dublin Road, Kilkenny **T: 056 775 1717**  
Hanover Retail Park, Hanover, Carlow **T: 059 916 4515**

**EURONICS**  
best of electronics!



and Wexford franked the form by going on to win All Irelands themselves. He'd have been happier still had there been a backdoor at the time. "We'd definitely have won more than two All Irelands."

Ollie died, much too young, in the spring of 1996. For Pat O'Neill things were never quite the same again. "It took a bit out of me." The 1992-93 outfit broke up, new managers came and went and O'Neill's career ended with successive All Ireland defeats. That he lined out in the first of them, against Offaly in 1998, is the one regret he still carries from his playing days. He'd damaged his groin in the semi-final versus Waterford and wasn't right. "If I could turn the clock back I wouldn't play." He had surgery on the groin three weeks later. Too late.

As for the following year, the one-point defeat to Cork in the rain... "A disaster. A hard one to put up with." The following spring Brian Cody rang him and gave him the bullet politely. That was that. The process of becoming an ex-intercounty man was no easier for O'Neill than he suspects it is for any other player. "The first year or two, I missed the lads a lot. I missed my friends. All of a sudden you're out of a group you've been in for years."

That said, he ended up achieving more with his club than he'd ever anticipated. Two Kilkenny titles, 1996 and 2002. The second one was even more satisfying than the first, he says, on the grounds of importance. "It meant we'd backed up the first one. But it was a pity we didn't go on to win a club All Ireland. For a team with two forwards like DJ and Charlie Carter we probably should have been able to find a way."

#### LATTER DAYS

A couple of years back the Young Irelands camogie ladies asked him to lend them a hand. He took the plunge and they immediately won consecutive county minor titles, which gave him as much of a thrill as anything he'd ever experienced on the field of play himself. From there it didn't take much for Aine Fahy and John Scott to rope him in to the Kilkenny intermediates and for Brian Dowling and Tommy Shefflin to do likewise with the seniors.

Winning the 2020 All Ireland was wonderful, albeit a bit odd with no spectators there in Croke Park. Losing the 2021 All Ireland semi-final was awful. Cork, he concedes, may have been that little big hungrier, but it's easy to forget that many of the Kilkenny girls have been on the go for the best part of a decade now, reaching finals and semi-finals season after season. "It's not easy to keep going. And they're some women altogether. Great girls."

His spell with the Gowran ladies helped change his outlook from his persona when coaching the guys in Blacks and Whites and Rower Inistioge, he offers. Softened his approach. Put a smile on his face. And while the Kilkenny girls may be great craic, he doesn't let them away with too much either. As the father of two girls, he reckons he has at least some kind of handle on how the female of the species operate. (He and Siobhan have three boys and two girls, aged 21 down to nine.)

He and Philly Larkin, who also helps with the defensive coaching, are men for the basics and no apologies either. You won't find a Kilkenny camogie corner-back out at midfield. Oh no. "The ball is still round. There

are still goalposts. The pitch is the same side. I'm old school, teaching the basics. The art of defending. But trying to bring a bit of cuteness into their play as well."

The reason O'Neill didn't talk to newspapers during his playing days was simple, it emerges. Not because – perish the thought – he had nothing to say but rather, and very understandably, because he didn't want to risk making a rod for his own back. He didn't want a profile and he made sure he didn't have one. Perhaps it helped him become the big-game player he became.

And now all the questions have been asked and answered, and the tea and scones have been consumed, and Pat O'Neill, having survived his first interview, says thanks and takes care of the bill and disappears into the night. It has been a pleasure for us both.



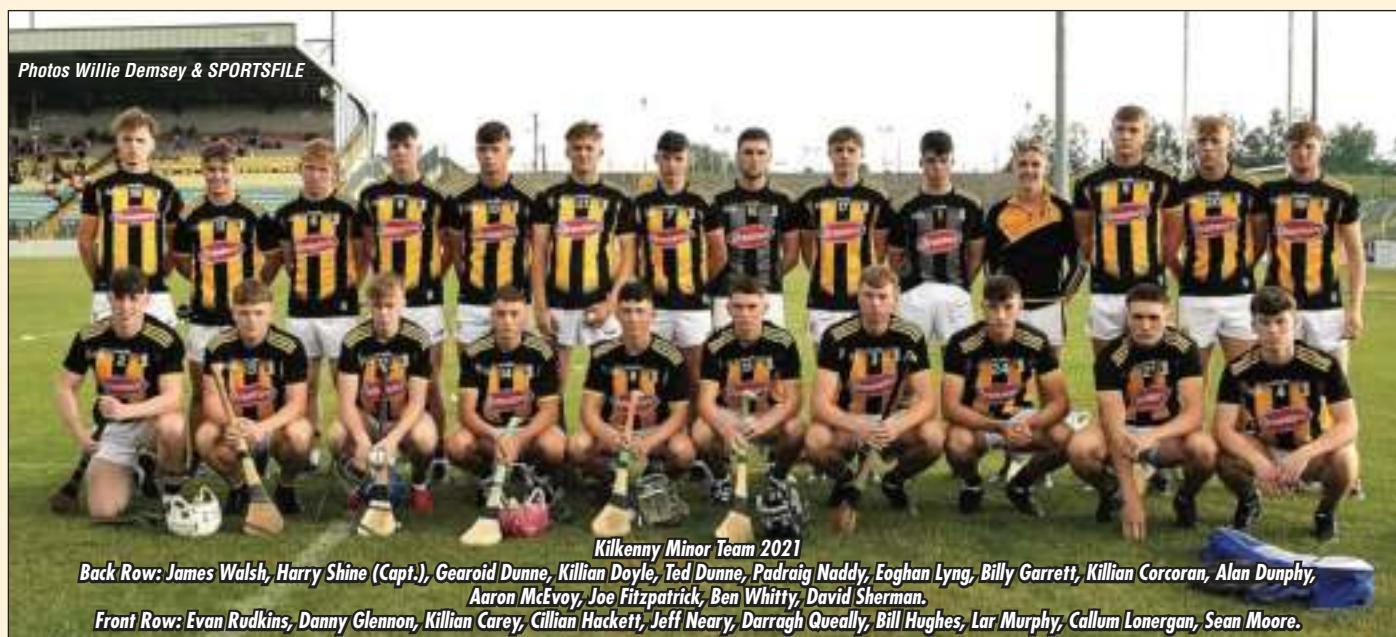
1999 "A disaster. A hard one to put up with."



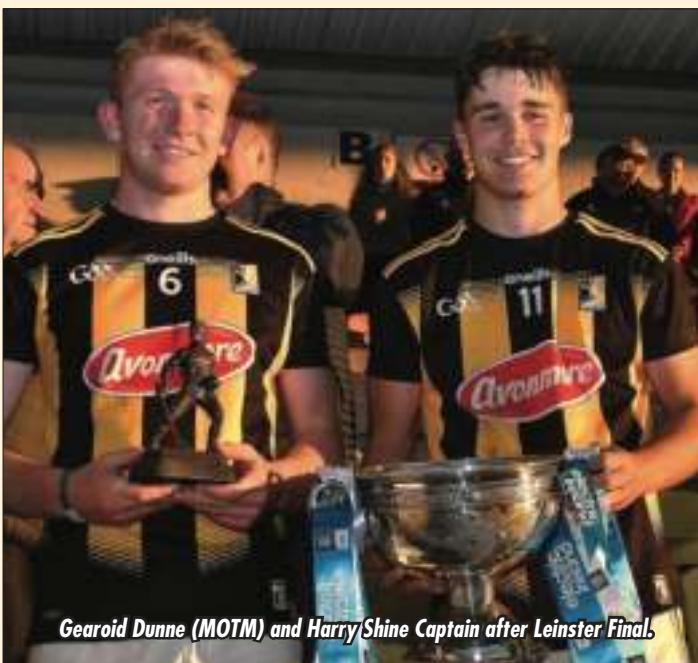
27 July 1997: Pat O'Neill of Kilkenny in action against Justin Campbell, Joe McGrath and Liam Burke of Galway during the Guinness All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship Quarter-Final match between Kilkenny and Galway at Semple Stadium in Thurles, Tipperary. Photo by Ray McManus/Sportsfile

# Galway thwart Kilkenny again

Inter County Minor Hurling Report



One of the competitions that has suffered more than most since the arrival of CoVid has been the inter county minor hurling championship. Critics of the change of age group from 18 to 17 have had plenty of opportunity to be dubious about the change, but the reality is that the competition at the younger age group has produced a host of very high quality games. If Kilkenny manage to break the Galway stranglehold on the competition then it is certain the criticism would abate. Again this year the management team led by Richie Mulrooney had to cope with frequent changes of fixtures and health restrictions and the disruptions hardly made for effective planning, though the problems clearly affected every county. It was a particularly good year for the championship as any one of six teams could have won the national title. Kilkenny had good prospects from the start with several quality scoring forwards on board. Ultimately it was lack of power in defence that undid their prospects in the All Ireland semi-final against a rampant Galway side. The campaign had begun very promisingly in Nowlan Park against a limited Offaly team that were dispatched with a flurry of late scores. It is unusual for Kilkenny not to be favourites to win the provincial title but this year they were up against a Wexford side who harboured high hopes of All Ireland success. It made for a thrilling Leinster final which Kilkenny squeezed through. They had two weeks to prepare for the Galway semi-final but it was never going to be enough as the young Tribesmen were an all-round better side.



Wednesday 21 July 2021, Nowlan Park Kilkenny 3-23, Offaly 1-16

This semi-final was a strange affair. Kilkenny utterly dominated long stages of the game, sat back in the middle and allowed Offaly come close, then drove on to a comprehensive victory in the last quarter. The chief highlight was an astounding return of 2-15 for Kilkenny captain and free-taker Harry Shine who took advantage of liberal marking and had one of those hurling evenings that young men dream about. In the first half, he was the only Kilkenny player shooting accurately as they racked up a succession of dreadful wides, partially explained by this being their first competitive outing. To make matters worse they missed several easy goal chances. 720p Dicksboro clubman Shine goaled a penalty in the 20th minute after the lively Ted Dunne was fouled and this enabled them to lead by five points at the interval (1-10 to 0-8). Offaly improved considerably in the second half, taking the game to Kilkenny. An Adam Screeney goal gave them hope and by the 40th minute they had closed the gap to one point (1-13 to 1-12). Kilkenny kicked out of their lethargy and then took complete control of the game with Shine and Cillian Hackett shooting goals to give a gloss to the scoreline.





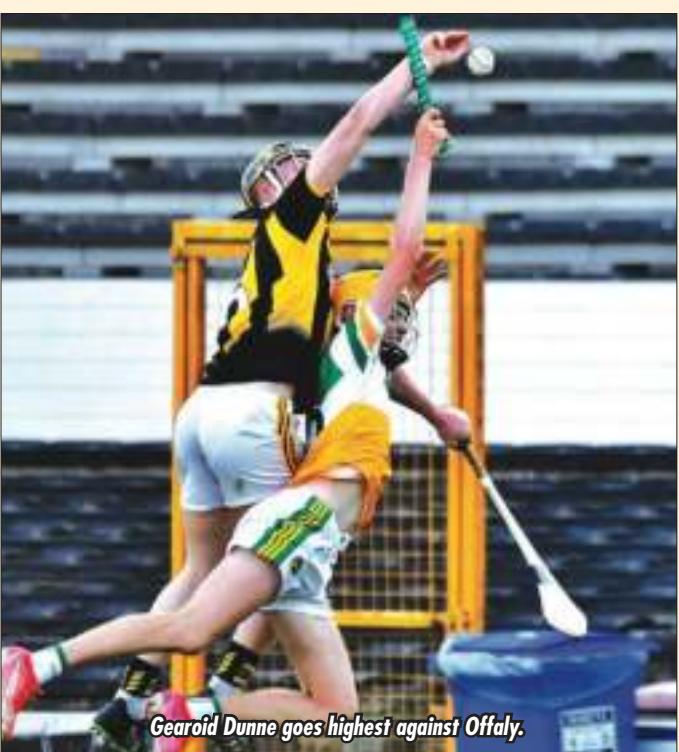
**Kilkenny:** Alan Dunphy (Lisdowney), Evan Rudkins (Barrow Rangers), Bill Hughes (Bennettsbridge), Killian Corcoran (Shamrocks Ballyhale), Joe Fitzpatrick (Dunnamaggin), Gearóid Dunne (Tullaroan), Eoghan Lyng (Rower Inistioge 0-1), Killian Carey (Young Irelands), Killian Doyle (Emeralds), James Walsh (Kilmacow), Harry Shine (Dicksboro 2-15, 8f), David Sherman (Galmoyle), Danny Glennon (Tullogher Rosbercon 0-2), Ted Dunne (Graiguenamanagh 0-1), Darragh Queally (Emeralds 0-1). **Subs:** Cillian Hackett (Dicksboro 1-2) for Sherman 37 mins, Jeff Neary (Graigue-Ballycallan) for Walsh 40 mins, Ben Whitty (Danesfort) for Queally 52 mins, Padraig Naddy (Young Irelands) for Glennon 61 mins, Finn Hogan (O'Loughlin Gaels) for Lyng 62 mins, Sean Moore (Carrickshock) for Carey 63 mins.



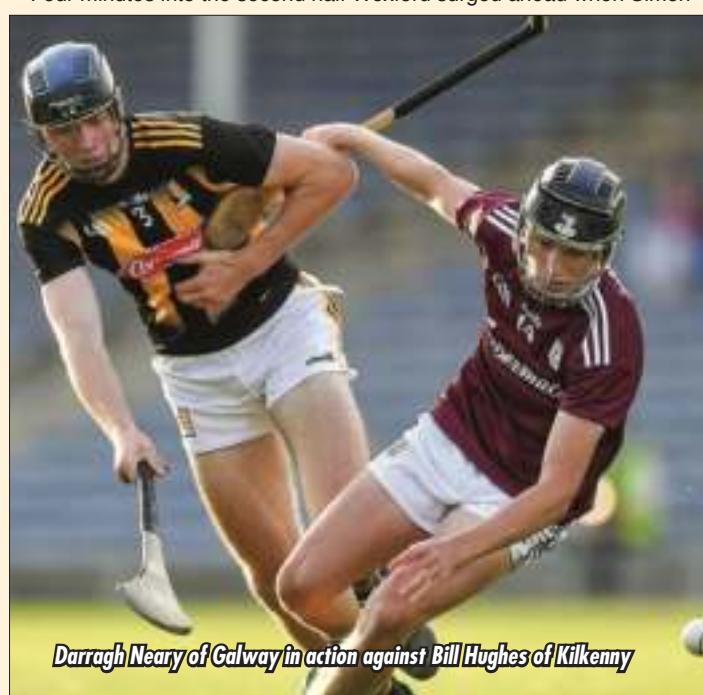
*Cillian Hackett keeping possession.*

**Electric Ireland Leinster Minor Hurling Final Netwatch Cullen Park , 28 July 2021 Kilkenny 1-15, Wexford 2-10**

This was a game Kilkenny did very well to win. They were pitted against strong and lively and well coached opposition and it took no small amount of effort and some good luck at the end of the game for them to stay in front at the finish. It is a credit to them that they emerged with their title intact after a fine game. Captain Harry Shine (free) helped Kilkenny settled well with three well struck points. They were somewhat unfortunate when Killian Carey had a goal ruled out for a thrown pass. Wexford tackled furiously all over the field but they missed a spark in attack that would have converted their dominance to scores. The first half ended in a welter of excitement and a rush of scores. In the 28th minute full forward Ted Dunne doubled on a free from Shine to score a fine old-style goal (1-5 to 0-4). In added time Wexford struck back with a Luke Roche pointed free, and followed with a goal when Adam O'Grady kicked the ball to the net to leave matters level at 1-5 each. Four minutes into the second half Wexford surged ahead when Simon



*Gearóid Dunne goes highest against Offaly.*



*Darragh Neary of Galway in action against Bill Hughes of Kilkenny*



# Fueling Generations of Champions



***Best Wishes to all National Schools GAA Teams in Kilkenny***

With Top Oil you're not just buying home heating oil, you're buying into a tradition of serving the community, stretching back over 200 years.

So whether you order online or over the phone you're getting quality and service, from our tank to yours.



To order great value heating oil visit  
[www.top.ie](http://www.top.ie) or call 056 7770255



Congratulations To The Kilkenny Senior & Minor Hurling Teams From

# THE FIELD

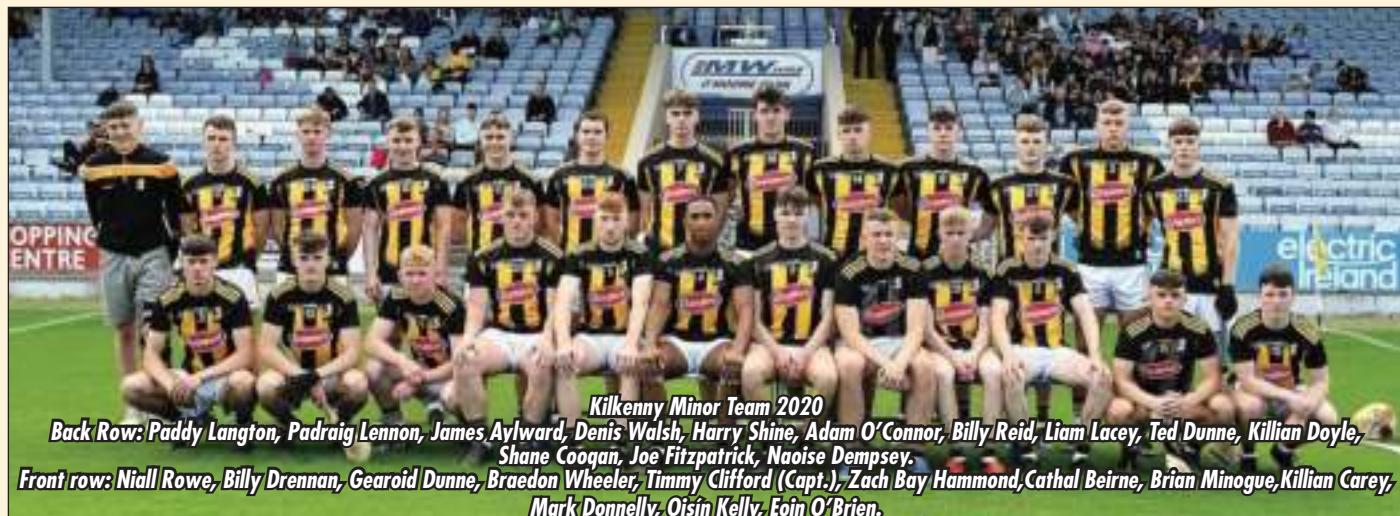
KILKENNY'S NO1  
LIVE MUSIC VENUE  
LIVE BANDS 7 NIGHTS  
LATE BARS ALL WEEKEND  
PRIVATE FUNCTION BAR  
ALL PARTIES CATERED FOR



ROB STRONG  
LIVE EVERY  
TUE AT 9PM



Great Food 7 Days from 9am - 9pm In Our Restaurant  
Call 056-770 2763 or email "[hello@thefieldkilkenny.com](mailto:hello@thefieldkilkenny.com)" for bookings



Roche flicked home a free to give Wexford the lead for the first time after 34 minutes (2-5 to 1-5). A succession of points from placed balls by Shine brought Kilkenny back into the game and they led 1-12 to 2-8 at the 50th minute. Wexford continued to press and Luke Roche's fine shot was saved by Joe Fitzpatrick. Shortly afterwards substitute Cian Doyle hit the side netting, missing another great chance. In fairness to the young Cats they attacked right to the finish and shot three very good points by Danny Glennon, Shine (free) and Ted Dunne. The drama was far from over though as Wexford twice went agonisingly close to stealing the show. But the Cats held on grimly in the dying moments as 'keeper Alan Dunphy produced an excellent save from Cian Doyle and full back Bill Hughes nudged a rasper over the crossbar as Wexford went in search of at least a draw.

**Kilkenny:** Alan Dunphy, Evan Rudkins, Bill Hughes, Seán Moore, Joe Fitzpatrick, Gearóid Dunne (0-1), Eoghan Lyng, Jeff Neary (0-1), Killian Doyle (0-1), Ted Dunne (1-1), Harry Shine (capt. 0-6, 4f), Killian Carey (0-1), Darragh Quearly (0-1), Danny Glennon (0-3), Cillian Hackett. Subs: Ben Whitty for Neary (47), James Walsh for Quearly (51), Michael Brennan for Glennon (60+2). Electric Ireland

All Ireland U17 semi-final Semple Stadium, 13 August 2021 Galway 0-23, Kilkenny 1-12

Four years in a row have Kilkenny minors been defeated by Galway and they can have no complaints after this contest. If they were to win they needed a blistering start and put Galway on the back foot. Easier said than done. Kilkenny never got to the pace of the game and were comprehensively out-hurled in most departments. It could have been a different story had Tullogher-Rosbercon's Danny Glennon goaled in the

opening seconds when he hit the crossbar. Glennon was particularly lively but came up against a very strong Galway defence that always seemed to have a man in reserve to gather any stray pass or breaking ball. Galway were always in control and their forward movement had the Cats in all sorts of trouble from the beginning. Gearóid Dunne at centre back was the only defender who resisted powerfully and came to Kilkenny's rescue on many occasions. But he was needed elsewhere and a remodelled Kilkenny side attempted to put up some resistance after the interval. Glennon continued to take the fight to the Galwaymen and was rewarded with a fine goal early in the second half. But it was to no avail. Galway took an iron grip on the game, to the extent that Kilkenny scored only one point in the last twenty minutes as their forwards faded alarmingly. The final scoreline 0-23 to 1-12 does justice to a splendid Galway team effort while Kilkenny finished a well beaten side, a disappointing end to what had been a promising season.

**Kilkenny:** Alan Dunphy (Lisdowney) Evan Rudkins (Barrow Rangers), Bill Hughes (Bennettsbridge), Sean Moore (Carrickshock), Joe Fitzpatrick (Dunnamaggin 0-2), Gearóid Dunne (Tullaroan), Eoghan Lyng (Rower-Inistioge), Anthony Wall Ireland (Danesfort), Killian Doyle (Emeralds), James Walsh (Kilmacow), Ted Dunne (Graignamanagh), Harry Shine (C), (Dicksboro, 0-7, 6f), Danny Glennon (Tullogher-Rosbercon, 1-1), Killian Carey (Young Irelands), Ben Whitty (Danesfort 0-1). Subs: Billy Garret (Fenians), Killian Corcoran (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Jeff Neary, Darragh Quearly (Emeralds), David Sherman (Galmoyley), Cillian Hackett (Dicksboro 0-1), Padraig Naddy (Young Irelands), Michael Brennan (Erins Own), Lar Murphy (Tullogher-Rosbercon).



**Galway 1-17****Kilkenny 1-14**

It was a case of so close yet so far as Kilkenny narrowly went down to defeat at the hands of Galway in a compelling All-Ireland minor final at O'Moore Park in Portlaoise on Saturday July 10. A stoppage time Liam Collins goal broke Kilkenny hearts after the Cats had produced a stirring second half display to overturn a sizeable deficit. Kilkenny were slow out of the blocks and trailed 0-7 to 0-0 by the time of the first water break. At that stage, Richie Mulrooney's men appeared to be staring into the abyss but after a couple of tactical tweaks they came roaring back. Galmoy clubman Billy Drennan finished with 1-6 and his expertly taken 51st minute penalty brought the sides level for the first time. Kilkenny looked primed to kick on in the final 10 minutes and while Cathal Beirne, Denis Walsh and Ted Dunne did add on points, they couldn't fend off the Galway challenge and the Tribesmen always had a response. The Connacht side then found their second wind in the closing stages. With extra impact from the bench and a bit more freshness, they found a way to win. Before the match-winning goal Galway squandered a couple of opportunities to knock over a couple of points but they then showed their ruthless side when Man-of-the-Match Collins flicked the sliotar past Brian Minogue in the Kilkenny goal. The three point win means Galway have now won the last four All-Ireland titles at minor level and it was a third successive final defeat for Kilkenny against them.

Kilkenny were brilliant for three quarters of the game but the slow start where they trailed by seven points eventually told.

**Galway:** Liam Collins (1-7, 0-3 frees, 0-2 65s); Colm Molloy (0-3); Gavin Leen (0-2); Liam Leen, Kieran Hanrahan, Ruben Davitt, Greg Thomas and Diarmuid Davoren (0-1 each).  
**Kilkenny:** Billy Drennan (1-6, 0-4 frees, 0-1 65); Joe Fitzpatrick and Denis Walsh (0-2 each); Harry Shine, Ted Dunne, Killian Doyle and Cathal Beirne (0-1 each).

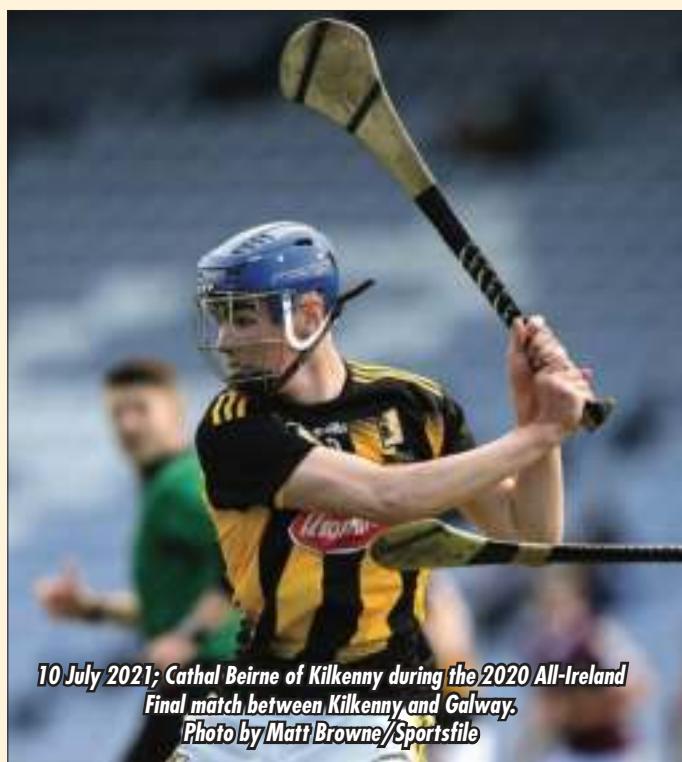
**TEAMS**

**Galway:** Darragh Walsh; Shane Morgan, Adam Nolan, Michael Walsh; Sean O'Hanlon, Tiernan Killeen, Patrick Burke; Liam Leen, Kieran Hanrahan; Gavin Lee, Ruben Davitt, Ronan Killilea; Liam Collins, Greg Thomas, Colm Molloy. Subs: Diarmuid Davoren for Killilea 40 mins; Darren Shaughnessy for Davitt 54 mins; Tiernan

Leen for M. Walsh 57 mins; Conor Slattery for Collins 64 mins.

**Kilkenny:** Brian Minogue (Dicksboro); Mark Donnelly (St Lachtain's), Niall Rowe (Dicksboro), Zach Bay Hammond (Thomastown); Joe Fitzpatrick (Dunnamaggin), Gearoid Dunne (Tullaroan), Billy Reid (Glenmore); Killian Doyle (Emeralds), Cathal Beirne (Glenmore); Billy Drennan (Galmoy), Timmy Clifford (Dicksboro), Denis Walsh (Dunnamaggin); Harry Shine (Dicksboro), Ted Dunne (Graiguenamanagh), Eoin O'Brien (Rower-Instioge). Subs: Killian Carey (Young Irelands) for O'Brien 49 min

**Referee:** Sean Stack (Dublin)



10 July 2021; Cathal Beirne of Kilkenny during the 2020 All-Ireland Final match between Kilkenny and Galway.  
Photo by Matt Browne/Sportsfile



10 July 2021; Kilkenny players after the 2020 Electric Ireland GAA Hurling All-Ireland/Minor Championship Final match between Kilkenny and Galway at MW Hire O'Moore Park in Portlaoise, Laois. Photo by Matt Browne/Sportsfile



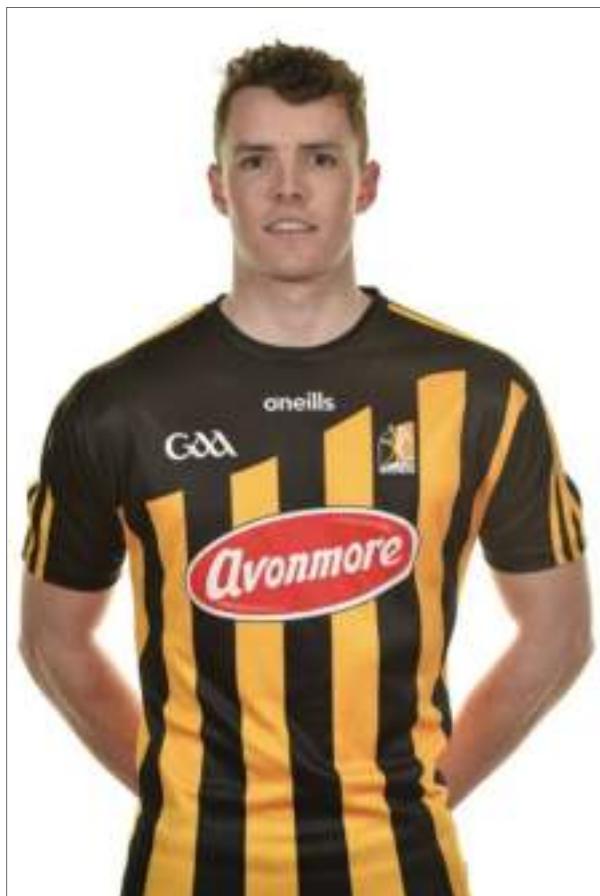
# HUW...

**no surprise he nailed down full back...**

By Conor Denieffe

Many of those attending the 2014 Kilkenny Minor A Hurling final came away from the game well impressed with the performance of the tall O'Loughlin Gaels full back and captain who played a major role in helping his numerically disadvantaged side repel numerous opposition attacks and in doing so capture the county title. Noting the player's name, Huw Lawlor, and watching his hurling career progress since, it came as no surprise to many of the same followers to see him become a regular on the Kilkenny senior team and nail down the full back position, with his performances earning him All Star nominations in each of the last two years.

Huw, the name a recognition of his Welsh heritage on his mother Eluned's side, has a good hurling pedigree with his father Paddy being a member of the St. Martin's County and Club All Ireland winning 1984/1985 side, while O'Loughlin's regulars Jack and Barry Lawlor, Clara's Shane Staunton and Niall Mullins of James Stephens are all first cousins. Huw's introduction to hurling came as a six-year-old attending St. John's Park on Sunday mornings as Hugh Mahon oversaw his young charges first steps in the game. Growing up his hurling heroes were Brian Hogan and Martin Comerford along with Tommy Walsh and JJ Delaney. He represented the club at all age levels but the first success with the St. John's Park outfit did not come until the



aforementioned minor title in 2014, which was followed by an Under 21 title in 2015 and a senior title a year later in 2016. Having attended Gaelscoil Osraí Huw progressed to Kilkenny CBS playing on the school's Leinster Senior Colleges winning side of 2014 when they defeated great rivals St. Kieran's College in the final before the College exacted revenge in the All-Ireland final. Huw notes the input of Nioclás Ó Cearbháill at primary school level and that of Matthew Ruth and Niall Tyrrell at second level and in particular the coaching influence of Niall Bergin with O'Loughlin Gaels teams which Huw was a member of.

At county level Huw did not feature until the Under 21 grade. Interestingly, he attributes this to being too small as an underage player, being a late developer and only reaching his impressive stature in his late teens. His debut with Kilkenny Under 21's proved an inauspicious one in 2016 as the team suffered a first round Leinster championship defeat to Westmeath. Still underage for the Under 21 grade the following year Huw was part of the Kilkenny squad that won Leinster and lined out at



5 April 2014; Huw Lawlor, Kilkenny CBS, in action against Luke Scanlon, St. Kieran's College. Masita GAA All-Ireland Post Primary Schools Croke Cup Final, Kilkenny CBS v St. Kieran's College, Nowlan Park, Kilkenny. Picture credit: Pat Murphy / SPORTSFILE

## Kilkenny / Carlow & District F.R.S. Society Ltd.

Cillín Hill, Dublin Road, Kilkenny  
**056 7761671**

Tullow Ind. Est. Co. Carlow  
**059 9152444**

Piltown, Co Kilkenny  
**051 643111**

[www.frsnetwork.com](http://www.frsnetwork.com)

### Specialists in:

- All types of Fencing ➤
- Post and Rail ➤
- Timber Gates ➤
- Panel Fencing ➤
- Garden Fencing ➤
- Security Fencing ➤
- General Farm Services ➤
- Relief Milking ➤
- Hoof Care ➤
- Scanning ➤
- Freeze Branding ➤
- Sludge & Slurry Disposal ➤



...there's no limit  
to our fences



## The Right People ... The Right Team

### Services include

- Static Officers**
- Mobile Patrols**
- Rapid Alarm Response**
- Key-holding**
- Opening and Closing**

*Take the inconvenience and worry out of  
your home or business security  
by calling us today*

**Wallslough, Waterford  
Road, Kilkenny.**

**056 775 1619 / 086 852 2706**

[info@sentrysecurity.ie](mailto:info@sentrysecurity.ie)

[www.sentrysecurity.ie](http://www.sentrysecurity.ie)



*Huw Lawlor, O'Loughlin Gaels Captain, raises the Minor A Cup after the 2014 County Final*

right half back in the 2017 All-Ireland defeat to Limerick. At the same time his studies had commenced in UCD where, as an undergraduate and a post graduate, he represented the University in the Fitzgibbon Cup for four years. On his call up to the Kilkenny senior panel, the journeys to training sessions were shared with fellow Belfield students Luke Scanlon and James Maher.

His performances with club, college and county had come to the attention of Brian Cody and he was added to the Kilkenny senior panel in 2018 for the Leinster Championship. His senior debut was an unusual one as he lined out at full-back in the Wild Geese Tournament in November 2018 in Sydney against Galway, a game Kilkenny lost in a free taking competition after the sides were level at the end of normal and extra time. His League debut quickly followed in January 2019 again as full back with a win against Cork and in May 2019 his first championship game saw a victory over Dublin as Huw began the game as centre back before moving to full back in the second half. Huw was a constant at full back for the remainder of the campaign which saw Kilkenny lose the Leinster final to Wexford, recover well to defeat Limerick in the All-Ireland semi-final before being defeated in the All-Ireland final by Tipperary. He has been a regular starter since then nearly always in the full back position and won another Leinster medal and an Allianz Hurling League medal in 2021.

Asked if he enjoys playing in the full back position, where the room for error is limited, Huw noted that while full back requires a different way of playing to other positions it would be his favourite position, having played there on many occasions with his club before his selection in that position with the county. Picking memorable moments in his career to date he selected the Senior County Title winning success with his club in 2016 while his disappointments would include Kilkenny's 2019 All Ireland final loss to Tipperary and O'Loughlin's 2021 Senior County Final defeat. A question on the level of commitment required of all county players in the current era elicited the response that as in most areas of life you get out of it what you put in, and that for him hurling is always enjoyable. Long may Huw continue to enjoy his hurling with club and county.



*8 August 2021; Patrick Horgan of Cork is tackled by Huw Lawlor of Kilkenny during the All-Ireland Senior Championship semi-final match between Kilkenny and Cork at Croke Park. Photo by Ray McManus/Sportsfile*



*18 August 2019; Séamus Callanan of Tipperary in action against Huw Lawlor of Kilkenny during the GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship Final match between Kilkenny and Tipperary at Croke Park in Dublin. Photo by Brendan Moran/Sportsfile*

# BENNETTSBRIDGE 1971 REMEMBERED

This year Kilkenny County Board welcomed to the County SH Final the surviving members of the Bennettsbridge County SH Title winners of 1971.  
The event was sponsored by the Springhill Court Hotel.



Photo: Willie Dempsey

The Bennettsbridge 1970 Veterans at Nowlan Park 7th November 2021

Back: Jimmy Walsh (Cathaoirleach, Kilkenny Co Board), Ned Ryan, Paddy Kealy, Liam Cleere, Noel Ryan, John Kinsella, Christy Hayes, Paddy Moran, Liam Bookle, Joe Holohan, John Dowling, Philip Evans (Springhill Court Hotel).

Front: Michael 'Bonetti' Burke, John McGovern, Larry Cleere, Conor O'Brien, Noel Skehan, Jim Treacy, John Holohan, Pat Lawlor.



BENNETTSBRIDGE 1971

Behind: Paddy Moran, Larry Cleere, Noel Ryan, John Holohan, Conor O'Brien, Kevin, Dunne, Walter Kennedy.  
Seated (from left): Paddy Tyeacy, John Kinsella, Jim Treacy, Paddy Kealy (caph), Noel Skehan, Christy Hayes, John McGovern, Pat Lalor.



# P.J. DELANEY IS STILL SMILING

## AFTER HIS JOURNEY TO HELL AND BACK

*Arthur James O'Dea, OTB Sports*



**One week after the All-Ireland hurling final in 1999, Kilkenny's P.J. Delaney suffered a life-threatening head injury when he was attacked outside of a nightclub in Thurles. He talks to OTB Sports about his journey from there to here.**

I.

On the second Sunday of September 1999, P.J. Delaney played the last 6 minutes of an

All-Ireland hurling final for Kilkenny.

With Cork 0-12 to 0-11 ahead, he replaced John Power and moved in at full-forward. His impact was immediate; Delaney's blocked shot making its way to D.J. Carey in front of goal.

It could have been the winning of the game, but Carey, who did not register a score that day, was closed down. Joe Deane soon extended Cork's lead to two points, before Henry Shefflin halved it again soon after. That was it, however. Kilkenny lost.

Sixty-four minutes watching from the bench and a few moments in the action, P.J. Delaney remembers absolutely nothing about the match. Where his memory kicks back in a few weeks later, he is lying in a Cork University Hospital bed. Unable to walk, unable to talk, his last 11 days have been spent in a coma.

"It took two weeks of intensive physiotherapy to learn how to walk again," he recalls, two more years spent working on it in rehab not quite enough to exactly restore his prior mobility.

"Head injuries are different to breaking your arm or leg, you know. It is very, very complex."

If he didn't know it then, P.J. realised quickly enough that those few minutes in Croke Park represented the last meaningful bit of hurling he would ever play.

Twenty-two years on, he still considers himself an incredibly lucky man.

II.

*Star hurler P.J. Delaney is in a critical condition after an early-morning*

attack, in Thurles yesterday, left him with a fractured skull. Delaney, 26, was in a critical but stable condition at Cork University Hospital last night, where he had been transferred from Cashel hospital to undergo emergency surgery... Mr. Delaney's parents, Pat and Eileen, and his sister Ailish, were keeping a bedside-vigil at the CUH intensive care unit, where Cork's Brian Corcoran, was among the visiting well-wishers. P.J.'s younger brother, Podge, put on a brave face and togged out for the Kilkenny team who beat Galway in yesterday's All-Ireland Under-21 Hurling Final at Tullamore. Another brother, Finbar, is in America.

*Irish Examiner,  
September 20th, 1999*



III.

One week after the 1999 All-Ireland final, P.J. suffered a life-threatening head injury when he was attacked outside of a nightclub in Thurles.

After he and a few friends had made the short journey from north Kilkenny on something of a whim, his inter-county status took this brutal incident nation-wide.

A Kilkenny hurler attacked on a night out in Tipperary, it stoked all sorts of idle speculation.

"What in God's name could justify placing a young man's life in danger because he possibly played hurling for a different club or county," exclaimed one angry letter writer.



*13 September 1998; PJ Delaney of Kilkenny in action against Michael Dignan of Offaly during the Guinness All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship Final between Offaly and Kilkenny at Croke Park in Dublin. Photo by Brendan Moran/Sportsfile*



**Forestry Infrastructure  
Sports Facilities and Surfaces  
Civil Engineering and Infrastructure  
Enabling Works**



**Shay Power Ltd, Inchnaglough, Ahenny,  
Carrick on Suir, Co Tipperary  
051 648 401 - 087 210 2064  
[info@shaypowerltd.ie](mailto:info@shaypowerltd.ie) - [www.shaypowerltd.ie](http://www.shaypowerltd.ie)**



"I am quite certain the GAA was not founded in 1884 in Thurles on this principle." Indeed.

The truth was less sensational, but vindictive, nevertheless. In the wrong place at the wrong time, P.J. was the random victim of an horrendous attack.

"I was lucky enough to come out of it not remembering the incident," he asserts on more than one occasion. "That memory was taken away from me and that was a very lucky thing."

The night before he woke up in hospital, roughly 1,000 people attended a mass for him in his home village of Johnstown. It was a show of support from his club Fenians and the local community that would continue thereafter.

"I know of people who went into hospital at the same time with similar injuries to me," he recalls now. "A lot of them didn't make it and I've been fortunate to survive."

"I've been very unlucky and lucky as well. You can be glass half-full, or half-empty, it depends how you look at it."

#### IV.

Michael Lyster: *"Interesting too at full-forward, P.J. Delaney goes into this game as a very young player with no expectation on him."*

Jimmy Barry-Murphy: *"Yes, he has played very, very well, particularly in the semi-final he linked up brilliantly with D.J. Carey for a spectacular goal."*

- The Sunday Game, 1993 All-Ireland final

#### V.

P.J. Delaney took 1993 by storm.

After scoring 2-4 on Kilkenny's run to a third successive All-Ireland final, his goal (from a total of 1-4) against Galway in the decider proved decisive.

A combination of fearlessness and a clever reading of the ball's flight made that moment possible. To understand his capabilities fully, however, his subsequent link-up play with D.J. Carey is revealing.

Hurler of the Year in waiting, as Carey gathered a loose ball with only Delaney's goal separating the sides and minutes remaining, the full-forward fashioned some space for himself inside.

Without an angle to shoot at, Carey looked across the pitch and spotted him. The pass that followed – deceptively casual – connected with Delaney where he stood.

One touch to control and shape the beating of his man, a second to take the ball to hand, Delaney leaves the Galway defender in his wake and slots over the point that gives Kilkenny a four-point lead. Easily forgotten in the excitement that ensued, it was a tremendous example of two hurlers on a shared wavelength.

"He was the most incredible player," Delaney stresses, a little lost for words trying to sum up Carey. "The greatest player I ever played with."

"It is genuinely hard to explain how good he was. D.J. had the x-factor and a little more than that too."

#### VI.

As P.J. focused on his recovery, Brian Cody led Kilkenny to the first of 11 All-Ireland wins in 2000.

Talk about his father Pat and the four medals he won, or his cousin J.J. with an incredible nine, and it is natural to wonder what a 26-year-old P.J. Delaney could still have offered his county.

With the one All-Ireland senior medal he did win stashed away in a sock drawer out of sight, however, he is no worse off for not knowing.

Across the months and years that followed, he demonstrated a hardy determination that would have fit Cody's model. Self-destructive, almost, it was the way P.J. knew how to get by.

Back working part-time four months after brain surgery, he even attempted to pick up where he had left off studying for his accountancy exams.

"They were too much for me," he admits now, running before he could walk a tempting cliché, if P.J. were not indeed running again not long after relearning how to walk.

"I jumped back into everything as much as I could. As a sportsperson, I just wanted to challenge myself."

#### VII.

*I would love to have been the oul' lad in the forwards with the club putting on the bit of weight but being the one they looked to. I didn't get the chance to be that, to bring new lads through.*

- Joe Connolly, Irish Independent

#### VIII.

He was tempted once back into hurling.

"I knew if I didn't that I would regret it," he explains, a few minutes in a club game for Fenians the setting for his comeback.

"I played beside an old friend of mine, Billy Purcell from Johnstown, and he kind of looked after me in the match. He passed me a ball at one stage. I got a shot off, but the ball barely got in over the bar. I just said, 'That's enough for me now.'

"I just didn't have the same vigour or bravery for it, you know. My head was still tender and the thought of going in and taking a bang to it, I was just trying to look after myself really."

What is lost in a brain injury like P.J.'s can never be fully redeemed. Balance remains an issue, and the odd headache here or there. All told though, he knows how lucky he has been.

Important as hurling had been to him in his playing days, he was never his sole obsession in life.

"I gave all my jerseys away to people," he remarks, a habit that started while he was still playing. "It always felt like the right thing to do."

"When kids got a Kilkenny jersey from a player, sure it was like winning the lotto. People still ask me why I gave it all away, but I got more enjoyment out of seeing their reaction when they got the jersey."

"My daughter now is playing a bit of camogie and she is always after me to show her my medal. I haven't got them on stand or anything, but it is on my to-do list."

#### IX.

*"There is a crack, a crack in everything / That's how the light gets in"*

- Leonard Cohen,  
"Anthem"

#### X.

"After a head injury," P.J. explains gently, "you don't come out the same person that you were beforehand."

It is less a qualitative remark than a statement of fact, really.

Although he remembers nothing of what happened to him, the physical traces provide an inkling of the event that cannot be overlooked.

"I'm almost back to what I was," he believes, "but I'll never get back to 100%."

"I owe an awful lot to the incredible support I received during my recovery, particularly among people from Johnstown and my club Fenians."

The trauma of a brain injury can manifest itself in any number of ways and people less fortunate have become lesser for what they have lost. Throughout it all, his wife Sarah and his family have played pivotal roles in helping P.J. come back most of the way.

'Half-full, or half-empty,' P.J. Delaney chooses to see the bright side.

Against all odds, he is still here and still smiling.



P.J. Delaney Today



# 2021 - An Enforced Handball Hiatus

*Handball Report by Martin Lawlor PRO*

Looking back on 2021, the handball community across the country will reflect on the year that had no inter county championships.

Like all sports, handball was impacted greatly by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Due to the close proximity of players in courts, a difficulty that other sports did not endure, handball endured a delayed return of competitive action until late Autumn. With decisions made not to have any inter county championships for 2021, the focus was on completing the outstanding 4 Wall and Softball competitions from 2020. These outstanding championships were completed in the latter months of the year.

While the inter county scene was non-existent during 2021, there was some local action played during the Summer months. As part of the National

aimed at getting outdoor venues, successful Wall the Windgap

Played over the at the South championships opportunity back playing competitions over a number matches taking Juvenile



All Ireland Girls Softball Champion 2020

Summer Series handball played in Kilkenny ran a very Ball championships at GAA premises.

last number of years Kilkenny venue, the were a welcome for players to get some handball. The were completed of evenings, with place in Adult and grades.

year, for most of April, office in Croke Park ran a very successful online series of events, called Youth Expo, aimed at all aspects of the sport. With features on training, nutrition, dual code players, recovery among the topics, there was a fantastic response from the handball public, with total interaction across all social media platforms well in excess of 500,000 hits. No doubt the success of this year's initial forum will lead to further improvements in the coming years, and help the growth and development of handball.

Earlier in the handball ran a very successful online series of events, called Youth Expo, aimed at all aspects of the sport. With features on training, nutrition, dual code players, recovery among the topics, there was a fantastic response from the handball public, with total interaction across all social media platforms well in excess of 500,000 hits. No doubt the success of this year's initial forum will lead to further improvements in the coming years, and help the growth and development of handball.

Towards the end of 2021, plans are under consideration to restructure the inter county championships, with emphasis on providing more opportunities for players, and to grow the sport across Ireland.

In delayed County Softball finals from 2020, Ciaran Neary (Talbots Inch) beat Billy O'Neill (Clogh) in the Senior decider, and in the Minor Singles final, Billy Drennan (Galmoy) came on top against Sean Barron from the Windgap club.

In late October the 2020 All Ireland Juvenile Softball semi-finals and finals were completed. First up were the matches between the Leinster champions and their Ulster counterparts. The outcome of those games resulted in Kilkenny advancing to seven All Ireland finals the following weekend.



The successful Kilkenny team that defeated Wexford in the final of the Joe Maxwell tournament



Kilkenny County Softball Singles champions, Ciaran Neary and Billy Drennan. Also included is Senior final referee Kyle Dunne

Kilkenny County Softball Singles runners up Billy O'Neill and Sean Barron.

Following the first set of All Ireland finals played at Thurles, there was disappointment for Kilkenny as they won only one of the five finals that they contested. That honour went to Emer Barron from Windgap as she defeated Christine Percy (Tipperary) in two sets, 15-7, 15-4. Elsewhere on the day at the Munster venue, there was defeats for four local players. In the Girls U14 Singles, Katie Brennan (Clogh) was narrowly defeated 15-13 in the third game against Cork, and in Boys U15 Singles, Michael Brennan (Clogh) also lost to Cork opposition in two games, 15-7, 15-1. In Boys U16 Singles, Conor Holden was well beaten by Cormac Finn (Sligo) in two games, 15-1, 15-4 and to round off the finals, Lauren Power (Clogh) came up short when losing to Roscommon in two sets, 15-6, 15-10. The following weekend the delayed Boys U14 Singles was played, resulting in a 2-1 defeat for Conor Doyle (Windgap) against Roscommon.

## County Wallball Results

BU12S – Shane Doyle (Windgap)	BU16/17S – Kyle Jordan (Kilfane)
GU12S – Shauna Hayes (Kells)	GU16/17S – Eimear Barron (Windgap)
BU13S – Rian Dowling (Talbots Inch)	Overage 1 – Eddie Bourke (O'Loughlins)
GU13S – Una Duggan (Galmoy)	Overage 2 – Simon Walsh (Windgap)
BU14S – Anthony Clifford (Talbots Inch)	Ladies 1A – Aoife Holden (Kilfane)
BU15S – Conor Doyle (Windgap)	Mens B – Emmet Landy (Windgap)
GU15S – Holly Byrne (Clogh)	Mens C – Sean Purcell (Windgap)



# Kilkenny County Wallball Championships in Windgap





## PJ Garvan

### St. Mary's, Dicksboro, Eire Óg, and Kilkenny.

By Jim Fogarty.



St. Mary's won the first of 3 county minor titles in a row in 1944. PJ Garvan's first big experience in hurling was in that minor final. St. Mary's defeated John Lockes by 5-1 to 1-4. PJ got on the scoresheet, when he latched on to a cut-in and drove to the net. St. Mary's continued their minor run in 1945, beating Moonroe in the final by 2-7 to 1-0. Following good work by Garvan, Power scored St. Mary's first goal. PJ got his team's second goal. St. Mary's won their 3rd minor title in 1946, when they defeated St. Columba's (Piltown), by 1-5 to 0-0. PJ who had played at corner forward in the 2 previous minor finals, was at midfield on this occasion. 7 of the St. Mary's team including PJ, won all 3 titles and were products of the CBS schools, James's Street. During the Forties, a parish rule applied to minor hurling in the City. Hence the existence of St. Mary's minor team. They were, however, essentially a 'Boro team.

PJ Garvan first appeared on the Dicksboro senior team in 1948 and played with them right through to 1956. For Dicksboro, he played most of his games at midfield or centre back. The highlight of his Dicksboro career was in 1950. On the 15th October 1950, one of the most thrilling and closely contested county finals ended in a draw, Dicksboro 3-17, Eire Og 6-8. PJ played at left half forward. In the replay on November 26th, Dicksboro outclassed Eire Og by 4-6 to 1-5. Dicksboro's interesting centefield experiment---PJ Garvan was switched to midfield to partner Dan Kennedy---was highly successful. Garvan made a fitting partner for Kennedy, who gave a grand display all through.

Dicksboro were defeated in the county championship of 1951, 52, 53 and 54, but PJ was still playing outstanding hurling. In the first round in 1953, Tullaroan who won, were forced to switch Sean Clohosey to mark PJ, who had been outstanding in the first half. In the loss to Eire Og in 1954, PJ played a grand game at centefield.

In the 1955 championship, Glenmore knocked out Dicksboro. Match reports stated that Garvan showed great style and played himself to a standstill in the closing stages. In the 1956 championship, Dicksboro beat Thomastown, before losing to Graigue. In the Thomastown game PJ at centefield, was a tower of strength and gave his forwards every assistance with well placed passes. Ironically this win over Thomastown was the 'Boro's only championship win since their county final victory in 1950. They fell heavily to Graigue in the next round, where PJ played at centre back.

In 1957, PJ transferred from Dicksboro to Eire Og. In a replay in that year's county championship, John Lockes beat Eire Og by 5-9 to 4-6. 2 men stood out pre-eminently in the game, Mick Kenny and PJ Garvan. Garvan was head and shoulders above the other 3 centefield men. His striking was superb. His point from a free about 75 yards out was one of the most spectacular scores of the game. He hurled himself to a standstill. From then on, Eire Og played PJ mostly at centre back. His new club were struggling. They played their last championship game in 1968, having amalgamated with St. John's in 1966. They were not really a force for many years, having last contested a final in 1950.

PJ was a member of the Kilkenny panel from 1949 to 1957, normally playing at wing forward. In the 1950 National hurling league home final, Tipperary defeated Kilkenny by 3-8 to 1-10. The winners were due to travel to New York to play New York in the league final proper. Match reports of the home final stated that if anyone deserved a trip to New York, it was PJ Garvan of Kilkenny. It was the first time a hurling trip to the U.S. depended on the result of a national final. Kilkenny and Tipp again contested the 1954 league final. Tipp ran out winners by 3-10 to 1-4. PJ and Johnny McGovern were the only Kilkenny players who played up to form. PJ won a Leinster senior medal in 1950 and 1957, an All-Ireland senior medal in 1957, an Oireachtas medal in 1957 and of course, a county senior championship medal in 1950, together with 3 county minor medals.

PJ died in February of this year. Together with his great friend, and former teammate Tommy O'Connell, they will be keeping up to speed with hurling matters, from their heavenly abode.

ALWAYS SUPPORTING

### GRAIGUE BALLYCALLAN



**CTFM**

**COMERFORDS**  
**Ballycallan, Co. Kilkenny**

**MAIN JOHN DEERE DEALER**

AT TFM/COMERFORDS WE SPECIALISE  
IN PEDAL AND ELECTRIC TRACTORS



WE ALSO STOCK A WIDE RANGE OF  
BRITAINS AND BRUDER TRACTORS



AND A VARIETY OF  
JOHN DEERE  
MERCCHANDISE FROM  
OUR IN STORE CATALOGUE



**CONTACT RAY OR PHILY  
FOR COMPETITIVE PRICES ON  
(056) 776 9239 / 776 5903**

Other branches at: Barna (0504) 45 110  
Clonmel (052) 612 4977, Portlaoise (057) 862 6555  
Enniscorthy (053) 923 6601, Tuam (093) 42 124



# ONE OF A KIND AND ONE OF THE GREATS

by Enda McEvoy

## Chunky O'Brien

*When I asked Jim what type of player O'Brien was, his reply summed up generations of Cork coaching.*

*"Justin, you'll know all about Liam O'Brien by five o'clock on Sunday."*

(*Justin McCarthy, 'Hooked'*)

Readers old enough to remember the Kilkenny team of the 1970s can skip the remainder of this paragraph. Readers not old enough to remember the Kilkenny team of the 1970s can log on to YouTube and call up the 1975 All Ireland final.

It's all there. Chunky O'Brien being Chunky O'Brien in glorious colour.

The skill, the style, the solo runs. The cut and the dash. The fluidity of swing, the sweetness of connection, the accuracy.

In the space of eight seasons Kilkenny won four All Irelands, thereby marking themselves out as the county's finest iteration since the 1930s. Present for each of the four finals, plus the defeats of 1973 and '78, was the St John's man who became a James Stephens man.

Team of all the talents though it was, stuffed with legends from number 1 to number 15, it is not pushing it to suggest that no other member of the side gave supporters quite the pleasure Chunky did. And non-Noresiders too; in the wave of tributes that followed his passing on August 23rd following a short illness it was striking how many of them issued from well beyond the county borders and from ordinary hurling fans who'd been enraptured by the man and his joie de vivre during his pomp. (Particularly folk from Galway. Hordes of Tribespeople of a certain generation mention the names of Chunky and Eddie Keher with an admiration bordering on awe.)

Here's John D Hickey of the Irish Independent on the 1972 final. "At midfield too Kilkenny starred. Their pair Chunky O'Brien and Frank Cummins put much more into the game than the opposition and O'Brien's accuracy from long range was a considerable factor in fashioning a win forged on a red hot anvil."

Here's Tom Ryall, in his 1984 history of gaelic games in the county, on the 1975 renewal. O'Brien, the man of the match, "wrought havoc at midfield where he performed every art and stratagem of the game to perfection."

Here's Donal Carroll, Hickey's successor in the Indo, on the 1978 final, a bad day for both man and county. "Kilkenny seemed less well serviced at selectorial level for, in my view, it was a mistake to persist with Brian Cody at full-forward and an even greater one to move the big fellow out to centre-forward before sending him back to the fringe of the Cork square. And in the light of this it seems even harder to justify the pulling off of Liam ('Chunky') O'Brien."



Carroll's was not a lone opinion on 1978. Many years afterwards Johnny McGovern and the late Georgie Leahy, both of them selectors the same afternoon, conceded that the Kilkenny management had not covered themselves in glory. Ever succinct, Fan Larkin declared that the losers had "let the bloody thing slip away from us... No matter, we'll be back again next year."

And they were. Twelve months later - a wet and blustery afternoon, a greasy sod - O'Brien knocked over three points from play to supplement his 1-4 from placed balls. Donal Carroll was triumphant in the Irish Independent next morning, insisting that the midfielder's performance had demonstrated "how wrong it was to remove him" the previous year. What a comeback. What a way to apply gilt lacquer to a golden decade.

### PERFECT COMBINATION

The partnership with Frank Cummins may have been made in heaven. It was the perfect combination, a pairing of opposites who attracted and prospered. Big and bulky versus medium-framed and lithe. Silk on steel. Velvet glove upon iron fist. Three decades would elapse before Cha Fitzpatrick and Derek Lyng comprised a similarly balanced Kilkenny midfield duo. They didn't do too badly either.

Apropos of those aforementioned readers old enough to remember the team of the 1970s, it is little wonder they do so with boundless affection. By way of context, Kilkenny had won one All Ireland in the 1940s and one



*Kilkenny 1974  
Chunky second left in front row.*

All Ireland in the 1950s. In the course of those 20 years Cork had done a four in a row and a three in a row while Tipperary had done a three in a row and would win four in the space of five years in the first half of the 1960s. Kilkenny, then, were not market leaders and it was a long time since they had been. But in the '70s everything changed, with the 1975 hammering of Galway marking the first time the county had captured successive MacCarthy Cups since 1932-33.

Whereas most of this was down to nothing more complicated than the appearance of a terrific group of players at the same time, some of it was due to the presence as coach of Fr Tommy Maher, as fine a judge of a hurler as Noreside has ever produced. Prior to the 1972 All Ireland final Fr Maher was aware that Chunky was a big-day novice who'd be playing on the celebrated Justin McCarthy. Determined that his man fire an early shot across McCarthy's bows, in the run-up to the match he drilled it into Chunky that the first ball he got, wherever on the field he got it, he was to hit off his left "so that

he [McCarthy] will know you're able to hit left and right". As it happened, the first ball Chunky got came to him at midfield in the eighth minute. He promptly despatched it over the bar off his right. At half-time he felt impelled to apologise to Fr Maher ("that was what I thought of the man") for such a flagrant transgression of orders. Thereupon the coach, sensing

that Kilkenny would have the legs on the Munster champions over the course of this 80-minute engagement, instructed his charge to hold onto the sliotar for as long as possible. This time he obeyed. Cork were routed.

A son of Paddy O'Brien, who was a sub on the 1947 All Ireland winning team, Liam could have been a star in many a sport, particularly soccer and handball. But St John's de la Salle's 1962-63 schools' triumphs marked him out as a potential star of the ash game and his career took off when

on the encouragement of Sean Tyrrell – his neighbour in O'Loughlin Road and captain of Kilkenny's All Ireland junior championship winners in 1956 – he joined James Stephens from Newpark Sarsfields. The move catapulted him into the stratosphere. County titles followed in 1975-76, the first of them heralding the breakthrough Leinster and All Ireland victories. James Stephens were now one of the foremost clubs in the land. On an individual level Chunky would win four All Ireland medals with Kilkenny and four All Stars. The Smithwick's Sports Star award for hurling in 1975 was another treasured memento.



*9th Sept 2012: Forty years after starring in Kilkenny's famous comeback win over Cork in 1972 midfield legend Liam 'Chunky' O'Brien was at Croke Park to cheer on the present day team. Liam is seen here outside the stadium with his friend and fellow Village man Eddie Cody.*

*Pic by John McIlwaine*

#### **SCORING MACHINE**

At this point let's have some statistics, with thanks to Leo McGough, the Carlovian prince of hurling facts and figures.



*The skill, the style, the solo runs. The cut and the dash.*

Liam O'Brien played 26 championship games, 1972-80. Along the way he scored 5-72, 3-28 of it from play and 2-44 from placed balls. In all he made 103 competitive appearances for Kilkenny, his 26 championship appearances supplemented by 66 in the National League, five in the Oireachtas, five in the Walsh Cup and one in the Grounds Tournament.

His scoring tally from those 103 outings came to 11-231: 9-100 of it from play, 1-122 from frees, 1-7 from 65s, 0-1 from a penalty and 0-1 from a lineball. Seeing as we've given you his championship scoring tally, his league equivalent read 66 appearances, scored 6-131 (6-60 of it from play, 0-62 from frees, 0-7 from 65s, 0-1 lineball and 0-1 penalty). For the record, the lineball was converted against Tipperary in Thurles in February 1973. His championship goal from the 65' was, of course, his intervention in the 1979 All Ireland final.

If one number stands out from that mass of figures it is Chunky's scoring return from play. Think about it and it becomes more impressive by the minute. This was an entirely different epoch where the game was slower, the ball heavier, players stuck rigidly to their positions – yet Chunky still averaged over a point from play per match from (mostly) midfield.

Bliss it was in this dawn to be alive and a Kilkenny hurler. A simple man of simple tastes, Liam O'Brien found it to be "just brilliant". People, he marvelled decades later, "would actually stop and let you cross the road".

How would Chunky have fared in today's game? It's an interesting one to ponder. An educated surmise might suggest he'd have struggled, as would many free spirits of previous eras. His natural fitness was more of an advantage in the 1970s; the contemporary taste for regimentation would not have suited him in a dimension when Cian Lynch is very much

the exception, not the rule. All in all, Chunky was ideal for the '70s and the '70s were ideal for him.

His struggle with the bottle was no secret; that he eventually won it was a bigger victory than anything he achieved on the field of play. Straightforward, easy-going and good-humoured, it was no surprise that Chunky was held in such esteem by so many, a popularity illustrated by the turnout for his obsequies. Among those who travelled to offer their sympathies was GAA president Larry McCarthy. The funeral procession featured a guard of honour of his former club and county colleagues, while his family were particularly touched by the number of houses in St Fiacc's Place adorned with both the green and red and the black and amber. How fitting.

There will only ever be one Chunky O'Brien. One of a kind and one of Kilkenny's greatest.



*Chunky and Pat Henderson celebrate on the Hogan Stand 1975*



# MARBLE CITY FUELS

**Homefire**

**Stafford**

**CRANE**

All Types of Solid Fuels + Gas  
Smokeless + Non-Smokeless  
Colin Ahern - 056 7786572  
Email: mcfuels@gmail.com

Unit 1D, Hebron Industrial Estate, Hebron Rd., Kilkenny

# TRP

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PARTS

DAVID FOLEY 086 1529888  
NOEL WHELAN 086 1529887  
MARK RAGGETT 086 8200208

## TRP KILKENNY

(Incorporating Bennettsbridge Parts)

33A Hebron Industrial Estate, Kilkenny R95 K2PP  
PHONE 056 7700743

### MATT THE MILLERS

Live Traditional Irish Music Nightly  
Food Served Daily from 9.30am to 9pm  
No Occasion Too Big or Too Small  
Late Bars Monday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday Nights  
[www.mattthemillers.com](http://www.mattthemillers.com) or [info@mattthemillers.com](mailto:info@mattthemillers.com)  
056-7761696



**Richie Reid**



Ramsey Cardy/SPORTSFILE



LEINSTER

## LEINSTER GAA ARE COMMITTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF KILKENNY GAA

THROUGH OUR EXISTING COACHING & GAMES SUPPORT  
WE HELP 38 CLUBS AND ALMOST 400 COACHES IN  
KILKENNY ANNUALLY.

WE ARE NOW LOOKING TO DEVELOP THIS SUPPORT  
EVEN FURTHER. NEXT YEAR WE WILL LOOK TO EXPAND  
OUR SUCCESSFUL GAMES PROMOTION OFFICER  
SCHEME TO KILKENNY. THIS WILL SEE THE RECRUIT-  
MENT OF COACHING STAFF WHO WILL BE DEDICATED  
SOLELY TO HELPING CLUBS DEVELOP. THEIR DUTIES  
WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING

- PRIMARY SCHOOLS COACHING – RECRUIT PLAYERS TO CLUB
- AFTER SCHOOLS PROGRAMS
- ESTABLISHMENT OF CLUB NURSERY'S (U4-U6)
- ASSISTING CLUB COACHES REGULARLY THROUGH BOTH  
FORMAL & INFORMAL COACH EDUCATION
- RUNNING OF CLUB CAMPS & KELLOGG'S CÚL CAMPS
- PROVIDE EXTRA GAMES OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PLAYERS
- DEVISE AND IMPLEMENT ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
- FOR TEENAGE PLAYERS

TOGETHER BOTH KILKENNY AND LEINSTER GAA WILL  
SAFEGUARD THE FUTURE OF OUR GAMES WITHIN THE COUNTY.





James Bergin

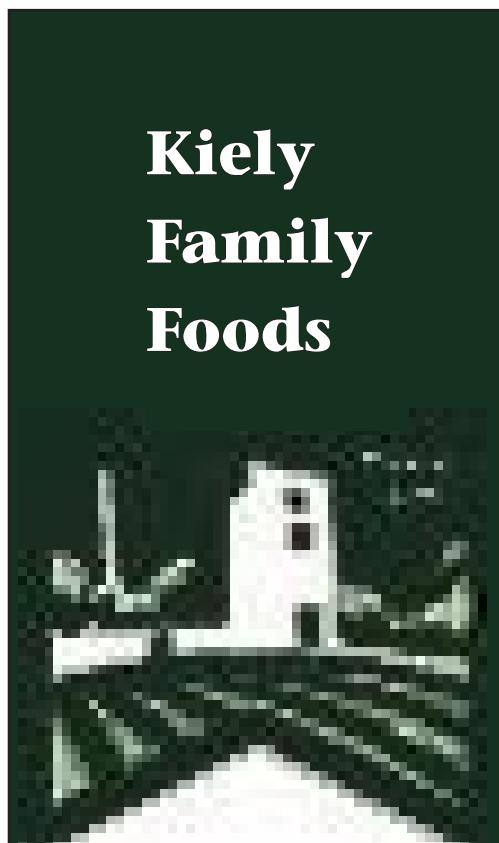
Piaras Ó Midheach/SPORTSFILE



**PRESENTATION CONVENT KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 1969**

*Panel: Teresa O'Neill, Mary Tallis (capt.), Helena O'Neill, Catherine Conway, Ann Phelan, Liz Neary, Claire Dowling, Carmel Doyle, Patsy Byrne, Bee McEvoy, Mary Barry, Teresa Brennan. Subs: Patricia Coady, Mella Hennessy, Kay Dooley.*

**Kiely  
Family  
Foods**



**KIELY MEATS (Waterford) Limited  
Grannagh,  
Kilmacow,  
Waterford.**

Thai Food a  
Specialty



**Micheál Ó Cadhla**

051 878195  
087 2761314  
[micheal@kielymeats.ie](mailto:micheal@kielymeats.ie)

# Sevens victory for LORETO!

2nd Level Report by Pat Henderson



## ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES' 7-A-SIDE CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 2021-2022

Loreto Kilkenny 7-12, Ursuline Thurles 3-9

Back Row: Lucy Boyd (Clara), Lisa Kirby (Durrow Harps), Emma Corr (Clara), Orlaith Kirwan (Thomastown), Caoimhe Keher-Murtagh (Rower-Inistioge), Anna Doheny (Tullaroan).  
Front Row: Rachel Dowling (Dicksboro), Aoife Shealy (O'Loughlin Gaels), Marie O'Keefe (Young Irelands), {Captain}, Ciara Dunne (Tullaroan), Aisling Browne (Dicksboro), Tara McGrath (Dicksboro).

## KILKENNY CBS CLAIM SENIOR "A" HURLING LEAGUE TITLE

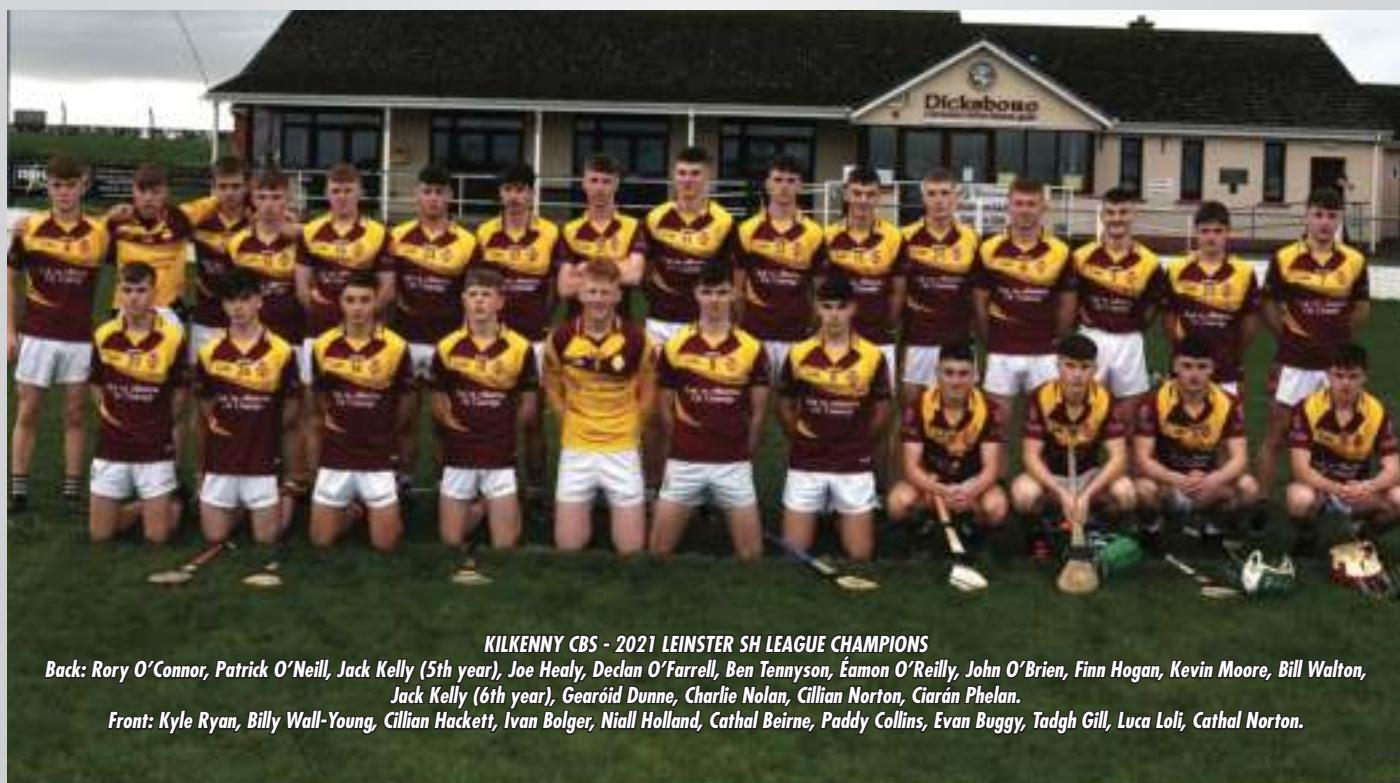
Kilkenny CBS claimed the first silverware of this years Senior "A" Hurling calendar when they overcame St Peter's College, in Dicksboro.

### Kilkenny CBS 3-20 St Peter's College 1-16

The City side started the brighter and had two goals bagged before the opening water break thanks to the sharp shooting Cillian Hackett. St Peter's were struggling to get to grips with a particularly strong CBS half back line, even so they battled hard and thanks to some fines scores managed to go into the break only trailing by 3 on a scoreline of 2-08 to

An early second half blitz from the visitors looked like it might set them on their way. However, CBS regained their foothold through great play from captain Gearóid Dunne and his lieutenants on either side of Nolan and Phelan. Having weathered this early storm the Kilkenny men would go on to score a third goal. This would be the final nail in the coffin and despite a late goal from St Peter's through Ollie Murphy, they would ultimately prevailed on a final score of 3-20 to 1-16.

Both sides now look ahead to the serious business of the Corn Ui Dhuill Championship. CBS face a trip to reigning champions Coláiste Eoin, while St Peter's look ahead to a clash with St Kieran's later this month.



## KILKENNY CBS - 2021 LEINSTER SH LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

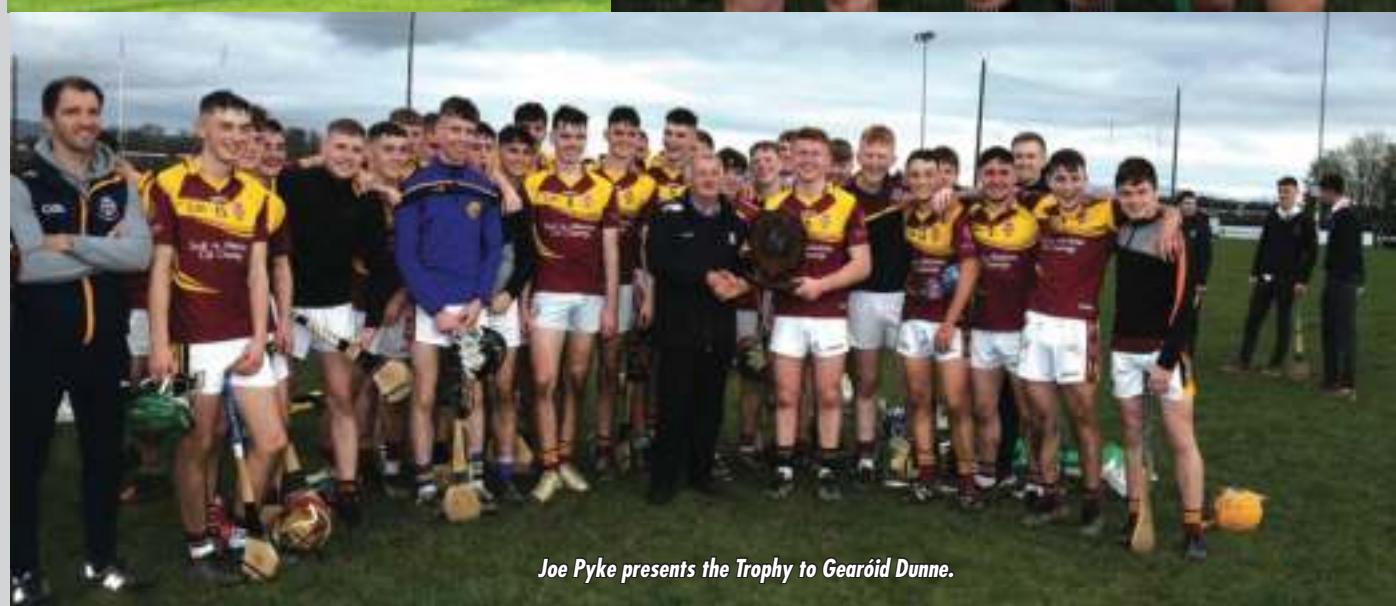
Back: Rory O'Connor, Patrick O'Neill, Jack Kelly (5th year), Joe Healy, Declan O'Farrell, Ben Tennyson, Éamon O'Reilly, John O'Brien, Finn Hogan, Kevin Moore, Bill Walton, Jack Kelly (6th year), Gearóid Dunne, Charlie Nolan, Cillian Norton, Ciarán Phelan.  
Front: Kyle Ryan, Billy Wall-Young, Cillian Hackett, Ivan Bolger, Niall Holland, Cathal Beirne, Paddy Collins, Evan Buggy, Tadgh Gill, Luca Loli, Cathal Norton.



Action in the St Peter's goalmouth.



Captains Gearóid Dunne (CBS) and Brian Ó Corráin (St Peter's)



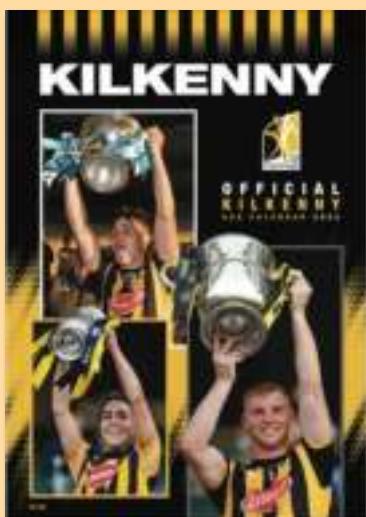
Joe Pyke presents the Trophy to Gearóid Dunne.

#### THE OFFICIAL KILKENNY GAA CALENDAR IS NOW ON SALE

The Official Kilkenny GAA Calendar is now on sale throughout the county in all usual outlets. It costs €9.95 and would make a wonderful gift or Christmas present for someone you know.

Also a reminder that now the 2020 GAA Championship has commenced, now is the perfect time to join or indeed rejoin our Kilkenny supporters club. The supporters club provide a valuable income stream for our teams throughout the year and your support is needed this year more than any other.

You can join online or by contacting any committee member. Membership costs €20.



#### KILKENNY GAA SUPPORTERS CLUBS

##### KILKENNY BRANCH

John McNamee, Chairman  
mobile: 087 6708101  
Eddie Kehoe, Vice Chairman  
087 2478000, 087 2478001  
mobile: 087 2478001  
Jim Finnerty, Secretary  
087 2478000, 087 2478001  
CBS Quay, Co.

##### KILDARE BRANCH

C. Sean Dunn  
087 2478000, 087 2478001  
087 2478002

##### LONDON BRANCH

T. Nees  
078 4717 5727/77  
Barry Whelton  
0044 703 969 0204

##### DUBLIN BRANCH

Niall T. Ó hUiginn  
087 2478000, 087 2478001  
mobile: 087 2478001  
Muireann Dowling  
087 2478000, 087 2478001  
mobile: 087 2478002  
Seán Ó hUiginn  
087 2478000, 087 2478001  
mobile: 087 2478003  
Lorraine Ó hUiginn  
087 2478000, 087 2478001  
mobile: 087 2478004  
John Mooney  
087 2478000, 087 2478001  
mobile: 087 2478005  
Declan Horan  
087 2478000, 087 2478001  
mobile: 087 2478006  
Clubhouse, Dublin Road, K. Kilkenny, County Kilkenny

**SOME PHOTOS FROM THE 1ST YEAR HURLING BLITZ THIS YEAR  
(THE FIRST, POST COVID)  
IN ST KIERAN'S COLLEGE**



**KILKENNY SUPPORTERS CLUB**  
**Rásáí na gCapall 2021**

Gowran Park, Saturday November 7th 2021

Photos: Willie Dempsey



Ashley Maher makes presentation to Tony/Martin Winning trainer in the PRL Kilkenny Novice Hurdle Handicap



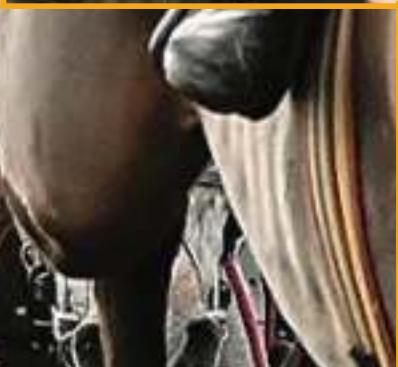
Brian Purcell Makes presentation to Carmel/Acheson Winning owner of the Proficient Eng Novice Hurdle



John Joe Cullen makes presentation to Mr And Mrs Tim O Driscoll Winning owners in the Noreside Catering Maiden Hurdle



Mikey Butler Ashgrove makes presentation to Liz Doyle Winning Trainer In the Ashgrove Stables Handicap



Pat Murphy, Gain, makes presentation to Philip Fenton Winning Trainer in the Gain Beginners Chase Also in Pic Mike Phillips Glangbia



Paul Holden Jnr Makes presentation to the Barcoe Family trainer of the winner of the Holden Plant/Rentals Mares Handicap Hurdle



# Unveiling of Richard 'Drug' Walsh Statue

Mooncoin; 9th October 2021

HUNDREDS of people gathered in Mooncoin village on Saturday, 9th October 2021, to witness the unveiling of the Richard 'Drug' Walsh statue at the GAA club's new entrance on Main Street. GAA President, Larry McCarthy, did the unveiling honours, revealing a stunning bronze statue of Mooncoin's most famous son, Drug Walsh. Clare sculptor, Séamus Connolly, who 'lived and breathed Drug Walsh' over the previous six months, was the man responsible for creating the piece of art. His attention to detail in producing such an exceptional sculpture -including using Drug's actual 1904 hurl for the casting mould - will be there for generations of people to see, admire and be inspired.

## Australian Supporters club

None of the day's events would have been possible without the Mooncoin GAA Supporters Club of Australia, led by Séamus Delahunt, Larry Delahunt and Billy Kinsella. Mooncoin GAA Chairman Tom Murphy thanked the club Down-Under who so generously funded the project.

GAA President Larry McCarthy, spoke of how this statue would inspire generations of children as they come through the gates of the club. Mentioning the Australian supporters, he noted how, "no matter how far one travels, even to the other side of the world, your 'home club' is always your home club". He was impressed by the records Drug amassed over his career; although he wryly noted that beating his native Cork in four of the finals did give him a heavy-heart! President McCarthy, being so closely associated with New York GAA, told the story of how Drug Walsh became the first 'Weekender' to travel to the Big Apple, just to play one game of hurling. Around 1910, the Kilkenny Club in New York were in the final there. To give them a better chance of victory, Drug was sent for. He obliged, but due to bad weather, his ship was late arriving and Drug missed the match. He had to turn right around and go back to Mooncoin on the same ship! Leinster Chairman, Pat Teehan, also addressed the crowd. He told of his own personal connection to Drug. Pat's grandad, Jack Teehan, was the first Offaly man to play on a Leinster hurling team. That team was captained by Drug Walsh and they won the 1908 Railway shield side-by-side. The shield they won is now displayed in Mooncoin GAA club.

## Blessing

Fr Martin Tobin blessed the statue and all who were present, praying; "may the beautiful scene in this village warm the hearts of all who will look on it". He also prayed, most poignantly, for the man himself; Richard 'Drug' Walsh, who passed away in 1958 at the age of 80. In attendance were Drug's relatives, including his grand-nieces and great-grand nieces and nephews. Bríd Hennigan, a local camogie player, capped off the day with a beautiful rendition of the 'Rose of Mooncoin'. The club's social committee put on an amazing spread in the GAA Complex following proceedings for all to enjoy.

## Drug Walsh – the man behind the statue

Richard 'Drug' Walsh was born in Rathkieran in Mooncoin parish in 1877. He was one of the members of Kilkenny's first golden era hurling team. Along with Sim Walton (Tullaroan), Eddie Doyle (Mooncoin) and Jack Rochford (Threecastles), he was winner of seven All-Ireland hurling medals on the field of play during that era, all won between 1904 and 1913. Their record of most



All-Ireland medals stood until Christy Ring came along. He was a man ahead of his time in terms of fitness and training. Drug Walsh also has another claim to fame, a record that is still not broken all these years later. He is still the only man to captain Kilkenny to All-Ireland victory on three occasions (in 1907, 09 and 13). He also won three senior county champions with Mooncoin – two as captain. In addition to his on-field prowess, he helped coach Laois to their only All-Ireland victory in 1915, while he also trained an up-and-coming Waterford team in 1926.

## Nickname

Drug was said to have picked up his famous nickname in primary school when the class were singing the song 'Clare's Dragoons' - also known as 'the Bould Dragoons' - which was a popular song at the time. His friends nicknamed him 'Droog', because of his mispronunciation of the word 'Dragoons'. Obviously they thought it was hilarious the way he was pronouncing it! Like all good nicknames, it stuck for life. As he got older, his 'Droog' nickname morphed into 'Drug'. He would become known far and wide as simply; 'The Drug'. It is worth noting however, that Drug said he had always hated his nickname, but he could do nothing about it now!



**CILLÍN HILL**  
**KILKENNY**  
Phone: 056-7721407

[www.kilkennymart.ie](http://www.kilkennymart.ie)

BEST STOCK IN IRELAND ON OFFER



## John Brennan Machinery Supplies Ltd.

**SUPPLIER OF ALL YOUR TRACTOR MACHINERY SPARE PARTS**  
For all your Tractor/Digger Filters, Hydraulic Hose Fitting, Starters, Oils etc.

25A Industrial Estate, Hebron Road, Kilkenny

Tel: 056 7720957 / 7720976t

John Mobile: 085 166 8492 Derek Mobile: 085 737 7825

[johnbrennanmachinerysupplies@eircom.net](mailto:johnbrennanmachinerysupplies@eircom.net)



**CENTRA**



## Supermarket

For all your shopping needs

- Fresh Meat Department
- Hot & Cold Deli - Rolls & Sandwiches made to order
- Full Off-Licence
- Newsagent & Post Office
- Banklink Machine in store



Main Street, Mooncoin.

Tel 051 - 895101

**CONGRATS TO OUR HURLING AND CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 2021!**

*For the way we live today*

**CENTRA**

# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - BALLYHALE



# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - CALLAN



# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - CLARA



# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - ERIN'S OWN



# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - FRESHFORD



# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - GRAIGNAMANAGH





# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - KILMACOW



# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - MOONCOIN



# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - MULLINAVAT



# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - PILTOWN





# CÚL CAMPS 2020 - THOMASTOWN





# Steel & Roofing Systems Ltd.

Kilkenny Road, Castlecomer, Co. Kilkenny

Specialists in design Fabrication and  
Erection of all types of Structural  
Steelwork and Farm Buildings.

Roofing and Cladding supplied and fitted.

All work Fully Insured.

All Steelwork CE Marked to Execution  
Class 4 Certification.



## NATIONWIDE SERVICE

Tel: 056 4441855/6/9 Fax: 056 4441860

Web: [www.stealandroofingsystems.ie](http://www.steelandroofingsystems.ie)

email: [michael.whelan@steelandroofingsystems.ie](mailto:michael.whelan@steelandroofingsystems.ie)



### Cllr Joe Malone PEACE COMMISSIONER

086 312 8838

[joe.malone086@gmail.com](mailto:joe.malone086@gmail.com)

*Working for YOU  
in OUR COMMUNITY*



SUPPORT OUR GENEROUS  
ADVERTISERS!

# MEMORIES



Clover Meats First Factory League Winning Team 1953

Back: Dixer Treacy (Ferrybank), Jimmy Heffernan (Carrickshock), Paddy Doyle (Mt Sion & Sliieverue), Ned Fitzpatrick (Carrickshock), Booby Phelan & Son presented cup, Jim O'Meara (Mt Sion), Sean Williams (Kilmacow), Michael Fitzgerald (Glenmore), Seamus Murphy (Erin's Own).

Front: Peter Bolger (Ferrybank), Billy Cooley (De La Salle), Josie Murphy (Erin's Own), Paddy Heffernan (Glenmore) (Capt), Paddy Hoban (Kilmacow), Thady Connors (Mt Sion), Teddy Norris (Ferrybank), Mick Heffernan (Mt Sion).



St. Brigid's Camogie Team 1960-61 - Winners of Leinster Colleges Final

Back Row M. Comerford, A. Gardiner, K. O'Shea, O. O'Neill, B. Barry, T. O'Sullivan, P. Dunne, M. Mackey, Mick Kenny (Trainer)

Front: P. Vennard, P. Molloy, B. Cantwell, Ann Carroll (Capt.), B. Roche, M. Gardiner, P. Hoyne.

Possibly the first Kilkenny Colleges Camogie winning team?



## MORE MEMORIES



*Knocktopher - 1965 Junior Champions*

*Back: Neddy Walsh, Frank Cummins, Ned Fitzpatrick, Donie Gorey, Maurice Mason, Tommy Walsh, Frank Aylward, Jim Mason, Bobby Mason, Ollie Cummins, Denis Gorey.  
Front: Owen Dermody, Jim Fowler, John O'Donnell, Willie Dalton, Dave Rice, Pat Carroll, Jimmy Ryan, Maurice Aylward, Tommy Maher, Denis Heaslip.*



*Avonmore Hurling Team 1971*

*BACK - Pat Brennan; Martin Kelly; Johnny Bowe; Michael Mackey; Martin Fitzpatrick; Val Walsh; Paddy O'Neill; John Byrne; TD Purcell; Liam Burke; Larry O'Keeffe.  
FRONT - John Bourke; Eamonn Ryan; Frank O'Rourke; Jimmy Skehan; Eamonn Glennon; Seanie Butler; Tom Ryall; Nickey Brennan; Tom O'Donnell.*

Darragh Corcoran



Ramsey Cardy/SPORTSFILE



**IVERK PRODUCE  
PILTON, CO KILKENNY**

**PROUD SPONSORS OF KILKENNY JUNIOR  
HURLING**  
**Telephone: 051 643733 Fax: 051 643753**

**EARDLY**  
**AGRICULTURAL  
SERVICE**

MAIN DEALER

**APV**

  
DREDAIRE  
DEESON

 **AMAZONE**

 **KRONE**

SALES OF NEW & SECOND HAND MACHINERY

**Hebron Ind. Est. , Kilkenny**  
**Tel.056 7763612 Mob.087 7954597**

F

A

C

E

S





## LEANTÓIRÍ





# CAMOGIE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS



Photos Billy Culleton

Camogie Report by Aoife Lanigan PRO

## Michael Lyng Motors Hyundai Senior Camogie County Final 2021 Dicksboro 0-15 Piltown 2-8

Dicksboro defeated Piltown in the Michael Lyng Motors Hyundai Senior Camogie County Final played in John Locke Park, Callan last Sunday. This was a repeat of the 2019 County Final.

Amy Clifford opened the scoring for Dicksboro in the 1st minute from play. Katie Power equalised for Piltown with a point from play in the 2nd minute. Aoife Prendergast and Amy Clifford extended the City side's lead with a point a piece from play by the 6th minute. Niamh Culleton scored a lovely point on the run for Piltown. Amy Clifford tagged on two points (1f), before Sophie Holden added a point from play in the 11th minute for Piltown.

Aoife Doyle added another point from play for Piltown after the Referee consulted his umpires to narrow the gap to a point. In the 12th minute, Katie Power ran onto a ball, rounded her player, and hit an unstoppable shot past Kirsty Maher in the Dicksboro goal to put Piltown ahead 1-4 to 0-5 at the first Waterbreak.

After the mini-break, Dicksboro equalised by the 17th minute with

points from play from Lucinda Gahan and Aoibh O'Gorman. Then Niamh Culleton and Sophie Holden put Piltown ahead again with two well worked points from play.

In the 25th minute, Aoife Prendergast had a point for Dicksboro and

Jenny Clifford scored the equaliser for Dicksboro leaving the sides

level at half time, Dicksboro 0-9 Piltown 1-6.

After the resumption of the second half, Sophie Holden pointed from play for Piltown before Aoife Prendergast equalised with a free for Dicksboro.

The same player added another point in the 39th minute to put

Dicksboro ahead. Three minutes later, Dicksboro were awarded a

penalty, which Amy Clifford unfortunately sent wide.

From the puckout, Niamh Culleton blasted it to the Dicksboro net

to put Piltown ahead 2-7 to 0-11 at the second waterbreak.

After this mini-break, Dicksboro took control, Amy Clifford added two points from frees to equalise and then scored another free in the 53rd minute to put Dicksboro ahead. Lucinda Gahan scored her second point for the city side just on the hour mark. Piltown did try their best to get scores and Katie Power narrowed the gap to the minimum from a close in free. The Referee blew the full time whistle shortly after and Dicksboro were Senior County Champions for the second time in three years.

**Scorers – Dicksboro – Amy Clifford (0-7, 4f), Aoife Prendergast (0-4, 1f), Lucinda Gahan (0-2), Aoibh O'Gorman, Jenny Clifford (0-1 each)**

**Piltown – Katie Power (1-2), Niamh Culleton (1-2), Sophie Holden (0-3), Aoife Doyle (0-1)**

**Dicksboro – Kirsty Maher, Kate Dempsey, Ciara O'Shea, Katie Byrne, Tara Clifford, Niamh Phelan, Jane Cass, Aoife Prendergast (Capt), Ciara Phelan, Asha McHardy, Lucinda Gahan, Caoimhe Dowling, Amy Clifford, Aoibh O'Gorman, Jenny Clifford. Subs – Orla Hanrick for Kate Dempsey (41), Rachel Egan, Issey Carroll, Caoimhe Carroll, Ellie Peters, Grainne Hennessy, Aisling Morrissey, Sarah O'Gorman, Emer Phelan, Rachel Dowling, Bronagh Doherty, Emer Stynes, Niamh Ryan**

**Piltown – Aoife Norris, Jennifer Norris, Jenni O'Dea, Patsy Kenny, Mairead Power, Kellyann Doyle (Capt), Lorraine Long (Vice Captain), Laura Norris, Emer Long, Ellen O'Keffe, Alanna Gallagher, Aoife Doyle, Sophie Holden, Katie Power, Niamh Culleton, Subs – Sinead McCarthy for Ellen O'Keffe (41), Lorna O'Shea for Alanna Gallagher (55 min inj), Danielle O'Brien, Emily McCarthy, Rachel O'Shea, Chloe Power, Aine Power, Sarah Tobin, Maire Beth Kirby, Katelyn Phelan, Nicola Phelan, Shauna Cody, Lisa Norris, Ciara Dunne, Lisa McCarthy, Aine Doyle, Karen Duggan, Marlise Flynn, Stacey O'Brien**

**Referee – Owen Behan**

**Player of the Match – Niamh Phelan, Dicksboro**

## Kilkenny County Intermediate Final 2021 Barrow Rangers v James Stephens By Barry Smith

Barrow Rangers narrowly took the spoils in the Kilkenny Intermediate Final for 2021 against a youthful and spirited James Stephens



side played at John Locke Park in front of a large crowd. Barrow Rangers got off to a flying start. Points from play from Roisin Breen, Shauna Tracey and the evergreen Orla Bambury and three more points from a 65 and two frees from Roisin Breen, gave the Paulstown/Goresbridge Club a healthy lead by the 15th minute. by the first water break.

In fact the water break couldn't have come at a better time for an out of sorts James Stephens who regrouped and came out fighting and by the 29th minute had reduced the deficit to 4 pts points to 6. Points from Sophie O'Dwyer (3) and Niamh Deely had the City side and 2020 Junior Champions right back in the game. A point late from Barrow Rangers at the end of the first half was welcome to extend the lead to 3 points.

James Stephens began the second half in a lively fashion. Two quick points from Emma Manogue reduced the lead to one. However an excellently taken goal from County star Collette Dorner was a welcome tonic for the country club. But James Stephens hit back and points from Sophie O'Dwyer from a free and Niamh Deely from play reduced the deficit once more. Once again Barrow Rangers hit back and a well taken point from play from the skilful Roisin Breen, following a neat pass from Collette Dorner, extended the lead for Barrow Rangers to a goal, 1-8 to 0-8. Then James Stephens struck for their own goal, through Emma Manogue which drew the sides level. Points were exchanged, Roisin Breen and Sophie O'Dwyer exchanged points from frees. Both clubs were happy to go to level at the water break.

Barrow Rangers started the last quarter with a point from play from Katie O'Byrne following good work from Roisin Breen. James Stephens then missed a couple of chances before Barrow Rangers

struck for their second goal from Johanne Barcoe. Barrow Rangers lead 2-10 to 1-9. But James Stephens didn't give up and replied with point from a free from Sophie O'Dwyer. James Stephens began to dominate, searching for scores and had some wayward shooting in front of goal. In fairness to Barrow Rangers, they dug in deep, defended like their lives depended on it none more than the impressive Aideen O'Connor at full back.

The final few minutes were nail biting which led to some impressive stops by the reliable and confident Barrow Rangers goal keeper Kayla Joyce Foley. Then with time almost up, James Stephens were awarded a free from outside the 21 yard line. The goal bound effort from Sophie O'Dwyer was somehow touched over the bar from a Barrow Rangers hurl to leave the score 2-10 to 1-11. And with that Referee Eoin Hayes blew the final whistle.

**Scorers – Barrow Rangers - Roisin Breen (0-6, 3f, 1 45), Collette Dorner (1-1), Johanne Barcoe (1-0), Shauna Tracey, Orla Bambury, Katie O'Byrne (0-1 each)**

**James Stephens – Sophie O'Dwyer (0-7, 7f), Emma Manogue (1-2), Niamh Deely (0-2)**

**Barrow Rangers – Kayla Joyce Foley, Patrice Mullins, Aideen O'Connor, Mary Wall, Anna Purcell, Miriam Bambrick, Aimee Morrissey, Ellen Purcell, Orla Bambury (Capt), Shauna Tracey, Roisin Breen, Johanne Barcoe, Rebecca Holden, Collette Dorner, Katie O'Byrne Subs – Aoife Drennan for Rebecca Holden, Rachel Collier, Katie Hanlon, Chloe Brennan, Katie Byrne, Caoimhe Kelly, Sarah Kelly, Sarah Maher, Caoimhe Tierney, Kate Kelly, Michelle Kealy, Aoife Ryan, Joanna Morrissey, Mairead Brennan, Maeve Brennan, Therese Bambrick, Lauren Havelin, Katie Kinsella, Jenny Kelly, Mia Ryan, Lauren Barcoe (inj)**

**James Stephens – Caoimhe Moran, Chloe Power, Hannah Scott, Hannah Larkin, Jennifer Leahy, Michelle Teehan, Kerri Hennessy, Aoife Cantwell (Capt), Anna Doheny, Tara McGuire, Niamh Deely, Sophie O'Dwyer, Emma Manogue, Ciara Delaney, Rachel Leahy**  
**Subs – Lucy McGrath, Elizabeth O'Shea, Anna Bergin, Cady Boyle, Lauren Grace, Emma O'Brien, Hannah Joyce, Niamh O'Hara, Yoma Etaferi, Jenna Larkin, Molly Burke, Ciara McDonald**  
**Referee – Eoin Hayes**  
**POTM – Miriam Bambrick, Barrow Rangers**

**Iverk Produce Junior Final 2021  
Mooncoin 3.07 Piltown 0.08 By Moondarrig**

Mooncoin were crowned Kilkenny Junior Camogie Champions for the first time in thirty-three years after overcoming a stiff early challenge from Piltown. Three first half goals, one from each of Mooncoin's full forward line and excellent goalkeeping from Ellen Crowley in the Mooncoin goal proved the difference between the teams. Once Referee Peter Burke threw in the ball this game took off as neighbours challenged each other in this battle of the Barony of Iverk. Niamh Crowley opened the scoring for Mooncoin with a super score after less than 30 seconds. Piltown then worked the ball to Leah Cooney who duly levelled the match. From the Puck out the athletic Lorna O'Shea gave Piltown the lead for the only time in the match with a great individual score. Mooncoin's response was immediate. Selfless teamwork got the ball to Eva Alyward who expertly dispatched the ball to the back of the Piltown net. Quick fire points from Deirdre Walsh and Lauren Comerford left Piltown gasping for air. But Piltown a proud senior club appeared to stem the tide with an excellent score from Ciara Dunne on the left wing. Piltown needed another score to get some momentum, but it was Mooncoin who drove on working the ball to leading goal scorer Laura Wall who cracked a beauty to the net giving Piltown goalie Daneille O'Brien no chance to save. Piltown earned a free that was missed, and they then worked the ball to Nicola Phelan who bore down on goal only for Mooncoin net minder Ellen Crowley to bravely block the goal attempt and drive out with the ball for a defiant clearance. The first water break brought a pulsating first quarter to an end.

The second quarter started with Mooncoin attacking again, but shooting two wides, one from play and one from a dead ball. Each team then worked goal scoring opportunities before Piltown midfield dominance resulted in a fine Lorna O'Shea point followed by a goal opportunity stopped by a combination of Ellen Crowley and the excellent Niamh Madden at fullback for Mooncoin. The resultant forty-five was drilled over expertly by Aine Doyle. Piltown must have felt that on the stroke of half time they were making inroads into Mooncoin's lead. However, in first half added time Mairead Corcoran and Sarah Crowley worked the ball to Laura Wall who passed to Niamh Crowley on the left flank for Crowley to take off and bury the ball in the Piltown net. The score at the half time break, Mooncoin 3.03 to Piltown's 0.05, six scores to five - but seven points in it!

The second half opened as the first with Mooncoin scores from the excellent Laura Wall and teammate Eva Alyward who converted for her second score of the game. At this stage Mooncoin appeared to retreat to protect their lead and allowed Piltown to drive at them. Piltown, finding it increasingly hard to breakdown the Mooncoin rear-guard, did earn two frees which were converted by Aine Doyle. The third quarter ended when Mooncoin countered with a nice score from official player of the match Laura Wall. Mooncoin were now eight points up.

The fourth quarter was a dogged affair with Piltown pounding away in search of goals that, after thirty-three years as a junior club, Mooncoin were in no mood to concede. The tireless Lisa McCarty pointed an excellent score for Piltown and Deirdre Walsh, Mooncoin's playmaker, closed the games scoring with a well taken free.

Peter Burke's last whistle confirmed Mooncoin's elevation to intermediate status for 2022. They were gracious in victory as were Piltown in defeat after a fine sporting game.

Piltown are a wonderful club and a kingpin of Kilkenny camogie for some time now. For their lionhearted squad and management today was not their day, to reach any county final is a fantastic achievement and to also reach a senior final in the same year is outstanding.

On minute fifty-five of this match a Mooncoin substitution was made that celebrated a living hero in Marianne Walsh who played brilliantly all match at cornerback. Diagnosed last year with stage three Hodgkin's Lymphoma, Marianne's recovery is an incredible story of determination and an inspiration to all.

For Mooncoin Camogie today was a historic day thirty-three years in the making. Today was more than a success for one team over another, today was a success for female sport. With a total attendance estimated close to 1800 people at a junior camogie county final and being broadcast live on two radio stations, it was a success for the 2020 campaign of "if you can't see it, you can't be it", credit to the Camogie Association and the Kilkenny County Camogie Board.

**Scores Mooncoin L Wall 1.2, E Alyward 1.1, N Crowley 1.1, D Walsh 0.2 (1F), L Comerford 0.1  
Piltown A Doyle 0.3 (2 45s, 1f), L O'Shea 0.2, C Dunne 0.1, L McCarthy 0.1, Leah Cooney 0.1  
Mooncoin – Ellen Crowley, Eimear Quilty, Niamh Madden, Marianne Walsh, Emily Crowley, Sarah Crowley, Mairead Corcoran, Lorraine Delahunt, Niamh Fleming, Deirdre Walsh, Roisin Crowley, Lauren Comerford, Niamh Crowley, Laura Wall, Eva Alyward  
Subs – Laura Dillon Dunphy for Lorraine Delahunt, Sarah Hayes for Niamh Fleming, Eimear Fleming for Marianne Walsh, Amy Lehane, Shauna Walsh, Kate Kearns, Caitriona Bowe, Evelyn Hayes, Aoife Purcell, Emma Heweston, Hannah Cooney, Jean O'Hanlon, Kate Henebery, Laura Delahunt, Hannah Roche  
Piltown – Danielle O'Brien, Maire B. Kirby, Chloe Power, Lisa Norris, Shauna Coady, Emily McCarthy, Sarah Tobin, Lorna O'Shea, Rachel O'Shea, Lisa McCarthy, Sinead McCarthy, Ciara Dunne, Leah Cooney, Nicola Phelan, Aine Doyle**

**Subs – Brigid Twohig for Lisa Norris, Chloe Holden for Rachel O'Shea, Siobhan Dermody for Lisa McCarthy, Anna O'Brien for Leah Cooney, Heather Phelan for Aine Doyle, Katelynn Phelan, Alanagh Hanlon, Soracha Phelan, Antonia Power, Hillary Power, Leanne Dunne, Jessica Norris, Sarah J. Brophy, Aisling Brophy, Laura Power, Jean Power, Mia Norris, Stacey O'Brien, Fiona Long, Chloe Blackmore.**



**Thomastown Senior League Champions**



**Ballyhale Shamrocks Intermediate League Champions**



**Bennettsbridge John Lockes Junior League Champions**



**St Martin's Junior C County Champions**



**Piltown Minor B County Champions**



**Tullogher Minor D Champions**



**Tullaroan St Annes U16A County & League Champions**



*Neil Lyng from Michael Lyng Motors with Dicksboro Senior winning captain Aoife Prendergast*



*Monica from Shaws with Barrow Rangers winning captain Orla Bambury*



*Jason O'Brien from Iverk Produce with Mooncoin Junior winning captains Ellen Crowley and Deirdre Walsh*



*Dicksboro Senior POTM Niamh Phelan*



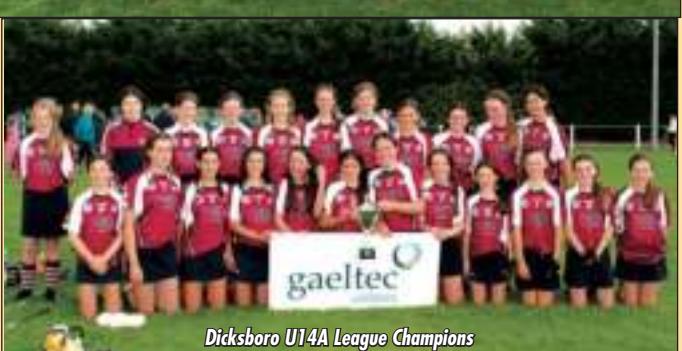
*Barrow Rangers Intermediate POTM Miriam Bambrick*



*Mooncoin Junior POTM Laura Wall*

#### CAMOGIE RESULTS 2021

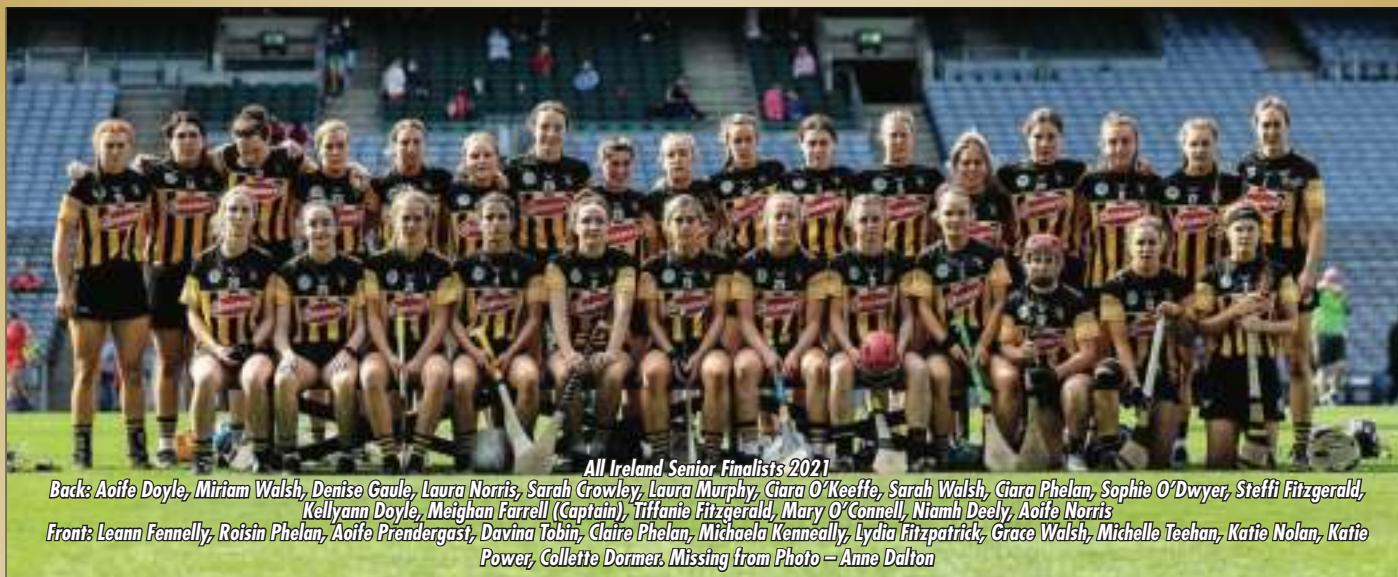
COUNTY SC FINAL	Dicksboro 0-15 Piltown 2-8	FEILE DIVISION 3 FINAL	Clara 4-14 Young Irelands 5-10 AET
COUNTY SUMMER LEAGUE FINAL	Dicksboro 1-8 Thomastown 3-15	U14 A FINAL	John Lockes 1-12 St Brigid's 2-7
COUNTY IC FINAL	Barrow Rangers 2-10 James Stephens 1-11	U14 A SHIELD FINAL	Tullaroan/St Anne's Windgap
COUNTY SUMMER LEAGUE FINAL	Ballyhale Shamrocks 2-10 Rower Inistioge 0-7	U14 B FINAL	Mooncoin 4-6 Danesfort 4-5
JUNIOR FINAL	Mooncoin 3-7 Piltown 0-8	U14 B SHIELD FINAL	St Lactain's 2-6 Thomastown 1-3
JUNIOR B FINAL	Thomastown 4-15 Dicksboro 2-5	U14 C FINAL	Ballyhale Shamrocks 5-8 Clara 1-13
JUNIOR C FINAL	St Martin's 3-13 AET St Brigid's 3-12	U14 C SHIELD FINAL	St Martin's 3-15 Piltown 2-4
COUNTY JUNIOR LEAGUE FINAL	Bennettsbridge/John Lockes 2-9 Mooncoin 2-8	U14 D FINAL	Young Irelands 6-5 Tulloger 3-4
U21 CAMOGIE	Not played at time of going to print.	U14 D SHIELD FINAL	Blacks & Whites 2-4 Mullinavat 1-3
MINOR A FINAL	Not played at time of going to print.	U14 E FINAL	Erin's Own/Naomh Brid 8-7 Kilmacow 6-8 AET
MINOR B FINAL	Piltown 3-10 St Martin's 1-9	U14 E SHIELD FINAL	Rower Inistioge 4-2 Graiguenamanagh 1-2
MINOR C FINAL	Danesfort 2-2 St Lactain's 1-0	U14 A LEAGUE FINAL	Dicksboro 4-8 Tullaroan/St Anne's 3-6
MINOR D FINAL	Tulloger 4-12 Carrickshock 1-6	U14 B LEAGUE FINAL	Windgap 5-4 John Lockes 1-11
MINOR D SHIELD FINAL	Kilmacow/Slieverue 3-9 Bennettsbridge 0-2	U14 C LEAGUE FINAL	Ballyhale Shamrocks 4-7 Tulloger 3-4
MINOR A LEAGUE FINALS	Not played at time of going to print.	U14 D LEAGUE FINAL	Barrow Rangers v Blacks & Whites Not played
U16 A FINAL/LEAGUE FINAL	Tullaroan/St Anne's 5-10 Dicksboro 1-4	U14 E LEAGUE FINAL	Tulloger 7-4 Erins Own/Naomh Brid 3-2
U16 A SHIELD FINAL	Windgap 4-8 Young Irelands 1-9	U12 C BEGA FINAL	Erin's Own Winner Kilmacow
U16 B FINAL	St Martin's 4-6 St Lactain's 1-6	U12 C CYRA FINAL	St Martin's Winner O'Loughlin Gaels
U16 B SHIELD FINAL	Mooncoin 5-7 Danesfort 0-8	U12 C DYMHNA FINAL	Dicksboro Winner Emeralds
U16 C FINAL	Blacks & Whites 3-4 Kilmacow/Slieverue 0-4	U12 C FABER FINAL	Piltown Winner John Lockes
U16 C SHIELD FINAL	Not played at time of going to print.	U12 C GOBNAT FINAL	Rower Inistioge Winner Danesfort
U16 D FINAL	Ballyhale 4-8 Clara 0-5	U12 C OSMANNA FINAL	Carrickshock Winner Young Irelands
U16 D SHIELD FINAL	Carrickshock 2-7 O'Loughlin Gaels 1-5	GEORGE GROUP SHIELD FINAL	Bennettsbridge Winner Blacks & Whites
U16 B LEAGUE FINAL	Thomastown 3-10 Glenmore 2-7	JOHN GROUP SHIELD FINAL	Conahy Winner Young Irelands
U16 C/D LEAGUE FINAL	Rower Inistioge 3-8 Tulloger 3-5	PETE GROUP SHIELD FINAL	Windgap Winner Barrow Rangers
FEILE DIVISION 1 FINAL	Tullaroan/St Anne's 9-6 Windgap 1-5	RINGO GROUP SHIELD FINAL	Dicksboro Maroon Winner Tullaroan
FEILE DIVISION 2 FINAL	St Lactain's 2-9 Danesfort 2-1	PAUL GROUP SHIELD FINAL	Graiguenamanagh Winner Glenmore







## INTER COUNTY CAMOGIE



### SENIOR

When going to print last year Kilkenny had qualified for the All Ireland Semi Finals. They played Cork down in Pairc Uí Chaoimh on the 28th November, after a slow start to the match, Kilkenny beat their old rivals by two points, 2-10 to 1-11 with the goals coming from Anne Dalton and Miriam Walsh. This qualified them for the All Ireland Final on Saturday 12th December, a repeat of the 2019 final against Galway. The Westerners lead 1-5 to 0-6 at the interval. The teams traded points until Kilkenny finally took the lead again, via a Denise Gaule point in the 39th minute, Carrie Dolan equalised before Aoife Doyle put Kilkenny ahead again. After the second water break, the score read 0-12 to 1-8 for Kilkenny. Galway drew level, but in the 58th minute, Gaule was dragged down in the box and referee Owen Elliott awarded a penalty. Gaule stepped up and in a very still Croke Park buried the sliotar in the bottom corner. Galway did try to get that all important goal to equalise, but it didn't materialise. The final whistle was blown and Kilkenny were, after three consecutive painful All Ireland losses, Champions again on a scoreline of 1-14 to 1-11

#### League

The first league match, Kilkenny played Dublin in John Locke Park and won by 5 points, 1-8 to 0-6. Second match, Kilkenny played Offaly in St Brendan's Park, Birr and had an empathic win, 4-21 to 0-8

In the Quarter Final, Kilkenny played Limerick in Birr and after trailing by 3 points early in the second half, Kilkenny pulled away to win 2-10 to 0-13

In the Semi Final, they played Tipperary in UPMC Nowlan Park. It was all Tipperary in the first half and they led 0-11 to 1-3 at the interval. Heading into the final 10 minutes, the Premier County were still leading 0-16 to 1-8, when Laura Murphy played a pass to Denise Gaule and she shot from just outside the 20m line. Aine Slattery the Tipperary goalie looked to have it covered as she stuck up her hand. To her horror, the power of the strike caught her by surprise and flew into the net off her fingers. A short time later, Katie Nolan scored a goal to level the match. Tipperary scored two points to go ahead again, but Denise Gaule scored three late free, leaving Kilkenny winners 3-12 to 0-19

In the Final, they played Galway in Croke Park. Galway lead 0-9 to 0-6 at the interval. The Management clearly did something at half time to spark Kilkenny to life, as they raced out of the blocks with Mary O'Connell firing over a great point under pressure inside 60 secs before Aoife Doyle bagged an early contender for goal of the year. The Piltown attacker picked up the sliotar 40 metres out from the Galway goal before racing through and sending an unstoppable rocket past Sarah Healy to amazingly put the Cats into the lead 1-7 to 0-9. Doyle, Gaule, Michaela Kenneally and O'Connell added four points in quick succession as they hit 1-5 without response in what looked like a game winning sequence, 1-11 to 0-9, but Galway refused to buckle as Niamh Kilkenny fired a crucial goal and they were only two points behind at the second water break, 1-12 to 1-10. When play resumed, Siobhan McGrath pointed for Galway to narrow the gap to one, but Nolan and Gaule added points to push it back to three. Dolan converted two points frees to leave it 1-14 to 1-13 after 54 minutes. Niamh Deely added a point for Kilkenny in the 56th minute. Niamh Kilkenny cut the gap to the minimum, 1-15 to 1-14 at the 60 minute mark. It looked like Galway might get a miracle, when Aoife Donohue levelled matters with a point in the 61st minute but Kilkenny had extra gears with substitute Steffi Fitzgerald firing over a brilliant point after a great fetch, before Gaule and O'Connell closed the game out with points, with a scoreline 1-18 to 1-15

Leinster Championship did not go ahead due to late start of League, due to Covid 19 restrictions

#### All Ireland Series

In the first match of the All Ireland Championship, Kilkenny played Clare in Sixmilebridge. The match was played in glorious weather conditions. Kilkenny led 0-12 to 0-8 at the interval. They took control in the second half, winning 0-22 to 0-16.

In the second match, they faced Westmeath in Cusack Park, Mullingar. Westmeath led 1-8 to 0-7 at the interval. Just before the second water break, the key moment of the match came as Steffi Fitzgerald found Miriam Walsh, who hit a rasper of a



shot to rattle the back of the net. This was a crucial goal as it gave Kilkenny the lead for the first time since the 2nd minute of the game, 1-12 to 1-10. Two points from Denise Gaule put Kilkenny 4 ahead. Katie Nolan scored her third point. Steffi Fitzgerald also added a point for Kilkenny. Sheila McGrath and Michaela Kenneally exchanged points, before Katie Nolan scored a goal to end a strong challenge from a brave Westmeath side, Kilkenny winning 2-17 to 1-11

In their last group game, Kilkenny played Galway in John Locke Park, Callan. Kilkenny were leading 0-4 to 0-3 at the first waterbreak, but just before the mini break, there was an off the ball incidence and Galway were reduced to 14 players, Kilkenny lead 0-8 to 0-5 at half time. But Galway played better with being reduced to the 14 players, Siobhan McGrath scored a goal for the Westerners shortly after half time and they kept the lead the rest of the match. Heading towards the full



time whistle, there was two points between the sides, Kilkenny went for goal to win the match, but great Galway defending kept them at bay, Kilkenny scored a point through Claire Phelan but the whistle went with Galway winning 1-13 to 0-15

Finishing second on their group, Kilkenny qualified for a Quarter Final clash against neighbours Wexford in Pairc Uí Chaoimh. Kilkenny led 1-8 to 0-3 at the first waterbreak, with the goal coming from Aoife Doyle and by half time led 2-13 to 0-6 with the second goal coming from Mary O'Connell. They eased off in the second half, but still kept the lead up to double digits. Denise Gaule added a third goal with seven minutes remaining after a long range effort dropped short but instead of the Wexford goalie Laura Brennan collecting the sliotar, she misread the flight of the ball and it dipped in under the crossbar into the net. Katrina Parrock flicked the sliotar in the Kilkenny net after a long range ball in hung around the Kilkenny goalmouth.

Katie Power rounded off the scoring with a late point for the Cats. Kilkenny winning 3-19 to 1-12

In the semi final, they met their old rivals Cork in Croke Park. Cork led 0-10 to 0-5 at the interval. Heading towards the second waterbreak, Cork were only leading by a point 0-12 to 1-8, Kilkenny's goal scored by Mary O'Connell. After the waterbreak, Kilkenny scored three unanswered points going two ahead, but Orla Cronin reduced it to a point with a pointed free. In the 57th minute, there was a key moment in the match, there was an altercation in Kilkenny penalty box, two players went down, Kilkenny cleared the sliotar but straight to an unmarked Cork player and Fiona Keating equalised the match. The linesman drew the referees attention to the altercation and Orla Cronin (CK) as sent off. Heading towards full time, Kilkenny had a chance to go ahead, but unfortunately hit a wide. From the puckout, Cork advanced upfield, it was cleared by the Kilkenny defence upfield, but Cork were awarded a free out. The sliotar was played to Cork captain, Linda Collins and she slotted it over the bar to put Cork ahead. Shortly afterwards the referee blew the full time whistle, Cork winning 0-15 to 1-11. Kilkenny's reign as All Ireland Champions was over

Aoife Norris, Michelle Teehan, Claire Phelan, Davina Tobin, Kellyann Doyle, Meighan Farrell (Capt), Collette Dormer, Steffi Fitzgerald, Grace Walsh, Denise Gaule, Mary O'Connell, Katie Power, Katie Nolan, Miriam Walsh, Aoife Doyle

Subs – Anne Dalton, Niamh Deely, Laura Murphy, Michaela Kenneally, Leann Fennelly, Aoife Prendergast, Laura Norris, Lydia Fitzpatrick, Sarah Crowley, Roisin Phelan, Sarah Walsh, Ciara Phelan, Tiffanie Fitzgerald, Ciara O'Keeffe, Sophie O'Dwyer, Emma Kavanagh, Miriam Bambrick, Aisling Curtis, Niamh Sweeney, Eva Hynes, Laura Hegarty

Kilkenny Senior Team received seven All Star nominations – Aoife Norris, Davina Tobin, Collette Dormer, Meighan Farrell, Denise Gaule, Mary O'Connell, Katie Nolan

All Star Awards are on the 26th November 2021, after Yearbook gone to print

#### INTERMEDIATE

They began their League campaign against Wexford in Enniscorthy and suffered a 7 point defeat, 0-14 to 1-18. Their second game, they played Laois at home in John Locke Park, Callan and Kilkenny won 1-10 to 0-7

In the Quarter Final, Kilkenny played Meath in St Brendan's Park, Birr. Kilkenny led 1-6 to 0-4 at the interval. After the break, Meath got two quick goals, to go a point ahead, Kilkenny then scored four unanswered points without reply to go three ahead, 1-10 to 2-4. After the Waterbreak, Meath equalised after three unanswered points of their own. Heading towards fifth minute of injury time, with Kilkenny ahead by two points. Meath were awarded a 21m free, the sliotar was not cleared and Maire Kirby doubled on the ball and it crossed the Kilkenny goal line to put Meath ahead. The Referee blew the full time whistle, Meath winning 3-7 to 1-12

Leinster Championship did not go ahead due to the late start of the League, due to Covid 19 restrictions

#### All Ireland Series

In their first match of the All Ireland Championship, a three and a half hour journey to Dunloy, Antrim, they suffered a five point defeat, 1-12 to 2-13 to Antrim

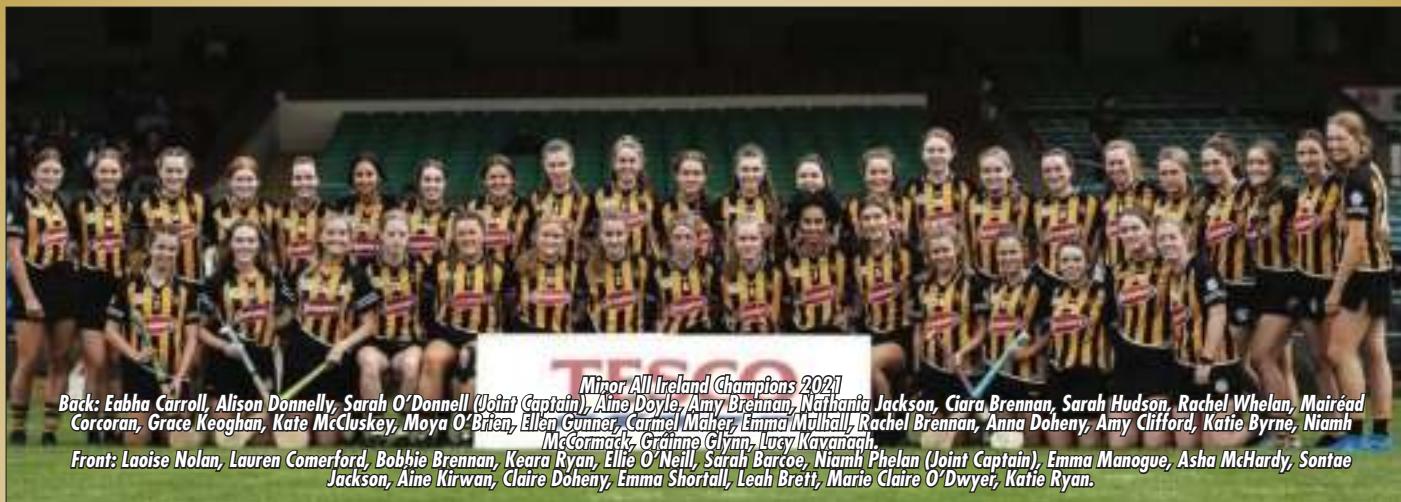
In the next match, they played Kilkenny at home in John Locke Park, Callan. Kilkenny led at the interval, 1-15 to 1-2, the goal scored by Ciara O'Keeffe.

Hannah Scott scored the second goal in the second half, Kilkenny eased off with the scoring, but still had an emphatic 20 point win, 2-24 to 1-7

In their final group game, Kilkenny played Cork at home in Callan. The winner of this match would top the group, so Kilkenny knew what they had to do. Kilkenny led 1-3 to 0-4 at the interval, Danielle Quigley scoring the goal. By the second waterbreak, the match was level 1-4 to 0-7. Hannah Scott scored a goal for Kilkenny five minutes from time, after the Cork goalie had parried an Eva Hynes shot and Hannah ran onto the sliotar and scored into an empty net. Kilkenny won 2-7 to 0-9. Kilkenny topped the group, so they qualified for a Semi Final against Meath in UPMC Nowlan Park. At the interval, Kilkenny led 0-9 to 0-5. Both teams scored 0-4 a piece in the second half, Kilkenny winning 0-13 to 0-9

In the All Ireland Final, Kilkenny played Antrim in Croke Park. Kilkenny started well, leading 0-4 to 0-1 after 10 minutes. Danielle Quigley ran towards the Antrim goal, she pulled the trigger but the sliotar rebounded out off the butt of the upright and was cleared. Antrim upped the Ante and took control of the match. Antrim led 0-6 to 0-5 at the first waterbreak and 1-11 to 0-9 at the interval. Sophie O'Dwyer scored a goal from a 21m free but Antrim scored a second goal approaching the second waterbreak. Sarah Crowley did score a second goal for Kilkenny, but Antrim ran out winners 2-21 to 2-13





**Back:** Eabha Carroll, Alison Donnelly, Sarah O'Donnell (Joint Captain), Aine Doyle, Amy Brennan, Niamh Jackson, Ciara Brennan, Sarah Hudson, Rachel Whelan, Mairéad Corcoran, Grace Keogh, Kate McCluskey, Moya O'Brien, Ellen Gunner, Carmel Maher, Emma Mulhall, Rachel Brennan, Anna Doheny, Amy Clifford, Katie Byrne, Niamh McCormack, Gráinne Glynn, Lucy Kavanagh.  
**Front:** Laoise Nolan, Lauren Comerford, Bobbie Brennan, Keara Ryan, Ellie O'Neill, Sarah Barcoe, Niamh Phelan (Joint Captain), Emma Manogue, Asha McHardy, Sontae Jackson, Aine Kirwan, Claire Doheny, Emma Shortall, Leah Brett, Marie Claire O'Dwyer, Katie Ryan.

Sinead Farrell, Niamh Leahy, Roisin Phelan (Capt), Ciara Murphy, Sarah Crowley, Leann Fennelly, Tiffanie Fitzgerald, Laura Hegarty, Ciara Phelan, Eva Hynes, Sarah Walsh, Ciara O'Keeffe, Sophie O'Dwyer, Hannah Scott, Danielle Quigley

**Subs –** Elizabeth Phelan, Claire Nolan, Therese Donnelly, Jennifer Leahy, Caoimhe Dowling, Marie Doheny, Sinead O'Keeffe, Niamh Sweeney, Aine Phelan, Roisin O'Keeffe, Shauna Treacy, Tara Ronan, Aisling Curtis, Aisling Prendergast, Gillian Costello, Afton Grace

Kilkenny Intermediate Team received ten Soaring Stars nominations – Sinead Farrell, Niamh Leahy, Roisin Phelan, Sarah Crowley, Leann Fennelly, Ciara Phelan, Eva Hynes, Sarah Walsh, Ciara O'Keeffe, Sophie O'Dwyer

Soaring Star Awards are on the 26th November 2021, after Yearbook gone to print

#### MINOR A

First game of the All Ireland Championship was against Waterford in WIT Arena, Waterford. Asha McHardy scored a goal for Kilkenny within 45 secs and they lead 1-4 to 0-5 at the interval. Kilkenny scored their second goal in the 36th minute, Sarah Barcoe doubling on the sliotar to the back of the net after the Waterford goalie had parried away a Emma Shortall shot. Waterford then scored 1-2 heading towards the second waterbreak, Kilkenny leading 2-9 to 1-8. Then Waterford scored the next three points to narrow the gap, Amy Clifford converted a 45m free but Waterford added two points to level the match for the first time, Amy Clifford converted a free for Kilkenny but Alannah O'Sullivan converted a free for Waterford just at full time to leave the score 2-11 to 1-14

In the second match, Kilkenny played Wexford in Grennan, Thomastown. Kilkenny scored their goal in the eight minute when Emma Shortall hit a rasper of a shot to the back of the net. In the 12th minute, Kilkenny scored their second goal, Sarah O'Donnell hit in a high ball towards goal, Emma Manogue knocked it down to herself, she turned and she was brought down by the Wexford goalie and a Penalty was awarded. Amy Clifford took the penalty and hit it with such power, it left the Wexford goalie with no chance to leave Kilkenny 2-6 to 0-4. Then Aoife O'Connor scored a goal for Wexford. In the 45th minute, Wexford were awarded a penalty and Sarah Doyle hit the penalty over the bar, just before the second waterbreak, score was 2-10 to 1-6. Ash McHardy and Amy Clifford (2) added points for Kilkenny and Aoife O'Connor pointed for Wexford to leave the final score 2-13 to 1-7 in favour of the Cats

Kilkenny topped their group, qualified for the Quarter Finals against Limerick in Fermoy GAA. Kilkenny were in scintillating form, leading 0-16 to 0-3 at the half time interval, despite playing against the breeze. Amy Clifford got Kilkenny's goal half way through the second half to give Kilkenny a 1-19 to 0-6 lead at that stage. Further points from Clifford, Manogue, Shortall and McHardy pushed Kilkenny further ahead on the scoreboard

Limerick did get a goal but the damage had very much already been done. Kilkenny winning 1-27 to 1-8

In the Semi Final against Galway in Abbottstown, Dublin. It took twenty minutes of extra time to separate the teams. After nine minutes, Galway led 1-3 to 0-0. Emma Manogue got Kilkenny's first point. At the first waterbreak Galway led 1-5 to 0-3. Both teams scored four points a piece heading to half time, with the Westerners still leading 1-9 to 0-7. A Kilkenny goal by sub Claire Doheny after four minutes of the second half left three points between the teams. Katie Gilchrist (2) and Niamh McInerney added points for Galway to push it out to six points again. Right on the whistle for the waterbreak, Sarah Barcoe scored a superb Kilkenny goal, with the margin back to three points, the momentum was with Kilkenny

Heading towards the final whistle, Galway led by three points, Sarah Barcoe gained possession and rounded her marker and she hit a blistering shot to the net. The game was level and extra time would be needed to separate the teams

Galway led 1-23 to 3-16 at half time in extra time, but Kilkenny were the dominant side in the second period scoring 0-5 to Galway's 0-2. Penalties loomed, until sub Sarah O'Donnell and Sarah Barcoe over two late points to send Kilkenny into the All Ireland against Cork. Final score Kilkenny 3-21 Galway 1-25

In the All Ireland Final played in LIT Gaelic Grounds, Limerick, Kilkenny captured the title with a superb display against Cork

Cork opened the scoring with points through Orlaith Mullins and Aimee Morgan. Sarah Barcoe split the posts with a point for Kilkenny. Ciara Golden replied with a point for Cork before the lively and hard working Emma Shortall narrowed the gap to the minimum. In the 16th minute, Kilkenny took the lead, with a brilliant goal from Sarah Barcoe. Kilkenny kept Cork scoreless for the rest of the second quarter. Amy Clifford pointed two frees, close to half time to leave Kilkenny 1-5 to 0-4 ahead at the interval. Emma Manogue extended Kilkenny's lead at the start of the second half, but four unanswered points from the Rebels brought the margin back to a point. Kilkenny took control in the final quarter, scoring 1-4 without reply with Asha

## Carroll's Pharmacy

Freshford

056 - 8832135

Serving our Community





McHardy, sub Claire Doheny, Amy Clifford (f) and Emma Shortall pointing. In the 52nd minute, Emma Shortall scored Kilkenny's second goal, following a brilliant pass from Sarah Barcoe. Cork tried hard to score a goal, but goalie Ellie O'Neill brought off a brilliant save at the stroke of full time. Full time whistle blew and Kilkenny had won their first Minor title since 2015

Ellie O'Neill, Laoise Nolan, Niamh Phelan (Joint Capt), Rachel Whelan, Aine Kirwan, Mairead Corcoran, Sontae Jackson, Emma Manogue, Anna Doheny, Grainne Glynn, Asha McHardy, Emma Shortall, Sarah Barcoe, Sarah O'Donnell (Joint Capt), Amy Clifford

Subs – Alison Donnelly, Rachel Brennan, Moya O'Brien, Amy Brennan, Kate McCluskey, Katie Byrne, Emma Mulhall, Grace Keoghan, Claire Doheny, Katie Ryan, Leah Brett, Ellen Gunner, Keara Ryan, Maire Claire O'Dwyer, Carmel Maher, Lucy Kavanagh, Aine Doyle, Sarah Hudson, Ciara Brennan, Eabha Carroll, Nathania Jackson, Lauren Comerford, Bobbie Brennan, Niamh McCormack

#### U16

First game of the All Ireland Championship was against Wexford in Enniscorthy. They had a comprehensive win, 6-11 to 1-4. The scorers were Lauren Ronan 2-7, Caoimhe Keher Murtagh 3-0, Rachel Dowling, Amy Cody 0-2 each, Aoife Coverdale 1-0.

In the second match, Kilkenny played Dublin in John Locke Park, Callan. Kilkenny started the brightest, scoring four points through Lauren Ronan (2), Rose Kelly and Amy Cody before Dublin's Kerri Austin snatched an excellent goal from a long free in. Caoimhe Keher Murtagh latched onto a loose ball in the 15th minute as it bounced in the square and she slotted it past the Dublin goalie, leaving Kilkenny ahead 1-4 to 1-1 at the first waterbreak. After the restart, Dublin came out of the traps at speed with wing forward Kate Watson blasting the sliotar into the top corner of the net after soloing in from midfield. Ava Brett replied for Kilkenny, before Dublin scored two rapid points. Heading towards the half time interval, Kilkenny scored three points from Keher-Murtagh, Ronan and Rachel Dowling, leaving the score 1-8 to 2-2 in favour of the homeside.

The heat started impacting play at the start of the second half, as the rate of scores slowed dramatically, only three points were scored in the third quarter, 2 for Kilkenny from Dowling and Ronan, while Dublin's Ciara Finn slotted one over on the stroke of the waterbreak. In the last quarter, Kilkenny scored 1-1 to Dublin 0-2, to win 2-11 to 2-5

Kilkenny topped their group, qualified for the Semi Final against Tipperary in St Rynagh's GAA, Banagher. A great team effort of sheer grit and determination saw Kilkenny defeat a dogged Tipperary team. At the first waterbreak, Kilkenny led 0-7 to 1-1, their points scored by Lauren Ronan (0-4, 2f), Rose Kelly (2) and Caoimhe Keher-Murtagh

In the 20th minute, Lauren Ronan fielded a great ball, turned her marker and hit a rasper of a shot past the Tipperary goalie. Both teams traded points heading to the interval. Half time score was Kilkenny leading 1-10 to 1-6

On the resumption of play, Tipperary scored two points. In the 39th minute, Caoimhe Keher-Murtagh collected the sliotar out in the 40m line and ran at the Tipperary defence and blasted the ball past the goalie. Straight from the puckout, Kilkenny defence cleared the sliotar upfield and Lauren Ronan ran onto it and slotted it past the Tipperary goalie to put Kilkenny eight points ahead

Tipperary scored two goals sandwiched between a lovely point from Kilkenny's Ava Brett. Rachel Dowling and Lauren Ronan added points for Kilkenny to leave Kilkenny 3-13 to 3-8 ahead at the second waterbreak. Lauren Ronan extended Kilkenny's lead with a point, before Caoimhe Keher-Murtagh scored her second goal.

Tipperary scored 1-1 between the 51st & 55th minutes, before Rachel Dowling and Celine Guinan exchanged points. Aoife Coverdale and Julie Lennon added a point each for Kilkenny before Emma Horgan finished the scoring for Tipperary to leave the final score, Kilkenny 4-17 to Tipperary 4-11

In the All Ireland Final played in St Brendan's Park, Birr, Kilkenny went very close to snatching the All Ireland from the mighty Rebels of Cork after a fantastic contest in the scorching heat. Kilkenny scored the first two points through Lauren Ronan and Rachel Dowling but Grainne Finn and Caoimhe Sheehan equalised for Cork. Rachel Dowling and Grainne O'Mahony traded points. Sinead Hurley put Cork ahead in the 10th minute, Amy Cody converted a 40m free for Kilkenny to equalise again

After the waterbreak, Ava Brett scored a fantastic point for Kilkenny from a very tight angle. Fiona Twohig then scored two points for Cork to put them ahead. Kilkenny hit the front again with a superb Rose Kelly goal after Caoimhe Keher-Murtagh had played a fantastic ball, pin-point straight in front of the inrushing Kelly and the latter hit a rasper of a shot passed the Cork goalie, but from the puckout, Fiona Twohig blasted to the net for Cork. Amy Cody and Ava Fitzgerald swapped points heading towards the interval, Cork leading 1-8 to 1-6 at the break

Kilkenny won a penalty within two minutes of the restart, but unfortunately it was missed and Cork weathered the storm and added points from Finn and Hurley. Ava Brett added her second point. Twohig converted a point for Cork before points from Rachel Dowling and Lauren Ronan left two points between the teams

Just after the waterbreak, Emily O'Donoghue scored a goal for Cork putting them 5 points ahead, but Kilkenny were not going to die easily

Ava Brett scored another fantastic point from a tight angle over on the sideline. O'Donoghue added a point for Cork. Kilkenny applied huge pressure, they grabbed a goal, Julie Lennon setting up Lauren Ronan who blasted to the net. Kilkenny pushed for a winner, laying siege on the Cork goal, Aoife Coverdale taking a shot towards goal, only to see the Cork goalie stretch to pluck the ball out of the air, cleared the danger and the full time whistle blew, Cork winning 2-12 to 2-10

A devastating loss in the end for the Kilkenny girls after going so close but it was a superb performance by the team in Black and Amber to get so close to a Cork side that had emphatically swatted aside any opposition in the build up to the decider



U14 Amber team



U14 Black team



U14 Stripes team



U15 Amber team



U15 Black team

Ali Kennedy, Siofra Meegan, Marie O'Keeffe, Laura Phelan, Angela Carroll, Sofia Kerr (Capt), Lucy Walsh, Rose Kelly, Anna Doheny, Amy Cody, Ava Brett, Rachel Dowling, Lauren Ronan, Caoimhe Keher-Murtagh, Ciara Dunne

Subs – Ruth Phelan, Emma Corr, Julie Lennon, Niamh Galway, Robin Delaney, Cliodhna Murphy, Erin Morrissey, Sarah Dooley, Aoife Coverdale, Mollie Burke, Ella Middleton, Muireann Gannon, Ciara Bryan, Leah Cooney, Cady Boyle, Aideen Ryan, Becky Peters, Emily Murphy, Denise Foley, Grainne Comerford, Eva Sumner, Katie Maher

#### U15

U15 Blacks played blitzes against Offaly, Laois, Dublin and national blitz against Tipperary, Limerick & Galway

U15 Amber played blitzes against Offaly, Laois, Carlow, Dublin and national blitz against Clare, Limerick and Waterford

Kilkenny U15 Amber team that competed in national blitz in Mallow in September and played Tipperary, Limerick and Galway



**Amber Team - (not in any particular order)**

Jessica Grant, Kilmacow; Rachel Moloney, St Martins; Jess Cuddy, Tullaroan; Aoife Kavanagh, Emeralds; Una Duggan, St Annes; Emma Daly, St Lactain's; Caoimhe Hickey, St Lactain's; Grace Glennon, Tullogher; Sophie Meagher, James Stephens; Isabelle Egan, Dicksboro; Ciara Gleeson, Danesfort; Aishling O'Loughlin, St Annes; Cliodhna Walsh, Mullinavat; Amber Laharty, Mullinavat; Ava Dermody, St Lactain's; Seana Davis, Mullinavat; Emily Smith, James Stephens; Orlaith Kirwan, Thomastown; Aoife Shealy, O'Loughlin Gaels; Niamh Cunningham, Danesfort; Aine White, James Stephens; Katie Brennan, Conahy Shamrocks; Joanne Comerford, Clara; Aishling Browne, Dicksboro; Niamh Leahy, James Stephens; Laura Doherty, Glenmore; Tara Roche, St Martins

Kilkenny U15 Black team that competed in national blitz in Clara in September playing Limerick, Tipperary, Waterford and Clare

**Black Team - (not in any particular order)**

Rachel Hartley, John Lockes; Rachel Brickell, Clara; Grace Buggy, Erin's Own; Niamh Doyle, B&W; Zoe Foley, Graiguenamanagh; Ava O'Grady, O'Loughlin Gaels; Louise Hearne, Ballyhale; Aoife Gamble, Conahy; Ellen Murphy, Rower Inistioge; Aobhinn Canning, B&W; Clodagh O'Neill, Carrickshock; Olive Donnelly, Glenmore; Jayne Farrell, Young Irelands; Sophie Slattery, Slieverue; Eleanor Hayes, Windgap; Sophie Chapman, Rower Inistioge; Laura Challoner, Thomastown; Emma Kelly, Glenmore; Laura Bolger, Rower Inistioge; Aoife O'Shea, Carrickshock; Aine Aylward, Mooncoin; Ava Dunphy, Mullinavat; Eimer Phelan, Erin's Own; Kayla Farrell, B&W; Roisin McAlwee, Thomastown; Aobhinn Dunphy, Carrickshock; Sinead Carroll, Dicksboro

Mentors - Tommy Farrell, John Paul Kelly, Frances Gamble, Elaine O'Loughlin, Jim Smith,

Ray Meagher, Niall Moloney, Paula Murphy, Damien Donoghue

**U14**

U14 Blacks played blitzes against Antrim, Cork, Dublin, Waterford and Leinster Blitz against Carlow and Laois

U14 Amber played blitzes against Wexford, Cork, Dublin, Galway and Leinster Blitz against Offaly and Wexford

U14 Stripes played blitzes against Tipperary, Meath, Cork and Leinster Blitz against Meath and Laois

**U14 Amber Squad (not in any particular order)**

Jenny Saunders, Windgap; Cara Duggan, Dicksboro; Orla Phelan, Lisdowney; Pia Langton, Clara; Rachel Phelan, John Lockes; Ciara Delaney, Lisdowney; Emily Cooney, Mooncoin; Molly Conroy, St Brigid's; Michelle Killeen, St Lactain's; Jill O'Brien, Danesfort; Shona Ruane, St Martin's; Caoimhe Power, Windgap; Grace Brennan, Tullaroan; Aisling O'Shea, Windgap; Ciara O'Shea, Windgap; Ella O'Reilly, Barrow Rangers; Emily Shortall, Ballyhale; Niamh Davis, Danesfort; Aoife Cunningham, Danesfort; Caoimhe Fennelly, Thomastown; Siofra O'Leary, O'Loughlin Gaels; Aoibhín Deegan, Dicksboro; Lucy Boyd, Clara; Ena Lawlor, O'Loughlin Gaels; Eabha Mullally, Glenmore; Jessica Smith, Barrow Rangers

**U14 Black Squad (not in any particular order)**

Ella Hoynes, Glenmore; Katelyn O'Connor, St Lactain's;

Roisin Burns, Lisdowney; Ayesha Belalaoui, Dicksboro; Siobhan Kenny, St Brigid's; Emily Phelan, John Lockes; Ella Walton, Tullaroan; Shannon Doheny, Tullaroan; Eleanor Doheny, Tullaroan; Marie Farrell, Thomastown; Ona Kennedy, Windgap; Siofraídh Kennedy, Conahy, Rachel Fitzpatrick, B&W's; Aisling O'Sullivan, John Lockes; Emma O'Shea, Piltown; Aileen Gleeson, Danesfort; Tara Cody, St Brigid's; Katelyn Phelan, Mooncoin; Lucy Fitzgerald, Ballyhale; Kate Kelly, B&W's; Aoife O'Grady, St Anne's; Abby Walsh, Thomastown; Molly Cummins, Naomh Brid; Keela Lawlor, St Martin's; Eimear O'Neill, Dicksboro

**U14 Stripes Squad (not in any particular order)**

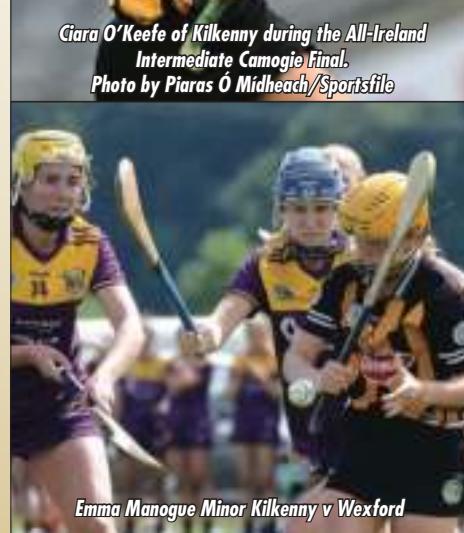
Orla Duggan, St Anne's; Saskia Sutton, Mullinavat; Roisin Menton, St Martin's; Sienna Drennan, Ballyhale; Sarah O'Mahoney, Ballyhale; Ellen Brennan, Barrow Rangers; Hannah Rocket, Kilmacow; Siofra McGilligan, B&W's; Kate Ryan, Bennettsbridge; Lucy Drennan, James Stephens; Molly Purcell, James Stephens; Gráinne O'Loughlin, St Anne's; Niamh Cleary, Kilmacow; Emer Gladney, James Stephens; Sarah Jane Cantwell, James Stephens; Sarah Jane Morrissey, Thomastown; Kate Farrell, Piltown; Ava Sutton, Mooncoin; Aoife McCormack, St Anne's; Orla Walsh, Carrickshock; Sarah Dunne, Clara; Georgina Casey, St Brigid's; Orla Donnelly, O'Loughlin Gaels; Ruth Crowley, O'Loughlin Gaels; May Cummins, St Martin's; Abigail Whitty, St Lactain's; Eabha Kehoe, Naomh Brid; Sinead Henderson, St Anne's



Ciara O'Keeffe of Kilkenny during the All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Final.



Michelle Teehan makes her way onto the pitch before the All-Ireland Senior Semi-Final.  
Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile



Emma Manogue Minor Kilkenny v Wexford



Sinéad O'Keeffe of Kilkenny in action against Amy Boyle of Antrim during the All-Ireland Intermediate Final match. Photo by Piaras Ó Midheach/Sportsfile



Caoimhe Keher Murtagh v Dublin U16



**Davina Tobin**





**Grace Walsh**



Piaras Ó Midheach/SPORTSFILE



## BALLYHALE SHAMROCKS

The U13 panel, looked after by Tom Coogan (Manager/Trainer), Patrick Cummins, Richie Grant, Declan Mullen, Dermot Ryan and Tom Walsh, lost a quarter final with Dicksboro, 3-11 to 3-6.  
U13HC A Theodore Drennan, Brian Ryan, Killian Ryan, Seán O'Mahony, Cathal Coogan 0-1 (f), Jake Mullen 3-3 (1-2f, 1-0 pen), David Kolodziez captain, Luke Cummins, Tommy Walsh, Michael Barron 0-2 (1f), Rory McMahon, Con O'Neill, Donnchadh Grant, James Ryan, Conor Holohan.

Subs: Jim Connolly for Conor Holohan (ht), Max Corbett, Eric Murphy, Jamie Murphy, Henry Shefflin, Reece Drennan (away), Jayden Fitzpatrick (away), Tiernan Shefflin (inj).

The U15 panel, looked after by Michael Carroll (Trainer), Dave Gallagher, Dermot Ryan and John Shefflin (Manager), lost a first round tie with The Fenians, 3-19 to 2-4.

U15HC C David Kolodziez, Brian Wilson, Thomas Murphy, Cathal Coogan, Tommy Walsh, Jack Holden captain, Séan Shefflin, Michael Kennedy, Killian Ryan, Jake Mullen 1-0, John Fitzpatrick 1-3 (0-1f), Aidan Grummell, Rian Shefflin 0-1, Michael Barron, James Ryan.

Subs: Cian Walsh for Cathal Coogan (ht), Charlie Lennon for James Ryan (51m), Logan Fitzgerald for Tommy Walsh (52m), Rory McMahon for Jake Mullen (57m), Séan O'Mahony for Killian Ryan (60m), Séan Óg O'Farrell (inj), Tiernan Shefflin (inj).

The Minor panel, looked after by Mark Aylward, John Drennan (Manager) and Dave Gallagher, lost a first round tie with Dicksboro B, 4-10 to 1-17.

MHC C Rian Shefflin, Michael Kennedy, Michael Cullen, Thomas Murphy, Jack Holden, Larry Cody captain, Séan Shefflin, Tom Cleere 0-1, Aidan Grummell, Jack Cody, Killian Corcoran 0-12 (8f, 1 65), Cian Walsh, Brian Wilson, Niall Shortall 1-3, John Fitzpatrick 0-1.

Subs: Logan Fitzgerald, Charlie Lennon, Michael Lyons, Séan Óg O'Farrell, Aaron Doyle (til).

The Junior panel, looked after by David Hoyne, Niall Mason, Séan Reid (Manager) and David Walsh, beat The Rower-Inistioge (2-19 to 1-10) and Clara (2-19 to 3-14) before losing their semi final with Dicksboro, 4-19 to 1-12.

JHC Eoin Knox, Patrick Doyle, Cian Cullen, Adam Brenner, Casey Corcoran, Conor Walsh, Edmond Fitzpatrick, Christopher Coady, Ger Fennelly 0-1, Enda Fitzpatrick acting captain 0-1, Bob Aylward, Dara Mason, Mark Gorman

1-8 (0-6f), Stephen Barron 0-1, Mark Aylward 0-1.

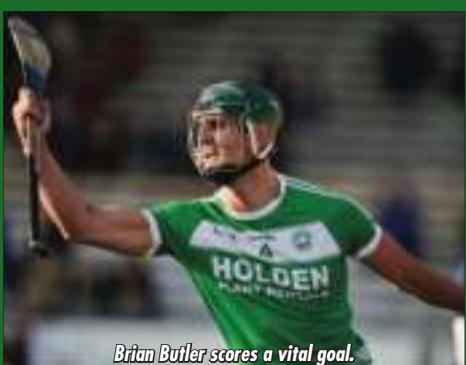
Subs: John Shortall for Adam Brenner (inj, 10m), Tomás Barron for Patrick Doyle (inj, ht), Andrew Devereux for Bob Aylward (46m), Jason Devereux for Mark Aylward (49m), David Hoyne, Mark Phelan, Séan Reade, Finnian Shefflin, Liam Barron (tied), James Deasy (inj), Conor Doyle (away), Patrick Hearne captain (tied), Conor Phelan (tied).

The Junior C panel was looked after by Willie Dempsey, Dave Gallagher, John Kennedy, Patrick O'Sullivan (Manager) and Eoin Reid. First round loss to The Fenians by 3-26 to 1-9 was followed by second round loss to Cloneen, 0-14 to 2-6.

JHC C Eoin Knox, Cian Cullen captain, Bob Aylward, Adam Brenner, Edmond Fitzpatrick, Dara Mason 1-0 (pen), Tomás Barron, David Hoyne 0-3 (f), John Shortall, Kevin Fennelly, Enda Fitzpatrick, Brandon Ryan, Andrew Devereux 1-3, Donnchadh Fitzpatrick, Finnian Shefflin.

Subs: Dylan Doran for Donnchadh Fitzpatrick (inj, ht), Mark Phelan for Brandon Ryan (56m), Séan Reade, James Deasy (inj), Conor Doyle (work).

No U19 team was entered, due to lack of numbers. The U21 A panel awaited Bennettsbridge in a quarter final.



*Brian Butler scores a vital goal.*



## BARROW RANGERS

It was a very successful year on the field of play for our Juveniles with our Under 13's, 15's and 17's contesting Roinn C Finals. The under 13's and 17's brought home the silverware with wins over Mullinavat and Graignamanagh while our Under 15's just failed to seal the deal against Fenians.

A goal with the last puck of the game in added time saw Slieverue advance at the expense of Barrow Rangers in the Junior Championship.

On the inter-county scene, Evan Rudkins played corner back on the Kilkenny minor team while Joe Healy was on the Under 17 team that won the Celtic Challenge Cup. Noah Scully was with the Under 16's.

Numbers were strong at all age levels and we even had two Under 13 teams with one playing in the 13 a side League. Our Friday evening coaching sessions for Junior Infants to Under 11's saw great numbers participate with plenty of games for all age groups. With regards to our new development, the 800 metre walking track around the present pitch was completed during the summer months and it is proving extremely popular across all age groups. Barrow Rangers successfully purchased 7.5 acres for the new pitch and development including the new access road with full planning permission in place for all. Tenders have just been received for the initial advance enabling works which will entail the new access road and car park located within the 7.5 acres. It is hoped to commence these enabling works shortly and to commence work on the new pitch in the Spring of 2022.

The Club would like to thank all mentors and coaches over all the teams and also a special word of thanks to those who contributed sponsorship to the club.



*Barrow Rangers U15's 2021*



## BENNETTSBRIDGE

### Adult Hurling

Liam and David Blanchfield won Leinster Senior medals, Bill Hughes won a Leinster minor medal while Ciaran Brennan and Jamie Harkin were part of the Kilkenny U20 team this year. Bennettsbridge seniors won the club's first piece of senior silverware for many years when they won the St Canices Credit Union Senior Hurling league defeating Clara in the final. Unfortunately we came up short in the championship quarter final against eventual winners Ballyhale Shamrocks. Our junior B team also won this year's league title when they defeated St Lachtains in a high scoring final. We lost out to Conahy in the championship semi final. Once again this year we put in a third team in the junior E competition. A young team competed well but lost out in the Championship to Lisdowney.

### Underage Games

Our minors competed in the Roinn A league/championship and did well in their first year back in the A competition however we lost out in the championship semi final to Tullogher. Our under 15 team who performed in Roinn C had some good performances in the league. We lost out in the championship to a strong Fenians side who deservedly won the title. Our under 13s were crowned 1 a side county champions for 2021. In the final where we faced Blacks and Whites as we did last year in a tough hard fought game in Gowran we won out by two points to be crowned county champions. Well done to all the players and mentors on a great win. Our under 11s played plenty of games and improved during the year. Our under 9s team were crowned cup champions in Thomas O Shea Dunnamaggin tournament and won the shield in our own Mickey Kelly Tournament.. Our under 7s had great numbers training all year and showed great promise for the future.

### Club Development

2021 saw the completion of our new clubhouse. The new development adds two new dressing rooms, gym area, shop and meeting room to the existing dressing rooms. This is certainly a great addition to the club going forward. Thanks to all who have supported club fundraising efforts during the year which included the Buy A Brick campaign, Split The Pot and the annual golf classic. Thanks to our club sponsor PD Fencing and all who helped out the club during the year.

### Condolences

We offer sincere condolences to the families of Walter Kennedy, Michael and Peg Phelan, Bridget Lennon, Brid Galway and Anthony (Tony) Kelly. May they rest in peace.



*Under 9 Thomas O'Shea (Dunnamaggin) Cup Champions 2021*



## BLACKS & WHITES

If 2020 was a year like no other, 2021 was thankfully a year like the many others that preceded it. Tom Walsh Park was a hive of activity and fun nearly every evening of the long season. On the field there were many highlights and days of great pride and joy, but as always there were days of narrow defeat and disappointment. It was a historic year for the reason the club fielded three adult mens teams for the first time. In fact, it was the F troop as they become known, which provided some of the most enjoyable outings. The team was peppered with stars from the past and it was as they reached the knockout stages, eventually succumbing to Glenmore, that they really came into their own. The junior D team also had a great campaign, taking the Country Style Foods League title in defeating Sliervein in fine style on the 18th July. The team battled through to the championship final to face the same opposition, but on a scorching evening in beautiful Nowlan Park the lads could not defeat an inspired opposition to suffer another bitter disappointment, the second such defeat in successive seasons. The junior A hurlers also faced into the championship with much promise and scored a memorable win over much fancied Windgap in the first round of the championship. However, on a blustery wintery day in Ballyhale, the team battled hard but came up just short against a strong Mooncoin outfit which will contest the county final. Pride of place on the field this year must go to our u13 team who won their league competition in some style and played some outstanding hurling all year. Although they will be disappointed to lose their championship final to Bennettsbridge, all involved can be hugely proud of their achievements so far and the progress they are making. A huge amount of coaching and great work is being done by the Bord na nÓg section and when combined with the stellar efforts of the Blacks & Whites camogie club, it's very clear the future looks bright. Off the field, Tom Walsh Park remain one of the best-appointed grounds in the county thanks to the hard work of so many of our committed volunteers. The walking track was resurfaced and remains a lovely facility and the stand was upgraded to make it even more snug and atmospheric. One of the highlights of 2021 was the official opening of our new floodlit Astro turf and ball wall facility in August to coincide with the annual Phil Murphy blitz, which was again this year a hugely enjoyable and successful venture. The u19s and 21s are still working hard to finish the year on a high, but as the shutters come down on the 2021 season the Blacks & Whites can reflect on the year with much satisfaction and pride.



**U13 Jr. Captains receive the trophy from Bord na nÓg Chairman, Willie Dempsey.**



There's no doubt that our Under 13 boys provided us with the highlight of the juvenile year. After waiting patiently during almost 9 months of competitive hurling lockdown, the boys claimed the 2020 Championship with a win over Clara on 12th June. A thrilling final ended 0-16 each after extra time and after a nail-biting penalty shoot out Captain Adam Franks gratefully lifted the Cup. The other juvenile teams mightn't have scaled the heights of these boys, but it's fantastic to see the huge coaching effort continuing at all age groups. Days like our Hurling Fun Day at the end of August epitomised the wonderful sense of Club, Community and Parish that this effort brings.

The adult season started with the completion of another 2020 competition, the Junior Football Championship, and, after an impressive semi-final win over Barrow Rangers, they fell at the final hurdle to Graigue Ballycallan, 0-10 to 2-7. Then back to the Hurling with Senior League and Junior A games coming thick and fast. Unfortunately the Junior A's came up short in the Semi-Final at the end of August to eventual winners Mooncoin.

Carrickshock Intermediates had a mixed season, with definite signs of progress. Like 2020 the League / Championship campaign was lightning quick, starting on 5th September and ending with a Quarter-Final exit on 17th October. Manager Richie Power, and selectors Emmet Dunphy and Edward Power, in their 2nd season in charge, can look back on one that took them one step further, but ponder what might have been. Winning 3 out of 3 league matches and a Shield Final against last season's championship conquerors, St. Martin's, was a good return. In the Championship Quarter Final they put themselves in a winning position, leading by six at the third quarter. But St. Lachtnans owned the last quarter, won by 1-17 to 1-14 and, at time of writing, look forward to a County Final. On the Inter-County front, Padraig Lennon (2020) and Sean Moore (2021) flew the Carrickshock flag with the Kilkenny Minor teams. After Leinster success for both teams, the season ended in déj à vu, losing to Galway in the 2020 final and again in the 2021 semi-final. And we look forward to following this season's Under 14 Squad debutants, Conor Farrell, Michael Rohan and Adam Franks, on their Kilkenny journey. Carrickshock extends its condolences to all families associated with the club who suffered bereavements this year, especially the families of Charlie Malzard and Oliver Roche, see Oliver's obituary elsewhere in this Yearbook. And finally, congratulations to Gary Comerford on reaching the big Five O recently!

## CARRICKSHOCK



**Carrickshock 2020 U13 Champions**



This year has been an exciting one at Carriegeen GAA club it saw the opening of the BEA training academy in our complex, which offers a bicycle engineering traineeship. The objective of this Engineering diploma is to gain accreditation in mechanical engineering uniquely utilizing the professional bicycle manufacturing process from design to finished product. Developed in Ireland by industry professionals with more than 30 years' experience, the course is delivered over 1,300 hours & includes a range of accredited City & Guilds engineering modules. CAD, Mechanical Engineering, Electronics, Bicycle maintenance & Business development. More information can be found here <https://www.cycletraining.ie/frame-building-bicycle-engineering-diploma/> We would also like to offer our condolences to the family of Jim Browne on the passing of his brother John Browne (rip) and the Jimmy Rochford and family on the passing of his brother Watty Rochford (rip). Good luck to our players Shane Walsh on his marriage to Sinead and Brian Gallagher on his marriage to Cliodhna and wish them all the best for the future. Best of luck to John Walsh on the Best of luck to John Walsh on the opening of Paddys Bar.



**Fintan Dermody was presented an award at our social night as he retires. from 30 years of service to the club. Best of luck to John Walsh on the opening of Paddys Bar.**

## CARRIGEEN

2021 was a good year for the juveniles in Cloneen. An increased recruitment drive for players across the younger age-groups resulted in larger numbers attending training on a bi-weekly basis. As with many rural clubs we are relying on many players to cross over the age groups to make up the teams. The older juveniles had mixed results during the year. The U17 team had an excellent year and were narrowly beaten in the championship. The U13 team had a reasonable year and were very competitive throughout the league.

The U11 and U9 teams competed well in their go-games. We are hoping to put in place a coaching program in conjunction with the Leinster Council to facilitate the training of juveniles in both the clubs and schools. We also conducted a workshop with Martin Fogarty for the coaches in the club.

The biggest success we had this year was the development of a "hurling nursery". We received a great response from the boys and girls in the club who enjoyed training and matches where skills development and fun was at its core. We look forward to building on this progress next year.

The Junior and Junior C Teams continued to improve. Due to Covid again this year, unable to get enough games. The Junior team did extremely well against a strong Tullogher team in prem round of championship only losing out by two points. Junior C team having been promoted last year competed well in the league and championship. Great effort was put in by all our Juvenile and Adult players with the great training from all our mentors.

The U19s and U21s haven't competed in championship yet as this goes to print. 2021 saw the installation of a Hurling Wall and Dugouts both supplied by Shay Murtagh Precast, Mullingar, Co Westmeath with next stage of development to be completed the installation of an All Weather surface and fencing.



**New Hurling Wall and Dugouts**



## CLONEEN



## CLARA

Clara GAA, Camogie and LGFA Club recorded its highest membership to date in 2021. The forced absence from the playing field and the GAA community due to Covid-19 in the early end of the year, was rapidly put behind us once the gates were opened in April. Our members supported the club to uphold Covid Guidelines at all times. Encouraged by our Committees; all our coaches, mentors and players and especially the players embraced the 'new normal', with the prize being able to play our games for as long as possible.

The younger club members from all three codes were first back, it was a delight to see them once again enjoying themselves in our facilities. All coaches have reported that there have been huge improvements noted across all players and all grades. Focusing on skill development, athletic development and using small-sided games to ensure active involvement by all players has contributed to our young players enjoying the games and along the way getting better at them. The 'Go Games' ethos for the younger age groups is so important.

We continue to enter teams in competitions from U13 to U17 at Juvenile level and have 5 adult hurling teams; Senior, Junior, Junior D and late in the year we also have U19 and U21, along with this we have our Senior Football team. The Camogie club have had success this year across the grades, reaching finals at U14 & U16 level and narrowly losing the Championship semi-final at Senior grade. The LGFA continues to grow numbers from year to year with the hope to have an adult team in the future.

In the background of all clubs, is the hidden team; these people are central to the smooth running and functioning of our club. Jobs, such as cutting the grass, operating the scoreboard on match days, cleaning the toilets, stewarding, collecting lotto/ticket money, putting out flags, opening the shop and doing the administration are all part of a club. We are very fortunate to have people always on hand to undertake these jobs as well as generous sponsors who have continued to support us through a difficult year.

Our facilities in Clara have been praised so often by visiting clubs, we have two great pitches and a walking track, planned future developments include an Astroturf and a Club Gym, these will benefit everyone. Ar scáth a cheile a mhaireann na daoine agus go mbeirimid beo ar an am seo arís.



## CONAHY SHAMROCKS

Our Intermediate hurlers had their first competitive outing Thursday 17th June in the Senior Hurling League Division 2 when Glenmore came to the Polo Grounds, Jenkinstown. In a highly competitive contest with Conahy coming out on top by 4-17 to 2-20. The only other group game that went ahead was against Carrickshock in Hugginstown - another competitive game but Conahy's shooting let them down with the Carrickshock men coming out on top 1-15 to 1-13. On the back of three walk-overs due to Covid-19 issues in opposition camps, Conahy qualified for the League final against Thomastown on Wednesday 11th August. This was Thomastown's sixth game in the competition and they proved much too strong winning by 2-28 to 0-17.

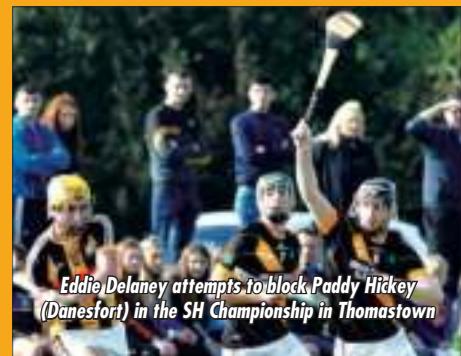
Conahy had mixed results in the Intermediate Hurling League which commenced against St. Martin's on Saturday 4th September in Ballyragget. Conahy were disappointed to lose out by two points on a scoreline of 2-19 to 2-17. Next up for Conahy were St. Lachtnas, again in Ballyragget, a hugely competitive game but a strong third quarter showing was key to the Conahy win, as they outscored the Freshford side by 2-6 to 0-2 during that period and winning out by 3-19 to 3-16. The final league again was against Thomastown played in Nowlan park with the men from the south again proving much too strong winning on scoreline of 3-19 to 0-15.

The Championship draw resulted in a first round match against Danesfort who had been relegated from the senior grade in 2020. This experience proved key as Danesfort overcame Conahy Shamrocks in Thomastown on a scoreline of 1-23 to 1-16.

This result pushed Conahy into the regulation battle where they would meet John Lockes of Callan in Tullaroan. The proverbial game of two halves saw Conahy Shamrocks come strong in the second thirty minutes to retain their Intermediate status for another year on a scoreline 0-17 to 1-13. A difficult and learning year for the Conahy men they will hope this initial experience will aid them in 2021 especially for a lot of their younger players.

The Conahy Shamrocks Junior B team had a great run in this years championship reaching the Junior B county final following victories over Tullogher Rosbercan, Barrow Rangers and Bennettsbridge. Following a very even first half the city side were much more dominant in the second half, winning out by 3-18 to 2-10.

The junior F hurlers were successful in their first-round championship match beating Dicksboro by four points but unfortunately lost out to a Glenmore side in the second round by six points.



*Eddie Delaney attempts to block Paddy Hickey (Danesfort) in the SH Championship in Thomastown*



## DANESFORT

Danesfort GAA and Camogie Club had a good year on the pitch. There were so many tournaments which the younger players in our juvenile division participated in, a hectic schedule was supplied by coaches, supported by club secretaries, officials and parents alike.

A highlight of these groups came at the end of the season for both Hurling and Camogie, when our U11 Hurlers won the Cup in our ever popular Floodlight League and our U12 Camogs reached the County Final in the Gobnat Group League.

Within our Championship teams, Danesfort held our own, reaching several semifinals and finals, winning out the Minor B Hurling and Minor C Camogie in a thrilling fashion.

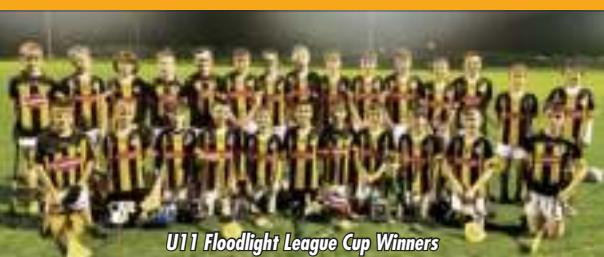
We are so proud of these teams, and all our teams, as it gave the membership, the entire community, and indeed our diaspora, a great lift. There was great pride in the parish, sponsors came out of the woodwork to ensure the teams were looked after, parents dug deep, over and above their incredible commitment, not just to their own players, but to all players. So many people had so many reasons to celebrate, our youth showed great promise, a boost to those older than them and a beacon to those younger.

Success on the pitch was tinged with sadness when we lost a number of great GAA people, close relatives of our members and people throughout Danesfort parish. Our Executive and membership would like to extend our sympathies to the families affected. We remember Andy Dillon, Fr Michael Dillon, Mary Butler, Michael Phelan, Noel O' Connor, Mary Gargan, Brian Banahan, Tom Hurley, Billy Dooley, Chris Lalor, Joe O'Gorman, Bernie Martin, Paddy Leahy, Ann Cahill, Agnes Gibbons White, Milo Burke, Haulie Reade, Ger Cunningham, Kitty Marnell, Jon Hegarty, Richard O' Dwyer, Kathleen Joyce and Leo Brown. Timmy Murphy and Brian McCormack's obituaries are commemorated elsewhere in the yearbook. Codladh sámh i measc na n-aingeal. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamnacha dilse.

As we look forward to 2022, we have a lot to be grateful for and a lot to be excited about. We will be celebrating the Centenary Year since the foundation of our Club in 1922. A programme of events will be unveiled which has been almost 2 years in the making. We will also be completing Phase 1 of our Club Development, which will be of benefit to the membership and the wider community. We are delighted to have the continued support of our main sponsors, Terry and Kate Clune of Taxback.

We sincerely wish that all efforts, both on and off the pitch, translate into Danesfort GAA and Camogie Club continuing to be a happy place for all members new and old, an inviting place for all the community and a place set deep in the hearts of our diaspora.

Ní neart go cur le cheile. Go n'éirí an bothar linn go léir



*U11 Floodlight League Cup Winners*



## Dicksboro One Club 2021

Dicksboro GAA and Camogie Club agreed to merge under "Croke Park One Club" guidelines. Following the club's EGM which was held on 12th July, the decision to formally merge Dicksboro GAA and Camogie Club was ratified.

Meanwhile, The Club also took the opportunity to modernise and change slightly the club crest and have reverted back to the original colours of the crest along with adding the new "One Club Title".

### Dicksboro Development Draw 2021

In 2021 we completed pitch drainage works on the second pitch under the guidance of groundsman Jimmy McGarry and his team of volunteers.

Summer Camp 2021: The Dicksboro Summer Camp 2021 recommenced was a huge success. The gathering of boys and girls enjoyed a mix of games and fun – with time for relaxation and food – all under the expert guidance of Niamh Holohan and Orla Handrick and their large group of assistants.

Dicksboro Golf Classic 2021: Huge thank you to our great hosts in Kilkenny Golf Club for their brilliant hospitality and for the golf course, which was in splendid condition and in full summer bloom in July 2021 we hosted a very successful Golf Classic.

Denis Philpott U11 Tournament: The Denis Philpott Under-11 Memorial Tournament was held in September with the Cup competition taking place in James's Park and the Shield competition in Palmerstown. The Dicksboro team captured the Cup with victory over O'Loughlin Gaels in the final.

Dicksboro and UPMC Health Partnership 2021: Dicksboro GAA Club were delighted to announce UPMC Sports Medicine as Official Health Partner of the club with immediate effect.

We are delighted to welcome UPMC to Palmerstown and look forward to working with them in the years ahead. Our partnership is an excellent fit for Dicksboro GAA Club. Health and wellness are an integral part of UPMC's mission, as they are of key importance to Dicksboro GAA Club."

Thanks to UPMC's sponsorship, which will see all Juvenile Teams have UPMC Sports Medicine on all Juvenile Team Jerseys in the club.

Pictured in a jersey presentation to John Windle of UPMC are the following, Back row left to right, Conor O'Grady (PRO) Davy Ryan (Players Rep), John Windle (UPMC), Eddie Holohan (Dicksboro Club Chairman) Fergal Murphy (Dicksboro Juvenile Chairman)



**Jersey Presentation**



It has been another incredibly busy year in the club. Work started on the clubs next development plan with both walkways around the GAA pitches in Dunnamaggin and Kilmoganny being completed in only a few days. This was a massive undertaking for a small country club. Thank you to all who sponsored a load of stone, machinery, volunteered their time, kept the crews refreshed and fed or helped in any way to make this happen in such a short space of time. The Club have also submitted planning permission for a new

Gym and ball wall which hope to be completed in 2022. All made possible with the support of our members through the Development lotto syndicate and support of other fundraising activities.

On the pitch it was also extremely busy for the club where we contested one Hurling Championship Semi Final, One League Final, One Shield Final and Four County Finals.

Our U15's were first to contest a final, that being the Roinn B Hurling league final against Piltown. After a super game Piltown won it by the slimmest of margins Dunnamaggin 3:17 Piltown 2:2 1. Our Lads had to quickly put that defeat behind them as they competed in the Feile Hurling competition. After a loss to Dicksboro in the opening game, wins against St.Martins and Windgap/Galmoy placed them in a Shield Final against city side O'Loughlins. After a very close game the lads were victorious to lift the John West Feile Division 1 Shield title O'Loughlins 1:2 Dunnamaggin 3:2.

2021 saw history being made in the club when we fielded a third adult Hurling team. This reflected the growth of the club over the last number of years. Both our Junior A's and Junior F's made their way through to their respective Championship finals. The Junior F's were first up against Piltown in Hugginstown and in what was an absolute cracker of a game they were victorious Dunnamaggin 2:17 Piltown 1:17. The very next day our Junior A's lined out in Nowlan Park in their Final against Mooncoin and in very tight and tense game Mooncoin just edged it 1:16 to 0:21. Our Intermediate team did not have the season they wished for after the concession of a last minute goal in their 1st round game saw them play Gowran in the Relegation Semifinal which they won. Next up was our Minor Hurlers who were reigning Roinn B champions. After a truly titanic match against Tullaroan in the Semi they won their way through to the Co. zzzFinal again. Danesfort were stronger in the finish and Won out Danesfort 0:17 Danesfort 1:10. Our U13's suffered a cruel defeat in their Hurling Championship Semifinal against Graig BallyCallan when after a really super game they were tie after normal and extra time and the game was forced to penalty shootout which they lost. Our last final of the year was the Roinn B Hurling which saw a repeat of the league final pairing again played in Dunmore. Piltown opened brilliantly with the wind and owned the first 20 mins but slowly the Dunnamaggin lads steadied the ship and drew Piltown back in. They took their scores when they were on and with some titanic defending in the second half overturned the League final defeat to be crowned champions a Great victory to end the year. Dunnamaggin 2:13 Piltown 1:12

## DUNNAMAGGIN



**Eddie Dunne looking for support challenged by Michael Walsh (Young Irelands)**



Development - The club made huge progress in 2021 in this area:

- Drainage was invested on the club grounds.
- Playing pitch sanded.
- New nets purchased for main goals.
- Installed new 20m Wallball incl. foundation & groundworks.
- Installed a 10m x 22m surface in front of Wallball, Installed 3 Lights
- Club House plumbing was upgraded.
- Existing walkway currently upgraded to tarmac, new fencing, lightpoles & led lights (licensed out to Urlingford on the Move Community group for all to use)
- 80x 22m Astroturf being installed in coming months

## EMERALDS



**Emeralds club players Darragh Quearly & Killian Doyle who won Leinster Minor Final with Kilkenny.**

County level - Represented by Derek Lyng (U20s Manager) & player Sean Burke. Killian Doyle & Darragh Quearly won a Leinster Final with the Kilkenny Minors & Kieran Cleere & Alex Burke won an All Ireland with the Kilkenny u17 Celtic Challenge team. Also - Michael Ahern, Oisin Deegan, Jimmy Cleere, Calum Lawlor, Oisin Quinlan, Connor Gibbons all were part of Kilkenny Development Squads.

The Junior team were drawn against Graiguenamanagh in the 1st round of the Championship. Behind at half time, they went onto level the match and win in extra time. The quarter final draw fated them to a repeat of last year. Emeralds gave a strong all round team performance in tough physical game and went in 8 points up at half time. They continued to show form and excellent work rate all over but their fate changed just after the final water break. Losing two key players to injury and Tullogher Rosbercon moving Walter Walsh in full forward who bagged two goals in the dying moments saw Tullogher 3 points ahead on the final whistle. Team Management of Maurice Nelligan, Austin Cleere, Liam Coady, and Paul Kavanagh and all the panel put in great work and effort throughout the year. They will no doubt bounce back with even more determination for the 2022 season. Our Junior C team showed good work throughout the year also and reached a County Semi-Final where they were defeated by neighbours The Fenians. Many thanks again to team Selectors - Shane Pollard, Ramie Moriarty & Connor Martin. Our U15's super win over Ballyhale Shamrocks in the League Final was one of the highlights of the year. Club has introduced a new Winter player Development programme for 15 to 20 year olds. Club held a "La Spoirt" in August.

Bingo is a huge hit every Sunday. Split the Pot, Race to Croker & back and Piltown Tickets were very successful (5 members already winning in the Piltown draw).



## ERIN'S OWN

In a year where covid questionnaires were mentioned on every text prior to every match and training session it was our U13 team that truly ignited the passion in our club in 2021. After hard fought victories over James Stephen and John Lockes there was huge anticipation ahead of the final against Dicksboro. It is almost unheard of that the start of an under 13 game has to be delayed due to traffic congestion but such was the anticipation in this final. Yes, Erin's Own prevailed after extra time in a titanic match. However victory goes beyond medals and a cup. It provides the players with a real boost but it goes way beyond the players. Little boys and girls were enthralled with the game because they can relate to these players. They know them. They see them in school and at the ball wall. These little children now want to play in county finals and maybe this victory was a catalyst for the under 12 and 14 camogie and football victories that followed. Congrats to all involved.

A youthful looking Junior E team reached their county semi final and put up a good showing against Rower Inistioge in front of a partisan home crowd. At senior level results did not materialize in the league as one would have planned and senior status was preserved after a battle with the Rower Inistioge.

Our Junior team put in some good performances during the year and saw lots of games for players trying to lay claim for a senior selection. A relatively inexperienced minor team endured a tough league but in a fierce battle turned over Mullinavat in the championship first round before going out to eventual champions Danesfort. Our U15's fought well throughout the league and blooded a number of young players but had the misfortune of playing the hotly fancied James Stephens in the first round.

Congrats to all our club players at the various grades who had the honour of flying the Erin's Own flag at inter county level for Kilkenny. Leinster medals were won by Conor Fogarty, Conor Delaney & Ciarán Wallace at senior level and at minor level both Michael Brennan (2021) and Shane Coogan (2020).

As everyone involved in GAA clubs across the country knows fundraising took a hit in 2020 and 2021. However our club adapted and the biggest change was the Erin's Own Lotto being available online and it has proved a great success. We were fortunate to run Fantasy Cheltenham again 2021 which proved a real winner for the club and indeed all participating clubs, thanks to a hard working committee. The good news is plans for both Fantasy Cheltenham and the Kilkenny Outdoor Music Festival are well underway and all going well we are looking forward to a good 2022 and we appreciate all the support we get from our community.



U13 Presentation



## FENIANS

The club would like to take this opportunity to thank our members, supporters, club officers, club coaches, club selectors, and the support staff at all levels within the club for their excellent ongoing work this year. We would also like to thank our main sponsors Ray McCarthy Electrical and MW Hire Services for their continued support.

### Fundraising

The "Fenian Get Active" fundraiser which took place on the June Bank Holiday weekend, raised funds for Kilkenny Helping The Homeless and the club. Special thanks go to organisers Declan Brennan, Lorraine Costigan, Paddy McCormack and all who got active and donated.

Another highlight was the continuance of the Fenians Drive-in Bingo in the hurling field. Every Friday the club welcomes cars to the field raising much needed funds for the club. This fundraiser could not happen without the Trojan work of Marguerite Dermody and helpers.

A big thank you also to Billy Fitzpatrick and helpers for the continued success of the Fenians Golf Classic and to Lorraine Costigan and Jessie Brennan in obtaining various grants for the club.

### Intermediates

At intermediate level we welcomed a new manager Kevin Galvin with Owen Casey, James Carroll and Gerry Brennan. Great effort was put in by all, both on and off the field but, while results didn't turn out as we may have hoped you couldn't fault the effort of all involved. Despite huge effort in the league matches, unfortunately results did not go our way. The championship however saw great wins over Dunamaggin and St. Martin's, before losing out to St. Lachlainn's in the semi-final. The new management have put together a panel of players full of fighting Fenian spirit and have laid solid foundations as we look to the year ahead.

### Juniors

Fenians Junior C's built on the foundations of 2020 to go unbeaten in league in championship in 2021. After a strong league campaign Fenians took on Piltown in the league final in Danesfort winning out on a score line of 2-11 to 0-17. The championship saw good wins over Ballyhale Shamrocks, Graignamanagh and Emeralds before once again taking on Piltown in the final. After a close fought game a late goal from Kevin Power saw the Fenians win out 1-14 to 1-12. Many thanks must go to Ger Henderson, Declan Garrett and Neil Tynan for their work with the juniors over the years and great to see it paying off. Well done to all involved.

### Juvenile

With many of our minor panel taking part in the Intermediate training sessions they brought this experience to the fore when competing in the U-17 campaign. With some excellent prospects for the future in their ranks they fought hard in all games putting in some great performances and remaining competitive throughout. Thanks to manager David Ryan and selectors.

Our U-15s, had a great year ending as County Champions. Wins over Ballyhale Shamrocks, Bennettsbridge, Sliieverue and Dicksboro, saw them have a terrific victory over Barrow Rangers in the county final winning on a score line of 5-10 to 4-06. Thanks to manager Fintan Garrett and selectors.

Great work continues with younger age groups in the club with the field full of kids at each training session. There was great excitement for the primary school children with the creation of the Parish Street Leagues managed by minor hurlers from the club. A special thanks to Ann Marie Ryall, Paul Phelan, Fintan Garrett, Oliver Sharkey and all the coaches and mentors who helped out throughout the year.

### Obituaries

On a sad note the club lost some loyal supporters throughout the year, most recently Pat Murphy who played right half back on the famous Fenians team of the 1970's. The club would like to offer our sympathies and prayers to all the families of the bereaved.



## GALMOY

After the trials and tribulations of 2020, Galmoy GAA Club, like all other clubs, approached the 2021 season with great hope. With our AGM held online for the first occasion ever, it was indeed a time of great change. The season began with our Junior team management of PJ Delaney, Cathal Delahunt and Michael Brennan continuing for their second year in charge. This time however the early season training was done by the players in their own time with management keeping tabs on all the training via online feedback. It was different, but the lads were well ready when the eventual return to the fields came. Indeed, the playing year began positively with a win over Mooncoin in Galmoy on June 17th. Little did we know it at the time, but that same Mooncoin outfit would bring our adult playing year to a close on October 9th, when after a super game of hurling, Galmoy came from eight points behind to force that championship quarter final to extra time. Unfortunately, the southerners prevailed in added time but not until they had survived a huge challenge from Galmoy. Our Junior C Team also had a very active season with some exciting tussles against Emeralds, Threecastles, Fenians and Windgap before just going under to Piltown on a wet Saturday night on August 14th in Piltown. This team was managed by Phil Brennan, Robert Delaney and Jerry Drennan. Off the field, the club held a very successful Fantasy Cheltenham forecast competition in March. Our first ever Golf Classic had been planned for mid May, but having been rescheduled to September 4th, it turned out to be a massive success. Galmoy GAA Club are very grateful to all the local businesses who supported our maiden venture through sponsorship and indeed to all those who took part in the Classic, as well of course to Rathdowney Golf Club for hosting the competition. The 180 meals served on the day were also beautifully presented. Our annual participation in the Kilkenny Hurler's Co-Op Draw, coming shortly after the Golf Classic, was also excellently supported with the club selling 166 tickets. We had two winners over the course of the five draws, with Gavin Doherty Levalley winning €5,000 in Draw Number 2 while Arthur Hynes Rock Road also won €600 in Draw Number 4.

**Representative:** Many of our younger players represented Galmoy GAA beyond the reaches of our own parish. David Sherman & Billy Drennan featured on the 2020 Kilkenny Minor Hurling Panel, with Drennan scoring 1-6 in the All Ireland Final loss to Galway, while both Sherman and Callum Lonergan were members of the 2021 Kilkenny Minor Squad that won the Leinster Final. It was indeed a great honour to see three players from our small parish wear the Kilkenny Minor colours this year. Billy Drennan also played with Kilkenny U-20s.

In Kilkenny underage squads, Galmoy GAA were represented by Colman Moloney and Niall Drennan at U-15 level, PJ Delaney and Fiann Lonergan at U-14 Squads and Jack O'Dwyer and Ryan Whelan in the U-13 Squad sessions.

Our underage players also saw plenty of action throughout the summer. Our amalgamated teams continue to provide much needed game time for our teenage players and all of our Juvenile players lined out with Galmoy/Windgap squads at every level from U-21 down to U-13. This amalgamation, which began in 2006, has proved to have been a life saver for our club at a time when we are unable to field teams on our own strength. Further down, our U-11s and U-9s had many outings throughout the year with Stephen Murphy, David Delaney, Phil Brennan and Joe Ryan looking after these squads. Our U-7s, trained by Jerry Drennan, most of whom are U-6, also trained well throughout the season and played some good friendlies with Tullaroan, Emeralds(twice) and Rathdowney/Errill.



Galmoy Jun C's 2021



## GLENMORE

The Glenmore u13's competed in Roinn B and struggled during the league, losing all their matches. However they pulled off a stunning 1st round Championship victory in Larchfield, beating James Stephens B. They also competed well with St Martin's in the Quarter Final but eventually lost out.

The U15's competed in B also. After a satisfactory league campaign where they won 3 out of 7 matches, they had great Championship victories over Galmoy/Windgap away, and a comprehensive win over Graiguenamagh at home. After a brave effort they lost to eventual winners Dunnmaggin in the Semi Final. They represented Kilkenny with distinction in Croke Park for the Feile 50 year anniversary - beating Claddagh Rovers of Cork.

The U17's also competed in B. They had a very good league campaign, winning 4 out of 8 matches and running the opposition very close in 2 other games. A great 1st round win over a fancied Piltown team was followed by a Quarter Final defeat to a very strong Graigue-Ballycallan side. This is a young team with potential & we hope they continue to progress.

It was fantastic to see the club field a 3rd adult team for the first time in many years, giving every Adult player plenty of plenty of time on the pitch, which is what it's all about. Our Junior F's won 2 out of 3 league games, beat Blacks & Whites in the Championship Quarter Final & lost to eventual winners Dunnmaggin in the Semi Final.

Our Junior B team had a very good League Campaign, beating James Stephens, St Martins, Tullogher & losing to Freshford. In the championship we lost to the Boro after Extra Time & Freshford.

Our Intermediate Footballers lost the Covid-delayed 2020 County Final to Thomastown so the yearn for the return to Senior Status continues.

The Intermediate hurlers had League wins over Dunnmaggin, O'Loughlins & Danesfort. They qualified for the league final & lost to Thomastown. In the Championship we beat Dansefort in the Quarter Final & got revenge on Thomastown in the Semi Final with a hugely impressive performance. We eagerly await the final V Freshford.



Glenmore U17 team Slieverue Cup Finalists



## GRAIGNAMANAGH

2021 for large parts promised so much for our Junior's and despite a very promising showing in the league format, we ultimately came up short against Emeralds in the Championship 1st Round losing out agonizingly after extra time. Our Junior C team bowed out at the 1/4 Final stage to the eventual champions Fenians. At the time of writing our U19s are in a County Semi Final against Dicksboro B and hopefully our U21s can put up a strong showing in their Championship later. During the year the players organised a very successful car wash fundraiser which was a great group effort and a bit of fun too. We also ran our annual and very successful last man standing competition on the GAA Hurling Championship & thanks to all who supported and organised the competition. During the summer we also set up our online Club shop with O'Neills Sports for all club merchandise.

For the Graignamanagh Juvenile Club, 2021 will be considered a year which saw the implementation of a number of initiatives, it is hoped the benefits of which will be seen in future years.

Playing numbers were at an all-time high which hopefully is a trend that will continue.

As for everyone, Covid resulted in a delayed start to club activities but this was made up with all ages playing right into the late Autumn.

On the playing front, while we would always hope for more success, we fielded solid teams in the U13, U15 and U17 grades which culminated with our Minors contesting the Roinn C County Final which unfortunately didn't go our way on the day.

Football was combined with hurling in the late summer which resulted in a great win in the Feile Div 3 County Final.

At the younger age levels, we had great numbers playing at U11, U9 and U7 with this year seeing the establishment of an U5 hurling nursery, which proved to be a great success.

We have players that acquitted themselves well in County Development Squads from U13 to U17. This culminated with a strong showing by Ted Dunne on the Kilkenny Minor Team. 2021 saw closer links developed between the Club, Duiske College Secondary School and the Boys Primary School which has great potential for club development on the playing front.



Pictured at the presentation of Club training gear to the junior hurlers were:-  
Catriona & Michael Doran Supervalue, Tommy Duggan, Pierce Blanchfield,  
Sean Cahill, Seamus, Ian & Sam Kavanagh, Jamie McGrath-Graignamanagh  
Tyres & Paul Keating.



## GRAIGUE BALLYCALLAN

It has been a very busy year both on and off the field. A special mention to our Junior footballers on winning their championship, our Under 15 Feile winning team and our Minor League winners. Our Under 13 team contested the County Final but were unfortunately defeated by a strong Young Irelands.

Off the field saw our Development plans come to fruition. Our fully lit walkway has been tarmacked and our Gym and new social area will be completed by year end thus ensuring the facilities in Tom Ryall Park will benefit the whole community for years to come.

All this development comes at a cost. To that end we in Graigue Ballycallan GAA Club are fortunate to have enthusiastic volunteers who work tirelessly to fundraise each year. In challenging times our forecast competition which is supported by the GAA community throughout the county and beyond was an enormous success. Special mention must go to our Hurlers Co-Op Draw committee, the adult players with their car wash initiative and of course our Timber committee who ensured everybody will be warm this winter because of the generosity of all who donated trailer loads of timber.

2021 saw the relaunch of our Local Lotto. To date over 380 members have signed up to play our Lotto each week. Thanks must go to each of them along with our 50 promoters and Lotto committee. Once again, we were delighted to have Ballykeefe Distillery on board as our adult club sponsor and we greatly appreciate their support.

Enormous thanks must go to the forty mentors, first aiders and Covid Officers that gave of their time and expertise to our 185 juvenile players this year. We would also like to thank all of the mentors, strength and conditioning coaches, first aiders and physios that ensured we had more adult players take to the field this year than at any other point over the last twenty years. Tom Ryall Park is one of the finest Club grounds in the country and that is because of the countless hours of care and attention provided by Jack, Johnny and Gussy Ronan. Here's to 2022 GBC ABÚ



All hands on the rakes during development work in 2021



## JAMES STEPHENS

Feile na Gael was celebrating its fiftieth year and it returned to its place of origin in Thurles. Seven times Champions James Stephens represented Kilkenny. In the first round we defeated Durlas Óg, then St. Vincents, Dublin. That put us through to the semi-final where after a great battle, Ballygunner proved a little too strong winning by 2-10 to 1-10.

### Juvenile Activities

Under the leadership of chairman Martin Phelan and Secretary Richie Cody, our juvenile academy continue to come up with some great ideas and the introduction of an U7/U8 street league over the Summer has proven to be a great success. With teams of mixed ability being picked, the kids are getting plenty of competitive action whilst having great fun. The large numbers of supportive parents/guardians in attendance at the games has been great to see and is much appreciated.

The U-10 panel travelled to Cork for the Brendan Walsh tournament run by Glen Rovers GAA Club. With teams from all over the country participating the young James Stephens players did exceptionally well, playing some outstanding hurling and winning through to the final where they had to give second best to the home club. The U11s participated in the Dicksboro Tournament and played very well too. The Seamus Fry / Andy Egan tournaments run by ourselves were very successful.

The policy of dividing the age groups into equal ability panels has proved to be very effective and was evident in the quality performances of the u13 and U15 panels. It is hoped to retain many more players and give them more meaningful competition as a result.

### Development

Following the success of last years online poker tournaments, the club will continue them through the winter. As we get ready to start the next phase of our development in Pairc Sheamuis Stiophain in December, the committee would like to thank all those who signed up to the latest fundraiser --- Bonus Ball. We several winners in the recent Hurlers Co-Op draws and thanks to the huge work done by Tom Keane, we are one of the main sellers. It is our most valuable annual fund-raiser and we thanks all the participants.

The Club would like to thank all mentors, members and friends who have helped us through this difficult time.

Finally we offer condolences to the O'Brien and Taylor families on the sad passing of Chunky and Mick. We also extend sympathies to Treasurer Aodán Ó Ruairc on the sad loss of his wife Ann. RIP.



*Club President and Vice President Liam Tyrrell and Mick Moore taking light refreshments at Feile na Gael.*



## JOHN LOCKES

The continued development of our underage hurlers has been the big success of the year, and as the current bunch of young hurlers grow and develop, the future of the club is in safe hands.

It all starts at U7, with all boys developing their love for the game and improving their hurling skills throughout the year. Having fun is the main aim at this age, but there was also plenty of time to practice their newly learned skills in a number of challenge games.

The U9 hurlers also had a great year and winning the Mickey Kelly Trophy in Bennettsbridge was one of the highlights. They also reached the final of the Colm McGrath Shield in John Locke Park, with Danesfort unfortunately just edging it on the day. The highlight of a very successful year for our U11s was winning the Eoin Doyle Memorial Tournament in Ballyhale, and reaching the Final of the U11 Floodlight league, losing out narrowly to Danesfort.

The U13s produced some excellent performances in the league, with a particularly impressive semi-final win over Dicksboro resulting in the club's first Roinn A final in over a decade. Despite an excellent first half, three second half goals from the Village ultimately proved the difference in the final.

In the Championship, the U13 boys put in a fantastic performance in the semi-final against Erins Own and were extremely unlucky to lose out by a single point in a strongly contested battle.

The season ended with success in the U12 Colm Nolan tournament, and victory in the Buffers Alley U13 Tournament on the same day. The 13 aside U13 team narrowly missed out on a place in the league final, but had a great run in the Championship, beating Cloneen, Gowran, and Rower-Inistioge, before defeat to Bennettsbridge in the semi-final.

After a very strong league campaign, the U15s unfortunately fell at the first hurdle in the championship with a disappointing first round defeat to Graignamanagh. The highlight of the season was winning the Davy Kelly memorial tournament in John Locke Park. They beat Ballyhale, Carrickshock, Thomastown and Tullogher-Rosbercon, before beating Mooncoin in the final. Robbie Jackman and Danny Carey (U14) and Michael Lynch, Harry Madigan and Ryan Donovan Cooke (U15) had the honour of lining out for their county team.

This year's minor panel had a wonderful league campaign winning all three matches that they played in the group stage against Barrow Rangers, Naomh Brid and Dicksboro. They were eventually beaten in the league semi-final by a strong St. Patrick's team. The championship ended in defeat to eventual winners Barrow Rangers. All players worked hard and progressed well throughout the year with Tomas Roche representing Kilkenny at U16 level.



*John Lockes U11 Hurlers who won the Eoin Doyle Memorial Tournament in Ballyhale*



*John Lockes U15 Hurlers who won the Davy Kelly Memorial Tournament in John Lockes Park*



## KILMACOW

2021 saw a continuing trend of rising numbers in our Juvenile ranks, and with that an increase in the number of coaches available in the club, which is great to see. Our second pitch, opening in 2022, saw goalposts installed and is ready for this new crop of talented hurlers.

A club is nothing without its volunteers and in 2021 we lost a stalwart of the club in the late Jim Phelan. Jim was involved in the club at every possible level, and will be remembered by all in Kilmacow. The club extends its sympathies to all club members who suffered bereavements this year.

A common feature this year was how all our teams, from adult to juvenile, gave absolutely everything for the jersey in their respective championships, and whilst 2021 was not a year with an abundance of trophies to show for our endeavours, we look forward to redoubling our efforts in 2022.

A special thanks to all our sponsors for their support this year and to all club members who supported our fundraising efforts, in particular in the Hurlers Co-op Draw and our Development Fund Syndicate.

There is continuous work on the new pitch during the year. Special thanks to all members and players who continue to help in improving the facilities at the Club. Further plans will be announced in 2022.

We congratulate James Walsh and Liam Lacey who represented Kilkenny at minor level in the 2021 and 2020 minor panels.

Finally, thank you to all our coaches and parents for their time looking after all our club players, especially in another year blighted by a pandemic. Your dedication to our young players is what makes the club tick and all at Kilmacow Hurling & Football Club thank you for your commitment.





## LISDOWNNEY



After a near perfect 2020, our adult teams knew they would be up against it in 2021. However, the move from Intermediate to Senior and the move from Junior A to Junior can be classified as successful. Although perhaps not achieving all their goals, both the senior and junior teams gave a good account of themselves at their new grades. The seniors put in a solid league campaign, and only for a puck of the ball in every match this year, could have come out with multiple wins. With 2 draws and a narrow loss to Tullaroan, James Stephens and Bennettsbridge respectively, Lisdowney drew Dicksboro in the 1st round of the championship. A gallant effort was made to draw back a 9 point deficit at the second water break, however the lads came up just short, losing by the minimum. A fine performance in the relegation semi final against Rower Inistioge ensured senior

status for next year.

Following an up and down league campaign, the junior team pulled it all together for the 1st round of the championship, beating a physical Erins Own side. That progressed them to the section B semi final where they lost out to eventual winners James Stephens by 5 points.

The Junior E team came up just short as well this year. After blowing aside almost all the competition en route to the final, the lads lost out to an experienced Rower Inistioge by just a point.

After reaching the league final, our minors couldn't repeat the feat come championship with their progress halted by a Graiguenamagh side with some excellent hurlers. Some great progress was made throughout the year however, with the team bettering all their previous league and championship runs up through the ages.

The club would like to give a special thanks to our senior team and club sponsors Proficient Engineering Ltd. as well as our junior team sponsors Harry Hayes Electrical Services.

A special mention also to all our mentors, committee members, players and the wider community who volunteered and supported the club during the year.



*Ciaran Carroll gets the better of Shane Walsh (Tullaroan) in the SH League*

## MOONCOIN



The beginning of 2021 started as the previous year ended, with a lockdown. Training ceased and our club facilities were once again off limits. However, it was in this time of adversity, that Mooncoin GAA club really came to fore within the community it serves. As they did in the first lockdown, members of the club delivered groceries and provisions to those who were isolating in the parish. As the spring gave way to summer, with the help of vaccines, all our teams - from juvenile, to adult, to camogie - got back to what they did best, returning to collective training.

Our Junior A team won the Junior A Championship against Dunnamaggin in UPMC Nowlan Park. Having been down by three points at halftime, a magnificent team effort saw them come out on top on a score line of; Mooncoin 0-21, Dunnamaggin 1-16. Captain on the day, Conor Brophy, received the cup on behalf of the team on the steps of Ardán Breathnach.

Things only got better for the club when our Junior team got all the way to JJ Kavanagh and Sons Junior League final. Unfortunately, it wasn't their day against Windgap, but in the Junior Championship, the team went all the way to the county final. They defeated Galmoy (after extra time), Blacks and Whites, and Sliieverue along the way. They really did save the best for last. Mooncoin showed grit, passion and a fighting spirit to overcome Tullogher-Rosbercon in an epic final battle. A joint homecoming parade through the village with the victorious camogie champions, meant it was a weekend that will long be remembered in the club.

Off the field of play, the club participated for the first time in the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan (sponsored locally by Tommy Kielthy). It gave a lovely floral display in the summer and autumn, especially for those using the club's walkway, along with helping the bees of course!

Saturday, 9 October 2021, was a historic day for our club. Hundreds of people gathered to witness the unveiling of the Drug Walsh statue at the club's new entrance on Main Street. The honours were done by none other than GAA President, Larry McCarthy. Also in attendance were relatives of Drug Walsh and the sculptor of the beautiful piece of art, Seamus Connolly. None of the day's events would have been possible without the Mooncoin GAA Supporters Club of Australia, led by Larry Delahunt, Séamus Delahunt and Billy Kinsella, who funded the project in its entirety.

Richard 'Drug' Walsh (1877-1958) was winner of seven All-Ireland hurling medals and is still the only man to captain Kilkenny to All-Ireland victory on three occasions (1907, 1909 and 1913). He also helped train Laois to All Ireland victory in 1915 and trained Waterford in 1926.

He picked up his famous nickname in primary school when the class were singing the song 'Clare's Dragoons'. His friends nicknamed him 'Droog', because of his mispronunciation of the word 'Dragoons'. As he got older, his 'Droog' nickname adapted into 'Drug'.



*GAA President Larry McCarthy, Liam and Breda Carbery, Rene Walsh, Mary Delahunt, Eily Delahunt, Marty and Martin Delahunt, at the unveiling of the Drug Walsh Statue - Oct 2021*

## MUCKALEE GFC



In what was a very quiet year on the playing front and the decision to play the Championship on a knockout basis meant that Muckalee were out after a first round loss to Railyard. Our u13 and u15 footballers are still waiting on their games best of luck to them.



Martin Morrissey, who was a great servant to the club, passed away this year. Martin was Chairman from 1970 to 74 and had a second term from 1977 to 83. An avid Dicksboro fan, he never forgot his roots in Muckalee. On the playing front he won Senior and 3 Juniors at football and a Junior Hurling with Coon, over a long career.

Special thanks to team sponsor Jim Bolger and to who all who helped in any way during the year.

The Club would like to extend sympathies to all club members who suffered bereavements during the year.



*Muckalee SF Team 2021  
Back: James Maher, Mark Coady, John Joe Kelly, James Carrigan, Luke Burke, Ollie Walsh, Darragh Coughlan, Justin Manning, Brian Coady, Luke Maher, Stephen Murphy, Ciaran FitzPatrick, Thomas Lawlor, Paddy Nolan, David Walsh.  
Front: Francis McShea, Conor Ógáin, Aidan Ógáin, Conor Mulhall, Colm Kealy, Sean Maher, Robert Reade, Robert Shore, John Maher, Darragh Quinlan, Shane Kinsella.*



## MULLINAVAT



Mullinavat became Kilkenny senior football champions 2020 with a comprehensive win over championship newcomers Mooncoin in the delayed final at UPMC Nowlan Park on Saturday June 19, 2021.

We are proud of our recent Gaelic football record within the club, and this win completed a fourth title win in a row. As 2019 Leinster intermediate finalists we will continue to seriously compete in the big ball code.

### Senior Hurling.

Two wins and a draw in the shortened league stages got us to the Shield Final, where we lost to James Stephens.

In the championship, each year since we went up we have reached the quarterfinals. It was the same in 2021 where we were defeated by a stronger O' Laughlin Gaels outfit. Next year we compete in Senior for the eighth year in a row, our best ever sequence in the grade.

### Juvenile Section.

U17 This team was sponsored by KD Smart Energy Ltd. They were mentored by Sean Walsh, Derek Dungan, Jeanette Fitzpatrick and Jamie Power. They had mixed fortunes in the league where they were always competitive. They were unlucky throughout the season with guys picking up injuries. The panel was very important even though small in number every member had to play their part, majority of games were played with a small or empty bench. The team were knocked out of the Championship in the first round by Erins Own in a game where bad luck on the day came against them.



U15s were managed by Andrew Duggan, Deirdre Dempsey, Seamus O Donovan, Jamie Power with Centra Mullinavat as sponsors. The team were competitive in the league this year finishing mid table with 3 wins, 3 defeats and a draw. They were drawn to play the league winners Emeralds in Urlingford in first round of the Championship and this was where the hurling ended for the year for them. We are currently competing in the Gaelic football competition.

U13 Team were sponsored by Brooklyn Restaurant Ardkeen. This team were mentored by Paddy Rohan, PJ Aylward and Stephen O'Shea. These boys had a great year of hurling. They were beaten by Kilmacow in the league final played in Carrigeen and unfortunately were beaten again in the Championship final by Barrow Rangers in Ballyhale. But finally their third final of the year we got the victory over tournament hosts Tullogher in the Richie Young tournament.

Our u11 team this year were mentored by Willie Kelly, PJ Aylward & Sean Hogan. They had a good year of hurling also playing various blitzes and challenge games in Kilkenny and Waterford. They finished the year off with a good win over go-games blitz hosts Tullaroan.

This year's u9 group were mentored by Dinny Butler, Alex Walsh, Joseph Kearns & John Dunphy. Again this group had a busy year playing numerous blitzes and Challenge games and group outings throughout the year. One of the highlights of the year was a trip to Nowlan Park for the stadium tour and also each team member received a personal photo book of their hurling exploits over the year. Thanks to Breda Maddock for her hard work with this.

Last but not least was our U7 and Nursery group. This was by far our biggest group this year with approx 60 boys and girls taking part. The group was mentored by Mark O'Brien, Brian Kenneally, Willie Coogan, Richie Delahunt, Katie Fitzpatrick, Sinead Grace Mansfield, Damien Reade, Michelle Hannan, Joanne Walsh, Dave Courtney and many other helpers throughout the year. This group had a great introduction to our sports with fun filled sessions throughout. The final session of the year being the most memorable with a brilliant sports and activity day in the hurling field where each child received a medal and certificate of completion which were presented by some of the star members of our adult Hurling and Camogie teams. Special thanks to our club coaching coordinator Alex Walsh for the setting up of all the activities on the day.

**Development:** Our second pitch, walkway and floodlights is now at the final planning stage.

**Club History Book:** Almost there! Any further material like old programmes, photos et cetera, please contact PRO johnpowerkk@gmail.com or any committee member.

## O'LOUGHLIN GAELS



### Opening Ceremony September 25th

The local community surrounding St. Johns Park were all invited to celebrate another milestone in the clubs development. Over the last 18 months volunteers at the city club pulled together to extend and refurbish its dressing rooms to accommodate increasing numbers of players and panels playing Gaelic Games there. Joined to mark the occasion were City councillors Andrew McGuinness, Eugene McGuinness and Joe Malone, John McGuinness TD, Kilkenny GAA county board secretary Conor Denieffe while Fr Dan Carroll provided the blessing of the dressing rooms and all its users. The celebrations began with the clubs u9s

and u10s boys and girls playing out their street leagues finals over an 8 game blitz on the front pitch. This was a culmination of several weekends of street leagues in which over 100 young players were involved. The huge work by mentors was commended by Juvenile Chairman Brian Fox as he addressed the large gathering at the end of the games. Chairman Johnny Holohan welcomed all members and guests as he outlined the superb work that has gone on at the club since its foundation in 1969, and that this was just the latest addition to what is still a beacon in the St. Johns Parish community. He acknowledged the work of all volunteers headed by development chairman Sean Hogan. He invited Breda Leydon, wife of the late Lou Leydon, to cut the ribbon and officially open the dressing rooms. Flanked by the Leydon family, Breda proudly did the honours and hundreds of children flooded the rooms for their first glance ..and dream about big days getting ready with their teams in future years.

The evening continued with a camogie / hurlers exhibition match that saw the winning captain Joe Leydon accept the Leydon Cup from camogie Chairwoman Joan Galwey. Hot dogs and treats were provided by the ladies committee and all present were invited to the new refurbished lounge and balcony for an evening of further celebration.

Congratulations to everyone at O'Loughlin Gaels GAA & Camogie ...a bright future is secured.



Opening Ceremony Group

## PILTOWN



Once Covid 19 restrictions eased and the country returned to some bit of normality our pitches were a hub of activity every evening. We welcomed our u5 beginners into the club in early May to start their hurling careers . All their learnings were put to the test when they faced Kilmacow to finish the year.

Our u6 to u9s trained hard and enjoyed their challenge games.

Our u11s continued their progression and many of this team won the leinster community games.

It was great to have the numbers to field 2 teams a both u13 and u15 grades to ensure all the lads

got game time.

Our 2 u13s exited the championship at the hands of a strong Graigballycallan and Bennettsbridge

Pride of place for 2021 goes to our u15 squad who won the B league and unfortunately lost out narrowly to Dunnamaggin in the county final.

Minors bowed out of Championship to Glenmore .

A huge thanks to all players coaches and mentors for their efforts throughout the year.

2021 saw us field 3 adult teams for the first time. Nearly 60 players wore the Piltown jersey.

Our Junior C and Junior F teams both lost their respective county finals by a puck of the ball.

Our Junior panel won the all county league and junior hurling league titles . However, despite turning around a 13 point deficit, Slieverue beat us in the quarter final of the Junior Championship.

Again thanks to all players , coaches and anyone who helped the club in 2021.



Piltown Captain receives U15B League trophy from  
Bord na nÓg Chairman, Willie Dempsey.



## ROWER INISTIOGE



### FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT

Together the communities of the Rower and Inistioge have funded and fully paid for the development of Cois Abhann Centre and the Rower Pitch & Walkway from our Development Draw and other fund-raising activities.

Rower-Inistioge GAA Club would like to thank all those who have supported the Development Draw and the many promoters who sell tickets.

### DEVELOPMENT PLANS 2021

Rower-Inistioge GAA Club and Inistioge Community Council are asking for your continued support to fund the following development projects for 2021/2022:

All Weather Pitch: Planning permission has been granted for the construction of an all-weather synthetic playing surface and ball wall with perimeter fencing and floodlighting at the GAA grounds in The Rower.

Re-Development of Buildings: We have plans to re-develop the buildings adjacent to Cois Abhann providing a valuable resource to the Club & Community.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY EDDIE: Rower-Inistioge's most famous son, Eddie Keher, celebrated his 80th birthday. Eddie won 6 All-Ireland Senior titles, captaining the team in 1969. He won 5 All Star awards and most importantly of all, a Senior Club title with Rower-Inistioge in 1968. Everyone in the Club wishes him health and happiness.

Unfortunately, we had a very disappointing senior hurling campaign which ultimately resulted in relegation when we lost to Erin's Own. We will hurl intermediate in 2022 for the first time since 2013. Time to regroup and come back stronger in 2022!

Our Juniors also had a difficult year losing out to Ballyhale Shamrocks in the championship.

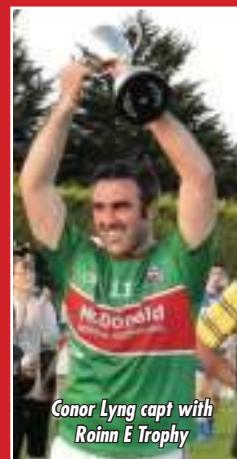
One of the highlights of the year was our Junior E panel overcoming Lismore to win the County Final.

The Minors had a year of mixed results and overcame Emeralds in the first round of the Roinn B championship with a last gasp goal but lost out to a very strong Dunnamaggin outfit.

Our U15's put disappointing league form behind them to win the Division 3 Féile. They performed brilliantly when beating St. Lachtain's in the Roinn B championship before losing to James Stephens.

The U13's were a model of consistency in Roinn A1 with their biggest defeat being 4 points. They had a fantastic win against neighbours Thomastown in the championship before losing a very tight semi-final to eventual County Final winners Young Irelands.

We are delighted to have good numbers hurling for our U7's, U9's and U11's. With an easing in Covid restrictions they were able to participate in numerous blitzes and tournaments. The U10's enjoyed success in the Aylward Cup.



**Conor Lyng capt with  
Roinn E Trophy**



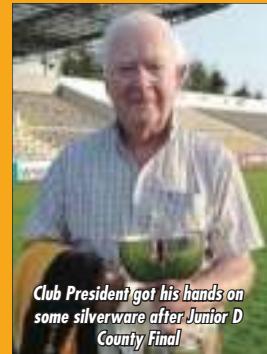
## SLIEVERUE

Slieverue had a mixed bag at underage and adult this year. The Junior team got to the County Semi Final where they were defeated by a strong Mooncoin team. The Junior D team had a fantastic day in Nowlan Park where they won the County final defeating Blacks & Whites in the decider. It was the first bit of adult silverware in a very long time. Jamie O'Brien team captain said "It was a proud moment

for him to be accepting a cup in Nowlan Park".

We fielded teams from U5 to Minor this year, again we didn't have enough players for minor and joined up with Blacks & Whites to participate in the League. Our U15s did very well in the Championship getting to the Quarter Final where a very strong Fenians team beat us. Our U13s did well but came up against some very strong opposition and we shipped some heavy beatings. The Pandemic again caused us to cancel the Eamonn O'Donovan tournament for the second year running, hopefully in 2022 it will be able to be played again. After a decade of been Chairman Ger Frisby has decided to step down this year. His leadership off the field will be a huge loss to the club and it will be hard to replace that knowledge and experience but our biggest loss this year will be of club Secretary Mary Rockett who is vacating the position after 30 years. Mary has been the soul of the GAA club for many a year and her enthusiasm and professionalism will be a major loss to the club and to all of our members. We wish both Ger and Mary the very best of luck in their future endeavours and hope they enjoy their rest.

We congratulate Dick Rockett who was in Nowlan Park in July to receive his commemorative jersey that was been launched to honour all of the Kilkenny All Ireland hurling winners. It was a great achievement for the oldest living hurler to win an All Ireland medal at 90 years young.



**Club President got his hands on  
some silverware after Junior D  
County Final**



**Serious Chomping!  
Our U7 Team enjoying ice cream after playing Cuskinstown.**



**Get on to Old Santy!**

## 25 YEARS OLD!

**Now in its twenty fifth year of publication, A Season of Sundays 2021 embraces the very heart and soul of Ireland's national games as captured by the award winning team of photographers at Sportsfile. With text by Alan Milton, it is a treasured record of the 2021 GAA season to be savoured and enjoyed by players, spectators and enthusiasts everywhere. Please note: This book will be available for dispatch from November 1**



### Intermediate

At the time of sending this, our intermediate hurlers are in the Intermediate County final. Our team went through the league with a draw, win and a loss. The season against Young Irelands where we finished all square. Next up was Conahy Shamrocks where unfortunately we were on the losing side. Our last league game against neighbours Fenians saw our first victory of the season. On to championship and a stiff test against John Lockes with our team running out winners which qualified us for the quarter final. Opponents on this occasion were Carrickshock where a strong last quarter saw us run out three point winners in the end. Fenians were the opponents in the semi-final played in tough conditions in Nowlan Park with our team pulling away in the end on a score line of 2.12 to 0.10

### Junior B

Our junior B team had a very strong start to their league campaign winning three of four league games, which left them top of the standings and advancing to league final vs Bennettsbridge. Unfortunately, on this occasion we missed out on the day to a strong Bennettsbridge team. Championship action soon followed with neighbours Conahy up first where held off a late attack to win out by one point. The reward was a quarter final spot against Glenmore where we won by 5 points. In the semi final we met Dicksboro and sadly for our team the season came to an end losing out to a strong Dicksboro team by 8 points. Thanks to all the players and management team of JJ Donnelly, Joe Dermody and Tommy Kennedy.

### Junior F

For 2021 a third team was put in which was a great chance for players to get some added game time. Three wins from three in the group stages led our team to the League final where a stronger Tullogher Rosbercon team beat us. Sadly for our Junior F team the championship run was not as successful as Blacks and Whites beat us in the opening round. Thanks to the management team of Jim Costello, JP Kavanagh, Davy Martin and John Landers.

### Philip Kinnane / Colin McGree memorial tournament.

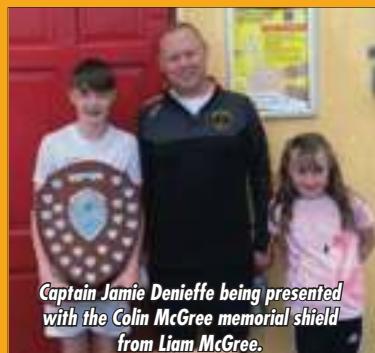
Due to the impact of covid 19 the Philip Kinnane / Colin McGree memorial tournament were postponed for 2020 and crossed over into 2021. Two great matches were held to mark the events. In the Colin McGree memorial, shield final victory today went to Jamie Denieffe's team.

In the Philip Kinnane memorial, cup final victory on this occasion went to Cian Donnelly and his team.

Thank you to all players, managers and organiser of these great competitions

We would again like to thank the McGree and Kinnane families for their continued support.

## ST LACHTAIN'S



*Captain Jamie Denieffe being presented with the Colin McGree memorial shield from Liam McGree.*



*Captain Cian Donnelly being presented with the Philip Kinnane Cup.*



2021 was again impacted by Covid 19 that resulted in a delayed start to the season for all teams in the club. The pandemic has continued to show the importance of the GAA in all local communities including our own. On the field of play our Intermediate team had a good league campaign winning their 3 games before losing to Carrickshock in the league shield final. This resulted in a championship quarter final against The Fenians which they very disappointingly lost by the narrowest of margins. Our two Junior teams did not make it to the business end of the championship in 2021 but we are hopeful that with more young players coming through from underage this will be improved upon in 2022.

At Bord na nÓg level all our underage teams continued to show good development and were all very competitive in their respective leagues and championships.

Our summer camp again took place in 2021 with 2 separate weeks organised again by John Mull. These were again a great success and enjoyed by all the youngsters who participated. Thanks to John and his team of helpers who ran the camp and to anyone who assisted in any way.

Thanks to all Players, Managers, Mentors, Officers, Field volunteers, Members and Supporters for their efforts throughout the year. Condolences to all families in the community who have lost loved ones during the year. Hopefully 2022 will get us back to a normal GAA season so that training and games can proceed as per pre-covid.

## ST MARTIN'S



*U11 Team after winning Fr Delaney Tournament*



St Patricks Ballyragget had quite a successful year at underage hurling. After previously winning the Roinn C at U13 level in 2019, this seasons team stepped up a gear to Roinn B. They progressed well in the league learning from both their wins and their losses and after suffering injuries and illnesses they regrouped stronger to take the Championship by storm. After beating Dicksboro, then neighbours Lisdowney in the nail biting semi-final, they faced Tullogher/Rosbercon in the County Final as underdogs.

Having previously met Tullogher/Rosbercon in the league, they had already proved tough competition but St. Patricks had a point to prove and came out all guns blazing. Taking the match to extra time, they played superbly well and kept spectators on the edge of their seats. A thoroughly enjoyable final for any hurling fan and both teams fought as good as any senior panel in the county. The skills on display were spectacular and clever standard of play was evident to see on both sides. St. Patricks came out on top by a margin of two points and a very deserving win for this young team. The parish and club were thrilled for this bunch of players and were very proud of their achievement. A panel of 25, 18 of which will move up to next years U15s for the club while the rest have another year at U13s but the experience they have gained this season will stand to both teams for the coming season.

Meanwhile, St Patricks Minor team had success in their Roinn C League campaign. They played superbly throughout the league, not losing a single match and coming up against a tough Lisdowney side in the final. Both teams were strong and a winner could not have been predicted, even at the half time whistle. Lisdowney were leading by four points at half time but St. Patricks had an extra gear and put four goals past a shocked Lisdowney in the second half, emerging as Roinn C League Champions. The majority of this team have a second year ahead of them at minor level so next season should prove to be an exciting year for this age group.

A great year for St. Patricks GAA at underage level. Increasing numbers at all age levels and success for the U13s and the Minors means the future is bright for the club. We look forward to see what 2022 holds for these superstars.

## ST PATRICK'S





## THOMASTOWN



Another busy year for Thomastown GAA Club and all those involved from Juvenile to adult level. We were extremely lucky to have fielded 3 adult teams. The addition of our Junior E team saw some comebacks being made by plenty of brilliant hurlers. Their commitment and dedication from the get go was an absolute joy to watch. Unfortunately our Junior E's lost out in the championship quarter final to a very strong Lisdowney team.

Our Junior A's had an excellent year. They got their year off to a terrific start and after many tough matches made it to the league final. The lads took on Mullinavat on a glorious sunny evening. They were victorious with a final score of 0:22 to 1:14. The team then progressed to the Championship Quarter final against Graigue Ballycallan and another win brought us to a County Semi-Final. They played a brilliant Dunnamaggin team who unfortunately ended all our dreams of getting to a Junior A County Final.

Under new management our Intermediates were ready to hit the ground running in a bid to reach another county final. Henry's arrival in Grennan brought a huge buzz to the community and the hurlers alike. The year began well when we won the Michael Lyng Motors Hyundai Division 2 League Final against Conahy. The hard work continued and the lads had a great league campaign. We met Glenmore in the League Final. We were league champions once again. The Quarter Final draw saw us take on O' Loughlins and allowed us to get the championship off to a great start. We were set to face Glenmore for a second time in the Semi-Final. A battle was had in UPMC Nowlan Park and unfortunately our dreams of reaching the county final for a third year in a row was cut short.

Although it wasn't to be, in the hurling this year, our footballers had an absolutely tremendous year winning out the Intermediate football championship.



Ned Kirwin Cpt winners Thomastown Intermediate Football Co Final



## THREECASTLES

2021 was another strange year for the GAA Community. We started the year in lockdown, again facing uncertainties as to whether this year's season would go ahead. There were question marks as to when the team could go back training and most importantly when will they be able to play the game they love.

Thankfully by early summer, it looked like there were brighter days ahead. Restrictions were starting to lift. People could gather and families could reunite. Sport could be played again. To an extent, life was almost returning to normal, albeit it was a new normal.

Then early in the summer, Threecastles had their first outing against Galway. It was a strange environment as only 100 spectators were allowed to attend. However it was great to see the league up and running, when not that long ago, it was uncertain whether matches could go ahead, let alone if supporters would be allowed to attend. It was an exciting day for the club as we won our first match of the season!

Slowly as the summer months continued, restrictions continued to be lifted, allowing more supporters to attend matches and support their club. It was truly great to see!

Unfortunately our season came to end in the middle of August, when we were beaten by the brilliant Emeralds. It was sad to see our club's campaign finish for the year, but nonetheless it was great that we were able to participate in the league and the championship.

On behalf of Threecastles GAA, we want to thank our players for this year's efforts. We know a lot of hard work went into all the training sessions and we look forward to seeing what is to come next year. We would also like to thank our management team for their hard work this year. We would also like to thank our supporters, who truly came out in their numbers (socially distant of course!) to support their club and their community.

Lastly Threecastles GAA, in partnership with the Kilkenny branch of Down Syndrome Ireland, would like to make the public aware that Plough thru the City will be returning to Kilkenny's streets this December. For updates please keep an eye on Plough thru the City's Facebook page.



Michael Eardly (Eardly Agricultural Services) who sponsored new training gear for the team with Eamonn Hennessy (left) and Eoin O'Donnell (right).



## TULLAROAN

2021 was a very satisfactory year for Tullaroan and especially the senior hurling team which reached the county senior semi-final for the first time since 2003. The league campaigned started with a 2-13 to 1-16 draw with Lisdowney in Nowlan Park on Sunday the 5th September. This was followed up with a good and hard fought victory over The Rower Inistioge, the following Saturday on a score of 2-15 to 0-18. The final game vs. Ballyhale Shamrocks on Sunday the 19th September was a tough afternoon for the team with the Shamrocks taking control early in the game and winning easily on a score line of 2-30 to 2-12. As it happened the 3 points garnered in the first 2 games was enough to see us finish 3rd place in the group and this brought about a 1st round clash with Erin's Own Castlecomer.

Tullaroan put in a great first half performance to take control of the game and were able to withstand a strong 'Comer second half to win by 5 points, 2-22 to 4-11. The quarter final was against Clara and was played on the 10th October in St. John's Park. After 60 minutes the match ended all square but after 20 minutes of extra time, Tullaroan won by 7 points on a score of 1-29 to 2-19.

A county semi-final awaited and O'Loughlin's were the opposition in Nowlan Park on the 24th October. After a strong, spirited performance, O'Loughlin's eventually prevailed on a score of 1-18 to 0-18.

Great credit is due to all players involved and the management team of Liam Keoghan, Jimmy Meagher, Niall Lacey, Robbie O'Flynn and Paul Doheny for their great efforts throughout the year.

The Junior A team had 4 league matches in 2021 and put in a very respectable performance, winning one match, drawing two and losing one. We beat O'Loughlin's, drew with Mullinavat and Dunnamaggin and suffered a defeat at the hands of Mooncoin. In the first round of the junior championship, we beat Young Irelands on a score line of 3-14 to 2-15 in a game played on the 31st July. The second round paired us against Dunnamaggin and this time Dunnamaggin won by 6 points, 3-15 to 2-12.

The minor team had a great run in the Championship this year, great victories over Kilmacow and St. Martin's brought them to a championship semi-final where they were beaten by Dunnamaggin after a great game. Congratulations to all involved in Bord na Oig and those managing teams from u-7 all the way up to minor.

Congratulations to all involved in representing Kilkenny during 2021. Padraig Walsh, Martin Keoghan and Tommy Walsh were on the Kilkenny senior team and panel, Tomás Dunne was on the Kilkenny u-20 panel and Gearoid Dunne was part of the Kilkenny minor panel for 2020 and 2021. On the Camogie front, Grace Walsh and Miriam Walsh were on the Kilkenny senior panel and Ciara Murphy was on the Kilkenny Intermediate panel that reached the All-Ireland final. Congratulations to all those and all those that were part of Kilkenny underage teams and squads.

The club would like to remember all those that passed away during the year: Declan Delaney, Joe Molloy, Chris Maher, Sheila Fitzgerald, Richie Butler, Aidan Slevin, Pierce Keoghan, Mary Dalton, Kathleen Purcell and Ellen Pollard.



Paul Buggy saves a penalty against Lisdowney



## TULLOGER ROSBERCON

One of the main priorities of the club have been off the field this year. The club are working hard on finalising plans to construct an additional full sized playing field adjacent to the club grounds. The land has now been purchased and is now owned by the club. These additional facilities will meet the growing demand from the various gaa teams that use the facilities and shall also be available for all the Community. During the Summer of 2021 the community worked together to raise funds for this development and this is ongoing. It is a great community effort and we look forward to constructing the field in 2022. The club would like to thank all who donated towards this development and those who helped in the fundraising efforts.

On the field the juvenile section had another great year. The U13 team won the league and got to the final of the U13 championship. The final went to extra time and in a closely fought battle they narrowly beaten on the day. This was still a great achievement and well done to the players and management on a great year.

Our minor team made history in 2021. In reaching a Roinn A minor County final this was a first for this small club. In a close fought battle they brought Dicksboro to the final minute and if the game continued a further 2 minutes they may well have pipped them at the post. Dicksboro ran out the winners by the narrowest of margins. This was an epic battle by all involved and the lads brought great pride to the club and we hope they will ply their trade in Intermediate in 2022.

The Junior team had ups and downs throughout the year but succeeded in reaching the Junior County final against our old rivals Mooncoin. Despite Mooncoin's victory on the day, we congratulate the team on a great year. The whole Community was behind them.

The club was well represented at County level in 2021. Walter Walsh continued as a mainstay of the Kilkenny Senior panel. Danny Glennon proved that he is one of the top young forwards in the county this year. Lar and Marty Murphy also represented Kilkenny and were both subs on the Kilkenny minor panel.



MH A Semi-final

JJ Ryan gets in his clearance challenged by Kyle Ryan



## WINDGAP

2021 was very much a progress year for Windgap with progress made on many fronts as follows:

- The delayed return to action at Junior Level saw action resume in May with league games for Junior and Junior D teams. At Junior D level, the league games saw new faces at this grade such as Sean Purcell, Sean Barron, Adam O'Shea, Karl McCoy and Jack Doyle and this team went on a good championship run in August with good wins over John Lockes and Cloneen before falling to Piltown at the semifinal stage. At Junior level, increased squad depth made this our strongest squad in many years and performances were very good both during the All County league and in the Junior League championship which saw the side record five victories including two against both of the eventual county finalists. Unfortunately, we were pipped in a tight first round championship game against Blacks & Whites but all can be proud of progress made in 2021 which augers well for future years.
- Our underage sides who are amalgamated in Roinn B with Galmoy from U13 to U21 performed well in the league sections; our minors recorded five victories from their eight league games which was impressive as many of the side not up to the age level, while our U15s and U13s recorded four victories in their league sections. Many of these players are obtained experience of county squads which again will be great experience for them going forward.
- Great work at all grades from U7 to U13 saw the sides complete many matches including Go Games events, and a highlight was the visit of the U11 side to Wexford on the 15th of August. This progress was helped by the contribution of Adrian Landy during school time in the months of May and June.
- Football activity commenced in November as the hurling season drew to a close while handball activity was very curtailed in 2021 with severe restrictions on this indoor sport. There was increased action towards the end of 2021 with the playing off of some U20 tournaments and here Emer Barron won an U15 softball All-Ireland while Conor & Shane Doyle represented Kilkenny in the Joe Maxwell tournament against Wexford.
- Some significant club development of the club facilities also took place in 2021 with the erection of new perimeter fencing, upgrade of showers and gym along with tarmacadam to the hurling wall area.
- Thanks to all club coaches, officials, players and supporters for the efforts to helping our club throughout what was a challenging year for all.



Bloodthirsty Windgap U11's 2021



## YOUNG IRELANDS

The Intermediates began the season with a draw against St. Lachtain's, before defeats by Thomastown & St. Martins concluded their League campaign .

A First Round Championship encounter against O'Loughlin Gaels awaited, and a storming 2nd Quarter saw the O'Loughlin's men take control as they won out 1-19 to 1-14.

A Relegation Semi-Final saw them lose to Dunnamaggan 0-17 to 2-9. The Relegation Final against John Lockes saw Gowran cement their Intermediate status with a 3-13 to 1-7 win .

MINORS : They won their opening game against eventual finalists, Tullogher-Rosbercon, but lost to Dicksboro, James Stephens, Bennettsbridge & Mt. Leinster Rangers, before the League was completed with a victory against O'Loughlin Gaels. The Championship pitted them against Dicksboro in a Quarter-Final, and the Boro ran out landslide winners.

U-15A: Their opening match at home to Naas saw them win narrowly, before a narrow defeat by James Stephens, followed by a win against Dicksboro. However, they suffered heavy defeats by Erin's Own, O'Loughlin Gaels & James Stephens, before concluding with victory against Dicksboro. In the Championship they narrowly to O'Loughlin Gaels.

U-15B: The Young Irelands U-15B Team began their campaign with victories over Mullinavat & St. Mullins, before losing to a very strong Fenians outfit. The Gowran Boys bounced back with victories against O'Loughlin Gaels, Blacks & Whites, Carlow Town/Seata, before concluding the Group Stages with a convincing victory against John Lockes of Collon.

Unfortunately for Young Irelands, the Callan Boys reversed the result in the first round of the Championship .

U-13: Pride of place has to go to the U-13s who completed the A1 League/Championship double. They were unfortunate to lose their opening game to Danesfort, but victories against Thomastown, Rower-Inistioge, Mooncoin, Piltown Graigue-Ballycallan & Dunnamaggan saw them set up a League Final showdown against Danesfort and the Gowran Boys gained revenge for their opening round loss to Danesfort.

They completed the double by defeating Danesfort, Rower-Inistioge & Graigue-Ballycallan to win the Championship.

U-13 13-a-Side: The 13-a-Side Team started off the season with a loss to Cloneen, before recording three straight victories against James Stephens C, Dicksboro C & St. Martins.

Unfortunately, defeats followed against Bennettsbridge, Noomh Eoin Myshall & Blacks & Whites, while also drawing against Rower-Inistioge. Another heavy defeat followed against Blacks & Whites in the Championship.

INTER-COUNTY: The following represented the County this year: - Michael Carey (Senior) who won a Leinster Senior Medal, Killian Carey, Patrick Langton & Conor Fitzpatrick (Minor) who were part of the Kilkenny Panel that won last year's (2020) Leinster Minor Final, while Killian Carey & Padraig Naddy were part of the Kilkenny Panel that won this year's Leinster Minor Final.

Michael Carey - Dad of Killian Carey - was part of Minor Management Team.

CLUB NEWS: Unsurprisingly, the ongoing Pandemic put paid to a host activities again this year, but it is hoped that normality will return next year.

The annual Golf Classic in July was a great success, while it was such a wonderful sight to see the Monday Night & Saturday Morning Training Sessions with great numbers turning out once restrictions began to ease.

This year marked the 25th anniversary of the Club's County Senior Title maiden triumph, but unfortunately due to the Covid Restrictions, they weren't able to mark the occasion.

However, it's hoped to have a Celebration night in 2022 with next year marking the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Club.



Josh Dempsey and Brian Cody (St Martin's) in a race for possession.

# **MEMORY LANE - 25 YEARS AGO!**



**O'LOUGHIN GAELS - KILKENNY INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPIONS 1996**

**BACK:** Derek Delaney, Derek Ralph, Jack Kinsella, Mick Nolan, Eugene Buckley, Barry Power, Michael Holohan, Derek Shelly, Davy Ronan, Keith McCormack, Andy Comerford, Sean Dowling, Mick Doyle, Benny Cleere, Alan Geoghegan, Sean Tyrrell.  
**FRONT:** Niall Lanigan, Donal O'Dwyer, Tony Doyle, Barry Daly, Philip Holohan, Brian Kelly, Rory Stevenson, Kevin Cleere, Paul Cleere, Johnny Holohan, John Dowling, Joe Daly.



**KILKENNY JUNIOR TEAM - ALL-IRELAND FINAUSTS 1996**

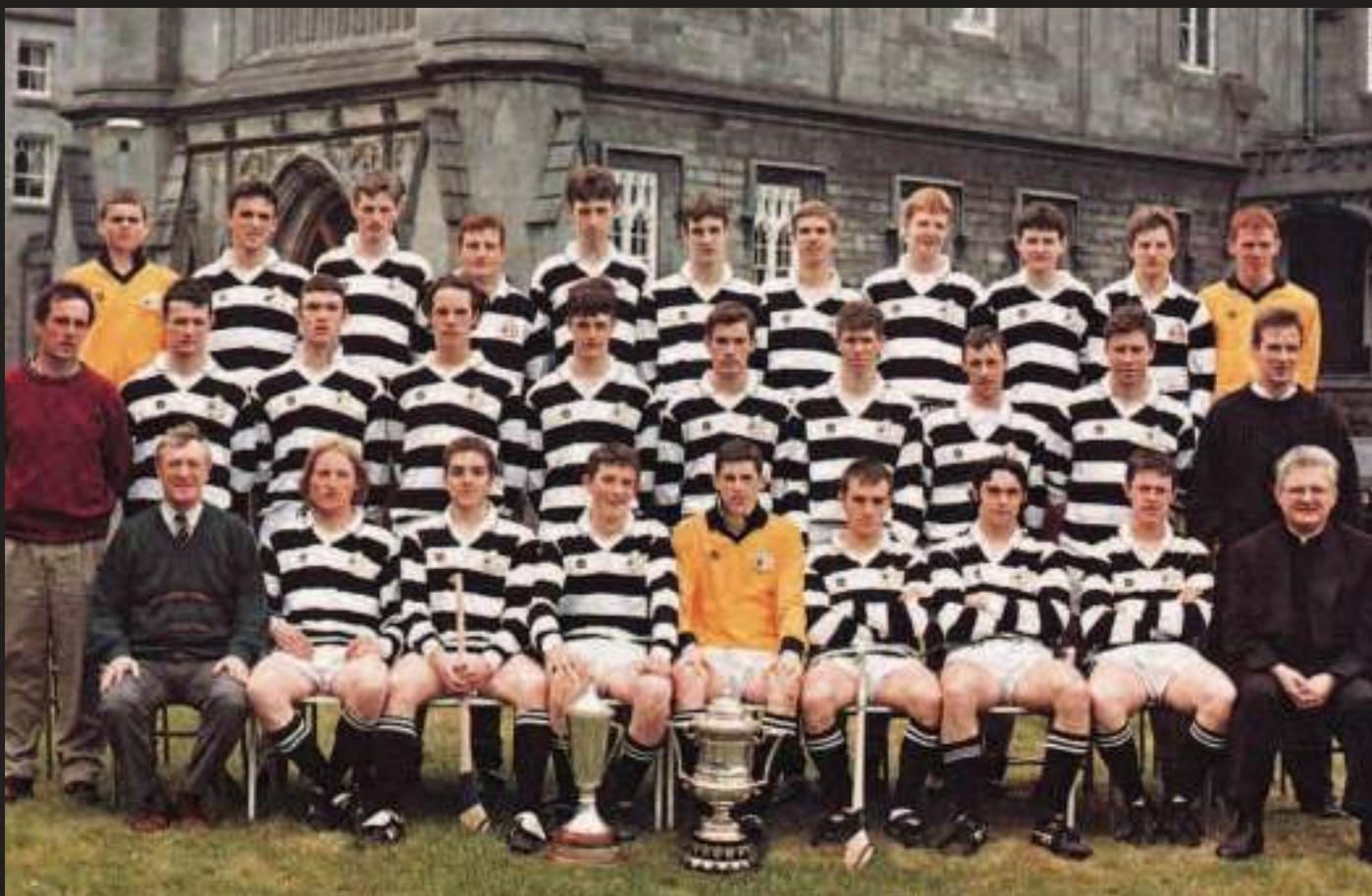
**Back:** Mick Fitzgerald, Brian Phelan, Michael Holohan, Brendan Treacy, Pat Hoban, Rory Moore, Brendan Barcoe, Pat O'Grady.  
**Front:** Jim Hickey, Ken O'Shea, Robert Shortall, John Dunphy Ciaran Connery, Alan Hearne, Richie Kelly.

## MEMORY LANE - 25 YEARS AGO!



**GRAIGUE-BALLYCALLAN - IARNRÓD ÉIREANN MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS ROINN "A" 1996**

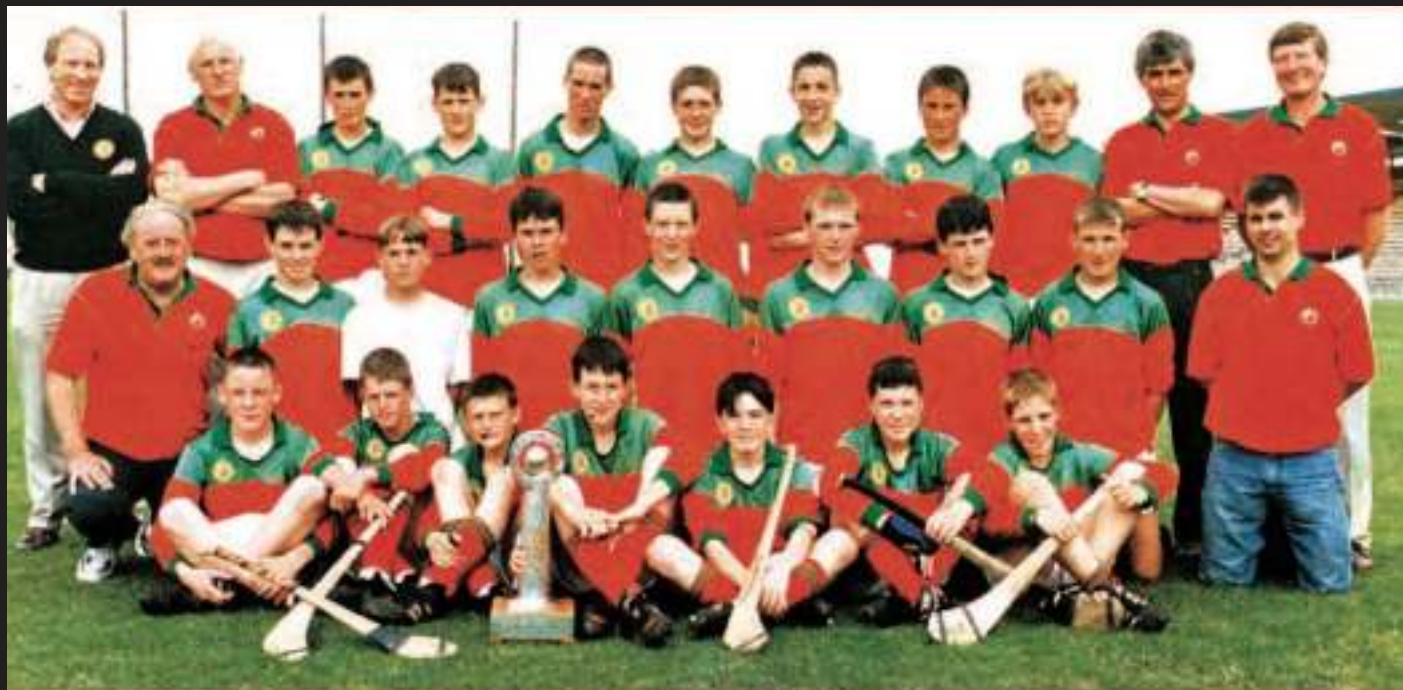
*Back: Jim Neary (Trainer), Brendan Hayes, James Ryall, Robert Byrne, Patrick Nugent, Dermot Hoyne, John Hoyne, Jimmy Lynch, Michael Hoyne, Joe Young, Michael Teehan, Samuel Ryall, Declan Byrne, Edward Brennan.*  
*Front: Patrick Dalton, Alan O'Shea, Joe Brennan, James Cullinane, Paul Dermody, Sean Millea (Capt.), Gearoid Cleere, Tom Butler, Anthony Dohran, Brendan Marnell.*



**ST. KIERAN'S COLLEGE - ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1996**

*Back: Michael McGrath (Ballincarry), John McEvoy (Ballacolla), Bob Aylward (Shamrocks), Gerry Kennedy (St. Patrick's, Ballyragget), Tomas O'Dowd (James Stephens), Aidan Cummins (Shamrocks), Brian O'Shea (Dunnamaggin), Henry Shefflin (Shamrocks), Fionn Drea (Young Irelands), Podge Delaney (Fenians), Pat Holden (James Stephens).*  
*Middle: Pat Murphy (selector), Brian Holohan (O'Loughlin's), William Maher (Ballincarry), Barry O'Donnell (Young Irelands), Michael Ryan (MoynetTempletohy), Sean Dowling (O'Loughlin's), Jimmy Coogan (Tullaroan), Alan Geoghegan (O'Loughlin's), John Staunton (St. Patrick's, Ballyragget), Adrian Finan (Selector).*  
*Front: Denis Philpott (trainer), J.R O'Neill (Dunnamaggin), Michael Fogarty (James Stephens), David Carroll, captain (Dicksboro); Donncha Fahy (Sr. Mary's, Clonmel), Michael Kavanagh (St. Lachlain's), Fr. James Cassin (President).*

## MEMORY LANE - 25 YEARS AGO!



JAMES STEPHENS ALL IRELAND FÉILE CHAMPIONS 1996

BACK: Michael Moore (Club Secretary), Matt Ruth (Trainer), Derek Buckley, Jackie Tyrrell, Conor O'Grady, Kenneth Grogan, Peter O'Neill, Niall Bergin, Patrick O'Shea, Tom Keane (Selector), Liam Tyrrell (Club Chairman).

MIDDLE: Val Malone (Selector) Joe Mernagh, Dedan Brennan, David Quinn, Maurice Harkin, Christy Burke, Eoin McCormack, Liam O'Shaughnessy, Fergal Walsh (Selector).

FRONT: Stephen Byrne, Andrew Doyle, Brendan Walsh, Richie Hayes (Captain), Shane Parsons, David Ruth, Brendan Doyle.



EMERALDS, URUNGFORD - U-14 'B' COUNTY CHAMPIONS 1996

Back: Emmet Kavanagh, Luke Roche (Trainer), Conor Hennessy, Oliver Quinlan, Mark Beehan, Stephen Roche, Ger Joyce, Brendan Guilfoyle, Shane Hennessy, Ger Power, Sean Minogue, Kieran Joyce, Tommy Neary, Brian Doyle, John Holohan (trainer).

Front: Aaron Fitzgerald, Jonathan Beehan, Aidan Fogarty, John Tobin, Kieran Rafter (capt.), Alan Guilfoyle, Pat Tobin, Fergal Tobin, John Joyce, Paul Broderick.

## MEMORY LANE - 25 YEARS AGO!



PILTOWN - COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1996

Back: Jim Norris, Liam Kearns, Andrew McCabe, Brian Farrell, Liam Kenny, James Farrell, Dessie O'Dea, Michael Brennan, Michael O'Dwyer, Michael O'Shea, Denis McCarthy, Tommy Falconer, Denis Lawlor, Tommy O'Shea, Alan Walsh.

Front: Pat Long, Pat Davis, Eamonn Kenny, Michael Long, Michael Gordon, John Falconer, James Connolly, Jim Power (captain), Michael Long, Richie Connolly, John Joe Long.



KILKENNY UNDER-21 TEAM v. WEXFORD IN LEINSTER CHAMPIONSHIP - AT NOWLAN PARK

Back: O. O'Connor, V. O'Brien, L. Smith, B. Lonergan, J. Costello, N. Moloney, P. Cahill.

Front: O. Behan, D. Buggy, D. Cleere, B. Bolger, P. Morrissey, K. O'Shea, S. Doyle, T. Hickey.



CAMOGIE COUNTY CHAMPIONS 1995, ST. BRIGID'S (BALLYCALLAN), AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR WIN AT THE ANNUAL PRESENTATION DANCE.

BACK: Katie Dunphy, Mary Purcell, Aisling Byrne, Ursula Walton, Ann Marie Ryall, Orla Ryall, Deirdre Malone.

MIDDLE: Vera Morrissey, Deirdre O'Sullivan, Mary Ryall, Tracy Millea, Pat Treacy, Mary McGrath, Catherine Keogh, Pauline Comerford.

FRONT: Breda Power, Sinead Millea, Deirdre Treacy, Margaret Comerford.



# CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS



## BALLYHALE SHAMROCKS

Ballyhale Shamrocks Camogie Club would like to thank the committee, mentors and coaches for all their work on and off the field in 2021. It was a great year with our U14's doing a unique double and our Intermediates securing the Intermediate League. At this time of writing the U16's have reached the 'D' Championship Final with our Intermediates at the quarter final stage.

The club would also like to thank Ber and Johnny Doyle of Signatec for their kind sponsorship of our new Intermediate Team jersey and also Andy O'Keefe and Kavanagh Engineering for their support during the year.



*Ballyhale Intermediate League Winners*



*Ballyhale U6s enjoying their warm up before their first match.*



*Ballyhale U8s with Joey Holden - Ballyhale Blitz 2021*



*Ballyhale U10s Ballyhale Blitz 2021*



## BARROW RANGERS

Our U16s are Co Champions after a great win over Kilmacow! After a very long winter, longer than we would have hoped 2021 has proven to be a very exciting and thrilling year for Barrow Rangers Camogie.

### Intermediate

2021 began to be a very successful year for this bunch of ladies. They started the year with their all county league where they were unbeaten in the group stages. They played Ballyhale in the semi final where they got beaten on the day. They bounced back in the League series with 2 great wins in the group stages and one draw against a strong James Stephens. The year is not over yet as the girls have a quarter final of the championship to play as they take on Ballyhale again this time hoping to come out the better side.

### Junior

For the first time having a second team, the girls did not disappoint. They turned up to every match, fought hard and gave it everything. The girls fell short in their final match against St Martins who went on to win the competition.



*Barrow Rangers U6*



*Barrow Rangers U12*



*Barrow Rangers U14*

### Minor

Joining with Blacks and Whites was to be a key to keeping these minor girls in a competition for the year to make up numbers for trainings and matches.

### Under 16

With only 4 players up to the age of 16, these girls put in a huge effort throughout the year. They fought hard all year, after doing well in the league winning most of their matches they got into Roinn C championship where they won the first round but Mullinavat put an end to their campaign.

### Under 14

U14 girls set their standard very early on, starting the year in Roinn D and winning every match by a good margin they decided to tackle Roinn C in the championship where they did not disappoint as they got to a county semi final, although Clara were the better team on the day. The year is



not over yet for these girls, they have yet to play the Roinn D league final against Blacks and Whites after winning all their games and are also due to play St Martins in the Roinn C shield semi final replay.

#### Under 12

This team had a brilliant year playing 2 teams in a summer blitz at home. Then some great wins in the championship against Graiguenamanagh, O Loughlin Gaels and Conahy but unfortunately lost to a very strong St Martins team in the semi final who then went onto to win it.

#### Under 10

After starting the year with a great win over our neighbours Young Irelands, the girls had no fear in standing up to the challenge and came away with a great win and that indeed they certainly set their standard for year and did not disappoint.

#### Under 8

Our under 8 girls had a very successful season playing 2 home blitz, another 2 blitz away and 2 challenge matches taking on the likes of Blacks and Whites, Erin's own, Graiguenamanagh, Danesfort, Young Irelands and Conahy.

#### Under 6

24 under 6 girls joined Barrow Rangers for 2021. Wednesday evenings were full of activity with fun games, camogie skills, laughter and more. The girls played some blitz against Clara, Muckalee and Graiguenamanagh throughout the season which added to the excitement of their sessions.



Our U16s are Co Champions after a great win over Kilmacow/Slieverue. From the first minute the girls came out fighting and worked hard to earn an early lead, with a goal from Hannah Doyle and 2 from Kayla Farrell. It was a battle from start to finish. In the second half there was an excellent display from the backs, making sure they kept their lead. Along with the goals there were excellent points from Sophie Barcoe and Nell Snyder. It's a great achievement to win a Co Final,

The u12s & U14s both reached the Shield Finals which was a great achievement for them.

Our u8s & u10s had great day's enjoyment at their various blitz's also our u6s show great determination at training all year.



## BENNETTSBRIDGE

2021 saw our camogie club grow by 10% on the previous year and the club has now gone from just over 50 players in 2017 to over 110 players currently. The club is expecting further growth in 2022.

With over 24 coaches involved at all ages and 18 committee members, our club is going from strength to strength. We had very successful fundraisers in 2021 with the "Steps Competition" and the "Nature" competition, both included participation from all age groups in the parish. The club also designed their own Face Mask, and these sold out fast. The Junior Team, who are amalgamated with Callan, enjoyed some great success in winning the League title and were unfortunately beaten by 1 point in the county semi final to Piltown.

In 2021, the recently re-formed Bennettsbridge Camogie Club hit another milestone when they fielded an under 18 camogie team for the first time in memory (over 25 years). This reflected the great work done by the coaches in previous years at the younger age levels where these girls had been instilled with a love of the game and had developed sufficient skills to be able to compete at this level. They were also boosted by the return of former club players who previously had to move to neighbouring clubs temporarily to stay playing camogie and the welcome addition of some players who had played previously at underage.

The U16's are in their second year having returned to competitive ways in 2020. They played very well in the championship and were knocked out in a reply to Tullougher. They are waiting to play in the Shield Semi Finals. The U14's also played in some cracking championship games and were eventually knocked out in the shield quarter finals.

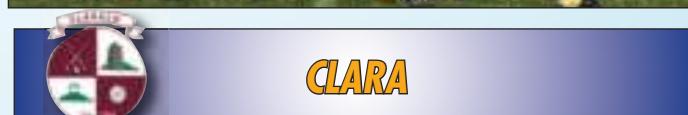
The U12's were beaten in the championship semi finals and entered into the shield where they won their semi final and beat Blacks and Whites in the Final.

The U10's and U8's enjoyed a busy year of Go Games and friendly games and the crowds and support at all matches was great to see.

The Super 6's also had a busy year of friendly matches.

The Club looks forward to 2022 and everything that it brings. The new Club-House facilities is a further boost to the club and players and members can enjoy the new dressing rooms, meeting rooms and Gym. Thank you and well done to everyone involved in Bennettsbridge Camogie Club.





Clara camogie club continue to have another busy and exciting season in 2021 with many teams still involved in competitions. Our adult team have reached the County semi-final in the senior championship this year where they will take on Piltown after a thrilling quarter final victory against Young Ireland's and we wish the girls and management the very best in the rest of the season. We are delighted that our U16 team have made it to the Roinn D county final after a very impressive semi-final win against Bennettsbridge and we look forward to supporting all the girls and management in the county final.

Our minor team narrowly missed out on a place in the Roinn A semi-final this year after an extremely tough quarter final against Dicksboro. While the girls missed out on the victory, they showed tremendous teamwork and resilience and never gave up throughout. A huge congratulations to our U15 Féile team and management who had a fantastic win against Young Ireland's in the Division 3 Féile Final. A thrilling game which went to both extra time and 45's and saw Clara come out on top. Our U14 team also reached the Roinn C county final and while they missed out on the title against a strong Ballyhale side, they fought hard throughout and did us proud. We have enjoyed a great season watching these girls where they were runners up in the U14 League final, to winning the U15 John West Blitz which most of the panel were members of. Our juvenile players, mentors and parents also had a busy season at underage training which once again was full of fun and excitement for our young up and coming stars.

A huge congratulations to our All-Ireland champions Keara Ryan, Katie Ryan, Rachel Whelan, Laoise Nolan, Emma Shortall and Grainne Glynn who were members of the Kilkenny minor team who had a fantastic win against Cork in the All-Ireland Final this year. A special mention also to Mary O'Connell who continues to impress with the Kilkenny Senior team who reached the semi-final this year, and for her all-star nomination, a fitting recognition of all her efforts throughout the season. Congratulations also to Claire Nolan and Aisling Curtis who represented Clara on the Kilkenny Intermediate panel who reached the All-Ireland final this year.





*U14 Camogie Team 2021 wearing their new set of jersey sponsored by Webster's Garage Three Castles*



*Roisin Phelan representing Conahey on the Kilkenny Intermediate Team as Captain*

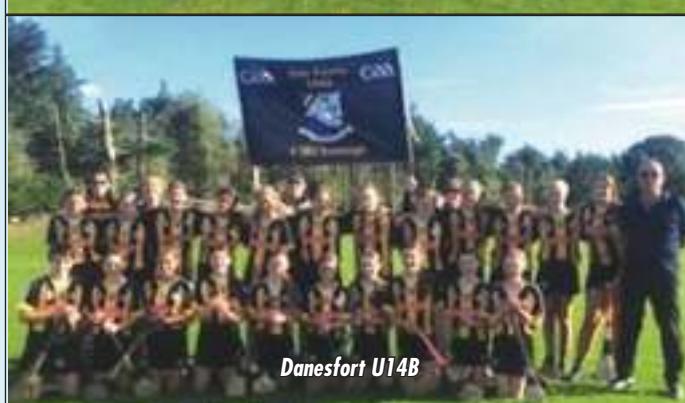


*Emma Mulhall, Ellen Gunner, Ciara Brennan and Amy Brennan All Ireland Minor A Winners*

*Ruth Phelan, Emily Murphy, Sarah Dooley, Sofia Kerr (captained the Kilkenny Team) and Grainne Comerford who reached the u16 All Ireland Final*



*Danesfort U12*



*Danesfort U14B*



**DICKSBORO**



**DANESFORT**



*Danesfort U6*



*Dicksboro - Aoife Prendergast Presenting Medals to Dicksboro U6 Girls*



*Danesfort U8*



*Dicksboro U8 in Gowran with O'Duffy Cup All Ireland trophy & League Trophy and Young Irelands County Players*



*Danesfort U10*

Despite a delay to the start of our season with Covid restrictions still in place, this has been a very busy year for Dicksboro Camogie Club. Our year to date has been one of continued development of our underage player's skill and promotion of their enjoyment of the game, with the successful participation in Club competitions at all ages and grades. Our Club continues to grow with 270 registered playing members across all ages, a 20% increase on the previous year, giving an indication of the growing popularity and importance of female sports. We must continue to make every effort to ensure that we provide the opportunity



Dicksboro U8



Dicksboro U12

for all our girls to play our game, for them develop a love of our game and to dream of maybe representing our Club and County at Senior level.

At time of writing Dicksboro Camogie Teams continue to represent the Club at U16 level (having reached the Roinn A County Final), Minor level (having reached the Roinn A County Final), and Senior Level (having qualified for the Senior County Semi-Finals). We have also had success at U14 level, with a win in the Roinn A League and U12 with the County Mini League.

This year has also seen momentous changes for the Club with the agreement for Dicksboro Camogie Club and Dicksboro GAA club to formally amalgamate under the "One Club" guidelines.

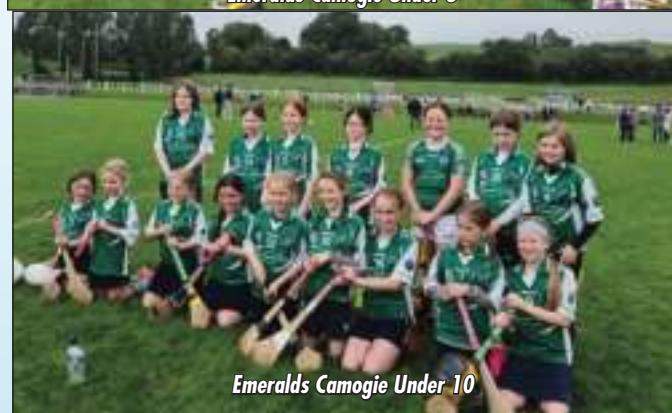
Above all, we wish to give thanks to all members of the club for their work during the year, to our players parent's for the their continued support and, of course, to all our players.



## EMERALDS



Emeralds Camogie Under 8



Emeralds Camogie Under 10



Emeralds Camogie Under 12 Dymphna Group Finalists



Emeralds Camogie Under 12 looking good in their new tops



Emeralds Camogie Under 14



Emeralds Camogie Under 15 Feile na nGael



## ERIN'S OWN



Erin's Own U6

U14 Captains



Erin's Own U8



*Erins Own U13*



*Erins Own Feile Team*



## GLENMORE

Glenmore Camogie Club fielded teams in the following grades for the 2021 season, U6 U8 U10 U12 U14 U16 Minor & Intermediate and with U21 to follow.....

Our U6s Our u6 group had lots of newcomers this year. Lots of our new girls showed interest after doing Sonnys Camp this year. The u6 and u8 girls were very fortunate to receive some local sponsorship from Kehoe Grasscare and Pottinger Ireland where we purchased shorts and socks for all girls, along with the help of the club and James Murphy Hurleys. We are also in the process of ordering further gear for the all the girls as another sponsor has come forward, details to follow.

Our U8s As 2021 brought further challenges with the Covid Pandemic, our Under 8 girls enjoyed getting back to outdoor training from mid April. =As a team the under 8 girls played many challenge matches over the summer and competed in several blitz days.

U10s With a small panel of players each of the girls really worked hard for each other all year, the U10 girls had some very fine wins in their blitz days this year.

Our U12s 2021 was a very enjoyable and rewarding year for the Glenmore u12 camogie team and their coaches. We reached the semi final of our u12 group competition and are also in the Shield Final which is a tremendous achievement by the girls.

Our U14's competed in Roinn B level this year, during the league they played Mooncoin, Danesfort and Thomastown. In the first round of the championship the U14s were beaten by Danesfort which then placed them in the Semi Final of the Shield against St Lachtains, but unfortunately the win went St Lachtains way.

Our U16s competing in Roinn B level this year, got underway with great wins over Mooncoin, St Lachtains, St Martins, Danesfort and a defeat by Thomastown, which saw them reach the League Final were they again met Thomastown who on the day had a little more power and came out the winners. In the Championship the girls met St Lactains in the Semi Final but came up short to a strong finishing performance by St Lachtains.

Our Minor girls won 2 of their 3 league games before reaching championship semi final this year losing to St Martin's in a very competitive game.

U21 competition is still to commence we wish them well.

Our intermediate team were involved in a very competitive league competition this year and had some solid performances, they lost out on a quarter final place in the championship by the narrowest of margins in a very competitive game against the Rower. The highlight of the year was our first Lily May O'Dwyer Memorial tournament involving Mullinavat Tullogher and Graiguenamanagh which we won.

Féile 2021 We entered and hosted the Féile competition in 2021, hosting James Stephens, Windgap & St Brigid's. Unfortunately results on the day didn't go our way, but lots of experience gained thank you to all involved.

Well done to all the girls who represented Kilkenny during the year, Elizabeth Phelan (Intermediate), Alison Donnelly & Marie Claire O'Dwyer (Minor) All Ireland Winners!, Amy Cody & Aideen Ryan (U16, All Ireland Finalists), Laura Doherty, Olive Donnelly & Emma Kelly (U15

development), Eabha Mullally & Ella Hoynes (U14 development). The club extends deepest sympathies to those who we have lost during the year. Thank you to everyone who helps out in anyway to keep the show on the road. Here's to a very enjoyable and successful 2022.



*Glenmore U6U8 Sponsors*



*Glenmore Feile team*



*Glenmore Intermediates*



*Glenmore U10s*



*Glenmore U12s*



*Glenmore U14s*



*Glenmore U16s*



## GRAIGNAMAGH



Graiguenamanagh Junior Camogie team



Graiguenamanagh U6



Graiguenamanagh U8



Graiguenamanagh U10



Graiguenamanagh U12



Graiguenamanagh U14



## KILMACOW



Kilmacow/Slieverue U15 Féile Team  
A combination of our U14's and U16's came together to form a Féile Team who participated in a very exciting Kilkenny Féile Day during the year.



Kilmacow/Slieverue U16 Team  
The U16's has a fantastic year by reaching a County Final



Kilmacow U6 Team  
Our U6's had a fun time getting to know new friends and introduced into Camogie.



Kilmacow U8 Team  
The U8's had loads of fun during the season playing local clubs and developing their Camogie skills.



Kilmacow U10 Team  
Our U10 had a really busy and enjoyable year playing a number of blitz at home and away



Kilmacow U12 Team  
The U12 girls had a fantastic season playing challenge games against local clubs and ended up reaching a County Final.



**Kilmacow U14 Team**  
Another great year for our U14 group who also reached a County Final.



**St Claire's Intermediate Team.**  
Participating for the second year at Intermediate level, this group of players built on last years' experience by exceeding all expectations and reaching the Championship Semi Finals.

Kilmacow Camogie Club has 156 playing members competing in various grades in all Kilkenny Camogie Competitions. Their U12's, U14's, U16's progressed to their respective County Finals. At the time of going to print their Intermediate Team (St Claire's) were in the Intermediate County Semi Final. The Club was proud to have 5 girls participating on Kilkenny Teams during 2021. U14 – Hannah Rocket, Niamh Cleary. U15 – Jessica Grant and Intermediate – Áine Phelan, Afton Grace who reached the All Ireland Final.



**Mooncoin U10**

Mooncoin under 10 Camogie team had a fantastic year performing with skill, speed, strength and stamina in all their blitzes and challenge matches under manager Paula Phelan and her dedicated team of coaches. The future is bright for these young ladies!

The U16 girls this year moved up to Roinn B from Roinn D, a big step up some thought, but they showed their quality with outstanding performances throughout the year. The year finished on a great high when they beat a valiant Danesfort on their home turf to claim the 2021 Roinn B shield. Proof that hard work and talent gets its reward.

Our U14 girls under manager Willie "who owns the ball" Kearns put in the club performance of the year to win a cliff hanger Roinn B county final against Danesfort Camogie Club in perfect conditions in Hugginstown. That the performances of the girls improved all year was undisputed but the manner in which they overcame the final challenge, which had eluded them until this year, speaks volumes for the calibre of the girls and of Willie and his management team. Two teams were entered in the league and all girls contributed to this success. Congratulations to all panel members and management.

The Mooncoin U12 Camogie team under manager Danny Quinn and his excellent coaches showed fantastic determination, dedication, skill and commitment to training and matches. Their performances were a joy to watch.

Mooncoin Minor Camogie team under joint managers Eoghan Cooney

and Maurice Flynn made the step up from Roinn C to Roinn B this year. After winning all their league games they progressed to the county semi final having won their quarter final comfortably. The semi-final was played in the well-appointed Glenmore club grounds. The girls put in a tremendous performance, but luck was not with them and they fell at the penultimate stage by the cruellest of margins to eventual County champions Piltown.

Notwithstanding this defeat this was an outstanding year for minor camogie in Mooncoin and there were many performances of which the girls can be immensely proud. We hope the girls who are moving on from minor now will continue to make us so proud on the camogie fields of Kilkenny and beyond.



**Mooncoin Minors**



**Mooncoin U12**



**Mooncoin U16s under manager Mickey Lennon with the 2021 Roinn B shield.**



**NAOMH BRÍD**

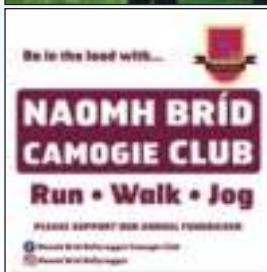
When we finished the season last year in Nov 2020, we were hopeful that 2021 would see us return to what we loved doing pre-covid times, training and playing freely without any restrictions. Fast forward to 27 April 2021 we were delighted to get back on the pitch after a long hard winter, all be it still needing to complete weekly health questionnaires, non-contact training and smaller training pods. Coaches and players alike adjusted to the changes without any complaints, everybody was just delighted to be even allowed back training. Local girl Emma Glennon contacted us early in the season requesting to help us with a fundraising initiative. Emma was completing a level



**Naomh Brid Junior Action**



**Naomh Brid Underagers**



6 Leadership Course and part of this was for her to participate and lead a Community based project. We were delighted that Emma chose her local Camogie Club for this. A challenge was set up for club members and locals alike to virtually travel to Croke Park and back as many times as possible over the month of May, raising funds along the way. The Club was over the moon to accept funds in excess of €1800

raised as a result of this fundraiser.

Naomh Brid Junior Camogie team continues to grow in strength and numbers, entering a Junior team for the 3rd successive year. Great performances from the young team were shown in League campaign matches against Bennettsbridge/John Lockes, Tullogher, Thomastown and Dicksboro. In Championship games they showed their determination against Mooncoin, Tullogher and Bennettsbridge/John Lockes.

The U14 and U16 players enjoyed a successful season this year as part of the merged teams with Castlecomers' Erins Own. This merger between both communities has proved invaluable in getting the girls to continue playing camogie at their own age level when there were insufficient numbers in their respective clubs.

The U14 team won the Gaeltec U14 Roinn E Championship County Final which was held in Thomastown Sat 9th Oct. The girls came from behind to defeat Kilmacow in a thrilling final that went to extra time. An afternoon of fun and activities was held in Castlecomer Discovery Park for both the U14 and U16 players to mark the end of the season. Throughout the season our underage groups from U12 U10 U8 and U6 enjoyed a series of well organised Blitzes and Challenge matches. These events saw the girls travel to Clara, Johnstown, Durrow and Conahy to name but a few.



The Annual end of season Street League competitions took place over two Tuesday evenings at the end of an unusually fine September weatherwise. We had 8 teams altogether competing in the Junior and Senior Leagues. There was

great sport between parents, who were allocated mentors for the teams, and kids alike. Everybody who took part received a Trophy or a Medal on the night, presented to the players by local girl and Killenney Intermediate All Ireland Finalist Laura Hegarty.

We would like to say thanks to Local Businesses and Individuals throughout the year who gave generously to the Club, enabling us to kit out the girls in new training gear amongst other things over the course of the season. This would not be possible without that help. And lastly to the Coaches, Covid Supervisors, Players, Parents and any other volunteers throughout the year, thank you for your time, energy and Commitment to Naomh Brid Camogie Club. We really appreciate it and it would not be possible to continue without your support. her local Camogie Club for this. What a year it has been. Once again



## O'LOUGHLIN GAELS

O'Loughlin Gaels Camogie Club has continued to thrive and grow over the last 12 months.

It has been another challenging period in time but all players from our youngest juveniles to our Mamogie newbies have come together with unrivalled spirit and tenacity to make the 30th anniversary of the club the best year yet.

It was all made possible because of our new sponsors this year MacDonagh Junction – so we extend our thanks to them.

Our juvenile section club has gone from strength to strength, and this year we saw record numbers of young players join the club bringing with them their excitement and enthusiasm. Our two U12 teams progressed in their competitions. While U14 girls took the big step up to Roinn A.... another first for the club.

A particular highlight was joining forces with the hurling boys. Juvenile boys and girls came together to take part in fundamental moment sessions and it was a great success and fun for all.

Another progressive move saw the under 9 boys and under 10 girls compete together in the mixed street league which was another huge success, not only craic but a real positive lesson in inclusivity and teamwork.

As part of the M.N.A Programme – the initiative from the Camogie Association to increase the number of women and girls participating in the sport the club introduced Mamogie night- camogie for Mums and Chums. The team consisted of mothers who hadn't played camogie ever and those who wanted to dust off their hurls and get back into the game.

The club also saw a new junior team formed through the efforts of the initiative. This was the first time two adult teams from the club took to the field!

We would like to wish our Intermediate team a just reward for their hard work and huge commitment as the Championship begins on Sunday.



**O'Loughlin Gaels Phil Fogarty  
Intermediate player**

Gaeil Úi Lochlainn abú!



**O'Loughlin Gaels Jersey Sponsor Presentation**



**O'Loughlin Gaels U6 camogie team and trainers**



**O'Loughlin Gaels U12 camogie team**



## PILTOWN



Piltown U6



Piltown U12

Piltown had a busy summer of camogie fielding teams at all grades, including an Under 6 team for the very first time. The Under 8 and Under 10 panels had a successful Summer Blitz season. Our U12 team won their group competition and the Minors followed this success a couple of weeks later in the Roinn B Championship. Our U14 and U16 teams have reached Shield finals and our ladies Junior and Senior teams look forward to Championship semi-finals as we write. Retention of adult players has been so successful in recent years that we will endeavour to field a third ladies team in 2022. Thank you to our players, mentors and supporters for their dedication to our sport.



## ROWER INISTIOGE



Rower Inistioge Intermediates



Rower Inistioge U12 Gobnat Winners

The u6s, u8s and u10s trained hard throughout the year and represented their club with pride participating in blitz's and challenge matches against many neighbouring teams. With so many girls turning up to the pitch on Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings throughout the season, it is safe to say the future of the club will be a bright one.

The highlight of the year came from our u12 team. Following a tremendous League / Championship campaign coming out on top in each of their competitive games, our u12's would face Danesfort in the final. On a Saturday morning in October, the hard work and dedication of players, management and all involved paid off when they came out on top as County Champions in the Gaeltec u12 Competition.

Our u14 team continued to make great progress this year. They were pipped at the post by a strong Conahy team during the championship. However, this did not deter their spirits and they put in some fantastic team displays during their shield campaign.

Our u16s continued the success and enjoyment experienced by our underage teams. The girls fought a tremendous battle against a strong Blacks and Whites team in the Championship semi-final. With the game finishing a draw it was taken to extra time, where Blacks and Whites came out on top.

Our minor team thrived throughout their league campaign, reaching the league final against Tullogher. In a thrilling championship semi-final against the same opposition, our minor girls fought a hard battle however were beaten by a single point.

Our intermediate team, under new management, enjoyed a very successful Summer League campaign reaching the final of the Shaws Department Stores Intermediate Summer League. They were beaten on the day by a strong Ballyhale team. The girls continued to represent their club with pride in the Shaw's Department Store Intermediate Championship.

The Rower- Inistioge Camogie Club are delighted to be reporting on a very successful and enjoyable 2021 season. This would not be possible without the dedication and commitment from both our players and volunteers within the club who continue to put great effort into coaching, managing and helping out with teams in any way. These efforts do not go unnoticed by players and club members alike. With continued support The Rower- Inistioge Camogie Club are sure to enjoy many more fruitful years of enjoyment and success.



## SLIEVERUE



Slieverue U6



Slieverue U8



Slieverue U10



## ST BRIGID'S

Our u6,u8,u10 and u12 competed in the county Go Games and challenge matches during the summer months representing our club with pride.

Well done to our u14 team on reaching the Roinn A county final only to be pipped at the post by our near friends and rivals from John Lockes of Callan. This was an epic final to watch by the large crowd in attendance. Our U16 and Minor teams reached the Roinn A county semi-finals. Again a great achievement by a standalone country club.

2021 was the first year we submitted a team into the Junior C championship. These brave hearted girls didn't go down without a fight losing by a single point in the dying seconds of extra time to St Martin's. This 2nd adult team gave many girls the opportunity to play competitive Camogie at adult level and it will also serve as a worthwhile stepping stone onto our senior panel.

We are currently through to the quarter final of the Senior championship and we wish this team the best of luck and hopefully they will advance to the county semi-finals. Our senior girls got through to the All-County league final and came up against a very strong opposition in Thomastown.

So all in all an extremely successful year to date for St Brigid's. Congratulations to our girls that represented our club at intercounty level and especially the girls on the county minor panel who brought home all Ireland medals to their families and our parish.

Special thanks must go to our trainers at all age levels for the commitment and time afforded to our girls every week.

Thank you also to our covid officials, physio's and you our supporters for your continued support of St Brigid's.

Also thanks to our main sponsors Ballykeefe distillery at adult level. To our juvenile sponsors throughout the year Cleere life, pensions and mortgages, The Edge hair studio and Carpet options. To our Junior C sponsors, Glanbia Kilmanagh, John Purcell (Purcell agri sales) and Seanie's bar thank you all for your support to St Brigid's Camogie club in 2021.

St Brigid's ABÚ



St Brigid's U10



## ST LACHTAIN'S

2021 was another year of uncertainty in camogie but we at St Lachtains are very proud of what we have achieved so far at the time of this book going to print. Our U6 U8 and U10's were kept busy with matches and blitz's throughout the year, by the dedicated coaches a lot of them only new into coaching which shows the passion and drive the club has at such a young age group.

The annual Peggy Dowling tournament took place (2020 tournament delayed) which is our in-house tournament for our U14's, U12's, our 2021 tournament still to be played this year.

Our great U12 team made it into a shield semi-final, with the belief of progressing to the final.

Our U14's made it to the Roinn B shield final, and again everyone believing in their abilities to get over the line.

Our U15 Féile team made up of girls from U12 U14 and U16 teams were victorious in becoming Division 2 Féile champions.

Our U16 made it to Roinn B championship final for the second year in a row, only just missing out on lifting the trophy.

Minors into a Roinn C semi-final this year, full confidence in these girls to get to another final. They, like the 16's, are finalists from 2020 with both finals still to be played.

Our Seniors, with matches still to be played, are driving forward, a big panel of girls with very busy lives and commitments but giving everything to drive on the club at this level. We also had our Freshford Gaelic For Mothers and Others start up to play some blitz's, very successful in their first year hopefully more to come from them next year.

Also the club have been well represented in the county scene with girls from the club at U14, U15 Development squads, Minor and Seniors.

We have been supported this year through different aspects of fundraising and donations from both individuals and local businesses, all of this very much appreciated from everyone in the club.

Finally a big thank you to all parents, coaches, family members and officers of the club for everything that has been done this year. But the biggest thank you is to all the players, without them we would not have a club.



St Lachtain's Féile Team



U12's blitz in Skeough and match in Grennan. Girls were in Semi Final of U12 League against Young Irelands

U16 B League Final - Thomastown defeated Glenmore 3-10 to 2-7

Minor – Due to play James Stephens on A League Final. Top the table in League with wins over Emeralds, Tullaroan/St Anne's & Dicksboro. Fought a tough championship quarter final against Conahy Shamrocks with Conahy coming out on top

Seniors won the Summer League defeating Dicksboro, 3-15 to 1-8. In the County Semi Final against Dicksboro at the time of going to print.





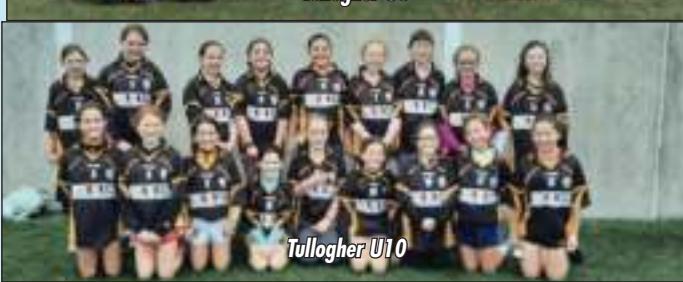
Thomastown U12



Thomastown U12a



Tullogher U8



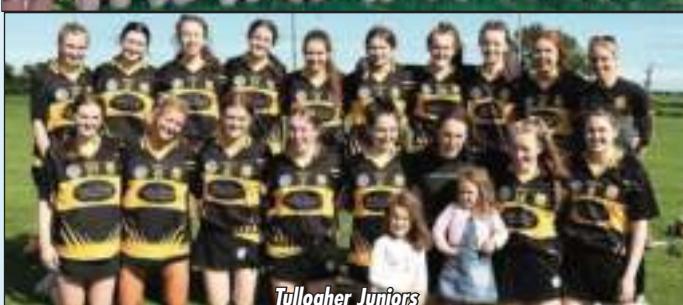
Tullogher U10



Tullogher U12



Tullogher U16



Tullogher Juniors



## TULLOGER

Our U6 girls had great fun learning new camogie skills. They competed in some games during the year, with great enjoyment and success. Well done girls!

The under 8 girls went from Strength to strength this year .We were delighted to have been able to both host and attend various blitz days and practice matches and thank all the clubs we met along the way.

Under 10 Camogie had a great year. We played in both our blitz and had several challenges with local clubs. We picked up a few new members this year which was great. All of the girls had a fantastic year.

The U12 team played many challenge matches, participated in 2 Go Games blitzs, one away in Ballyhale and one at home. They put in a fantastic effort in the league to qualify 2nd in their group to reach the quarter final stage and then progress to the semi-final.

Our 14 girls had a great year in 2021. We started the league with a win and continued all the way to the final in which we were victorious. In the championship we moved up a grade and worked hard to get to the final but unfortunately, we lost but what a fantastic year we had.

Our U16 team had a great league campaign remaining undefeated and qualifying for the league final which has not yet been played. Their championship campaign came to an end at the quarter final stage when defeated by Blacks and Whites.

U18's In all of the league group matches we went unbeaten with wins over Carrickshock, Lisdowney and Bennettsbridge/Callan. We have yet to play the league final. In the championship semi-final, we had a 1 point win over the Rower/Inistioge and in the final we had a hard fought win over Carrickshock.

Junior: A good start to the year playing in the Lily May O'Dwyer Memorial Tournament in Glenmore. Competing in the final and losing out to Glenmore but that was after a gruelling battle with Mullinavat in the semi-final on a very hot day. With a small panel of players injuries slowed the upward progression of the team during the league. At the writing of this the team are in the Championship Quarter finals.

Thanks to Peter, John, Louis and Victor for all their work and commitment throughout the season.



Tullogher U6



Windgap U6



Ona Kennedy, Long Puck Community Games All Ireland Champion



*Windgap U8*



*Windgap U10*



*Windgap U12*



*Windgap Feile Team*



*Windgap Seniors*



## **YOUNG IRELANDS**

S2021 was a very exciting year for the Young Irelands Camogie Club. Our under 6, 8 and 10 girls had a great season with games galore and lots of fun along the way! Our under 12's fielded two teams throughout the season and had a great year with the Red team reaching the Osmanna County Final while the white team made the Shield Final. Our under 14's won the Roinn 'D' County Championship against Tullogher in a thrilling battle in Thomastown. A huge mention needs to be given to our heroic Under 15 Féile team who made it the whole way to the final against local rivals Clara. At the time of writing our under 16 team are through to the Shield Final where they face Windgap while our minor girls are in the championship semi final against Danesfort.

Our Senior team finished second in their group before losing out to Clara in the championship quarter final.

Young Irelands was represented significantly on the inter-county scene throughout 2021. Congratulations to Jayne Farrell (Under 15 development squads), Ciara Bryan, Ella Middleton, Julie Lennon & Marie O' Keefe (Under 16 Kilkenny team narrowly beaten by Cork in the All-Ireland final). Sarah O'Donnell co-captained the victorious Minor Kilkenny team to an All-Ireland win. Ciara O'Keefe & Tiffanie Fitzgerald were key players while Nessa Farrell and Pat O'Neill were part of management with the Intermediate team who qualified for the All Ireland final against Antrim. Ciara was

also nominated for a soaring star award for her exceptional display throughout the year. Finally Steffi Fitzgerald, Ciara & Tiffanie were part of the Senior Kilkenny team with Pat O'Neill involved as selector with Steffi playing a key role in securing their league final win.

A huge mention needs to be given to all our players, mentors, families, supporters, volunteers & sponsors. The success of this club wouldn't be possible without all these amazing people.



*Young Irelands U15 Feile Panel, management and sponsors*



*Young Irelands U6*



*Young Irelands U8*



*Young Irelands U10*



*Young Irelands U12*

# ***Slow Start... then LOTS of business.***



Ladies Football Report by Elena Griffin PRO

## **CLUB NEWS**



**Muckalee Captains Edel Coonan and Kelley Comerford after the 2021 Adult Championship Final win over Thomastown in October**



**Muckalee Adult Squad County Champions 2021**



**Chairperson Séamus Knox presenting the 2020 Minor A Cup to Muckalee Captain**



**Thomastown Adult County Finalists 2021**



**Dunnamaggin Minor B League Champions**



**Dunnamaggin Minor B League Champions**

*It may have been a slow start again to the LGFA year in 2021 due to the pandemic but this didn't stop Ladies Gaelic Football development and activities in the county. The start of the year saw clubs take on the Jerusalema challenge, skills challenges, virtual 5ks and there was an abundance of LGFA webinars to occupy players and mentors alike. John Lockes Ladies Football Club in Callan were the chosen Kilkenny club to take part in the Lidl One Good Club initiative, in association with the LGFA and Jigsaw. Some of the wonderful activities undertaken by John Lockes LGFC included their club players connecting with local nursing homes through messages and pictures, a whole community 'From Malin to Mizen Head' active challenge and a 'Spring Awakening' themed photography competition encouraging members of the club and community to take notice of their beautiful locality.*

*It was back to training in April and clubs also busied themselves shopping in Lidl, our national LGFA sponsor, to build up points with many Kilkenny clubs receiving sets of jerseys and cash rewards. This year saw many clubs adding even more fun into their club sessions with some super activities. There was a Darkness into Light training session in Muckalee, Railyard held their renowned Football Summer Camp, Clara held a Football skills camp for the first time ever and Dunnamaggin kept trainings fun focussed with fancy dress sessions. June saw the return to matches and the first final of the year played was the 2020 Minor A final. It was a thrilling encounter between Muckalee and Kilkenny City on a misty evening in Thomastown. The game did not disappoint and spectators were treated to a very good game of football. The delayed 2020 final was won by Muckalee who were deserved champs after holding much of the possession in the second half, in particular the last quarter of the game where their fitness shone through.*

### **Adult**

*The 2021 Adult competition saw 7 clubs participate, namely Railyard, Dunnamaggin, Muckalee, Thomastown, John Lockes, Erins Own and Kilkenny City entering two teams. The St. Canice's Credit Union Ladies County Adult Final was contested between*

*Muckalee and Thomastown on October 15th under lights in Dunmore. The fast pace and high energy of the game was set from the throw in at 8pm and the remarkable intensity of the play was maintained right up to the final whistle. The big crowd of spectators were treated to an awesome display of Ladies Football in the county's marquee event. Both sides showed impressive skills and strength and the palpable passion highlighted how no team wanted to leave this behind. The first half saw both teams with their share of possession and score chances but it was Muckalee who capitalised most in front of goals and at half time were in the lead 2:08 to 1:02. Thomastown were not going down without a fight but were unlucky in the third quarter with wides while Muckalee continued to keep their momentum and composure in front of goals and facing into the final quarter had a commanding lead. Thomastown however still did not lie down and produced two fine goals in the last quarter. At this stage however it was too late for a comeback and the strong Muckalee side had done more than enough to secure the well deserved title of Kilkenny Ladies Football County Champions 2021. The final score was Muckalee 4:13 to Thomastown's 4:03. Muckalee go forward now to play Westmeath's county champions in November in the Leinster Junior Club Championship. The Adult Shield Final is yet to be played. Well done to all adult squads and team mentors who took part in this year's adult competitions. The clubs were Thomastown, Kilkenny City, Railyard, Muckalee, Erin's Own, John Lockes and Dunnamaggin.*



## Minor

The 2021 Minor Ladies Football competition saw teams compete from 9 of our ten clubs but as we had an amalgamation between Thomastown and Clara players from all 10 clubs were involved in the competition. The Roinn A competition is ongoing. Dunnamaggin are Minor B League Champions after beating Tullogher. It was a great game of football and the young Tullogher side managed to stay within reach of the game into the second half. However the more experienced Dunnamaggin side came into their stride and put away some fine goals and points to secure a convincing win in the end. The championship B Final is yet to be played between Railyard and Dunnamaggin.

## U16s

2021 saw 8 clubs partake in the U16 League Championship, namely John Lockes, Clara, Railyard, Tullogher-Rosbercon, Dunnamaggin, Kilkenny City, Muckalee and Piltown. The Roinn A Championship final will be contested between Kilkenny City and Muckalee while the A League final will see Dunnamaggin take on Kilkenny City. The Roinn B Championship final has to be played and the Roinn B League final is also yet to be played between Tullogher-Rosbercon and Railyard.

## U14s

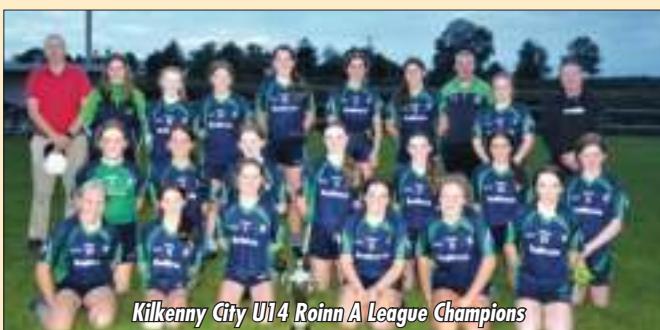
Teams from all ten clubs in the county took part in this year's St. Canice's Credit Union U14 League Championship. Kilkenny City fielded two squads and are the 2021 St. Canice's Credit Union League U14 Champs after a win against Callan in September in a final that did not disappoint. It was a high scoring, fast paced match. With only a point separating the sides at the second water break it was all to play for in the third quarter. Both sides battled hard with Kilkenny City coming out on top at the final whistle with a score of 6:12 to 2:16. The Roinn B League Final was contested between Muckalee and Tullogher. It was a hard fought battle of a match with only a kick of the ball separating the sides at full time. Muckalee were victorious at the final whistle with a scoreline of 3:4 to 3:3. The Roinn A Championship final between Kilkenny City and John lockes, and the Roinn B Final between Tullogher-Rosbercon and Muckalee are yet to be played.

## U12s

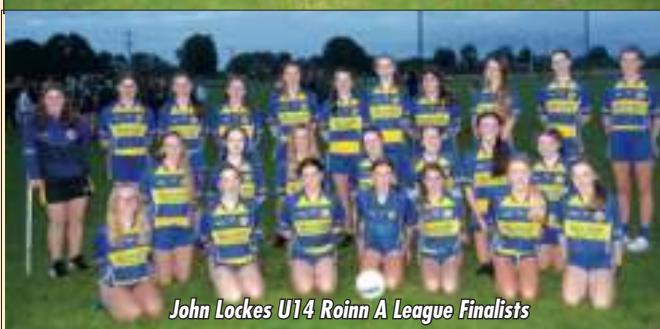
History was made when for the first year ever we had 4 clubs field two teams each in the U12 competition, namely Clara, Dunnamaggin, Piltown and Kilkenny City. This brought our tally of teams up to 14 and as all teams reach a final in this age group there was, for the first time ever, an U12 G League Final. All the U12 Finals were played off in September and all were thoroughly enjoyable games. The development of the girls since the start of the season was very evident. Huge credit to their mentors in this regard. Thanks to the County Board and Fixtures Committee for all the work gone into making sure this age group and all others had a well run season. Thanks also to St. Canice's Credit Union for their invaluable contribution this season to supporting Ladies Football in Kilkenny.

## U10-Nursery

Yet again, due to the ongoing pandemic, our younger groups didn't have the opportunity to play in any organised blitzes. The younger teams however did manage to get in some fun game time with go game type matches organised between the clubs themselves. They also of course enjoyed countless fun training sessions with their club mates all season long.



Kilkenny City U14 Roinn A League Champions



John Lockes U14 Roinn A League Finalists



Piltown U12 Roinn A Champions



Kilkenny City U12 Roinn B Champions



Dunnamaggin U12 Roinn C Champions



Dunnamaggin U12 Roinn D Champions



John Lockes U12 Roinn E Champions



Erin's Own U12 Roinn F Champions



**Tulloher U12 Roinn G Champions**



*Many of our clubs host nursery sessions where the emphasis is always on fun and participation.*

## COUNTY NEWS

### U14 COUNTY SQUAD

On July 24th in hot and difficult conditions Kilkenny U14s took on Carlow in Clara in the first league round of the Leinster competition. Kilkenny got off to a great start and took an early lead and at half time were in front 1:9 to 0:3. Carlow started the second half strong and got to within 2 points of Kilkenny but Kilkenny never lost the lead and went on to finish strong and win the game by 5 points. Full time score was Kilkenny 3:9 Carlow 3:4. Next up was Offaly in the second round and Kilkenny opened their account with the first point. Both teams traded scores right up to half time, with Offaly going into the break leading by only 2 points, Offaly 1.6 Kilkenny 1.4.

On the restart both teams showed no let up and displayed great skill and determination. Kilkenny got an early lead by 1 point. Kilkenny had their chances to take the win, despite a goal being disallowed in the final minutes of the game, but Offaly eventually got the upper hand and went on to win by 5 points. The final score was Offaly 4.9 Kilkenny 3.7.

The U14s had their third league match on Saturday August 7th against Laois. After a first round win against Carlow and a second round loss against Offaly it was all to play for between the two sides for one to progress to the league final. The girls battled hard and had the lions share of the possession in the first half. However this didn't translate on the scoreboard and at half time, despite their best efforts, the team was down by 4 points.

The second half saw Laois command more possession and they took every scoring opportunity presented to them to run out deserved winners. However, the final score of 2:5 to 4:10 did not reflect the dominance Kilkenny held for much of the match. Well done to the players and management for their commitment and effort this season.



**Kilkenny U14 Squad warm up before third league encounter against Laois**



**U16 team before Leinster final with manager Conor Gorey and mentors John Gorey, Regina Moran and Martin Patterson**



**Kilkenny 2021 U14 County Team who were managed by Keith Goff along with Catherine Moore, Paul Maguire, Gervase O' Connell, Anne Quealy, Ciarán Holohan, Nigel Dowd, Niamh Meagher and medic Kate Falconer.**



**U16 team before Leinster final with manager Conor Gorey and mentors John Gorey, Regina Moran and Martin Patterson.**



St. Canice's Credit Union Representative Ciarán Byrne was there to enjoy the match and witness chairperson Séamus Knox present Muckalee captains with the Adult Championship Cup



#### U16 COUNTY SQUAD

Our County U16s faced Carlow in the opening round of the Leinster championship. It was a brilliant match to watch and the girls did the county and themselves proud. The display of football was second to none and the team ran out deserving winners with a final score of Kilkenny 5:10 Carlow 2:1. This talented Kilkenny county squad ended the season as very worthy Leinster Runners Up after a most enthralling Leinster League Final encounter against Louth in Ballymore Eustace. This match was the epitome of the proverbial 'game of two halves' after an astonishing comeback by the cats after half time. The first half then saw a Louth team that were clinical and composed in front of goals and the scores kept racking up. Despite Kilkenny having their fair share of possession in this first half and managing to penetrate the Louth defence a number of times the outlook seemed quite bleak at half time with a scoreline of 5:8 to 1:3 in favour of the wee county. With a 17 point gap and the Kilkenny girls looking rattled, spectators could have been forgiven for thinking things could only get worse. No one expected, bar the management who know this group well, the third quarter streak of dominance and determination that brought Kilkenny back to within 4 points of Louth after tallying up 13 unanswered points. The third quarter was an incredible display of heart and strength of character that showed clearly that the nerves of the first half had settled and Kilkenny had more than found their form and composure. If it wasn't for what must be the save of the tournament from the Louth keeper the gap would surely have been narrowed to 1 point. It wasn't to be and the water break ensued and the final quarter saw the two sides equally contesting the ball with Louth getting on the scoreboard again and running out worthy winners with a final score of 6:11 to 4:11. Victory on the night may not have gone Kilkenny's way but a marker has clearly been set for what Kilkenny sides are capable of and the experience of such a stage will go a long way in the development of these players.

Huge thank you to St. Canice's Credit Union and Intosport on their continued support of ladies Gaelic in Kilkenny in 2021. St. Canice's have been so generous to the sport for many years and we can't stress enough how important their relationship is to the success of Ladies Football in

Kilkenny. This year county teams also welcomed much needed support from local businesses Langtons House Hotel, Sam McCauleys and Specsavers. We may in some respects be viewed as the underdog sport for women in Kilkenny but due to support, as mentioned above, from the Kilkenny community we continue to overachieve in many ways.

#### LADIES FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT

2021 saw a surge in the number of volunteers signing up to be part of the Kilkenny Ladies Gaelic Football \*county board executive. The committee welcomed on board new Chairperson Séamus Knox whose excellent leadership qualities set in motion many productive actions to develop this fantastic national sport in the county. Under his guidance, and with the support and expertise of a very strong group of county executive volunteers, 2021 saw many positive developments in Ladies Gaelic Football in Kilkenny. This surge in volunteers is a testament to the rise in popularity of the sport in the county, which has seen a steady growth in player numbers in recent years. It is fantastic to witness such commitment from volunteers to support women in sport in Kilkenny and we applaud them and all the many great volunteers throughout this great county of Kilkenny. One such positive development in March was the Club Connect meetings. The online meetings, led by new county Chairperson Séamus Knox and county secretary Sinéad Booth, were attended by Secretaries and Chairpersons from clubs throughout Kilkenny. The purpose of these meetings was to provide a platform for the county board to further support and engage with our clubs outside the parameters of a county board meeting. Clubs also got an opportunity to further connect with each other. The occasions also facilitated presentations to the club, such as our soon to launch, 3 Year plan by County Development Officer Kevin Cunningham to the club chairpersons and secretaries for discussion and approval. These connect meetings strive to keep the connections and discussions alive between our clubs and county board and are envisaged to continue into the future.

The County Board are set to launch details shortly for the road ahead with a three-year plan to bring the game of ladies gaelic football in Kilkenny to the next level. The plan is in essence a roadmap which will lead to increased participation in the sport, greater connection between clubs and the Board and the provision of competitive county teams. The plan has a few different sections. It involves team development, but also coaching development and finance and fixtures, communications strategies and participation rates. The long term aim is to rebuild a Kilkenny adult team, one who could replicate the glory days of the junior All-Ireland success in 2007, but the real goal is to provide a sport which is enjoyed by club and inter-county players alike. Strengthening and developing the game at the grassroots level will be a main target for the County Board over the coming years. The groundwork is most certainly being put in with most clubs now catering for players as young as four or five. A senior county team is something to aspire to, but it also has to be about growing the sport in every community in the county.

#### KILKENNY LGFA COACHING DEVELOPMENT OFFICER APPOINTED IN MAY

Ladies Gaelic Football is recognised as one of the fastest growing

<p><b>*2021 KILKENNY LADIES GAELIC FOOTBALL</b></p> <p><b>EXECUTIVE MEMBERS</b></p> <p><b>CHAIRPERSON, Séamus Knox.</b></p> <p><b>SECRETARY, Sinéad Booth.</b></p> <p><b>TREASURER, Brendan Healy.</b></p> <p><b>PRO, Eléna Byrne.</b></p> <p><b>DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, Kevin Cunningham.</b></p> <p><b>REGISTRAR, Regina Moran.</b></p> <p><b>CHILDREN'S OFFICER, Keith Coff.</b></p> <p><b>VICE CHAIRPERSON, John Leahy.</b></p> <p><b>VICE SECRETARY, Lily Kelly.</b></p> <p><b>VICE TREASURER, Ann Marie Ryan.</b></p> <p><b>CENTRAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES, Joe Fox and Caitriona Corr.</b></p> <p><b>LEINSTER REPRESENTATIVES, John Gorey and Jim Smith.</b></p>
---

female sports not alone in Ireland but in Europe and membership is growing everyday all over the country, including the county of Kilkenny. With this growth in participation has also come a growth in the need for more coaches in the sport and hence a need for increased coach education and support. There's a rise in people getting involved in Ladies football in Kilkenny, not only as players but as coaches too. Ann Marie Gibbons was appointed Kilkenny LGFA's Coaching Development Officer in May 2021. This is a progressive and positive move for the sport in the county which has never previously had such a position fulfilled. The growing number of LGFA mentors in the county means that this is a role that is vital, now more than ever, to support and maintain quality coaching practices across the clubs of Kilkenny. Ann Marie, who hails from Thomastown and moved back to Kilkenny after living in Donegal for 14 years, is collaborating with the County board in devising and implementing a three year plan for coach development, devising structures that will enable coaches to achieve their potential and in mentoring them as they achieve this. Her background in coaching Ladies Gaelic Football has seen her coach at both club and county level in Donegal. To cater for this growing demand on coach education Ann Marie, along with the support of the Kilkenny County Board and Leinster LGFA Development Officer, has come up with a concept of a Kilkenny LGFA Coaching Academy that will facilitate the creation of a support network for coaches and the development of coaching skills. The idea of the Kilkenny LGFA Coaching Academy is that the coaches from each club who partake will up skill and then go back to their club to share their workshop experiences and then get others interested in joining the Coaching Academy pathway. As a result of Ann Marie's concept, Kilkenny Coaching Workshops began in Autumn for club coaches. The Workshops supplement those already being provided by the LGFA, and will have a particular focus on the requirements of our own LGFA coaches here in Kilkenny. A certificate of completion will issue to the coaches who complete the series of Workshops. Ann Marie has already started visiting clubs in Kilkenny, facilitating coaching sessions and sharing her expertise. There is an appetite among club coaches to learn and develop and there's no doubt that the Kilkenny LGFA Coaching Academy Workshops will be hugely beneficial to all who attend. Establishing the Coaching Academy is a key action in Kilkenny LGFA's Three-Year Plan.

#### GAEILIC4MOTHERS&OTHERS



Dunnamaggan Gaelic4Mothers&Others squad at the 80s themed blitz



Freshford Gaelic4Mothers&Others squad



Piltown Gaelic4Mothers&Others Squad



The Rower Inistioge Gaelic4Mothers&Others squad



Glenmore Gaelic4Mothers&Others squad



Tullogher-Rosbercon Gaelic4Mothers&Others Squad



*Ann Gahan Blitz in Piltown*

## KILKENNY LGFA FÉILE 2021

This year, the 2021 John West Féile ran a little different to previous years, as a result of Covid-19. The National U15 Competition remained inside each County, with all counties encouraged to run a one-day Féile Competition for the chance to be named 2021 County Féile Champion!

Here in Kilkenny that day was Sunday 29th August and the weather was perfect for a fabulous fun day of football in James Stephen's Grounds on the Kells Road.

There were 3 groups of teams all vying for the coveted Féile 2021 Kilkenny Cup. There was also a Shield and Plate to contend for so all teams were in flying form hoping to take home some silverware at the end of the day.

After the initial group rounds of matches the Féile Cup contenders were Dunnamaggin, Kilkenny City and Muckalee. The semi final saw Kilkenny City take on Dunnamaggin. It was a game of high skill and intensity and

at half time there was little between the 2 sides. However City took all their scoring opportunities in the second half and ran out convincing winners to face Muckalee in the Cup Final. Unfortunately the Final had to be abandoned 5 minutes in when a Muckalee player needed urgent medical attention. The game has yet to be played.

After the group rounds John lockes, Tullogher, Kilkenny City 2 and Railyard all found themselves in contention for the Féile Shield. In the semis Railyard overcame Kilkenny City and John lockes beat Tullogher to meet in the Shield Final.

It was a brilliant match to watch with plenty of exciting passages of play resulting in fantastic scores. You only had to listen to the crowd to realise this was an entertaining game of ladies football. Both teams showed great passion but it was to be John Lockes day. The Callan side were deserved champs after an intense game.

In regards the Féile Plate we had Piltown, Clara, Erins Own and Thomastown all hoping to claim it. The semis saw Piltown defeat Clara and Erins Own overcome Thomastown. The stage was set for the final match of the Féile day and the two sides started strong. It was a brilliant first half with both sides having their fair share of the possession. The start of the second half saw Erins Own put on the pressure as they relentlessly attacked the opposition's goals. However, they failed to convert their chances and Piltown came to the fore and were composed and accurate in their scoring chances to end up convincing winners.

Well done to all the players, coaches and parents who made the day such a success for all players. The John West Féile 2021 pledge that 'no player would be left behind' was honoured in no small part by the Kilkenny LGFA County Board whose volunteers were first there and last to leave on the day to ensure the event ran as smoothly as possible.



*John Lockes LGFC Féile Shield Champions*



*Clara Féile Squad*



*Tullogher Féile Squad*



*Piltown LGFC Féile Plate Champions*



*Kilkenny City and Dunnamaggin Captains before Féile Cup Semi-final*



*Railyard Féile Squad*



*Erins Own Féile Squad*



*John Locke's Féile Captain*



*Piltown Féile Captain*



## AROUND THE CLUBS



Clara LGFC had a great 2021 season including challenge matches, Féile 2021, U12 to U16 League games and U14's & Minor Championship. We grew from a Mothers&Others team in 2012, to 7 teams, 12 coaches & 113 members by 2021. The dedication, determination, enthusiasm & skill improvement this season, bodes well for the future of football in Clara! Our U8 & U10 teams, learnt & excelled in skills & the rules of the game leading to great success in friendly challenge matches. We fielded two U12s teams and participated in U11 games. Through dedicated teamwork & skills improvement both squads played great competitive football! Our U14 squad, grew in ability & confidence, improving skills & developing match strategy to reach the championship semi-final. 5 players represented Clara in U14 Kilkenny County Development panel. U16's focused on fun & enjoyment in 2021, their camaraderie was amazing which led to skills development great sportsmanship. The Clara /Thomastown combined Minor team is currently top of their Roinn A table. These talented girls are true ambassadors for Clara.

Our 1st hugely successful skills camp in August included athletics, yoga, expertise & motivation from International, County, and Minor players and a TG4 referee.

Find us on Clara webpage, Facebook and Instagram.

### CLARA LGFC



&



### DUNNAMAGGIN LGFC

With over 200 members our club still boasts the title of Kilkenny's largest Ladies Football Club, an achievement indeed considering the club is only 6 years old! Dunnamaggin LGFC had a very successful 2021 season participating in competitions at all age levels from U12 right up to adult. Due to great numbers, for the second year running, we had two teams take part in the U12 league. The teams were split equally by age and both teams did brilliantly winning both the Roinn C and D League finals. Our U14s contested very well in Roinn A this year and our U16s are awaiting the Roinn A League Final against Kilkenny City. Our Minor squad have had huge success this season winning the Roinn B League title and they await the Roinn B Championship final V Railyard. Our adult squad are developing and building strength with each year passing and are definitely ones to watch for the future. The club also catered for a non-competitive fun Mothers&Others squad, U10, U8 and U6 groups. Check out our Facebook, Instagram or Twitter page for more information. Well done to all our squads and management teams making the club and parish very proud this season.



### ERIN'S OWN LGFC

2021 was a very positive year for Erin's Own with increase in numbers at all our underage teams. Our U10's, U8's and U6's showed great commitment and improvement throughout the year and played some really exciting local derbies. Our U12's had some tough matches in the league playing at all times with great heart and determination and finished the year with a great win in our league final over a gallant Clara team. Our U14's (Pictured)made good progress this year throughout the league but the highlight of the year was our Championship Quarter Final win over Kilkenny City. Unfortunately, Tullogher Rosbercon proved too strong on the day in the semi-final. We also submitted a team in the U15 Féile when after some great performances the team just came up short in the plate final but laid a good foundation for next years U16's team. At Adult level our Junior team got their just rewards for a long season of training when qualifying for the Shield final courtesy of a hard fought win over our near neighbours Railyard. Looking forward to 2022 we hope to see a continued increase in playing numbers on our juvenile teams up to U16's and continue the excellent progress of our Junior team



### JOHN LOCKES LGFC

This has been a great year for our club as it was the first year that we had players at every age group from under 6's all the way to Adult level.

Our u6s to u10s all played a number of matches throughout the year and worked really hard on building their skills while also enjoying the game of football.

Our u12s had an excellent season and managed to secure a cup in the u12s League Final. The girls have trained hard all year and are continuing into the winter months.

2021 has been a great year for our u.14 panel. 27 players on the panel and enthusiasm was in abundance at every training session and match. Féile Shield winners, finalists in the Roinn A League final, and currently awaiting at time of writing to compete in the Roinn A Championship final.

The club fielded a team at minor level for the first time ever in 2021 and the very young side acquitted themselves well, going down to Dunamaggin after a fiercely contested semi-final.

Our Adult team have been working tirelessly all year in a tough competition, they are currently awaiting their shield semi-final against Dunamaggin in the hopes to defend their title.

Many thanks to all our our coaches, committee members and volunteers who assisted throughout the year





## KILKENNY CITY LGFC



A historic year for Kilkenny City LGFC. Not only was 2021 our 10th birthday but for the 1st time in the clubs history we fielded a second adult team. More history made this year was our Minor squad contesting the delayed 2020 final.



*Kilkenny City 2020 Minor Squad*



*Kilkenny City Adult Squad*



## MUCKALEE LGFC

Muckalee LGFC is going from strength to strength. We now have over 120 member and volunteers. We started the year by winning the 2020 minor championship. We had teams in every age group this year. From having no adult team three years ago, we built on last year's adult team and won the Adult Roinn A Championship. It is the first time Muckalee will feature in the Leinster Junior Championship.

Our u12s were unlucky in their League Cup B final being defeated. Our u14 girls are in a league and championship C Cup final as are our u16 and minor girls.

We have great numbers at u6, u8 and u10 age groups. These girls enjoyed many blitzes during the season.



*Muckalee U14 Roinn B League Champions*



## PILTOWN LGFC

It has been a short but very successful year for Piltown. A year of firsts. The first time to win the Under-12A Final, beating Thomastown after extra time in a thriller at the Grennan pitch by 2-7 to 1-6. The first time to win a Féile title, winning the Under-15 Plate final against Erins Own on the Kells Road by 5-4 to 1-1. The first time to assemble and organise coaching for Under-8s and Under-10s and to play matches. Both making their match debuts against Tulloher Rosbercon. The first time to have over 100 registered members fielding teams from Under-8 to Minor.

Let's not forget the Gaelic4Mothers & Others, whose popularity continues to grow and attract wonderful members to the club for sport and social activities. Once again, they hosted a successful Ann Gahan Memorial tournament raising a huge sum of money for the Solas Cancer Support Centre. We also had a couple of players on permission to play at adult level. At Intercounty level Piltown were represented by Lia O'Brien and Kaleigh O'Shea at Under-16 and Katelynn Moore, Emily Falconer and Cliodhna Malone at Under-14. As a club we are proud of every one of our players and look forward to building more success and firsts in 2022.



*Piltown's First Ever U8 Squad*



## RAILYARD LGFC

2021 was another great year for Railyard Ladies with the club continuing to grow and gain momentum. This year seen our numbers increase to its highest level yet at 149 registered members. We were delighted to have teams registered to play at all age grades again this year.

Our u6/u8, u10 & u12 teams all had a busy and enjoyable football season. A tremendous effort was put into these underage teams this year and some great improvement in player development was clear to be seen in their games across the season.

For the first time our u14 team played in Roinn A. The girls did very well finishing in third place in the league and making it to the semi-final stages of the championship.

Our u16 and minor teams have made huge strides and are through to the u16 league and championship finals and minor championship final. A very committed group of girls that have gone from strength to strength this football season!

Our adult team continued to develop this year with further improvement and match experience being gained with every game played. Thanks to our committee, coaches and mentors as without their commitment and dedication 2021 would not have been the success it has been.



*Railyard Minor Team 2021*



*Railyard U16 team 2021*



## TULLOGER ROSBERCON LGFC

In Tullogher-Rosbercon, we look back with great satisfaction and pride on a unique, hectic and successful season in girls football. Our young club, which only reformed a few years ago, fielded teams in more grades than ever this season: U10, U12, U14 and U16. We also had training for U6 to U8 again this year and a large number of new girls signed up enthusiastically for football, which is terrific to see! Our u10s played in the blitz in Clara shortly before lockdown and we were drawn out to play in the reknowned Croke Park blitz, which didn't go ahead for obvious reasons, but we are looking ahead hopefully to next year! Our u12s were delighted to get 5 group games, acquitteding themselves tremendously, before being pipped by a point in our pulsating league final. Our u14s were superb, getting to our club's first ever championship final! On an exciting occasion for us all, we were second best to an excellent Muckalee team. Our u16s improved commendably throughout the season, having a most impressive win in the Co quarter-final before bowing out to eventual winners Dunnamaggin in the semi, despite a very encouraging performance. We look forward immensely to next season!



*Tullogher-Rosbercon U16 Squad*



## THOMASTOWN LGFC

Thomastown LGFC have had another busy season with plenty of great football played by all groups. Thomastown U12s had a great season this year, a great bunch of girls and a pleasure to train, it showed in all their games because they worked for each other on the pitch. For the first time in a few years we found ourselves playing in the A final and it was the best game of the season with both teams giving it their all. It went into extra time with everything all even till the last couple of minutes Piltown came out on top. Anyone that watched or witnessed a truly remarkable game of football. Our superb adult squad reached the Adult Championship final this year against Muckalee. They played some brilliant football but the scores didn't go our way on the night. Thanks to all our club mentors, players and parents on a great season of ladies gaelic football in Thomastown.



*Thomastown U12s Roinn A Finalists*

## DAVID & STEPHEN DOWLING

***Star hurley manufacturer***

***Jenkinstown Park,  
Jenkinstown,  
Co. Kilkenny***

***Mob: 083-4347775***



# 1904

## KILKENNY'S BRILIANT TRIUMPH

### OVER CORK'S EX-CHAMPIONS

ALL HURLING FINAL

GREAT DAY AT CARRICK

Kilkenny, 1-9 Cork, 1-8

*(From our Special Reporter).*

At last Kilkenny can claim the championship of Ireland in hurling. Her veteran hurlers, sprinkled with the new blood which has latterly grown up in our midst, have achieved a veritable triumph which will long redound to their credit and skill; have come out best in a home final which will be made memorable for years to come by the dogged persistence which characterised the encounter, the close contest which it evoked and the brilliancy of play which it gave rise to. Following their notable victory over Dublin at Enniscorthy a fortnight before.

**Tullaroan on Sunday surprised their friends and confounded their opponents** by their masterly display of hurling. Unfortunate in former finals Sunday's victory was all the more deserved and all the more welcome. Dogged by consistent ill luck on all occasions when it came to the final bout our local champions got an opportunity at Carrick of showing the stuff they were made of. They made good use of it. Their achievement has rehabilitated their prestige and made good their claim to be considered the foremost combination in Ireland. For three years past Cork has held the championship and defended it against all comers.

**They had almost come to be looked upon as invincible.** And certainly there were good grounds that such thinking. Sunday's final has upset that theory. All the more glory attached therefore, to the team which has succeeded in wresting from them their laurels. But Kilkenny have other reasons for feeling satisfied with themselves. They can lay the flattering unction to their souls they have wiped out what cannot otherwise be described than as a smashing defeat which they received at the hands of the Lee men some 12 months ago at Dungarvan. Then they made no stand against the Cork stalwarts. Not the tables are turned. All the more ground for congratulation; all the more sweet the victory.

But to come more particularly to the match itself. Sunday was a red letter day in the town by the Suir. From the time they excursionists arrived the streets were black with a moving mass of humanity. From all points people converged on the town. By car, train and bicycle, and, of course, on foot they arrived at the rendezvous. From all the surrounding districts specials brought them by the thousands and poured them out, so that Carrick was in every sense a congested district while it lasted. Both teams, of course, had a large following; but the supporters of Kilkenny predominated. Not for years has such a gathering left the city and at each station on the downward line there was a considerable indentation of forces so that when the destination was reached it had swelled to enormous proportions. Leaving Kilkenny some 20 minutes late the train arrangements could not be said to have been up to the mark and the Kilkennyites were the last to arrive on the scene. Starting in bright sunshine some showers fell on the way thither. But the rain had given way again to the influence of the sun long before the time for defending came. Davin's Park with its glorious surroundings, therefore, looked its best on arrival. One of the best grounds in Ireland it is kept in splendid condition. The centre of a vast amphitheatre surrounded by wooded slopes, gently undulating, it is an ideal spot for Gaelic sports, and could not fail to remind me of the arena wherein the great Olympic contests were decided. Talking of this, by the way, reminds us that amongst the spectators on Sunday were two of the heroes of the Olympic games – Peter O'Connell and Con Leahy, both of whom expressed their intention to compete at the forthcoming Kilkenny Sports.

**Cork sent a splendid seventeen.** The pick of the county. Their representative character can be judged when it is stated that they included some four captains of different teams. Smart and lithe they looked in the green jerseys of the St Finn Barr's. Encouraged by their former victories they were confident of success as were all their supporters. All the more keen was the disappointment at the unexpected result. While taking beating as sportsmen should their chagrin was indeed deep at their defeat. But—

**Kilkenny too had a strong team.** Grace, Brennan and Saunders were the chief additions to that which they did duty at Enniscorthy. Doubtful but determined they went to work with a will and as the result proved were the better men. Unexpected to most, even of their well wishers, was their victory, but therefore doubly welcome. Bearing in mind Cork's reputation and powers their most ardent friends, while relying on them implicitly to do their utmost could not be sanguine of the result. Cork were undoubtedly the favourites for the even but the first half hour of play helped to make many, if not all, of the spectators veer round in their opinions. Right from the start the game was fast and exciting. Some want of sureness there was owing to the slippery nature of the ground, but this did not detract from the general character of the game. Playing with their wonted dash and determination.

**Kilkenny had the best of the opening half** And turned over a goal ahead of their opponents. The succeeding half was by the varying nature of the score most exciting. From the time that the southern equalised excitement was at fever heat and broke forth again and again in wildly enthusiastic cheers as one side forged ahead or gained advantage. When Kilkenny got their deciding scores it reached its culminating point. At the close there was

**A wild scene of enthusiasm** The ground was invaded by a delirious crowd who shouted themselves hoarse and tossed their hats into the air in the excess of their delight. Congratulations were showered upon the winning team who found it hard to escape to the dressing sheds.

**FoxMaher was carried bodily off the field.** While Jim Lalor found it impossible to escape from the enthusiastic throng.

#### THE GAME

Starting about 3.30 Cork were conceded the advantage of sun and wind. Opening in the centre Jim Lalor soon transferred. Cork worked back again but their movement was stopped and soon the ball was careering down again. The extreme forwards had not yet got to work and it looked as if nothing would result when Jer Doheny came to the rescue. And amidst loud cheers opened the scoring with a point. Within the opposing half Kilkenny still kept the ball. A wonderful defence was put up by the southerners, and Doheny's next attempt was wide. The puck out was a good one and gave Lanigan and Stapleton in the rear something to do. Up again Kilkenny brought the ball, but Kelleher saved. From far out Fielding had a shot which went true and the white flag was again seen waving for the Kilkenny Champions, amidst another outburst of applause.

Even this early there was a fluttering in the Cork dovecots, which reacted considerably on the players. Already they showed signs of nervousness and even of demoralisation. Their play was somewhat wild and their combination was not good. The ground, too, appeared to be against them. Kilkenny were not without recognising their advantage and profiting by it. Outwitting the centre men, Jim Lalor sent well forward and Walton lost no time in putting up the third minor with his usual accuracy of aim and judgement. This evoked still another outburst which was not allayed for minutes. Still Cork could not get beyond the line of demarcation, although they had pulled themselves together somewhat and were working very hard. The Lalor brothers were playing splendidly and gave them plenty to do.

Eventually the Cork men did get going. Lanigan was passed but Rochford was impassable and the effort was defeated. Again the movement was repeated. Sullivan sent forward but the ball went wide. Success attended them on the third occasion. Getting from Hennessy, T. Sheehan opened the innings with a point, which he secured nicely. Encouraged by this success the Cork men applied themselves more closely. Up-and-down play ruled for a short while. Then Kelleher passed to Sullivan who sent to Sheehan and that player caused the white flag to be again raised, and, indeed, narrowly missed the goal. The rising spirits of the Corkonians could be judged by their enthusiastic plaudits at the achievement. Their enthusiasm was accentuated soon after when the equaliser came, Sheehan again being responsible.

Relief came to Tullaroan when they were awarded a free. It was taken by Anthony. If his intention was to try for a goal he was ill advised. A point seemed almost inevitable. As it was, Leary cleared easily and Roynane backed up well. Subsequently it went wide. Cork went again attacking and matters looked bad for some time. Fox had to leave his posts to clear. D. Harrington, however, worked back and got the fourth point. Then Kilkenny went again to work in earnest. Away they came with a rush but Leary put a period to it. Not to be denied they came on again. Fielding and Saunders kept up the pressure. Doheny sent on and Doyle did just what was wanted and when the green flag was seen waving.

There seemed to be no restraint and the excitement was intense. The advantage of the succeeding play fell to Cork. They brought well up but the ball went over for nought. Coming on again a vigorous defence was offered them. Grace and Stapleton contributing some fine play, and keeping them well at bay. Still Sullivan had a shot but it was not sure and did not tell. Indeed there was a succession of shots on the part of the Corkonians from far out but none were successful. Then J. Lalor sent well down to Doheny but he was fouled when in a good position. From the centre Hynes made a good delivery which Walsh backed up. Fielding passed nicely to Brennan who increased the lead still further by a point. Coming on again Doheny centred the ball well but the forwards missed twice in succession. Still Doheny kept pressing and a "60" was ultimately awarded. Anthony again took the free but it was scoreless. Moloney defended well and the play was transferred. A score seemed imminent for Cork, but Fox made a wonderful clearance.

Centre play ensued in which Anthony Stapleton, Lalor and Fielding showed up well. McGrath and Sullivan were doing good work for Cork. Kelleher passed forward to Desmond, and up it went, but Lanigan was to be reckoned with and repulsed gamely. On they came again but Rochford imposed an insuperable barrier. Hennessy had a further try but he was wide of the mark. Kilkenny were still leading by a goal and notwithstanding all Cork's efforts they failed to improve matters. They made a still further attempt but Grace and Sullivan blocked it. Next, Fielding got an opening and sent nicely to Brennan who again did the trick, the white flag being again displayed. Before the close Cork emulated the example per Sheehan as the result of a nice shot, and the teams turned over on the score

KILKENNY... 1 goal 5 points  
CORK..... 5 points

With the lead of a goal Kilkenny were at it again from the restart, Brennan shot too far forward and was not able to follow up. From the side Riordan sent back but Harrington was too weak in shooting. Fox stopped



KILKENNY SENIOR HURLING TEAM 1904 - WINNERS OF OUR FIRST ALL IRELAND TITLE

**Back Row:** Dick Brennan, "Drug" Walsh, Eddie Doyle, Danny O'Connell (Mgr), Paddy "Icy" Lanigan, John James Brennan, Martin Lalor, Jack Hoyne.

**Seated:** Jim Dunne, Sim Walton, Pat Fielding, Dan Stapleton, Jer Doheny (Capt.), Jim Lalor, Jack Rochford, "Fox" Maher.

**Front Row:** Dick Doyle, Pat Saunders.

and sent well back. Kilkenny had a nice advantage from a touch but it was missed and went wide. On the puck out Ronayne hit well down but Lanigan replied. Cork still remained on the aggressive. Rochford battled gamely to keep them at bay. A desperate scrimmage ensued in front of the posts. Rochford was sent head over heels, and then the Captain of the Corkonians notched a goal when he found the posts at his mercy. This was the signal for another outbreak on the part of their countrymen. Fiercer and fiercer the game waxed. Doyle sent on and Anthony improved. From the side Hoyne centred well but Anthony went wide. Doyle initiated a nice combined movement but it was equally fruitless and Kilkenny had bad luck in not scoring. Fielding displayed good tactics, which culminated in a good stroke, but nothing came of it. Cork got a touch which relieved them greatly but Lanigan replied. It was not long until Sheehan again got possession and accounted for himself well by adding another point. Lanigan and Rochford having been outwitted. Kilkenny had a certain score for a free but Coughlan rushed in and blocked Saunders, to whom it was entrusted. This was somewhat disheartening and the effects of it were apparent in the subsequent play which was rather weak on the part of the locals. Quick to seize their opportunity Cork for a time looked like scoring but Fox saved the situation in a really splendid manner and received quite an ovation from the assembled multitude.

But the Lee men were not yet done. Again they assumed the aggressive but the shot was not accurate. Hennessy had a further try on the puck out. Stapleton barred. Then Kilkenny pulled themselves together again. A throw in relieved. Fielding improved and a score was narrowly missed. Back to the other side the ball went but Lanigan replied and again a score seemed within their grasp. With considerable ingenuity Moloney interposed and cleared, and the chance was gone.

Then was witnessed one of the most exciting incidents of the match. From a throw in Anthony sent on and a desperate encounter ensued close to the Cork goal. Twice the ball went into the mouth of the goal and twice it was sent back, the Cork backs playing in a marvellous fashion. Following up this advantage Cork came away again and incurred still another point in a rather east manner. Kilkenny had rather eased off now and Cork were playing the faster game. A sure score was stopped by Rochford who seemed to be in his best form. Stapleton carried along and then there was a re-awakening. Fielding started the movement and soon the Cork backs were playing all they knew. The struggle was short, sharp and decisive. A major score was narrowly missed but a minor was secured. Elated by this success Tullaroan continued to press. With a nice pass Doyle secured the equaliser and was treated to loud shouts of

approval which were deafening in their intensity.

Fast and furious the game now became with both sides on a par. A free awarded to the local men was taken by Lanigan. Like its predecessors it was without result. Herein lies an inherent weakness in the team which above the loss caused by the continued absence of Murphy. With him every free would have been a certain point at least. With Kilkenny continued to have the best of matters. Doyle and J. Lalor ran through four of the St. Finbarr's and were well backed by M. Lalor. Stapleton got hurt and had to retire. He was substituted by J. Dunne and both sides started even within about five minutes remaining. Determined to do or die Kilkenny recommended well. Saunders created a nice opening with a stroke from the side and Fielding availed of it to snatch a nice point. This further enlivened matters and both sides strove manfully. Jim Lalor drove right up to the posts but it was sent back again. Doyle was the next to send forward and now Cork began to waver in their play and show signs of unsteadiness. Playing badly, as they were, Brennan seized his opportunity to make matters more secure for his side with another point. Kilkenny were now two points ahead and there were but a few minutes to go.

Salvoes of cheers were raised for Kilkenny who kept the ball well up. O'Sullivan relieved for Cork and still the ball did not cross the dividing line. When at length it did get down the field Rochford was quick to return it. Shortly before the close Cork made a determined burst and although they were repulsed more than once eventually succeeded in getting over for a point. In the melee Fox was slightly hurt but the game was resumed and the final whistle soon went and Kilkenny were declared winners of the home final on the score: -

KILKENNY.....1 goal 9 points  
CORK.....1 goal 8 points

The teams were: -

**Kilkenny** - J. Dohney (capt.), P. Maher (goal), S. Walton, J. Hoyne, P. Saunders (Tullaroan), Jas Lalor, M. Lalor, J. Rochford, D. Grace (Threecastles), R. Doyle, E. Doyle, P. Fielding, R. Walsh (Mooncoin), R. Brennan, D.J. Stapleton, P. Lanigan (Erins' Own), J. Anthony (Piltown).

**Cork** - D. Harrington (capt.), J. Harrington, W. Sheehan, D. Sheehan, M. O'Leary, M. Linehan, W. Moloney, P. O'Sullivan, J. Kelly (St Finbarr's), J. Kelleher, W. Hennessy, J. Desmond, J. Roynane (Dungourney), T. Coughlan, S. Riordan (Blackrock), D. O'Keeffe, D. McGrath (Redmonds).

#### THE GAME FROM THE CORK VIEWPOINT

The "Cork Examiner" writing of the match says: - "The representative hurling seventeen of the Leintster and Munster met on Sunday on the Deerpark ground, Carrick-on-Suir in their battle for the 1904 All Ireland hurling supremacy. Munster was represented by St Finbarr's (Cork), picked team, Leinster's interruh were looked after by a Kilkenny selection, composed of the following clubs: Tullaroan, Threecastles, Mooncoin and Erin's Own. The result of the contest was a big surprise to many of the followers of the Barrs, and there were apparently very few in the know as to the capabilities of Kilkenny's combination and of their prospects of success. The ball had not been long in motion when Kilkenny started off at a very fast pace, and to them fell the honours of first score, the white flag being raised to the accompaniment of tremendous cheering by the spectators who numbered about four thousand. They continued to supplement steadily and whenever their posts had been threatened they set up an impenetrable defence. The performance of some of the Cork seventeen during the first half hour, especially those before the scoring line, were distinctly faulty. Before the match had begun there was a heavy downpour, however all but short duration and this made the field very greasy. The result was a lot of bad mis-strokes, of which the majority were on the Cork side, and what was worse still the shooting for scores was badly directed, there being several overs. The customary dash of the Barrs was altogether for the most part absent, and there was noticeable at periods of the contest a decided lack of determination by some of the forwards and backs. Notwithstanding these blemishes the match was closely contested, and when half-time was reached the score: Kilkenny 1 goal 5 points; Cork, 5 points. In the concluding period there were a few dull moments, and it was thought that Kilkenny would not be able to maintain the pressure, but those anticipations were clearly falsified. It then became a neck and neck run to the finish, score for score, and five minutes of the expiration of full time it seemed as if the tussle would have wound up in a draw, but such an unsatisfactory feature of the contest was not to be, for the Kilkenny men, working like Trojans, came through the fight with a point victory. The final score was Kilkenny 1 goal 9 points, Cork 1 goal 8 points. There was some excellent individual play on the Cork side but the team as a whole was not up to standard form. Of the victors' performances it must be said that they not only deserved to win, but they have won altogether on their merits. There may have been such a feeling as over-confidence prevalent on the Barrs' side, but if did exist, it was simply fatal, as proved by results. Kilkenny's success was hailed with considerable jubilation by their followers and supporters which of course was quite natural and quite proper."



1905

# KILKENNY WIN EASILY

## ALL HURLING FINAL

Match in Dungarvan

Big Attendance

**Kilkenny, 7-7 Cork, 2-9**

The 1905 all-Ireland football and hurling finals have, resulted in some astounding surprises, perhaps the most astonishing for a considerable number of years. Leinster has achieved very high distinction in winning the double event in a manner which leaves no possible opportunity for contention as to their supremacy. Kildare's successful battle against Kerry for football honours came as a complete revelation, but it was nothing compared with the astonishment occasioned yesterday in Dungarvan by the utter rout of the Barr's combination; and, probably, a stronger hurling seventeen, taken all round, has seldom done battle, for Cork.

But as events showed, the team looked strong only on paper, for when it came to playing the second half-hour the 'Barrs' were hopelessly out of the match. It was a remarkable contest in many respects and a strange coincidence about it was the fact that having won choice of position, which gave them the advantage of playing with a rather strong sun to their backs, they did not avail of it, and when the second period of the tussle was reached, the rays of the sun did not count for much, and accordingly Kilkenny were more fortunate than had been anticipated, and they simply ran their opponents off their legs, though in the first division of the contest, Cork had been leading by five points.

In connection with the circumstances leading up to the replay, it should perhaps be mentioned for the information of those who take but a passing interest in Gaelic contests that Cork and Kilkenny had previously met on Tipperary's field on Sunday, 14th April last, when Cork were victorious. It was subsequently discovered, or rather represented to the Kilkenny men that on the Cork team was a player who was illegal, because of his being a militiaman, and acting somewhat up to the spirit of the 17th century satire of the feuds of that period wherein Kilkenny men were ungenerously denominated "Kilkenny Cats," fighting until nothing remained but their tails, the prospect of meeting Cork once more was readily embraced. They accordingly lodged an

objection with the executive body the Central Council, the members of which, acting on the bye-law which excludes men of this particular class from having also decided that the constitution of the Kilkenny seventeen was not above suspicion, the match was ordered to be replayed, the venue being changed from Tipperary to Waterford's seaport.

Hence yesterday's second, contest. As already remarked, the performance of the Barrs' pick against the Erin's Own combination, which represented the Marble City, was exceedingly disappointing right through the concluding half-hour. Kilkenny were not long in obtaining level terms, but they scored with rather monotonous frequency, and completely outclassed their opponents in all departments of the game. This had a demoralising effect on the Corkmen, who appeared to have gone to pieces and lost all heart in the match. They occasionally rallied, but to no material degree, and the work cut out for the backs, with one or two exceptions, was more than they could accomplish.

It was a sensational knock-out for Cork, who did not at all display the same training, staying power, or combination as characterised their opponents, whose forwards were practically unbeatable: The final score was—

**Kilkenny, 7 goals, 7 points;  
Cork, 2 goals, 9 points.**

The weather was all that could be desired, and the arrangements for the game left nothing to be desired. The match was witnessed by about 13,000 people. Special trains were run from Cork, Kilkenny, Clonmel, Waterford, North and South. The morning special from Cork was largely patronised.

### FIRST HALF.

There was a short delay in getting the teams to work. Cork were on field before their rivals, and when the latter had lined out, Mr. Crowe, of Dublin, lost no time in effecting a start. Cork won the toss, but elected to play against a rather strong sun. The opening was in favour

of Cork, but the ball was whipped back and a free went to Cork. The free was taken by D. O'Leary, who landed a point for Cork. A few bad misses by Kilkenny let Cork off again, and A. Buckley, catching a nice shot, pulled off the second minor for Cork. The delivery was well responded to, and D. McGrath and W. Moloney stalled off a thunderous rush by Kilkenny. The return was smartly taken, and some bad mis-strokes gave Cork a chance without, however, effect. In the next onslaught, C. Nolan drove finely only to find the opposing backs ready for the fray, and eventually the ball found itself in Cork ground.

The game was particularly fast, and O'Leary, availing of an opening and by means of a good swinging drive placed Kilkenny's posts in jeopardy, and a fierce battle was closed by the whistle going for "a man injured." The injured player was none the less than Kilkenny's captain, Stapleton who had to permanently retire much to the disappointment of the players and followers of Kilkenny. T. Murphy having replaced him, Cork got away well, and C. Young lost little time in running up one more point for Cork. The send out was a poor effort, and Billy O'Neill confined operations. Anthony intercepted smartly, and it looked as if Cork posts would fall, but thanks to C. Nolan the impending danger was averted until Kilkenny were given a fifty, and had extremely hard luck in not registering. Following up the delivery, Mackessy opened fire with a major for Cork, and the chances were altogether in favour of Cork repeating. The defence was much too good, Ronayne sending over the end line. The free sent Cork once more attacking. The play elicited an admirable display of combination, and Hennessy centreing neatly to C. Young, the latter was responsible for a goal for Cork.

The goal discharge saw Kelleher going great guns, ably supported by Hennessy and Mackessy but a neat and quite unexpected finishing touch was put in by Kilkenny's forwards, who were a speedy lot. Kelly quickly took from Doyle, and the green flag went up in favour of Kilkenny, whose big following were, not slow to give vent to their



**KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1905**

**Back:** JJ Dardis (Hon Sec), J McSweeney, W Culleton, D Stapleton, D Kennedy, J Brennan, P Kerwick, P Murphy (Vice President).  
**Middle:** D O'Connell (President), J Fitzpatrick, R Brennan, J Holmes, M Leahy (Capt), M Shortall, T Kenny, M Brennan, J Hughes (Treasurer)  
**Front:** M Walshe, P Lanigan, J Kerwick, JJ Brennan

enthusiasm. Kilkenny received a free from halfway, but Cork forwards charged down, and the tussle was closed by A. Buckley sending through for a minor to the advantage of Cork. Billy O'Neill returned delivery, but the ball travelled dead. Carrying on determinedly to the goal outcome, Kilkenny, with the aid of remarkably fine combined play, carried well inside their opponent's lines and just missed their objective by inches. Mackessy received from the front rank and a possible score was checkmated by an excellent defence.

Kilkenny again became aggressive but had to rest contented with an over. In the subsequent bout D. O'Leary was conspicuous, and off that player C. Young wound up with a minor. Some very bad mistroking was now manifest on the Cork side which let the Kilkenny forwards off, and Kelly replied with a well-judged minor. Not many minutes had gone before Cork had to again protect their uprights. The defensive battles were quite in keeping with the exigencies of the occasion and Kilkenny had in turn to fall back on their posts.

After a vigorous defence a point was scored by Ronayne to the accompaniment of well-merited plaudits. It was a clever piece of work as he had been strenuously pressed before his hurley had found the ball. The next feature of the play was the getting of a free by Kilkenny. The position was far inside Cork's half way, and Kennedy having placed admirably for Kelly, the green flag indicated that Kilkenny had pulled off a major. Lawlor having added a minor, half-time was reached with Cork leading by four points.

**Score: —**

**CORK—2 goals 6 points.**

**KILKENNY 2 goals 2 points.**

**SECOND HALF**

Immediately on resuming, Mehigan showed up with a brilliant stroke, but Kilkenny secured the sideline delivery. Cork's lines were threatened. W. Moloney experienced a hot time until C. Nolan came to the rescue. The relief was of the most temporary character, Kilkenny sending wide. Cork renewed the encroachment and landed a minor. Kilkenny replied gamely with a similar score, which ought to have been frustrated by Cork's full-back.

It now became evident that Cork were inclined to exhibit signals of distress, and indeed in the subsequent stages of the contest Cork got hopelessly left. The driving power was not only erratic, but the muffing was most extraordinary.

D. McGrath having staved off danger, Kilkenny came again, and successfully swarmed their opponents' stronghold, a point going down to them. Play next lay in Kilkenny ground, and here Hennessy was prominent with McGrath and Beckett. Lawlor, who had proved himself indispensable, speedily relieved, and a fifty for Kilkenny, taken by Anthony, saw the Cork backs fighting for all they were worth. A goal was rushed by Kilkenny amid tremendous excitement, as the teams now stood level.

Cork's posts wore in danger again, but D. McGrath's shot proved useful, and the assistance afforded by Ronayne and Mackessy was equally effective. Cork eventually were

awarded a point, which elicited a goal for Kilkenny.

The latter were now altogether turned against Cork, for Kilkenny repeatedly invaded, score followed score in rather monotonous fashion. Cork meanwhile had lost heart in the game. The combination was most faulty, the muffing almost unaccountable, and the only man who seemed going in the backs was the Dungourney representative, Kelleher. Cork's posts fell time and again to the inroads of Kilkenny who came out victors on the following score :—

**KILKENNY – 7 goals 7 points.**

**CORK—2 goals 9 points.**

Teams :—

**CORK (Finbarr's)-** C. Young (capt.), M. O'Leary (V.C.), D. Leary, C. Nolan, J. Kelly, W. Moloney, J. Beckett, D. Lenihan. Dungourney—J. Kelleher. J. Ronayne, V. Leahy, W. Hennessy. Sarsfields—W. O'Neill. Redmonds—D. McGrath. Blackrock—P. Mehigan, W. Mackessy, A. Buckley.

**KILKENNY (Erin's Own)—** E. Teehan (goal), S. Walton, J. Hoyne (Tullaroan). J. Lawlor, M. Lawlor, J. Rochford (Three Castles). J. Grace (Clomantuohy), D. Stapleton, Kennedy, J.J. Brennan, P. Lanigan, T. Kenny (Erin's Own), J. Anthony Piltown), J. Kelly, E and R. Doyle, R. Walsh (Mooncoin).



1907

The Cork Examiner

MONDAY MORNING JUNE 22ND 1908

# KILKENNY WIN BY A POINT

ALL HURLING FINAL

MUNSTER (CORK) V LEINSTER (KILKENNY)

ENORMOUS ATTENDANCE

Kilkenny, 3-12 Cork, 4-8

In the history of the various battles fought for hurling supremacy, the contest for the 1907 championship has eclipsed all others in point of public interest. From the very day on which the fixture was made, the possibilities and probabilities of the issue constituted the sole subject of discussion, not only in the two provinces directly interested, but it might be said throughout the entire of Ireland. Other topics appeared to have been relegated to a secondary position, had, as it were, paled into insignificance beside the exciting question of the day - Who shall be the victor - Cork or Kilkenny? The series of decidedly hard struggles which had to be encountered in order to qualify for the final, imparted a degree of interest to yesterday's contest in Dungarvan of a nature heretofore unexcelled in fights for the hurling blue riband. To have achieved a victory over a sturdy, well trained seventeen as Thurles (1906 champions), in the Munster final, was no small triumph for Cork. The Tipperary men were really dangerous opponents, for Tom Semple had his team trained to the very acme of perfection, and the knock-out only came after a resistance of the most strenuous description so characteristic of Tipperary's manhood. Couple with those considerations is the fact that since 1902 the Dungourney men, whose selected team represented Cork in yesterday's tussle, failed to secure All-Ireland honours. In the following year, however, Blackrock filled the vacancy by the defeat of the Hibernian of London. Subsequently the Barrs, Cork, during the three successive years, experienced the worse of hard luck, having to bite the dust on each occasion, the honours going to Kilkenny twice, and, as already indicated, Thurles winning the 1906 championship. It will thus be seen that interest of quite an uncommon nature centred in the outcome

of the 1907 struggle. The combatants receiving the unmeasured encouragement and support of their numerous followers, had undergone a rigorous course of training by way of preparation for the battle, and of course confidence in the issue was about equally shared opinions, having been backed in substantial cash transactions. In this connection, it might be mentioned that betting on matches has been strongly discountenanced by the Gaelic Athletic Association, but there it ends. It was evident that over the result of yesterday's contest a considerable sum of money had changed ownership. Such are the fortunes of war, or rather betting.

Having regard to the previous performance of Kilkenny, present champions of Leinster, and the determination shown by Dungourney's selected to "pull" of the coveted distinction, and thus retrieve Cork's lost laurels, it is not surprising that the even should have excited the keenest interest and speculation. The train which was run from Cork was unquestionably the biggest that has left for a considerable period, and at the intermediate station on the way to the county of Waterford, the vast multitude had been very materially segmented. Eminently fortunate were the members of the Central Council in the matter of weather conditions, which left nothing to be desired. In addition to the several specials, all booked for Dungarvan, every conceivable mode of conveyance was utilised for the purpose of reaching the scene of the big fight. Cyclists journeyed any distance to witness the contest, the Cork section of the wheelmen proceeding by train to Youghal, and thence pedalling to the theatre of operations at Dungarvan.



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1907

*Back: Jack Keoghan, Jack Rochford, Tom Kenny, Dan Stapleton, Danny O'Connell (Mgr.), Paddy "Icy" Lanigan, John T. Power, Dick Brennan, Sim Walton.*  
*Middle: Eddie Doyle, Dick Doherty, Mick Doyle, Rev. J. B. Dollard, "Drug" Walsh, Jim Kelly, Dick Doyle, Dan Kennedy.*  
*Front: Matt Gargan, Jack Anthony. Dick Brennan did not play in final. Dan Grace was not available for photograph.*

The match had started well up to the advertised time, and the Rev. Father Dollar ("Slievenamon"), with whose writings very Gaol has been made familiar, having spoken some encouraging words to both teams, the battle opened. It was a desperately fast, hard match, during the first period of which Cork not only held Kilkenny very cleverly, but showed them the way during the initial stage. In the concluding stages of the game Cork had to go under to Kilkenny to the tune of a single minor, the result thus having come on the supporters and followers of Cork with undisguised amazement. It was evident that Kilkenny had come to win and this they certainly did on their merits. The defeat of the Dungourney selected is regrettable, when it is borne in mind that as far as practice went there was nothing neglected to ensure success. However, Dungourney selected did not go down without a great fight, and with more reliability on their scoring line the issue might have been of quite a different nature. All speculation as to the merits of the respective aspirants to all-Ireland distinction had at least been met at last and there is nothing but hope for the future. The disappointment has been pretty considerable, and whether by a point or the larger margin there is no disputing the fact that Cork has been defeated by a seventeen who showed decided superiority in the leading features of hurling. Details: -

#### FIRST HALF

Kilkenny were the first to take the field, and were soon followed by the Corkmen. Both teams received a great reception on lining out, and speedily responded to the whistle, held by Mr M.F. Crowe, Dublin. The advertised time was 3 o'clock, and at 3.20 the Rev. Fr. Dollard ("Slievenamon") having addressed a few encouraging words to the teams, the battle opened. From the start Kilkenny got away with a great turn of speed, and Lannigan broke through for a sensational opening - a goal for Kilkenny when the match was in progress but a short time. Kilkenny kept up the pressure, Garrigan and Doyle heading some fierce on-straight on the Cork posts. Parfrey saved, and play was taken to the halfway where Cork had the mastery and Kelleher Junr., lost no time in getting under the bar for a goal. Excitement now reached the highest pitch, Cork working in spending unison. Kelleher centred in fine style to Hennessy, who got in for the second goal for Cork. Going immensely well the Kilkenny forces had to go down before Cork, Keefe sending smartly to Kelleher junr., who drove magnificently for a minor. Kilkenny, having added two minors, Kelly intercepeted from Garrigan and landed a minor which resulted from sound judgement. Desmond's defensive work was a feature of the game and T. Coughlan and Jim Kelleher were also conspicuous. The interchanges were decidedly interesting, and the pace desperately fast. Kelly, who had been going great guns for Kilkenny, pulled off a goal, to which Billy O'Neill replied with a minor, and Kelleher Junr., who displayed wonderful form, could not be denied a score for Cork. It was now a gruelling battle, from which Walton emerged with a point for Kilkenny. A dangerous rush was put in by Kilkenny, which was frustrated by Steve Riordan. Lannigan was too clever, and found the posts for Kilkenny. The Cork posts were now besieged time and time again, but the defence of Kelleher, Desmond, Coughlan and Parfrey could not be excelled. The spectators were given a display of hurling seldom witnessed, and the feats of each side were received with marked enthusiasm. The leather was going meanly from end to end with about equal advantage in point of brilliant exchanges. The lead that had been run up by Cork after an early stage of the encounter was more than maintained to the finish of the half-hour and matters looked more hopeful. The attacks and repulses were singularly void as the ball travelled from post to post. The various phases of the battle were watched



*Eddie, Dick and Ned Doyle (Mooncoin)*

with the closest interest, and the feeling of the spectators were distinctly divided as to the issue. The Kilkenny men seemed to have commanded the bulk of popular feeling, and their play, at times distinctly brilliant, was cheered to the echo of Cork, however, supplemented with effect, and when the half-hour was reached the score stood: -

**CORK - 4 goals 2 points**  
**KILKENNY - 2 goals 4 points.**

#### SECOND HALF

The second half hour was opened with Cork leading by four points. The game had not been long started when the Cork men were penalised at the cost of point. Cork had again to pay the penalty, and this brought Kilkenny very considerable relief. Kilkenny, per Kennedy, off a fifty, added to Cork's opponents' record with a smartly secured minor, and Doyle was allowed to go too much on the loose, again supplemented for Kilkenny. A great drive by Tom Coughlan quite threequarters of the field gave Cork the advantage. Hennessy finding the posts for the minor record. To this Kilkenny responded gamely with two minors. Up to this point Cork had been doing well, but Kilkenny with a dashing display found the Cork posts with the major score, which gave them the advantage. Kilkenny were now showing the way unmistakably, and thought the defences were simply superb, the Kilkenny men, it was evident, were seriously encroaching on the Cork stronghold, which was largely due to the wonderful alacrity with which Kilkenny got possession on most occasions. Their catching and picking were now beginning to act to the serious disadvantage of Cork's chances, and the Southern backs were compelled to set up a vigorous defence in which they did splendid work. It was now score for score and it was side's game. The excitement was at its most intense point and nearing the close of the half hour it became more manifest. Cork had still a chance of equalising or winning, but the two golden opportunities that presented themselves were not accepted, and it was now apparent that Kilkenny, whose play at this stage of the contest shewed indications of decided superiority, were not to be deprived of the honours of the day. Reaching the expiration of the half hour indifferent fielding further strengthened Kilkenny's position, and they were by no means slow to improve on this defeat. The play of the Cork's backs was of the soundest description, but the forwards were not of quite the same stamina. There were magnificent invasions put in by Kilkenny where long overhead shots gave them footholds in

Cork territory from which it was almost impossible to dislodge them. Cork fought desperately to assume the lead but the task was beyond their powers, and when the final period of the contest was reached the game stood in favour of Kilkenny by the narrow margin of one point. The score was: -

**KILKENNY - 3 goals and 12 points (21 points).**  
**CORK - 4 goals 8 points (20 points).**

#### The team were -

**Kilkenny - D.Walsh (capt), R.Doyle, M.Doyle, E.Doyle, J.Kelly, J.Doherty (Moondarrig). J.Kelly, M.Garrigan, D.Stapleton, D.Kennedy, P.Lanigan (Erin's Own), J. Power (goal), J. Anthony (Piltown), J.Walton, J.Keoghan (Tullaroan), J. Rochford (Three Castles). M.Grace (Clomanto).**

**Cork - James Kelleher (captain), J.Ronayne, J.Desmond, W.Hennessy, T.Mahony, P.Leahy, J.Shea, J.Lynch, G.Buckley, J.Kelleher (Dungourney), T.Coughlan, S.Riordan, W.Parfrey, D.Kidney (Blackrock), D.O'Keefe, J.Beckett (St Finnbarrs), W.O'Neill (Sarsfields).**

#### NOTES ON THE GAME

While I strongly sympathise with the Dungourney men on their defeat, I have been more convinced that a more superior team could have been selected. The scoring line was the weak point, and here Mackery would have proved invaluable had he got a place on the seventeen. It is also noted the opinion of the vast majority of the Cork following that Nolan and O'Keefe should not have been passed over. Where Kilkenny mainly succeeded was by the fact that their pick was more of a general character. Another factor which told to the disadvantage of Cork was the fielding, which left much to be desired. The Kilkenny forwards were allowed too much on the loose, and were permitted to handle too freely, with disastrous results. Their long shots were not only taken with rapidity, but proved deadly accurate. Garrigan, Kennedy, Doherty and Anthony were simply unbeatable and to those players must largely be attributed Kilkenny's success. On the Cork side, Jim Kelleher played a marvellously fine game throughout the entire hour, and got Cork out of some dangerous situations. His brother did some credible work also, while Parfrey (goal) was more than a reliable custodian. Ronayne, Desmond, Hennessy, Tom Coughlan, Riordan and Keefe played a sound game.



1909

The Cork Examiner

MONDAY MORNING DECEMBER 13TH 1909

# WIN FOR KILKENNY

ALL HURLING FINAL

TIPPERARY V. KILKENNY

CONTEST IN CORK  
HUGE ATTENDANCE

Kilkenny, 3-12      Cork, 4-8

In the Cork Athletic Grounds yesterday the All Ireland hurling final between Tipperary (Thurles) and Kilkenny was fought to a finish. The interest manifested in the battle for the hurling blue ribbon was widespread, and it might with perfect safety be asserted that in the issue of the great fight the four provinces of Ireland were intimately concerned in the result. Excursion trains were run from all parts, and were availed to the utmost extent. The weather, which was not propitious, did not appear in the slightest to exercise anything approaching a deterrent effect on the attendance of those who had journeyed from the most remote parts of Ireland in order to be present at the memorable tussle.

The crowd was simply enormous, every inch of the spacious Cork enclosure having been occupied, and in this connection it must be frankly admitted that the railway arrangements, which were of the most exacting nature, left no room for unfavourable comment. Then, as regards the arrangements made by the committee of the Cork Athletic Grounds, and what was possible was in evidence to cope with the unprecedented rush for admission to the grounds, and bearing in mind the recent heavy rains we have had, the playing area was in remarkably good order. The indefatigable hon.moe to the grounds, Mr JJ Buckley, left nothing undone to achieve the creditable results attained yesterday, as far as the Cork enclosure was concerned.

With each team came a big following of supporters, and their bands, and the

enthusiasm was most pronounced before the battle, and during its progress. Tipperary were much fancied to pull off the laurels, and the Leinster men also had their numerous following, who were sanguine as to the fight that would be put up by Kilkenny. There was a delay in the starting of the match, but it seemed unavoidable, and was not of that glaring nature sometimes associated with Gaelic matches. It will be remembered that in the present year's fight for hurling and football supremacy Munster was represented by Kerry and Tipperary, the former at Jones's Road on the previous Sunday, having come out victors over Louth on a pretty substantial margin. The hope was fondly cherished that Munster would also annex the hurling honours, but this expectation was far from realisation, though, to the credit of the Tipperary men, they tried desperately to retain the trophy.

There was a remarkable scene of enthusiasm prior to the beginning of the match, and the moment the teams entered the arena Mr M.F.Crowe, Dublin County Committee, lost no time in whittling the players into their respective positions. The battle raged furiously during the opening encounters. The pace was terrific considering the nature of the weather and the consequent effect on the ground. Tipperary broke off with great turn of speed and were soon in possession of their opponent's stronghold where the defence had to go down to the onslaught and Tipperary colours were triumphant with the first score - a minor. Kilkenny's response was a stinger, a fierce attack on Tipperary's post bringing forth a goal



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1909

*Back Row:* Sim Walton, Bill Hennebery, Jim Dunphy, Jack Rochford, Paddy Lanigan, Jack Keoghan.  
*Middle Row:* Jim Ryan, Eddie Doyle, Joe Delahunt, "Drug" Walsh, Matt Gargan, Dan Kennedy, Mick Shortall.  
*Front Row:* Mick Doyle, Dick Doherty, Jim Kelly, Dick Doyle.



which evoked a thunderous applause from their admirers. The defence on both sides were magnificent but at the early stage it was apparent that Tipperary's scoring was decidedly off colour. There were numerous overs, and against this and at every invasion substantial headway was being made by Kilkenny whose powerful long drives, faultless combination and excellent back work could not have been excelled. They continued to increase their score right through the contest, having got no less than 4 goals, while the Tipperary men had to rest contented with minors. The individual play was a rich treat to the spectators, but Tom Semple who has often steered Tipperary's colours to victory, had a versatile and courageous opponent in young Ryan who tackled the stalwart Tipperary captain at every movement, and with success.

It was hard luck on Tipperary to have lost the All-Ireland honours, but they were undoubtedly beaten by a superior team. The final score was -

Kilkenny - 4 goals 6 points: Tipperary, 12 points (18 points to 12). The final was, with the exception of one or two unavoidable accidents, not of a serious nature, fought to the finish in a manner that reflected the greatest credit on the contestants. It was thoroughly sportsmanlike, and the demeanour of players and spectators alike was highly commendable.

#### THE GAME

##### FIRST HALF

When the ball was not in motion, Jack Fitzgerald sent up well to his forwards. The time for supremacy here was short as the leather went in finely almost immediately, and this player in the first minute of the game had registered a point in favour of Tipperary. From the opening puck out the Kilkenny men were seen in a neat bit of combination work, and this took them to above mid-field. Here, however, Bourke received, and with a well-directed stroke, sent them back to resume the attack. Their stay was short, and Lanigan was prominent in a movement which gave Kilkenny the advantage territorially. A great tackle took place outside. For a couple of minutes the ball was hopping off the hurleys of both sides but eventually, when Brien came out to save, Kelly was put in possession, and being out on his own, sent up the green flag in favour of Kilkenny, to the accompaniment of loud cheering.

From the puck out Tipperary got possession, and when the game was won at mid-field, Bourke, with a free drive, was instrumental in improving the position at his side. Again the game raced outside the Kilkenny posts, but the end of the movement came when the ball went wide. This puck out now saw the game transferred to the other end, and when Gargan had forced an opening the ball went into the forwards. The defence was a good one but did not withstand the attack long and from a general scramble Heneberry scored Kilkenny's second major. The puck out this time saw Tipperary, per Gleeson and Drolan, assume the aggressive again, but Rochford offered a good clearance. The relief was, however, only of a temporary nature, and the ball quick went in amongst the forwards again. Garrow added another minor for Tipperary. The puck out did not travel far, and Tipperary were at it once more, but it was sent wide, and the puck out only went to about quarter way. Here Kilkenny were awarded a free, and aided by this got clean away. The ball went to Kennedy, who in turn, sent to Walton, and the player registered a minor for Kilkenny.

The Leinster representatives were ever very keen, and they held up the restart well, and the ball coming

back to the thick of the finishing line, Shortall added another point. The same player blocked the ensuing puck out and the game was proceeding in Tipperary possession for several minutes. Kerwick made a good effort to clear but J. Bourke, who received, lost possession, and then Doyle sent into Heneberry who succeeded in fooling two of the opposition to score another goal for Kilkenny. The restart saw the game only go as far as mid-field when it remained only for a minute before Ryan sent his wide back to resume the pressure. Here, Tipperary were penalised, but Kennedy's shot went wide.

The game now seemed a more open aspect, and for several minutes hostilities raged in about mid-field. Kilkenny, however, got the better of the argument, and from a mid-line pack Walsh centred well. The ball crowned and re-crowned in front of the posts and then from a rush Leinster added another point. The re-start this time gave Tipperary an opening and per Hackett and Mooney the game was transferred to the other end, the movement resulting in Brohan scoring another point for the Munster representative. The puck out was not a strong one but Doherty doubled beautifully, his huge stroke hurling Kilkenny to the attack once more. Brief interchanges followed, the result being that Walton was paced in position and he registered another point. Mooney was the first to gain any relief after the puck out, and Mockler further improved the position of his side. Carew went off by himself, and had only the Kilkenny custodian to beat, but his effort was saved by Dunphy, and then there was no one to support Carew.

The game was now stopped for a couple of minutes, the referee thinking it advisable to warn one of the Tipperary players, and on resumption, it assumed a more open aspect. Semple improved the position of his side and then Tipperary made a great pass but the ball went wide. A minute later Semple was prominent in a lot of brilliant work beating two of the opposition, but Dunphy again relieved. Hackett, however, beat Tipperary to the attack again but Brolly's shot went wide, and the game was back in mid-field. Nearing the close of the period, Tipperary were hurling well at mid-field, but when it went to either end they not do so well. Shortall improved the position of his side, but a free nullified the effort, and the whistle went immediately, the positions being -

**KILKENNY - 3 goals 4 points**

**TIPPERARY - 3 points**

From the re-start Lanigan forced the play, giving Kilkenny a footing in their opponent's territory, but after a brilliant movement, in which several had participated, M. O'Brien effected a great clearance. Kilkenny would not be denied, however, and Kennedy sent his side back to the attack. For a minute a score looked pretty certain, but at the crucial moment Kelly lost his footing, and then the ball went across to Jim O'Brien, who cleared. The puck out gave Tipperary another opening, and Fitzgerald was instrumental in transforming the play to the other end, but when an opportunity offered Brolan sent it wide. Tipperary, however, held up the puck out, and Carew, getting possession in a favourable position, sent in the first point of the second period.

Kilkenny now made a great effort to get away, but when at mid-field Hackett again sent them back, and through Brolan, Tipperary's position was further improved, but eventually the ball was sent wide. Tipperary were now testing their opponents very hard, but their efforts to score were bad, and the ball was sent wide again. Kilkenny got short relief, but it was returned almost immediately, and the ball never go-

ing outside the quarter mark, Tipperary, though failing to raise the green flag, sent up three points in as many minutes. The puck out from the last one went half-way, but P. Fitzgerald with a fine stroke, sent them back, and Semple sending across to Carew, the player put on another point.

This brought a great change over the appearance of the game, as Kilkenny's lead was only five points. The game now went to the Tipperary end, and a great fight for supremacy was won outside the posts, but Meekler relieved with a beautiful stroke. This was supported by Semple, and again the Kilkenny end was visited. Nothing happened, however, with the game going out to mid-field. Gleeson was frequently applauded for brilliant work. He sent up to J. Mockler, whose shot, however, went wide. Once again, however, the game went out to mid-field, but Gleeson sent them back, and Carew scored a brilliant point. The puck out was well taken up the field and Kelly and Walton having participated, the ball went to J. O'Brien. He made a great effort to move but the ball went straight up in the air, and Heneberry meeting it coming down sent in a goal.

Immediately after the re-start one of the Tipperary men got hurt, and the game was stopped for a couple of minutes. When it was resumed, Tipperary looked like getting away, but Gargan sent them back. O'Brien relieved to mid-field, and then Doyle went away on his own, and beat two of the opposition before he put up on the posts to score another point. From the puck out, Tipperary, per Gleeson and Semple, got clean away, and J. Fitzgerald added another point for Tipperary.

Shortly after Doherty got a stroke on the wrist, and he had to leave the field, his place being taken by R. Crane. Soon after the resumption, Tipperary were awarded a free. Semple centred well, and from a general rush the Munster men scored another point. Before long Tipperary had another free, but this time Semple failed to raise the ball. He struck it on the ground, however, sending it well up to his forwards, and again a rush ended in another point being scored.

Again the game had to be stopped, as Gleeson, still suffering from an injury maintained earlier in the day, got hurt. Darkness had now set in and a little later Gleeson had to give in to his injuries, his place being taken by F. Hayes. It was now with difficulty that the spectators could follow the play. Tipperary attacked just before the finish, but they were repulsed, and the game was at mid-field when the whistle went, leaving Kilkenny winners.

##### Score:

**KILKENNY - 4 goals 6 points**

**TIPPERARY - 12 points**

##### Teams:

**Tipperary - Tom Semple (Captain), Thomas Kerwick (vice-captain), Martin O'Brien, Hugh Sharkey, Anthony Carew, Paddy Brolan, Patrick Burke, Jack Mooney, Jack Mockler, Jim Brien (goal), Joe McLoughney (Thurles) Jim Burke, John Hackett (Two-Mile-Borris) Bob Meekler (Horse and Jockey) Tim Gleeson (Holycross) John Fitzgerald, Pat Fitzgerald (Glancoule).**

**Kilkenny - R. Walsh (captain) K. Doyle, R. Doyle, M. Doyle, J. Kelly, R. Doherty, J. Ryan, W. Heneberry (Mooncoin) J. Delahunt, J. Dunphy, S. Walton, J. Kirwan, D. Kennedy (Tullaroan) P. Lanigan, M. Gargan, M. Shortall (Erin's) J. Rochford (Threecastles)**

**Referee - M.F. Crowe, Dublin.**



1911

The Cork Examiner

MONDAY MORNING JULY 29TH 1912

## ALL IRELAND FINAL

TIPPERARY V. KILKENNY

CONTEST IN DUNGARVAN

Kilkenny 3-3      Tipperary 2-2

THOUGH the meeting of such first class exponents of the national code as Tipperary and Kilkenny at Dungarvan yesterday was not of the championship order, yet, the interest evoked by the contest was decidedly keen as in perhaps best understood by mention of the fact that the gate receipts totalled £150, with a view to replenishing the central Council's exchequer. It was arranged to put up a set of gold medals for competition between the Indomitable Marbles City representatives, and the dream of gallant Tipperary hurling prowess, the outstanding feature. The outstanding features which were instrumental in focusing public attention on the contestants were the positions occupied by Munster and Leinster in the hurling championship of last year. Kilkenny, the holders of the championship, jealous of their reputation, were not disposed to concede an inch to their opponents, and having recently defeated the strong combination fielded by Cork in the Munster final at the same venue they had determined if possible, to go one better with Tipperary. Kilkenny's win against Cork, however, was not much to crow over, for had the scoring line of the defeated side been anything approaching reliability, the victory would have gone to Cork. Kilkenny realised this, and with fine sporting spirit characteristic of the men who hail from the Marble City they frankly admitted that they had had a lucky win. There were then one or two weak spots on their seventeen and availingly of the expertise in the battle with the Southerns, it was thought that Kilkenny would have made some

changes in the team doing duty yesterday. This however was not done, the seventeen fielded being the same as that which defeated Cork. The next feature of the tussle yesterday was that Tipperary, runners up in last year's championship, were determined to compensate for the defeat sustained at the hands of Limerick in the final of the Munster championship, and to achieve this result it was manifest that all necessary preparations have been made. These were the principal factors which conduced to the deep interest taken in the contest.

With the exception of a few slight showers the weather held fine, and the contest was witnessed by a large number. Kilkenny were first on the field, and with Tipperary, represented by a Thurles selection, in position, the match was started at 3.15. The opening was strongly in favour of Tipperary who set their opponents a fast pace, and during periods of the initial half hour a great display of the national game was witnessed. When the short sent Tipperary came through with a fairly substantial lead, the score standing Tipperary 2 goals: Kilkenny 2 points. The second half of the play, however, produced some big surprises. In so far as Tipperary's winning chances were regarded. It was apparent that Tipperary had put forth their best efforts during the opening half and could not well stay the pace in their concluding moiety. The work of the scoring line was not so trustworthy, and this furthered hampered them. For fully ten minutes at the start at the finishing



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1911

*Back Row: Pierce Grace, John T. Power, "Drug" Walsh, Jack Rochford, Denny Brennan, John James Brennan, Matt Gargan.  
Middle Row: Dick Grace, Dick Doherty, Jack Keaghan, Sim Walton, Paddy Lanigan, Jim Kelly, Pat Clohosey, Dan Kennedy.*

*Front Row: Dick Doyle, Mick Doyle, Eddie Doyle, Jack Anthony.  
(Denny Brennan, Jack Anthony and Pat Clohosey did not play in final. Tom McCormack is not in photograph.)*



half-hour to Kilkenny had practically reached level terms. There were some fine individual performances. A section of the spectators did not quite endorse some of the callings of the referee, but that is generally the case in most matches. There was, however one mistake made by the referee of yesterday's match, and that was that he should not have pursued the strong course of discussing the rights or wrongs of his rulings with the players. It resulted in the absolute waste of valuable time and was not quite in accordance with the procedure followed generally. Approaching the close of the match a very regrettable incident cropped up. A Tipperary player, while in possession of the ball was whistled up, and in the heat of the moment, he struck the referee, but in his calmer moments, he was profuse in apologies to the referee for his unthinkable action. The incident terminated in the Tipperary player being accompanied to the sideline by the referee. The match wound up in a win for Kilkenny by 3 goals 3 points to 2 goals 1 point for Tipperary, and to the impartial observer the Kilkenny men were well entitled to the victory on their merit. Kilkenny so far had been tested by both Cork and Tipperary, and with a maintenance of their present form, they ought to annex this year's All Ireland honours. Details: - .

#### FIRST HALF

Kilkenny were first on the field, and having gone through a few preliminary practices, Tipperary came on, and at 15 minutes after three o'clock. The contest was started, amidst considerable speculation as to the issue. The respective seventeens look to be in the pink of contention but the advantage of training appeared to be on to Kilkenny's side.

A favourable impression was created by Kilkenny at the start. They were not slow to test the mettle of their opponents but Tipperary's responses were more than effective, and inside two minutes, Shelley had placed a goal to the credit of Tipperary. This looked well for their chances of victory, and their big following applauded the feat. Following the delivery Tipperary were near another score but for Doherty, who cleverly averted the danger. Some smart performances by Dick Boyle saw Kilkenny away, and after a brilliant defence the ball went dead.

Continuing the game the teams were even at top speed and the play was of the most strenuous description. The exchanges were fast and well directed, and eventually Kilkenny had a shot from the sideline in their own ground. This enabled them to take possession of their opponents' quarters, where they met with a very stubborn and well executed defence. Tipperary's back division had to fight every inch, and an interesting tussle finished up in Mick Doyle securing a point for the Marble City. The send-out gave rise to a renewal of the exciting play, of which Tipperary had the upper hand. It was a moment full of promise for Tipperary, but Carew's decisive effort failed to improve Tipperary's scoring position. The shot was well directed, but went wide by inches.

Renewing the battle, Kilkenny, aided by P. Grace, Garrigan, Dick Doyle, Doherty and Kennedy, exposed Tipperary to a hot fire of volleying, and matters were looking anything but pleasant for them. Kilkenny had made headway through the main line of defence, but "Hawk" O'Brien, ever reliable, saved the situation. A free then came Kilkenny's way. It was taken not far off their opponents' goals and seemed likely to be productive. Kennedy failed to add to the sheet. The delivery produced a series of very determined bouts, in which, Shelley, Kerwick, Carew, Mockler and Brolan shone on the

Tipperary side, and had tough opponents in Rochford, P. Grace, Brennan, Lanigan and Doyle. A great encounter wound up in a wide for a for Kilkenny, who, a couple of minutes later, were hard pressed, but Carrigan promptly relieved and Tipperary had to protect their posts. The ball having changed from many hands, Carrigan had his opening and pulled off a point for Kilkenny, and a good performance, it was. The marginal difference between the teams was insignificant and excitement was at the highest pitch. The next encounter favoured Kilkenny, who had got a solid footing in their opponents' quarter but the movement was rendered abortive by P Maher, who had cleared with little time to spare, Bob Mockler followed with a falling shot, and soon Tipperary were all over the Marble City defenders. A desperate battle raged in the mouth of Kilkenny's goal area and after some exciting periods Doyle and Carrigan were responsible for the clearance, which led up to a vigorous attack on Tipperary stronghold. Doherty was the chief danger to Tipperary's interests, and the tussle was shortened by a free to Tipperary which brought much to be desired relief to them. Another free to Tipperary was entrusted to Martin Brien but the chance was spoiled by P. Grace and Mick Doyle, the latter pulling Kilkenny out of a trying predicament.

The next feature of the game was a significant save by "Hawk" Brien, but for whose efforts Tipperary's goals would have fallen. Tipperary quickly transferred the scene of operations and at the crucial moment Callahan sent wide. They again pressed and Mockler, with a huge long field shot, just missed the objective. Shortly after the resumption Gleason took a free for Tipperary. It was badly handled, and Doyle, getting possession, whipped the ball away. Brennan assisted admirably and Kelly lost a good opportunity offered Kilkenny, the ball eventually going over the end line per Brennan. A few minutes later play had to be suspended owing to an injury to the Tullaroan representative, Kennedy, who had to retire, and his loss was felt by Kilkenny. J. Corr of Erin's Own, replaced him, and the match was continued in Kilkenny ground, where Walton and Rochford did useful work. Finally Tipperary sent wide, and after a series of stiff encounters they again encroached, only to be opposed by P. Grace, who sent to Carrigan and the latter failed to improve on the opportunity. Tipperary were so far having the better of the play, but too many wides lost them further success. A great dash by Kilkenny, supported by excellent combination, gave Tipperary a hard battle to hold them, which was accomplished after desperately hard slogging. Tipperary once again occupied the other end and J. Mooney, with a big drive sent the ball out of play. Hampering the defence. Carrigan had his nice attacking and "Hawk" Brien, the Tipperary custodian, proved his worth by a brilliant saving shot. A free to Kilkenny went without result and the short whistle sounded with Tipperary in in Kilkenny's quarters, and a goal secured before the halftime was indicated. The addition was made by Carew off Mockler. Score: -

**TIPPERARY - 2 goals  
KILKENNY - 2 points**

#### SECOND HALF

The contest was recommenced with redoubled determination and Tipperary were soon in trouble. Kennedy saved but Kilkenny forwards maintained the attack, which was brought to a close by the ball going outside the area. The send out saw Kilkenny going better than in the first moiety of the game.

They swarmed the Tipperary posts and a scrummage of quite an uncommon description, marked the invasion. Tipperary's defence was sound but they could not clear their lines.

Brennan kept up the attack and Tipperary's excellent defence had to go down at the big cost of a goal. The honour fell to Kelly, who was playing a capital game. This recess caused some heartbreakings among Tipperary's following, but the disappointment did not tend here, for almost immediately Kilkenny, pinning the opposing side to their territory, again charged Tipperary's posts, and from a scrummage Kelly repeated the previous achievement. P. Grace headed fresher attack, and for ten minutes during which Tipperary were sorely pressed, they did not succeed in crossing the Kilkenny line.

It was apparent that the pace set by Tipperary in the initial stage could not be maintained with the same advantage. A fifty to Kilkenny was blocked and Tipperary, having been tied up for the time indicated, at last broke away and play had to be stopped by an accident to the Kilkenny man Doherty, who, however, continued to play. The game was resumed with a free to Kilkenny, but no advantage occurred. Tipperary crossing over for the second time, got a free which Doherty realised, and Kilkenny had next to pay a penalty. Tipperary did the most they could with the free, the outcome of which was an over. Some hard slogging on both sides having been witnessed a free went to Tipperary. Gleeson entered neatly, and the tussle was brought to a sharp determination by Doherty and Doyle, who sent Kilkenny attacking. Mooney, Tipperary, received an injury but did not leave the field. Hostilities were continued with a free to Tipperary. Gleeson's shot brought forth a point. Kilkenny had now all but wiped out the deficit, and the contest was followed with the keenest interest. Tipperary were now showing to better advantage, and encroaching steadily.

Carew had a shot for the net and a goal was obtained but disallowed. A seventy was awarded which was snuffed and the referee gave a free to Kilkenny. Much time was wasted by the referee in discussing his ruling with the players. On play being continued Kilkenny invaded, and Kelly, off Brennan had a goal placed to their account. Dick Doyle followed with a point. Not long after this score had been made Doherty of Kilkenny had to leave the field injured, and the vacancy was filled by Danny Heffernan (Erin's Own).

Nearing the close of the match a very regrettable incident cropped up. A Tipperary man, Carew, while in possession of the ball was whistled up, and in the heat of the moment assaulted the referee. The officials went to the referee's aid, and Carew having expressed his regret and apologised to the referee, went off the field.

The score at full time was: -

**KILKENNY 3 goals 3 points  
TIPPERARY 2 goals 2 point**

*The teams were –*

*Tipperary - H.Shelly (Captain), J.O'Brien (goal), T.Kerwick, J.Burke, J.Mooney, P.Purcell, M.O'Brien, B.Mantac, J.Fitzpatrick, A.Callaghan, A.Carew, T.Devane, T.Gleeson, P.Brolin, B.Mockler, T.Mockler, J.McLoughney.*

*Kilkenny: J.Power (capt), J.Rochford, R.Walsh, P.Grace, M.Carrigan, S.Walton, J.Kelly, P.Lanigan, E.Doyle, M.Doyle, R.Dohney, J.Keohane, D.Kennedy, A.Grace, J.J.Brennan, J.McCormack, R.Doyle.*

*Referee Mr P Bolan, Chairman Dublin Board.*

1912

The Cork Examiner

MONDAY NOVEMBER 18TH 1912



## 1912 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP CORK v KILKENNY

NECK AND NECK STRUGGLE

### VICTORY FOR KILKENNY

#### SCENES AND INCIDENTS

Kilkenny 2-1      Cork 1-3

Following closely upon the football championship final decided quite recently at Jones's Road, Dublin, when Louth defeated Antrim, came today the all-absorbing event, the 1912 hurling championship, the provinces directly concerned being Munster and Leinster. There have been big and enthusiastic gatherings at previous arduous struggles for the much-prized hurling championship, but never has there been seen anything approaching the enormous dimensions of the throng at Jones's Road today. People flocked in from all parts of Ireland to witness the tussle, interest in which far surpassed that of preceding years. One had not to delve deeply for an explanation of such a big attendance and the widespread interest which the fixture aroused. As is notorious that the National game – hurling – cannot be excelled as a test of physical endurance, skilfulness, rapidly executed exchanges, and dashing tactics. Hurling as illustrated at the present time has resolved a fine art, discipline has replaced the laxity of former teams, players are more readily responsive to the whistle and unpunctuality in the lining out of teams is no longer a grievance. Improved methods of administration, if they have not quite reached the ideal, have nevertheless shown a distinct advantage in a progressive direction, so desirable in the present day. There are the factors, it may be stated that have contributed vastly to the ever-growing

popularity of the hurling code, as reflected in gate receipts unprecedented in the annals of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Patient industry, despite many serious drawbacks, has brought about a newer and more auspicious condition of affairs, with the result that the Association is now reaping those advantages which were well-nigh unattainable under the old and antiquated procedure. The administrators have yet much to accomplish before the ideal is achieved, but it must be borne in mind that Rome was not built in a day.

This year's championship ties, from the most junior to the senior, have disclosed wonderful progress from the scientific point of view. Cork and Kilkenny, today's finalists have had to negotiate some tough obstacles before qualifying for the final. It is over five years since Cork, represented by Dungourney, last crossed sticks with the Marble City men, and were defeated. A reference to the official records will show that Cork has figured prominently in the All Ireland Championships, but only as runners-up, and it was determined today to put up a big fight and thus fill up a position on the championship records long vacant. Kilkenny, the holders, were equally determined not to let the honour pass from them, and hence the widespread interest in the meeting of the rivals at Jones's Road.



*KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1911/12*

*Back Row: Pierce Grace, John T. Power, "Drug" Walsh, Jack Rochford, Denny Brennan, John James Brennan, Matt Gargan.  
Middle Row: Dick Grace, Dick Doherty, Jack Keaghan, Sim Walton, Paddy Lanigan, Jim Kelly, Pat Clohosey, Dan Kennedy.*

*Front Row: Dick Doyle, Mick Doyle, Eddie Doyle, Jack Anthony.  
(Denny Brennan, Jack Anthony and Pat Clohosey did not play in final. Tom McCormack is not in photograph.)*



The Cork seventeen journeyed to the Metropolis on Saturday evening, accompanied by a pretty numerous following. They received a cordial send off from many supporters who had assembled on the platform. At the intermediate stations the reception was renewed. The Players, who put up at Wynn's Hotel, looked in the pink of condition, and were full of confidence as to the issue. Their opponents – their Marble City men – did not arrive in Dublin until Sunday morning. There was no doubting how they felt regarding the outcome of the battle. For over an hour prior to the start of the match the enclosure contained a crowded and animated throng, and speculation ran high as to the prospects of the aspirants to the hurling blue riband. During the interval the St James's Brass and Reed Band, discussed excellently an admirably arranged musical programme. The weather, which has so much to say to the success of otherwise outdoor events, was of the most favourable character before noon, but as the contest was about to commence the sky darkened and a few showers of brief duration followed. An apparently near-ceasing stream of people continued to flow into the grounds from far and near. The Cork contingent was decidedly in evidence and comprised the large bulk of those from the Munster province, totalling some 4,000. The two morning trains which were run from the city by the Lee were very liberally patronised. The first special made excellent time for the contest, and when the strong contingent entered the arena their presence was signalled by lusty cheers. Prominent amongst the big southern gathering were the Lord Mayor of Cork, Alderman Henry O'Shea; Rev. Father Sexton, President St Finbarr's Seminary, Farranferris, Rev. Father Sexton. C.C President Blackrock Club, Rev. Father Murphy, Farranferris, Rev Dr Scannell, Farranferris, Rev. Father Fehilly, C.C; Rev Mc.MSweeney, C.C SS Peter and Paul's; Rev Father Tierney, Sacret Heart College; Rev Father Coakley, C.C Ovens; Rev. Father Murphy B.D, Farranferris; Rev Father Revrett, C.C Catherdral; Rev Father Barrett, C.C, Bandon. Kilkenny people came in strong force, but not near so big as Cork. Before the match began the semblance had reached enormous dimensions, and the people in their wild desire not to miss a single feature of the battle, forced the entrance, particularly at the Canal end and along the side-line, which presented a congested appearance. The arrangements were quite perfect up to this point, but subsequently the huge throng became unmanageable at that part of the field indicated. There could not have been less than 20,000 people present, including a number of prominent Irishmen, who came over from London. Amongst them was Mr W.Duffy, M.P. A memorable scene was witnessed as the teams were about to line out. Kilkenny were the first to make an appearance headed by the Kilkenny Pipers' Band. Then followed the Mayor and Town Clerk. They received a great ovation. A minute later came the Cork seventeen, who were played to the centre of the field by the James's Street Band, Dublin, to the tune of "Clare's Dragoons." The Lord Mayor, Ald. Henry O'Shea, together with Father John Sexton, C.C Blackrock, Messrs Charles Murphy, and J.J. Walsh, Chairman Cork County Board, entered the Rockies, accompanied the team. The enthusiasm was again given vent to with more pronounced effort. Mr M.P Crowe, who held the whistle, had the rivals at once in their places, and amid a scene which quite baffles description the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Dr Lorcan G. Sherlock, set the teams to work by throwing in the ball about ten minutes past 2 o'clock. The spin of the coin favoured Cork, and those who had come to

see thrilling hurling were by no means disappointed. The men were in a clinker from start to finish. Kilkenny were first to break way, sending over a seventy. D. Kennedy took the free, and C.Sheeahan clocked a dangerous rush. Mackerey put in some good work, and the encounter wound up in a wide for Cork. Kilkenny were also unfortunate in the seventy which followed closely after. The pace went so fast that the spectators began to ask whether the combatants would stay the grueller. So exacting was the battle that after some ten minute's play, a section of the crowd had become almost uncontrollable and the game had to be stopped to permit of the clearing of the side line. On resuming Walsh transferred to Mackerey, who gave Cork the first score – a point. The next feature was that Cork let two seventies slip, but some minutes later Cork had another free, which was taken by M.Downey. The shot was expertly directed and M. Kidney finished up with a magnificently got goal. The feat was loudly applauded by the big Southern following, and lusty shouts of "Up the Rockies" mingled with applause. A free to Cork was unavailing and Kilkenny also failed to annex. With fifteen minutes of the play gone Cork were decidedly in the picture. Cork pressed time and again, and Kilkenny's defence was for the most part highly effective. Power as goal custodian being most conspicuous. After a lot of tremendously hard work Walton got through for Kilkenny's first minor, to which Kennedy replied with a like score. Closing on the half hour Cork were having the best of the bargain, but the roaring efforts were faulty. There were four successive overs on the Cork side at one particular stage without result, and the positions at half-time were – Cork 1 goal 2 points; Kilkenny 1 point.

The second half hour was entered upon with encouraging prospects so far as Cork's chances were regarded. Kilkenny having supplemented with a minor. Kilkenny's response was sensational, Walton finding the Cork net from the left of the post with an angular shot. But worse luck was in store for Cork, when Power, having affected a marvellous save for Kilkenny, sent along the right wing, and Carrigan got possession. The latter smartly sent in a ground shot; which almost crawled into the net past Fitzgerald's feet. It was a flukey score, and a disastrous one., for it gave Kilkenny the match by a point. There were yet twenty minutes to go, during which Cork played Kilkenny all over the field. They volleyed their posts repeatedly, but could not score. The number of overs nearly reached a good round dozen. Try as they would, Cork were unable to locate their opponents' posts. The crowd at that point also hampered the efforts of Cork, and when the full whistle went it was a case of the better team being defeated. The final score was - Kilkenny, 2 goals 1 point; Cork: 1 goal 3 points.

It was throughout a brilliant display of hurling, but the result was an appalling upset to the hopes which were justified by the encouraging lead Cork had obtained in the first half of the game. Power, the Kilkenny goal custodian, was a tower of strength to his side, but, there could be no doubt entertained of Cork's chances, had the scoring line performed with anything approaching accurate shooting. Cork's general play was sound, but there was some individual work which proved costly at times. Kilkenny played with great dash but taking their all-round work it was not up to Cork's standard. The universal verdict was that Cork on their form were seven points the better team and that the reversal of their fortunes was purely attributable to a weakness in the forward line, accentuated by indifferent shooting,

and a goal annexed by Kilkenny as already stated, under the most flukey conditions. There were numerous trains to Dublin, and the arrangements on the Cork side were carried out with excellent despatch, under the persona supervision of Mr. David Carroll, assistant superintendent Glanmire terminus, and Mr George Payne, station master.

It may be of interest to recall some previous matches. It is only two years since Limerick and Wexford played in the final, and Wexford just won by enough to get the award. Last year Kilkenny knocked out Wexford in the Leinster Championship, and Limerick won the Munster Championship. Both counties got into the final after Connaught and Ulster had been beaten in the semi-finals. The final was fixed for Cork, but the grounds were declared unfit for play, on account of the heavy rain of the previous week. Then the final was fixed for Thurles, and Limerick having refused to travel to Thurles, the championship was awarded to Kilkenny. The ties of the Leinster and Munster championships were unusually keen this year, for in the Leinster tie Kilkeny only won by one point from Wexford, and after Queen's County had disposed of Dublin. Kilkenny and Queen's County met in the Leinster final. It was a great contest, and the Queen's County men were level on the score with the champions at three quarter time. Kilkenny, however, proved the better team, and by winning that match qualified for the All Ireland semi-final, in which they met Galway and won easily, and that victory qualified them for today's final. In the Munster championship Cork had before them a bigger task than Kilkenny, for the fortunes of the draw placed them against Limerick in the semi-final and Tipperary in the final. They won by two points from Limerick in the semi-final, after Limerick had held the championship of Munster for two years, and they won by two goals from Tipperary at Dungarvan, and everyone knows what Tipperary are capable of in the hurling field when they train and prepare for such events as the Munster final. Cork and Kilkenny teams have met several times in the past few years and honours have gone to both sides, but the consideration of all matches except championships must be kept out of the account.

Bu the two special trains which left Cork the official figures returned of the passengers travelling were 1,516.

#### THE GAME

Cork won the toss and played towards the Clonliffe end, with their backs to the canal, and with the advantage of a slight breeze. It was ten minutes past two o'clock when the leather was thrown up. Kilkenny got away at the opening, thanks to "Drag" Walsh, and Barry answered gamely. Pierce Grace, however, got a lovely overhead shot, and the Cork ports were in danger. Barry Murphy, in negotiating on the masterly seven, gave the Noreside boys a penalty. The seventy yards' puck was taken by Dan Kennedy. The leather travelled along rather low and dead until it was met by Conny Sheehan, who put it flying to the opposite side. Paddy Brien, who was in waiting, transferred to Markerey, and this nippy Blackrock man gave to Kennedy, who missed by the narrowest possible margin. Mahony shot in for Power's delivery, but the ball went into touch from Denny Barry's hurley. Dick Grace put Kilkenny attacking after the puck out but Walton sent over wildly. From the puck out the boys from the banks of the Nore went on the attack. Pierce Grace of Tullaroan, and Brennan of Erin's Own, being prominent. This



bout of aggression gave Barry Flaherty, who played a lively game, his opportunity. The ball was at a dangerous angle when Flaherty lifted it a few inches only. Then drawing his hurley swiftly and barely, and outwitting the redoubtable Rochford, he sent the leather flying for Drag Walsh to intercept it; and back it came again. Quick as lightning Flaherty came to the rescue, and the venue of conflict was again changed. Downey rushed in, and sent the ball travelling slowly, but Doyle of Mooncoin saved in the nick of time. Kennedy took up the running and sent low. Larry Flaherty, with sure and steady stride, came to the relief, but he slipped at the critical moment. Jim Kelleher, always reliable, was there, and he sent the leather back. Drag Walsh tried to put his side attacking, but the Cork siege was maintained, until Mackerey received from Kennefick, and shot in a lovely point a few inches over the bar. Byrne penalised his side after the delivery, and Dan Kennedy, who was almost out on his own for the Noresiders, took the free. Danny Barry responded well, and Brien gave force to his shot, but Pierce Grace put the leather travelling to Cork territory, where Conny Sheehan, and the Redmonds, answered splendidly to an urgent demand. Kilkenny were hard-pressed how, and Kennedy averted an almost certain score by shooting the ball over and giving Cork a penalty. Cork retained the attack after the delivery, but Kennedy, at a favourable moment, sent wide. Dorney's put missed by a narrow margin. The play immediately following this delivery was very fast. Kelly, of Mooncoin, got a chance to enhance his reputation as the scoring machine, but Larry Flaherty, too quick for him, nipped the leather off his hurley, and along the line it went. Here Drag Walsh fouled. Dorney took a well-directed puck which travelled fast and high, Kidney met the ball in mid-air, and found the net with a shot, which left Power no chance of saving. In the ongoing exchanges, Dick Grace beat Byrne badly, but Jim Kelleher relieved, and gave one of Cork's star players – the versatile Paddy Mahony – his chance. In lightning like fashion, he sent the leather flying, but Rochford shot it back. Dick Grace and Larry Flaherty had now a race for the ball. They both came into collision with terrific force, and they came to grief on the line. Larry having saved a dangerous situation, play was stopped for a brief period. Soon after resumption. Conny Sheehan and Jim Kelleher were responsible for some fine defensive work at a time from when Walton and Kelly were dangerous. Keoghan now fouled Danny Barry, and a free taken by Jim Kelleher saw Cork in a splendid attack. Kidney beat Drag Walsh and Pierce Grace by a tricky movement, but Rochford stemmed the tide, and sent to Dan Kennedy, whose shot for the posts was wide indeed. In the lively exchange that now took place, Mackerey beat Lanigan easily, but Rochford had the ball before Kennedy could score. Pierce Grace was beaten by Byrne near the line, and things looked perilous for Kilkenny until their famous custodian Power, came out and effectively aided the siege. Mickey Doyle was next seen to advantage until Larry Flaherty neutralised his efforts by a really scientific shot. Pierce Grace responded beautifully, but Danny Barry arrested the puck out delivered to Mackerey, who moved a serve by a sixty. In the passages following up the delivery Pierce Grace for Kilkenny and Mahony, Mackerey, Sheehan and Durney for Cork were prominent. Bowler Walsh got possession, and he sent to Brien, who made a good effort, which was spoiled by Dan Kennedy, who delivered a lively ground shot which put Walton in possession. The Kilkenny captain got an opening and availed of it by sending the leather between the posts for the Noresider's first score. Play after the deliv-

ery was eventful and Mahony cleared out brilliantly. Beating Pierce Grace cleverly, he sent to Byrne, who gave to Kennedy and the latter had the white flag hoisted a second time for Cork. Dan Kennedy and Walton scuffed two chances badly, and Con Sheehan was conspicuous in fouling Drag Walsh. The latter player soon after recovered, but Danny Barry sent back in good style. Mahony by lifting the ball in a most difficult position stirred up the enthusiasm of the Munster following and it found free rest when the leather dropped into the hands of young Major Kennedy. Power, however, sent out and a side line puck for Cork resulted. Blackrock Selected were now playing beyond the power of description. They peppered away at the Kilkenny posts until Rochford had to release a seventy to save his side. Jim Kelleher took the puck without steadying himself, and the result was an aggravating "wide." Brennan was very much in the picture after the delivery, but Barry Murphy and Kelleher in turn gave exhibitions in defensive play, out of which any team might pick pride. The spectators were then treated to a tussle between Mahony and Doherty, in which the latter was not a bad second, and after which the ball travelled into touch in Kilkenny territory. Drag Walsh took the mark, and Lanigan beating Kennefick for possession sent to midfield, where it was when the half time whistle went. On the first moiety's play the Southern men had deservedly the advantage. Its remarkable features were that Cork had eight overs, that Kilkenny had to concede two penalties, to save their lives, and that Andy Fitzgerald, the Cork custodian, was not called on once to draw his caman and save his net. Half time score: -

**CORK ... 1 goal 2 points (5 points)**  
**KILKENNY. 1 point.**

The game was resumed after a brief interval, Mahony with one of his neat characteristic deliveries sending Cork to the attack. He beat Doherty for possession, and sent to the quarter way, where Kidney took the ball from Rochford's hurley, and sent it over the bar for a lovely point, barely a minute after the restart. Kilkenny worked down from the delivery thanks to Pierce Grace, and Kelleher who rushed to the scene, allowed the leather to slide off his hurley at the cost of a penalty. The puck, which was taken by Dan Kennedy, did not materialise. Kilkenny pressed after Fitzgerald's delivery, but Conny Sheehan brought off a magnificent save. Cork took up the running again, Mahony in the can, but Gargan (who was not at all up to his old form) and Rochford sent them back. When a goal seemed imminent Barry Murphy sent back a shot from M. Doyle and saved in grand style. Kilkenny pressed after the puck-out, and Walton, for the first time, beat the Cork backs and delivered a shot from the left of the posts, in an angular direction, which passed a few inches from under the bar and found the net for Kilkenny. Fitzgerald's puck out was prelate or a desperate Cork rally which was determined by Lanigan. Next Doyle scuffed on the side line, and Jim Kelleher came out on the double. With a fine shot he gave to Kennefick, who had the ball in a grand position. The St Mary's player took the measure of the net and had a shot at it, but Power drew his hurley and saved in truly sensational style. He sent the ball along the right wing where it eluded the Cork wingmen and travelled to Carrigan. The Erin's Own veteran had a try for the net with a ground shot which might easily have been saved, but to the dismay of the Cork following, it dribbled into the net past Andy Fitzgerald's foot. Cork now kept up a determined onslaught on the Kilkenny posts, and Dan Kennedy had to take up his

position on the back line as time after time the Cork forwards peppered the lines of the besieged Noresiders. Young "Major" Kennedy, Kennefick, Mackerey and Larry Flaherty made attack after attack on those impenetrable lines, but the antes were against Cork. Dan Kennedy warded off one of the most treacherous of these attacks, but Paddy Mahony sent it back again, and time after time this agile player dropped the ball amongst the forwards who only missed by inches. Power's defence was certainly magnificent, as was that of the whole Kilkenny back line, but his deliveries were weak. Misfortune dogged all Cork's efforts during this and the concluding sieges. As an instance, Larry Flaherty took the ball from "Drag" Walsh and had a shot at goal which hit one of the uprights and dropped on the wrong side. After Barry Murphy and Conny Sheehan had saved two rushes of the Kilkenny forwards play settled around the Canal posts where Power and his back-line were putting up such a splendid defence, but the crowd pressed in over the line and Mackerey was surely hampered in his efforts to score. The end line was indiscernible, owing to the encroachment of the crowd, and one of the balls sent in by the Cork halves for the management of the forwards actually struck against the spectators, and were declared overs. On several occasions Power, Rochford and Dan Kennedy saved almost impossible shots, and on several occasions too, Mackerey, Kennedy and Kennefick had the leather at the seven yards mark, and missed scores by the narrowest of margins. Owing to the invasion of the field of play at the Canal End, where the Cork forwards were making such desperate efforts, the game had to be stopped by about a quarter of an hour. Had Mackerey been allowed a fair field to operate in, he could not have missed scoring. Not once during the concluding twenty minutes of the game was Kilkenny dangerous. The ball travelled once to Brennan, who played a fine game for Kilkenny, but Barry Murphy sent it back in a twinkling, and that brazen but ineffective siege of the Kilkenny posts was kept up, but with few and uneventful intermissions until the no-side whistle sounded, leaving Kilkenny the extremely lucky winners on the score: -

**KILKENNY - 2 goals 1 point (7 points).**  
**CORK - 1 goal 3 points (6 points).**

The following were the teams: -

**Kilkenny - J.T.Power (Piltown), goal: J. Keoghan (Tullaroan), J.Rochford (Three Castles), P.Langian (Erin's Own), D.Kennedy (Tullaroan), R.Walsh (Mooncoin), P.Grace (Tullaroan), J.J.Brennan (Erin's Own), R.Grace (Tullaroan), R.Doherty (Mooncoin), T.McCormack (Erin's Own), M.Gargan (Erin's Own), S.Walton (capt), (Tullaroan), R.Doyle (Mooncoin), M.Doyle (Mooncoin), J.Kelly (Mooncoin).**

**Cork - Andrew Fitzgerald (Blackrock) (goal): Thomas Barry (Blackrock), Barry Murphy (Blackrock), Cornelius Sheehan (Redmonds), James Kelleher (Dungourney), W.M.Walsh (Sarsfields), Laurence Flaherty (Blackrock), P.Mahony (Aghabellologue), Michael Dorney (Blackrock), J.S.Murphy (St Finbarr's), M.Byrne (Sarsfields), P.O'Brien (Blackrock), T.Nagle (St. Mary's), W. Mackerey (Blackrock), D.Kennedy (St. Mary's), M.Kidney (Blackrock), James Kennedy (Carrigtwohill). Mr M.F.Crowe, Dublin Co. Board, referee.**



1913

The Cork Examiner

MONDAY NOVEMBER 3RD 1913

# ALL IRELAND FINAL

## TIPPERARY v. KILKENNY

### STRENUOUS CONTEST

### CHAMPIONS REGAIN THEIR HONOURS

**KILKENNY 2 - 4, Tipperary – 1- 2**

(From our Reporters), Dublin, Sunday Evening

IT HAS been held – and their performances have justified the contention – that Kilkenny are to hurling what Kerry are to football – past masters in each department of the national code. Their brilliant play and proud achievements have earned for them the highest distinction in the power of the Gaelic Athletic Association to confer. They have played the game year in year out and to their prowess must be attributed the remarkable degree of popularity which the Association's fixtures have attained. They have raised the games to a high scientific pitch, and though the years have been stealing upon them these wonderful combinations are yet open to meet all comers. They may not be as fleet-footed as more youthful rivals, but what they may be said to lack in this particular is counterbalanced by ripe experience – a perfect mastery of combined effort in both attack and defence, advantages which cannot be overestimated, and which have been instrumental in securing for those first class exponents their many victories. Tipperary's young bloods (Toomevara) in this year's competitions.

**SWEPT AWAY ALL OBSTACLES TO THEIR ENTRY INTO THE ALL IRELAND FINAL**

And accordingly inspired much confidence in their ability to show up with credit against the champions, if not quite brush them aside. It was confidently believed that the team put in the field by Cork against Tipperary at Dungarvan would beat down the most formidable opposition that might be raised; but so decisive was the knock out that the spectators had left the field quite ten minutes before the full whistle had gone. But to the credit of the Cork hurlers be it said that taken all round, they made a better stand than did the Cork footballers against

the invincible Kerrymen in the Munster final. Representing Munster, therefore, in the 1913 Championship are Tipperary in hurling and Kerry in football. The last-named county has yet to play another match before meeting Wexford in the close of the competition. It is no wonder, then that the keenest interest should have been evident in the issues. This was evidenced today at Jones's Road when the supporters of Tipperary and Kilkenny invaded the venue in full strength, each possessing the utmost confidence in their representatives.

The teams accompanied by their more prominent friends and supporters, journeyed to the Metropolis on Saturday and put up at separate hotels. The winning prospects of the contestants were eagerly discussed in many quarters, and for the time being the unfortunate incidents and deplorable results of the labour strife appeared to have been forgotten. In connection with the contest, a large number of trains were run. The field and general arrangements were satisfactorily looked after by the officers of the Central Council. For a considerable period before the advertised time for the start of the contest – 2.30 – crowds set out for Jones's Road and when the teams lined out under the whistle of Mr M.F.Crowe, the ground presented an intensely animated spectacle, there being 25,000 spectators. The weather outlook at noon was not too reassuring, and later rain made its appearance during the first moiety of the game. In the second half there was quite a downpour which rendered the ball heavy and the ground slippery. The Marble City men were played onto the field by the Kilkenny Pipers' Band and Tipperary by Lusk Fingall (Co. Dublin) Pipers' Band. Meanwhile cinema operators were busy.

When the teams entered the arena they were accorded a rousing reception, par-



**KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1909**

*Back Row: Sim Walton, Bill Hennebery, Jim Dunphy, Jack Rochford, Paddy Lanigan, Jack Keoghan.  
Middle Row: Jim Ryan, Eddie Doyle, Joe Delahunt, "Drug" Walsh, Matt Gargan, Dan Kennedy, Mick Shortall.  
Front Row: Mick Doyle, Dick Doherty, Jim Kelly, Dick Doyle.*



ticularly Kilkenny, wearing the familiar colours black and amber. The Marble City men deserved the tribute, for they enjoy the unique distinction of fighting at the All Ireland final for the eleventh occasion since 1887. St James's Street Brass and Reed Band was in attendance, and played an interesting programme.

The match was started amidst terrific excitement, Kilkenny won the toss. The game, which was exceedingly fast, was a grand exhibition of hurling. It was side's victory so far as the first half hour went, when the position stood, Kilkenny, 1 goal 4 points; Tipperary 1 goal 1 point. The second half was not long in progress when Kilkenny got the measure of their opponents. They played with fine combination, and in many instances were able to secure possession before their rivals, whose forward line was not up to the expectations. Kilkenny pressed for the greater portion of the time, and ought to have scored more frequently. Tipperary put up a strong fight, but the play of Kilkenny was undoubtedly superior. The match ended in a meritorious win for Kilkenny, the score being – Kilkenny, 2 goals 4 points (10 points), Tipperary 1 goal 2 points (5 points).

It might be mentioned that in the early part of the present week doubt existed as to whether the match would be played, Tipperary Co. Board having passed a resolution somewhat to the effect, owing to differences with the Central Council over what they regard as insufficiency of grant for erection of the Dr Croke Memorial in Thurles. The resolution, which was a most imprudent one, and probably passed in the heat of the moment, was not acted upon by Toomevara. Had the terms of the resolution been observed by Toomevara, it would have been a serious matter both for them and Tipperary County Board. That there should be anything in the nature of a squabble between Tipperary and the governing body where the Dr. Croke memorial is concerned will be sincerely regretted by every Irishman who looks to the Central Council and Tipperary to come to terms without the possibility of a controversy which might be calculated to do much harm to the Association. Details: -

#### FIRST HALF

Kilkenny won choice of place, but the prevailing advantages were not material. Kilkenny were first to cross the line, but Tipperary, with a fine show of speed, carried back for Harty to send over the end line. The delivery was cleverly followed up by the Marble City men, and not quite two minutes of the start, Walton, who was in the pink of condition had the first score – a point – down to the Kilkenny account.

#### THE FEAT WAS SIGNIFICANT

And the Kilkenny supporters signalled it with marked favour. From the send out, Tipperary forced for Kilkenny to hold them firmly, but eventually the Kilkenny posts were in danger. Luckily, Doyle's effort failed, the ball going dead. The next exchange saw Doherty lead an attack with a delivery to Doyle. The latter centred to Raleigh, who sent short, for Brennan to send wide. The delivery from goal was improved upon by Mocker, and the Kilkenny backs had their hands full. Walsh cleared. A nice shot by Dr. Grace came to Doherty and some bad misses were witnessed on the Tipperary side. Gleeson, however, responded gamely with a shot into his opponents' quarter, where Brolan took possession, but

had to give it away. The ball travelled soon to the other end, for Doyle to try his skill at the posts. Raleigh quickly intercepted and brought about a clearance. Keoghan cleared the Kilkenny lines and a hard fight to the touch line ensued, when the ball went out of play. Bob Mockler took command at this stage with a hard drive to the Kilkenny territory. Rochford and O'Keeffe saw it out, the former putting in some good clearing. Richard Grace doubled speedily to Tipperary's quarters, but the ball went out of play. A 70 to Kilkenny followed, but it was not of much consequence, as Kennedy's long shot missed the objective. From the send out Tipperary got going well, Murphy, Shelly and Kelly were now conspicuous. Murphy finished up by placing Walsh's short clearance beyond Power's search for Tipperary's goal. It was a welcome shot, and the Tipperary following roared themselves hoarse. Power sent out a lively one for Tipperary to smartly return to the Marble City men's quarters. Here a desperate fight followed in front of the posts. The tussle wound up in the ball going over off Keoghan. The free was taken by Tim Gleeson. It was a promising effort, but the wind diverted the ball to the side, Brolan and Kelly tried hard to get the ball past Walsh. It was a fine piece of play, and ended in Kelly sending dead. The send out brought about a change in the scene of operations. Gilmartin cleared, Doyle took at bang at O'Meara, but the latter was too clever. Some exciting periods were now witnessed in which Gargan showed up with advantage, O'Meara being eventually beaten for the equaliser. It was an extremely clever movement, and provided plenty of excitement for the spectators as the green flag was hoisted. The delivery came to Brennan at half way, and though he was in a tight corner he sent in a telling shot. The excitement was now renewed to the highest pitch, the Marble City men displaying the wonderful form in both speed and combination.

**A SMART MOVEMENT BY TIPPERARY** saw their opponents rest in peril. Power saved his stronghold with a shot to half way, Bob Mockler returned with stinger, which beat Power for an over. The free was taken by Mockler for Walsh to clear. Tipperary brought back, and Kelly failed to further improve on the movement. Power's send-out covered a big space, and the ensuing tussle favoured Kilkenny with a seventy. It was taken by Dan Kennedy, who swept the ball through the uprights at such an elevation that the defenders were incapable of stopping it. The ball had not been long in play again when Doyle found the cross-bar, which gave the Marble City men a lead of two points. This advantage to Kilkenny had no discouraging effect on Toomevara's merry men, who attacked time and again with a redoubled vigour. Tipperary fought to a favourable position, but a penalty spoiled the chance. Kennedy took the free, to miss on the smallest margin. A feature of the play now in evidence was the resourcefulness of the Kilkenny men, when it became a question of having to rough it, Gilmartin and Shelley next put in a grand display, for Kelly to annex a point. The close of the half hour afforded some magnificent displays on both sides, and though Kilkenny came out with the top score the match was by no means over. In fact, it was either sides' game. The position at half time stood: -

**KILKENNY - 1 goal 4 points**  
**TIPPERARY - 1 goal 1 point**

Toward the close of the half-hour the wind had freshened somewhat, and aided Kilkenny to the extent of two points.

#### SECOND HALF

The second half opened with rather heavy rain. Tipperary began operations to the encouraging cheers of their followers. The forwards broke away with clashing tactics, which gave promise of some surprises. Walsh had to be reckoned with. A free to Tipperary still placed this in a more favourable light, but the indomitable Kennedy was there to clear beyond mistake.

#### ANOTHER DANGEROUS RUSH BY TIPPERARY

Saw Gargan, who was never seen in better form, relieve to three-quarter way. The game was proceeding strenuously when it had to be stopped owing to an injury to Kelly, of Tipperary. He received a stroke of a hurley over the eye, and was quickly attended to by Dr. Grace. The eye having been bandaged, he had to go off, and his place was filled by McKenna. The game was resumed with a further Tipperary invasion, but the play was not quite as interesting as the first half. The rain had rendered the sod not easy of sure footing, and the ball was not near so lively. There were many misses on both sides and a considerable number of overs. Rochford saved a break away of the Tipperary front rankers, and Brennan sent Kilkenny to the attack. It was a close shave with Tipperary whose defence was sound. Each end was visited at brief periods without result. The defences were extremely good. In one of the attacks Gargan was let loose, and it had almost proved disastrous to Tipperary's fortunes. Raising for the posts, his shot was sent sailing for a certain score, and it was only the smart performance of O'Moore that saved the situation. Following upon a series of hard, well directed movements, Kilkenny secured possession for Walton to land a cleverly got goal. The Marble City followers were now shaking hands with themselves. From the send out Doyle gave a fine exhibition, and Kilkenny had to pay penalty. Tim Gleeson took it with a short shot, which Brennan had not much difficulty in frustrating. Doyle got going again, for Kelly to raise, but without fault.

#### DR GRACE AND GARGAN

were responsible for a further encroachment by Kilkenny and Doherty, who was doing great work, able supported. A. free was awarded Kilkenny, which was averted by a solid defence. A fine combined assault on the Kilkenny posts was the next feature of the play, but Lennon playing an all-round good game, checkmated the manoeuvre. The attack was quickly renewed, which saw Shelley's deadly shot saved by Power, who defended his net in the most masterly fashion. A free to Tipperary entrusted to Bob Mockler let the latter in for point. The closing stages saw Tipperary going great guns, but try as they might, they could not overhaul their opponents, whose play in all departments of the game left them unquestionable retainers of the Championship on the score:

**KILKENNY - 2 goals 4 points**  
**TIPPERARY - 1 goal 2 points.**

#### THE TEAMS

**KILKENNY - R.Walsh (capt), J: T.Power (goal), M.Doyle, R.Doyle, R.Doherty, J.Kelly (Mooncoin), Dr P.Grace. R. Grace, S. Walton, J.Keoghan (Tullaroan), M. Gargan, D.Kennedy, J.Lennon, J.J Brennan (Erin's Own), J.Rochford (Three Castles).**

**TIPPERARY - P.Meagher (capt.), J.Meara (goal), E.Cawley, P.McGrath, E.Gilmartin, S.Hackett, J.Harty, W.Kelly (Toomevara), J.Raleigh (Emlly), T.Gleeson (Dromblane), R.Mockler (Horse and Jockey), J.Murphy (do) H.Shelly (Thurles), Z.O'Keeffe (Templeouhy), P. Brolan (Thurles).**



1922

IRISH INDEPENDENT

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH 1923

## ALL IRELAND HURLING FINAL

RECORD CROWDS WATCH GRAND DISPLAY

## WONDERFUL SCENES OF ENTHUSIASM AT CROKE PARK

**Kilkenny 4-2, Tipperary 2-6**

AT CROKE PARK yesterday, before a crowd of 26,000, Kilkenny beat Tipperary by 4 goals 2 points (14 points) to 2 goals 6 points (12 points) in the Final of the All Ireland Hurling Championship for 1922.

The gate receipts, totalling over £2,400 constitutes a record. Over 30 special trains arrived in Dublin from different parts of Ireland.

The game, which will rank as one of the greatest hurling contests in the history of the G.A.A., aroused remarkable scenes of enthusiasm. Excitement ran high, but, despite the stern nature of the struggle, it was decided in a fine sporting spirit.

With one exception the winning team was composed of players new to the All-Ireland Championship. After the match they were presented with the perpetual challenge cup by Mr Dan McCarthy, T.D., President of the Central Council.

Tipperary are still ahead on the winning list, having 9 championships to their credit. Kilkenny, with 8, now tie with Cork for second place.

There was a surprise in the All-Ireland Football Semi-Final for 1922. Sligo, who were for the first time representing Connacht in the championship, gaining a meritorious victory over Tipperary. They meet Dublin in the final.

All classes were represented in the huge concourse at Croke Park, including several of the newly-elected Dail Deputies. Ladies were present in large numbers, and there was a big attendance of clergymen and army officers.

HURLING: KILKENNY, 4-2 (14 points); Tipperary, 2-6 (12 points). FOOTBALL: Sligo 1-8; Tipperary, 0-7.

With over 30 special trains arriving in Dublin from practically all parts of Ireland the crowd must have constituted a record. From the moment the gates were opened about one o'clock there was a steady stream through the several entrances. This continued while the football match was in progress, and by the time the hurlers lined out shortly after 3.30, the spacious grounds presented the appearance of being full to overflowing.

It was a great mass of humanity, all classes being represented in the immense hosting drawn together from every corner of the land. To judge from the attendance and enthusiasm, the games of the Gael, and more especially the national pastime of hurling, occupy a higher degree of popularity today than ever before.

## NATIONAL AIRS

The members and officials of the Central Council and other helpers, including



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1922

*Back Row: Peter Dunne (mascot), Jack Rochford (Trainer), Mick Heffernan (with hat), Players only - Tom Tierney, Bill Brennan, Ned Purcell (official), Eddie Dunphy, Lory Meagher (with cap), Dick Grace, Matty Power, Bill Kenny, Mick Brennan (no jersey).*

*Middle Row: Sean Gibbons, Martin Lalor, Jimmy Tobin, Paddy Donoghue, Watty Dunphy, Mark McDonald, John Holohan, Pat Glendon, Miss Gorey, Tim Scott, Mick Dalton (with cap standing).*

*Front Row: Martin Egan (with hat), Tommy Carroll, Dick Tobin, John Roberts, Pat Aylward, Tom Walsh (Chairman Co. Board with hat on ground).*



the hurling and football teams of the Civic Guard, had the arrangements in excellent order, and the big task of catering for the crowd in the way of admission and accommodation proceeded without a hitch. The weather was everything that could be desired and the sod in perfect condition. The proceedings were enlivened by the Transport Workers' and Artane bands, which discoursed stirring musical selections during the time of waiting and the intervals. Members of the St John Ambulance Brigade in Ireland (City of Dublin Division) rendered first-aid in a number of accident cases, and their services were warmly appreciated.

#### HIGH-CLASS HURLING

The hurling contest provided a really high-class exhibition, the play all through reaching a standard that has rarely, if ever, been equalled. Outstanding features were speed, dash, close tackling, and quick, accurate striking. It was surprising the very fast pace that was maintained from start to finish. Both teams gave evidence of training and practice in plenty, for the players were going as strong, if not stronger, in the closing minutes than in the earlier stages.

#### THE OFFICIAL FIGURES ARE: -

GATE RECEIPTS.....£2,403 7 0  
ATTENDANCE.....26,110

Tipperary, taken all round, would appear to be the heavier body of men, but anything Kilkenny may have wanted in weight they made up for in other respects. They are a young team, possessed of all the qualities that made Kilkenny hurling famous in the past. With the exception of the veteran, Dick Grace, of Tullaroan, they were making their first appearance in an All-Ireland final, and that they came through the trying ordeal with flying colours is a tribute to the sterling stuff of which they were made. They certainly did better than would have many a more experienced selection. Where all gave a creditable account of themselves it would be invidious to particularise, suffice it to say that every man of the fifteen did his part and did it well.

#### WENT DOWN FIGHTING

That Tipperary were fated to go under does not in any way detract from their wonderful ability as hurlers. While Kilkenny are to be congratulated on a hard-earned victory, a meed of praise is due to the Munster representatives, who put up a gallant fight, and were not beaten until the referee whistled the end of the great game. Never before was an hour filled with such thrills of sensation and excitement. The scoring ran level, and the interval whistle found the figures even. On through the second half it was a terrific struggle, and if at one time it looked as if Tipperary were to carry off the laurels, those who knew the Kilkenny style of play and their great finishing powers, never once lost confidence. In this they were justified, for the closing minutes produced hurling the like of which was never seen before. The issue was in doubt up to the end, when Kilkenny were leading on the scores by a two point margin. The game will live in history, and will rank with all the great games that have gone before.

The last meeting between Kilkenny and Tipperary in an All-Ireland final was for the championship of 1916, which went to the Premier county. Kilkenny had beaten Tipperary in the 1913 final.

The football match was well-contested, but the result came as a big surprise. Victory was predicted for Tipperary, who won the All-Ireland Championship for 1920, but gave Mayo a walk-over in the semi-final for 1921. It was the first time for Sligo, who had beaten Mayo (1921 All-Ireland finalists), and Galway (1919 All-Ireland finalists) in the Connacht ties, to represent their province. They played good football, and thoroughly deserved their victory. Tipperary led by 3 points at half time, but Sligo showed decided superiority in the closing moiety.

Prior to the start, Tipperary lodged a protest with the referee against the composition of the Sligo team, the grounds of objection being that one of the players (Kilcoyne) was ineligible to take part. It is stated that there is also an objection pending by Galway against Sligo being awarded the final of the Connacht championship.

Both games were decided in a good sporting spirit. Nearing the end of the hurling match the crowd encroached on the side line, with the result that only a very unsatisfactory view of the game could be obtained from the Press table.

#### THE HURLING

##### HARD-EARNED VICTORY FOR KILKENNY

Tipperary won the toss and played towards the Clonliffe goal. Tipperary were first way, and the Kilkenny citadel had a narrow escape. Tipperary returned and got a free, from which Cleary opened the scoring with a point within 3 minutes of the start. Kilkenny bounded away, and Dick Grace sent well in for the Tipperary line to be crossed without result. Lively play of a high order ruled at mid-field, both sides giving of their best in a tense struggle. A free for Kilkenny was neatly centred by Grace, and the forwards had a good try, but failed to score. The scene of action quickly changed, but the Tipperary forwards failed. Tipperary ground was visited, Carroll sending in a free which was struck by Roberts, for O'Meara, in saving in the Tipperary goal, to concede to a "70." This was well taken by Grace but brought no reward. Tipperary worked away fighting every inch of the ground, and Hayes added a point. Time gone, 9 minutes. A free by Browne brought Tipperary back, and there was an exciting bout close up to the Kilkenny citadel. Hayes added a point for Tipperary from a free. Time gone, 11 minutes.

#### KILKENNY EQUALISE

Really brilliant play marked the ensuing passages, either end being visited in turn. Both sides showed splendid form and some fine spectacular work was witnessed. Kilkenny, attacking, got a free in good ground, and Dick Grace levelled up with a great goal. Excitement ran high as Tipperary moved away to meet with a sterling Kilkenny defence. The Marble County were quickly on the aggressive and had hard luck in their full forward. Roberts, coming to the ground in attempting to get onto a rolling ball which went wide. Hayes put Tipperary again ahead with a point from a free, but Kilkenny dashed away with vigour, and after O'Meara had saved well in the Tipperary goal Lalor equalised for Kilkenny with a great point.

#### FIRST HALF

	Goals.	Points.	Frees.	70's.	Wides
Kilkenny .....	1	1	3	1	6
Tipperary .....	--	4.	4	1	6

#### SECOND HALF

Kilkenny .....	3	1	2	1	3
Tipperary .....	2	2	2	3	6

The hurling was now of a magnificent order, which was remarkable considering the extreme closeness of the play. The scoring was level with 20 minutes of the time gone. A Kilkenny visitation was repulsed, and Tipperary attacking with vigour spoiled by fouling. A free was well taken by Grace, and Kilkenny were again on the offensive, Grace sending over a second free. The pace was unusually fast, and little open play was allowed. There were a few stoppages, due to minor injuries to players. Kilkenny backs showed up splendidly against a hot Tipperary onslaught. Kilkenny took up the running, and the Tipperary citadel was in danger when Lalor drove wide. Kilkenny were facing a brilliant sun, but were losing no ground in the play, which was pretty evenly distributed. There was a vigorous duel at mid-field, from which Kilkenny got away to send over. Kilkenny were having something the better of the play, and O'Meara was called on to defend between the Tipperary sticks.

Tipperary strove hard, but made little impression on the Kilkenny backs, who put up a grand defence. After Tipperary had sent wide, Kilkenny again came along in dashing style. Leahy did well in the Tipperary rear line, and Kilkenny territory was visited for Hayes to. Have a good try from a free. The play at this stage was as good, or better, than anything that has ever been witnessed on the same ground. This continued on to the interval, when the scores were level, as follows: - Kilkenny 1-1; Tipperary, 0-4.

#### A TERRIFIC FINISH

Play was for a time confined to midfield on resuming. Kilkenny were first to press and O'Meara saved in the Tipperary goal. Kilkenny ground was visited for a "70," which was sent over by Cleary. Kilkenny backs showed up well and eventually got away, a ground movement bringing the marble county forward. The Tipperary sticks had a narrow escape, but Kilkenny kept up the pressure. The hurling had lost nothing of its brilliancy from the first half. Kilkenny, showing great form were keeping the Tipperary backs busy, but the defence was equal to all efforts to get through. The Tipperary citadel was in grave danger, but the



end was crossed without result. Tipperary sprang away on the puck out, but were unable to penetrate the Kilkenny defence. Showing wonderful speed Kilkenny again went attacking, and the Tipperary backs cleared in capital style.

#### TIPPERARY AGAIN LEAD

A strong rush by Tipperary brought them a great goal from Power. This with ten minutes of the second half gone gave Tipperary a three points lead. Kilkenny tried for a score, but failed against the Tipperary defence and Tipperary again moved away to get a free. Time gone 12 minutes. The hurling was all the time of an unusually high order and the spectators went wild with enthusiasm. A few strong duels were witnessed in Kilkenny ground and excitement reached fever pitch. Tipperary continued to force the play in a terribly vigorous game and the Kilkenny backs effected a succession of fine saves. Kilkenny dashed away for Roberts to get a great point 15 minutes after resumption. Renewing the offensive the Tipperary sticks were again in danger when O'Meara saved well in the goal mouth. Terrific hurling followed, the persistent efforts of the Kilkenny forwards being only equalised by a superb Tipperary defence.

#### KILKENNY DRAW LEVEL

Kilkenny were now doing best and, fighting hard for a score, forced a "70," which Dick Grace placed in the goal-mouth for the forwards to level up. The Kilkenny followers went wild with delight. Tipperary bounded off for a fruitless scoring mission, the Kilkenny backs being equal to the best efforts of the opposing forwards. The hurling maintained its brilliancy, it being wonderful how the great speed was kept up. Tipperary, showing wonderful dash, pressed with determination, and with six minutes of the time to go, P.Power put Tipperary ahead with a goal which left the Kilkenny custodian no chance of



*Michael Collins throws in the ball at the start of the 1921 Leinster Hurling Final.  
From left: Michael Collins, First pairing - Joe Coyne (originally Dicksboro - lived/hurled Dublin),  
Paddy Donoghue, Mattie Power on right of second pairing. Ref John Dunphy.*

saving. With a heavy shower coming on, Tipperary were still on the offensive, but were making little headway against the Kilkenny defence. Kilkenny bounded away, and the excitement was feverishly intense, when within three minutes of the end the Marble County levelled up with a great goal.

The play was stubbornly contested, and there was strenuous hurling at midfield, when a great Kilkenny burst was rewarded with a goal, which gave them a lead on the score. Tipperary almost immediately put up a point, and continued on the offensive. The Kilkenny backs were brilliant and held up quite a number of forward drives by Tipperary. The excitement and enthusiasm that prevailed towards the close baffled description. Tipperary tried their utmost, but were unable to improve their position, and the long whistle found them two points in arrears.

Mr P. Dunphy (Dublin) gave general satisfaction as a referee.

#### THE TEAMS

Kilkenny – W. Dunphy (capt.), M. McDonnell (goal), M. Power, J. Roberts, R. Tobin, P. Donohue, E. Dunphy, M. Lalor, W. Kenny, P. Aylward, R. Grace, T. Carroll, P. Glendon, John Holahan, J. Tobin.

Tipperary – J. Leahy (capt.), J. O'Meara (goal), A. O'Donnell, J. Power, P. Power, B. Browne, S. Hackett, T. Dwan, W. Dwan, J. Darcy, J. Cleary, M. Kennedy, J. Hayes, J. Fitzpatrick, P. Spillane, J. Darcy, J. Cleary, M. Kennedy. Subs- M. Mockler, P. Cahill, W. Ryan, J. Conway



**KILKENNY - LEINSTER SH CHAMPIONS 1922**

*Back Row: Players only; T. Tierney, P. Aylward, P. Glendon, Ned Purcell (with hat), R. Tobin, Wattie Dunphy,  
T. McDonald, T. Scott, P. Lanigan, M. Phelan.*

*Front Row: M. Lawlor, Matty Power, John Holahan, E. Dunphy, T. Carroll, J. Roberts (capt.), P. Donohue, J. Tobin, W. Kenny, M. Joyce. (*



1932

IRISH INDEPENDENT

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH 1932

## VICTORY AT LAST: KILKENNY HURLERS' DAY OF GLORY

**Clare Go Down in Memorable Struggle Before Crowd of 35,000**

### VETERANS AND YOUTH AID VICTORY

**Kilkenny..... 3 -3, Clare ..... 2-3**

AT CROKE PARK YESTERDAY THE ALL-IRELAND HURLING FINAL WAS WON BY KILKENNY, WHO DEFEATED CLARE BY 33 (12 pts.) to 2-3 (9 pts.) AFTER A MEMORABLE STRUGGLE.

Clare led at the interval by a point, 0-3 to 0-2, but immediately after resuming Kilkenny, by quick goals, took a good lead, and although Clare got to within a goal of their rivals they failed to draw level.

In the Minor Hurling semi-final Kilkenny were also successful, defeating Down by 3-7 (16 pts.) to 2-2 (8 pts.). It was Ulster's best display for many years.

The games were fought out in a sportsmanlike manner, being a credit to the players and the Association.

The attendance, 34,392 (Receipts £2,999 1s 3d.), is a record for a hurling final.

If lacking somewhat the brilliancy of the three memorable games between Cork and Kilkenny, last year, the thrills and shocks of a keen, hard fought, determined struggle were not wanting in the All-Ireland Championship final, in which Kilkenny defeated Clare (3-3 to 2-3), at Croke Park, yesterday.

Ideal conditions contributed to the enjoyment of the big crowd which, representative as it must have been of all Ireland, was kept at the peak point of excitement and expectancy to the end. With little sun and no wind to hamper either side, the

weather was all that could be desired, and a playing pitch that was perfect bore evidence to careful preparation.

#### CLARE'S RELIABLES

Fielding the team that won the Munster Championship, Clare made no change on their original choice. Eddie Doyle, off through illness in the Leinster final against Dublin, returned and played well as left half-back for Kilkenny, Jack Carroll retiring to the left full position in room of J. Grace. M. White replaced J. Fitzpatrick as full forward, and scoring two goals and a point for the winners justified his inclusion on a side that, as expected, showed better balance and cohesion than Clare.

Clare played with dash and vigour and entering on their work in grim earnest their bustling tactics were upsetting to the more graceful, finished style of Kilkenny. It was an even first half; remarkable, above all else for low scoring, and in this respect held a striking contrast for those who had witnessed the semi-final between Clare and Galway.

#### MANY CHANCES LOST

Chances were missed by both sides, and the honours went to the backs, particularly the Clare men, who in the opening moiety, at any rate, proved more than a match for the fast moving Kilkenny forward line.

Clare had an early point by Gleeson, who was frequently in the picture during the hour, and did not confine his attention to midfield. White levelled up for



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1932

Back Row: Jimmy Walsh (Capt), Mattie Power, Jack (Sag) Carroll, Peter O'Reilly, Lory Meagher, Jim Dermody, Podge Byrne.

Middle Row: Martin Power, Eddie Byrne, Martin White, Paddy Larkin, Dan Dunne, Tommy Leahy, Paddy Phelan.

Front Row: Jim Grace, Paddy Dowling, Eddie Doyle, Jack Duggan, John Fitzpatrick, Billy Dalton.



Kilkenny, but Clare were quick to take the lead by a point from Connery. Spirited assaults were broken at either end, but there was a good deal of missing and faulty striking that was noticeably absent from the 1931 final.

Close scoring and hard fought hurling held interest, however, and there were many dour duals at midfield. Points from "seventies" came in turn to Clare (Holohan) and Kilkenny (Doyle), and in a game which so far there was little to show superiority by one or the other, Clare were not undeserving of their one point lead at the changeover.

There was a sensation at the changeover when Kilkenny leading off in a whirlwind fashion definitely got the upper hand for a period, and a well-won goal by Matty Power was quickly followed by another from White, who availed of a nicely directed line puck by "Lory" Meagher from the left wing.

The Clare backs had to bear the brunt, not for the first time this year, and it is due to them to state that they did not waver under the hottest pressure, while Daly as usual kept a good goal and could not be blamed for failing before the shot that found the net.

Efforts by Clare to go through were unavailing, and when White goaled again following a line puck by Meagher from the right wing, it looked as if Kilkenny were to close rather easy winners. But Clare were far from beaten. As is their wont they rose to the occasion in gallant style, and the Kilkenny defence were sorely tried.

#### CROWD THRILLED

At this stage there was spirited hurling. The crowd were thrilled, and remembering their wonderful rally against Galway at Limerick, the hopes of the Clare following rose when goals came from Considine and Burnell, to reduce the Kilkenny lead from eight points to two. Anything might have happened then, but Clare – their luck of the year was not in – missed a promising opening, and when within a minute of the end Matty Power, as elusive as ever, sent the ball sailing over the bar for a point for Kilkenny, the Hurling Championship of 1932 was won.

#### A MERITORIOUS WIN

Kilkenny merited their victory, but they had to give of their best all the way, and did not win, perhaps, by as wide a margin as most people expected.

It was a good game, if not up to the 1931 standard, and because of the history made by Kilkenny last year, the defeat this year of Cork by Clare, and its being the first championship clash between Kilkenny and Clare, it will rank with the hurling finals that live in memory.

There were flashes of really high grade play, but they were not sustained, and it was, before anything else, the close scoring and a feeling of anticipation that kept the crowd on tip-toe throughout.

#### MATTIE POWER'S RECORD

Kilkenny have won their ninth championship, but only one of their number – Mattie Power (Garda) – had the honour of representing the county when they carried off the 1922 title by defeating Tipperary in a great final. Since then Power has won every honour that it is possible to win in hurling, including the 1927 championship with Dublin. There are others of the Kilkenny men with fine records.

Meagher, O'Reilly, Doyle and Carroll played in the 1926 final against Cork, but Carroll was not on against Cork last year. Martin Power (Army Metro) and J. Walsh, the Kilkenny captain and sole representative of the Carrickshock Club, who are county champions, were appearing in their first final.

Taken down through, Kilkenny are a youthful lot, and with such talent at their disposal as Phelan, a great half-back, the Byrnes, Leahy, Dunne, Walsh, and the others, the future of hurling in Kilkenny would appear to be in safe keeping.

#### THE RIGHT SPIRIT

Due to the accidents and ill-fortunes which dogged their efforts last year there was sympathy with Kilkenny, and their success against Clare was well received, even by Clare supporters – and Clare, true sportsmen that they are, were not slow to extend the hand of congratulation.

On their gallant stand there is a tribute due to Clare, and if some of their number are wearing, if they have not already reached the veteran stage, it should not be too much to hope that their splendid example will further stimulate enthusiasm

at home and result in the early return of Clare to Croke Park.

Distinguished personages were welcomed by cheering and applause as they entered the grounds. The players to a man displayed an admirable spirit, and that was reflected amongst their respective followings, and with not a single untoward incident for the day, the whole was a triumph in organisation that redounds to the credit of all concerned.

A special word of praise on the perfection of the arrangements is due to the General Secretary (Padraig O Caoimh) and the band of willing workers under his control.

#### WHAT TURNSTILES TOLD

Yesterday's official gate receipts and attendance were: -

34,301.....£2,999. 1.3

Last year, when Cork and Kilkenny met three times in the All Ireland final owing to drawn games, the figures in order of the matches were: -

23,460.....£2,255. 7. 9

33,124.....£2,774. 2. 2

31,935.....£2,756 12. 6

#### GREAT GAME DESCRIBED

Leahy, from the throw-in, sent over for Kilkenny. Daly pucked well from goal, but E.Byrne put Kilkenny moving, and Holohan saved for Clare. From beyond midfield Gleeson opened the scoring with a point for Clare, and shortly after Dermody, in the Kilkenny goal, saved from Considine.

Meagher failed on a Kilkenny free and the Clare end was crossed without reward. The pace was fast and there was a spirited bout of hurling at midfield, before Meagher, from a free, sent over for Kilkenny. Leahy again put Kilkenny on the offensive, but the Clare backs came out on top. After Meagher had opened up for Kilkenny, Higgins and P. McInerney cleared in turn, and the work of the Kilkenny forwards left room for improvement.

#### CLARE'S GREAT DEFENCE

With Kilkenny still attacking, McInerney was applauded for brilliant saving for Clare. Clare missed a good chance from a centre by Burnell, and Phelan, E.Byrne, and Meagher brought play to Clare ground, where the backs gave a wonderful display. Larkin broke a Clare assault, and a long puck by Meagher (Kilkenny) was admirably saved by Daly in the Clare goal.

Thus far Kilkenny had something the better of the play, but the shooting of their forwards was faulty.

#### KILKENNY DRAW LEVEL

Kilkenny had the balancing point when White scored following a free by Meagher, but Clare were quick again to take the lead by a point from Connery. Larkin saved later for Kilkenny, but Clare returned with a rush and had a "70" (Holohan) which was saved in the Kilkenny goalmouth.

From another "70" Holohan added a point for Clare, who were now leading by two points, and Considine (Clare) missed narrowly from a well-directed drive by Gleeson. Blake checked a forward move by Kilkenny, and P.Byrne and Phelan held up a Clare assault. With Kilkenny attacking in determined style, Daly (goal) and McInerney saved brilliantly for Clare, and a Kilkenny free (Meagher) within scoring distance was beaten off.

#### BYRNE WORKS HARD

After Considine had sent over for Clare, E Byrne left Kilkenny attacking, and after McInerney had stayed the onset, Dunne (Kilkenny) sent over. P.Byrne was outstanding in a hard-worked Kilkenny defence, and O'Reilly brought off a timely save. Holohan and J.J Doyle rendered effective service in the Clare defence, and when play veered around Burnell's shot went wide.

P. Byrne (Kilkenny) saved from Falvey, and after Daly had saved shortly after in the Clare goal, Leahy sent over for Kilkenny. In a stubborn, hard-fought duel, Kilkenny forced a "70," from which E.Doyle scored a grand point, to leave the Leinster Champions but a point in arrears. Clare again took up the running, and after a few quick passages amongst their forwards, E Doyle came to the rescue for Kilkenny.



### **CLARE'S SLIGHT LEAD**

Gleeson was wide for Clare, and after the Munstermen, fighting every inch of the ground, hand worked back, P. Byrne cleared for Kilkenny. From far out on the right wing T. McInerney had a good try for Clare before the interval. Clare had a half time lead of 2 points to 2 for Kilkenny - a score that, allowing for everything, was, perhaps, a true reflex of the run of play.

### **SENSATIONAL TURN**

When Phelan sent Kilkenny away at the restart, Gleeson returned for Clare, and O'Rourke drove wide. There was wild rejoicing by their supporters when Kilkenny had a goal. Matty Power finding the net following a lengthy puck by Phelan and an effort by Dunne. From the line puck on the left wing Meagher sent straight for the sticks, and White finished for another goal for Kilkenny, who were now leading 2-2 to 0-3. This gave the game a sensational turn, and the Clare backs were kept moving.

A free (Gleeson) eased for Clare, but a scoring effort by T. McInerney was beaten off, and the Clare sticks had a narrow escape. Carroll shortly after saved well for Kilkenny, and after McInerney had saved for Clare, Kilkenny had their goal scored by White again, following a line puck by Meagher, this time from the right wing.

Kilkenny now had the handsome lead of eight points on the score 3-2 to 0-3. Carroll, Doyle, and O'Reilly were under hot pressure in the Kilkenny defence when Considine, taking a quick pass from T. McInerney, banged in a great goal for Clare.

### **TITANIC STRUGGLE**

The Kilkenny backs were kept moving, and there was plenty of robust, rugged, determined hurling before Kilkenny again went forward, to be beaten off by Higgins and Gleeson. When Clare attacked Dermody had to leave his goal to clear, and the Kilkenny backs were again sorely tried. Martin Power put the Kilkenny forwards in possession, but Dunne missed, and Higgins saved for Clare.

Kilkenny renewed the pressure, and Daly saved and ran from his goal to clear. Clare backs offered stout resistance, and when the scene changed to the other end Burnell sent wide.

### **CLARE FIGHT BACK**

Clare were still showing up in dashing style, and a fast, well-combined move by their forwards led to a goal by Burnell. O'Reilly (Kilkenny) saved later, and the Kilkenny backs were busy when T. McInerney (Clare) sent over following a free by Holohan.

O'Rourke led Clare in a fruitless forward move, and when Kilkenny broke away for J.J. Doyle, and later Falvey, saved for Clare. Meagher was wide from a Kilkenny free, and when Gleeson sent in for Clare Connery drove wide.

### **KILKENNY'S DETERMINATION**

A fierce battle was waged at midfield, and Kilkenny dashed forward in determined fashion. P. McInerney saved in the Clare goal after Daly had gone out to tackle Dunne. Kilkenny failed on a "70" and their forwards were faulty a minute later. Martin Power (Kilkenny) was beaten by O'Rourke, but the Kilkenny defence was sound, and Daly (goal) and Doyle had shortly after to save in turn for Clare.

Play again swung round, and P. Byrne cleared for Kilkenny. Leahy (Kilkenny) sent over, but when Kilkenny worked back Matty Power closed the scoring with a neat point. The end came a minute later.

Sean Robbins (Offaly) as referee, gave general satisfaction, but his task was rendered comparatively easy by the sportsmanlike behaviour of the players throughout.

### **Kilkenny**

J. Walsh (capt.) (Carrickshock), J. Dermody (goal), L. Meagher, P. Phelan, M. White, P. Larkin (Tullaroan), P. O'Reilly, P. Byrne, J. Carroll (Dicksboro), T. Leahy (Urlingford) E. Doyle (Mooncoin); Matty Power, Martin Power, E. Byrne, D. Dunne (non-residents).

### **Clare**

J. J. Doyle (capt.), M. O'Rourke, M. Connery (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Dr. T. Daly (goal), (Tulla), T. Considine, L. Blake (Ennis), T. McInerney (O'Callaghan's Mills), P. ("Fowler") McInerney, T. Burnell, J. Higgins, J. Gleeson, J. Holohan, M. Enivey, J. Mullane, J. Hogan (non-residents).

### **SCORES BY CLOCK**

#### **First Half**

3 mins, - Gleeson (Clare), pt.  
14 mins, - M. White (Kilkenny), pt.  
15 mins, - Connery (Clare) pt. w  
18 mins, - Holohan (Clare) a "70" pt.  
29 mins, - E. Doyle (Kilkenny) a "70," pt.

#### **Second Half**

2 mins, - Matty Power (Kilkenny), goal.  
4 mins, - M. White (do.), goal  
8 mins, - M. White (do.), goal.  
12 mins, - T. Considine (Clare), goal.  
21 mins, - T. Burnell (Clare), goal.  
28 mins, - Matty Power (Kilkenny), point.

### **FIGURES OF THE MATCH**

#### **First Half.**

	Goals	Pts	Frees	70's	Wides
Clare.....	0	3	0	2	7
Kilkenny.....	0	2	4	3	8

#### **Second Half.**

	Goals	Pts	Frees	70's	Wides
Kilkenny.....	3	1	1	1	9
Clare.....	2	0	2	0	5

*Mr Sean Gibbons, T.D., addressing the victors in the dressing-room, paid a glowing tribute to the teams. "To you boys who have given pride to Kilkenny I offer you my congratulations," he said. "You have had your share of hard luck several times, but now you have supported the honour of your county. Not only the actual team but the substitutes deserve congratulation for they all volunteered to stand down in favour of the team that did duty. No doubt, when called upon, these will yet be inspired by your victory. In making Kilkenny proud today the trainers of the team deserve congratulation, and also their secretary, Mr D. O'Connell, whose untiring work has helped much to make victory possible.*

*Rev. M. Hamilton, B.A., Chairman of the Clare Board: "On the play in the second half, I believe the better team won. They are two great teams, and the Championship is in good hands with Kilkenny. As Gaels we take our defeat as it comes, for after all the game and the Association mean more than a victory on the field. Kilkenny are worthy champions."*

*J. Walsh, captain of the Kilkenny team, when interviewed, said: "It was a great game, and I felt at the end of the first half hour that we would win. We won by speed, as that is what pulled us through in the closing stages.*

*"Clare has the best defence we have ever encountered. The team is one of sportsmen, but our men were trained to the last ounce, and I was always hopeful."*

*J. J. Doyle (Clare captain): "It was a great game, played in delightful spirit, and a credit to the Association. Clare have been struggling for a long time, but, perhaps, it was due to Kilkenny this year if only for their great struggles with Cork last year.*

*"We will," said the captain, "be there again, even though it should take another 18 years to do so: I am exceedingly sorry for the followers of the game in Clare who have been disappointed year in and year out. It is all in the game, and we must keep at it, no matter about these disappointments. We did our best in a great game!"*

*Dr Tom Daly (the Clare goalkeeper) had no excuses to make for the downfall of his citadel. "We certainly had hard luck," he said. "The three goals that beat me were unsavable. I had hopes of victory at half-time, but the ball seemed to travel more favourably for Kilkenny, who are a great team, and we wish them luck."*

*Mr Daniel O'Connell (Secretary, Kilkenny) thanked the club for their loyalty. Speaking of the team, Mr. O'Connell said: "I believe it is the best team since 1913, when we beat Toomevara."*

1933

Irish Independent

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH 1933



## 45,000 WITNESS CHAMPIONS' SUCCESS AT CROKE PARK

### A Game Packed With Thrills

#### NEW RECORD FOR A G.A.A FINAL

**Kilkenny.....1- 7 (10 pts.), Limerick... ..... 0-6.**

After a thrilling struggle, played in broiling heat, keenly and closely contested, and fought throughout at a fast pace, that could only have been maintained by well-trained men; Kilkenny lived true to tradition by defeating Limerick (1-7 to 0-6) in the All-Ireland Hurling Championship Final at Croke Park, yesterday.

It was a wonderful game – and a grand display of hurling – and fulfilled in every way the optimistic expectations of the thousands who had made it their chief topic during the past month.

Let it be said at the outset that Kilkenny were deserving winners, and that for their hard-earned victory the greater credit goes to their backs, who held a series of sustained assaults in masterly style, and rolled back attack after attack as Limerick, persistent to the end, battled resolutely for the scores that would have swung the balance in their favour.

To say that Kilkenny defence was as good as has ever been seen on the hurling field is to pay but due tribute to their captain (Eddie Doyle) and his comrades.

Donegal gave a dashing display when defeating Cork in the All-Ireland Junior Football Semi-Final, which preceded the big game.

The attendance is a record for a final, and it was necessary to close the gates twenty minutes before the time of starting, and over 5,000 were unable to gain

admittance.

#### *Limerick Makes a Gallant Effort*

Limerick made a great effort. Taken down through, they had more of the play than Kilkenny. Their backs, sturdy and reliant, did well; but, in this connection, it has to be remembered that they were not tested anything like the Kilkennymen at the other end.

The Kilkenny forwards were not as well fed as they might have been, but they made better use of their chances than Limerick.

Some of the Kilkenny scores followed dazzling forward play, two really brilliant efforts being a point from Martin power in the first half and a goal from Dunne in the second half, when, from an outside view-point, the verdict was still very much in doubt.

It was after this, perhaps, when Limerick threw their last ounce onto the struggle, that the Kilkenny backs were seen at their best. Limerick had the better of the midfield exchanges.

The Ryans, Tim and Mick, backed by Pat Clohessy, with Mick Mackey further up, gave a fine exhibition of dashing, forceful play that more often than not told heavily on Kilkenny ; but, against this, the Kilkenny backs were always there.



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1932/33,

Back; Danny O'Connell (Hon Sec), Fr Matt Doyle. Podge Byrne. Tommy Leahy. Jimmy O'Connell. Lory Meagher, Peter O'Reilly, Paddy Phelan. Fr William Brennan, Sean Gibbons (Co Chairman).

Middle Row: Martin Power, Eddie Byrne. Jim Grace, Jimmy Walsh, Paddy Larkin. Jack Fitzpatrick, Johnny Dunne.

Front Row: Dan Dunne. Jack Sag" Carroll, Paddy Dowling, Eddie Doyle (capt), Matty Power, Jim Dermody. Absent: Jack Duggan and Martin White.



### Faulty Forwards

The shooting of the Limerick forwards, of who Mick Mackey was the more effective, was faulty, and to this sector Limerick followers will be inclined to attribute their defeat.

This aspect can be best illustrated by stating that, had the Kilkenny forwards got as much as of the ball as Limerick, Kilkenny would have won by a wider margin.

It was a neck-to-neck race for the greater part of the hour, and the crowd was held at a high pitch of excitement and expectancy. The figures were level at the interval (4 points each), and it was a dour, determined battle during the closing moiety.

Prospects were bright for Kilkenny when Dunne got his well-timed goal; but on to the end Limerick were a danger, and they continued to play with their wonted fire and verve against an unbeatable Kilkenny defence. With the exception of the incident in the last few minutes, the game was contested in a manly, sporting spirit that reflected credit off the play.

A feature of the final was the good goal-keeping of Dermody for Kilkenny and Scanlan for Limerick. Dermody played his part in holding the title safe for Kilkenny, and no blame can be laid to Scanlan for the defeat of Limerick. As full-back for Kilkenny, O'Reilly was at the top of his form, and the same may be said of Doyle on his left and Larkin on his right.

The Kilkenny half-back line has for long enjoyed a sound reputation, and it lost nothing of its good name in the play of Paddy Byrne, Phelan and Leahy against Limerick. If Kilkenny did not excel at midfield, it should be known that Meagher and Eddie Byrne were matched against opposition that has been rated second to none in Ireland.

The Kilkenny forwards made few mistakes, and that Martin Power, who never played better, and Dunne have been single out for special mention need not be taken as reflecting on the others, particularly Matty Power, who, if he did not figure in the scoring as often as usual, turned a number of useful passes to great advantage.

### A Great Record

Kilkenny are to be congratulated on adding the 1933 championship to their already splendid record. They have now ten titles to their credit, as against eleven each for Cork and Tipperary, who still head the wining list.

They have enhanced the hurling prestige of Kilkenny, and on yesterday's showing promise to bring further honours to their county.

Limerick need not be disheartened over their defeat. As a team they may be said to have had their beginning only last year, and steadiness and accuracy amongst their forwards would make them a formidable side. They will be heard of again.

Limerick fielded out as selected, and as they played through the Munster championship, Mick Mackey (centre forward) having been reinstated by the Munster Council on Saturday night. Eddie Doyle, who had been injured in the Leinster final at Wexford Park, and did not play against Galway, resumed as captain and left-full-back for Kilkenny in room of Jack ("Sag") Carroll.

### Mattie's Power Distinction

All the Kilkenny players, except Dunne and Fitzpatrick, helped to win the 1932 championship. Matty Power has now the distinction of having won four All-Ireland championships, three with Kilkenny (1922, 1932 and 1933), and one with Dublin (1927). Dunne played with the American Tailteann team last year, and remaining at home won his place through his forward display with Mooncoin.

Fitzpatrick had previously been on the county side, but has retained his place since the league final against Limerick.

The field arrangements left little to be desired, and if there is sympathy for those who were disappointed in failing to gain admittance, it has to be borne in mind that inside they would not have had a view of the game, and those who came early would have been subjected to discomfort.

It is something to know, however, that arrangements are soon to be made to improve the accommodation at Croke Park, and one of the first things to be considered by the Central Council in this respect is the provision of a covered stand in the cheaper enclosure at the far side of the ground.

### A Word for Officials

Stewards and other officials, under the direction of the General Secretary (Padraig O Caoimh), performed their duties efficiently and courteously, although it is but fair to add that despite the enthusiasm and excitement it was an easily-disciplined crowd, with their interests only in the game.

The improved attendance must be taken as evidence of the growing strength of the G.A.A. and the increased popularity of Hurling, and on this all concerned are entitled to congratulation.

It was a great day for Gaelic Ireland, and, outside the records established in other ways, the final was one that will live in history and leave happy memories.

### EBB AND FLOW OF A GREAT BATTLE

Kilkenny were first way in a lively opening, but Limerick then took up the running, and Dermody, saving in the Kilkenny goal, conceded a "70," from which P.Clohessey sent over.

Limerick returned, and M.Mackey drove wide from a free close in. Kilkenny next had an over and there was a great struggle at midfield from which P.Ryan put Limerick attacking.

M. Mackey (Limerick) opened the scoring with a point.

Limerick had an over and Meagher hit a fine free for Kilkenny. Martin Power sent to the Kilkenny forwards, and Cross cleared for Limerick. From a free at midfield, P.Clohessey put Limerick on the offensive, and Leahy



*Kilkenny 1933 Team on the start of their Six week Tour of the USA (1934)*  
*Back Row: Sean McCarthy (President GAA), Jimmy Walsh, Podge Byrne, John Farrell, Jimmy O'Connell, Lory Meagher, Rev Willie Brennan.*  
*Middle Row: Jack Keoghan, Dick O'Sullivan, Eddie Byrne, Martin Power, Jim Dermody, Peter O'Reilly, Paddy Phelan, Tommy Leahy, Sean Gibbons (Cahirman Co Board), Mick Dalton (Trainer).*  
*Front Row: John Fitzpatrick, Jack Duggan, Paddy Larkin, Eddie Doyle (Capt), Martin White, Tommy Grace, Mattie Power, Johnnie Dunne.*



saved for Kilkenny.

From a cut in from the left wing by M.Ryan, Doyle saved brilliantly for Kilkenny. A free by P.Clohessey again left Limerick dangerous, but the Kilkenny backs showed superb form, and a free (O'Reilly) brought relief.

O'Reilly (Kilkenny) was splendid in defence, and when Martin Power left Kilkenny attacking Matty Power drove wide. Cross, from far out, then sent over for Limerick, but Kilkenny were away soon after, Walsh sending straight to the goal-mouth, where Scanlan first missed and then recovered in time to save a slow ball on the line.

Receiving from Leahy, Walsh send over for Kilkenny, and in a twinkling the Kilkenny backs were busy with Phelan and Doyle getting in effective service.

The Limerick backs were next tried, and proved their worth, and Limerick going in from a free (M.Ryan) their forwards finished weakly.

From a midfield free Meagher scored a point to give Kilkenny the lead after 18 ½ minutes play.

Limerick pressed from the puck out, and T.Ryan, with a point from the free, again levelled the scoring (2 points each).

Scanlan (Limerick goal) saved from a fierce Kilkenny onslaught, and then Limerick cleared from a free hit low by Meagher. Another free by Meagher, who again hit low, was beaten off, and later the Limerick sticks had a narrow escape from a shot by Walsh.

#### ***Limerick Again in Front.***

Dermody (Kilkenny goal) cleared from a combined effort by M.Mackey and D.Clohessey. From a Limerick free (T.Ryan) there was a desperate struggle in front of the Kilkenny sticks, and when O'Reilly saved, a "70" followed without reward to Limerick.

A free by Cross led to a point for Limerick, scored by M.Mackey, and Limerick led by 3 points to 2. Limerick worked back from the goal puck and M.Mackey had another point. Kilkenny then led away, and when Walsh opened up, Martin Powerscored two points – the second being from a grand effort, after he had side-stepped an opponent, far out on the right wing.

The scores were level at 4 points each at the interval – a fitting close to a half-hour of wonderful hurling.

There was no indication as to how the second half might go. Limerick may have had something more of the attack, but the Kilkenny backs had been excelling themselves and, to all appearances, no matter how ardent partisans may have viewed it, the issue was still open.

#### ***Thrilling Hurling***

After a few even exchanges at midfield, Roche drove in for Limerick. Larkin cleared for Kilkenny, and Martin Power put the Kilkenny forwards in possession.

Cregan saved for Limerick, but Phelan returned one for Kilkenny, and Scanlan (Limerick goal) saved brilliantly from Matty Power.

Kilkenny kept on the pressure, and Scanlan saved from Walsh, but Dunne with a well-judged shot, sent in a point for Kilkenny.

Thrilling hurling, with lightening-like pace, was still the order, and Dermody was tested in the Kilkenny goal. The Kilkenny backs were sorely tried, and a Limerick free was beaten by Phelan.

When Meagher again put Kilkenny moving, McCarthy and P.Clohessey cleared in turn for Limerick. Limerick, going forward, fought might and main against a Kilkenny defence that did not waver.

D. Clohessey sent over for Limerick, but in a return O'Brien (Limerick), with a point, again balanced the scoring – 5 points each.

The struggle with the Kilkenny backs was renewed, but there was faulty shooting by Limerick, and Dermody (Kilkenny goal) brought off a brilliant save. P.Byrne, with a lengthy drive, sent Kilkenny away. White (Kilkenny) retired injured and

was replaced by Duggan.

There was a lively Kilkenny attack, and Scanlan (Limerick goal) saved from Fitzpatrick. Dermody was soon after under hot fire in the Kilkenny goal, and the Kilkenny backs continued to stave off determined and persistent assaults.

Then Kilkenny came away with a sweeping, stinging movement that ended in Matty Power scoring a point, and Kilkenny led by 6 goals to 5.

From a free in dangerous ground, Limerick forced a "70" (P.Clohessey) that went for nought. Away came Kilkenny again, and Matty Power, receiving from E.Byrne, missed for a point. Kilkenny returned, and had a point by Duggan.

Limerick bounded off for "70" (P.Clohessey) and the ball crossed the end near to the Kilkenny sticks after a vigorous tussle close in.

Limerick forced the play in vigorous style and were rewarded a point from T.Ryan, and later P.Byrne (Kilkenny) checked an effort by Cross, who was playing under the handicap of a leg injury.

#### ***A Great Goal.***

Martin Power sent to his namesake, Matty, who passed onto Dunne in the Kilkenny left wing angle.

Dunne eluded an opponent, played the ball on his stick until within striking range, and then shot straight to the net for a goal. Kilkenny now led by 1-7 to 0-6 and their followers were jubilant.

Nothing daunted, Limerick broke away, but their forwards failed to avail of two openings that offered. Dermody (Kilkenny goal) was struck by an opponent and retired with an injury to his hand, his place being taken by J.O'Connell.

Kilkenny cleared from a Limerick "70" but their backs had again to bear the brunt, and another Limerick "70" was beaten off. Play was at midfield at the end.

Mr Stephen Jordan, T.D (Galway) was a strict and impartial referee.

***Kilkenny - E. Doyle (capt.), J.Dunne (Mooncoin), J.Dermody (goal). L.Meagher, P.Phelan, P.Larkin, M.White (Tullaroan), P.O'Reilly, P.Byrne (Dicksboro), J.Walsh, J.Fitzpatrick (Carrickshock), E.Byrne, T.Leahy (Young Irelands, Dublin), Martin Power (Army Metro, 'do.) Matty Power (Garda, d.o) Subs. - J.Duggan (Mooncoin), J.O'Connell (Dicksboro).***

***Limerick - M.Fitzgibbon (capt.), (Young Irelands), P.Scanlon (goal), T.Ryan, J.Mackey, M.Mackey (Ahane) M.Cross (Cloughan), T.McCarthy, P.Clohessey, D.Clohessey (Fedamore), E.Cregan (Newcastle West), M.Ryan, P.Ryan (Murrin), J.Roche (Croom), G.Howard (Portroe, Tipperary), C.O'Brien (Young Irelands, Dublin.)***

#### ***A Record Attendance***

The attendance at the hurling final at Croke Park on Sunday was a record one-45,178

The receipts amounted to £3, 972 3s.

Last year the attendance was 34,302, with a gate of £2,999 1s 3d

#### ***Tell-Tale Figures***

<b><i>Wides and Frees, 70's, overs, Gl's, Pts.</i></b>				
<b><i>KILKENNY.... ....</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>
<b><i>LIMERICK.... ....</i></b>	<b><i>7</i></b>	<b><i>2</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>

#### ***Second Half***

<b><i>KILKENNY.... ....</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>0</i></b>	<b><i>1</i></b>	<b><i>3</i></b>
<b><i>LIMERICK.... ....</i></b>	<b><i>2</i></b>	<b><i>4</i></b>	<b><i>8</i></b>	<b><i>2</i></b>

1935

THE IRISH PRESS

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 2nd 1935



## LIMERICK LOSE THEIR CROWN BY A BARE POINT

**MUNSTER MEN GO OFF WITH A BANG  
BUT NORESIDERS HIT BACK TO WIN A THRILLING BATTLE**

(By "GREEN FLAG.")

**Kilkenny..... 2-5, Limerick..... 2-4.**

KILKENNY yesterday at Croke Park, giving a wonderful display of grit and determination, recovered the All-Ireland title they lost in 1934, and in doing so, enhanced their reputation as championship fighters and stylists.

Defeating Limerick, who held the crown, the Noresiders owe their victory to better team understanding and an opportunism to accept chances when they came their way.

The conditions under which the game was played were the worst in twenty years, and, under the circumstances, it was as brilliant and as thrilling a final as has ever been decided under the aegis of the G.A.A.

### SHANNONSIDERS' DESPERATE CLOSING BID

BOTH sides fought out the issue from start to finish with a speed that was extraordinary under the prevailing conditions, and it is a tribute to the fitness and stamina of the players that they stood the strain and pace without a semblance of slackening, though rain in torrents swept across the field.

Good caman work was out of the question, yet there was plenty of accurate hitting and much wrist-work that was a delight to watch.

Kilkenny, somehow excelled in their first-time striking, and while the title holders were inclined to dally with the ball, the Black and Amber hurlers got it away

as fast as possible at every opportunity.

Players tackled each other with a grimness, though neither asked for a quarter, nor gave any, and almost every ball had to be fought for and well earned. Kilkenny's victory came, as I have said, from a better team understanding, and there was much of the old dash about the Noresiders, too, especially when challenged for the lead towards the end.

Kilkenny, relying on ground-work more than overhead play, were at an advantage with a greasy ball and a wet pitch. They concentrated on a style that did not give the Limerick men much chance of opening up the game, and, though forced to adopt different methods, the title holders played just as well as their conquerors.

### TO THE LAST SECOND

Indeed the whole hour's play was so evenly fought out that up to the last minute it was any county's match, and had Mick Mackey at one period gone for a point instead of a goal, scores might have finished level.

Yet watching the game one felt that Kilkenny's craft and greater experience were slightly the superior. They set the pace in the opening minute and stuck it with rare verve when the younger Limerick men took up the running in the closing quarter.



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SH CHAMPIONS 1935

Back Row: Paddy Larkin, Martin White, Tommy Leahy, Jimmy Walsh, Podge Byrne, Lory Meagher (Capt), Peter O'Reilly, Jimmy O'Connell.

Front Row: Matty Power, Locky Byrne, Johnny Dunne, Jack Duggan, Paddy Phelan, Peter Blanchfield, Eddie Byrne.



The last ten minutes will be long remembered for thrills and daring hurling in which the Limerick men faced by a five points deficit and the loss of the title played like the Limerick we have seen in the past two years.

They were met by a resistance that was stubborn and unyielding from past masters of the art of hurling, who with a tenacity that delighted their legion of followers stuck grimly to their hurleys in a last desperate effort to regain the Blue Riband.

#### **BEAT BACK RAIDS**

They hurled with rare elan particularly in the second half, when facing a strong breeze and rain, they manually beat back raid after raid by Shannonsiders, who were striving might and main to take the upperhand.

This period of attack by the Limerick men saw Kilkenny at its best, just as a similar period in the first half found the Green and White defence assailed on all sides by the Black and Amber attack, who however, failed to break the morale of McCarthy, Cregan, Clohessy, Kennedy, Howard and Cross.

It was not a day in which spectacular play was possible, but there was withal a good deal of fast hitting and combined movements that were a marvel of understanding and cohesion.

#### **INCLINED TO DALLY**

Conditions may have been against the Shannonsiders' style of fast open play, but let it be said that they battled gamely, and went down fighting at the finish. The front line did not appear to relish the conditions, and it was here the penchant to dally with the ball was most apparent.

Any hesitancy was fatal, as Peter Reilly, Blanchfield, Paddy Phelan, Larkin and the two Byrnes were like hawks ready to pounce on any chance to lash hard and fast to safety. Paddy Phelan again struck his form of two years ago and took a big part in the defence of the Kilkenny citadel.

He was changed over to the left half-back position, while Eddie Byrne came from centre-field to right half-back, Tommy Leahy moving out to centre-field to partner Lory Meagher.

If any player on the Kilkenny side is to be singled out for special mention it is Tommy Leahy, who played one of the best games of his career. Peter Reilly, too, was brilliant, while Blanchfield must be ranked as the best young hurlers playing.

#### **THE OLD CRAFT**

The Byrnes well maintained their reputation as sterling players, and Larkin also was in great form. Lory Meagher, at centre-field, got in a lot of useful work, and his placing of frees was as accurate and strategical as of old.

The goal that gave Kilkenny the advantage at a critical period came as a result

of a free placed by the Kilkenny skipper to the goalmouth, and though it was returned Martin White, unmarked twenty five yards out, found the net with a deadly drive.

The Noreside forwards were well held most of the time by the Limerick defence, but M.White, Johnny Dunne, Locky Byrne, Mattie Power, Jimmy Walsh and Jack Duggan were wily attackers, who weaved their way now and again to the Shannonside posts.



**Lory Meagher the Kilkenny Captain**

J.O'Connell, in goal, was brilliant in his accuracy: Larry Duggan, who came on as a sub., is a brother of Jack's so that there was much of a family touch about the Kilkenny side. Eddie Byrne and Padg Byrne are brothers, while Mattie Power is a first cousin.

#### **POWER IN DEFENCE**

Paddy Clohessy was the outstanding player in the Shannonside defence, while Tom McCarthy also struggled hard to keep his lines intact. Garret Howard, veteran and all as he is, played with dash and vigour, while Mick Cross, Mick Kennedy, and Ned Cregan stemmed many attacks during the hour.

Tim Ryan and Mick held their own at Centre Field, where the clashes were hectic most of the hour.

Mick Mackay was the hardest worker in the Shannonside attack, though Jacky O'Connell, too, played one of his best games.

Close was well held by Larkin, while McMahon, though trying hard, did not get many chances from Peter O'Reilly, John Mackey, too, found Paddy Phelan a rare handful, and the conditions did not help the Ahane youth either.

Roche had Eddie Byrne to deal with and while the Croom man did not do anything brilliant, he at least kept the Young Ireland's hurler exceptionally busy.

Scanlon kept his goal with the same coolness as ever and, though beaten twice, could not be blamed.

It was a grand sporting game and when it had ended one felt sorry that either side had won so evenly match were the sides.

There were wonderful scenes of enthusiasm at the finish, Kilkenny supporters in thousands flocking on the field to cheer the victorious players to their dressing room.

#### **HERE'S THE STORY OF HOW IT WAS DONE**

Limerick were first away, John Mackey crossing a ball to the left that Larkin lashed away and at the other end Jimmy Walsh tested the Shannonside defence, M.Clohessy and McCarthy broke through in dashing style. O'Connell and M.Mackey led a Limerick raid but Blanchfield and Peter Reilly were safe.

The Shannonsiders were back again in a lightening raid that O'Connell just saved in the goalmouth, and at other end Ned Cregan stemmed a Kilkenny wave that threatened danger.

Tim Ryan helped his side to move forward, but P.Phelan, hurling grandly, lashed and hard and long along the wing and Mattie Power was just wide of the Limerick net.

A Kilkenny free (P.Phelan) was ineffective, the Limerick defence showing up well. Kilkenny sweeping up the left M.Power had the first score of the game when he cut a ball angleways between the sticks.

Close and Larkin had a hard set to in the next minute, and Limerick breaking through forced a "70" and Clohessy's drive was cleared away by



**The Kilkenny Forwards (Johnny Dunne and Matty Power) pressing the Laois goal in the Leinster Final**



T.Leahy, Howard, T.Ryan and J.Mackey starred in a great bout of hurling that carried play to the Kilkenny end where M.Mackey levelled the scores with a beauty from the right corner the board reading Kilkenny 0-1, Limerick 0-1.

Cregan, McCarthy, and Kennedy stemmed a great Noreside rally, and Timy Ryan breaking away, placed a ball to the squad where McMahon cut dead and true to the net.

A free on the wing by Kilkenny was sent to the Limerick lines by Eddie Byrne, but Mick Cross, racing out, relieved the pressure. Blanchfield and Phelan were busy in the minute staving off a hot Limerick raid, Phelan eventually clearing.

Limerick were back again in the next exchanges, and Mick Mackey made no mistake with a free from forty yards out, the effort sailing all the way for a point. L.Meagher was in the forefront of a Kilkenny breakaway, but the Shannonside defence, though hard pressed, stood up in gallant fashion to drives by Duggan, Power, and L.Byrne.

#### **DEFENCE HOTLY ASSAILED**

G. Howard was playing a star game in the Limerick defence, but Kilkenny were hurling brilliantly hereabout, and Jimmy Walsh pointed a drive from the right that made the score: Limerick, 1-2; Kilkenny, 0-2.

Two frees in succession to Kilkenny carried play to the Limerick end where a drive of T.Leahy's went out to M.Power, who crossed to J.Duggan and scores were level when the Mooncoin man just doubled to the net.

There were exciting exchanges in the next couple of minutes, centre field bouts between Lory Meagher and Tommy Leahy on the one side, and the Ryan pair on the other keeping the crowd on their toes.

#### **NORESIDERS LEAD AGAIN**

Limerick made ground from a drive of Tim Ryan's and hectic clashes in the corner between Larkin and Close ended in Roche sending just wide of the objective.

There was a thrilling bout of stick play in the next minute, and after Cregan and McCarthy had beaten off attacks Mattie Power put his side in front with a peach of a point to give Kilkenny a half time lead of 1-3 to 1-2.

#### **THOSE HECTIC LAST TEN MINUTES**

When they resumed J.Dunne had replaced J.Duggan on the Kilkenny side and the Marble County men were quicker to show up, but a foul spoiled a promising breakaway, P. Clohessy's puck being wided by Close.

Dunne missed a chance at the other end, and breaking away with the delivery Tim Ryan, Mick Mackey and Roche were the high lights of a grand movement that Jackie O'Connell capped by sending dead and true for a point.

Larry Duggan, Jimmy Walsh, and M.White streaked away in a lightening raid, but P.Clohessy, hurling grandly, swept through to safety.

#### **KILKENNY'S SURGE**

Kilkenny were playing in great style now and when Lory Meagher trapped a ball at centre field he put his side once more in the lead with a drive that sailed all the way for point, the board reading: Kilkenny 1-4; Limerick, 1-3.

Eddie Byrne and T. Leahy stemmed a Limerick raid, and a free to the Noresiders was dropped on the goalmouth by Lory Meagher for White to cut over the bar. Limerick broke down field and a good try of McMahon's was stopped in the goalmouth by O'Connell.

The champions were trying hard for a score now, but Larkin, Phelan and P.Byrne fought like trojans to save their lives.

A side line puck of Lory Meagher was blocked by T. McCarthy, but Martin White, coming in on the clearance, shook the net with a drive that gave Scanlon no chance and Kilkenny led 2-3 to 1-3.

"Padg" Byrne, Eddie Byrne and T. Leahy beat off the Shannonsiders, who led by J.Mackey and J.Roche, went all out to reduce the leeway.

A free to Limerick in the left corner was tipped to the square by M.Mackey, and McMahon, getting his hurley to the falling ball, deflected past O'Connell to the net. Limerick were now two points behind.

Excitement was at fever height as Tim Ryan and M. Mackey raced back in a foray that looked like ending in a score but Peter Reilly and Blanchfield brought relief.

#### **KILKENNY AT BAY**

It was the fast hurling now, with the Kilkenny backs bearing the brunt of the battle. A free to Limerick (P.Clohessy) was cleared by P.Larkin, but a second free was sent all the way for a point by M.Mackey and the Limerick men were within a point of the Noresiders.

The Shannonsiders rallied again, but Padg Byrne broke the attack, and as the time ebbed a try of McMahon's trickled over the line half a foot outside the upright. The long whistle then came as the delivery reached centre-field, with Kilkenny winning the title by a point on the score, 2-5 to 2-4.

*Kilkenny - J.O'Connell (goal), P.Larkin, P.O'Reilly, P.Blanchfield, E.Byrne, P.Byrne, P.Phelan, L.Meagher (captain), T.Leahy, J.Walsh, J.Duggan, M.White, J.Dunne, L.Byrne, M.Power. Sub - L.Duggan.*

*Limerick - P. Scanlan (goal), E.Cregan, T.McCarthy, M.Kennedy, M.Cross, P.Clohessy, G.Howard, T.Ryan (captain), M.Ryan, J.Mackey, M.Mackey, J.Roche, J.O'Connell, P.McMahon, J.Close.*

*Dr T.Daly (Clare) was an efficient referee.*

#### **ELEVENTH TIME**

Kilkenny have now equalled the record of Cork and Tipperary by winning the title for the eleventh time. Though Lory Meagher played with the Kilkenny team that won the title in 1932 and 1933, it is his first time captaining an All-Ireland Championship side and there were hundreds of congratulations to the veteran Tullaroan man.

#### **FIGURES OF THE MATCH**

	<i>Gls.</i>	<i>Pts.</i>	<i>Overs</i>	<i>70's.,</i>	<i>Frees</i>
<b>KILKENNY ... ....</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>LIMERICK... ....</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

#### **Second Half**

<b>KILKENNY.... ....</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>LIMERICK... ....</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>

#### **ROUND THE CLOCK**

*8 mins Pt. Kilkenny M.Power  
14 " Pt. Limerick. M.Mackey  
15 " goal Limerick P.McMahon  
20 " Pt. Limerick M.Mackey  
25 " Pt. Kilkenny J.Walsh  
27 " Goal Kilkenny J.Duggan  
29 " Pt. Kilkenny M. Power*

*Half time - Kilkenny, 1-3; Limerick, 1-2*

*33 Mins Pt. Kilkenny J.O'Connell  
36 " Pt. Kilkenny L.Meagher  
41 " Pt. Kilkenny M.White  
49 " Goal Kilkenny M.White  
53 " Goal Limerick P.McMahon  
58 " Pt. Limerick M.Mackey.*

*Full time - Kilkenny, 2-5; Limerick, 2-4.*

#### **ALL RECORDS BROKEN**

The attendance and receipts at Croke Park yesterday set up new records for an All-Ireland final. The official figures were: -

Attendance..... 46,394  
Receipts..... £4,350 11s 3d.

1939

# KILKENNY'S WONDERFUL VICTORY

## ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONS FOR TWELFTH TIME

Terrific Finish To Memorable Game

Winning Point Scored in Torrential Rain

Kilkenny, 2-7. Cork, 3-3

By AN LIATHROID

A glorious last minute point scored by Jimmy Kelly of Carrickshock gave Kilkenny the All Ireland hurling crown of 1939. The deafening roar of joyful applause that lifted to the heavens from thousands of Kilkenny throats at Croke Park outdid the thunder that rattled threateningly across the sky and proclaimed to all of the world that was listening that the county of black-and-amber had made history. It was a magnificent victory. Its twelfth All-Ireland title had been gained, Tipperary's record equalled.

Under a solid wall of water from a cloudburst Kilkenny and Cork supporters stuck it out grimly through the last pulsating minutes of the greatest final ever played. They wanted to go but could not. Those thirty gallant lads fighting the battle of their lives down below held them as if hypnotised. They could not tear themselves away while the game hung in the balance even though their shirts were stuck to their backs and miniature streams cascaded from the legs of their trousers.

Cork as well as Kilkenny men joined in the wild cheering that heralded the sounding of the final whistle. It was a unanimous tribute from Irishmen to fellow Irishmen who had given a classic exhibition of the greatest game on earth under most appalling conditions.

That last quarter will never be forgotten by those who saw it. Sobbing with the intensity of the excitement which gripped them, men stood on tiptoe, eyes wide, lips parted, fists clenched as the ball flew from goalmouth to goalmouth and Cork drew level. The climax was reached as the point of Jimmy Kelly's, scarcely seen in the downpour, sailed over the bar. It was one of the greatest winning scores ever recorded in any game under any code. Thunder, lightning, rain were forgotten. Hats, caps, umbrellas, anything went up in the air. The game was Kilkenny's. Cork had bowed to defeat after a fight of which any team might be proud. The Rebel County, like the Marble County, has reason to be proud of its hurlers.

Under A.R.P. darkness Kilkenny to a man, a woman and a child turned out on Monday night to welcome home the conquerors. Not organised, it was the most spontaneous and enthusiastic 'welcome hour' ever accorded a Kilkenny team. The streets were packed, bonfires blazed and the swaying crowds cheered themselves hoarse. It was a wonderful tribute to wonderful hurlers.

### A Wonderful Game

Sitting on the side-line and scattered through the crowds on the stands were many old All-Ireland hurlers from many counties. Among the spectators were lovers of the game who have seen every big match since the early days. They all have memories of titanic struggles, of games lost and won on the final whistle, of famous figures, of fighting men and furious finishes but none of them ever sat or stood through a greater game than Sunday's final. The conditions under which it was played would alone have made it unique. The fact that it reached a climax in a thunderstorm and was decided in a cloudburst places those who took part in it among the greatest to have trod the Gaelic sod. With an electric start it was under way and to the interval the hurling sparkled as the Noresiders beat speed with greater speed and added their traditional skill to run up a good lead. Excitement was intense, Kilkenny supporters were overjoyed, those from Cork rather subdued. Munster dash had met Kilkenny dash; Kilkenny dash had won so far, and against wind and sun. The interval came and went and they were at it again. Kilkenny, winning all the way, saw the glittering crown before their eyes. But Cork were far from defeat. The rain came. Using their weight the Corkmen dashed through to draw level. Theirs was a wonderful effort. But Kilkenny had tasted of victory and were not to be denied. A wonderful point in a whirlwind finish ended a game that will light with brilliance the annals of the G.A.A.

### That Point

It came from nowhere. Few knew who had scored it. From the Cusack stand we vainly tried to stare through the wall of water that fell from the heavens. We could not see the ball.

We had not seen it except for an occasional flashing glimpse, for the last fifteen minutes. Ter Leahy's hurley swept round in an arc. The white flag was raised and the crowd went mad. We thought it was he who had scored, but other members of the team and officials told us afterwards that it was Jimmy Kelly who had nipped in to drop shot the greasy leather over the bar for Kilkenny's glorious victory.

### The Men

A tribute to the men - the thirty men - who battled magnificently through that thrilling hour. But such rousing tributes have already been paid that one in print is but cold. The spontaneous outburst that woke deafening echoes in Drumcondra was the greatest that could be paid them. It was the acclamation of gallant men by men. And again, for the Kilkenny team at any rate, the reception given them by their fellow county men was a tribute that could not be outdone. The warm admiration of all the classes of the community for the gallant fifteen who had carried the colours to victory was reflected on the faces that were lit up by the ruddy glow of the bonfires. They deserved it all. For sixty hectic minutes they upheld the honour of their native country with grim determination and spectacular fashion. They spent themselves fully in a final effort for victory and they did not spend themselves in vain. From Jimmy O'Connell in goal to Sean O'Brien, full-forward, they put all they knew into the struggle. Backs, centre-field men and forwards played better than they had played in any of the preliminary rounds. Their own supporters had faith in them when all Ireland favoured Cork and that faith was amply justified.

### They Come

In the early hours of Sunday morning thousands of Kilkenny people went to early Mass and caught one or other of the special trains. Hundreds more left by road and there was a constant procession of cars from the Marble City in the direction of Dublin which increased in density as it was joined by other travelling along the way. The trains and road vehicles disgorged their passengers on to streets, which were being washed by a steady downpour, but the faint rumbling of thunder gave hope of a break. With water spattering about their heels and dripping from their coats and hats the thousands of enthusiasts joined the trek to Croke Park. Those who had made the journey the evening before arrived at the gates a little drier, perhaps, but not a bit more enthusiastic. It would take more than rain to damp the ardour of the crowd. The red-and-white and black-and-amber favours were very much in evidence on coat lapels. A Corkman who arrived early said that about 14,000 people had left Cork in the morning. Most of them seemed to reach the Park early, they could be seen drinking tea out of flasks and munching sandwiches. There was a fairly good crowd in at the start of the minor match and all through it they continued to pour past the barriers in a steady stream.

### Other Finals Recalled

The game itself was strangely reminiscent of 1931. There was the same speed and skill that characterised those three memorable games, fewer personalities, perhaps, but better teamwork all round. In defeating Cork, Kilkenny joined Tipperary in the lead in All Ireland hurling honours, leaving Cork runners-up with eleven finals to their credit. Kilkenny and Cork have now contested nine finals and Kilkenny have won five - four of them by a single point.

### The Line-Out

As anticipated, the Kilkenny team lined out as in the second half of the Leinster Final. James Phelan filled the left full-forward berth and Gargan moved out in room of Brannigan at left-half. The remainder of the team was as it fielded in the Leinster Final and at Roscrea. Gargan sustained a broken thumb just on half-time and was replaced by R. Brannigan (Dicksboro). Here is the team as it played:-

*J O'Connell (Dicksboro), P Grace (J Stephens), P Larkin (J Stephens), P Blanchfield (Tullaroan), R Hinks (Carrickshock), W Burke (Tullaroan), P Phelan (Tullaroan), J Kelly (Carrickshock), J Walsh (Capt) (Carrickshock), J Langton (Eire Og), T Leahy (Young Irelands, Dublin), J Gargan (Tullaroan), J Mulcahy (Eire Og), S O'Brien (Eire Og), J Phelan (Tullaroan).*

*Subs: R. Brannigan (Dicksboro), R. Aylward (Carrickshock), P. O'Donovan (Dicksboro), P. Shortall (James Stephens), P. Boyle (Éire Óg), D. Keane (Dicksboro), J. Malone (Carrickshock).*

*The game was refereed by Mr. J. Flaherty - Tullamore.*

Generally speaking all the Kilkenny players struck their best form, a fact which reflects to the credit of their manager, Mr. Dan O'Connell and their trainers, Messrs. M. Dalton and M. Oakes.

### Some Records

On Sunday, Jimmy Walsh, captained his second victorious All Ireland team, the first occasion on which he gained that distinction being in 1932 against Clare. With Paddy Larkin and Paddy Phelan, he has helped to win four All Ireland championships for Kilkenny. Jimmy O'Connell, who replaced Jim Dermody when he was injured in the 1933 final against Limerick, has helped to win three titles for the county and this is Blanchfield's second success, his first being against Limerick in 1935. Terry Leahy now has the distinction of holding All Ireland medals in the three grades, minor and senior with Kilkenny, and junior with Dublin. Ten of the side have won their first All Ireland senior championship but Grace, Hinks, Mulcahy, Langton, O'Brien and Brannigan figured on successful minor combinations.

### Croke Park

The arrangements at Croke Park were excellent. The erection of the Cusack stand added considerably to the covered accommodation and, from the top part, a great view of the whole pitch can be had. Were it not for the war and the weather the attendance would in all probability have touched record figures.

### Points of Play

Cork had the breeze in their favour but Kilkenny were quicker away and from a centre by Paddy Phelan, J. Phelan eluded his man to flash a ground ball to the net. Kilkenny

came back again and O'Brien had a point, but Cork replied smartly when Lynch sent over from the right wing. Thornhill cleared for Cork but Langton flashed over a grand point. Walsh sent Kilkenny attacking and O'Brien gathered and shot for goal but Buttmer saved his net brilliantly. Paddy Larkin defended strongly and Cork were side. Brennan gathered from Lynch but was deprived of possession by Grace when well placed. A strong Cork attack reached the last line and O'Sullivan eluded Larkin to shake the net.

#### Kilkenny Pull Away

The Cork forwards were unable to make much impression on the opposing defence and many of their efforts went wide. Walsh and Kelly kept their attackers well supplied. Langton received from a cut-in by Hinks and made no mistake in shooting a great point. Leahy tried a break through but Young cleared. A free to Kilkenny was taken by Langton who added a point, O'Connell saved well and cleared in his old style from a strong Cork attack. Cork and Kilkenny had wides in turn and Walsh missed narrowly when shooting for a point. Grace was prominent in the Kilkenny defence when Cork launched a hot attack from a '70'. The Kilkenny forwards went away in a grand movement, but a centre by Mulcahy went too far and wide at the corner flag.

#### Half Time Lead

The Cork backs were severely tested in a series of Kilkenny raids. A free relieved pressure but Kilkenny were soon again peppering their posts. Dineen was wide for Cork and the puck-out reached the half-forwards. A cut-in by Hinks reached Leahy and from him to Langton and then Mulcahy. The latter sent a high ball across the square. O'Brien jumped to it and with an overhead, back-hand flick of his hurley landed it in the net. It was a grand score, Buttmer saved well from O'Brien and Gargan retired with a broken thumb being replaced by Brannigan. Cork were wide just on half-time when the scores were:

KILKENNY 2-4 (10); CORK 1-1 (4)

#### Second Half

W. Burke went down injured immediately on resumption but he resumed. Kilkenny pressed and Langton was wide. Phelan was seen to advantage and the Kilkenny forwards moved in to force two '70's in rapid succession, which were taken by Paddy Phelan, but without result. The hurling around midfield was fast and furious and there was an angry scuffle. From a free by P. Phelan, Kilkenny attacked and Ter Leahy scored a grand point with a drop-shot. Cork had a free by Barrett but the forwards were well held. In a lightning raid Cork had a surprise goal by Dineen from Lynch which put new heart into them. Kilkenny, however, were away to attack again, but a free relieved. Walsh put Kilkenny attacking again and Buttmer brought off a brilliant save from O'Brien.

#### Came The Rain

A big black cloud, which the crowd had under anxious observation from some time, seemed to split as a flash of lightening forked across it. Thunder rumbled heavily and rain descended in torrents. There was a rush from the sideline and exposed vantage points for shelter while the game continued with increased vigour. O'Sullivan had a point for Cork. The wind swung round a point and those in the lower seats on the Cusack stand, including the Press representatives, were forced to vacate them in a hurry. The game lost nothing in the storm. It was played with even greater speed but hurleys flew as well as the ball. Excitement mounted to



KILKENNY SENIOR HURLING TEAM WINNERS OF OUR 12TH ALL IRELAND TITLE

Back Row: Peter Blanchfield, Paddy Phelan, Paddy Grace, Paddy Larkin, Terry Leahy, Jimmy Walsh (Capt), Billy Burke, Jimmy Kelly.  
Middle Row: Mick Dalton, Jimmy O'Connell, Jack Gargan, Sean O'Brien, Jimmy Phelan, Bobbie Hinks, Mick Oakes.  
Front Row: Matty Power, Jim Langton, Jack Mulcahy.

fever pitch and the cheering became one prolonged roar. A point by J. Phelan and J. Kelly again gave Kilkenny the lead of 4 points.

#### Level Scoring

Kilkenny backs were on their mettle against fierce Cork attacks. The Corkmen seemed to revel in the conditions now obtaining and pressed with all their might for the scores that would put them on level terms. The Kilkenny lead was again reduced to 3 points when Lynch pointed from a free by Murphy. Play around the Kilkenny posts became fierce but the Kilkenny defence was rock-like. Jimmy O'Connell danced around in the square clearing with great accuracy. The climax of the game was reached when Campbell took a free at midfield and the ball slipped down through a cluster of backs and forwards into the Kilkenny net. The scoring was level at: Kilkenny 2-6 (12); Cork 3-3 (12).

#### The End

The crowd were wild with excitement and the rain, still falling in a torrent, failed to drive people from the field. Only a few minutes remained. Anything could happen. Kilkenny went away in a fierce wild finish and the forwards dashed to the Cork posts. A '70' resulted and, as Paddy Phelan stooped to lift the ball, a hush descended on the arena. The heavy leather soared into the air but fell far short of the post. Kilkenny hearts sank into Kilkenny boots. Then, from nowhere dashed a figure with hurley sweeping round and the Kilkenny forwards jumped into the air. The white flat went up. It was a point, scored by Jimmy Kelly. The Kilkenny crowd went mad with excitement. Out came the ball and Kilkenny were on it again at midfield. The referee looked at his watch. The whistle sounded and brought a memorable final to an end. The scoreboard read:-

KILKENNY - 2-7 (13); CORK - 3-3 (12).

#### The Cork Team

*The Cork team was as follows:- J. Buttmer (goal), A. Lotty, B. Thornhill, W. Murphy, J. Young, J. Quirke, W. Campbell, J. Barrett, O. Buckley, W. Tabb, R. Dineen, J. Lynch (Capt.), M. Brennan, T. O'Sullivan, R. Ryng.*

#### Afterwards

As the game ended there was a rush of Kilkenny supporters through the rain on to the pitch. Players were carried shoulder high to the dressing rooms. The rain eased as the crowd poured out through the gates to the flooded streets. Outside a car sank to the lamps in water. In another street, a fire engine was pumping water from flooded houses. The crowd descended on the city and scattered. Hoarse cheers here and there told the uninterested Dubliner that something had happened. Wildly waving scraps of black-and-amber told him that Kilkenny had won its twelfth All Ireland.

#### FIGURES OF THE GAME

##### FIRST HALF

	Frees	70's	Wides	Gls.	Pts.
KILKENNY	3	0	6	2	4
CORK	3	1	13	1	1

##### SECOND HALF

	Frees	70's	Wides	Gls.	Pts.
KILKENNY	5	3	8	0	3
CORK	7	4	7	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>

KILKENNY	8	3	14	2	7
CORK	10	5	20	3	3

#### ATTENDANCE FIGURES:

The official figures for Croke Park on Sunday are:-

ATTENDANCE ..... 39,302  
RECEIPTS ..... £3,678 8s 0d.





The golden winning point came when Paddy Grace raced out to hit a powerful clearance from eager Cork forwards, and Terry Leahy collected to point.

Cork made one last desperate effort, but Mossie O'Riordan's shot just went wide, and when referee Purcell signalled full time, Kilkenny followers swarmed over the pitch mobbing these players who had given the county its thirteenth title, restoring laurels last won in 1939.

**While there was never much between the sides, it must be admitted that the better team won.**

They were faster, more polished, and when they lost the lead twice, they came back to carry the day.

Cork's Christy Ring, that matchwinner, was never permitted to get into his stride and must, I think, have had one of his tamest forward days in years. The fact that he was held took much of the sting out of the Cork attack.

#### THE MATCH WINNERS

Walton and Leahy, the Kilkenny forward wings, were always brilliant and it was their opportunism that turned the game in Kilkenny's favour.

Donovan, who watched Langton until near the close—when Langton changed with Reidy—put in a fine defensive hour, though he had one of the most elusive forwards to watch.

The Cork midfield, which changed in the second half, when Condon took over from Jack Lynch—who went in as centre half-forward—had some rare duels with the Kilkenny pair, though Dan Kennedy, the Kilkenny skipper, seemed to dominate.

**Man of the hour was Kilkenny's Jimmy Kelly, who at right half-back, played the game of his life, and foiled several Cork movements.**

The Kilkenny backs, with Paddy Grace, Hayden and Mulcahy as the inspiration, never allowed the Cork forwards time to settle, and it was only in the last exciting minutes that they were beaten for goals.

When Prendergast (Kilkenny) retired injured, he was replaced by Kavanagh, who went in as full back and Hayden moved out.

## How Scores Came

Kilkenny opened with a "blitz" point from **Tommy Walton**. Mulcahy cleared a Sean Condon "free" and Christy Ring tried to solo through seconds later, but his solo effort ended in a "70" which Lotty sent wide.

He gripped the puck-out to place **Kelly** for the equalizer.

Kilkenny took up the running and Jimmy Kelly's "beauty" centre was plucked from the skies by **Jimmy Langton**, who placed Kilkenny one point ahead. Terrific duels followed as Cork efforts were foiled, and in the ninth minute **Langton** stretched Kilkenny's lead.

Kilkenny played with great zest and when Heffernan forced a "70" **Mulcahy** had a wonder point.

**Langton** added another before **Condon** replied for Cork, and in the 20th minute the Cork skipper, from a free, reduced the lead with another fine point.

With the pace a cracker, Walton, going through, was fouled, and **Downey** gripped to point. **Terry Leahy** added another and before half-time **Lynch** and **Condon** pointed for Cork.

#### HALF-TIME Kilkenny, 0-7; Cork, 0-5

A Cork attempt to burst through following a free by Condon was foiled by the brilliant Donegan, and Lynch was wide before **Condon** pointed.

Clashes were deadly as Cork fought might and main to reduce the lead further, but Kilkenny broke the spell, and Liam Reidy who was giving a grand display, dazzled before **Langton** pointed. Donegan saved a Cork rasper, but **Christy Ring** cut a side-line shot all the way over the bar.

Reidy and Langton switched before **Terry Leahy** sent wide from a free.

#### CORK TAKE LEAD

**Kelly** pointed for Kilkenny to put them two ahead and then came the fireworks, when Cork throwing all they knew into it, had a grand goal from **Mossie O'Riordan**, who was placed by Connie Murphy who fastened on to Young's sideline puck.

With Cork one point ahead, the game fairly sizzled but Kilkenny came back for **Walton** to level, and **Terry Leahy** shot them into the lead a second after with two points.

When Kilkenny's forwards had a free awarded against them, Connie Murphy gripped and **Joe Kelly** finished to the net.

Cork were one point ahead again and with lost time being played it looks an odds-on champion triumph, but Kilkenny, releasing an amazing reserve of energy, had a point from a "free" by **Terry Leahy**, and the same player gripped a long clearance by Paddy Grace to get the winning point.

The game was started by most Rev. Dr. Kinane, Archbishop of Cashel.

Kilkenny lined out without W. Walsh. Mulcahy was moved from midfield to left half-back, Marnell went into Walsh's position, and Heffernan came on at mid-field.

#### THE TEAMS

**Kilkenny**—J. Donegan; P. Grace; P. Hayden; M. Marnell; J. Kelly; P. Prendergast; J. Mulcahy; D. Kennedy; J. Heffernan; T. Walton; T. Leahy; J. Langton; S. Downey; W. Cahill; L. Reidy.  
**Cork**—T. Mulcahy; M. Murphy; C. Murphy; DJ Buckley; P. Donovan; A. Lotty; J. Young; J. Lynch; C. Cottrell; S. Condon; C. Ring; C. Murphy; M. O'Riordan; G. O'Riordan; J. Kelly.



KILKENNY - ALL IRELAND SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1947

**Back:** Mick Parsons, Tom Walsh, Nick O'Donnell, Tommy Murphy, Shem Downey, Jack Mulcahy, Jim Langton, Fr Ned Kavanagh, Terry Leahy, Tom Walton, Jimmy Heffernan, Jimmy Kelly, Bill Walsh.

**Middle:** Mick Dalton (Trainer), Liam Reidy, Mark Marnell, Pat Hayden, Dan Kennedy (Capt), Peter Prendergast, Bill Cahill, Paddy Grace, Syd Bluett (Trainer).

**Front:** Mick Joyce, Jack Egan, Jim Donegan, Pádraig Lennon, Paddy O'Brien.



*Kilkenny National League Team 1947*  
*Back: Jim Langton, Christy Phelan, Shem Downey, Podge Dack, Jimmy Kelly, Terry Leahy, Jack Mulcahy.*  
*Front: Ramie Dowling, Jim Gibbons, Jimmy Heffernan, Tom Walton, Bill Walsh, Pat ('Diamond') Hayden, Peter Prendergast, Mark Marnel,*  
*Paddy O'Brien.*



*Kilkenny v Dublin July 13th 1947.*

"**ALL-WEATHER BOOTS**

If you want strong, sturdy boots, built to withstand hard wear under all weather conditions, and, at the same time, give perfect buoy, comfort—be sure to get **BLACKSMITH** brand leather, great workmanship and long wear at impressive prices. No pair of good boots can be.



*The Best*  
5 for 2d. 10 for 4d  
**CIGARETTE!**



# KERRY BLUE

WITH FREE GIFTS FOR SMOKERS

One Box (20 cigarettes)	7s.
One Tipped Case	10s
One light or Dark Colour Case	10s
One Case and Cigar Case	10s
One Box (20 cigarettes) and Sewing Case	12s
One Box (20 cigarettes)	12s
One Box (20 cigarettes) and Case	12s
One Box (20 cigarettes) and Case	12s

One Box of Day's Blends 7s

One Small Cigarette Case 10s

One Tobacco Pipe 10s

One Aluminium Pencil Case 10s

One Aluminium Pencil Case 12s

One India Mixture 10s

One Filtered Pipe 10s

One Golden Grouse Pipe 12s

CALL FOR A "KERRY"

*Smooth and Satisfying*



1957

Irish Independent. Monday, September 2, 1957

# TINGLING EXCITEMENT ALL THE WAY AS WATERFORD GO DOWN BY A POINT

Kilkenny - - - 4-10 (22) Waterford - - - 3-7 (27)

LIKE THE GUST OF WIND THAT SUDDENLY SPRINGS UP AS A STORM GATHERS NEW STRENGTH AND CATCHES ONE'S BREATH, THE HURLING TEMPEST WE SAW AT CROKE PARK YESTERDAY HAS LEFT ME GROPING FOR WORDS TO DESCRIBE IT ALL. TO BEGIN WITH ONE MUST RECORD THAT KILKENNY WON THEIR FOURTEENTH ALL-IRELAND SENIOR HURLING TITLE BY DEFEATING WATERFORD BY 4-10 TO 3-12. NEVER WAS I MORE DISTRESSED BY A HURLING GAME THAN I WAS BY THIS EPIC. NOW THAT THE FRENZY WITHIN ME HAS DIED DOWN, I STILL FEEL A THRILLING GLOW OF SATISFACTION THAT I WAS PRIVILEGED TO SEE IT. WHILE A FEW DAYS HENCE WHEN I AM MORE COMPOSED, I MAY THINK DIFFERENTLY, I NOW WITHOUT RESERVE ASSERT THAT MY PREDOMINANT FEELING IS ONE OF REGRET THAT IT WAS NOT A DRAW.

**By JOHN D HICKEY**

Many great finals I have seen. Many more I was not lucky enough to see—I was born too late as far as my hurling desires are concerned—but never. I feel, can there have been a more pulsating all-Ireland final than we saw yesterday. Greybeard hurling purists may claim that the standard of performance was not classical. I concede it was. not, but I am utterly intolerant of those who would seek to belittle it on that account.

It was a match that one dreams about and then awakes feeling cheated that it was all a myth. What a pity that two sides cannot win!

#### WATERFORD DOWNCAST

When I visited the Waterford dressing-room at the end of this hour of frenzied and ponderous effort they were all downcast. Still tingling to every puck of that mighty

was a neutral, still overjoyed by it all. Now as I look back I can understand the dejection, of the losers.

They no doubt, felt that they had lost a match that they could have won and that they should have drawn.

Some of the hurling was right out of the top drawer. All of it was hard and fearless. One could even say that it was ruthless, but it is to the credit of two great sides that despite the intense dedication to purpose of every man, there was not one malicious stroke, or even gesture in the entire hour.

#### FILM STAR "EXTRA"

As the teams paraded the pitch many were astounded to see that there were sixteen men in black-and-amber Jerseys. The "extra man" was film star John Gregson, who was being "shot" for the film "Rooney," and indeed there were times in the match itself when it seemed that the new champions had sixteen men on the field.

Their forwards were experts at finding

freedom and failed to profit by their isolation, was to my mind the one feature of the contest that caused some to judge the hurling as being not what it was in the past. But trouble as I saw it was that frequently the Kilkenny forwards had too much time on their hands and in their endeavours to make assurance doubly sure they unwillingly surrendered the advantage they had gained. When Waterford led by 3-10 to 2-7 after sixteen minutes of the second half I thought they could not be overhauled, but I had not reckoned on the dauntless spirit of the Kilkenny men who looked adversity in the face and mocked it as they surged back in waves of attacks.

#### LOOKED SAFE LEAD ...

Then in the seventeenth minute, when Billy Dwyer had a golden Kilkenny goal, the fat, one considered, was really in the fire. A point from a Grimes-free—how competent' a free-taker' the Waterford captain was until apparently unnerved by a chance to level



Back Row: Syd Bluett (Trainer), Jim "Link" Walsh, Dick Rockett, John Sutton, Mick Brophy, Sean Clohosey, Mick Kenny, Ollie Walsh, Bob Aylward (Chairman, Co. Board).  
Front Row: Johnny McGovern, Billy O'Dwyer, Paddy Buggy, Denis Heaslip, Micky Kelly (Capt.), Mick Walsh, Tom Walsh, John Maher.



left the Decies County hanging on by a goal, a slender lead. Another Grimes point from a free in the 21st minute left his team four points in front again. This time it seemed beyond all doubt that the Munster champions would hold out. A goal by Mick Kenny from a long range puck that hopped on the ground and went to the net for a score that I thought Dickie Roche should have prevented left the champions only a point behind with eight minutes remaining.

Waterford were now surely being buffeted by the Kilkenny storm but they made imperative demands on their stamina and their hurling hearts and like many another I felt we were bound to have an encore, another day.

But then, slap into the picture came an up then inconspicuous Sean Clohosey and he sent the ball sailing over the bar in the 25th minute for the equaliser.

Two minutes later. Mickey Kelly left a true captain's imprint on the game when, from about fifty yards out. he sent the winning point straight and true between the posts.

Waterford were not done with, however, and they mounted a magnificent assault that almost brought a score before the ball was shot wide and into the spectators at the canal end. Some onlooker, maybe he had his fill of excitement, did not return the ball. There was a delay of at least half a minute before a new ball was thrown in.

#### NO "LOST" TIME ALLOWED

But by my timing of the half hour referee Stephen Gleeson was remiss inasmuch as lie did not allow "lost" time for the "lost" ball. He whistled the end of the glorious encounter with a Waterford man in possession in the Kilkenny half of the field.

Up to that stage I thought the Limerick official, had a very good second half but in the opening moiety I considered that his anxiety

to punish offences—perhaps to implant the Idea that he would stand no nonsense—caused him to whistle prematurely on a few occasions.

in the first half when Kilkenny, despite many exasperating misses, swept into a 1-6 to 0-3 lead at the end of 21 minutes, it appeared that Waterford might be well beaten, but they rallied most courageously and led by 1-5 to 1-5 at the interval.

Where all contributed so much to a joyous hour it may seem ungenerous to single out any man in the winning side for special mention.

However, I feel that three miraculous saves by goalkeeper Ollie Walsh in the first half demand that he be accorded particular mention. Three times within a second in the eighteenth minute he brought off saves from point-blank range—twice when off balance. At other times, too, he proved in no uncertain manner that he is a great hurler as well as a goalkeeper of astonishing ability as he advanced from his goal to beat opponents and get in lengthy clearances.

John Maher, in the left corner of the defence, was another man to earn a new rating in my catalogue of great hurlers. and if his last-line colleagues, the brothers Tom and Jim Walsh were not as accomplished in their work, they were little less effective.

#### LION-HEARTED McGOVERN

In the half-back line I was most taken by the work of the lion-hearted, daring Johnny McGovern, who, time and again, averted the peril that seemed about to encompass his side. Paddy Buggy, on the other wing, also turned in a majestic display, and if centre-half Mickey Walsh was often foisted by Tom Cheasty his zeal was admirable.

Thanks mainly to an inspired display by John Sutton, the victors "owned" the ball at midfield in the first half. Mick Brophy may

not have been as industrious, but every one of his pucks was a telling blow.

in an effort to break the Leinster men's dominance in that area Waterford switched Johnny and Mickey O'Connor, but the move was not very profitable.

On the turn-over the losers made the switch they should have made five minutes after the throw-in. They brought Seamus Power to that vital territory and instantly the Kilkenny midfielders seemed to dissolve.

Sean Clohosey, who entered the fray with a suspect leg quite patently was always fearful of a charge. Yet he redeemed himself with his levelling point. But far and away the best of a sector that at times played bamboozling hurling was Mick Kenny. His efforts were brilliantly supported by Denis. Heaslip, Mickey Kelly and Billy Dwyer, but Dick Rockett found one too good for him in John Barron. Dickie Roche, in the losers' goal never inspired any confidence although splendidly covered by a valiant full-back line of Tom Cunningham, Austin Flynn and Barron. Mickey O'Connor and Martin Og Morrissey, for his second half, deserve most warm commendation.

Power, when he went to mid-field, was the star of that department, and Phil Grimes's accuracy off placed balls was quite exceptional until the occasion when most depended on him.

In the losers forward line Donal Whelan, John Kiely and Tom Cheasty earned most of the plaudits. Whelan's second goal was as magnificent a score as I have ever seen and it surprised me that Waterford did not play him more. The other three Waterford attackers—Mick Flannery Larry Guinan and Frank Walsh may not have achieved much but they could not be faulted—they tried all they knew.



Actor John Gregson (Rooney) in the parade with Kilkenny



Kilkenny captain Mickey Kelly flourishes the All-Ireland Hurling Cup after he had received it from Seamus MacFerran, President of the G.A.A.

# Score By Score To The Great Climax

By DONAL CARROLL

DEAD on the appointed hour, referee Stephen Gleeson set the game in motion and it was Waterford, led by their captain, Phil Grimes, who attacked first on the right but when Mick Flannelly sent the ball into the centre, Kilkenny centre back, Mick Walsh, relieved pressure with a mighty clearance.

But the Decies men were not to be denied and John Kiely sent over the opening point after 50 seconds. Kilkenny fought back but over-eager forwards were off the target and it was Waterford who scored again when Grimes sent a free for a foul on Donal Whelan sailing over the bar.

Waterford provided the first real thrill when a "rasper" from Whelan had Ollie Walsh beaten, but fortunately for Kilkenny the ball struck the upright and spun away to be eventually cleared by John Maher. Six minutes had elapsed when Kilkenny opened their account.-Kenny, from a free, pointing from forty yards. The Leinster' champions came again and John Barron superbly stopped a hard shot from Denis Heaslip before Dick Rockett, in sending wide, recorded Kilkenny's sixth such indiscretion in less than eight minutes.

From the puck out, however, the Noresiders took their first positive step to victory. Kenny sent the return into the square and Rockett flicked the ball past Dickie Roche for a goal and the lead. Heaslip and Kenny (2) added further points for Kilkenny and at the other end Ollie Walsh earned loud applause for a smart save from Kiely. Next came a "70" to Waterford which Grimes sent all the way for a point and three minutes later, when a long clearance from Mick Walsh dropped loosely in front of the Waterford goal, Clohosey pulled on the ball to send it over the bar for another Kilkenny point.

In the 23rd minute Waterford started their great fight back which was to turn a deficit into a lead before half-time. Kiely, who was ever anxious to "work" for the ball, had his reward when reducing the arrears with a well-taken point.

Two minutes later, Grimes pointed from a free and then came a rather controversial decision by referee Gleeson. A Johnny O'Connor-lofted ball was dropping in the Kilkenny square and in the melee which followed Larry Guinan scooped the ball to the net. Having consulted the umpires, the official awarded a 21-yards free to Waterford and Grimes ballooned the net with his fast-rising shot. From the puck-out, Martin Og Morrissey sent to Tom Cheasty who placed Whelan for another Waterford point and the lead just on the call of the half hour.

Waterford improved their position after three minutes of the second half when Kiely placed Whelan whose shot beat Ollie Walsh all the

way to a capital goal. Grimes, from a 50-yards free, increased their advantage with a point, but Kilkenny, fully alive to the danger, struck back a minute later when Rockett chased a ball to the back-line and, though harassed by two Waterford defenders, flicked the ball back to Billy Dwyer, who gave Roche no chance.

Two minutes later, Mickey Kelly reduced the arrears with a further point, but from the puck-out the ball travelled via Grimes and Kiely to Whelan and the left corner man, hitting on the half-volley, again left Ollie Walsh helpless.

Frank Walsh added a further point for Waterford, but Kilkenny were far from a beaten side, and Kenny sent a free from 70 yards over the bar to prove it.

Willie Walsh came on for John Sutton, and Whelan and Cheasty added Waterford points in the 15th and 16th minutes to stretch their lead to two goals. The challenge was there and Kilkenny rose to it magnificently.

Johnny McGovern lobbed the ball upfield. Clohosey flicked it on to Dwyer, and the full-forward set Noreside hearts alight with a fast grounder past Roche in the 17th minute.

Grimes (2) and Kenny exchanged points from frees before Kenny, in the 22nd minute put the Leinster champions on the threshold of victory. From a typical Ollie Walsh clearance, the ball travelled via Clohosey and Kelly to the centre forward, who from about 30 yards, crashed the ball to the net to leave but a point-between the teams.

## THE EQUALISER

Excitement, seldom below fever-pitch throughout the hour, was now really intense and it was Sean Clohosey who dramatically jinked his way past Tom Cunningham and Morrissey and lofted the ball over the bar for the equaliser with minutes left for play. Both sides strained every sinew for the deciding score and it came two minutes later. Kilkenny Captain Mickey Kelly, fastened on to a long clearance by John Maher and from an acute angle on the left wing the Bennettsbridge farmer reaped a rich harvest with a beautifully judged shot which Dickie Roche got his stick to but could not prevent from dropping over the bar.

**Kilkenny**- O. Walsh, T. Walsh, J. Walsh, J. Maher, P. Buggy, M. Walsh, J. McGovern, M. Brophy, J. Sutton, D. Heaslip, M. Kenny, M. Kelly, R. Rockett, B. Dwyer, S. Clohosey. Sub.—W. Walsh for Sutton.

**Waterford**-R. Roche, T. Cunningham, A. Flynn, J. Barron, M. O'Connor, M. Og Morrissey, S. Power, J. O'Connor, P. Grimes, M. Fiannelly, T. Cheasty, L. Guinan, F. Walsh, J. Kiely, D. Whelan.

**Referee**-S. Gleeson (Limerick).

## Figures Of The Game

### FIRST HALF

	Gls	Pts	Frees	70's	Wdes
Kilkenny	1	5	10	0	9
Waterford	1	6	8	2	3

### SECOND HALF

	Gls	Pts	Frees	70's	Wdes
Kilkenny	3	5	6	1	1
Waterford	2	6	7	1	4

### SECOND HALF

	Gls	Pts	Frees	70's	Wdes
Kilkenny	4	10	16	1	10
Waterford	3	12	15	3	7

## Attendance---70,594

## Receipts ---£8,428 - 14s.

The attendance at yesterday's game—played in overcast conditions with a cool wind blowing from Railway to Canal goals—was £70,594. The receipts were 8,428 - 14s.



# ar bhealach na firinne



**Billy Hoare**

Graignamanagh Gaa club would like to acknowledge that the final whistle has blown for Billy Hoare. Since the foundation of our club in 1953 the name Billy Hoare will be forever be associated with the famous Green and white hoops of Graignamanagh G.A.A club .Billy was 81 and born on the 29th May 1931 .He was a post man by profession and retired in 1999 after 40 years of dedicated service .Billy was hugely popular in Graignamanagh and was a peace commissioner, a local historian ,a poet, a musician ,he was also for many years the local correspondent for the kilkenny people newspaper. He was also very active member of the local Credit union, the duiske players Drama group and the local golf society in which he served as captain and president .But his first and most passionate love was the Local G.a.a club.His proudest moment came in 1972 when the now famous Green and white hoops of Graignamanagh clinched their first adult co final when they beat the Emeralds in the Junior co final .Indeed one of Billys most famous local poems is entitled "Victory at last " which mentions every player who played that famous victory .Although Billy won a southern minor medal with the club in 1957, By his own admission Billy's hurling playing career was "very short and not so sweet.", but whatever he did not achieve on the field, his off the field work and administrative skills is unlikely ever to be surpassed. Billy served the club in every capacity available and was secretary of the club for 21 Times, He also served as Chairman ,Treasurer pro, Co Board rep ,Southern board rep and numerous other roles from Jersey washer to gate collector and every thing in between.Billy was a die hard Graignamanagh and Kilkenny hurling man and no problem in letting anybody know where his feeling lay when it came to club and county debates. His exploits in defending his beloved Green and white are legendary in Co Board circles and are still talked about to this day. He was the local club historian and right up to his sad passing he was still the go to man for any quires involving the clubs activities on or off the field . His skills with the pen are very well known country wide and Billy was very proud of the fact that he won a very coveted McNamee GAA award for his Poem in 1985 called "Kilkenny's Hurling hall of fame". The award was presented to Billy by the then president of the G.A.A Dr Mick loftus .Despite Billy not being able to attend our club games in recent years his huge passion for the Green and white hoops never wavered ,and no matter which age group was togging out he never failed to ring and enquire how the "lads got on today". Despite ill health Billy was very honoured to be in

attendance and to be the clubs very special guest for the official opening of Dr Tierney Park which was conducted by co Chairman Jimmy Walsh. Billy contribution to our club will never be forgotten and Graignamanagh Gaa club are very proud and lucky to have had a man like Billy as a member of our club. The current members of the club would like to express their sympathy's to I.Billy family and he is sadly missed by his loving wife Chrissie, son Brendan, daughters Frances, Amber and Sinead, sister Anne Wilson (UK), sons-in-law Mark and Rob, grandchildren Ciana, Keelan, Aoife and Aine, nephews, nieces, neighbours and a very very wide circle of friends.

Jim Whelan.



**Nicky Connolly 2001 - 2021**

Late on Friday the 18th of June came the devastating heart-breaking news of the passing of Nicky Connolly of Clashduff, Castlecomer Co.Kilkenny. Nicky was the beloved Son of Richard and Maeve, brother of Ross, Grandson, nephew, cousin, and friend to everybody. From the day Nicky arrived in Castlecomer he was an instant hit with his infectious smile and kind gentle attitude. He attended Firoda national school and later Castlecomer community school where he thoroughly enjoyed his education and day to day school life. Nicky was a natural athlete and excelled at whatever sport he took part in. He hurled for Erins Own Castlecomer from a young age and later Castlecomer Community School. He played numerous positions over the years ranging from Goalkeeper to midfield. This typified Nicky's attitude to life; no task was too big or too small. He faced them all fearlessly with that beautiful smile on his face. He was just embarking on a successful career within the Horse training field and had been tipped to go to the very top. He was successful over the years with Erins Own winning notable Minor and Junior Hurling titles alongside his brother Ross. Nicky also caught the athletics bug from his Dad Richard, he was an avid runner and race walker and won numerous titles for Castlecomer Athletics club. He had many happy days out with his family competing in and attending athletics and Gaa events. Nicky was known for his cheeky smile and charming wit. There was no situation he could not talk his way out of with his charm and smile. None knew this more than his Mother Maeve who after a disagreement was often known to find a peace offering of a star bar on the kitchen table. Nicky was a lovable rogue. He was loved and cherished throughout the town of Castlecomer and far beyond. He is a loss that will be excruciatingly

felt by all who had the pleasure to know him. He will always be remembered by us with that smile on his face. We miss you Nicky, God bless,



**John Carey**

The news of the passing of John Carey on 13th October 2021 was met with great sadness around Gowran Parish. John was a faithful & loyal supporter of Young Irelands & Kilkenny teams for so many years, & along with his late wife Maura, they took great pride in the sporting fortunes of their children.

He was a very proud Dad when his three Sons DJ, Martin & Jack featured on that historic County Senior Final win almost exactly 25 years ago in 1996, with DJ captaining the Young Irelands to a first Senior title and Jack scoring the all important winning goal. Six years later in 2002, Martin was the victorious captain as DJ produced his greatest performance in the County Final victory over Dunnamagglin.

His daughters enjoyed success on the sporting field also.

Catriona was a hugely successful hockey player & won 72 caps for her country, while Aisling the youngest member of the Carey clan won Junior & Intermediate Camogie Championship Medals in 2016 & 2018 respectively.

Also, in more recent years John took great pleasure in the fortunes & progression of his grandchildren Sean, Michael, Dylan, Killian, Robyn & Zara with the various Young Irelands & Inter-County teams. John was pre-deceased by his wife Maura(nee McGarry) in 2018 who was an aunt to current Inter-County senior hurling selector & former Kilkenny senior goalkeeper James McGarry.

John's Sister Peggy was a great Camogie stalwart herself winning 4 All-Ireland senior medals in 1974, 1976, 1977 & 1981 playing with some of the games greatest such as the Downey twin sisters Angela & Anne & Bridie McGarry(Nee Martin) among others.

Predeceased by his wife Maura and sons John and Thomas, John died peacefully at his home surrounded by his family. He will be sadly missed by his children, DJ, Jack, Kieran, Martin, Catriona, Liz and Aisling; his brother Martin, sister Peggy and his beloved grandchildren.



**Canice Mackey**

Born in Rogerstown, Dunnamaggin in 1959 first came to attention with Ballyhale Vocational school and Co Vocational team. The following year he was a member of Kilkenny Minor team who beat a fancied Cork team after a replay. Canice played for his club Dunnamaggin for many years and was part of a formidable half back line with Dick O'Shea and Tom Phelan.

Canice moved to Lisdowney to take up a job as manager of the Avonmore (Glanbia) Factory situated in the parish of Lisdowney.

After a serious farm accident which curtailed his career for a few years he opted to join the local Lisdowney team in 1989. Lisdowney Club were delighted to avail of his services both on and off the field. He served as secretary, Co Board Delegate (replacing Lar Carroll), underage manager and trainer as well. As junior trainer his determination and commitment to the cause could never be questioned and in many ways became more "Lisdowney" than the natives themselves, inheriting all the club and parish "culture".

Canice lived to proudly see his first grandchild Aodha and also to witness Lisdowney become Intermediate champions in 2020.

His sons Niall and Daragh both play with Lisdowney. Canice was a very proud Dunnamaggin, Lisdowney and Kilkenny man. His greatest pride was for his family, Ann his wife and daughters Aine and Ciara, sons Niall and Daragh.

Canice was a true and loyal friend to family, club and parish.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



**Ollie Roche**

2020 saw the sudden and untimely death of Oliver Roche in St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny on Saturday 26th June. Known to all as Ollie, he was the ultimate GAA clubman. He donned the Carrickshock colours throughout his playing days. He was a member of the 1985 Under-21 double winners and the 1995 Junior B winning side and had served the club tirelessly since. After coaching numerous teams over many years he moved seamlessly to the organisational side of the club. Ollie was always first to raise his hand when jobs were to be done around the club, big and small. He served as Chairman of Carrickshock Bord na nÓg for several years and had recently taken over the task of parish Lotto promoter for Stoneyford, following the example of

his father Dick. He also served on Kilkenny GAA Coiste na nÓg since 2013, where he took on the role of Registrar in 2019. His passing is an immense loss to Kilkenny and Carrickshock GAA, as well as Stoneyford Development Association and the wider Stoneyford community.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.



**Seamus Reade**

The handball community across the country were saddened by the passing of Seamus Reade during the year. A lifelong member of the Talbots Inch club, Seamus dedicated himself to the sport for over fifty years.

From growing up in the shadows of the Butts alleys, to his lifelong involvement with Talbots Inch as a player and administrator, to his time serving with Kilkenny and Leinster Handball Boards, Seamus loved everything to do with handball. He never tired of talking or discussing the ins and outs of the sport.

For over fifty years, Seamus played the game he so loved, and got a huge amount of enjoyment (disappointment at times when he lost), and along the way, he met many people who became good friends to him and his family.

From playing County, Provincial and All Ireland championships, and trips across the Atlantic for World championships, Seamus was well known as a tough competitor, with a particular emphasis on skill.

Over the years, Seamus won numerous County, Provincial and All Ireland titles, often due to his determination in the court, and his ability to pull out the right shots at the right time.

Throughout his handball career, Seamus was a member of the Talbots Inch club, something that gave him tremendous pride. He was the driving force behind many improvements in the club over the years, none more so than when the court needed a new roof. This became Seamus's mission and money was secured to complete the project and secure the future of the court. It was fitting that on the morning of his final journey that he got to pass by the court one more time.

During his long career in handball, Seamus served as club Chairman, club delegate to the county board for over fifty years, Kilkenny Handball Board chairman and Leinster Handball Board chairman. He was considered softly spoken and was highly respected for his fairness in dealing with any issues that needed resolving, no matter how difficult they appeared to be.

Well known on his views that the traditional code of Softball handball needed constant promotion and development, he was renowned for taking this stance.

A true gentleman of the sport, he was highly respected by all his colleagues in handball.

All in Handball would like to pass on their condolences to his wife Helen, daughters Karen and Natalie, his brothers and sisters, grandchildren, sons-in-law, extended family and friends.

*Martin Lalor*



**Mick Taylor**

The news of the passing of the much respected Mickey Taylor, Kells Road, after a long illness saddened the hearts of club members, his lifelong neighbours on the Kells Road and in the wider St. Patrick's parish area. Popularly known as Dolly, he showed early promise as a hurler as a member of the 1956 St. Patrick's Boys school's winning team. He went on to display his abundant skills in his early years with Foulkstown before joining James Stephens in 1968.

He is described in Tommy Lanigan's club history, "From The Arch To The Pump" as "one of the unsung heroes of the next eight years, an excellent midfielder or half forward with boundless energy".

Mickey confirmed that assessment with a succession of outstanding performances, most notably in the club's historic breakthrough 1969 Kilkenny senior championship victory over Fenians. He starred in two more Kilkenny senior championship victories with the club in 1975 and '76 as well as in the Leinster Club final. He played a huge role in defeating Blackrock in the All-Ireland club final in 1976. Mick won an Oireachtas title against Tipperary in 1969 and would have surely won more but for a liking for soccer in the days of the infamous Ban. Retiring from hurling in 1978 after a memorable club trip to New York, Mick, accompanied by his wife Ann, took to the roads and completed a host of marathons in very impressive times, illustrating his fine athleticism.

In latter years the devoted couple became enthusiastic hill walkers as members of the Tyndall Hill Walking Club organising weekend trips to mountain regions in the West of Ireland and Kerry. A much respected painter and decorator by trade, he worked for many years in the Kilkenny Design Centre. An unassuming person by nature, Mick was predeceased by his infant son, Michael Gerard and his brother, Eddie who also lined out with the James Stephens club.

Ar dheis laimh Dé go raibh a anam dilis .



**Chris Maher**

On Christmas Day 2020, Tullaroan lost one of its best known supporters when Chris Maher passed away after a long illness, bravely borne.

As a young man he hurled with Tullaroan and when he finished playing he was a selector on teams from underage up to the senior team.



It was watching his own children play hurling and camogie at all levels and age groups with Tullaroan, their schools and Kilkenny that Chris got most enjoyment. He travelled far and wide in Kilkenny and beyond to watch matches. Whether the team won or lost, as long as they gave it their best he was happy.

He had great pride in watching Tullaroan play and huge joy was got from the 2019 intermediate championship victory followed by the All-Ireland intermediate title in January 2020 in which his sons Stephen and Richie were important players. The reception that Chris got from the players and supporters after the county final in 2019 will not be forgotten and showed the esteem in which he was held by all.

Chris is survived by and sadly missed by wife Breda, children Brenda, Marie, Michael, Martina, Chris, Stephen, Catherine, Richie and Noelle, his brothers and sisters and wide circle of friends and neighbours.

Ar dhéis Dé go raibh a anam.



**Jack Cahill**

The community of Freshford and beyond was saddened when the news of the passing of Jack Cahill, Moate, Freshford, broke on February 2, 2021.

Jack was born to Paddy and Catherine Cahill on April 25, 1933. He attended Freshford infants school, where now stands the present Scoil Lachtain. It was then onto the boys national school, now Prague House. He learned his hurling on the Green in the Square and played with the primary school team in the mid 1940s.

Jack had many interests in sports but his first love was hurling. He played under 16 and minor before going on to win a junior hurling title in 1959, played in March 1960, with Jack having a fine game in goal when Freshford beat a strong Thomastown side which included the legendary Ollie Walsh. In 1961, both parish teams Freshford and Threecastles amalgamated as a united parish team under the name St Lachtains. Jack again manned the goal. Concluding a great championship campaign, St Lachtains historically secured their first county senior final victory over a star studded Near South selection where Jack kept a clean sheet.

After the 1962 championship, Jack decided to call it a day. His retirement was short lived as midway through the 1963 championship Jack was persuaded to answer the call as sub goalie. In the county final against Tulloher-Rosbercon, Mick Burke the starting St Lachtains goalie got injured in the early minutes and had to leave the field of play. He was replaced by Jack who proceeded to have a fine game and again kept a clean sheet.

As St Lachtains collected their second county senior title Jack made his own piece of history, playing in goal in two Kilkenny senior hurling finals without conceding a goal. After his playing days, he continued to follow the fortunes of St Lachtains hurling, camogie and Kilkenny teams.

He got involved with the Bord na nÓg section of the club and in 1993, was a selector with the St Lachtains minor team that was beaten in the Roinn A county minor final. In 1994, he was a selector with the Under 16 team that won the Roinn B county final when they beat Ballyhale Shamrocks that included a young Henry Shefflin.

Jack was also a keen but quiet follower of Man Utd FC and got a pleasant surprise for his 80th birthday when his family treated him with a trip to Old Trafford. Jack's farm borders one side of Páirc Lachlainn and he made his field available as an overflow car park for big matches over the years much to the appreciation of club and patrons.

May the sod of St Lachtains cemetery lay lightly upon his breast.



**Jackie Hanley**

I have no doubt Jackie Hanley would be chuffed to see himself featured in the Kilkenny GAA Yearbook. We would all hasten to suggest "but surely not in the obituaries". Knowing Jackie's relaxed and funny humour he would retort with his familiar chuckle, shrug of the shoulder and glint in his eye "I beat you to it".

Jackie idolised the GAA. Growing up in Pottlerath he was inspired by the true Gael Tom Ryall. Everything to Jackie was according to the gospel of Tom. He regaled us with his fond memories of long summer evenings, clashing the ash in the fields around Kilbraghan. With his lifelong pal, Phil Cashin they graduated to the lawn in Shipton to line out with the Junior hurling team. He was a committee member for years. He was a tireless worker for St. Brigid's Camogie Club and was proud seeing his daughters feature on teams.

He was immensely proud of his roots. Graigue and its people were his passion. He was less forthcoming, but still proud of his paternal Tipperary connection. Jackie was known in every parish of the county as he travelled about selling Lotto tickets for Graigue-Ballycallan and then for the County Board. Piltown Tickets added to his selection and he was known to have the odd Tullaroan raffle ticket for sale. His inoffensive and appealing manner endeared him to GAA folk.

Away from the GAA Jackie had an obsession with timber and machinery. When working with farmers in his youth he would modify machinery to do the job better. He worked with the late Joe Millea (another of his heroes) on land reclamation. He worked in Kilmanagh Creamery and served in the Defence Forces. He was always chipping away at timber and when he left the army, he became more involved. He was using machinery in forests while others were still relying on horses. He even put an engine on a pedal bicycle. He designed kindling machines and when a few swear words or a few kicks couldn't keep the cogs moving he had no bother resorting to his technical skills.

In the modern era, Jackie would have been a leading entrepreneur. He was one of the first to video games. He planned to have video screens at strategic points in towns to feature advertisements before

anyone made such a scheme commercial. He was ahead of the posse, but time beat him.

Jackie was a shrewd judge of hurling talent. He could be reliably consulted on dates, venues, scores, characters and teams. He was most obliging and was available night and day to ferry the needy. He was adept at rings and boasted about challenging Enda Kenny to a game in Ryan's.

His Catholic faith was central in his life. During lockdown he parked his car in the Church car park and tuned into the mass on the radio. He was one of the first to sneak back into the Church when the restrictions were partially eased.

"Better wear out than rust out". That was the story of Jackie Hanley's life. He was afflicted with many serious health ailments but his relentless style never faltered. His last purchase was a John Deere Gator. Sadly he didn't get many opportunities to parade up and down the road to Billy Malone's, his den for many years.

Jackie exhausted every moment and talent the Lord granted him.

"Well done, good and faithful servant"

Tribute by Jim Neary



**Watt Kennedy**

There was great sadness in Bennettsbridge upon hearing of the passing of Walter (Watt) Kennedy on the 18th of June this year. The son of Dan and Alice Kennedy, hurling was in his blood as Dan had captained Kilkenny in the All Ireland victory over Cork in 1947.

Watt first came to prominence as a hurler in the late sixties and was a member of the Bennettsbridge under 21 team that won the county championship in 1967. This was the first year of the under 21 championship in Kilkenny. Watt was a prominent member of the Championship winning team of 1971 where he partnered Paddy Moran at mid field in the final. Indeed the Bridge would not have reached that final only for Watts last minute goal that defeated Windgap in the second round that year.

He played half forward in the county finals of 1972 and 1974 in which the Bridge lost out to The Fenians and was the team's top scorer in the '74 final. Watt served as club secretary for some time and was involved in the purchase of the current club grounds. He was also an excellent soccer player and played with East End for many years. He was a great character and even after he moved to live in Cork he was a regular and popular visitor back to Bennettsbridge and was still a keen follower of the fortunes of his home club.

A guard of honour comprising of the Gaa and soccer clubs escorted Watts remains to the church in Bennettsbridge.

We offer our deepest sympathies to Watt's family and may he rest in peace.



**Michael Phelan**

Michael Phelan, better known as Mick, died on May 29th 2021. Bennettsbridge lost one of its well known characters with the passing of Mick at the age of 87. Mick was a fine goalkeeper in his youth and played on goal for Bennettsbridge when they won their first senior championship of the golden era in 1952, he also won a junior championship in 1951. Mick moved to work in Dublin where he joined the Moon Dearg club winning an intermediate Hurling championship with them. Upon his return to Kilkenny he worked for Mahon And McPhillips and Kilkenny Co Council and hurled with Danesfort for a period. In a coaching capacity Mick coached Danesfort to win the Northern Junior Hurling Championship in 1986 and also coached the Bennettsbridge intermediate team in the early nineties. Mick was a keen fisherman and gardener and worked tirelessly for the tidy towns in the eighties and nineties. He worked as the janitor in Bennettsbridge national school for 15 years and was well respected as a hard and reliable worker. A guard of honour was provided by the GAA club at Mick's funeral and his coffin was draped with the jerseys of Bennettsbridge and Danesfort. Not long after Mick's passing his beloved wife Peggy passed away and we offer our deepest sympathies to their children, Margaret, Barbara, Andrew, John, Mark, Damien and Neil. May they both rest in peace.



**Liam 'Lou' Leydon 1966-2020**

O'Loughlin Gaels GAA club and community were deeply saddened with the passing of O'Loughlin Gaels Club stalwart Liam 'Lou' Leydon on December 2nd 2020 after illness. A family man, club man, entrepreneur and hurling enthusiast, Liam had always been the soul of many a great club event or celebration. He devoted much of his spare time to club fundraising. His enthusiasm for it never waned. Even while Liam was battling with illness, he still remained actively involved in the Clubs Golf Classic Committee, organising and drawing sponsors for the club, a task he grasped with enthusiasm for many years. He was ever present at St. John's Park and beyond to support any team, of any grade, that wore the much loved jersey of O'Loughlin Gaels. His hearty laugh and bellowing support brought the best from those around him! That same laugh also brought warmth to those he may have delivered papers to, a task he often did

around the wards at St. Luke's Hospital as proprietor of Sweet Times Shop there.

Liam was a very proud family man, proud Gael and respected businessman in the community. Our deepest sympathies goes out to Liam's wife Breda, sons and club players Billy & Ben. To Liam's parents Betty & Padraig, brothers Nigel & Paddy, his nephews & niece, and to his extended family and close friends.

He will be missed around St. John's Park and the greater GAA community. RIP Liam

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.



**Martin Morrissey & Sam Oakes**

When Sam Oakes died in June of this year, Dicksboro lost one of its most influential and respected members.

Described by a veteran 'Boro member as the "brains" of the club, Sam was regarded as a most astute judge of hurling who could read a game shrewdly from the throw-in. He was a superb judge of players and their potential and was heavily involved as a selector with the great 'Boro Minor County Champions of 1951, 1952 and 1953.

In addition, Sam, together with Georgie Leahy, Tommy Hayes and Paddy Butler was a selector with successful Kilkenny Minor teams of 1960, 1961 and 1962. This was a dramatic return to the top for Kilkenny who had only won one title in the previous 24 years.

His contribution to the revival of the club in the sixties was crucial to the healthy and successful status which it now enjoys. Indeed, without people like Sam, the name Dicksboro might exist only in history.

Younger club members may not be aware of the pivotal role Sam and a few others played in bringing Dicksboro back from the brink of extinction in the late fifties - ironically after the Boro had won the 1950 County SH Final.

After a glorious start, the fifties saw the fortunes of Dicksboro gradually decline. After 1950, the 'Boro won only one senior championship match (v Thomastown in 1956) and by the end of the fifties, it was becoming increasingly difficult to field a team. In fact, in 1959 the club was only one year away from extinction. There was probably a combination of reasons: - the introduction of the Parish Rule, strong players retired or moved to other city clubs. Jobs were scarce in those days and few young people remained in Kilkenny.

In any case, the name Dicksboro disappeared from the GAA vocabulary during the sixties, and while young players from the area distinguished themselves with St Mary's and St Canice's Minor teams, the Dicksboro club was no more.

It was Sam Oakes, Billy Bourke, Sean Byrne, Jack DeLoughry, Paddy Hennessy, Bro Ailbe, and, of course, Mick Devane, with a few others who, in 1968, after a couple of abortive attempts, succeeded in re-establishing Dicksboro, and nursed it back, beginning with a Minor team which was to go on and win the County MH and MF titles of 1969. By degrees, things improved from there and by the end of the seventies, the Boro had contested a JH

Final, three IH finals and two MH finals, winning one (1973). Dicksboro was a club again, and greater success awaited in the coming decades. Sam was there for all those times, in the background but as observant and astute as ever, and was even instrumental in securing the use of James's Park in 1975 for Dicksboro.

In his professional life, Sam Oakes was a highly popular and respected Local Government officer who, for many years, administered all of the County's hospitals.

In private, Sam was a quiet-spoken, droll and courteous family man, good-humoured and hospitable. The loss of his wife Anna (Walton) in 2016 was a severe blow to Sam who continued to live in his home in Talbot's Inch until his death in June of this year. He will be fondly remembered by Billy, Mary (Ryan), Anita (Sheehan) and Catherine (Healy), his sister Ann (Morrissey), daughter-in-law Barbara, sons-in-law John, Niall and Jimmy, his grandchildren, and all his family and friends.

I Measc na Naomh go raibh sé.

Martin Morrissey and Sam Oakes (above) were brothers in law and they died within a week of each other in June 2021. Martin, born in 1935, was a native of Muckalee and grew up in Wildfield in the shadow of the Creamery, in a family of twelve children. He, and five of his six brothers (John Morrissey died as a teenager) were deeply involved in Muckalee GAA club and played football with the club for many years. Martin won County JF medals in 1953, 1966 and 1973, a SF medal in 1968. He also hurled with Coon, winning a County JH medal in 1967 and an IH medal in 1973. He captained St Kieran's to a Leinster title in 1953 and represented Kilkenny in Minor Hurling, Junior and Senior football.

He showed enormous talent in athletics and if the GAA had not become his main interest, he would certainly have achieved National success. He won various medals and trophies, and at one Kilkenny Championship in Thomastown, he won eight County medals. He excelled at 100yds, 220yds, Long Jump, and High Jump. Typically, he rarely spoke of these successes and so, they are not generally known.

In 1956, Martin came to work in Kilkenny with Murtagh's Veterinary Pharmacy in Parliament street, and was to remain there for the rest of his working life. He married Ann Oakes in 1962, and they eventually settled in their family home in the Waterbarracks.

It was at this stage that Martin threw in his lot with Dicksboro, his new parish club., hurling with the club when there was no hurling to be had in Muckalee, but returning to play with Coon, when they started up. He served as Chairman of Muckalee from 1970-1974 and from 1977-1983.

We are told the no man can serve two masters, but nobody told Martin... He served both clubs with unrelenting loyalty, and never lost his fierce pride and interest in his native place. One of his proudest moments was the Co Final and All Ireland victories of St Martin's in 1984/85 - his first cousin, Fr Martin Ryan having played a pivotal role in the formation of the new club.

Meanwhile Martin threw himself into the development of Dicksboro, serving as a committee member for many years, as well as training teams and acting as selector at various grades. He represented the 'Boro at County Board and Bord na nÓg levels. He was extremely active in the development of the new grounds when hard physical work was needed. Martin was elected Chairman of Dicksboro in 2000. He had an exceptional memory for past games and could recount critical incidents in matches from years back. His memory was especially long when it



came to referees!

Martin's final years were difficult and he had his share of suffering but his interest in the fortunes of his two clubs never waned.

In spite of his fervour relating to the games, Martin was a gentle, courteous, kind and extremely likeable man, who always looked out for the lame dog. He was, first, last, and always, a family man, and will be sadly missed by Ann, Catriona, Liam, Enda, Aine, Ciara and Sam, his loving grandchildren, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law his beloved brothers Nicky and Brendan, sisters Nancy (Conway), Kathleen (Ryan) and Mary (Hahessy), extended family, neighbours and his many friends.

Two flags adorned Martin's coffin as he left St Canice's church - the green & gold and the maroon & white. Two guards of honour saw him on his way - Muckalee GFC and Dicksboro - a fitting tribute to a life of unswerving loyalty and service.

Solas na bhFlaitheas air.



**Brian McCormack**

RIP Brian McCormack, Adoring Husband, Proud Father, Mentor, Club Member, Supporter and Friend to all. A true Gael and a Gentleman. It is with heavy heart and a deep sense of sadness and loss that the Club had learned of the passing of Brian McCormack.

Brian was such a loving parent, mentor and member of our Club for many years coaching the current u11 team since these players were 5 or 6 year olds. Brian had immense passion and he instilled this passion in everything he did supporting the players from the line, always having a word of encouragement for every player. He took a keen interest in all players and their development.

He so loved to see his two children Darragh and Conor playing on the pitch and wearing the Black and Amber of Danesfort. Brian adored his boys and was only too delighted to give scores, match reports and photographs to the club for our social media channels down through the years, for both their teams.

With all of the ordinary tasks each GAA club has to attend to, Brian was a helping hand irrespective of the request, even using his skills to repair the portable goal posts to the benefit of all the younger juvenile players. We are so grateful for this act, unseen by many, yet serving a purpose for our children. Brian battled his long illness with bravery and dignity, he was an example to all, an inspiration to those connected with him and will be sadly missed in our club.

Elaine, Darragh and Conor, our members are with you all in your time of grief. Danesfort GAA and Camogie Club extends to you, and your wider family, its' deepest sympathy. We are heartbroken for your loss.

Codladh sámh i measc na n-aingeal a Bhrían.  
Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis



**Timmy Murphy**

The Executive Committee and Members of Danesfort GAA Club wish to extend their condolences to the family of Timmy Murphy who passed away peacefully in June of this year.

Timmy hurled all his life with the club, living only a stones throw away in Ballyda. He was a selector with Danesfort Junior team in the late 90's. At county level, Timmy played Minor for Kilkenny and won an Intermediate All Ireland in 1973.

A Farmer all his life and fondly known locally as a great and honest neighbour, Timmy welcomed all the newer folk to Ballyda, particularly those who married into families there. Timmy was handy and engineered a lot of farm machinery in his back yard, particularly machinery relating to sowing or harvesting potatoes.

Timmy took great pride in being involved in the upkeep of Ladies Well keeping it in great condition for the Annual Pattern in August.

Sadly missed by his sons Pat, Tom and Tim and his loving wife Bee.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis



**Declan Delaney**

Declan Delaney passed away after a short illness. He was born and lived all his life on the Square Ballyragget. He was a proud Ballyragget and Kilkenny man and followed both through the highs and lows of GAA. He was one of the original club members of St. Patrick's GAA and assisted in the development of both the original pitch in the 1950's and indeed was an integral part of securing the second pitch in recent years. He held the honour of Club President of St. Patrick's GAA, was a former treasurer of the club, team

Selector, attended to help out at the club lotto weekly with his wife Maura, and many more accolades within the club. He was an avid fan of greyhounds, coursing, cards, and history. He was a great source of knowledge on parish and club history. They say good things come to those who wait and this was true in the case of Declan meeting his wife Maura. Declan will be missed by one and all who had the pleasure of knowing him and due to his warm personality, he had friends around the world. Declan is survived by his wife Maura, brother Stephen, sister Alice, nieces, nephews and many many friends. A true Gael gone to his just reward.



**Annie Butler**

Annie Butler nee Brophy started life at one end of Ballyragget parish and finished it at the other end, right on the border of Conahy, but throughout her life she was a true St. Patrick's lady. She followed GAA all her life both club and county travelling to games with her good friend (a Conahy lady) Joan Carroll they had there set place in the stand in Nowlan Park and traveled the country to all the Kilkenny games for the past 29 years. She also had her great neighbours the Brophy's to get her to Croke Park. Annie supported St Patrick's in anyway she could never missing a game. On her last day she lived it the best way mass in the morning, county finals in the afternoon, match analysis with Nicky Brennan in the evening on the radio, phone calls with Joan and the she quietly and suddenly slipped away. She will be missed by so many, in the parish and on match days. However she is reunited now with her loving husband Liam. She is survived by her daughter Breda, sisters Julia Mary and Peg, grandchildren, friends and neighbours.



**Kevin O'Shea**

The sudden passing of Kevin O Shea, on the 4th of December sent shockwaves through the parish of Ballyragget and the business community of Kilkenney. Kevin was born to The O'Shea family of Castle Street, Ballyragget. He honed his hurling skills on that same street with his siblings and neighbours. Kevin was a lifelong member of St Patricks GAA Ballyragget. He represented the club wearing the black and amber and won an All Ireland Minor in 1975 on a day in which he was the top scorer. He had the pleasure of hurling alongside his brother Michael on the victorious St Patricks teams of 78 and 79. Indeed Kevin had a talent for sports in general along with being a talented singer and musician. He is survived by his wife Ann, sons Michael and Jack, daughters Roisin and Aoife, granddaughter Sadie, siblings and a wide circle of friends.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis



**Bea O'Donovan**

Bea passed away in the company of her loving family having battled a debilitating ailment for a while. She was a member of the Roche Family of Prologue in Callan, and she was wife of Tom O'Donovan, a member of one of Callan's great GAA and boxing Families. Seldom would you meet Tom without Bea, and they were intrinsically devoted to the development and support to the John Lockes Club all of their lives. If ever a couple were destined to be a single entity, Bea Roche and Tom Donovan were tailor made to fulfil the role. Their respective personalities complimented each other. Bea was a superb humanist, popular, decisive, with a quirky sense of humour. She was very loyal, and extremely visible whenever a cause, a need, a function was on the menu. Bea had the distinction of playing with St. Brigid's College Callan fado fado. In fact, she was an impressive midfield player of that very first Provincial Camogie championship team 1960/61. The iconic Ann Carroll was a team mate as were Breda Barry, Olive O'Neill and the O'Sullivan's from Mallardstown. But Bea will be synonymous with

the challenging times when the John Lockes Club were determined to have their own club grounds. Her love for her beloved Lockes was unconditional. She passed that respect, and regard for her club on to her children. Her sons Stuart and Nigel are now stalwarts of the Club in Managerial positions, and her grandchildren are carrying the candle with great acclaim in hurling and camogie for their sadly-missed Grannie. The passing of Bea will be sadly endured by her husband Tom, her children Gena, Stuart, Nigel and Olivia, her grandchildren Katie, Charlie, Chloe, Ollie, Beth, Faye, Leah, Tom, and her great grandson, Louis. Bea was a very decent golfer, playing off single figure handicaps, being a life-long member of Callan Golf Club with whom she had won many major national Titles with the Callan Ladies teams.

recalled; and there were many. Paddy was one of a large Donovan Family born and bred through the tough post World War 2 era when many working-class families struggled to live. But we all survived, or at least a vast majority did so. Like his elder brothers Paddy embraced whatever sporting activity was prevalent at the time. A flourishing boxing club in Callan was on his radar probably for no other reason than his brother Johnny had won an Irish Title, and wore the green singlet of his Country. He hurled with a "pot stick" before he could walk. He developed a skill the envy of hurlers much older. As his team mate on the Kilkenny Intermediate team at the time, Dixie Burke would have you know, "Paddy Donovan "had the sweetest pair of hands I ever saw. He had great skill, and hurling came effortlessly to him. Pity about his injury", said the Carrickshock legend.

Paddy had the misfortune of badly injuring his knee very early in his career, and even though he soldiered on for a while, his injury eventually won the battle. He was a brilliant skittles player getting to a team All Ireland Final twice, alas without success. He was a more than creditable golfer, and a smashing handballer. He worked all his life in the Callan Bacon Factory ending up as a van salesman.

He will be missed by his sons John, James, daughters Kathleen, Siobhan and Treacy; his Grandchildren Steven, Lauren, Ryan, Robyn, Ciarán, Ali, and Isabel; brother Tom, sisters, Teresa Dawson and Biddy Napier, his brothers in law, Packie Dawson and Gus Napier. Paddy Donovan was a jewel- if he couldn't do you a good turn, well you know how that finishes.



**Paddy O'Donovan**

As Paddy Donovan's remains were laid in the earth beside his beloved wife Kathleen in Kilbride Cemetery on Wednesday 14th July, stories, well ingrained in the memories of the people who mattered were

## CONFIRMATION IN NOWLAN PARK 2021





# RESULTS 2021



SENIOR HURLING		U19 ROIINN C FINAL	Lisdowney 1-13 Dicksboro 1-10
COUNTY SH C'SHIP FINAL	Ballyhale Shamrocks 3-19 O'Loughlin Gaels 3-15	U19 ROIINN D FINAL	Mullinavat 2-7 BarrowRangers 1-7
SH LEAGUE FINAL	Bennettsbridge 0-19 Clara 0-16	U19 ROIINN E FINAL	St. Patrick's 3-13 John Lockes 1-18
SH SHIELD FINAL	James Stephens 3-21 Mullinavat 1-15	MINOR (U17) HURLING	
SH RELEGATION FINAL	Erin's Own 1-11 Rower Inistioge 0-9	MINOR "A" C'SHIP FINAL	Dicksboro 0-22 Tullogher Rosbercon 2-15
INTERMEDIATE HURLING		MINOR "B" C'SHIP FINAL	Danesfort 0-17 Dunnamaggan 1-10
COUNTY IH C'SHIP FINAL	Glenmore 3-19 St Lachtain's 2-9	MINOR "C" C'SHIP FINAL	Barrow Rangers 2-11 Graignamanagh 1-11
IH LEAGUE FINAL	Thomastown 1-22 Glenmore 2-16	MINOR "A" LEAGUE FINAL	Dicksboro 1-19 Naas 2-11
IH SHIELD FINAL	Carrickshock 1-14 St Martin's 0-16	MINOR "B" LEAGUE FINAL	Graigue Ballycallan 0-19 St Martin's 1-8
IH RELEGATION FINAL	Young Irelands 3-13 John Lockes 1-7	MINOR "C" LEAGUE FINAL	St Patrick's 5-6 Lisdowney 2-15
JUNIOR HURLING		U15 HURLING	
COUNTY JH C'SHIP FINAL	Mooncoin 3-19 Tullogher Rosbercon 3-11	U15 "A" C'SHIP FINAL	James Stephens 1-17 O'Loughlin Gaels 1-7
JH C'SHIP SECTION B C'SHIP FINAL	James Stephens 0-18 Dicksboro 1-12	U15 "B" C'SHIP FINAL	Dunnamaggan 2-13 Piltown 1-12
JH C'SHIP SECTION B LGE FINAL	Dicksboro 0-24 James Stephens 1-18	U15 "C" C'SHIP FINAL	Fenians 5-10 Barrow Rangers 4-6
COUNTY JUNIOR LEAGUE FINAL 1	Piltown 1-18 St Patrick's 2-14	U15 "A" LEAGUE FINAL	James Stephens Green 8-8 James Stephens Red 4-14
COUNTY JUNIOR LEAGUE FINAL 1	Windgap 2-21 Mooncoin 0-13	U15 "B" LEAGUE FINAL	Piltown 2-21 Dunnamaggan 3-17
ALL COUNTY JH LEAGUE FINAL	Piltown 2-19 Windgap 3-11	U15 "C" LEAGUE FINAL	Emeralds 6-21 Ballyhale Shamrocks 5-13
JH 'A' C'SHIP FINAL	Mooncoin 0-21 Dunnamaggan 1-16	FEILE UNDER 15 DIVISION 1 (PADDY GRACE CUP) FINAL	James Stephens 1-7 Erin's Own 0-3
JH 'B' C'SHIP FINAL	Dicksboro 3-18 Conahy Shamrocks 2-10	FEILE UNDER 15 DIVISION 1 SHIELD	Dunnamaggan 3-2 O'Loughlin Gaels 1-2
JH 'C' C'SHIP FINAL	Fenians 1-14 Piltown 1-12	FEILE UNDER 15 DIVISION 2 FINAL	Graigue Ballycallan 2-7 Barrow Rangers 0-4
JH 'D' C'SHIP FINAL	Sliieverue 3-20 Blacks & Whites 2-16	FEILE UNDER 15 DIVISION 2 SHIELD	Mooncoin 4-6 Clara 1-2
JH 'E' C'SHIP FINAL	Rower Inistioge 1-12 Lisdowney 0-14	FEILE UNDER 15 DIVISION 3 FINAL	Rower Inistioge 2-9 Kilmacow 2-3
JH 'F' C'SHIP FINAL	Dunnamaggan 2-17 Piltown 1-17	FEILE UNDER 15 DIVISION 3 SHIELD	Tullaroan 3-10 St Lachtain's 2-9
JH 'A' LEAGUE FINAL		U13 HURLING	
JH 'B' LEAGUE FINAL	Thomastown 0-22 Mullinavat 1-11	U13 'A' C'SHIP FINAL	Erin's Own 0-18 Dicksboro 1-12
JH 'C' LEAGUE FINAL	Bennettsbridge 2-24 St Lachtain's 3-17	U13 "B" C'SHIP FINAL	St Patrick's 1-17 Tullogher Rosbercon 2-12
JH 'D' LEAGUE FINAL	Blacks & Whites 4-14 Sliieverue 1-21	U13 "C" C'SHIP FINAL	Barrow Rangers 3-7 Mullinavat 0-8
JH 'E' LEAGUE FINAL	Lisdowney 3-17 Dicksboro 2-13	U13 'A1' C'SHIP FINAL	Young Irelands 4-10 Graigue Ballycallan 2-7
JH 'F' LEAGUE FINAL	Tullogher Rosbercon 5-16 St Lachtain's 1-15	U13 13/ASIDE C'SHIP FINAL	Bennettsbridge 0-5 Blacks & Whites 0-2
CUP COMPETITIONS		U13 "A" LEAGUE FINAL	John Lockes 2-14 Dicksboro 2-12
SH DIV 1 LEAGUE FINAL (Byrne Cup)	Dicksboro 5-16 Clara 0-20	U13 "B" LEAGUE FINAL	Tullogher Rosbercon 1-13 Lisdowney 2-7
SH DIV 2 LEAGUE FINAL (Aylward Cup)	Thomastown 2-28 Conahy Shamrocks 0-17	U13 "C" LEAGUE FINAL	Kilmacow 3-7 Mullinavat 1-11
U21 HURLING		U13 'A1' C'SHIP FINAL	Young Irelands 4-10 Graigue Ballycallan 2-7
Not Completed before printing		U13 13/ASIDE LEAGUE FINAL	Young Irelands 4-15 Danesfort 0-7
U19 HURLING		FOOTBALL (2020) (2021 not completed before printing)	
U19 ROIINN A FINAL	Dicksboro 3-17 Thomastown 0-15	SF C'SHIP FINAL	Mullinavat 5-7 Mooncoin 1-4
U19 ROIINN B FINAL	Erin's Own 3-8 Bennettsbridge 0-13	IF C'SHIP FINAL	Thomastown 2-12 Glenmore 1-7
		JF C'SHIP FINAL	Graigue Ballycallan 2-7 Carrickshock 0-10