

**Hurling Brothers  
The Donnellys  
of Ballycastle**



**Belgium on  
the March!**

De La Salle's Mullane puts smiles on these Ballyduff faces at the replay between Waterford and Limerick on Saturday  
Photo Ray McManus/SPORTSFILE

**The Scourge  
of the Pirates**

*Hello Hurling Fans,*

*This was a big action packed Hurling Weekend with 4 big games in the championship and Féile na nGael taking place in Laois/Offaly.*

*We may do a Féile supplement later like last Friday's Camogie Supplement.*

*Dublin bridged a long 18 year gap to their last appearance in a Leinster Final in 1991. Wexford hung on to their coat tails right to the end and they now have a historic quarter final appearance as well. Anthony Daly will get much of the credit but I am sure that he will be the first to admit that Dublin's achievement is due in no small way to a lot of hard work by others over recent years.*

*In the other Leinster Semi-final, Kilkenny handled Galway in a workman-like fashion. While the margin was just 4 points in the end - if you removed the King and the Prince from the equation the remaining Kilkenny forwards scored 2-10 while Galway's remaining forward division could only manage 1-4.*

*In Munster, Waterford gave a much improved performance to beat Limerick in the replay while Clare grew in stature as the game advanced against Tipperary. They will be a difficult hurdle for Galway at home in the next round. Next weekend is a little quieter on the Hurling Field with the main game being the clash of Antrim and Down in the Ulster Final. Coinciding with that fixture we meet the famous Antrim brothers 'The Donnellys' from Ballycastle in our main feature this week.*

*We would like to express our deepest sympathies to the O'Connell and Coleman families on the tragic loss of Henry Joe and Sarah Ann in an accident in the USA. The Milwaukee Hurling Club have set up a special Fund for their children, Sarah, Colman and Maeve.*

*Donations can be sent to: M&I Bank, 7447 University Drive, Middleton, WI 53562*

*A special memorial service was held on Friday night (19th) at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 602 Everglade Drive in Madison.*

*Until next week best wishes from the team at Hurling World.*



## The King and the Prince

The King 0-10 The Prince 2-9

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Ballycastle Bay



McQuillan's GAC grounds and clubhouse

While driving through the glens of North Antrim and the little towns of Waterfoot, Cushendall and Cushendun, one could mistake the location for that of south east Kilkenny over 200 miles away around Inistioge, Thomastown or Bennetsbridge. The beautiful scenery is equally impressive and unlike many parts of Ireland today on a summer's afternoon, young boys and girls sit on walls with legs and hurley sticks dangling or puck a few sliotars around the local pitch.

Travelling northwest through Ballypatrick

Forest the A2 dips down to the sea where Glen Taisie and Glenshesk meet at Ballycastle. It seemed appropriate that directions to the clubhouse of Antrim's most northerly hurling club Ballycastle McQuillans from Antrim's 1989 All-Star captain Dessie Donnelly would be given by mobile phone.

It was here in Ballycastle in the summer of 1898 that the inventor Guglielmo Marconi and his team successfully completed - not the first mobile call - but the world's first wireless transmission between Ballycastle and the East Lighthouse on Rathlin Island.

**2007 Gala Dinner Committee Guests and Sponsors.**

**Back Row: Barry Kelly, Julian Laverty, Michael McShane, Aidan Boyle, Eddie Donnelly, Peter McCaughan, Hilary Donnelly, Cathal Donnelly, Malachy McCurdy, Harry McKiernan.**

**Front Row: Seamus Blaney, Dessie Donnelly, John Connolly (Castlegar), Paddy Donnelly, John McSparran (County Chairman), Gail Laverty.**



1909 North Antrim Senior Hurling Championship winners



On driving into the car park the choice of location was immediately obvious. In the evening sunshine the hurlers and camogie players on both pitches look out over not alone Rathlin Island, Rathlin Sound and Fair Head but Scotland's Mull of Kintyre in the distance.

After the usual false compliments as to how we could still be playing hurling - as we walked round their two fabulous pitches Dessie was joined by another legend, older brother Eddie. I hadn't met Eddie since our playing days but his greeting "You picked a fine time to leave me Lucille" bridged the 31 year gap back to our All-Star trip to the USA in 1977 when the Kenny Rodgers hit was number one.

After our reminiscences and the guided tour of state of the art clubhouse and changing

rooms yet another Donnelly, the youngest of the clan, Brian, was introduced. Brian also toured with the All-Stars. He was an All-Star replacement in 1985 and was on the great Antrim team that scored 1-24 against Cork in the 1986 All-Ireland semi-final. Brian was at full forward on the Antrim team beaten by Tipperary in the final of 89.

The "You're staying with me tonight" phrase confirmed the renowned hospitality of the 'Glensmen' and after meeting Eddie's wife Nuala and some vitals it was down to the Harbour View Bar for some more chat and relaxation. Ballycastle has a population of 6000 and most are hurling and camogie orientated. Needless to say hurling helmets might be advisable in Ballycastle's taverns on Saturday nights.

On Sunday morning Eddie gave me some



1964 Antrim County Senior Hurling Championship Winners

**Back row: Jimmy Harkin, Eddie Donnelly, Paddy McShane, Jim McToal, Kevin Donnelly, Sean McShane, Brendan Donnelly.**

**Front row: James Brown, Dessie Elliott, Colm Lynn, Robbie Elliott, Rab Coyles, Seamus McShane, John Harkin, Brendan Elliott.**

insight the club's spirit and tradition.

"The club was set up in John O'Brien's barbershop in 1907 at the foot of Chapel Brae" he said. "We had black jerseys at the start and my great grandfather Edward was the first chairman. We won our first senior title in 1913 and we now have 17, two more than our nearest rivals Shamrocks, Loughgiel and O'Donovan Rossa".

My uncles Paddy, Dermie and the best known of them Brendan 'The Bear' all played with the club. I came on the team in 1964 at just 16 and my older brother Kevin was corner back. It was great to play along side my two

uncles Paddy and 'The Bear'. We met the county champions Loughgiel in the final at Glenariffe. We played with a gale and were 2-2 to 0-1 at half time. It didn't seem to be enough but we defended like tigers and they only scored 2 points in the second half". The team contained six sets of brothers, three Elliotts, three McShanes, three Brownes, two young Donnellys, two older Donnellys and the two Harkin brothers.

Their father Dessie won a county minor medal in 1940 and whilst he didn't play much senior hurling was a major influence on his sons. Eddie recalls his father's tactic at the

breakfast table the morning of the 64 final. "I have two pound notes here" he said and handed them to their mother. "You hold on to these mother and if these lads win today give them one each and if they don't give them back to me". Kevin and Eddie got the two pound.

Eddie recalls another occasion during his early days when he got put off in a Sunday game and thought it better not to tell his father. When his father came home from work on Thursday evening he had heard and was in a right mood. "Don't you ever get put off again?" he said. "What good are you to your club on the line. I won't be supplying you with boots and sticks if that what you're going to be at". Eddie was never sent off again.

The 64 win changed the course of the club. With new enthusiasm a new piece of land, Benmore Park was purchased and was opened in 1970. There was another county success in 1975 and Eddie got an All-Star replacement. He was also selected by Manager John Doyle on the Irish Shinty team along with Legends such as Noel O'Dwyer, Noel Casey and Jimmy Barry Murphy.

78 to 86 was a golden era for Ballycastle winning 6 titles in 8 years. Kevin captained the 1980 team that was defeated 1-11 to 1-8 in the All-Ireland final at Navan by Galway's Castlegar. "All the papers at the time highlighted the clash of the six Donnelly's against the five Connollys. Although we were beaten we have been friends ever since". Says Eddie.

Though he won the last of his eight senior medals when captaining his club to county success in 1986 and retired shortly afterwards, another chapter had yet to be written.

At the clubs AGM in 2000 Dessie took over, as secretary and Eddie became treasurer.



### 1980 Antrim County Senior Hurling Championship Winners

**Back row: Charlie McVeigh, Gerard McAuley, Eddie Donnelly, Paul Smith, Terence Donnelly, P. Watson, Brian Donnelly, Brendan Donnelly, Paul Kelly. Front row: Kevin McShane, John McHenry, Dessie Donnelly, Olcan Laverty, Peter Boyle, Kevin Donnelly (Captain), Seamus Donnelly, Kevin Boyle, Terence Barton, Mickey Dallat, Peter Dallat, Ciaran Donnelly.**

Realizing the need for more and better facilities along with chairman Paddy Donnelly (no relation) the officers went in search of some additional land. In 2002 the club's old field was sold and the proceeds funded the purchase of 17.5 acres of land and the subsequent development of their magnificent new two pitch complex. GAA president Nickey Brennan opened their new home in 2007.

As to the future "Who knows?" says Eddie "We haven't won the senior since 1986 but we

are doing a lot of work at underage. There are still a few young Donnelly's playing the game but the world has got very small with Low Fares Airlines and so on and we don't have any major industries in the town so who knows. Keep an eye out for the girls. The Cross and Passion College Camogie team won the All Ireland last year. Win or lose we will be hurlin up here no matter what". As I headed home that evening with copy of "A Century with Honour" the history of the McQuillan GAC, Ballycastle on the seat beside me I knew

that hurling will be safe in north Antrim for the next century and more.

(You can contact the McQuillan Ballycastle GAC at [www.mcquillangac.com](http://www.mcquillangac.com))

Photos: Paddy Donnelly.



Joe Canning tussles with JJ Delaney

# June Exam Results

## Kilkenny B+ Galway C-

The Cats held their nerve in Tullamore to overcome Galway in an exciting Leinster semi-final. A Joe Canning inspired Galway side had Kilkenny on the back foot for long periods of this game but ultimately a clinical experienced Kilkenny side took the spoils in the end. Galway tore out of the blocks with a superb Canning goal and led 1-3 to 0-1.

Henry Shefflin kept Kilkenny in touch by converting a handful of frees but Kilkenny began to show how dangerous they can be by scoring 2 goals in a two minute spell. Richie Power scoring the first and setting up the other for Eddie Brennan.

These goals allowed Kilkenny to go in a half time leading 2-7 to 1-8 despite Galway playing most of the hurling with the breeze.

Any fears Galway might have were dispelled when Canning fired to the net 3 minutes into the second half. Minutes later Niall Healy goaled again for the Westerners. Galway led by 5 points at this stage and appeared to have Kilkenny on the ropes but the 3 in-a-row team

never panicked and Eoin Larkin started to exert his influence on the game dragging them back level with a brace of points. Galway were reduced to 14 men when substitute Richie Murray was sent off for a wild pull. This really killed Galway's hopes of a revival and Kilkenny finished with a four point margin. Final score: Kilkenny 2-20 Galway 3-13

Referee: B Kelly (Westmeath)

Kilkenny: PJ Ryan; M Kavanagh, JJ Delaney, J Tyrell; T Walsh, J Tennyson, J Dalton; M Fennelly, M Rice; H Shefflin (0-10, 6f, 1 '65'), M Comerford, E Larkin (0-5); E Brennan (1-0), R Power (1-0), A Fogarty (0-3).

Subs: D Lyng (0-2) for Fennelly (47), S Cummins for Kavanagh (49), R Hogan for Brennan (61)

Galway: C Callanan; D Joyce, S Kavanagh, O Canning; F Moore, J Lee, A Cullinane; E Lynch, K Hynes, A Callanan (0-1); C Donnellan (0-1), A Smith, D Hayes (0-1); J Canning (2-9, 1-7f, 0-2 '65'), N Healy (1-1).

Subs: D Tierney for Hynes (30), A Kerins for Smith (59), R Murray for Donnellan (60)

# Déise back on track

John Mullane was in devastating form as Waterford booked their place in the Munster Final with an eight-point victory against Limerick in this semi-final replay. He scored 6 points from play and was fouled on numerous occasions as Limerick failed to cope with him. Mullane and Eoin Kelly contributed 0-18 of the winning tally in front of 16000 spectators

With 12 minutes remaining, Waterford led by 0-18 to 0-16 but scored six points without reply to secure the win. With Seamus Prendergast coming to the fore. This was a vital win for Waterford and surely helps heal the scars of the All Ireland Final last September.

From the start it was clear that this was going to be a better contest than last Sunday's forgettable event as it took only 17 minutes for both sides to register as many scores. Waterford led by 0-10 to 0-8 at half-time.

Limerick opened with the first point of the second half to cut the gap back to just a single score but they were always playing catch up. The Shannonsiders did manage to trim the gap to the bare minimum twice more in the second half but crucially, they could never draw level and after weathering a number of storms, Waterford finished with a real flourish. The final score: Limerick 0-17 Waterford 0-25. Referee: B Gavin (Offaly)

Limerick: B Murray; D Reale, S Lucey, M O'Riordan; D Moloney, B Geary, M Foley; D O'Grady (0-1), S Hickey (0-2); P Browne (0-1), J Ryan (0-2), N Moran (0-5, 2f); O Moran, D Breen (0-1), A O'Shaughnessy (0-5f). Subs: E Foley for O'Grady (47), G Mulcahy for Foley (58), T Condon for O'Riordan (60).

Waterford: C Hennessy; E Murphy; D Prendergast, N Connors; R Foley, M Walsh, K Moran; T Browne, S O'Sullivan (0-1); J Nagle, S Molumphy (0-1), S Prendergast (0-4); J Mullane (0-6), G Hurney, E Kelly (0-12, 8f, 1 65). Subs: D Shanahan for Molumphy (inj, h/t), E McGrath for Nagle (46), A Kearney for Foley (54), J Kennedy (0-1) for Moran (inj, 65), J Murray for Browne (70).



Dan Shanahan was back for Waterford

# Tipp top Battling Banner!

Tipperary ran out unconvincing winners in Limerick yesterday against a Clare side, without the benefit of a competitive match, which ultimately cost them as they allowed a sharper Tipp outfit run into an early eight point lead. This affectively sealed Clare's fate but to the credit of the Banner men they never gave up and two fine second half saves from Brendan Cummins helped the National League runners up advance to a Munster Final showdown with Davey Fitzgerald's Waterford.

John O'Brien, Shane McGrath and Eoin Kelly all hit the target early on before Clare registered their first score from Jonathan Clancy. Lar Corbett grabbed Tipp's first goal and followed up with a quick point. Noel McGrath, who put in an unbelievable performance for an eighteen year old, pointed majestically from a sideline cut before Tipp's only forward not to score at this stage, Seamus Callinan, goaled emphatically to leave eleven points between the sides after twenty-eight minutes. At this point, the writing was on the wall for Clare, however, they refused to buckle and points from championship debutant Colin Ryan were added to by a superb goal from centre forward Diarmuid McMahan.

The sides traded a number of scores on the restart and 5 points separated them before John O'Brien beat an exposed Philip Brennan. The margin remained nine points after Jonathan Clancy and Eoin Kelly traded scores. Tipp were to score only three points in the final twelve minutes and Clare's impressive Ryan added a further three points to leave a goal between the sides. John Conlon and Noel McGrath added points for their sides in the



**Brendan Cummins makes a vital save from Colin Ryan at the end of the game**

dying minutes and deep into injury time Ryan was left with a thirty yard free and despite the distance, the youngster still forced Brendan Cummins into making another fine save which resulted in a Clare point and a two point victory for Tipperary. Final score:

Tipperary 3-18 to Clare 1-22

Tipperary: B Cummins; P Stapleton, P Curran, C O'Brien; D Fanning, C O'Mahony (capt), P Maher; J Woodlock, S McGrath; P Kerwick, S Callanan, L Corbett; E Kelly, J O'Brien, N McGrath. Subs used: B Maher for O'Mahony (h/t), W Ryan for Kerwick, B Dunne for S McGrath, H Maloney for Callanan, P Kelly for E Kelly

Clare: P Brennan; P Vaughan, J McInerney, G O'Grady; P Donnellan, B Bugler, A Markham; B O'Connell (capt), T Griffin; T Carmody, D McMahan, C Ryan; N Gilligan, D Barrett, J Clancy. Subs used: B Nugent for Carmody, J Conlon for Barrett, G O'Connell for Clancy

# Dublin Deliver!



Alan McCrabbe had scored 5 points for Dublin before retiring injured

Dublin reached their first Leinster final since 1991 after a narrow win over a wasteful Wexford side that lost their first Leinster Semi-Final in 8 years. Dublin, fresh from their first round win over Antrim, raced into an early lead and left Wexford playing second fiddle for the first thirty-five minutes.

With Alan McCrabbe in terrific form, scoring 5 points, the Dubs held a 6 point lead after twenty minutes. Wexford's Diarmuid Lyng, Tomas Waters, David 'Doc' O'Connor and Malachy Travers all hit the target to leave Dublin leading by 0-11 to 0-07 at the break. However, this lead was to vanish when Wexford punished slack Dublin defending to score the game's only goal, 5 minutes into the second half when Nicky Kirwan rattled the net. Wexford's indiscipline at the back was costing them almost as much as their wayward shooting in the forwards. The Slaneysiders did manage to narrow the margin to a point as the game drew to a close thanks to the accuracy of Diarmuid Lyng.

However, despite Dublin losing the on-form McCrabbe and the influential Kevin Flynn to a second yellow card late in the game, they managed to hang on for a two point win. Final score: Dublin 0-18 Wexford 1-13

With their Division One League status already secured and successive Leinster Championship wins under their belt, 2009 will go down as a great year for Dublin Hurling regardless of what happens now.

However, as we all know, Anthony Daly and his charges won't be opening the box of Cubans just yet.

DUBLIN: G Maguire; N Corcoran, T Brady, O Gough; S Hiney, J Boland, M Carton; J McCaffrey, S Durkin; D Treacy, P Kelly, K Flynn; D O'Callaghan, L Rushe, A McCrabbe. Subs used: D Sweeney for McCrabbe

WEXFORD: D Fitzhenry; M Travers, P Roche, D O'Connor; M Jacob, R Kehoe, C Kenny; D Lyng, P Atkinson; W Doran, T Waters, R Jacob; D Redmond, S Banville, S Doyle. Subs used: N Kirwan for Atkinson, J Tonks for Kehoe, PJ Nolan for Banville, E Martin for R Jacob



Dicksboro on their way to winning their First Féile Title



Maynooth Camogie players enjoying themselves in St Brendan's Park Birr at Féile 2009



Douglas captured the Division One Camogie Title

## GALA SENIOR CAMOGIE

### CHAMPIONSHIP First round.

**Cork 3-21**, E O'Sullivan 1-2, A O'Regan, E O'Farrell 1-0 each, R Moloney 0-10 (0-5f), G O'Connor, S Burns, 0-3 each, E Dillon 0-2, B Corkery 0-1.

**Dublin 1-7**, C Lucey 1-1 (1-1'45), J Hoary 0-2f, A Griffin 0-2, E Brannigan 0-1.

**Wexford 5-20**, R Breen 3-2, M Hearne 1-1, A Codd 1-0, K Kelly 0-5 (0-4f), J Dwyer 0-3, L Holohan, U Jacob, U Leacy, C Murphy 0-2 each, M O'Leary 0-1.

**Limerick 0-6**, N Mulcahy 0-4, E O'Brien, J Clifford 0-1 each.

## GALA JUNIOR CAMOGIE

### CHAMPIONSHIP, New Ireland Cup.

**Waterford 3-11**, A Lyng 1-3 (0-1'45), K Kelly 1-3 (0-f), T Jackman 1-1, M Murphy 0-2, J Simpson, N Morrissey 0-1 each.

**Offaly 0-7**, E Darmody 0-4 (0-1f), M Morkan 0-2f, S Flannery 0-1.

**Down 4-16**, N Branniff 2-1, F Carr 1-2 (1pen, 0-2f), R Mc Polin 1-0, C Mc Gourty 0-6 (0-5f), S L Carr 0-3, N Mc Nally, K O'Higgins, O Maginn, K Mc Mullan 0-1 each.

**Dublin 0-0.**

**Meath 2-11**, E Lynch 2-5 (0-1f), S Hackett, C Troy 0-2 each, F Lynch, E Oakes 0-1 each.

**Antrim 3-6**, G Mc Mullan 2-1, C Lavery 1-0, E Mc Mullan 0-3, (0-1f), R Torney, C Hamill 0-1 each.

## GALA JUNIOR CAMOGIE

### CHAMPIONSHIP, Nancy Murray Cup.

**Kildare 1-12**, S O'Carroll 0-10 (0-8f, 0-1'45), C Tallon 1-0, R Gorman, C Mc Sweeney 0-1 each.

**Roscommon 3-6**, N Coyle 1-2, A Mc Geaney, E Daly 1-0 each, K Hopkins 0-3 (0-1f), S O'Brien 0-1.

**Armagh 3-12**

**Carlow 1-6,**

**Westmeath 2-3**

**Tyrone 0-9.**

## Feile na nGael Final Results

Division 1 Hurling: Dicksboro, Kilkenny 3-14  
Kilcormac/Killoughey 0-5

Division 2 Hurling: Portlaoise 4-6 St Patrick's  
Portaferry, Down 1-4

Division 3 Hurling: Tinnahinch 5-7 Seir Kieran  
4-3

Division 4 Hurling: Cuchulainns, Armagh 4-3  
Padraig Pearses, Roscommon 3-5

Division 5 Hurling: St. Oliver Plunkett's, West-  
meath 5-5 Clonad/Ratheniska Gaels 0-6

Division 6 Hurling: Ballinamere/Durrow 1-6  
Woodford Gaels, Cavan 0-7

Division 1 Camogie: Douglas, Cork 1-7 St Vin-  
cent's, Dublin 2-2

Division 2 Camogie: St Brenda's, Armagh 2-4  
O'Moore's, Laois 2-2

Division 3 Camogie: Kerry 0-4 Kiltale, Meath  
0-3

Division 4 Camogie: Na Brideoga, Mayo 5-3  
Seir Kieran, Offaly 0-1

## Nicky Rackard Cup

Armagh 6-26 - Roscommon 2-09

Following the Roscommon footballers heavy defeat to Mayo the hurlers followed suit with a similar thumping at the hands of Armagh in the Athletic Grounds on Saturday afternoon. Armagh now progress to the semi final if the Nicky Rackard cup

Monaghan 2-09 - Sligo 3-14

Monaghan are now resigned to the fact that they will play in the Lory Meagher cup next year after losing out to a determined Sligo side on Saturday in Ballinamore in the relegation battle.

Fingal 0-16 - Louth 1-11

Fingal progress to the semi final of the Nicky Rackard Cup after a hard fought 2 point victory over Louth in Swords on Saturday evening



## Guinness continue their Hurling Supporters Nights



Conor Hayes

Inside Hurling coming to the Raheen Woods Hotel, Athenry, Tuesday 30th June with a Galway Hurling Supporters Event on Tuesday 30th June at 7.30pm in the Raheen Woods Hotel, Athenry. Galway Hurling Fans will be able to debate the issues and talk about the GAA Hurling championship in the company of former Galway greats Joe Rabbitte, Cyril Farrell and Conor Hayes, as well as Manager John McIntyre and two members of the squad.

MC for the evening is Today FM's Paul Collins. The night will run similar to a "championship" preview format, where the panel will analyse previous GAA Hurling championship games and discuss upcoming fixtures.

Supporters will also be able to engage in a Q&A session with the players, and there will be plenty of prizes on offer on the night from match tickets to signed jerseys and special hurling t-shirts.

Tickets for the supporter's night are free, but strictly limited to 250 supporters, so to book your place, email [guinnesshurling@ihurling.com](mailto:guinnesshurling@ihurling.com). All supporters and their guests must be over 18, and I.D will be required on the night. Further information is available at [www.guinness.com](http://www.guinness.com)

A presentation night was held on Saturday June 6th in Hayden's Hotel, Ballinasloe to honour teams from Galway, Mayo and Roscommon who had taken part in the Suck Valley League for 2009. Presentations were made to U-14, U-16 and minor teams. Welcoming the large attendance (of more than 200 people), the Suck Valley originator and organiser Paraic Gavin spoke of the success of the league and spoke of the growth of the venture over a short period of time.

He thanked all who had helped him along the way and had a special word of praise for mentors and parents who helped in "ferrying and organising players around to the various venues." Paraic welcomed the special guests for the night - Galway Hurlers Joe Canning and Eugene McEntee - and also the mayor of Ballinasloe Cllr. Pat O'Sullivan. The Mayor said that the Suck Valley League was "one of the success stories in club hurling at underage level in recent years and it was vital that the

## Stronges Photos & Phones Suck Valley League 2009.



Joe Canning Portumna, Eugene Mc Entee Portumna, Cllr Pat O Sullivan Mayor Of Ballinasloe, Gerry Stronge Stronges Ballinasloe, Paraic Gavin Suck Valley League.

game be nurtured and practiced at this age group. He had a very special word of praise for Paraic Gavin for all his work.

Joe Canning and Eugene McEntee spoke of the importance of the club. They said that winning an All Ireland with those you grew up with was a wonderful experience. Both players spoke of the importance of training and hard work to achieve your goals. The two players then made presentations to the clubs present of team photographs on large canvas prints photographed and sponsored by Gerry Stronge Photography Ballinasloe. Each member of the teams got a team photograph as well.

Main sponsor Gerry Stronge then presented Paraic Gavin with a lovely canvas photograph of the teams and Mayor Pat O Sullivan with a Stronges Photos & Phones Suck valley shirt.

Cooper Helmets were also presented to 12 players of the tournament - kindly sponsored by Ronan Lally of Cooper Sports. A plaque was also presented to the best club by Maureen Cahalan of Cahalan Jewellers, Ballinasloe and Brendan Kelly of KPW for sponsoring the fixtures booklet. Paraic brought proceedings to an end by sincerely thanking all for being present and especially thanked his sponsors and John and Ann Creaven of Haydens Hotel for kindly providing the food for the night. A presentation was made to Joe Canning and Eugene McEntee by Anna Stronge of Stronges Photo and Phones. Eugene & Joe then spent the next hour signing autographs & standing for photographs with all the hurling fans present.



**Belgium Hurling Team. Back row: Conchur de Barra, Conor Aylward, Dominic King, Jarret Rickshelder, Adrian Hiel, Murits de Bruijn, Willie Cashin, Pearce O Cuaimh, Daire Cotter, Eoin Sheanon, Michael Hough. Front row: Eoghan Kelly, Declan Hilary, Dave Barrett, Kevin Keary, Emmett Devine, Aidan Harte, Martin Crowley**



**Belgium Trainer Martin Crowley**

Words: Wandering Gael  
Photos: Stephanie Dunn

Belgians went about their business clinically and efficiently. Bolstered by the return of captain Kevin Keary, Cork's Dominic King and Daire Cotter, Eoin Sheanon and Michael Hough, they fought off any resistance with their crisp hurling.

They defeated Luxembourg convincingly in the first game. The next fixture on the card was Den Haag and Paris/Zurich which proved a much closer encounter. Some late goals from Den Haag just about gave them the edge.

The key group game would be played out between Belgium and Den Haag and the expectant crowd hoped for a repeat of their last close encounter. It was not to be as goals from Sheanon and Cotter set the Belgians on the right road.

Den Haag recovered however and sealed a final spot with a victory over Lux. The



**Denver Gaels Defence facing a penalty in the Mile High City!  
Photo: Tyler McNally**

Belgians completed their group games against Paris/Zurich. Luxembourg squared up against Paris/Zurich in the 3rd/4th playoff. It proved the game of the day. Paris/Zurich had to take the field without their star player Dave Conlon who suffered a serious shoulder injury earlier in the day. It was Adrian Hiel, borrowed from Belgium, who goaled in the dying seconds to send the game to extra-time. However their challenge faded in extra-time as Luxembourg snuck victory.

Belgium were raging hot favourites to claim their first home tournament title in the final against Den Haag. You can never expect anything easy against Den Haag though and they started in determined fashion. They started in blistering fashion, taking a 1-2 to 0-1 lead. Their goal game through the evergreen and versatile Des Breen. The Belgian's looked

like they were struggling but kept chipping away and good play from Eoghan Kelly and Emmett Devine helped them work their way back to a 1-5 to 1-3 half-time lead.

The Belgium coach must have had some strong words at the break because his team came out with all guns blazing. Not before another scare from Breen who was close to his second goal but for a save from custodian Willie Cashin. The rebound was swept up field and a deft flick from Daire Cotter was met by Michael Hough who duly rattled the net. The result leaves Belgium virtually assured of claiming their first European Championship in their short history. Regardless of where they finish in Zurich on July 12, the points picked up there should be enough to ensure they get over the finish line.

Round 3 saw the European Championship move to the Historic University town of Leuven. Belgium, Luxembourg and Den Haag were met by ideal conditions when they arrived at the venue. The tournament was played on a fantastic playing surface under blue skies and searing summer sun.

After the drama of Luxembourg, hopes were high that some close battles would be fought out. However, from the first game, the

## Your Best Hurling Moment?

If you would like to tell us about your best hurling moment in about 300 words we will include it in this column. Email us at [admin@hurlingworld.com](mailto:admin@hurlingworld.com)

Here is one of our greatest hurling memories.



The Day - September 3rd 1995 The game - All Ireland Hurling Final - Clare v Offaly

This was a historic occasion as it was the first time either side had ever met in the All Ireland Hurling Championship. Kilkenny had defeated Clare in that year's League Final and to the astonishment of Clare's manager Ger Loughnane, Kilkenny's Captain, Bill Hennessy had calmly placed the league trophy in the boot of his car after the match. Loughnane claimed on that day that his side would win the All Ireland. A statement that would later confirm Loughnane's legacy as being one of the most astute hurling tacticians of the modern game.

From the throw in, Clare made their intentions known and their fitness levels became quite apparent as they hassled Offaly at every opportunity. A fortuitous Michael Duignan goal separated the sides at half time. However, it was during the end of the half time break that the complexion of Hurling, specifically Clare Hurling, was to change forever. At half time, Clare's Manager Ger Loughnane declared to the Hurling World that "Clare were going to do it" and win their first All Ireland in 81 years.

Johnny Pilkington goaled well into the second half and at this point the writing was on the wall for Clare. However, Offaly wasted a number of chances after this to stretch their lead and Clare seized the opportunity. Anthony Daly took a Clare free from well inside the Clare '65 that struck the post and landed in the path of Eamon Taffe who struck the ball to the net. By the time Taffe had finished celebrating, he was hauled ashore by Loughnane (Taffe, later claimed, that he was solely sent on to do a job and when that was done he could come off again). Daly later converted a 65 (a role which Seanie McMahon was accustomed to) to put Clare a point ahead before Jamsie O'Connor converted a routine free to put two points between the sides. Daly went on to deliver one of the finest speeches ever by an All Ireland winning Captain.



Cork's Sile Burns in action in last year's All Ireland Final against Galway helped her county to a big win over Dublin on Saturday.

## GALA ALL IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP WRAP

Camogie teams around the country observed a minute silence at the weekend for Joe and Anne O'Connell who died tragically in America a week ago. Anne, who played camogie in her home county of Galway also enjoyed a stint with Glen Rovers of Cork, and was remembered in Páirc Ui Rinn on Saturday before the start of the Cork versus Dublin Gala All Ireland senior championship game.

Cork manager Denise Cronin who played alongside Anne in the victorious Glen Rovers All Ireland winning club side of 1992 said it is a very emotional time for all who knew her. "We went out to the 45 metre line and stood together as a mark of respect. This is a terribly sad time for both families and our thoughts are with them."

Champions Cork went on to record a big win over the Blues 3-21 to 1-7.

Cork led 1-15 to 1-1 at the break with the goal coming from skipper Amanda O'Regan and in the second half majors arrived from Eimear O'Sullivan and sub Emer O'Farrell. Rachel Moloney too was in fine form hitting 0-10 with five from play. Ciara Lucey was Dublin's best player firing their goal mid way through the opening half.

Elsewhere, National League champions Wexford easily accounted for a youthful Limerick side on a score of 5-20 to 0-6. In front 1-9 to 0-1 at the change over, the Slaneysiders turned the screw with Rose Marie Breen's hat trick of goals. Niamh Mulcahy was the Shannonsider's top scorer.

# 1959 Antrim Champions



## Antrim Junior All Ireland Champions (Home) 1959

Back row: Brendan Donnelly, Liam Harvey, Jimmy Roe, Tommy McMahon, Eamon McGarry, Billy Carville, Seamus Gallagher, Pat "Battler" Mullaney, Eugene Mullan, Arthur Forsythe, Bobby McMullan, Vincent Kerr, John Kearns, Brendan Elliot, Austin Wright, Robbie Elliot, Frank McCarry, Al McMurray, Mark McAleese.

Front row: Kevin Armstrong, Pat McMahon, Geordie Walsh, Liam McGarry, Eugene Gallagher, Seamus "Stout" McDonald, Seamus Wright, Dessie "Kipper" O'Neill, Sammy Giles, Joe Gibson, Oliver Campbell, James McVeigh.

Next weekend, members and relatives of Antrim's All Ireland winning Junior team (home-final) will be honoured at the Ulster Hurling Final in Casement Park. Antrim beat Cork by 3-4 to 2-3 in the final but lost to London in the final. Short highlights of the final against London are available on YouTube at 1959 Antrim London Hurling Final HURL0025



Former Galway hurlers Conor Hayes, Sylvie Linnane and Brendan Lynskey with former Antrim and Loughgiel player Liam McGarry (RIP) second from left.

# Spread and win!



Cork All Ireland Champions 1984



Limerick All Ireland Champions 1973

This week we give away a Retro Gaa Classic Jersey of your choice to the person who spreads the word about Hurlingworld to the most number of people.

Using archive footage, newspaper reports, photos, old jerseys and first hand accounts RetroGAA have endeavoured to recreate the classic GAA county jerseys of years gone by. They evoke an era in our games long gone - but not forgotten. A time of great teams, great matches, great men and great memories.

For Gaels and true sports fans of all ages we offer the experience of celebrating some of the greatest teams and sportsmen Ireland has ever produced.

To be in with a chance of winning one of these special jerseys all you have to do is get as many of your friends, clubmates and work colleagues to sign up on [www.hurlingworld.com](http://www.hurlingworld.com) and enter your name in the referred-by field.\*\*

The referrals will be tallied up and the person who refers the most people will receive a Retro jersey.

\*\*Only the referred Subscribers that confirm their subscription in the subsequent emails will count. Best of luck

# Scourge of the Pirates

## The Official Programme



Up to quite recent times, there was potentially a range of programme options available to the spectator going into most high-profile GAA matches: the official, produced and sanctioned by the relevant local or national GAA authority, or pirate (unofficial), produced by an unnamed - usually shady - third party.

Many were the supporter who bought a pirate

production, never knowing the difference. To the discerning GAA programme collector, a pirate is poison. Something that is almost worthless. Something that would taint an otherwise pristine collection. Personally, I am not as precious about them as most of my collector brethren. I will place one in my collection in lieu of not having the official. I will also put one alongside the official and not be unduly embarrassed, as there were a small number of pirates which were equal in quality to their official equivalents - this was especially the case in the era before the souvenir official programme became the norm in the mid-1970s. Actually, I like having both, where they are available, and the price of the pirate is right.

Pirate programmes survived right up to the early-1990s - the last known sighting I know of was for a Leinster Football Final from 1992. Their heyday was probably the 1950s and 1960s, with many senior provincial finals and most All Ireland series games attracting sufficient interest to have third parties "produce" competing programmes.

To a collector, a pirate can usually be spotted a mile off, sometimes with grave disappointment; most non-collectors would have no clue of the difference between both. The quality of the pirate production was usually

very much inferior to that of its official counterpart. It usually contained no Gaelge and the typefaces used were never the same as its authorised equivalent. It could never contain the signature of the official issuing authority, be it Séan MacCarthaigh for Munster Championships from the 1920s to the 1970s, or Pádraig Ó Caoimh for All Ireland programmes from the late-20s to the mid-60s or even Liam Ó Maolmhichil from the late-70s to recent times! Latter-day pirates were really cut & paste jobs on very poor-quality A4 or foolscap pages - whole articles and images were lifted from newspapers and roughly edited together.

Some pirates went as far as labelling themselves as Official (Oifigiúil), which could fool even the most discerning collector in the absence of the official programme to compare against. Other more subtle signs would then have to be employed to ascertain their true origin, especially with some very old programmes.

Overall, pirate programmes are a colourful sidebar but deserve very little attention and certainly should not be purchased at anything more than 5 to 10% of the monetary value of their official equivalents, with some little leeway available going back into the very early years of the GAA's programme-issuing history.

## The Pirate Programme

