



NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5 SEPTEMBER 2013

NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG - SENIOR COUNTY FINALISTS 2013



NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG ENJOY AN EIGHT-POINT COUNTY SEMI-FINAL REPLAY WIN OVER KILDANGAN

Clean Ireland Recycling County Senior Hurling Championship Semi-Final Replay Nenagh Éire Óg 1-17 Kildangan 0-12

Nenagh Éire Óg saw off Kildangan with eight points to spare in a Clean Ireland Recycling county senior hurling semi-final replay at Semple Stadium, Thurles on Sunday afternoon, Sept 6th. Éire Óg dominated for long periods of the game and led 1-10 to 0-6 at half-time following a first half goal from Richie Flannery.

Three Ruairí Gleeson frees helped Kildangan into a 0-3 to 0-2 lead during the opening eight minutes. Kevin Tucker (free) and Michael Heffernan were responsible for Éire Óg's opening efforts. Despite playing into the wind Éire Óg took over thereafter and held Kildangan scoreless for the ensuing seventeen minutes. A Michael Heffernan free levelled it in the ninth minute before a Paddy Murphy point gave Éire Óg the lead for the first time in the tenth – 0-4 to 0-3.

Two Kevin Tucker frees added to the Éire Óg tally and although Kildangan 'keeper Darragh Egan made a series of fine saves during this semi-final replay Richie Flannery scored a vital three-pointer in the 21st minute following Andrew Coffey's clever delivery – 1-6 to 0-3.

Two Ruairí Gleeson frees cut the Éire Óg lead to four points before Michael Heffernan and Kevin Tucker forced the Blues back into a six-point lead – 1-8 to 0-5.

Kildangan's Eoin Gleeson notched his side's first point from play in the 30th minute, but Éire Óg closed out the half in determined fashion with Michael Heffernan landing a long-range free and Kevin Tucker scoring a second point from play – 1-10 to 0-6.

Richie Flannery and Ruairí Gleeson traded points early in the second half before a point from Paul Ryan and a Michael Heffernan brace (one '65) saw Éire Óg leading 1-14 to 0-7 with fifteen minutes to play.

A Darragh Egan free from a 21-yard line preceded a Paddy Murphy point before Paul Flynn and Michael Heffernan (free) traded efforts.

A Ruairí Gleeson point from play left nine in it (1-16 to 0-10) with eight minutes to play before a Michael Heffernan point brought the scoring to a close from an Éire Óg point of view in the 54th minute. To their credit Kildangan fought gamely on and were rewarded with late points from Jack Loughnane and Joe Gallagher. The county senior hurling final will take place in Semple Stadium, Thurles on Sunday, October 13th. Your support would be much appreciated.

Nenagh Éire Óg: Michael McNamara, Mark Flannery, Noel Maloney (captain), John Brennan, Daire Quinn, Hugh Maloney, Billy Heffernan, Barry Heffernan, Kevin Tucker (0-5, 0-3 frees), Paul Ryan (0-1), Michael Heffernan (0-8, 0-3 frees, 0-1 '65), Pearse Morris, Andrew Coffey, Richie Flannery (1-1), Paddy Murphy (0-2). Subs: (49th) James Mackey for Pearse Morris, (51st) Killian Gleeson for Paul Ryan, (57th) Alan Kelly for Andrew Coffey.

Referee: Keith Delahunty (Moyle Rovers).



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NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG AND KILDANGAN CAN'T BE SEPARATED.

COUNTY SEMI-FINAL, SEPT 29TH 2013



Clean Ireland Recycling County Senior Hurling Semi-Final
Nenagh Éire Óg 4-13
Kildangan 2-19

Heffernan goal following powerful work by Richie Flannery helped the Blues into a four-point lead. Kildangan responded with a point, but Richie Flannery deflected home a Mikey Heffernan shot in the 20th

minute and Éire Óg now led 2-4 to 0-4.

A Kevin Tucker free forced Éire Óg seven points clear, that is until Darragh Egan buried a 21-yard free in the 22nd minute 2-5 to 1-4. A Mikey Heffernan free

(2-6 to 1-8). Indeed, the Éire Óg goal was fortunate to remain intact in the 28th minute when Michael McNamara made a fine save to deny Joe Gallagher a goal. Within two minutes of the second half Kildangan had taken a 1-10 to 2-6 lead. Éire Óg hit back, however, with points from Mikey Heffernan, Kevin Tucker (two frees), James Mackey and Donnacha Quinn forcing the Blues into a 2-11 to 1-10 lead by the 39th minute.

Éire Óg appeared to then strike for a crucial goal in the 40th minute when a James Mackey run culminated with a Paddy Murphy strike. Kildangan hit back with a Ruairí Gleeson '65, but Éire Óg plundered yet another goal thanks to Mikey Heffernan in the 45th minute to lead 4-11 to 1-11. Points from Ruairí Gleeson (free) and the outstanding Gerry Slattery steadied Kildangan before a Richie Flannery point in the 49th minute left eight between them – 4-12 to 1-13. An Eoin Gleeson point preceded a Joe Gallagher goal in the 53rd minute and suddenly the Éire Óg lead was down to four – 4-12 to 2-14.

Darragh Egan (free) and Ruairí Gleeson (free) then added to the Kildangan tally before a Kevin Tucker free in the 57th minute left a goal between them – 4-13 to 2-16. With the wind at their backs there was still time for Kildangan to rescue the situation and rescue it they did with points from Tadhg



The Éire Óg players and management team stand to attention for the national anthem in Semple Stadium, Thurles prior to the clash with Kildangan this evening.

A replay will be required to separate Éire Óg and Kildangan following a dramatic Clean Ireland Recycling County Hurling Semi-Final played at Semple Stadium, Thurles on Saturday Sept. 29th – the replay will go ahead next Sunday.

To their credit Kildangan recovered a nine-point deficit in the second half. With just fifteen minutes to play Éire Óg led 4-11 to 1-11, but Séamus Gleeson's side out-scored the Blues 1-8 to 0-2 during the final quarter with a Ruairí Gleeson free levelling matters in the second minute of injury time. The sides traded points early on and the game was locked at 0-2 apiece by the 8th minute with a long-range point from Billy Heffernan illustrating the strength of the breeze at Éire Óg's backs in the opening half.

A Kevin Tucker free presented Éire Óg with a narrow 0-4 to 0-3 lead in the 15th minute, but a Mikey



then left five between the sides, but Kildangan closed out the half in determined fashion with four unanswered points leaving just one in it at the break



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NENAGH IN THE HUNT FOR DAN BREEN!

Gallagher, Tommy Connors and Ruairí Gleeson (free) forcing a replay.

Nenagh Éire Óg: Michael McNamara, Mark Flannery, Noel Maloney (captain), John Brennan, Daire Quinn, Hugh Maloney, Billy Heffernan (0-1), Barry Heffernan, Kevin Tucker (0-6, 0-6 frees), Pearse Morris (0-1), Michael Heffernan (2-2, 0-1 frees), Killian Gleeson, Brian Quinn, Richie Flannery (1-1), Paddy Murphy (1-0). Subs: (HT) Donnacha Quinn (0-1) for Brian Quinn, (38th) James Mackey (0-1) for Killian Gleeson, (57th) Seáníe Geaney for Barry Heffernan.

Kildangan: Darragh Egan (1-1, 1-1 frees), David Sweeney, Martin Minehan, Fergal Hayes, Hugh Flannery, Gerry Slattery (0-2), Gary Byrne (0-1), Jack Loughnane (0-1), Tommy Connors (0-1), Willie Connors, Joe Gallagher (1-2), Eoin Kelly, Tadhg Gallagher (0-3), Dan Hackett, Ruairí Gleeson (0-7, 0-5 frees, 0-2 '65s, captain). Subs: (42nd) Eoin Gleeson (0-1) for Eoin Kelly, (54th) Páraic Kelly for Dan Hackett

Referee: Johnny Ryan (Boherlahan-Dualla).



Mikey Heffernan (Nenagh Éire Óg) pictured accepting his award from Bill Ryan (Clean Ireland Recycling). Mikey was named GAA Player of the Month for July 2013 for his performances in this year's county senior hurling championship and accepted his award at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh. Photo: fergalshanahan.com

THE ÉIRE ÓG UNDER-10 TEAM WHO PLAYED A MINI-MATCH VS KILDANGAN AT HALF-TIME IN THE SENIOR MATCH TAKE IT ALL IN DURING THE GAME.





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THE BLUES GO THROUGH TO THE COUNTY SEMI-FINAL FOLLOWING ONE-POINT WIN OVER 2011 CHAMPIONS DROM & INCH - SEPT 14TH



Saturday, September 14th Clean Ireland Recycling County Senior Hurling Quarter-Final Nenagh Éire Óg 1-15 Drom & Inch 2-11

The Blues saw off the 2011 county senior hurling champions Drom & Inch after a ferocious battle at Templemore this afternoon. Éire Óg started well and

led 1-8 to 0-6 at the break. Drom & Inch responded to the challenge like champions in the second half and with ten minutes to play there was just a single point between them (1-12 to 1-11). Despite

playing into the wind Éire Óg settled to their task once more and charged into a 1-15 to 1-11 lead before a late David Butler goal left a single point between them.

Tommy Heffernan and Séamus Callanan (free) traded early efforts before a searching Billy Heffernan delivery in the third minute broke to Paddy Murphy following Trojan work from Richie Flannery; Murphy made no mistake and smacked home a left-handed goal – 1-1 to 0-1. Drom & Inch responded with two efforts (1-1 to 0-3) before points from Paddy Murphy (two), Michael Heffernan (two) and Tommy Heffernan helped a rampant Éire Óg into a 1-6 to 0-3 lead by the 19th

minute. Johnny Ryan and David Collins responded for Drom & Inch, but efforts from Michael Heffernan and Richie Flannery forced Éire Óg back into a six-point lead (1-8 to 0-5) by the 25th minute. A Séamus Callanan free closed out the opening half and the sides retired with five between them. Points from Michael



Heffernan and Kevin Tucker (free) during the opening six minutes of the second half opened a seven-point gap (1-10 to 0-6) before Drom & Inch responded with three points of their own to leave four between them in the 44th minute.

A Michael Heffernan brace restored Éire Óg's six-point advantage (1-12 to 0-9) with fourteen minutes to go. Séamus Callanan roused the Drom & Inch supporters with a terrific left-handed point in the 47th minute and a minute later Callanan struck for a goal to leave just two between them. Callanan then struck for another point; with the deficit reduced to the minimum (1-12 to 1-11) and Drom & Inch playing with

the wind you could have been forgiven for fearing for the Éire Óg lads. The Blues, however, responded to the challenge in great style. Éire Óg stood their ground and after seven scoreless minutes Michael McNamara picked out Michael Heffernan and Mikey drilled over a superb point to settle the

nerves. A minute later Paddy Murphy swung over another while Richie Flannery forced Éire Óg into a four-point advantage in the first minute of injury time. A David Butler goal in the 62nd minute left one between them, but Éire Óg, deservedly, found themselves celebrating at the final whistle. Well done

lads!

Nenagh Éire Óg: Michael McNamara, Mark Flannery, Noel Maloney (captain), John Brennan, Daire Quinn, Hugh Maloney, Billy Heffernan, Barry Heffernan, Kevin Tucker (0-1, 0-1 frees), Paddy Murphy (1-3), Michael Heffernan (0-7, 0-1 frees, 0-1 '65), Pearse Morris, Brian Quinn, Richie Flannery (0-2), Tommy Heffernan (0-2). Subs: (HT) James Mackey for Tommy Heffernan, (42nd) Killian Gleeson for Brian Quinn, (51st) Donnacha Quinn for James Mackey, (56th) Seán Geaney for Pearse Morris.

Referee: John McCormack (Knockavilla Kickhams).



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GAA HEALTHY CLUB PROJECT



NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG HOSTS THE MUNSTER HEALTHY CLUB PROJECT MEETING



Nenagh Éire Óg were delighted to welcome the four other clubs in Munster who were selected with Éire Óg to be part of the healthy club project to the latest Munster provincial meeting. The other clubs involved in Munster are: Midleton (Cork), St Paul's (Limerick), Beaufort (Kerry) and St Finbarr's, Cork who are the mentor club. Also present was Stacey Cannon – GAA Health and Wellbeing Coordinator. Following on from the questionnaire that so many of you took the time to fill out, we will presently be rolling out a series of events to address what you perceived to be the needs of our community. Please feel free to contact any member of the committee with any queries or comment.

Healthy Club Project Team

Team Leader – Michael Geaney:
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Club Chairperson: Jim Nagle
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Club Secretary: Declan Bailey
debailer@hotmail.com

NO BULLIES ON OUR TEAM! SCHOOLS POSTER COMPETITION

A very big 'Thank You' to all the great kids and their schools who sent in wonderful posters for our Anti-Bullying competition. The winners were presented with hurleys and sliotars by juvenile treasurer Gerry Robinson: U6: Jaydon Clune and Mark Manley, St. Mary's Junior Boys National.

7-8 yrs: Shea Drummed, St Mary's N.S. (2)

9-11 yrs: Caoimhe Connolly and Andrea Reilly, St. Mary's Convent. Nathan Griffin and Brian Sayu, CBS Primary. 12-13 yrs: Siobhan Collins, St. Mary's Convent. Grace Langley, Noel Carroll, St. Mary's N.S. (2).





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PROFILE OF LEGENDARY CLUB MAN JIMMY MORRIS

In 1962 Nenagh defeated a gallant Borrisokane team in the North Tipperary junior hurling semi-final with Mick Kearns getting two fantastic goals to send the spoils our way. Marking Billy Power that day was one Jimmy Morris. In the white heat of battle few could have foreseen the impact Jimmy was to have on Nenagh GAA in the years ahead. Following our fantastic victory over Toomevara in this year's North minor final I caught up with Jimmy while he stood proudly on the Cloughjordan pitch with a youthful smile in his eyes savouring the sweet taste of victory. Many of our younger members and players may not be aware of the impact Jimmy has had on our club when he was treasurer but he played an important role in the planning, fundraising and building of both our complex and stand. Along with a few other good men, their foresight was instrumental in getting these two huge projects off the ground and brought to a successful conclusion and yet these fantastic structures are not his proudest achievement with the club outside of honours won on the field. "My greatest achievement as treasurer wasn't either of those" he recalls, "it preceded it. The acquisition of MacDonagh Park into club property was my proudest moment. Things were very difficult for the club. The committee that was in charge of the park would only allow us into the inside pitch to train on if we had written permission and even with written permission it was awkward. It was distasteful and it wasn't good for progress and when we got it into our hands we started to win senior titles." Things were so bad at the time that our seniors were forced to train on the pitches of neighbouring clubs who were very generous to



us. In 1992 we drew with Thurles Sarsfields in Semple Stadium in the senior championship and we were awarded home venue for the replay however the game took place in Cloughjordan.

The ongoing controversy even resulted in articles in The Guardian "ghost" written by Tomas MacDonagh lamenting the happenings in his pitch on St Conlon's Road. Thankfully it was eventually sorted out and MacDonagh Park became the property of Nenagh Éire Óg. Being a supporter of Éire Óg can be difficult for those of us based at home but with Jimmy now residing in Ontario, Canada things can be even harder however the wonders of the internet has allowed him and other ex-pats stay in touch with happenings at home. "I get the write up of the game and the team in the evening emailed to me which is wonderful and the next evening I

get the video of the game. [Thanks Enda] It's almost the same as if I was there. "My wife came into the room when I was watching a match and I was shouting encouragement to the players. It was as if I were at the game" So I never really left Nenagh and I follow everything with Éire Óg and Tiobraid Arann." Jimmy has a very positive outlook on the future of our club describing himself as "enthralled" at our recent successes in underage. The future is certainly very bright for Nenagh and as long as we continue to nurture the talent coming through and work hard at developing our players, success can't be far away.

"Included in the clubs vibrancy I rate the progress of Camógie and Handball very highly with the club figuring large at both divisional, county and national level and this all adds to the amount of families involved, it's wonderful". Two

years ago Jimmy recorded his memories of the GAA and Nenagh Éire Óg club in his book "The Morris Code" written by the late Jerry Slevin. The book is still available around the town and is a must for anyone interested in the history of our club as told by one of our greatest ever supporters. Jimmy comes home every September to take in the All Ireland Finals and as many North Finals as possible. He plans to go home at the end of the month however he promises to take a much longer vacation than normal if the seniors continue their wonderful run in this year's championship. Jimmy has one final message to Nenagh Éire Óg supporters and players everywhere "to the true supporters and members of the club, you couldn't be more loyal no matter where you go you are a wonderful fraternity and I am a part of you no matter where I go."



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NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG ARE NORTH MINOR 'A' NORTH CHAMPIONS



NENAGH MINORS AFTER THEIR HISTORIC 7TH NORTH FINAL VICTORY IN A ROW

Thanks go to Caoimhe Geaney for the photo.

**Ger Gavin North Tipperary
Minor A Hurling Championship
Final
Nenagh Éire Óg 4-22 Toomevara
3-20**

After Extra Time

Nenagh Éire Óg made history on Sunday evening Sept 22nd, 2013 at MacDonagh Park, Cloughjordan when winning the north Tipperary minor A hurling title for the seventh successive time – previously Éire Óg (2007-12), Roscrea (1958-63) & Toomevara (1993-98) had won six in-a-row, but this latest victory for the Blues marks an unprecedented departure. The drama at MacDonagh Park in Cloughjordan was excruciating. Having trailed 0-7 to 0-9 at the interval Éire Óg stormed into a 2-13 0-11 lead with just ten minutes to play. To their credit, however, Toomevara responded brilliantly and struck for an equalising goal in the fourth minute of injury time. The

Greyhounds carried that momentum into extra-time and led 3-17 to 2-15, but the Blues responded in kind and powered their way to a famous win out-scoring Toome 2-7 to 0-3 during the remaining minutes of this frantic affair. The sides traded points early on before Toomevara, who were playing with the wind in the first half, scooted into a 0-4 to 0-2 lead by the 14th minute – Killian Gleeson and Donnacha Quinn were responsible for the Éire Óg scores. Points from Donnacha Quinn and Philip Hickey dragged the Blues to within a point of Toome by the 18th minute (0-4 to 0-5) before the Greyhounds edged two points clear. The Blues responded, however, through Philip Hickey and Donnacha Quinn before 'keeper Brian Gubbins made a sensational save to deny Toome a certain goal in the 28th minute. Seconds later Gubbins saved once more at his near post. An Andrew Coffey point in the 30th minute levelled matters, but

Toomevara closed out the opening half with two converted frees to lead 0-9 to 0-7 at the break. The sides traded points early in the second half before Éire Óg took the lead for the first time when Philip Hickey flicked in Andrew Coffey's delivery in the 36th minute – 1-8 to 0-10. Within a minute of that strike Andrew Coffey buried a second Éire Óg goal and, suddenly, the Blues led by four – 2-8 to 0-10. Anthony Walsh added a point, but Toomevara responded with a free to leave four between them (2-9 to 0-11). Éire Óg continued to pile on the pressure with points from John Cahalan, James Mackey (two) and Donnacha Quinn helping Éire Óg into a 2-13 to 0-11 lead by the 49th minute. Toomevara struck back with a goal of their own in the 50th minute and when the Greyhounds added a point to their tally there was just four in it – 2-13 to 1-12. A Killian Gleeson point left five between them on the hour mark, but there was still time



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THE NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG MINOR MANAGEMENT TEAM – CON MORRIS, MICHAEL MCNAMARA AND GREG BROWNE

for Toomevara to convert a '65 and a free before Toome forced extra-time with a stunning goal in the 64th minute – 2-14 apiece. A Philip Hickey point in the first minute of extra-time forced Éire Óg back into the lead, but Toomevara landed three points and what looked like a vital goal to race five points clear – 3-17 to 2-15. In the eighth minute of extra-time a sensational Anthony Walsh goal lifted Éire Óg before points from James Mackey and John Cahalan levelled matters on the stroke of half-time in extra-time – 3-17 apiece. Immediately after the break 'keeper Brian Gubbins made another telling save. Éire Óg counter-attacked and a James Mackey point helped the Blues back into the lead. A converted Toomevara '65 levelled matters before this final reached a critical juncture four minutes into the second half of extra-time – Donnacha Quinn's long-

range free dropped short and Christopher Ryan belted home the dropping ball (4-18 to 3-18). Éire Óg had already fired eighteen wides (Toomevara eight), but the Blues stormed toward the final whistle with points from Philip Hickey, Christopher Ryan (two) and Anthony Walsh propelling Nenagh to a famous win. Following referee Pat Gibson's final whistle competition sponsor Ger Gavin presented the Michael 'Spike' Nolan Cup to Nenagh Éire Óg captain Killian Gleeson and vice-captain Gary Howard. The club would like to thank the management team of Greg Browne, Con Morris and Michael McNamara for their terrific work in preparing this side. We would also like to thank this panel of players for representing the club in such a magnificent manner. It is interesting to note that all 4-22 of Éire Óg's scores came from play – in all referee Pat Gibson awarded Toomevara twenty frees and the

Blues six. It should also be noted that Toomevara contributed magnificently to this decider. The Greyhounds were a credit to themselves, their manager, their club and everyone associated with the preparation of the team.

Nenagh Éire Óg: Brian Gubbins, Conor Ryan, Michael Collins, Ger O'Gorman, Aodhán Geaney, Barry Heffernan, Jack Molamphy, Andrew Coffey (1-1), James Mackey (0-5), Killian Gleeson (captain, 0-2), Donnacha Quinn (0-4), John Cahalan (0-2), Gary Howard, Philip Hickey (1-4), Anthony Walsh (1-2). Subs: Brian Flynn for Gary Howard, Christopher Ryan (1-2) for Ger O'Gorman. Panel members: Aaron Hogan, Aidan Healy, Gavin O'Connor, Oisín Ryan, Paul O'Leary, Jack Sheedy, Niall O'Gorman, Michael Hallinan, Luke Kennedy, Shane Hennessy, Brian Tuite, Peter O'Reilly, Adam Carey, Gerard Mitchell.

Referee: Pat Gibson (Burgess)

Éire Óg's path to this final:

beat Newport Gaels 1-18 to 0-17; beat Borris-Ileagh 2-19 to 1-11; lost to Roscrea 1-17 to 2-17; beat Toomevara 3-13 to 2-12, received a walk-over from Kilruane MacDonaghs; beat Kildangan 2-23 to 5-7; beat Borris-Ileagh in the semi-finals 1-20 to 1-9.



CLICK [HERE](#) OR ON THE PHOTO TO SEE NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG CAPTAIN, KILLIAN GLEESON RECEIVE THE MICHAEL 'SPIKE' NOLAN CUP



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NENAGH NORTH FINAL WINNING TEAM OF 1947



1947 MINOR TEAM; back row left to right; Phil Hennessey, Stephen Ryan, Willie Gleeson, Frankie O'Donnell, Eddie O'Donnell, Liam McKenna. middle row left to right; Martin Hogan v/c, Michael Doyle, Paddy Cadell, Gerry Manning, Frank Manning, Alec Reid, Pat Hynes, Michael Spain, Denis Grey, Eddie Hynes, front row left to right; Seán Leahy, Darry Murphy, John Kennedy, Peter Moloney, Michael McLoughlin, Father Joe Hayes, Seán O'Connell, Michael Grey, Johnny McGrath, John Fleming. *Many thanks to Michael Grey for the photo and connections.*

There's an old saying that history repeats itself and one would certainly endorse this if you were to examine the links between the old St Mary's minor hurling team of Nenagh from sixty six years ago and our minor panel that made history by capturing the seventh north title in a row this month. The 1947 team was captained by Denis Grey, a granduncle of current captain Killian Gleeson and his sister under-16 camogie star Saoirse. Shane Hennessey, another member of the current panel is a grandson of Phil Hennessey. Eddie and Pat Hynes of the '47 team are granduncles to midfielder Andrew Coffey and they certainly would be proud of Andrews's first half goal.

The connections don't end there however as team physio Eddie Hynes is a nephew of Eddie and Pat while Daire Gleeson is their grandnephew and Mick Hynes is their brother. Also, the O'Brien's Donie, Kieran, Willie and Noreen (Coffey) are nephews and a niece of Pat and Eddie Hynes. There are also other connections to well-known figures within the club. Frank Manning who passed away recently is Mousey Madden's and under-14 hurler Alan Manning's grandfather and Gerry Manning is their grand-uncle. Martin Hogan is also a grandfather to David and John Minogue while Willie Gleeson is related to senior

selector Enda Costello. Mick Grey in the photograph is father to Under 16 selector Michael Grey (who himself won a north minor medal in 1992) while Denis Grey is his uncle. Michael Doyle in the photo is a granduncle of u-14 Peter Folan and underage coach Ronan Walsh is a nephew of Seán Leahy while Paddy Cadell is a granduncle of under-8 and 12 players Zac and Josh Keller. Also in the picture is Father Alex Reid who went on to play a major role in bringing about peace in the north of Ireland following the troubles. They say a club is family and certainly going by the connections between St Mary's 1947 team and Nenagh Éire Óg's minor crop of 2013, this saying is more than a little true.



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NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG 'GATHERING' AND FAMILY FUN DAY



From The Top: Packie Devaney, Eamon Spillane and grandson; The Scór ballad group; Stephen Ryan with Eileen and family (Paul was on the Go-Karts!); Thanks to JKC Toymaster for the Go-Karts and track. It provided hours of fun for all the kids, some bigger than others!!

Nenagh Éire Óg held our 'Gathering'-Family Fun Day on Sept. 8th. All-Ireland Sunday and a great time was had by all. Music, dance, games, JKC Toymaster Go-Karts, cake and the hurling on a giant screen in the Alley. Thanks to everybody who helped out in any way including OUTA Diesel, Mickey McNamara, Mairéad Long and the Scór group and the super Sean Nós dancers.

Pictured above top: Jim Nagle (Chairman Senior Club) Denise Morris (Chairperson Camógie Club) and Michael Geaney (Chairman Juvenile Club). Below: Smack bang on the nose for Seamie Morris! That young girl didn't miss all day.

From The Top: OUTADIESEL provided the music for the afternoon; Denise Morris doing a 'Mrs Doyle' with Philly Molamphy and Margaret Hennessy 'G'wan G'wan'; 'Who's our next victim? It turned out to be Pa Mitchell.



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WILLIE BOLGER – MAKING THE GRADE IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

All in the club were saddened to hear the decision last spring of Willie Bolger to pack his bags and head for Australia in the search for work. Willie, a very talented hurler, was sub goalie for the seniors last year and was expected to push Michael McNamara all the way for the number one jersey this year. Willie also played in the forwards on the Junior A team last year that secured the North Tipperary league and championship double.



While Willie is a huge loss to us the great news is that he has made the Western Australian state hurling team and will play in the All Australian finals at the end of September. With so many Irish down under the standard of Australian hurling has risen dramatically and it's a huge achievement for Willie to make this team. Everyone in the club wishes Willie and the Western Australian hurling team the very best in their upcoming games.

PLAY THE CLUB LOTTO – WE ALL WIN

The Nenagh Éire Óg Club Lotto has been in operation for many years now and has provided the club with vital funds that help us run our various teams, maintain our grounds, club house and help promote Gaelic Games in our community. Without this stream of income there is no doubt that the club would not be in the healthy

position it currently enjoys. The club have teamed up with www.localotto.ie to allow you the opportunity to play online and be in a chance of capturing our weekly lotto jackpot. You can subscribe to our lotto on a yearly basis and as well as having the chance of winning you will also receive a weekly email with the results of the draw plus you will also receive our weekly notes keeping you up to date on all activities within the

club. We currently have online players in Ireland, Spain, Switzerland, USA, and Australia. If you would like to join and help support the club please click on this link ([CLUB LOTTO](http://www.localotto.ie)) and sign up today.



Many thanks to everybody who contributed to the Juvenile Club Recycling Drive on August 31st. It was a huge success and credit goes to Shane Connolly and Ger McCarthy (pictured far left) for all the organisation and hard work they put into it. Also pictured is Rachel Kinsella who cleared out her wardrobe for us!

Éire Óg Flag Day A big thank you to everybody who contributed to the success of our recent Flag Day. Your support is much appreciated.



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NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG

NEWSLETTER

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PHIL HENNESSY RECALLS HIS FIRST SENIOR NORTH FINAL AGAINST ROSCREA IN 1982



Front: L to R: Jim O'Sullivan, Seán Minogue, Martin O'Connor, Brian Heffernan, Denis Finnerty, Christy Tucker, John Heffernan, Philip Kennedy (Capt.) Roger Coffey, Seamus Kennedy, Phil Hennessy, Robert Ashman, Paul Kennedy, Paddy Power. Back: L to R: Pat Lee, PJ Maxwell, Gerry O'Brien, Conor Ryan, Jim Nagle, Michael Kennedy, Liam Heffernan, Michael Ryan, John Flannery, Michael Griffin, Conor O'Donovan, John Tucker, Mattie Ryan, John Darcy.

after a pass from Minnie and 2 points from Jim 'Rocky' O'Sullivan ensured we grabbed a deserved draw, 0-17 to 3-8. My memories of the aftermath was the emotion and pride from our loyal followers, including great people no

longer with us such as 'the Digger' Stanley, Paddy O'Donoghue, Billy O'Brien, Nonie Morris, Connie Casey, Chris and Peg Kennedy to name a few; It seemed half the town was in our dressing room! Another great character was the late Seán Slattery or 'Mahom' as he was affectionately known. Mahom knew his hurling and could be quite direct in his opinions, to put it mildly! So when Mahom came up to me as I was eventually leaving the dressing room and said 'well done young fella', I thought 'I had arrived' until he quickly added 'how in the name of God did you miss that goal in the first half!' Back down to earth quickly and we played eventual County and Munster club champions Moycarkey in the County Quarter Final in Thurles, they drew with us following a last minute point and defeated us in the replay in Cloughjordan. The replay of the North final was never played... that's for another day! Our current players have a proud legacy to live up to and may we have many happy days like in August '82 when 'G'wan Naynagh' rang around Borrisokane!

I first experienced playing a North Senior Final as an 18 year old when Éire Óg took on Roscrea in Borrisokane on a sweltering hot day in August 1982. This was Nenagh's first Senior final since the success in 1964 also against Roscrea. The backdrop to the match had an air of gloom in those recessionary times as the Nenagh area was particularly hard hit with the closure of Mogul mines a few months previously with the loss of 600 jobs. However, after beating Silvermines in the semi-final, 'the Blues' were back in the North Final again giving a big lift to the town. The selection team was John Lawlor (his son Damien now a noted journalist) Jimmy Morris, Jack Kennedy, Tommy Mulcahy, Tony Tierney and Mick Burns, holder of 5 All Ireland Senior medals. Captained by Philip Kennedy, 12 of our starting team were under 23 while Roscrea were an experienced team with players like Francis Loughnane and Tadhg O'Connor thus were the hot favourites going in. There was great hype about the

final with a crowd of around 5,000 at the match; I remember going around in the parade and the shouts of 'G'wan Naynagh' ringing around, with a lot of neutral support. Playing corner forward, my first action was catching a high ball (Roscrea's

Brendan Maher made sure I came down minus a finger nail!) turning and went for goal but Joe Roland saved (that came back to bite me later...). We conceded 2 early goals but rallied only to concede another goal and went in 3-4 to 0-10 down at halftime. The 2nd half was a tough low scoring affair with a lot of tension breaking out keeping Lorrha referee Seán O'Meara

busy. John Tucker had a great hour keeping Francis Loughnane under control and Minnie Heffernan hurled a stormer at wing back. Mattie Ryan (Rugby star Donnacha's father) came on in the 2nd half and broke up a lot of play; Mattie was one of the toughest men ever on a hurling field! We were not fazed and though 3 points down with 3 minutes left, we fought back; I managed a point





NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG

NEWSLETTER

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**"IT'S ALWAYS GOOD TO REMEMBER WHERE YOU COME FROM AND CELEBRATE IT.
TO REMEMBER WHERE YOU COME FROM IS PART OF WHERE YOU'RE GOING"**

Anthony Burgess

"A Conversation overheard in the clouds, early last Sunday morning, 15-10-95."

"Come on, come on," says Digger,
"We're going to be late.
I'd hate to miss the throw-in
After such a long, long wait."
"We're doing fine," says Billy
O'Brien,
I see no need to fret
We've been up here for a couple of
year
And we never missed one yet."

We'll call for Frank O'Donnell first,
He'll tell a tale or two,
And Nonie's bringing sandwiches,
Enough for me and you.
We'll borrow the Lord's own
minibus,
Blind Digger, he can drive,
And JKC can bring the cards
For the games of forty five.

We'll pick up Pee Wee Whelan,
Then Mick Brien and Paddy Burns,
Big Jim and Tony Sheary,
Willie Brennan, Paddy Kearns.
It'll be a squeeze, but on our knees
We'll fit a couple more,
With Paddy Rohan, Rocky,
And Jack Nolan, Billy Shoer.

Before we head for Stapleton's,
We'll have one in "Mick the Quill's",
And when we get to Borris
We'll be full up to the gills.
We'll mingle with the boys in blue
And although we won't be seen
They'll feel our very presence
As they go to fetch Dan Breen.

We'll take up our positions
In the stand and on the sod
And we'll give a whole new meaning
To the phrase "The Hand of God".
For as the ball sails goalward,
Which the keeper surely saves,
We'll flick it with our silver hurls
So the green flag starts to wave.

Triumphantly we'll head back home
We'll sing and dance and cheer
A very special ending
To a very special year.
So Digger, don't you worry
We'll do it this I know
We're going to win The Dan Breen Cup,
For God just told me so!

***Frank Savage – written on behalf of the
Blues who remember them.***



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BLAST FROM THE PAST- U21 COUNTY FINAL CHAMPIONS 1980



Back row left to right
Chris O'Halloran, Paddy Power, Murt O'Connor, Ger O'Brien, Jim Ryan, Jim Nagle, Phil Hennessy, Michael McGrath, John Heffernan, Conor Ryan, Seamus Kennedy, Seamus Brereton, Cyril Griffin, Michael Griffin, Brian Heffernan, John Tucker.
Front Row L:R; Edward Tucker, Jim O'Sullivan, Seán Minogue, Michael Gavin, Pat Lee, P.J. Maxwell, Roger Coffey, Philip Kennedy, Michael Kennedy, Michael Ryan, Denis Finnerty.

In this month's newsletter we have delved deep into the archives to honour the Under 21 team of 1980 which defeated Éire Óg, a combination of Killenaule and Mullinahone, in the county final to capture the second of an amazing run of four in a row county under 21 titles. They had earlier beaten Lorrha/Dorrrha in the North U21 final. Played in Boherlahan and captained by full back PJ Maxwell, they defeated their opponents on a score line of 6-08 to 1-09. The building blocks of this success came surprisingly not from the forwards as the score suggests, but from a "sparkling halfback line" of Denis Finnerty, Brian Heffernan and Seamus Brereton.

The South champions started brightly but it wasn't long before Nenagh took control of the game, a control they never relinquished and it became apparent early on to spectators that there was only going to be one winner in this contest. Such was their dominance that the Guardian reported that "the way they casually hurled back the South team's many onslaughts in the second half, earmarked them as a team of great character and true champions in the under 21 grade". The game was far from a classic and

"top class hurling was at a minimum for most of the second half for such was the zeal and tenseness of the duels that there was little room for frills or fancy footwork. But what the game may have lacked in brilliance it made up for in honest endeavour, but there was the spectacle of Éire Óg in full flight in the first half when they scored three goals in almost as many minutes".

Éire Óg's attack in the first half was in unforgiving mood and when they opened up they "came bulldozing through for three goals by Pat Lee, Michael Griffin and Chris O' Halloran" with Michael Kennedy adding a fourth. However Killenaule/Mullinahone did not drop the heads and scored a goal of their own through Liam Kelly which left them trailing at the break 4-05 to 1-05. Killenaule/Mullinahone appeared to be making a comeback in the second half when Donie O' Connell and Liam O' Connor scored a point apiece while at the other end Nenagh wasted numerous chances. Finally the Nenagh forwards found their range with fine points coming from the sticks of Jim O' Sullivan and Sean Minogue. Indeed at this stage Minogue could do no wrong and added a fifth goal for the North champions. Michael McGrath put the icing on the cake with a sixth

goal for the blues. While Killenaule /Mullinahone dominated periods of the match, Nenagh were never in any real danger and were able to raise their game when required. "The full back line of Conor Ryan, PJ Maxwell and Michael Ryan was a sound unit fronting an able goalkeeper in Seamus Kennedy" while Roger Coffey worked "tirelessly at midfield" but it was "the power house of the team", the half backline, which was Nenagh's most dominant line on the pitch. Nenagh have won this title five times: 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982 and 1993. With our underage performing so well in recent years we hope that this title will be coming back again sooner rather than later.

Nenagh: Seamus Kennedy, Conor Ryan, P.J. Maxwell (captain), Michael Ryan, Denis Finnerty, Brian Heffernan (0-01), Seamus Brereton, Roger Coffey, Philip Kennedy (0-01), Jim O' Sullivan (0-01), Pat Lee, Michael Kennedy (1-02), Michael Griffin (1-01), Chris O' Halloran (1-00), Seán Minogue (1-02). Subs, Pat Power for Minogue, Michael McGrath (1-00) for O' Halloran, Seán Minogue for Power.

Referee George Ryan (Lattin)



NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG

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JUNIOR 'A' HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP



Junior A campaign comes to an end for 2013

Éire Óg's reign as North Tipperary Junior 'A' hurling champions came to an end at Puckane this month when the Blues were beaten by Knockshegowna. Éire Óg played with the breeze in the opening half and led 2-5 to 0-8 thanks to goals from Paul Ryan and Conor Kirwan. Knockshegowna, however, notched three goals in the opening twelve minutes of the second half to establish a lead which Knockshe refused to relinquish thereafter.

Éire Óg began in determined fashion with a Paul Ryan goal in the third minute – a terrific interception by Michael Collins and a clever Michael Hackett delivery featured in the build-up before Ryan beat the Knockshe 'keeper with a smart left-hand shot. Éire Óg were fortunate to notch a

second goal in the 14th minute when the Knockshe 'keeper spilled Gary Howard's delivery and Conor Kirwan was on hand to smack in the loose ball – 2-2 to 0-5. Three David Hackett frees kept the scoreboard ticking over prior to the break from an Éire Óg point of view, but Knockshegowna regularly threatened and trailed by just three points at the break – 2-5 to 0-8.

In the opening minute of the second half, Knockshe scored the first of their three second half goals to tie up the game. Six minutes later a Paul Ryan point helped Éire Óg back into the lead, but, in the 38th minute, Knockshe struck for a vital three-pointer when the Blues' full-back line coughed up a penalty for a third-man tackle and, suddenly, Nenagh trailed 2-6 to 2-8.

Four minutes later Éire Óg conceded a third goal when the ball broke inside the full-back line and Knockshegowna helped themselves to an opportunist strike – 2-6 to 3-8. Éire Óg soon settled back down to their work with points from David Hackett (free) and Conor Ryan reducing the gap to three points by the 48th minute. The sides then traded points to leave three between them with five minutes to play. Unfortunately the blues couldn't cut the deficit to less than three and Knockshegowna got the insurance point before Darragh Walsh's late effort was saved by the Knockshe 'keeper to leave the scoreboard reading 3-11 to 2-10. The club would like to thank the management and players for their efforts throughout the year with the league final victory the highlight of the year.

NENAGH HANDBALL CLUB



Well done to Eamon Spillane and partner Gerry Foley (far-left) from Ballinahinch on reaching the Emerald Masters Doubles All-Ireland Final recently where they represented Tipperary. Unfortunately they lost out in the decider to a Galway pairing in what was a fantastic handball match. It's been said before but the future of Nenagh Handball is in great hands. Roll on next year!

Congratulations to Aaron Hogan and Eoin Meagher on winning the Paddy Kelly Memorial Tournament (section 2) in Lahorna this month.

Nenagh Handball club are currently registering players for the upcoming year. Membership is free for Éire Óg members and €20 for all others (€30 max per family). Eamon is looking for any help available so if you have the time give him a call on 087 4185911.

If you've retired the hurley and believe that competitive GAA is in the past, you might need a rethink!

Congratulations from all at Nenagh Handball



Club and Nenagh Éire Óg, to Sinead Meagher (pictured above) who, representing Tipp, brought the first All-Ireland Medal back to Nenagh since Boysie Hogan in 2000. She won the Girls U14 Singles final in style in Carlow against Wexford girl Holly Hynes. Well done Sinead!



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PROFILE OF JUNIOR CAMÓGIE PLAYER CIARA MCGRATH

Name: Ciara McGrath.

Age: 19.

Occupation: Student.

Favourite position: Midfield.

Can you remember early training sessions with the club? When I played with the boys I used to hate the sight of the yellow bags we had to run into.

Who is your toughest opponent and why? Mary Dillon, she's fair strong.

Favourite Food: Lasagne.

Favourite Drink: Tea.

Favourite Music: I just love Sean Nós and Big Tom and the Mainliners. Also, check out 'NO MORE Mossies' [CLICK HERE](#)

Favourite Hurler: Jason Forde and Tony Kelly- Clare on a roll these days. And of course Seáníe Geaney. OMG he's SOOOOO dreamy!

Favourite Camogie Player:



Rachel Maher, what a great player for the club!!! And of course Jill Horan, one of the best Tipp Camogie players ever.

Proudest moment playing for the club: Winning the very first county final u14 against Holycross in Dolla.

Advice to young players: Never question your ability.

Biggest influence on your career: My parents.

Something we don't know about you: I used to cry before going training when I first started playing with Nenagh and I nearly drove Mr Dulea to drink in St. Mary's!

What does the club mean to you? Everything. I'm proud to say I play for Éire Óg.

Hopes for the future: To travel the world and someday to be on a winning Senior Éire Óg Camogie team!



On September 14th our Under 13 camogie girls headed off to St Jude's GAA club in Templeogue to take on the best camogie teams in the country in the All Ireland seven a side competition. The girls had a great day out and reached the quarter final where they were beaten by the famous Sarsfields/ New Inn side of Galway.

The girls had a great day out and were warmly welcomed and treated by St Jude's. We wish to thank everyone involved for organising the competition and for the generous and kind way that we were treated.

Thank you to the great camogie girls for putting their face-painting skills to good use during the recent Family Fun Day



Thanks to Collins' Bakery for their hard work on the fantastic cake for the Family Fun Day

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NENAGH ÉIRE ÓG

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UNDER 16 'A' HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP



"The under 16 'A' hurlers bowed out of the championship with honour on Saturday, Sept 21st after losing our semi-final replay against Newport by a single point over 140 minutes of intense hurling. Under the guidance of management Michael Grey, Paudie

Gleeson and Christy McLoughlin and the leadership of captains Brian Tuite and Anthony Walsh, this squad showed tremendous character and resilience throughout the year and won huge respect for the way they represented themselves, and

Nenagh Éire Óg. This year will stand to them as under-16s and minors over the next two years. The club would also like to thank the management team and also the parents and families of the squad for the support provided all year."

WELL DONE TO NENAGH MINOR AND TIPP U17S ANDREW COFFEY AND CONOR RYAN ON THEIR PLATE WIN

THURLES FRESH MILK ACADEMY U17 HURLING

The annual Under 17 Inter-County Hurling Tournament took place in Mallow on Saturday August 31. Under 17 is the final layer of the Thurles Fresh Milk sponsored Academy programme and caters for emerging Minor Hurlers for 2014. Eight teams in total took to the field over a day long series of matches in the Mallow GAA Club complex. Under the management of Liam Cahill, Seán Corbett, John McCormack and Eoin Brislane the squad had a six week training programme in preparation for the tournament. Based in Dr Morris Park they had pre-planned coaching sessions and challenge games to finalise their squad for the tournament. Tipperary were grouped with Kilkenny, Galway and Cork for three very competitive and worthwhile matches. In the first match Tipperary had a very

deserving four point win over Kilkenny which set them up nicely for their second game with Galway. Injuries took their toll in the second half of this game and Tipp had to give way to a good Galway side and lost out by two points. They recovered to record a good victory over Cork in their third. Two wins and one defeat meant scoring differences came in to play and here Tipperary lost out on a place in the Cup Final to Kilkenny by a two point score difference. They advanced however to contest a good game with Clare in the Plate Final. Down at half time Tipperary came back strongly in the second half to have a convincing victory and take the Plate decider. The Tipperary team was captained by goalkeeper Gavin Ryan Upperchurch Drombane and the rest of the squad was; Richie Gunn, St. Marys; Conor Ryan, Nenagh Éire Óg; Robbie Long, Drom Inch; Ciaran Flaherty, Toomevara; Andrew Coffey,

Nenagh Éire Óg; Robert Houlihan Newport; Ronan Heffernan, Clonoulty Rossmore, Billy McCarthy, Thurles Sarsfields; Niall Heffernan, Moycarkey Borris; Conor Floyd, Newport; Michael Dunne, Mullinahone; Pa Ryan Newport; Peter Gavin, Holycross Ballycahill; Paul Ryan, Toomevara; Bill O'Connell, Loughmore Castleiney; Chris McCullagh, Moycarkey Borris, Barry Cooney, Ballylooby Castlegrace; Ryan Murphy, Cahir; Seánie O'Halloran, Golden Kilfeacle; Shane Luttrell, Moyle Rovers; Liam Ryan, St Marys; Jonathan Walsh, Cashel King Cormacs; Killian Loughman, Knockavilla Donaskeigh Kickhams; Ronan Teehan, Gortnahoe Glengoole; Brendan Larkin, Drom Inch; Tomas Pollard, Ballingarry; Sean Butler Thurles Sarsfields; Gerard Halligan, Arravale Rovers; Andy Dunne Burgess; and Tomas Skehan, Thurles Sarsfields. Well done to all for a fine effort and thanks to Thurles Fresh Milk for their continued support.



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UNDER 13 NORTH TIPPERARY PLATE WINNERS 2013



Well done to our under-13 hurlers who won the North Tipperary Plate recently with a victory over neighbours Toomevara. In a competitive game of hurling, Éire Óg captained by Evan Murphy, led

at the break by 1-2 to 0-4 with the goal coming from the stick of Seán Shanahan. The Blues dominated the second half with some fine catching from Barry Coffey and a second goal from Seán Phelan which sealed the

victory. Scott O'Brien played a blinder in goal, pulling off some excellent saves to keep a clean sheet. Éire Óg ran out winners on a scoreline of 2-9 to 0-5 and as it happened it fell to Nenagh's own Christy McLoughlin to present the trophy.

Panel:

Scott O'Brien,
Liam Heffernan,
Rory O'Donovan,
Mark Carey,
Fiachra Starr,
Evan Murphy,
Gavin Dooley,
Cian O'Farrell (0-1),
Conor Hennessy,
Barry Coffey (0-6),
Seán Phelan (1-1),
Stevie Hallinan,
Brendan Long,
Daniel Molamphy (0-1),
Seán Shanahan (1-0), Luke O'Carroll,
Conor Sullivan, Conor Malone and Cian Griffin.



UNDER-8 WINNERS OF THE JACK RYAN ANNUAL TOURNAMENT IN ROSCREA



Our under-8 hurlers brought the Jack Ryan Cup back to Nenagh this month for the first time in 4 years. A win over Roscrea in the semi, thanks to a 'Man of the Match'

performance by Ryan Gillick in goal set the boys up for a final against J.K. Brackens. These great young players lifted their game again to run out champs! All the

boys were a credit to their parents and management, Shane Connolly and Paul O' Farrell, on and off the field. Well done boys. Stars of the future for sure!