

te Mr. S. O'Riordan

6/4/46 Dromin

THE death occurred in the County Hospital, Croom, of Mr. Simon O'Riordan, Dromin, Kilmallock, at the age of about 80 years. In his young days the deceased was prominently identified with the G.A.A., and played with the Old Dromin hurling and football teams, in which he was associated with such prominent players as the late Thomas Campion, Kilmallock, James Birrane, Major Larry Roche, now in England, who in recent reminiscences credits him with having brought "the first set of hurleys to Dromin," and other prominent Gaels. Up to about 12 months ago he maintained his interest in the G.A.A., being a well-known figure at all fixtures in South Limerick and surrounding towns, to which he always cycled despite his advanced age.

#### THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT

About the month of Dec., 1913, shortly after the formation of the Irish Volunteers in Dublin, the first meeting was held of local supporters of the new movement in the late Mr. O'Riordan's house at Dromin and a branch of the organisation was formed there of which he became a member. From that time onward he was closely associated with the Volunteers and Sinn Féin and in the years that followed his home was visited by many of the prominent men in both movements. Ernest Blythe, later Minister for Local Government, often stayed there on his occasional organising visits to East Limerick, as did in later days "Sean Forde," Sean Stack, now of the Department of Local Government, and other organisers of the National Movement as well as men "on the run." Following the daring and historic train raid at Knocklong, two of the Volunteers wounded in the raid, Capt. Ned O'Brien and the late James Scanlan, of Galbally, when they were convalescing from their wounds and returned on the run to South Limerick, immediately before their escape to America was arranged, found a safe refuge with him and his family. Because of his well-known national activities during the Anglo-Irish War his cottage was raided numbers of times by the Crown Forces, who on one occasion fired at his son, Jeremiah O'Riordan, now also deceased, while they searched for another son, Thomas J. O'Riordan, Mountmellick. Another son, Sean T. O'Riordan, Kilmallock, later Brigade O.C., East Limerick Brigade, I.R.A., and at that time the Commandant of the famous 1st Galtee Bn., was captured and sentenced to penal servitude for his part in the Ballylanders Barracks attack.

Some time ago when the Government decided to issue medals for military service during the Anglo-Irish War, the late Mr. Simon O'Riordan received an unsolicited Military Medal for his services with the I.R.A. Forces and his assistance to the fighting men during the Anglo-Irish War and the Civil War.

When the Emergency arose, he was one of the first to join and was by far the oldest member of the L.S.F., Bruff Area.

#### THE FUNERAL

The remains were removed from Croom to Dromin Church, where Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Very Rev. S. O'Dea, P.P., Dromin, after which the interment took place at the family burial ground in Dromin Cemetery.

Chief mourners were: Messrs. Thomas J. O'Riordan, Mountmellick, and Sean T. O'Riordan, Kilmallock (sons); Mrs. Josephine O'Riordan, Kilmallock (daughter-in-law); Mr. Thomas O'Riordan, Athlaca, brother; Mrs. Bridget O'Neill, Limerick, sister; Mr. Hugh O'Neill, Limerick, brother-in-law; Mrs. Nora O'Riordan, Athlaca, sister-in-law; Messrs. Eamonn, John and Thomas O'Riordan, Kilmallock; Mrs. T. J. Donovan, Misses Anne and Kathleen O'Riordan (Kilmallock), Messrs. Michael and Patrick O'Neill (Limerick), and Miss Kitty O'Neill (Limerick), grandchildren; Mrs. O'Donoghue, Mr. C. O'Donoghue, Mrs. M. O'Donoghue, Mr. D. O'Donoghue (Athlaca), Mr. Jas. and Mrs. O'Donoghue (Clogher), Messrs. Byrnes Brothers, Mr. T. J. Donovan, relatives.

Officiating clergy were: Very Rev. Stephen O'Dea, P.P., Dromin, and Rev. M. Kennedy, C.C., do.

The funeral was of very large proportions, representative of all classes over a wide area, and was a fine tribute to the memory of the deceased. The attendance included Senator Tadhg Crowley, Ballylanders; Mr. Liam P. Manahan, Irish Land Commission, Dublin, and all former Battalion and Company Officers and members of the Flying Columns of the East Limerick Brigade, I.R.A., resident in South-East Limerick.

#### SYMPATHY

At a special meeting of the Kilmallock Plot-holders' Association, of which Mr. Sean T. O'Riordan is Secretary, a vote of sympathy was passed to him and the relatives of the deceased on their sad bereavement.

## THREE G.A.A. CLUBS REVIVED IN SOUTH LIMERICK

THREE G.A.A. clubs have been revived in South Limerick after a lapse of some years, one after a lapse of fifteen years.

The G.A.A. Club in the Dromin-Athlaca Parish, near Kilmallock, has been revived after a lapse of 15 years, and at the meeting at which it was decided to revive the Club the following officers were elected: President, Rev. J. Sheehy, C.C., Dromin; Chairman, Mr. Wm. Mullins; Vice-Chairman, Mr. John Dwyer; Treasurer, Mr. J. J. O'Brien; Secretary, Mr. John Lynch. Committee: Messrs. T. Moran, Patrick Lynch, T. Lynch, Patrick Murphy and Patrick McCarthy.

It was decided to affiliate a junior hurling team in the Limerick Championships. They hope to have the services of some former Bruree senior hurlers.

## Dromin-Athlaca receive medals

At an enjoyable function at the Peoples Hall, Kilmallock, last Sunday, the members of the Dromin-Athlaca team that won the South Limerick Football title of 1954, were presented with the medals for the championship.

Mr. William Mullins, Chairman of the Dromin-Athlaca club, introduced Rev. J. Sheehy, C.C., President of the Club, who made the presentations to the individual members and congratulated the team on bringing the title to Dromin, after a long number of years.

Rev. J. Culhane, C.C., Kilmallock, vice-chairman of the South Limerick G.A.A. Board also spoke and congratulated Dromin-Athlaca on their success.

Mr. John Moran, Mr. D. Cotter and Mr. D. Leonard also spoke.

As each member of the team went on the stage and received his medal he was much applauded.

Those who received medals were: J. Canty (Captain), J. Sheehan, D. Cotter, D. Leonard, M. Riordan, M. Mullane, E. O'Shea, P. Lynch, M. Potter, M. McCarthy, J. Daly, R. Coll, L. Cantwell, J. Barnett, E. Neville, R. Cleary, J. Burke, J. Breen, P. J. O'Donnell, M. Sexton, J. Keyes, D. Sheehan, B. Kenneally, D. Troy.

After the presentation of the medals an enjoyable night's ceili dancing followed, music being provided by J. Clifford's Ceili Band.

ICK LEADER, SATURDA

## MUST MEET AGAIN IN SOUTH LIMERICK SEMI-FINAL

THE South Limerick football semi-final at Kilmallock on Sunday between Ballylanders and Dromin-Athlaca, ended in a draw, and taking everything into account this can be regarded as a fitting result (writes our Kilmallock correspondent). The final scores were: Dromin-Athlaca, 1 goal and one point; Ballylanders, four points.

#### THE PLAY.

During the course of the hour, both sides missed many opportunities of scoring and, in addition, each side was awarded a penalty in the first half and both were missed. Dromin-Athlaca, particularly, frittered away many chances of scoring in the first quarter when they had much the better of the play. Ballylanders then took up the running and had two points, and they led by this margin at the interval, Dromin failing to score in this moiety. Shortly after the resumption Dromin-Athlaca shot into the lead when Potter had a good goal, but Ballylanders levelled when John (Bap) Davern, who played a great game for them shot over the bar. Dromin again took the lead with a point and almost on time, Ballylanders levelled. Feature of the game in the second moiety was the fine goalkeeping of John Sheahan in the Dromin goal. Time and again when Ballylanders were pressing hard he punched clear.

It was not a classic game of football, but there was plenty of excitement, with Dromin's strength matched against Ballylanders' better finish.

After 13 minutes Davern pointed from a free for Ballylanders, and O'Connor pointed for them in the 17th minute. In the 26th minute, Dromin saved a penalty at the expense of a 50 which was cleared and just before the interval, Dromin were awarded a penalty which was driven wide.

#### SCORES LEVELLED.

Six minutes after the resumption, Potter put Dromin-Athlaca ahead with a good goal, and in the 15th minute Davern levelled the scoring with a point for Ballylanders. In the 20th minute, Neville pointed for Dromin, and a minute before the end Davern levelled the scoring for Ballylanders.

Best for Dromin were Sheehan, Cotter, Mullane, Potter and McCarthy, while Casey, Clery brothers, Davern brothers and Buckley played well for Ballylanders.

Mr. J. Hill, Kilfrush, refereed.

#### THE TEAMS.

The teams were:  
Ballylanders — M. Casey, T. Mullane, L. Clery, E. Cleary, L. Drake, M. Davern, J. Davern, J. (Bap) Davern, C. O'Connor, R. Stapleton, M. Howard, J. Sweeney, F. Burke, J. Mullane, J. Buckley.  
Dromin-Athlaca — J. Sheehan, D. Leonard, D. Cotter, J. Burke, M. Riordan, M. Mullane, M. Potter, J. Canty, P. Lynch, J. O'Brien, M. McCarthy, E. Joyce, Liam O Ceanntaimhaitis, E. O Niadh, J. Daly.



# Maiden Successes For Feohanagh And Dromin-Athlacca

Dromin-Athlacca, 1-2; Kilfrush-Hospital, 0-2

Feohanagh, 5-6; Knockaderry, 1-5

**D**ROMIN-ATHLACCA won their first ever South Limerick title when they defeated Kilfrush-Hospital in the South Limerick Football Final at Kilmallock yesterday by 1-2 to 0-2. Very few gave Dromin-Athlacca a chance of winning although they had proved to be the shock team of the Championship this year, defeating fancied sides like Kilmallock and Ballylanders on their way to the final.

Feohanagh also won their first hurling title when after a game more robust than skilful they completely outclassed Knockaderry in the second half of the West Limerick Junior Hurling Championship at Drumcollogher.

Dromin-Athlacca had the better of the first half exchanges in the South Limerick final, and led at the interval by one point to nil, the scorer being Daly. Five minutes after the resumption, Quane levelled the scoring with a point for Hospital, and then followed a most exciting period in which Hospital had the better of matters, but the Dromin defence held well. In the 15th minute of this period Neville shot over the bar to give Dromin the lead again, and in the 20th minute McCarthy clinched the issue with a good goal.

There was much excitement in the last ten minutes of the game as Hospital tried to come on terms, but their only score was a point from a free by Hill. Dromin held on to take the title for the first time.

Best for Dromin were Sheehan, Cotter, Leonard, Burke, Canty, O'Shea, McCarthy, Coll and Neville, while Hill, Hayes, Moylan, McElligott, McNamara and O'Sullivan tried hard for Kilfrush Hospital.

Mr. M. J. McNamee, N.T., Treasurer of the South Limerick Board, presented the trophy to Mr. J. Canty, captain of the winning team.

## DROMIN-ATHLACCA FOR FINAL

Fine Defence Foils  
Ballylanders

Dromin-Athlacca, 1-2; Ballylanders, 0-3

Dromin-Athlacca qualified for the South Limerick football final at Kilmallock yesterday when they defeated Ballylanders by 1-2 to 3 points. The teams had played a draw recently but in the replay Dromin-Athlacca showed improved form and were worthy winners. Ballylanders, who were fancied to take the title this year, had the better of the opening exchanges but were foiled in their efforts by a fine defence in which Sheehan (goal), Leonard, Cotter and Burke starred.

Dromin opened the scoring when McCarthy sent over the bar from a free. McCarthy levelled for Ballylanders from another free. Dromin regained the lead but McCarthy again levelled. Then Dromin got the upper hand and a nice movement ended with O'Shea driving to the net, to leave Dromin leading at the interval by 1-2 to 0-2.

The best football of the game was witnessed in the second period, with Ballylanders trying hard to get on terms. They succeeded in only scoring one point in this half, however, by C. O'Connor. There was plenty of excitement in the closing stages as Ballylanders tried all they knew to come on terms but they were foiled by a fine Dromin defence.

Dromin now meet Kilfrush-Hospital in the final which has been fixed for

## SOUTH LIMERICK SEMI-FINAL DRAWN

Dromin-Athlacca 1-1; Ballylanders 0-4

The South Limerick Semi-final at Kilmallock yesterday between Ballylanders and Dromin-Athlacca ended in a draw and taking everything into account this can be regarded as a fitting result. Both sides missed many opportunities, and in addition, each side was awarded a penalty in the first half and both were missed.

Dromin-Athlacca particularly frittered away many chances of scoring in the first quarter when they had much the better of the play. Ballylanders then took up the running and had two points and they led by this margin at the interval. Shortly after the resumption, Dromin shot into the lead when Potter had a good goal, but Ballylanders levelled when John Davern, who played a great game for them, shot over the bar. Dromin again took the lead with a point and almost on time Ballylanders levelled.

## SHOCK TEAM WINS FOOTBALL FINAL

**B**EFORE a record attendance for a football final, Dromin-Athlacca won their first ever South Limerick title when they defeated Kilfrush-Hospital in the South Limerick Football final at Kilmallock on Sunday by one goal and two points to two points for Kilfrush-Hospital. Very few gave Dromin-Athlacca a chance of winning, although they had proved to be the shock team of the Championship this year, defeating fancied sides like Kilmallock and Ballylanders on their way to the final.

The game may not be described as a classic, if only because there was too much faulty shooting by the forwards on both sides, particularly by the Kilfrush-Hospital ones, but there was plenty of excitement in the closing stages that gave the large crowd plenty to enthuse about.

Fancied to take the title, Kilfrush-Hospital were, rather surprisingly, trailing behind the winners in the first half, Dromin-Athlacca leading at the interval by one point to nil. Five minutes after the resumption, Kilfrush-Hospital levelled the scoring, and thereafter followed one of the most exciting periods of the game, as Kilfrush-Hospital forced the pace to get on top, but a fine Dromin defence held them well. Then in the 15th minute Neville, with a point, put Dromin-Athlacca ahead again. This was the signal for further effort on the part of the winners, who had a good goal in the 20th minute. After this, Kilfrush-Hospital put all their experience behind their efforts to get on terms, and made some positional changes that resulted in onslaught after onslaught on the Dromin-Athlacca territory. It was a great tribute to the winners' defence in this period that Kilfrush-Hospital only succeeded in registering a point, which came from a free by Joe Hill, who had moved up from full-back.

### THE PLAY.

Five minutes after the start of the game, Daly drove over the bar for Dromin-Athlacca, and this was the only score of this half, both sides missing several opportunities, but particularly the Kilfrush-Hospital forwards. Two instances were that close-in frees were driven blatantly wide.

Real fire came into the game five minutes after the resumption, when scoring with a point for Hospital,

## DROMIN-ATHLACCA

G.A.A. OFFICERS

At the annual general meeting of the Dromin-Athlacca G.A.A. Club, the following officers were elected:

President, Rev. J. Sheehy, C.C.; Chairman, Mr. Wm. Mullins; Vice-Chairman, Mr. John Kelleher; Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. O'Connell; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. T. Moran.

Selection Committee — Messrs. John Lynch, P. J. Murphy, P. Lynch, P. McCarthy, J. Kelleher, J. O'Connell, W. Mullins and T. Moran.

Delegates to South Board—Rev. J. Sheehy, C.C.; Messrs. J. O'Connell, J. Cranley, P. Tierney, W. Mul-

ins, T. Moran, M. Herlihy.

It was decided to affiliate junior hurling, junior football, minor hurling and juvenile hurling teams in the South Limerick championships.

The following captains and vice-captains were elected:—

Junior hurling—Captain, John Lynch; vice-captain, P. J. Murphy.

Junior football—Captain, P. J. O'Donnell; vice-captain, W. Kenneally.

Minor hurling—Captain, P. J. Noonan; vice-captain, P. McAuliffe.

Juvenile hurling—Captain, Pat Scanlon; vice-captain, Pat O'Leary.

A two minutes silence was observed in memory of the late Sean South and Fergal O'Hanlon.



# Nov. 1954 Dromin's First Title

Dromin-Athlaca won their first ever junior football title when they defeated Kilfrush-Hospital in the South Final at Kilmallock on Sunday on the score 1-2 to 0-2. The winners proved themselves to be a sturdy lot of footballers and they will be hard to beat in the County semi-final. In this stage they take on the City side Commercial's who are the City title holders.

## THE PLAY.

Five minutes after the start of the game, Daly drove over the bar for Dromin-Athlaca, and this was the only score of this half, both sides missing several opportunities, but particularly the Kilfrush-Hospital forwards. Two close-in frees were driven blantly wide.

Real fire came into the game five minutes after the resumption, when Quane levelled the scoring with a good point for Kilfrush-Hospital, and there was plenty of excitement. Dromin-Athlaca took control entering the last quarter, and Neville had a point, which McCarthy followed with a goal in the 20th minute. Kilfrush-Hospital then had a good innings, but the only score they could register was a point by Hill in the 25th minute from a free.

Best for Dromin-Athlaca were: Sheehan (goal); Burke, Cotter, Leonard, O'Shea and Canty in defence; Coll at centre field; McCarthy and Potter, Daly and Neville in attack. Best for Kilfrush-Hospital were: Hill, McNamara, Hayes and O'Sullivan in defence; Moylan, at centre field; McElligott, Donovan and Quane in attack.

Dromin-Athlaca: S. Sheehan, J. Burke, D. Cotter, W. Leonard, M. Riordan, J. Canty, E. O'Shea, P. Lynch and R. Coll; M. McCarthy, J. Daly, M. Potter; J. Neville, J. Barnett, W. Cantwell; sub.—M. Mullane.

Kilfrush-Hospital — P. O'Neill; F. McNamara, J. Hill, C. Hayes; B. O'Sullivan, M. Doran, P. Lavery; P. J. Real, D. Moylan, M. O'Donovan, M. Bresnan, M. McElligott; J. Quane, D. Woods, M. Murphy; sub.—T. Burke.

Following last Sunday's game, Mr. T. McNamee (South Board), presented the cup to J. Canty, captain of the winning team amidst great excitement.

Nov. 1954

## FECHANAGH THROUGH

Feohanagh had an easy win over Knockaderry in the Western Junior Hurling final beating them to the tune of 5-6 to 1-5. There was a record attendance at this game which was played at Dromcollogher last Sunday. The winners were splendidly served by the Quaid brothers who played an outstanding game all through, and Collins, Phelan and O'Connor, Guiry, Danagher, and Begley were to the fore for the losers.

## ELECTIONS AT DROMIN G.A.A. Jan MEETING 1960

AT the annual general meeting of Dromin-Athlaca G.A.A. Club held in the Parish Hall, Dromin, Kilmallock, the following officers and committee were elected:

President, Very Rev. S. O'Dea, P.P.; Chairman, Rev. J. Neville, C.C.; Vice-Chairman, Mr. John Kelleher; Secretary, Mr. Patrick Tierney; Treasurer, Mr. Wm. Mullins.

It was decided to affiliate junior, minor and juvenile hurling teams and a junior football team for the South Limerick G.A.A. championships for 1960.

Captains and vice-captains were elected as follows:—J.H. Captain, Mr. James Mulcahy; vice-captain, Mr. John Myers.

J. F. captain, Mr. Patrick Lynch; vice-captain, Mr. Dermot Mulcahy.

M.H. captain, Patrick O'Leary; vice-captain, Dermot Mulcahy.

Juv. H. captain, James Crawford; vice-captain, Con Byrnes.

Officers of junior football club elected as follows:—Chairman, Mr. Rd. McAuliffe; Secretary, Mr. Jas. Cranley.

Officers of minor and juvenile hurling clubs were elected as follows: Chairman, Mr. Thomas Moran; Secretary, Mr. Patrick Scanlan, Jr.

The following selection committees were appointed:—

Junior hurling and junior football—Messrs. John O'Dwyer, Patrick Lynch and John Kelleher.

Minor and juvenile teams—Messrs. J. Neenan, J. Kelleher, Thos. and Ml. Power.

Team managers—Both junior teams, Rev. Father Neville; minor and juvenile teams, Thomas Moran.

Delegates to South Limerick Board meetings—Rev. Father Neville, Messrs. John Kelleher, John O'Dwyer, Joseph Mulcahy, Patrick Tierney, Patrick Scanlan and Ml. Lavery.

# Co. Limerick 1959 Gael Who Was Fatally Injured In Chicago

The death occurred recently in Chicago, as the result of an accident, of Mr. Danny Leonard, of Fanningstown, Patrickewell, Co. Limerick. The following references to his death and to his career as a Gael appeared in a recent issue of the "Chicago Tribune," from the pen of Mr. Pat Hennessy:—

Chicago Gaeldom is in deep mourning this week for the loss of one of its finest Gaels, expert caman wielder, Denny Leonard, a native of Croom, County Limerick, who sustained fatal injuries in a fall from a 25 ft. scaffold at his place of employment.

The late Denny Leonard learned the love of his national games, language and culture at an early age in Adare's C.B.S., for whom he starred on the playing fields. He later distinguished himself in junior hurling and football with Kilmallock and Croom.

Coming to Chicago in 1955 the late Denny soon began acquaintance with the promotion of his national games which he loved so well. He was a founder member of the champion Young Ireland Club and was elected Vice-Chairman of the Chicago Hurling Board upon its formation in 1956, a position which he held up to the date of his death.

Good as his work was in the Committee room, the daring feats of Denny Leonard in the playing field will be best remembered. Who can forget his superb display against "the old maestro," Terry Leahy, in 1957, and again and again in countless struggles as a Chicago selector or as a star back man for his club team? When the chips were down and the Champions were fighting with their backs to the wall, as they were, so often, the fairhaired boy from Croom stood in the gap of danger and turned back the tide. Though we shall never again see his long strides, his powerful deliveries, his cute cover up play, and above all, his grand sportsmanship, nevertheless, the name of this great Limerick Gael will go down in the annals of Chicago Gaeldom as one of the best. We may have great men, but we never had better.

The wake which was held at Gibbons Funeral Home on the North West Side was one of the largest ever held there and testified to the popularity of this young Limerick Gael.

We join with the entire Gaelic world in tendering deepest sympathy to his young widow and to his family and relations in Ireland, asking God to sustain them in this, their darkest hour, and to grant that the green sod which Danny loved so well may rest lightly on his stout heart and noble brow.



## Drom.-Athlacca for final

Dromin-Athlacca ..... 3-15  
Caherline ..... 4-4

Dromin-Athlacca, the surprise team of the season, are through to the Limerick Junior Hurling final. Fresh from their win over Bruree in the South Limerick divisional final, they defeated Caherline (East Limerick Divisional winners) in the County semi-final at Kilmallock yesterday by a substantial margin of 3 goals and 15 points to 4 goals and 4 points.

As this season moves on, Dromin-Athlacca become more impressive and they have become known as a great second half team. Few would have given them a chance early on of reaching the County Final, but they have done so and it would be no surprise if they carried off the County title.

In the semi-final against Caherline, which is, incidentally, an area steeped in hurling lore, they got off to a good start with the wind and were leading by 1-5 to 0-1 after a quarter of an hour. Caherline improved in the second quarter and at half-time, Dromin-Athlacca led by 1 goal and 8 points to 1 goal and 3 points, which was not considered formidable having regard to the wind. But immediately after the turnover they had a goal followed by a point and continued to have the upper hand to be ahead by 2-12 to 1-3 towards the end of the third quarter. Caherline showed up in better light in the closing quarter, but Dromin-Athlacca held their grip on the game and finished stronger to have a convincing win.

Scorers: Dromin-Athlacca — J. Neenan (1-10), D. Ryan (1-1), J. Breen (1-0), W. Neenan (0-3), and M. O'Leary (0-1).

Caherline — P. J. Hickey (2-3), J. McCarthy and G. Brennan (1-0 each), and J. Laffan (0-1).  
Referee — Mr. W. Walsh, Fethard.

Dromin-Athlacca — M. Sheehan; J. Mulcahy, J. Sheahan, J. Kelleher; M. O'Leary, J. Carmody, P. Murphy; K. Murphy, D. Ryan; W. Neenan, S. Kelleher, J. Neenan; J. O'Dea, T. Lavery and J. Breen.

Caherline — G. Brennan; W. O'Sullivan, P. Kelly, P. O'Sullivan; M. Dineen, T. Brennan, M. Ryan; P. J. Hickey, P. McCarthy; P. Hourigan, J. McCarthy, B. Buckley; J. Laffan, R. Bourke and L. Ryan.

# Thrilling first championship success for Dromin-Athlacca

Dromin-Athlacca ..... 4-15  
Bruree ..... 3-10

Never before did the do-or-die spirit of a team deserve to triumph in a South Limerick hurling final as did that of Dromin-Athlacca in this title contest, at Kilmallock, on Sunday last, when their supreme rally in the closing quarter carried the day, and they won their first ever title.

Seven points down at one stage in the second half, and then playing second fiddle to a rampant Bruree side, they rallied in no uncertain fashion in the last quarter, took control completely in the last five minutes and finished up with a goal and 5 points to spare.

It was a triumph for a team, young in hurling years, well-trained and fit to the last hour better than their more experienced opponents. It was a triumph for a team that entered the arena as under dogs, and for them the victory was all the sweeter, after a game that produced at times hurling at its best, and that rose to the highest standards of previous South Limerick finals.

### GREAT START

Dromin-Athlacca got off to a dream start with a goal within two minutes of the throw-in. Experienced Bruree, and the favourites to take the title, were quickly back to wipe out the arrears and take the lead after 9 minutes, and, at the end

of the first quarter, Bruree were ahead by 2-3 to 1-3. Bruree continued to command the play, but Dromin-Athlacca were still keeping in touch, and at the end of the first half Bruree were ahead by 3 goals and 5 points to 2 goals and 4 points.

Things looked black for the winners, as Bruree notched three valuable points after half time, but back came Dromin-Athlacca for three similar scores and the margin was back to where it was at half time. There was only a goal between them (3-8 to 2-8) at the end of the third quarter. Early in the last quarter Bruree increased their lead with a point. Dromin-Athlacca sent over two points, and there were only two points between them with 10 minutes to go. Dour fighters, Bruree kept coming back, and had a point to leave the goal margin again. Nine minutes to go and Dromin-Athlacca reduced the margin to two points, then, with 5 minutes left, they went through for a well engineered goal that gave them the lead. They now had the taste of victory, and they never again allowed Bruree to get going. They were on top, and stretched their lead to five points as they took control, and, in the last minute, added their fourth goal for good measure.

One might feel sorry for Bruree, who looked like winners for most of the game, but

in that closing quarter Dromin-Athlacca's youth and fitness were the deciding factors in a game that ranked amongst the best in the division this season.

Best of the Dromin-Athlacca defenders were J. Sheahan, J. Kelleher, M. O'Leary and J. Carmody; K. Murphy and D. Ryan had a good day at centre-field, while J. Neenan (the top scorer of the day), W. Neenan and J. O'Dea were dangerous forwards.

For Bruree, John McDonagh, J. Wall and J. Hogan were sound in defence; J. O'Brien and P. J. Boyce had a good share of the play at centre-field, while P. O'Brien, M. Riordan and G. Mullane were always trying in the forward line.

### SCORERS

Dromin-Athlacca — J. Neenan, 1-12; J. O'Dea, 2-1; D. Mulcahy, 1-0; K. Murphy and W. Neenan, 0-1 each.

Bruree — P. O'Brien, 1-7; M. Riordan, 2-1; M. Potter and P. J. Boyce, 0-1 each.

Referee — Mr. John Moloney, Tipperary.

### TEAMS

Dromin-Athlacca — M. Sheehan; M. O'Regan, J. Sheahan, J. Kelleher; M. O'Leary, J. Carmody, P. Murphy; K. Murphy, D. Ryan; J. O'Dea, S. Kelleher, J. Neenan; W. Neenan, D. Mulcahy and J. Breen.

Bruree — M. O'Brien; T. O'Shea, J. McDonagh, N. Doody, H. Hogan, J. Wall, J. Horgan, J. O'Brien, P. J. Boyce, C. Duggan, M. Potter, P. O'Brien, P. Wall, M. Riordan, G. Mullane.

The cup for the championship was presented to captain, Kevin Murphy, by Mr. P. J. Ryan, chairman of the South Limerick G.A.A. Board.

## Dromin-Athlacca A.G.M.

The annual general meeting of Dromin-Athlacca G.A.A. Club took place in the Hall, Dromin, recently before a record attendance.

The club had its most successful year since its foundation in 1953 by winning the south in minor football and minor hurling and the junior hurling shield and also getting to the south final in junior hurling. Officers elected for 1971:

President, Rev. Father Leonard; vice-president, Dick McAuliffe; chairman, John Kelleher; vice-chairman, Joseph Mulcahy; secretary, John Reidy; asst. secretary, Tommy Lavery; treasurer, Paddy Tierney.

Capt., junior hurling team, Kevin Murphy; vice-capt., Willie Neenan, M.H., Billy Carmody; vice-captain, Brian Neenan; Under 21 Hurling, John Carmody and Eddie Hayes, Junior Football, Johnny Neenan and Mick Kenny. Under 21 F., Billy Mullins and Mick Leavy. M.F., Donal Mullins and Jimmy Murphy.

## Dromin win

Dromin-Athlacca ... 3-10

Effin ... 1-6-7-1 ... 3-1

Dromin-Athlacca were favourites to win this first-round game in the south Limerick junior hurling championship at Kilmallock, but they made rather heavy weather of it until the last quarter when they were in command.

Dromin had the better of the opening exchanges but Effin came into the picture during the second quarter. Dromin, however, held the initiative to lead at half time by 2 goals and 5 points to 2 goals and 1 point. Shortly after half time, Effin went through for a goal and there was only a point between them. Effin tried hard to come on terms, but Dromin-Athlacca weathered the storm and took control in the closing stages to win well.

Scorers: Dromin-Athlacca — J. Neenan (0-5), J. O'Dea (1-1), G. Carroll and P. O'Leary (1-0) each, W. Neenan (0-2) and M. O'Leary (0-2).

Effin — W. Magner (2-0), T. Moriarty (1-0) and J. Gilbert (0-1). Referee: Mr. S. Sexton.



# Dromin-Athlacca general meeting

Addressing the annual general meeting of the Dromin-Athlacca G.A.A. Club held at the Hall, Athlacca, Mr. Jack Kelleher, Chairman, said it gave him great pleasure to welcome such a large attendance. The year 1971 was a great year for hurling in the Parish. The Junior hurling team surpassed all expectations by winning the South Limerick divisional championship and doing so well against Monaleen in the County final. They were very proud of the team and he thanked and congratulated the players for their dedication to training, some of whom had to travel long distances to do so. There were occasions, he said, when discipline was lacking both by the players and supporters and all would have to learn how to behave in a proper manner in the future and not discredit the parish or the Association in any way.

Continuing, the Chairman said that they would have a senior hurling team for the first time this year, and if they all did their part in the coming year as they did in the past, they should be there with the best of them.

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

In the course of his report, the Secretary, Mr. John Reidy, said that the club had a great year on the playing fields, winning the South Limerick Junior Hurling championship for the first time. A total of 40 matches was played during the year—25 by the junior hurling team, five in the championship, 3 in the league, 11 in tournaments and 6 practice matches.

He thanked the chairman, Mr. Kelleher for the free use of his field down through the years, and he congratulated Frank Greene, a member of the club on his election as vice-chairman of the South Limerick Board.

He thanked all who assisted the club in every way during the year and he hoped that the same co-operation and spirit would prevail during 1972.

The treasurer's report was presented by Mr. P. Tierney, and this showed a small debit balance.

## ELECTIONS

The following officers were elected: President, Very Rev. J. Leonard, P.P.; vice-president, Mr. R. McAuliffe; chairman, Mr. J. Kelleher; vice-chairman, Mr. J. Mulcahy; secretary, Mr. J. Reidy; assistant secretary, Mr. T. Lavery; treasurer, Mr. P. Tierney.

Selectors: Senior and junior hurling and junior football—Messrs. Pat Lyons, John Lynch, P. O'Leary, J. Neenan and M. Power.

All other teams—Messrs. J. McAuliffe, J. Sheehan, J. Mulcahy, T. Moran and W. Neenan.

Bord na nOg: Chairman, Padraig O'Loingsigh; vice-chairman, Mr. P. Lyons; secretary, Mr. T. Lavery.

Committee members: Messrs. M. Crotty and J. McAuliffe.

## Captains:

S.H., John Sheehan; vice-captain, J. Carmody.

J.H., G. O'Leary; vice-captain, T. Moynihan.

J.F., W. Neenan; vice-captain,

## Point win <sup>27/5/72</sup>

Dromin-Athlacca ... 2-4

Bruff ... 2-3

There was considerable confusion at the end of this replay of the 1971 final of the South Limerick Under 21 Football Championship at Kilmallock. Many people thought that the game had again ended in a draw (2-3 each), but the scoreboard and the referee gave the score at 2-4 to 2-3 in favour of Dromin-Athlacca, and so Mr. C. Farrell, vice-chairman of the South Limerick G.A.A. Board, presented the cup to M. O'Leary, captain of the Dromin-Athlacca team, amid cheers from their supporters, while the Bruff officials advanced arguments to the effect that the result had been a draw.

Like the drawn game, it was again a very closely contested game and the pity of it was that one team had to win. It was good dedicated football and there was never much between the teams. After 10 minutes, Bruff had a goal but immediately Dromin-Athlacca replied with a like score and they were a goal each at the end of the first quarter. Dromin-Athlacca lost two chances of going ahead, but they were hopelessly wide. Then Bruff had a point and again Dromin levelled, but Bruff had a good innings near the end of the half, when they shot over a point and had a goal to lead at half time by 2-2 to 1-1.

Ten minutes had gone in the second half before Dromin-Athlacca reduced the lead with a point. Then midway through the second half, came what must have been the disputed point. It was signalled as a point for Dromin-Athlacca by the umpire but some people thought the referee had disallowed it. Bruff were under severe pressure after that and at one stage the ball was in the net, but it was a free out for Bruff from which they went down the field to score a point. Back came Dromin and amid high excitement shot to the net to level the scoring. Then in the dying minutes of the game they had the point that gave them victory.

## J. Breen.

Under 21 F., M. O'Leary; vice-captain, S. Kelleher.

Under 21 H., J. Neenan; vice-captain, P. Murphy.

M.H., M. Moynihan; vice-captain, G. Callaghan.

M.F., R. Lane; vice-captain, G. Duhig.

The meeting decided to purchase tubular goal posts for the field and also a new set of jerseys for the under age teams.

Mr. Frank Greene explained the new form of registration for members,

TURDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1972

## Dromin/ Athlacca

# Foot beagles

Last Sunday was a big day in the parish, due to the visit of the Maigue Valley foot beagles, from Bruree. Over 100 people followed from the cross, and, they ranged in age from 4 years to 60.

Everybody gave high praise to James O'Connor and P. Mortell, joint masters; Mick McGrath, John Moloney, and Michael Cregan, huntsmen.

## "45" DRIVE

Dromin Community held a very successful "45" Drive last Friday night. The winners were Jerry McDonal, Gerard McDonal, Mike Cregan, Pa O'Leary, Jack Daffy, and Edmond O'Dea. Paddy Scanlon was in charge, and tea was served by the ladies' committee.

## GOOD DISPLAYS

Last week, St. Munchin's beat Farranferris in the Dean Ryan Cup. Gerard Mulcahy scored one goal and six points from centre field, and Jimmy O'Donoghue scored one goal and one point.

In Rath Luirc's victory over Roscrea, in Adare, Gerard O'Callaghan, starred at centre back for the winners, and his younger brother, John, had a great game in goal.



**DROMIN-ATHLACCA U-21 HURLING TEAM**  
**Limerick County Champions 1973**

Back Row: Johnny Kelleher, Gerard Carroll, Gerard Moynihan, Mick Moynihan, Mike O'Leary, Joe Breen, Brendan Carroll, Eddie Hayes, Ger Mulcahy, Bill Carmody, John, Reidy, Val Duhig. Front Row: Dermot Hayes, John O'Callaghan, Brian Neenan, Garry Duhig, Steve Kelleher, Patsy Murphy, Ray Lane, Gerard O'Callaghan, Donal Kelleher, Noel Neenan, Jimmy Murphy.



# Dromin-Athlacca GAA Club

The Dromin/Athlacca G.A.A. club has a very long and chequered history. Situated practically in the centre of county Limerick it has been associated with Gaelic sports at least as far back as the middle of the last century. With very little success it is true, until quite recently, in fact its first recorded championship success did not come until 1954.

It is on record that a very active team which played mostly football was in existence in the 1850's and was known as the Boherard team. That team was in existence until about 1903 and many are the stories that are told of its players exploits and many are the songs which were written about it, the most famous being the "Boys of Boherard". This team had its headquarters in the Northern side of the parish, and they took part in parish competitions in which the ball was played from one parish to the next. I have often heard the old people refer to it as Faugh-a-Bhalla football.

In Jimmy Kellys (Caman) History of the Limerick G.A.A. it states that the Dromin club was reformed in 1897, and the officials were, Patrick Scanlon, Thomas Enright

and James Birrane. A Dromin senior hurling team played Kilmallock in the Co. championship in 1905 and were beaten by 5 points to 2, that game was played in a field near Ballygibba, nobody knows the exact location of the field now. A story is also told in the parish of how a football team travelled to the pattern day games in Ballylanders and beat Anavale Rovers a famous Tipperary team who were champions of their Co. at the time.

In more recent years a club was formed which went by the name of the Trinity Rangers. It was formed in Hayes Oil House in Dromin in February 1936 (no warm halls or good lighting in those days). The officers of that club were chairman James Birrane, Secretary, Thomas Ring and treasurer, Willie Hayes. The club had little success, none at all in fact, suffering some humiliating defeats. The one win which they had was in minor hurling when they defeated Killeely in Carmody's field in Bruff but later lost the game as the jerseys did not arrive at the venue and they had to play in their shirts. That club went out of existence during the war years. Many players from the parish still

assisted neighbouring teams.

Thanks to the Knocksouna flapper tournaments in the late 40s and early '50 a group of youngsters formed a club under the chairmanship of Wm. Mullins of Dromin and called it Dromin/Athlacca. For many years our teams were a joke suffering defeat after defeat. In one south game the bouncers beat us 14-14 to 1-1 and Glenroe beat us by 12-13 to 4 pts. Still the club struggled on and I think that it should be an inspiration to any team, that if they fight on their turn is bound to come. Our club which was once the poor neighbour of the good teams in the south, is now a match for most teams in the county.

The first Dromin/Athlacca break-through came when the South Junior

dedication, and the sportsmanship of Bruree and the high respect they hold amongst hurling men, it was surely a feather in our caps to defeat them. I must add that they were the first to congratulate us on this our greatest day. In 1973 we won the south U/21 and defeated Tournafulla in a replayed County final.

The club went Intermediate in '75 and this year won the County Championship defeating a great Glenroe team in the wind, rain and mud in Kilmallock on the 30th of October. Bonfires blazed all over the parish on that night too, in fact at the time of writing the match is still being played, the game and players are improving all the time I may add. Outside people have often said to me whats all the excitement

## DROMIN/ATHLACCA INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPS 1977.



Back Row (L to R):- Willie Kelleher Selector, Brendan Carroll, Brian Neenan, Joe Mulcahy, V. Chairman, Gerard Moynihan, Gerard Callaghan, Eddie Hayes, Gerard Mulcahy, Mike Hurley, Mike Moynihan, Mike Leary, Johnnie Reeffe Selector and Trainer, Donal Kelleher, Roger Herlihy, Stevie Kelleher, Johnnie Kelleher, Jerry Neenan Officials  
Front Row (L to R):- Jerry Murphy, Tony Kenny, Willie Neenan, Billy Guiney, Patsy Murphy, Jimmy Donoghue, John Callaghan, John Reidy, John Fitzgibbon Mascot, Johnnie Neenan Capt., David Lynch, missing from group Noel Neenan.

## Dromin-Athlacca

The local Bord na nOg GAA club held their Scor '76 competitions in the Hall, Athlacca, on Saturday night.

The following will represent the Dromin-Athlacca club in the South Limerick semi-finals at Athlacca on Saturday, the 39th Nov.: Seanie, Mairead agus Patricia Ni Cuimmin, Maire is Ide Ni Mhaonaigh, Maire agus Mairead Ni Flanagan, Marion Ni Caoimlean, Ellis Ni Dabtaigh, Tomas agus Seamus O Loinsig, Daiti Mac Ionneactaigh, Eamonn O hUauacain, Aonnrá O Storin agus Tomas O Broin.

### DRIVES

The weekly "45" drives are now in full swing. Last week's winners were Tim and Peg O'Callaghan, Mona McMahon and Peg Houlihan.

### ACCIDENT

Local hurler Mike Moynihan, who was selected to play at left full-back on the Limerick hurling team against Waterford last Sunday, had an unfortunate accident in his home during the week. He dislocated his shoulder and so was unable to play.

### REUNION

The many Dromin-Athlacca people who travelled to England for the Bruff reunion are now back at home after a very enjoyable trip.

Mrs. Thomas Treacy of Tankardstown is at present on holiday in Jersey, where most of her family are domiciled.

### SYMPATHY

Sympathy is extended to our Bord na nOg chairman, John Storan of Drombey, on the death of his father. Go ndein De trocaire ar a anam uasal.

**LEFT HALF-FORWARD —**  
Johnny Neenan, Dromin/Athlacca. Age 24. Height 5 ft. 8½ ins. Weight 10 st. 10 lbs.

Johnny was bred to be a hurler, for his father, Jerry, often wore the Limerick jersey with distinction in the 'thirties and won a county junior title along with his brothers, Ned and Mick, in 1938 with Feenagh. His uncle, Jack Kelleher, also won that title with Feenagh and later similar honours with Kilmallock in 1942. Johnny has starred with Dromin/Athlacca under age teams since he was ten years old in rural Bord na nOg competitions through juvenile and minor. He usually plays centre half-forward for his club, though he had on occasions starred in goal, with whom he won a South junior hurling title, but they were beaten in the county final by Monaleen. Contrary to rumours, Johnny can keep going forever and he has often pulled games out of the fire for his team in the dying moments of a match. He has represented his county in every grade of hurling and should have made the county senior team in 1973 when many good judges claim he was at his peak.



**WORKS SUCCESSFUL** April 77

The Dromin/Athlacca G.A.A. club had a very successful season this year. Although winning no championship they collected the grand total of eight sets of trophies.





Dromina-Athlacca senior hurling team, losers to Bruree in the South Final. 1978

2.12.78

## Dromin/ Athlacca

History was made by the local G.A.A. club when, for the first time ever, they held their A.G.M. at the Hall, Dromin, in the afternoon and, for the first time ever, the runai, Sean O Riada, addressed the meeting in Gaeilge. A huge crowd attended and it was the best A.G.M. for years. Chairman Jack Kelleher, retired after 25 years' service to the club in an official capacity. There were some sweeping changes made in the selection committee, only one of the old panel being returned to office. The following are the officers for the coming year: life pres., Jack Kelleher; pres., Dick McAuliffe; vice-pres., Jerry Neenan; chairman, Joe Mulcahy; sec., John Reidy; treas., Paddy Tierney; senior hurling captain, Mike Leary; selection committee, Ged Leary, John O'Keeffe, John Sheehan, Frank Greene and Pa Lyons. In a secret ballot it was decided not to support the new Croke Park plan to contribute £10 per registered club to headquarters.

DECEMBER 9, 1978

## Dromin/ Athlacca

During the week the grim reaper called Tim Vaughan, one of our greatest Gaels to his eternal reward. Tim was one of the most dedicated G.A.A. men, both as a player and as a supporter in this parish. In his young days he was a founder member of the Trinity Rangers and he still played seven aside hurling when he was over fifty years of age. He was also a very active sprinter, jumper and cyclist.

Up to a few years ago he still cycled to venues all over Munster to hurling games when Limerick were involved of a very quiet and gentle disposition. We tender our sincerest sympathy to his myriad of friends and admirers. Go ndein Dea troaire ar a anam uasal.

The Limerick Co. Harriers  
Athlacca, last Saturday

### BOOK

There is great demand for the book about the parish of Dromin/Athlacca, which Mainchin Seoighe has written and which was launched by Fr. P. O Fien-nachtafi Professor of Irish, Maynooth. Everybody who has read the book has nothing but the highest praise for it, and the amount of history and lore about the parish that the book contains has amazed everybody. People anxious to get a copy should do so at once as the whole printing looks like being sold out soon.

Bhuigh na daoine seo leanas na duaiseanna speisialta a sholathais Gior na nGael, Ath-Reanach le linn Fheile na Comhairleach, Niall O Hogain, Seamus O Guini, Sean O Breathnach agus Bean Uí Sluighin.

Tournafulla march 78





## Dromin/ Athlacca

One of our most esteemed senior citizens has passed to her eternal reward last week. She was Mrs. Lena Gubbins of Tankardstown, Dromin. Sympathy is extended to her husband and family. Go ndein Dia trocaire ar an am usal.

The local Chasmatric group went on their annual trip to Mount Melleray last week. This has now become a very important day locally and places on the bus are very much sought after.

Very much local interest was evident in the parish for the Munster finals in Thurles last Sunday. It was the first time ever that we had players involved in the both finals on the one day. They were Jimmy Lynch on the minor team and Gerard Mulcahy on the senior panel. Ged has now become the first Dromin/Athlacca clubman to win a Munster award at hurling. Incidentally, both players were on the first Dromin/Athlacca team to win a tournament for the club when they won the Knockainey juvenile tournament in 1973. Well done, boys, the club is proud of you.

The local school pupils had a

## Dromin- Athlacca

It was with a sense of shock and deep sorrow that the local community learned of the death at an early age of Jimmy Burke, formerly of Rathcannon, who died in Limerick last week.

The deceased was an outstanding sportsman and lifelong supporter of the G.A.A. During the '40s and '50s he won many South Limerick championships with the Bruree hurling club. He won a county title with them in 1951 and played on the Limerick junior team in 1952 which won the Munster title and were defeated in the All-Ireland by Dublin by one point. He threw in his lot with his native club, with whom he won a South Limerick Junior Football Championship in 1954. For many years he was an automatic choice on both the South Divisional teams, St. Malos in football and Emmetts in hurling. He held positions on the South Board until he left the area a few years ago. He was always a great-hearted, fearless player and an honest upright legislator. To his wife, Moira and sorrowing family, sympathy is extended. R.I.P.

The local I.C.A. ladies put on a great performance in the Milk

## Dromin/ Athlacca

Sympathy is extended to the many friends and relatives of Con Scanlon of Tullerboy, who died recently. The deceased was very much involved in athletics in his younger days and was one of the organisers and trustees of the Athlacca Sports Committee. He was a founder member and player of the Trinity Rangers G.A.A. teams of the 30s and 40s. Con always had a pleasant word and helping hand with all with whom he came into contact. Go ndein Dia trocaire an anam usal.

## Dromin/ Athlacca

On Sunday night, bonfires blazed in the village and on Rathcannon Castle and in Dromin. The reason being our local hurlers had won their first South Limerick senior championship. The club, which has been in existence practically since the 1870s, had its finest hour last Sunday, when we beat near neighbours and sporting rivals, Bruree, for the Denis Barrett trophy. The game, which was hard and uncompromising, was played in a fine sporting manner and was a credit to all concerned. It was surely a proud and memorable day for all the old Gaels of the parish who have seen more than their fair share of disappointments down the years. Many of them had tears in their eyes on Sunday evening and I'm sure that the Gaels of Bruree and South Limerick will not begrudge them their hour of long-awaited glory. A special word of thanks to all our players, our officials and supporters and, above all, to our selectors. Our chairman and treasurer stayed over for the game and took a special flight to Scotland on Monday to join up with the I.C.A. tour of the Highlands — surely great dedication on their part.

With autumn upon us and the evenings getting shorter, people's minds are already turning to card

## Dromin- Athlacca

Mr. Gerard Quinlan of Balinculla, was recently passed out as a member of the Gardai Siochana at Templemore. He now joins four other neighbours who are members of the Force and lived within a mile and a half of each other. They are Garry Duhig, James Carroll, Eddie Hayes and Sean Byrnes. Gerard was a great G.A.A. man, winning an under 14 hurling medal in 1973 and was one of the club's greatest supporters, always having his flag at all our games. He has taken up duty in Tralee.

Brian Neenan, a former star of the local hurling club, is now hitting the high spots with the Kerry hurlers. He has been their highest scorer in most of their games this year and really excelled himself last Sunday against Antrim when he brought them back from the brink of defeat and forced a draw. Good man Brian. The parish also had links with Sunday's Antrim team as three members had stayed here during the Feile na nGael competitions in 1973. Our last year's winner of the Feile na nGael skills competition, Sean Enright, had to give best this year to Pat Barrett of Bruff, who has many links with the parish.

## Dromin- Athlacca

The death has occurred of Jimmy Duhig of Uregare, Dromin, a playing member of the Old Trinity Rangers G.A.A. teams in his younger days and a lifelong supporter of the club. This year, when a soccer club was formed in the parish for the first time, it was Jimmy who came along and gave the club a field to play their games in. A noted card player, down the years, he was a very fair player and was always prepared to help and accept the mistakes of beginners. His cortege was flanked by members of the Trinity soccer team who wore black armbands for the occasion. He is survived by his

## Dromin/ Athlacca

The parish had one of its greatest and proudest days recently when Pius O'Dea was raised to the priesthood at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Dromin. Pius, who comes from a family who have given priests and nuns to the church for generations, is the youngest son of Ned and Mrs. O'Dea of Sherins Cross, Dromin.

The ordination ceremony was performed by Bishop Nevins of Miami, Florida, where Fr. Pius will minister. His brother, Fr. Stephen, is also working in the Miami diocese. At the ordination the church and surrounding grounds were packed to capacity, and practically every household in the parish was represented. The local community spared no effort in making this a day to remember; the church newly painted and decorated, bunting and flags in abundance, local choir in great voice, and all the celebrations which followed a credit to all concerned.

Local G.A.A. senior hurlers had a good win in the final of the Bruff tournament on Sunday evening against the Bruff team. It gave local G.A.A. men great pleasure to win this game as it is one of the best tournaments on the circuit, and one in which we are always delighted to take part. There were great scenes of jubilation when captain Ged Moynihan received the Guinness Cup and trophies from Denis Barrett.

On Thursday night next, a draw for All-Ireland tickets will take place in the hall. All club members and team supporters are welcome to come along. As usual, the supply of tickets will not meet the great demand, and as usual the people who support the games week in week out will have to watch the game from the hill or the canal end. A very noticeable thing in the past few weeks is the way that G.A.A. officials seem to be avoiding the ordinary supporter. A big difference from convention time and vote-seeking when its all shake hands and smiles.

Sympathy is extended to Mick O'Gorman, Rathcannon, on the death of his brother recently.

## Dromin/ Athlacca

It was with a sense of shock that the local people learned of the death last week of Connie Noonan of Athlacca. The deceased gentleman was most popular with all who had the good fortune to make his acquaintance and his funeral was one of the biggest and most representative seen in the area for some time. He played hurling for his native Bruree and was an athlete of note in his younger days. Had a keen love of our native language, of which he was a fluent speaker. Since taking up residence in Athlacca he became a valued member of our community and was one of the people responsible for starting the weekly card games 10 years ago.

He was also very much involved in the festival activities. To his wife and young family, deepest sympathy is extended. Also to Mrs. Josie Higgins of Rathcannon, on the death of her brother, Willie Quigley, in a traffic accident last week. Go ndein Dia trocaire ar an am usal.

Last week's 45 drive winners in Dromin were Eamonn and Michael O'Mahony, and in Athlacca, Mary Leahy, John Walsh, Mike Regan and Simon O'Donnell. On Christmas Eve, by request of the

## Dromin- Athlacca

It was with a sense of sadness and loss that the people of Dromin learned of the death of Mr. Sammy Mackelholme recently. Mr. Mackelholme was principle teacher in Dromin School for 21 years from 1951 to 1972, and was highly respected by all his pupils and their parents. The deceased, who was a native of Co. Tyrone, was a very prominent footballer and athlete in his younger days before coming to Dromin he taught in Bulgaden and Ardagh. Sincere sympathy is extended to all his relatives. Go ndein Dia trocaire ar an am usal.

Dromin churchyard at Trinity Wall has now got a much needed amenity with the erection of a pair of very fancy gate piers and double gates. This will prove a great boon

## Dromin- Athlacca

Sympathy is extended to the following families who suffered bereavements recently.

The McCarthy family, Athlacca South; the Dunne family, Rathcannon; the Houlihan family, Rathcannon; Fr. Duggan.

The local G.A.A. Club made history this year when a lady was elected on the senior hurling committee as a selector. The lady in question, Mary O'Leary from the village, is a well known follower of all G.A.A. games and her opinion of games and players is highly regarded. This is surely one up for women's lib!

## Dromin-Athlacca take cup

Dromin-Athlacca ..... 3-9  
Kileedy ..... 1-6

Dromin-Athlacca had a convincing win over Kileedy in the final of the McAuliffe Cup senior hurling at Kilmallock last night.

Kileedy, with the wind in the first half, led at half-time by 1-5 to 1-3, but in the second half Dromin-Athlacca were in command, and ran out good winners, confining Kileedy to a single point in this half.

The cup and trophies were presented to the winning team by Mr. Pat McAuliffe, the donor of the cup.



## Dromin/ Athlacca

Sympathy is extended to the relatives of Pa Carmody of Martinstown, who died recently. The deceased was a native of Rathcannon, where the family was held in high esteem.

Sympathy is also extended to the family of Mrs. O'Sullivan, nee McCarthy, late of Drummacomon, who died recently in Limerick.

The proprietors of The Stoneyard, Limerick, Maurice Clarke and Paddy Verdan, at a very pleasant function presented a new set of jerseys to the local G.A.A. club at Paddy Tierney's Lounge Bar Dromin. The presentation was made by Paddy Verdan and was accepted by Paddy Tierney, treasurer of the club.

John Reidy, who was secretary of the G.A.A. club for a total of 14 years, was presented recently with an inscribed silver tray to mark his many years of dedicated and faithful service to the club.

Gardens in the area were never looking better at this stage due to the great weather. Pride of place locally must go to Maureen O'Keeffe of Athlacca North, whose garden has to be seen to be believed, with potatoes flowered and all her other vegetables at a very well advanced stage. At the moment there are many visitors and holiday makers in the vicinity. We wish them a Cead Míle Fáilte in our midst.

19.6.82

## Dromin- Athlacca

Our senior hurlers made their exit from the county championship on Sunday last, when we were defeated by Bruff. It was a very disappointing performance from a Dromin-Athlacca point of view, as many of our players failed to raise their game.

The final of the Meanus senior hurling tournament is re-fixed for Friday, June 24th, at 8 p.m.

At a well-attended GAA AGM in Dromin Hall last Sunday the following were elected:

Life president, Dick McAuliffe; president, Jack Kelleher; vice-president, Jerry Neenan; chairman, Joe Mulcahy; sec., John O'Callaghan; asst. sec., Gerard O'Callaghan; treasurer, Paddy Tierney; P.R.O., Gerard Mulcahy; delegate to Co. Board, Frank Greene.

The Bord na nOg affairs are this year in the capable hands of Mr. Downes, principal teacher, and Mrs. Ann Fitzgibbon. Ann is the only lady officer in the club.

12.2.83

## Dromin- Athlacca

The Dromin-Athlacca GAA club held their annual general meeting in Athlacca last Sunday and it was the best attended meeting for many years. It was the 30th anniversary of the club which was formed in 1952 and has had a fairly chequered history since then. The club was in a sound financial position and the cost for the past year was £1,600, that is in excess of £30 per week. Highlight of the year was the winning of the schools title by the under 12 hurlers who also reached the football final - all our under age teams played very well, getting to two South finals. The senior success was confined to winning some tournaments.

All the officials were returned with the exception of secretary John Reidy who retired after 14 years of dedicated and faithful service to the club. The new sec. is John Callaghan. The only other changes was a new selection committee: John O'Keeffe, Mike Leary and Jerry Murphy.

The annual dinner dance takes place next Saturday night and a large crowd is expected to travel to Emly for the occasion.

Sympathy is extended

## Dromin- Athlacca

Our minor hurlers had a good win over Effin in the first round of the championship on Friday evening last. The second round of the minor football is fixed for this Friday evening in Croom at 8 p.m. Bruree provide the opposition.

Our under 14 hurlers go into action next Monday evening, July 11, when they play Hospital in the first round of the championship.

The senior hurling league continued on Sunday last when we were defeated by Kilfinane. It was our first defeat in the series as we had won our previous four outings. The south senior hurling semi-final against Bruree has been fixed for Sunday, July 17th.

## Dromin/ Athlacca

The Athlacca I.C.A. ladies held a social evening at the Sportsmans Arms, Ballyhea, last Saturday night. A group of 41, including some of the ladies's husbands, really enjoyed a first-class meal and a great nights dancing to the strains of Johnnie Barretts Band.

A speedy recovery to full health to Paddy Tierney, of Trinity Well, who is in hospital. Paddy is treasurer of the local GAA Club for over 21 years, and is one of the hardest working people in the Association, it is his hard work in the many organisations in which he is involved which help to keep both ends of the parish so united. Another great sportsman, P. P. Hogan, returned to the hunting fields last week after his recent illness.

On next Monday night, at 7.30

## Easy win for Dromin

Dromin-Athlacca..... 4-14  
Bruff..... 0-5

The opening minutes of this South Limerick senior hurling championship game at Kilmallock gave promise of a tense struggle and the teams were level twice. Then however, Dromin-Athlacca got on top and they led at half time by 3-9 to 0-2. Bruff did try hard in the second half, but Dromin-Athlacca were too strong for them and continued in winning vein to have an easy win.

Scorers: Dromin-Athlacca — G. Mulcahy (1-3), J. Callaghan (2-0), J. Neenan (0-5), W. Guiney (1-2), T. Kenny (0-2), G. Callaghan and E. Neenan (0-1 each).

Bruff — D. Keily (0-2), T. Raleigh, A. Gubbins and W. Bulfin (0-1 each).

Referee: Mr. Sean Burke, Gar-ryspillane.

## Dromin- Athlacca G.A.A. Notes

Our novice and senior hurling games due to be played last weekend were postponed due to water logged pitches. The club would like to apologise for the inconvenience caused to players and supporters who turned up for both these games. But as the club was only notified a couple of hours prior to the start, it was almost impossible to contact every one involved.

Our next championship outing on Saturday, May 14, at 7.30 p.m. in Bruree, where we play Kilmallock in the J.F. cup.

We have already started selling tickets for the development Pairc na nGael. As the club will also benefit greatly from this venture, we are hoping for a good response from all parishioners. Tickets are £50 each and there are many great prizes including four motor cars and a £25,000 dwelling house. If anyone wishes to take part in this draw, tickets are available from the following sellers: Joe Mulcahy, Paddy Tierney, Neil Hogan, Gerry Murphy, Michael O'Leary, Gerard Mulcahy and John O'Callaghan.

## Dromin- Athlacca

Our junior hurlers were narrowly beaten by Glenroe in the second round of the special cup competition on Friday evening last. The game was evenly contested, and we were unfortunate to lose by a point. The final score being 2-4 to 2-3 in favour of Glenroe.

On Sunday next at 2.00 p.m. in Croom, our senior hurlers meet Bruff in the county championship.

On Wednesday evening we play Adare in the final of the Meanus S.H. tournament.

On Thursday, June 23, in Knockainey, at 7.45 p.m., our minor footballers go into action when they play Galbally in the M.F.C.

## Dromin- Athlacca

Our senior hurlers made their exit from the county championship on Sunday last, when we were defeated by Bruff. It was a very disappointing performance from a Dromin-Athlacca point of view, as many of our players failed to raise their game.

The final of the Meanus senior hurling tournament is re-fixed for Friday, June 24th, at 8 p.m.

## Dromin- Athlacca

Congratulations to Gerald Cronin on winning the South Feile na nGael hurling skills. Gerard was narrowly beaten in the county final. This is the second time that the club has won this competition; Sean Enright being a former winner.

The Senior Hurling Championship match against Bruff was postponed yet again last week-end as the Kilmallock pitch was unplayable.

On Friday, May 27, at Meanus, our junior hurlers play Bruree in the J.B.H. Cup. On Saturday, May 28, at Bruree, the Junior football

## Dromin- Athlacca

Our senior hurlers were lucky to draw with Granagh in the Meanus Tournament on Friday evening last. The date for the re-play has not been fixed. The junior football game due to be played on Saturday evening was postponed, as the Bruree pitch was unplayable.

Our league programme continued last Sunday when we travelled to Limerick to play St. Patrick's. The match was played in bad ground conditions, the final score being 3-11 to 0-6 in our favour.

The first round of the South Divisional Championships, which has already been postponed twice, has been re-fixed for Saturday, May 21 at 7.30 pm in Kilmallock. Bruff provide the opposition.

## Dromin- Athlacca

The annual Ester festival drew to a very successful conclusion with the parish concert on Sunday night. The children's sports meeting which was deferred to a later date. The £500.45 drive drew a full house and the following were the winners with 10 games — the Tierney Brothers, Herbertstown; Breda Benson, Johnnie Mulqueen, Mary Sheehy, Ruth Fox, Killinane, John Kennedy, Sean Blake, Ned and Eileen Houlihan, Granagh.

Another of the great Gaels, Paddy Reynolds of Rathcannon, has died. A founder player member of the Trinity Ranger hurling team of the 30's with whom he starred in goal. To his family sympathy is extended.

A film show and lecture on the life of Padre Pio the stigmatic priest, was shown in the hall, Athlacca, on Tuesday night, by Donal Enright from Cork. A full house audience were very impressed and deeply moved by the film. Many relics of the holy priest were on display after the film.

16.4.83



## Dromin-<sup>14/5/83</sup> Athlacca G.A.A. Notes

Our novice and senior hurling games due to be played last weekend were postponed due to water logged pitches. The club would like to apologise for the inconvenience caused to players and supporters who turned up for both these games. But as the club was only notified a couple of hours prior to the start, it was almost impossible to contact everyone involved.

Our next championship outing is on Saturday, May 14, at 7.30 p.m., in Bruree, where we play Kilmallock in the J.F. cup.

We have already started selling tickets for the development of Pairc na nGael. As the club will also benefit greatly from this venture, we are hoping for a good response from all parishioners. Tickets are £50 each and there are many great prizes including four motor cars and a £25,000 dwelling house. If anyone wishes to take part in this draw, tickets are available from the following sellers: Joe Mulcahy, Paddy Tierney, Neil Hogan, Gerry Murphy, Michael O'Leary, Gerard Mulcahy and John O'Callaghan.

## 9-7-83 Dromin- Athlacca

The unexpected death has occurred of Jerry Hayes, Dromin. Deceased, who had reached the fine age of 79 years was a great man for telling tales of events that took place in the parish long ago, especially stories of the many great athletes who resided in the area in days gone by. His brothers Dan, Willie and Jim excelled on the cycling field. Jerry was one of the strongest and most fearless riders on the track and won numerous prizes all over Munster, and was also a hurler and footballer of note. To his wife and family, deepest sympathy.

## 15.9.84 Dromin- Athlacca

Congratulations are extended to Irene Mullins of the Glebe, Athlacca, who was a member of the Limerick Pony Club jumping team which won the Robbie Bailey All Ireland junior pony club showjumping championships which were held in Ballingarrane, Clonmel recently.

Irene, who is daughter of William and Eileen Mullins of the Glebe, Athlacca, had two clear rounds on her pony "Express" in the final. She is also a cousin of champion showjumper, Capt. Jerry Mullins.

The Parish Stations take place in both churches in Dromin on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evening and for the remainder of the week in Athlacca.

The under 12 hurlers collected their first trophy of the year when they won the very nice set of medals in Croom on Saturday.

## Dromin/ Athlacca 4-6-83

Congratulations to John Fitzgibbon on being selected on the county primary schools hurling team.

Last week-end was a busy one for the club as our junior and senior hurling teams were in action.

In the junior hurling we had a three points victory over Bruree in a hard fought game. With good performances from Pa McAuliffe, Paddy Gorman, Paddy Murphy, Robin Coll and Steve Kelleher, we just about deserved to win.

Our senior hurlers had an easy win over a disappointing Bruff team. The final score being 4-14-0-5. Our junior footballers go in action this Saturday evening we play Kilmallock in the J.F.

## 4-2-84 Dromin/ Athlacca

His many friends regret the death of Commandant Patrick Sheehan, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, and formerly of Uregare. He was brother of Mrs. Vincent Walsh and John Sheehan, both of Uregare. He joined the Irish army in his youth and was promoted many times until he reached the Rank of Commandant. In his younger days he played hurling with the local Trinity Rangers hurling team. He is survived by his wife, son and daughters. The death has also taken place in Somerset, England, of Mrs. Helena Rita Mary Kennedy, formerly of Limerick city. She was wife of Eddie Kennedy, Dromin, whose mother was principle teacher of the local national school for many years. Sympathy is also extended to the Neenan family, Drombeg on the death of James Neenan, Broadford and to the Mockler family, Clogher, on the death of John Mockler, also Broadford. Go ndeana Dia trocaire ar a ainmnica Dilis.

## Club G.A.A.: 2-4-83 Dromin Athlacca

Our senior hurlers continued their winning way with a one point win over Cappamore at Knockaine on Sunday last. The game was always keenly contested and there was never more than a puck of a ball between the teams with good performances from Jimmy Lynch in goal, Ged Moynihan, Gerard Callaghan, Johnny Neenan and Billy Guiney, we just about deserved our one point victory. The score being 1-6 to 1-5 in our favour.

Due to the Bruff pitch being unplayable last weekend our U/21 hurling game was postponed.

Training for the senior hurling panel has commenced and a full turnout of players is expected every Tuesday and Thursday at 7.00 p.m.

The annual senior hurling tournament will commence on Sunday, April 3rd. with Bruree versus Granagh.

## 25-2-84 Dromin- Athlacca

Sympathy is extended to the O'Sullivan family, Rathcannon, on the unexpected death in Oxford, England, of Michael O'Sullivan. The deceased, who emigrated to England in the 40's, was always very much involved with race-horses and was a very useful rider in his young days. He was also very much associated with the Trinity Rangers hurling team which was the parish G.A.A. club at the time.

## Dromin- Athlacca 10-11-84

Many people and groups in the parish are making arrangements to hold functions to help the Ethiopian famine fund. On Friday night the 45 drive will be in aid of the fund, and a variety concert will be held in the hall on Saturday night for the same cause. It is hoped that this worthy cause will get the support it deserves. Also on Friday night the evening Mass at 8 o'clock will be for the repose of the souls of all deceased card players at the local games over the past 12 years. All are welcome.

The graveyard got its final tidy-up last Saturday, when the grass was cut for the last time this year. Since it got its big clean-up last year it has been kept in great order by voluntary workers, who come along regularly to do this very worthy work. our thanks to all.

Sympathy is extended to the Carey family, Glenma, on the death of Joseph Carey, who died recently following a long illness. The deceased was always very much involved in parish affairs. He was one of the first organisers of Muintir na Tire in the parish, a founder member of the sports committee and a very active member of the G.A.A. club. Also a great man at the greyhounds, he owned that great stud dog, Free Speech. Joe will be sadly missed by his many friends over a wide area.

## DROMIN-<sup>14/6/83</sup> ATHLACCA

Our senior hurlers were narrowly beaten by Kilmallock in the final of the Bruree S.H. tournament on Sunday evening.

On Saturday evening our junior footballers were beaten by Kilmallock in the Junior F. Cup.

Following a good win over Bruree, our junior hurlers meet Glenroe in the second round on Friday, June 10 in Kilmallock at 7.45 p.m.

The Bord na nOg c'ships start this Saturday when our under-12 hurling team play the Stakers in the first round in Kilmallock at 2 p.m.

The selling of tickets for the development of Pairc na nGael is going well. If anybody is interested in joining full details are available from the following sellers: Joe Mulcahy, Paddy Twomey, Ged Moynihan, Michael O'Leary, Neil Hogan, Gerry Murphy and John O'Callaghan.

## 9-6-84 Dromin- Athlacca

Co. Council workers are very busy in the area at the moment with their big machinery, tar spraying many of the local roads. It's an awful pity that our public bodies cannot get more cash as they show that they can really do a first class job with their limited resources, as the local roads which were tarred recently are now a pleasure to drive on.

Last week another large crowd turned out to the 45 in Athlacca and the following were the winners with 12 games: Mrs. Ryan and Jim Casey, Croom. The runners-up had 9 games and divided second prize, they were Bill Lynch, Eddie Conway, Michael O'Donoghue, Biddy Farrell, Donie McCarthy and Eddie Moloney. The games continue each week and the entrance fee, including tea, is still only £1.

On the local hurling scene the locals are on a bad patch at the moment, losing narrowly to Ballybrown in the Kildimo tournament final and going under to Castletown in the Bruree tournament. The Bord na nOg club was well represented at the big parade in Limerick last week-end and we should be very thankful to the very few adults who take an interest in the men of tomorrow, that is our under age players.



17-8-85  
**Dromin-Athlacca**

Two gentlemen with strong parish connections passed to their eternal reward during the week. One was Peter Fitzgerald of Rathkeale, who won a South Limerick junior football medal with the Dromin-Athlacca team in 1954. He was also responsible for the roads in the area when he worked as a County Council supervisor.

16-11-85  
**Dromin-Athlacca**

A turnout of 39 people, including three ladies, came along to the special G.A.A. meeting, which was held in Dromin Community Hall last Saturday night. The purpose of the meeting turned out to be the proposed purchase of a G.A.A. field by the club, which must now be the only senior club in the county without a field of their own.

The field which the club has used since 1948 was Jack Kelliher's field, which the club used down the years gratis, something which all sporting people in the parish are very thankful for.

The field which the club now hope to acquire is the chapel field, also owned by Johnnie Kelliher. It is ideally situated just across the road from the national school, which must be a plus mark in its favour. Like all proposed new fields it does not satisfy everybody, as it is situated not dead centre in the parish. It is about six miles from the lower end of Dromin and just over 3 miles from the lower end of the parish, which finishes at Tim Mulcahy's residence.

It has been decided to try to purchase the land and plans are being drawn up by a special committee.

County S.H.C.

13.7.85  
**Ahane humbled**

Dromin-Athlacca ..... 3-7  
Ahane ..... 1-7

**AHANE'S** hurling resurgence took a mighty tumble at the Gaelic Grounds on Saturday evening last, when they were deservedly beaten by Dromin-Athlacca.

A winning margin of two goals was just reward for the hard work of the unconsidered South Limerickmen.

This was not a great game, but the closeness of the exchanges and the fine display by Ged Mulcahy at centre-half back, compensated for the periods of drab and unenterprising fare.

Mulcahy, in the Dromin-Athlacca colours, was majestic in the number six spot. Throughout the hour he hurled with great skill, with his long deliveries setting up his attack for scores. This was one of his best displays ever and a repeat or two will have to bring him back into contention for a return to the county squad.

**Opened**

The winners opened in whirlwind fashion. Points from Mulcahy and Willie Neenan gave them a dream start inside two and a half minutes. But better was still to come — Mike Moynihan and John O'Callaghan crashed home two goals against a

sluggish and unsettled full-back line.

Ahane came back with a Martin Byrnes goal in the seventh minute, but Dromin-Athlacca, infused with a totally unexpected lead, remained in control until the break. At this stage they led 3-6 to 1-2, with the number three major coming from the stick of Mike Moynihan, with the help of a defender.

Ahane played their best hurling in the third quarter. Points from M. J. Aherne, Timmy Murnane and Eamonn Meskell, had the deficit down to two goals.

Dromin-Athlacca conceded too many frees in this third quarter and were a trifle lucky to remain ahead. In the sixth minute Paul Kennedy raced through for what seemed to be a certain goal, but Jimmy Lynch was seen at his best with a super save. In the 14th minute the winners conceded a penalty, but succeeded in averting disaster.

Mulcahy was now at his best. It was his point from a placed ball which steadied his nervy team-mates — this happened to be the last score of the hour for the blue and whites.

**Moved**

Ahane moved Eamonn Meskell back to defence, a move which did not help their scoring power. They had opportunities to take further scores — their inability to do

so cost them dearly.

Dromin-Athlacca now meet Cloughaun in the quarter final. This win should do their morale a deal of good, although on reflection they will be first to admit, that this latest victory was achieved over a team who were downright bad on the day.

As stated, Mulcahy was the star of the game. Others to show up in the winning colours were Jimmy Lynch, Ger Moynihan, Donal Enright, Tony Kenny, Robin Coll, Willie Neenan and Mike Moynihan.

Seamus Ryan, Timmy Murnane, Eamonn Power, Eamonn Meskell, Paul Kennedy and Martin Byrnes, were the pick of a disappointing Ahane outfit.

**Dromin-Athlacca** — M. Moynihan 2-0, G. Mulcahy 0-4, J. O'Callaghan 1-0, W. Neenan 0-2, R. Coll 0-1.

**Ahane** — M. Byrnes 1-0, M. J. Aherne 0-3, E. Meskell 0-2, T. Murnane 0-1, E. Burke 0-1.

**Dromin-Athlacca** — J. Lynch, S. Kenny, G. Moynihan, S. O'Callaghan, H. Hogan, G. Mulcahy, J. O'Donoghue, D. Enright, T. Kenny, S. Enright, R. Coll, J. O'Donnell, J. O'Callaghan, M. Moynihan, W. Neenan. Subs.: J. Foley for Coll, R. Herlihy for O'Donnell.

**Ahane** — M. Clancy, P. Keane, M. Hickey, S. Quinn, E. Power, S. Ryan, J. Foley, T. Murnane, T. Bradley, J. O'Grady, E. Meskell, F. Kelly, P. Kennedy, M. Byrnes, M. J. Aherne. Subs.: E. Doyle for Quinn, E. Burke for Doyle, V. Callinan for Bradley.

Referee, K. Walsh (Garryspillane).

LIMERICK LEADER, SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1985



Dromin-Athlacca, winners of the South under-16 C football title



# Quiet? Yes Sleepy? No!

WHILE PATTERN DAYS are dying out all over the country, the parish of Dromin/Athlacca has two. The parish also has three active social halls and an ambitious plan to provide itself with a sportsfield.

The ten-mile-long but narrow parish contains some of the finest land in the country, being centred in the lushest part of the Golden Vale. Its inhabitants are a content and quiet people, proud of their area and its heritage. There is some commuting to Limerick and to Charleville, but most live happily at home on the land. Rural organisations, not surprisingly, play a pivotal role in the cultural life of the parish.

And, as in many placid verdant places, the people are generous in paying tribute to those people who contributed to the development of the area in the past, and those who continue to do so.

## Young people

The parish also has an extraordinarily high number of young people. This phenomenon recurs in cycles, explains Phil McAuliffe, secretary of the local G.A.A. club. There were many children born in the parish some thirty or forty years ago, and these did not emigrate and are now the parents of the many teenagers and sub-teens of whom the parish is today so proud.

But it doesn't end with just being proud. The parish contains a mere 330 homes, and a population of 1,100, yet much has been done and is being done to provide for the young people. In fact, few parishes of so few souls have done so much or have planned so ambitiously.

And, of course, it all comes down to people.

Take Deirdre Neenan and Anne Fitzgibbon, for example. These dedicated ladies are the centre of the young G.A.A. Bord na nOg. With Deirdre's husband, Willie, they have given of their time and talent in copious amounts to ensure that athletics and cultural events are fully catered for on a scale which would shame more populous and less disperse places.

## Glor na nGael

And it's no coincidence that the parish won Glor na nGael in 1981. The Gaelic tradition is strong, as might be expected. As the parish is proud, so is it united. Efforts such as the promotion of Irish receive universal and total support.

"We don't do things by halves", smiles Paddy Tierney, treasurer of the local G.A.A. club. And he is right, because Paddy is the main co-



Placid Athlacca this week.

## By MARTIN BYRNES

ordinator of what is to become one of the parish's main ventures to date — the purchase of its own G.A.A. pitch.

From just after its inception in 1952, when it rose from what was Trinity Rangers, the club has played on land made available by Jack Kelliher, president of the club. Jack's patience, says Paddy, has been extraordinary and every tribute should be paid to him. But now the time has come to raise the £25,000 needed to purchase a field directly across from the parish school.

"We hope that youngsters will play at lunchtime and then grow up to give the club even more strength than it has at present", says Paddy.

## Wren boys

But £25,000 is still a daunting amount to raise. True to form, however, the promoters have a number of tricks up their sleeves. Some are already in being, such as the 45 games which operate each week of the year (the only such event in Limerick not to break for the summer). And, of course, drawing on their cultural strengths, it was no problem to create a troupe of wren boys who collected almost to the outskirts of Cork City in their enthusiasm.

In all, £8,000 has been raised since last November.

Now comes the biggest idea yet. The parish of Dromin/Athlacca is to approach its exiled sons and daughters and seek their return and, in the process, hope to gain contributions.

"But we have got several excellent contributions already from local people and people who live just outside the parish", states Joe Mulcahy, the club chairman, who told of three cheques for £200 each which turned

up, unsolicited, in the past fortnight.

There is, of course, more to the parish than the G.A.A. It is, for example, a major horse centre, with three establishments in existence. P. P. Hogan, Gus Leahy and Enda Bolger all maintain their bloodstock there.

## Badminton

But if you want to play badminton, you may have to queue. As the only badminton hall for miles around, it caters for people from as far as Bruree, Bruff and Kilmallock.

And is it possible that the parish was the only one in the county to stage a pantomime each year and pack it to the doors for six successive nights?

Maybe it's because of all the grace gained during the two Pattern Days with which we began this look at Dromin/Athlacca.

In modern days, the practice was reborn in 1978, with the celebrations to mark the centenary year of Dromin hall. A Mass on Trinity Sunday brought people back to remember the significance of Trinity Well, and it took off from there. Now the period around Trinity Sunday is a parish festival. In fact, it is probably the only Pattern Day festival which is a moveable feast.

At the other end of the parish, Athlacca Muintir na Tire have become organisers of St. John's weekend, the other Pattern celebration, which is also a carnival-atmosphered event.

## Activity

The parish of Dromin/Athlacca is quiet, but certainly not sleepy. Activity is everywhere to be seen.

But the fact remains that people from the parish rarely figure in court reports, and it is doubtful whether Fr. O'Byrne in Athlacca or Fr. Duggan in Dromin have heard a startling confession in years.



## Dromin-Athlacca

The local soccer team, Trinity Rangers, had a great 7-2 win over Annacotty last Sunday at Annacotty and so continue on their great league run. They are also in the semi-final of the Keane Cup, a trophy which they won last season.

The Dromin-Athlacca G.A.A. Field Committee are holding a £500 card game in Athlacca on this Friday night, April 4. The proceeds will go towards the new field project and it is hoped that all sports lovers, especially from those in the parish, will support the game. They are one of the few senior clubs in Co. Limerick who don't own their own field, something which the present hard-working committee are hoping to put in order in the near future.

## Easy for Dromin



Dromin-Athlacca under 16 hurling C champions.

Dromin-Athlacca ..... 5-10  
Kildimo ..... 3-4

**THE UNDER 16 hurling "C" final at Bruff on Saturday last resulted in an easy 5-10 to 3-4 win for Dromin-Athlacca over Kildimo. The South Limerick team played well below their best at times, but at all times had the measure of the opposition.**

The winners were much too strong in all departments and were without question the better side. Willie Neenan had his charges in great fettle and little wonder when team captain, John Breen, in after match speech, was quick to speak the praises of their trainer.

John Breen, P. J. O'Keeffe,

James Greene, John Fitzgibbon, Richard Collins, John McAuliffe and Colm Moynihan starred for the winners. The losers had good performers in Stephen Hannon, Liam Hayes, Fergal Clarke, Jack Molony, Sean Hannan, Declan Hartney, D. Costello and Brian Farrelly.

**Dromin-Athlacca**—C. Breen, C. Doherty, J. Breen, E. Gubbins, M. Kirby, P. J. O'Keeffe, C. Egan, J. Greene, J. Fitzgibbon, M. Collins, R. Collins, D. Lavery, E. Egan, J. McAuliffe, C. Moynihan. Sub.: M. Lyons.

**Kildimo**—S. Hannon, A. O'Brien, L. Hayes, K. Aherne, F. Clarke, J. Molony, K. O'Shaughnessy, S. Hannon, D. Hartery, B. Farrelly, D. Dunne, T. Lunn, D. Quilty, J. O'Mahony, D. Costello.

Referee: J. Lenihan, Croagh.

## Dromin-Athlacca

St. Patrick's week-end was a very busy one for our minor players. On the Sunday the minor hurlers had a comfortable win over Camogue Rovers thanks to some great goals from Johnny Breen, Davy Gallagher and John Fitzgibbon. Almost the same panel travelled to Effin on St. Patrick's Day and came home with full points after a rather one-sided game.

Our under-14's played Croom at Bruree on Saturday and although they failed to raise a flag they put up a spirited show in the second half; thanks to Colm Breen, Mark Moynihan and Conor and Garry Egan. Considering that we had only three players over 12 on the team it would seem that our under-age teams have a bright future.

On Sunday next our under-21 hurlers play Bruff. This game is fixed for Effin at 3.15 p.m. John Sheehan, Donal Kelleher and Paddy O'Gorman are the mentors

## Dromin-Athlacca

Our senior hurlers suffered a gruelling 60 mins. in Kilmallock on Sunday when they were outpaced and outclassed by Patrickswell in the County Championship.

While expectations were realistic going into the game I think that most supporters were disappointed with the team's performance.

There were some good individual performances particularly from Mike O'Leary, Joe Foley, Gerard Moynihan and John O'Callaghan, but too many players seemed to lack the heart and appetite that brings pride and satisfaction if not victory to the parish. Hopefully we will learn from this experience.

Our novice hurlers play Kilfinane in Kilmallock on Saturday evening at 7.30 so the panel of players involved are asked to be ready for duty at 7.15.

## Dromin-Athlacca

Next weekend will be a busy one for all our minors. On Sunday our hurlers play Camogue Rovers in Kelleher's Field at 12 noon. These teams met in the football competition two weeks ago and served up a very hard and exciting game, so it can be presumed that Sunday's encounter will be closely contested. On Monday, St. Patrick's Day, our footballers travel to Effin for their second game in the new league series. That game starts at 2 p.m. John Sheehan, Donal Kelleher and Paddy O'Gorman are in charge of the hurling lineout, while Steve Kelleher, Gerry Murphy and Garry Duhig look after the footballers.

Two of our U-16 players, John Fitzgibbon and John McAuliffe, had their second trial for the divisional side on Sunday last. Both players had good games and would seem worthy of making the team. All underage players from U-14s down will have training in the field on Sunday next at 2 p.m., immediately after the minor match.

## Dromin-Athlacca

Our minor teams put up great performances in their recent games in the league competitions. Our footballers were unlucky losers to Croom at Meanus with a scoreline of 1-8 to 1-5. This was a hard-fought game and in the end we were the unlucky one by failing to raise a flag from a penalty and missing what appeared to be two certain goals. Croom were certainly forced to earn their points through the untiring efforts of Martin Lynch at centre-back and a great performance from Tony Gubbins in the corner. Davy Gallagher had his best hour to date and notched four points in the process, while John Fitzgibbon scored a great goal from a delightful passing movement that started in the back line. Ronnie Coll opened our account with a point in the first minute and continued to be a force in the attack for the hour.

The minor hurlers played Glenroe at Effin on Sunday afternoon and after a very hard fought contest this game ended in stalemate. Dromin-Athlacca led by 5 pts. at half-time, but Glenroe dominated the scoring in the second half and our lads added a mere two points to their tally. John Fitzgibbon once again showed his class scoring 1-3 from play while Gerard Cronin's accuracy from placed balls added a further four pts. The final score was Dromin-Athlacca, 1-7; Glenroe, 2-4. All the minor panel are asked to report for training in Kelleher's Field at 12.30 on Sunday next.

The junior football team had a walk-over from Knockaney on Saturday evening when the latter club failed to field a team. On next Sunday evening our senior team play Kilfinane in Kilmallock at 7.30 p.m. The panel are putting in serious training at present and had two good challenge games over the past few weeks, so it is hoped that we will keep our heads high in the

## Dromin-Athlacca

LAST weekend was a busy one for many of our under-age players. The under 16s enjoyed an easy victory over Knockaney who they played in the hurling league at Athlacca on Saturday.

The final score read: Dromin-Athlacca 6-10, Knockaney 3-3. John McAuliffe was our top scorer with a personal tally of 4-3, while John Fitzgibbon (1-5), John Breen (1-1) and James Green (0-1) were the others who raised flags.

The under 21s played Bruff at Effin on Sunday and despite some good individual performances from our lads, especially from the Enright brothers, Sean and Donal, Bruff emerged easy victors.

John McAuliffe and John Fitzgibbon had good games on Sunday evening when they helped the South defeat the East in a hurling game played at Knockaney. Gerry Mulcahy and Donal Enright both played their parts in helping the South senior hurlers defeat the West in a game played at Dromcollogher.

On Friday evening our minor footballers play Croom in the next stage of their league campaign. They have enjoyed a good run to date so supporters have high expectations for Friday's game, which is timed for 7 p.m. in Meanus.

On Saturday at 3 p.m., the under 16 hurlers play Galbally in Hospital. Our senior hurlers play Croom in a challenge game on this Friday evening. The game is fixed for Croom at 7.30 p.m. sharp. All the senior panel are expected to attend and all players are reminded that training takes place in Kelleher's Field on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

## Dromin-Athlacca

The last opportunity for our senior hurlers to remain in championship contention presents itself on Sunday next, when they play Croom. This game is fixed for Bruff at 2 p.m. Some young blood has been introduced to the panel recently so lets hope that the desired result is achieved.

Because of examinations, the minor hurling league competition was a standstill for the past few weeks, but our long awaited replay with Glenroe takes place on next Tuesday evening in Effin at 7.30 p.m. As befits the sporting scene of the moment, extra time will be played if necessary.

Our under 12 hurlers and footballers were deprived of competition in their last two outings but thankfully practice games were organised on both occasions and it was great to see as many as 35 under 12s of all shapes and sizes take the field. It's an ill wind that doesn't blow good for some as a couple of toddlers now boast at having played in the parish jersey.

Colm Breen and Conor Egan featured prominently in an under 14 trial game in Kilmallock on Saturday evening. Let's hope that these two talented players make it to the county team.

All homes in the parish have now received circulars from the field committee informing them of their intentions to call to each home during the coming weeks. This is an unenviable task, but one that must be done if the project is to go ahead and if bank interest is to be avoided. This collection will be a "once off" occurrence, and the committee are greatly heartened by the fact that many friends and supporters have already come forward with donations.



# Dromin-Athlacca GAA Club

The Dromin/Athlacca G.A.A. club has a very long and chequered history. Situated practically in the centre of county Limerick it has been associated with Gaelic sports at least as far back as the middle of the last century. With very little success it is true, until quite recently, in fact its first recorded championship success did not come until 1954.

It is on record that a very active team which played mostly football was in existence in the 1850's and was known as the Boherard team. That team was in existence until about 1903 and many are the stories that are told of its players exploits and many are the songs which were written about it, the most famous being the "Boys of Boherard". This team had its headquarters in the Northern side of the parish, and they took part in parish competitions in which the ball was played from one parish to the next. I have often heard the old people refer to it as Faugh-a-Bhalla football.

In Jimmy Kellys (Caman) History of the Limerick G.A.A. it states that the Dromin club was reformed in 1897, and the officials were, Patrick Scanlon, Thomas Enright

and James Birrane. A Dromin senior hurling team played Kilmallock in the Co. championship in 1905 and were beaten by 5 points to 2, that game was played in a field near Ballygibba, nobody knows the exact location of the field now. A story is also told in the parish of how a football team travelled to the pattern day games in Ballylanders and beat Anavale Rovers a famous Tipperary team who were champions of their Co. at the time.

In more recent years a club was formed which went by the name of the Trinity Rangers. It was formed in Hayes Oil House in Dromin in February 1936 (no warm halls or good lighting in those days). The officers of that club were chairman James Birrane, Secretary, Thomas Ring and treasurer, Willie Hayes. The club had little success, none at all in fact, suffering some humiliating defeats. The one win which they had was in minor hurling when they defeated Kiltelly in Carmody's field in Bruff but later lost the game as the jerseys did not arrive at the venue and they had to play in their shirts. That club went out of existence during the war years. Many players from the parish still

assisted neighbouring teams.

Thanks to the Knocksouna flapper tournaments in the late 40s and early '50 a group of youngsters formed a club under the chairmanship of Wm. Mullins of Dromin and called it Dromin/Athlacca. For many years our teams were a joke suffering defeat after defeat. In one south game the bouncers beat us 14-14 to 1-1 and Glenroe beat us by 12-13 to 4 pts. Still the club struggled on and I think that it should be an inspiration to any team, that if they fight on their turn is bound to come. Our club which was once the poor neighbour of the good teams in the south, is now a match for most teams in the county.

The first Dromin/Athlacca break-through came when the South Junior football championship was won in 1954. Only five players from the parish were on the team as the rest came from neighbouring parishes. The juvenile hurlers also won the south in that year and were beaten in the county semi-final by Patrickswell who boasted some great players, including present co-selector Tony O'Brien. Our under 14 hurlers won the South title in '65, '66 and '72 and the nucleus of a fairly good team started to emerge. Minor hurling and football souths were won in 1970 as well as the junior hurling shield — Under 21 football was won in 1971. The club's greatest ever achievement (I think) was also in 1971 when the junior hurlers defeated neighbours and great sporting rivals Bruree in the South final, the excitement after this victory, not for days but for weeks had to be seen to be believed. Even old ladies who knew nothing about hurling could talk of nothing else, and of course knowing the tradition the

dedication, and the sportsmanship of Bruree and the high respect they hold amongst hurling men, it was surely a feather in our caps to defeat them. I must add that they were the first to congratulate us on this our greatest day. In 1973 we won the south U/21 and defeated Tournafulla in a replayed County final.

The club went Intermediate in '75 and this year won the County Championship defeating a great Glenroe team in the wind, rain and mud in Kilmallock on the 30th of October. Bonfires blazed all over the parish on that night too, in fact at the time of writing the match is still being played, the game and players are improving all the time I may add. Outside people have often said to me what's all the excitement about, but to live in a small rural parish such as ours where you know everyone's business well you must live with us to know us. We must be forgiven, I suppose for going "mad" on our occasional victories as after all a lot of our time we have to stay oh so very sane.

A very strange thing about the intermediate championship, it was very nice to win it and vindicated our people who entered it. But it lacked something, to our club at least, not the same heart playing in it. Supporters not as keen, they had much more interest in tournament games, all cribbing that the coverage of the championship in the papers was non-existent. This club at any rate is more than thankful to be gone from it.

The men who steered our destinies this year are Gaels who are steeped in the tradition of the G.A.A. Chairman Jack Kelleher won two County Limerick Junior titles at left half back, one with his native Feenagh and one with

## DROMIN/ATHLACCA INTERMEDIATE HURLING CHAMPS 1977.



*Back Row (L to R):- Willie Kelleher Selector, Brendan Carroll, Brian Neenan, Joe Mulcahy, V. Chairman, Gerard Moynihan, Gerard Callaghan, Eddie Hayes, Gerard Mulcahy, Mike Hurley, Mike Moynihan, Mike Leary, Johnnie Reeffe Selector and Trainer, Donal Kelleher, Roger Herlihy, Stevie Kelleher, Johnnie Kelleher, Jerry Neenan Officials*  
*Front Row (L to R):- Jerry Murphy, Tony Kenny, Willie Neenan, Billy Guiney, Patsy Murphy, Jimmy Donoghue, John Callaghan, John Reidy, John Fitzgibbon Mascot, Johnnie Neenan Capt., David Lynch, missing from group Noel Neenan.*