

Fáilte

On behalf of the Father Murphy's Hurling and Football Club, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all here tonight. Tonight we celebrate 50 years of hurling and football in our club and for all of us it is a very special occasion, I am especially proud and thankful to be chairman of the Father Murphy's Club during this anniversary year. Tonight is dedicated to all those past and present who have spent their lives in the promotion of Gaelic games and culture in our Club and community. To all those who have served the club so steadfastly, whether as players, at committee level or as supporters and helpers throughout those years we pay a special tribute.

A warm welcome to the first committee members and players from the early years, these are just some of the people who started the hard work laying the foundations of the club 50 years ago, thank you for your initiative, hard work, commitment throughout the early years, and your continued support.

We initially formed with the intention of being a Wexford man's Hurling and Football Club, but we are now regularly represented by players from all over Ireland and England. In addition we are now proudly represented by a Ladies Football team formed twenty years ago and a Camogie team formed ten years ago, who have also been immensely successful over the years.

Particular and special words is due to our sponsors, GCL (Ground Construction Ltd.), S Walsh & Sons Ltd, Maggie's Bar to name but



a few, whose generous financial support tonight, and over the past fifty years have ensured we survive and maintain our status as one of the top G.A.A Clubs in London. Among our guests from home is Damien Fitzhenry of Wexford hurling fame and the O'Neill school of dancing, thank you for your effort and support tonight.

As I have already said this is a proud night for us all, the Club has come a long way over the past fifty years. We have contributed to the success of Gaelic games and pastimes in London, we have given enjoyment and thrills to many throughout our fifty years and in return our Club has enjoyed many successes on the field, my hope is that the next fifty years will be as rewarding for all. Finally I hope you all enjoy the night and thanks again for everything.

Seosaigh O'Laoighaire
Cathaoirleach

Address from Larry O'Leary



It has been a great pleasure for me to be chairperson of the Father Murphy's Ladies Football and Camogie over the past four years and what success we have enjoyed, two senior football championships, two Mary Feehan cups, a senior league, in football and two senior championships together with a junior league in Camogie. On top of that eight Fr Murphy's girls were members of the London Football Panel that recently won the All Ireland.

The club also won the Dubai Shield in football whilst the Camogie team won the Birmingham women's tournament then became the first London club to win in the Club championship in Ireland, when they beat Donards Glen and are now in the semi final.

Hopefully by the time you are reading this we will have even more silverware on the table.

The spirit in this club has been fantastic, the club providing the backbone of the county teams in both Camogie and Ladies Football and it is great that so many players are here tonight, especially past members who have now returned home.

I would like to welcome and thank our sponsors Julie O'Neill of Cara Personnel, Nick Kenny of Dicey's and Declan Carr of the Garryowen in Twickenham, their generosity has helped us reach new heights.

I would also like to thank all our mentors and supporters, especially Darren & Sean Howlin, Breda Weller and Seanie Quinn together with Football coaches Shane and Brian Tighe. Congratulations to the men's hurling and football club on reaching their fiftieth anniversary.

Hopefully everyone will have a great night.

Larry O'Leary

Chairperson Fr Murphy's Ladies Football & Camogie Club London

County Chairman's Address

On behalf of the London County Board I wish to congratulate the Fr. Murphy's Club and the Officials and Players, past and present on reaching the current milestone in their history.

The record books show that the club have figured prominently on the Honours list from their first participation in 1959 with a Championship and League victories and in this decade to date have captured four Senior Hurling Championship titles to demonstrate that have truly arrived at the top echelons in London Hurling.

The Fr. Murphy's Footballers until their withdrawal a few years ago enhanced the London Competitions with the some gritty performances and one wishes that they can reform and win further honours.

The club has provided many outstanding players to London Hurling teams and played important roles in winning All-Ireland titles – there were many stars throughout the past fifty years, from the men who first wore the purple and gold to the current crop of players who have won four of the last eight senior county championship titles, we salute you all, a special mention to Tom Barron who played on the London Hurling team with his father the late Willie Barron a unique achievement unlikely to be repeated.



On the administration side I acknowledge the contributions made by Frank Sheehan who has served as Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the County Board, Pat Byrne is a former Chairman of the Minor Board and Martin Kirwan a former Secretary. I would like to pay special tribute to Phil Roche who is the current Registrar of the Minor Board a position he has held for the past 20 years. Phil has given outstanding service to club and county.

In conclusion I wish the Fr. Murphy's club continued success and I trust the achievements and dedication to the aims of Cumann Luthchleas Gael to date will serve as a source of inspiration to those that will follow.

Tomás Ó hEairil
Londain Cathaoirleach

The London Wexford Association

The London Wexford Association was formed in 1954. A meeting took place at the Red Lion public house, Kilburn Road, November 1954. At the meeting the first Committee was elected. Chairperson Tommy Quirke, also later to become the first chairperson of The Father Murphy's, Secretary elected was Sean Murphy from Castlebridge, and Treasurer Jim Murphy also from Castlebridge, Vice Chairman was Jack Carley from Killurin. The first Annual general Meeting was held on 6th December 1954.

Although many of the first members have passed on to their eternal reward, we should still salute their foresight in seeing the need for a representative County Association all those years ago. Wexford was one of the first associations formed in London, the other early associations being Cork, Tipperary, and Clare.

The success of the Wexford hurling team in the fifties was one of the major influences behind the formation of such a successful Association. It was while travelling back from the 1954 All Ireland Hurling final that the founder members recognised the need for an association in London to cater for the social needs of the Wexford emigrants in London.

Over the years the Association has been involved in many varying activities, the John F Kennedy memorial concert in the royal Albert Hall being one of the early highlights. The Association was influential in the formation of the Wexford Mimmers, who performed to packed audiences at the Red Lion and many other venues throughout London and England. In the early eighties the Association formed the Wexford Darts League, the Association played an important part in helping form a successful Father Murphy's youth team winning a London Minor championship. Sadly the need for County Associations is diminishing because of the smaller numbers of emigrants, and the various alternative social attractions for young people, but with the continued support of the Father Murphy's GAA Club, the Wexford Association will remain very healthy.

The Wexford Association would like to congratulate the Father Murphy's Hurling and Football Club on their fifty year anniversary and all the success down the years, and also the Ladies Club on their recent successes long may your success continue.

Michael Sills
*President and Chairman,
London Wexford Association*



*Wexford Association members enjoying their 1983 Annual Dinner dance
L to R: Sean Diviney, Jim Murphy, Martin Kirwan, Peter Roche (Mayor of Wexford),
Pat Clegg, May Cleg, Tom Bailey.*

Tom Ryan's Recollections

One of the founder members, Tom Ryan recounts the formation of the Club 50 years ago:

In 1958 a group of Wexford men in London, who were playing football and hurling with other clubs held a meeting with the object of forming a Wexfordmen's hurling and football club.

The first meeting took place in the "Sir Robert Peel" pub in London, there was an attendance of about forty people. The manager of the pub, Larry Kehoe was also a Wexfordman from Ferns, he was one of the first officers of the club taking up the post of treasurer, the other two officers elected at that meeting were Chairman, Tom Quirke and Secretary, Frank Sheehan. Tom Quirke at this time was also a founder member of the Wexford Association. After a small debate it was unanimously agreed that the new club would be called the Father Murphy's, and its colours should be purple and gold.

It was decided to enter A&B hurling & football teams in London championships. Captain of the hurling team was Tom Ryan and vice captain Jim Kearns, the football captain was Mick Fortune. Father Murphy's first challenge match was played at Scrubs against St. Mel's of Slough, their manager was Fr. Casey who would later become Bishop of Galway. Success came to the club almost immediately winning at first time of asking the 1959 junior hurling final against Thomas McCurtins. After that the club was to succeed at all grades in both hurling and football. The Club had numerous players and attracted a great number of followers, in the early years Kilburn Park Station was the meeting point on Sunday mornings



(after mass). So great was the following a double decker bus along with cars was required to transport the huge numbers.

The Father Murphy's had some great hurlers down through the years too numerous to mention their names. I congratulate the Club and I am very happy to say after 50 years the Club is as strong as ever and long may it continue.

Officers and Committee 1958

Chairman: Tommy Quirke

Vice-Chairman: Matt O'Neill

Secretary: Frank Sheehan

Assistant Secretary: Jim Gallagher

Treasurer: Larry Kehoe

Committee Members

Tom Ryan, Sean Redmond, Jim Kearns, James Murphy, Mick Fortune

Minutes of the First Meeting, Thursday 13 November 1958

Minutes of Meetings

A meeting was held in the Robert Peel, Lonsbury Road on Thursday 13. November the object being to form a Warrington - hurling & football club, there was a fair attendance. Mr J. Guise was proposed by J. Murphy as Chairman of the meeting seconded by J. Sheehan. Mr L. Kehoe was proposed by J. Murphy as treasurer seconded by J. Sheehan. J. Sheehan was proposed by J. Murphy as secretary seconded by J. Kehoe. The chairman thanked all for his election & hoped that the club would have a long & successful run.

The chairman then called for a name for the club various names were suggested but it was left between Father Murphy's & Thoirs, and on a show of hands Father Murphy's was the name given to the club.

Mr A. Liffey proposed that the Warrington County colours be the colours of the club seconded by L. Kehoe. which was agreed.

on unanimously. It was proposed that the secretary write to Warrington County secretary regarding jerseys as it was the feeling of the meeting that a secondhand set of County jerseys might be got reasonably. Mr J. Murphy proposed that the initial subscription towards the club be 10/- this was agreed to, the treasurer then made his collection which amounted to £4. The chairman thanked Mr L. Kehoe for the use of the room, and it was agreed that this be the club's centre. The A. G. M. was fixed for Wednesday 19 Nov at 8-30 P.M. As there was no further business Mr J. Guise declared meeting closed. O'Neill

The Early Years

A new club The Father Murphy's attracted many players and followers during the early years, this translated into success both on and off the field.

The club relied on members and followers to provide funds to run the club, organising dances was the primary method of raising cash in the early days, dances were held in places like The Galtymore in Cricklewood, and The Inisfree in Ealing Broadway.

To get the ball rolling a dance was arranged for the 14 January 1959 in the Galtymore, there was a very good attendance and an enjoyable night was had by all.

The night was considered a big success and the club made a profit of £28 on the night helped by a draw for a bottle of whiskey and a pair of nylons, additionally the

manager of the Galtymore gave a donation of £5 to the club.

On the field the club was soon up and running, a set of jerseys, two dozen Randall hurleys, footballs and hurling balls were acquired, training was held at grounds in Wormwood Scrubs. Captains for hurling and football were elected at the AGM, hurling captain was T Ryan, with vice captain J Kearns, the football captain for 1959 was M Fortune with K O'Neill as vice-captain.

In their first year 1959, Father Murphy's won the London Junior Hurling Championship and the Junior League Championship. The club reached the final of the junior football championship but were unfortunately narrowly beaten.

The Victorious First Team - 1959



The Father Murphy side, the team of Wexford men who had an easy victory over Glen Rovers at New Eltham. From left in front: Sean Redmond, Thomas Ryan (capt.), John Cullen. Kneeling: Marty O'Neill, Pat Ryan, James Ryan, Peter Murphy, Noel Ronan, John Bradley, William Furlong, Mick Furlong, William Byrne. At back: Frank Sheehan (Hon. Secretary), Cartin Flynn, Liam Farley, James Murphy, Andrew Griffin, Thomas Walsh, Hugh Fennlon, Aidan Ledger, James Kearns, George Leary, Thomas Quirke (President).



Successful Players and Supporters – 1959

1960

In 1960, Father Murphy's fielded two hurling teams at Intermediate and Junior with a junior football teams. The club continued on where they left off and were a force to be reckoned with winning the Intermediate Hurling Championship and League titles in their first year of trying. Captain of the Intermediate hurling team was J. Kearns with P. Wilson vice captain, football captain was also P. Wilson and M. Fortune vice captain. One of the highlights during the year was trip back home to Ireland in July, the Father Murphy's played matches against a number of Wexford clubs concluding with a dance in Adamstown, all who travelled had a very enjoyable time.



Father Murphy's 1960 winners of the London Intermediate Hurling League and Championship. The side is entirely composed of Wexford Exiles. Front Row (from left): A. Ledger, J. Cullen, J. Murphy, M. Fortune, T. Ryan, B. Furlong, S. Redmond, J. Bradley, J. Ryan. At Back: F. Sheehan (hon.sec.), M. O'Neill, J. Sinnott, P. Wilson, J. Redmond, L. Furlong, J. Kearns, G. Leary, T. Walsh, R. Leary, M. Harne, T. Quirke (chairman).

1961

In 1961, Father Murphy's success continued capturing the Senior League title in the replayed final against Sean McDermott's. Father Murphy's fielded Intermediate and Junior level hurling teams and a junior football team, captain of the hurling team was John Redmond and football was Matt Byrne. During July and August Father Murphy's made a trip home to play challenge games against some Wexford Clubs.



The successful 1961 players, Club members and supporters

EXILES HELD TO DRAW

THRILLING FINISH TO SENIOR HURLING TIE

In a thrilling finish Sean McDermott's snatched a draw with Father Murphy's in the senior hurling league at New Eltham on Sunday.

Forced to line out without two of their best players, Jimmy Furlong (broken arm) and Joe Feilly (injured rib), the Westsiders, despite a poor first-half, gave a good performance and showed considerable improvement on their recent championship display.

Playing with the advantage of wind and rain, Father Murphy's had much the better of the exchanges in the first half but they only led by 4 points to 1 point at the interval. This was due to some amazing misses by the Exiles and had they made full use of their chances they would have been in a very comfortable position at that stage. The first half was very dull and lifeless, and the standard of hurling was very disappointing.

MAGNIFICENT SAVES

On resumption, the exchanges became very lively. Both teams relied on first-time pulling and the large attendance were treated to some delightful passages. There were some thrilling goal-mouth struggles and both sides had some fantastic escapes.

For Father Murphy's Pat Grace in goal made some magnificent saves and gave a first-class exhibition. In defence Mick Fortune, Jim Kearns, Jim Ryan and Larry Murphy were most prominent.

Of the attack Tom Barron, Liam Furlong and Bill Fitzsimmons were most often in the picture.

Liam Furlong had the first score of the game a good point. Sean McDermott's equalised. Eugene Cullen and Tom Barron completed the first-half scoring, leaving Father Murphy's ahead (4 points to 1).

With three points in rapid succession, Sean McDermott's got on level terms, and only two magnificent saves by Grace prevented them from going ahead. Sean McDermott's took the lead for the first time in the tenth minute with a point from a free. The Westsiders fought back determinedly to secure a score and, after a number of fruitless attacks, Liam Furlong scored a great goal with a first-time shot. Tom Barron, with a point, increased the lead.

Sean McDermott's then narrowed the gap with two points in quick succession, to leave only the minimum between the sides. With eight minutes left, there was tremendous excitement, but both defences were on task. With only four minutes left, Bill Fitzsimmons increased Father Murphy's lead with a good point from 40 yards out.

The closing minutes were dominated by Sean McDermott's who threw everything into attack to save the day. On the stroke of time they were awarded a "70" but this shot failed to bring a score, and thus Father Murphy's preserved their unbeaten record in the league.

Final scores were:

Father Murphy's, 1-6;
Sean McDermott's, 0-9.

The Team — Pat Grace (goal), Tom Ryan (Rathfriland), Jim Kearns (Ferns), Mick Fortune (do.), Jim Ryan (Rathfriland), John Cullen (Castlebridge), Larry Murphy (Ballycanew), P. J. Fortune (Enniscorthy), Eugene Cullen (Castlebridge), Bill Fitzsimmons (Romegrange), Mick Devereux (Cushinstown), Tom Barron (Enniscorthy), Matt O'Neill (Adamstown), Liam Furlong (do.), Dick Butler (do.).

Subst. Mick Furlong (Adamstown) for Devereux; Devereux for Furlong; Pat Redmond (Cushinstown), Pat McCall (Kilhaney).

1962

1962 was again a successful year for the Club, three hurling teams Senior, Intermediate and Junior, and a Junior football team participated in all competitions.



*Back L to R. F Sheehan, B O'Leary, PJ Fortune, L Furlong, J(King) Rerdmond, L Murphy, T Ryan, J Walsh, M Devereux, J Kearns, E Cullen, A Neville, T Quirke(Chairman)
Front L to R, M Fortune, D Butler, S Redmond, J Ryan, T Harrell, M Hearne, T Barron, J Cullen, J Synott*

Congratulations on 50 years, and wishing you every success in the future, from GCL (Ground Construction Limited)



1963

Father Murphy's captained by Liam Furlong demonstrated their versatility capturing a first football trophy in the Intermediate league by defeating a strong St Michaels team by 3-5 to 1-5. Although no trophies to show for exploits on the field of the hurlers, they were still a serious threat. During 1963 including all competitions the Father Murphy's played 26 league and championship matches, winning 13, drawing 2 and losing 11. A highlight of the year was again a very successful trip home.

1964

On the field Father Murphy's won the Junior Hurling League for the second time, Fr Murphy's were narrowly beaten in the championship. The senior hurlers acquitted themselves very well during the year winning 7 drawing 1 and only losing 3 games. The senior footballers reached the league final but were unfortunately well beaten by St Mels.



Front from left. N Meyler, B Furlong, P Hendrick, T Harrell, P Fitzpatrick, P Mullhall, M Meyler, B Howlett, J Kiley, E Bradley
Back from left. F Sheehan, J O'Brien, J Quigley, S Redmond, J Swords, J Meyler, N Carley, D Cahill, D Shalloe, A Neville, T Lacey, PJ Fortune, V Hennessy.

Father Murphy's Second Title

FIFTEEN-POINT WIN IN LONDON FINAL

Father Murphy's title All-Ireland side gave a magnificent display by defeating Padraig Meachair, 1-11 to 2-1 at New Eildon on Sunday to give the club its second senior hurling league title.

Played before a large and enthusiastic attendance in ideal conditions, the standard of hurling was far higher than that normally associated with the junior grade. The one-sided nature of scoring is seen at all a true indication of the level of the club as both teams were very evenly matched.

The big difference between the sides was in attack—the Father Murphy's side made good use of every scoring opportunity and showed wonderful accuracy whereas their opponents lacked punch in attack. But also many of their efforts for goals were foiled by the brilliant Pat Mullhall.

Taking everything into consideration, Father Murphy's and the better balanced and more skilful combination and were fully deserving of their fine victory.

THE PLAY

Father Murphy's did most of the attacking in the opening stages and were first to score when Tomás Harrell had a point from a free. This was followed by points from Harrell, Fitzpatrick and Furlong in quick succession. Padraig Meachair only reply was a solitary point.

The Westmeath's half was harassed by points from Furlong, Curly, Thomas and Fitzpatrick. Once Padraig Meachair secured the lower with a good shot, but Tom Lacey had a similar score for the Westmeath to leave this half-time score 1-1 to 1-1 in their favour.

On resumption the exchanges were fast and fast and the Padraig Meachair were having a far more chance of the play, but Mullhall's work by Mullhall, in goal, and Neville at centre-back, foiled their best efforts.

Then the Tipperary side had a goal which raised their hopes of victory, but a goal by Bill Furlong left them struggling once more.

The Westmeath's scoring was completed by Harrell 10-11, Kiley 10-11, Furlong 10-11 and Lacey 10-11 to which the Padraig Meachair had no reply.

For the Father Murphy's Pat Mullhall in goal had some magnificent saves to his credit. The full-back line of Declan Shalloe, Tom Quigley and Jim Swords were very sound and allowed their opponents little scope.

At centre-half back, Tony Neville turned in a magnificent display and was seldom a shadow of doubt the hero of his side. His long clearances were a treat to watch, he got tremendous support from his two wing-men Dick Cahill and Tony Fortune.

At midfield Seán Redmond, and John Kirby matched great lengths and were always in control of the exchanges. The half-forward line of Tommy Harrell, Eamon Bradley and Pat Fitzpatrick were a dangerous trio and they had several scores to their credit. At full-forward Tom Lacey was in good form and showed great opportunities. Closer forwards Bill Furlong and Pat Hendrick were always on hand for their opposite numbers.

Father Murphy's—Pat Mullhall (Kilmarin), Jim Swords (Gore), Andy Oulkey (Rathmore), Declan Shalloe (Katoorhy), Dick Cahill (Rathmore), Tony Neville (Castleblagh), Nick Curly (Wexford), John Kirby (New Ross), Sean Redmond (Castleblagh), Tommy Harrell (Borewood), Eamon Bradley (Kilmarin), Pat Fitzgerald (Kilmarin), Pat Hendrick (Kilmarin), Tom Lacey (Kilmarin), Bill Furlong (Kilmarin).

Goals—Jim, Mick and Noel Messer (Our Lady's Island), V. Hennessy (Rathmore), B. Howlett (Admiralty), J. O'Brien (Coughlan).

CUP PRESENTED

Following the game, Mr. Jim Mullackey, Chairman, London County Board, presented the cup to Tom Neville captain of the Father Murphy's.

Mr. Mullackey paid tribute to both sides for the great display they had given and he wished every success to the Father Murphy's in a higher grade next year.

Tony Neville thanked Mr. Mullackey for his kind words and also the ladies for their fine sporting display.

1965-1966

1965 to 1966 produced no trophies but Father Murphy's continued to be a serious contender at all levels in all competitions. In 1965 the Intermediate team reached the league final but lost out to Robert Emmets by 5-12 to 1-7.

Over this two year period Father Murphy's fielded 3 hurling teams, Senior, Intermediate and Junior, and an Intermediate football team.

Hurling captains from 65-66 included Paddy Grace, PJ Fortune, Jimmy Quigley, football captains included Billy Fitzsimmons, Matt O'Neill.

1967

In 1967 the Junior hurling team once again won the championship which they had last won in 1959. In the semi-final they defeated Brian Boru's by 5 points, and then ran out very convincing winners against St Mary's in the final.

Senior Hurling captain in 1967 was J Kearns, football captain N Carty.

FATHER MURPHY'S OUT OF CUP COMPETITION

Father Murphy's made their exit from the JFC Cup competition when they were beaten (2-8 to 0-6) by Brian Boru at New Blithem on Sunday.

In a hard-fought encounter both teams arrived at some good hurling in difficult conditions. From the throw-in, Fr. Murphy's played with great determination.

Mark Duggan and Eugene Collins were up at midfield and gave the forwards a liberal supply of the ball. The half-forward—Sean Redmond, P. J. Fortune and Tommy Harte—were masters of their opportu- nities in the first half and scored much panic in the Brian Boru's defence. Unfortunately, the opportunity was not repeated as the attack found it difficult to break through the brilliant and keeping of the Fr. Murphy's full-forward line, which was completely paralysed by the Brian Boru's full-back line.

PLEASANT PERFORMANCE

The Westmeathmen led by 1-6 to 1-1 at the interval. The Brian Boru's goal was a very lucky one. It was scored while the Fr. Murphy's defenders were looking for the throw in. The throw was caught by one of the opposing forwards but he missed the ball through off the ground.

With the odds heavily against them, Fr. Murphy's played some magnificent hurling in the second half and, eventually, secured the win. Before Brian Boru's took a half-point lead (1-8 to 0-6) at the start, the Westmeath forwards had been given opportunities to register goals, but both classes were badly frustrated. Fr. Murphy's added four points against a strong defence, and their scoring goal came in the middle of the half, the ball being taken from Jim Kearns while he was about to be tackled.

Fr. Murphy's can feel well pleased with the performance against the champions, and, if a few weaknesses can be remedied, they could have a real shot at the domination of the championship.

In defence, Jim Kearns, Jim Harte, Jim Ryan and Dick Tully were outstanding. Mark Duggan was brilliant down at midfield. On the attack, P. J. Fortune, Sean Redmond and Johnnie Murphy were first pick.

James E. Redmond (0-2), P. J. Fortune (0-2), and T. Harte (0-2).

The team—Pat Ryan (Goal), Tom and Jim Ryan (Goalkeepers), Duggan, Anthony P. J. Fortune, John Harte, Tom and Sean Harte (Full-backs), Mick Duggan (Half-back), Dick Butler and Eugene Collins (Half-forwards), Niall Redmond, Niall Fortune, Niall Harte (Full-forwards), Niall Fortune, Niall Harte (Goalkeepers), Niall Fortune, Niall Harte (Goalkeepers).

FOOTBALLERS FIGHT LEVEL

A draw, (0-3 each) was played at New Blithem in the Intermediate football league game between Fr. Murphy's and Glen.

at Glen at New Blithem on Sunday.

The history wind and steady rain made good football impossible and, as a result, there was much jumbling and confusion. Some chance were missed in both sides.

The Westmeathmen were forced to line out without seven of their regular side and, in the circumstances, they were probably pleased to share the honour.

Fr. Murphy's played against the wind in the first half and, unfortunately, well in the second half.

On the attack, it looked like the Westmeathmen would come to the Fr. Murphy's defence. Unfortunately, the opportunity was not repeated as the attack found it difficult to break through the brilliant and keeping of the Fr. Murphy's full-forward line, which was completely paralysed by the Brian Boru's full-back line.

The Westmeathmen scored a goal from the first half by Peter Butler and had their opportunity to score again in the second half. Unfortunately, the opportunity was not repeated as the attack found it difficult to break through the brilliant and keeping of the Fr. Murphy's full-forward line, which was completely paralysed by the Brian Boru's full-back line.

For Fr. Murphy's, Tom Ryan was very much at full-back and was well supported by P. J. Fortune. Dick Butler turned in a solid display of tactics. Niall Redmond and Tom Ryan proved a good outside partnership, but the former failed in the second half. Martin Crowley showed some nice touches at centre-forward, but he lacked support. Of the Westmeath, John Harte and Sean Redmond did well.

The team—Pat Ryan (Goal), Tom and Jim Ryan (Goalkeepers), Duggan, Anthony P. J. Fortune, John Harte, Tom and Sean Harte (Full-backs), Mick Duggan (Half-back), Dick Butler and Eugene Collins (Half-forwards), Niall Redmond, Niall Fortune, Niall Harte (Full-forwards), Niall Fortune, Niall Harte (Goalkeepers).

FR. MURPHY'S ARE LONDON CHAMPIONS

Father Murphy's (the all-Wes) first side gave a magnificent display when they defeated St. Mary's (3-10 to 2-2) in the London (Irish) hurling championship final at Edgware last Sunday.

The Westmeathmen were appearing in their second final since the club was founded in 1959, and they maintained their proud record of having never lost a final. Judging by the accounts, one would think that this was a very easy Father Murphy's victory, but this was far from the case. St. Mary's were in with a great chance of victory for fifty minutes and it was only in the closing stages that they fell away completely.

Both teams showed the highest praise for their own performance and a large attendance was treated to a very hard but sporting exhibition of hurling.

The Westmeathmen were far superior in hurling skill, but it took them a long time to make a very hard-fought St. Mary's side. In the end it was Fr. Murphy's all-round superiority in speed, skill and team work which decided the issue.

THE SCORING

In the first half St. Mary's played with the wind and for the opening ten minutes they attacked almost continuously and threatened to over-run the Westmeathmen. Fortunately for Fr. Murphy's, rain eventually did its effect on the ground and St. Mary's only registered a point. They also had eight wides.

Over Fr. Murphy's pulled down, they moved smoothly, and George O'Leary gave them the lead with two long-range points in quick succession. Following some good attacking hurling, Jack Ennis shot a great goal and a point.

St. Mary's struck back with a goal, but the Westmeathmen replied in the first half scoring with points for James Duggan and George O'Leary and a goal by John Ryan. At half-time, Fr. Murphy's led by 2-3 to 1-1.

On resumption, Peter Ryan and John Collins added points. Unfortunately, St. Mary's fought back with a well-taken goal and, encouraged by their huge following, they launched a series of attacks. The period of play which followed was the most exciting of the hour, as St. Mary's used desperate tactics to narrow the gap. St. Mary's only reward was a point, but it was only some magnificent hurling by the Westmeath defence that kept them down.

With ten minutes left to play, Fr. Murphy's were leading by 2-7 to 2-2. Then the turning point of the game came in the decisive slip by St. Mary's to John Ryan through for a goal.

Following this score, Fr. Murphy's ran out with goals by Peter Ryan and John Collins. George O'Leary had two points and Peter Ryan (one point) to complete the scoring without goals from St. Mary's.

NO WEAK LINKS

There were no weak links in the Fr. Murphy's team and every member of the side contributed to their victory. Pat Mulligan made some fine saves under pressure and was always safe in goal.

John Ryan was rock-solid at full-back and retained every advantage from the very outset. Dick Butler at right half-back, while at left half-back Mick Ryan gave his hard-fought work with Fr. Murphy's. Jimmy Fortune played a captain's part at left half-back, but it was Johnnie Murphy who was the outstanding defender at right half-back. Martin Crowley was very safe at centre-back and allowed his energetic number 11 to score.

George O'Leary was brilliant at centre-forward, with great advantage from the hard-working Jimmy Kelly. Fr. Murphy's dominated this vital battle.

Jack Ennis was in dazzling form at left half-forward and was a constant threat. Finian Doyle and Peter Ryan also had lovely scores in their goal and hurled very well, particularly in the second half. John Collins and John Ryan were very dangerous corner forwards and, despite some tough tackling, they scored vital goals.

Tom Lacey at full-forward was undoubtedly the hardest working forward on show and he kept the St. Mary's defence in constant confusion.

The team—Pat Mulligan (Goal), Dick Butler (Goalkeepers), John Ryan (New Ross), Mick Ryan (Our Lady's Island), Jimmy Fortune (Adamsdown), Martin Crowley (Westmeath), George O'Leary (Ad.), Johnnie Murphy (Westmeath), Jimmy Kelly (Glen), Dick Butler (Adamsdown), Finian Doyle (Carrigrohane), Peter Ryan (New Ross), John Collins (Carrigrohane), Tom Lacey (Glen), John Ryan (Adamsdown).

Back—Mick Fortune (Adamsdown), Eugene Collins (Ad.), Eugene Collins (Adamsdown), John Ryan (Ad.), Mick Ryan (New Ross), Bill O'Connor (Ad.).



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael
Shelmalier GAA Club
WEXFORD
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*Best Wishes to the Father Murphy's
Enjoy the 50 Year Celebrations*

1968

In 1968, Father Murphy's were again London Junior hurling winners narrowly beating Young Ireland's (2-8 to 3-4) in the championship final played at Edmonton.

Father Murphy's also held their first Dinner Dance in the Cavendish Rooms, Willesden, the night was a huge success and enjoyed by all, especially for the people who had made the trip over.

FR. MURPHY'S HOLD FIRST DINNER IN LONDON

OVER 300 people—the majority from various parishes of County Westford — attended the first annual dinner-dance of the all-Westford Father Murphy's Hurling and Football Club in the Cavendish Rooms, Willesden High Road, N.W.10, on Saturday night.

The guests included Mr. Paddy Ryan, President of the Provincial Council of Great Britain; Mr. John Moriarty (Kerry), Treasurer of the London Co. Board; Mr. Jerry Daly (Kerry), Secretary of the London Co. Board; Mr. Oliver Roche (Bathurst), Chairman of the Father Murphy's Hurling Club, Birmingham; Mr. Paddy Coffey, Generalist, Captain of the Father Murphy's hurling team (Birmingham); Mr. Tom Quirk, Vice-President of the Fr. Murphy's Club, and Rev. D. McGrath (Westford town), Vice-President of the Fr. Murphy's Club.

Mr. T. Ryan (Donard), Chairman, welcomed everybody to the dinner, especially the guests, and he paid tribute to them for their wonderful work for the G.A.A. He thanked his fellow officers and committee for the wonderful work they had put into organizing the function. He commended the players for the manner in which they supported the function, and had a special word of thanks for Mr. Kelly, manager, and his staff for the splendid meal they provided.

Mr. Paddy Ryan (Tipperary), chairman Fr. Murphy's for inviting him to their first annual dinner-dance. He paid tribute to the club for their wonderful contribution to hurling in London in their 100 years' existence. They had captured every trophy with the exception of the senior hurling championship, and he felt that, perhaps, by this year's performance, this honour would not be long in coming.

Continuing, he said a feature of the club was their wonderful sportsmanship on and off the field. It was an honour which the wonderful tradition set up by the great Westford team of the early 1930's.

He mentioned the large number of players that had served the

London Junior team so well down through the years, and in particular Phil Wilson and Jim Keane, who helped to bring All-Ireland titles to London. In conclusion, he wished the club every success, and hoped that they would continue to hold such very useful functions.

MEDALS PRESENTED

At the conclusion of the dinner, Rev. Fr. McGrath presented two sets of medals—the 1967 junior hurling championship medals and the medals won by the seniors in Birmingham in November, 1967.

The following players received junior championship medals: James Fanning (Adenstown), Pat Maloney (Kilmore), Dick Cahill (Bathurst), Mick Moxley (Old Lady's Island), Martin Crowley (Wexford town), Sean O'Driscoll (Idol), James Kelly (Garry), John Murphy (Blackwater), Jack Eustace (Cushinstown), John Ryan (Idol), Noel Collins (Idol), Brian Doyle (Cushinstown), Pat Ryan (New Ross), Tom Lacey (Idol), John Cullen (Cushinstown), Mick Kehoe (New Ross), Nick Byrne (Ennisconway), Emma Bradley (Adenstown), Mick Fanning (Idol), Joseph Feller (Bathurst), Aidan O'Neill (Kilmore), Thomas Harte (Idol).

EXILES RETAIN JUNIOR HURLING TITLE

FATHER MURPHY'S took all-Westford sides retained their junior hurling title when they secured a narrow victory (2-8 to 3-4) over Young Ireland's in the championship final at New Edmonstone last Sunday.

Played under very bad conditions, a good landing was impossible, yet a large attendance were treated to a very exciting encounter between two well-matched sides. Young Ireland's were fine favourites to win as a result of some magnificent displays in earlier rounds, but they were surprised by a Fr. Murphy's side that showed tremendous fighting spirit.

In the first half, Fr. Murphy's played with the wind and managed them, but they failed to take full advantage of them. It was a thrilling game from the throw-in, and in the opening half there were fewer than ten two-points between the sides.

Young Ireland's were free to score a quick point, but Tommy Harrell squarled from a free. The score, however, added two points for the Westforders, but Young Ireland's went ahead with a well-taken goal. The pace was hectic as both sides tried to get the upper hand, but it looked like a Young Ireland's victory at half-time as they led by 1-1 to 0-5.

WESTFORD STRONG PRESSURE

The second half started in dramatic fashion when, after two minutes play, Tommy Harrell sent a free to the top of the net. This was the point the Westforders needed and for the following quarter they gave a magnificent display of hurling, to build up a 7-point lead.

With only eight minutes remaining, Young Ireland's had a goal following a melee. Following this score, there was an incident in which Fenton Doyle was sent to the fire—a very harsh decision. The Westforders were completely rattled at this stage, but, when Young Ireland's had a goal from a 40 yards free, the stage was set for a dramatic finish. However, the Westforders held out magnificently and every member of the defence was a hero in those final hectic minutes.

The Fr. Murphy's, Mick Kehoe and Tom Ryan were outstanding in the full-back line. George Pierce was rock solid as number-back and got in some magnificent clearances. Noel Collins turned in a great second half at his half-back.

Aidan O'Neill and M. McClellan were the real heroes of this victory at New Edmonstone. They gave the Westforders a solid wall in this sector all through,

and were at their best when the going was toughest in the closing stages.

Feature of their display was their heavily driven set and set ball. Of the attack, Jack Eustace was brilliant at set half-forward and created many openings for his colleagues. Brian Doyle and Peter Cahill played exceptionally well despite some rough treatment by their opposite numbers.

Scores: Tommy Harrell (2-5); Peter Cahill (1-0); Fenton Doyle (0-1); Jack Eustace (0-3); Aidan O'Neill (0-1).

The team — Pat McLoughlin (goal), Mick Kehoe (New Ross), Tom Ryan (Donard), Noel Collins (Ennisconway), Jim O'Connor (Bathurst), George Pierce (Idol), Denis Shallow (Cushinstown), M. McClellan (Idol), Aidan O'Neill (Bathurst), Tommy Harrell (Idol), Peter Cahill (Idol), Brian Doyle (Cushinstown), John Ryan (Cushinstown), Denis Shallow (Cushinstown), Jack Eustace (Cushinstown).



The victorious 1968 Junior hurling team and supporters

1969

In 1969, the footballers finally made a breakthrough in the Championship winning the final against the Sean Traceys, the team was captained by M Devereux and in a low scoring match the game ended with the scores

1-5 to 0-4. The Senior hurlers also had a good year, the team won five drew one and lost five, the highlight being reaching their first ever Collins Cup final. Having beaten the Treaty Gaels in the semi-final they lost out to the St.Gabriel's in the final, captain for the year was J O'Leary



*Back(LtoR). P J Fortune, S Barron, D Shalloe, J Holohan, T English, M Noctor, J Ryan, P Flynn, M Crowley, N Carthy
Front(LtoR) J Healy, M Butler, S Colfer, M Devereux, S Redmond, S Noctor, P Kennedy, P Quigley, Redmond.*



The victorious Football champions with their loyal supporters

Exiles' dramatic win in football final

TWO goals in the last 4 minutes of the game gave Fr. Murphy's a dramatic 2-3 to 0-5 victory over Sean Treacy's in the 1969 Junior Football League Final at New Elthem last Sunday.

This victory brought the Wexfordmen a historic first double in football as they already had won the championship last October. This was a very hard-fought game and although the standard of football never reached great heights, the closeness of the scoring made it a very interesting and exciting encounter. Although both sides missed many chances over the hour, the Fr. Murphy's always had the better of the exchanges and fully deserved their victory.

THE SCORING

The Wexfordmen faced the stiff breeze in the first half and, surprisingly, dominated the opening ten minutes in which period their only reward was a point by Mick Power. Sean Treacy's settled down well as the game progressed and had two quick points in the 13th and 15th minutes.

John Noctor levelled the scores in the 20th minute with a fisted point. The closing stages of the

first half were all Sean Treacy's, but great defensive work by Noctor, Kennedy and Carty, plus very wild shooting by the Treacys kept the score down, and at half time, Fr. Murphy's trailed by 0-3 to 0-2.

On resumption, Sean Treacy's went further ahead with a point from a free, but John Noctor narrowed the gap with a similar score. At this stage, it was all Fr. Murphy's as they launched attack after attack, but poor finishing, plus a weakness in the full-forward line, lost many scores. Sean Treacy's relied on the quick break from defence, and in one of their few raids had a good point.

As the minutes ticked away, the Wexfordmen became more frustrated in their efforts to score, but in the 56th minute Pat Quigley, who had moved up from centre-back, sent the ball to the top of the net for the decisive score. This was the tonic the Fr. Murphy's needed, and they moved very efficiently for the remainder of the game, with John Healy finishing a good movement between Power and Noctor to the back of the net.

CAPABLE GOALIE

For the Wexfordmen, Mick Butler in goal, dealt capably with all the shots and kept his goal intact. P. J. Fortune, Nicky Carty and Mick Noctor formed a very sound

full-back line with the latter in particular giving a faultless display.

Phil Kennedy had an excellent game at right half-back, and little zehing him was Pat Quigley, who got the vital goal. George McDermott worked like a trojan at centre-field and he and the brilliant Mick Devereux were Father Murphy's best players.

Of the forwards, Nick Power had a very good hour at centre-forward. John Healy covered a tremendous amount of ground and was always dangerous. The remainder of the team tried very hard, but were unlucky in their efforts — John Noctor being the most prominent with two very

The team—Mick Butler (goal), (Rathnure), P. J. Fortune (Enniscorthy), Nicky Carty (Wexford town), Mick Noctor (Gorey), Phil Kennedy (Ramsgrange), Pat Quigley (Donard), Sean Colfer (Foulksmills), George McDermott (Cushinstown), Mick Devereux (do.), John Healy, Mick Power (Ballyhogue), John Noctor (Gorey), Sean Redmond (Cushinstown), John Houlihan (Rathnure), Declan Shalloe (Enniscorthy).

Subs—Sean Barron (Enniscorthy) for Declan Shalloe; Jim Ryan (Donard), Martin Crowley (Wexford town), George Browne (do.), Pat Redmond (Cushinstown), Denny Shalloe (Enniscorthy).



London wexford association



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The Chairman and Committee of the Association send Congratulations to the Father Murphy's GAA Club on Celebrating their Golden Jubilee and wish them every success for the future, also Congratulations to the Father Murphy's Ladies Club on Celebrating their Anniversaries.

Events for your Diary:

55th Annual Dinner Dance Saturday 28th February 2009 at The Mc Namara Suite - London Irish Centre

Tickets Booked in Advance £35.00.

St Patrick's Irish Night Saturday 14th March 2009 at The Done Our Bit Club - 128a Maygrove Rd, Kilburn, NW5

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME

1970

FR Murphy's were now represented at Intermediate level in football as well as having a Junior football team, captain of the Intermediate team was George McDermott. The senior hurling team captained by Mick Butler, the Murphy's also fielded a Junior hurling team during the year. Off the field, the Club participated in the St Patrick's Day parade fully togged out portraying the mighty 1956 Wexford team.



Back row (LtoR) F.Sheehan, P Rossiter, T English, J Houlihan, L Murphy, M Kehoe, J Murphy, E Cullen, PJ Fortune, J Foley

Front Row(LtoR). J Kiely, M Connors, T Lacey, M Butler, J Ryan, J O'Leary, P Kennedy, N Power

***The Father Murphy's Club
would like to thank
the following for their
generous anniversary sponsorship***

Eamon Mernagh

Micheal Doyle

Tom Ryan

Paul Slattery



***Congratulations to the Father Murphy's from Maggie's
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***Rathgarogue/Cushinstown GAA Club
Wish Father Murphy's continued success,
and enjoyable 50th year celebrations***

The senior hurlers played an impressive fifteen games during the year, reaching the final of the senior league only to lose by two points in the final against Brian Boru's. Earlier in the year the senior team reached the semi-final of the Collins cup only to lose out by a point after the game was abandoned with only four minutes remaining.

LONDON SENIOR 22/5/71 HURLING

A very exciting Collins Cup semi-final was abandoned with four minutes to go, with the all-Wexford Father Murphy's trailing the county champions Brian Boru's by only one point (2-6 to 1-8).

A slight flare-up between two players brought spectators running on to the field and the referee abandoned the game.

This was a very enjoyable encounter between two well-matched sides, and a fine attendance was treated to some excellent passages of hurling. It was the Fr. Murphy's hardest game to date, and they performed excellently. With a little improvement they must have a great chance of some honours this year.

Father Murphy's had slightly the upper-hand in the exchanges in an exciting first half, and were a little unlucky to be held to 0-3 to 1-2 at the interval.

After about seven hectic minutes of the second half, Brian Boru's went ahead with a goal, and, when they stretched the lead to six points, one felt they would be comfortable winners. A Tommy Harrell goal brought the Wexfordmen to life, and a great revival brought them to within one of the Brian Boru's, with only six minutes remaining.

At this stage Fr. Murphy's were all over their opponents, and a Wexford victory was in sight when the referee brought a premature ending.

For Fr. Murphy's, Mick Butler made some brilliant saves in goal. Jim Ryan was outstanding in the full-back line, and got excellent support from John Houlihan. The outstanding player on the field was David Lawlor, at centre back, and his long clearances and great solo runs were a feature of the game. Mogue Byrne and Johnnie Murphy gave him excellent support.

Mick Devereux was outstanding when he moved to midfield and got excellent support from Josie O'Leary. Of a good attack, Mick Power was outstanding, and was ably assisted by P. J. Fortune and Mick O'Connor.

Scorers: Tommy Harrell (1-2); Mick Power (0-3); Josie O'Leary (0-1) and Mick Devereux (0-1).

The team—Mick Butler (Rathmore), Jim Ryan (Donard), John Houlihan (Rathmore), John Murphy (Blackwater), Mogue Byrne (do.), Dick Butler (Adamstown), David Lawlor (do.), Josie O'Leary (Castlebridge), Pat Ronan (do.), Mick Devereux (Cushinstown), Tommy Harrell (Hormwood), Mick Power (Ballymitry), Larry Murphy (Ballycanew), Mick O'Connor (Ennisecorby), P. J. Fortune (do.), Subs.—Jimmy Kelly (Ballycanew), Declan and Dennis Shalloo (Ennisecorby), Mick Meyler (Our Lady's Island).

Wexford side beaten in London hurling final

BRIAN BORU'S defeated the all-Wexford Father Murphy's 0-15 to 3-4 in a hard fought London senior hurling league final at New Eltham on Sunday last.

Conditions were extremely difficult for hurling. Father Murphy's played with the advantage of the strong wind in the first half but were slow to settle down and after a quarter of an hour their only score was a Davy Lawlor point from a 70 to which Brian Boru's replied with a similar score. In the second quarter Fr. Murphy's moved well and had good goals from Mick Murphy and Mick O'Connor and points from Nick Power and Tommy Harrell, to which Brian Boru's replied with three points to leave the half-time score 2-3 to 0-4.

In the second half Brian Boru's got off to a good start with three points in the opening seven minutes. A surprise seemed in store when a 60 yards free by Tommy Harrell was finished to the net by P. J. Fortune after 12 minutes play. However the Boru's attacked strongly and had seven points in succession to give them a two-point lead with only 10 minutes remaining. Harrell then narrowed the gap with a point from a free and then Fr. Murphy's threw everything into a last minute attack but their efforts failed and Brian Boru's had a point in the dying seconds to clinch the issue.

WEAK ATTACK

For Fr. Murphy's Mick Butler gave a superlative display in goal and time after time saved what looked like certain goals. No blame for defeat could be attached to the full-back line of Dick Butler, Jim Ryan and John Houlihan who played magnificently, particularly in the second half.

The Wexfordmen were always labouring in the half-back line where Davy Lawlor worked hard without support. Mick Devereux and Mick O'Connor were always playing second fiddle to the brilliant Pat O'Neill and Pat McGrath at centre-field. The forwards were rather disappointing and failed to move with the smoothness they showed when dethroning the league champions St. Gabriel's.

However, taking everything into consideration Father Murphy's can feel proud of their performance as they were the only team in London to give the Brian Boru's a really hard battle and if they can acquire two or three good players for next year then they will be equal to any team in Britain.

Fr. Murphy's — Mick Butler (Rathmore), Dick Butler (Adamstown), Jim Ryan (Donard), John Houlihan (Rathmore), John Murphy (Blackwater), Davy Lawlor (Adamstown), Eugene Cullen (Castlebridge), Mick Devereux (Cushinstown), Mick O'Connor (Ennisecorby), Tommy Harrell (Hormwood), Nick Power (Ballymitry), Sean O'Leary (Wexford Town), P. J. Fortune (Ennisecorby), Denis Shalloo (do.), Mick Murphy (Askamore), Subs.: Johnny Furling (Adamstown) for Cullen, Larry Murphy (Ballycanew) for O'Connor, Tom Byrne (Blackwater), Mick Meyler (Our Lady's Island), and Paul Dunne.

1973

Father Murphy's made it to their first Senior championship final after a narrow semi-final victory against Naomh Mhuire, but lost out to a very strong St Gabriel's team in the final.

Father Murphy's in first senior hurling final

FR. MURPHY'S (the all-Wexford side) qualified for their first ever London senior hurling championship final with a narrow 1-5 to 2-1 victory over Naomh Mhuire in the semi-final replay at New Eitham.

This game produced a far higher standard of hurling than in the drawn game but the scoreboard does not give a true reflection of the trend of the game. Fr. Murphy's had 1-1 disallowed and the Naomh Mhuire goal came with the second-last pick of the ball. The Westfordmen had most of the play and although the half-forward line showed a big improvement, the full forwards missed some very good opportunities.

Fr. Murphy's, playing against the wind, were on top in the first quarter and opened the scoring with a point from play by Nick Power. Tommy Harrell added a similar score before Naomh Mhuire struck back with a goal. A free from about 30 yds. by Harrell was finished to the top of the net by Mick O'Connor to give Fr. Murphy's a lead they never lost.

Then came the best score of the game, a 20 yards free pick by Davy Lawlor was doubled on to the top of the net by P. J. Fortune but was unfortunately disallowed for an obvious reason. Naomh Mhuire added a point from a free to leave the half-time score 1-2 to 1-1 in favour of the Westfordmen.

The second half was dominated by Fr. Murphy's who had points

from Oliver Lawlor (free), Sean O'Leary and Tommy Harrell, to which Naomh Mhuire's reply was a goal in the 59th minute.

For Fr. Murphy's every member of the defence played well, John Holohan being most spectacular in the full-back line. Davy Lawlor was his usual brilliant self, while Oliver Lawlor gave his best ever display in a Murphy's jersey. Mick O'Connor had an outstanding game at centre-full to give his side the edge in this vital sector. In attack Mick Power's return to the side showed a big improvement and his distribution of the ball was a great asset to the team. Larry Maher and P. J. Fortune did best of the remainder.

Fr. Murphy's—Mick Butler (Bathmore), Jim Ryan (don.), John Holohan (don.), Dick Butler, Oliver and Davy Lawlor (all Adamstown), Mick Devereux (Cushinstown), Mick O'Connor (Enniscaulley), Larry Murphy (Ballycaulley), Tommy Harrell (Hortonwood), Nick Power (Ballyhogue), Larry Maher (Rathmore), Jim Howlin (don.), P. J. Fortune (Enniscaulley), Jimmy Furlong (Adamstown).

Subs—Sean O'Leary (Westford town) for Howlin; Jack Murphy (Cushinstown) for Tom Byrne (Blackwater); John Morgan, Fintan Doyle (Camross).

THE FINAL

On Sunday next (October 14th) Fr. Murphy's play St. Gabriel's in the senior hurling final at New Eitham at 2.45. Transport will leave Kilmuck Park Station at 1.00 p.m. and it is hoped that every Westford exile interested in Gaelic games will attend the game to cheer on the Fr. Murphy's.

Although the Westfordmen are

considered for the same, they have trained hard and are confident of causing an upset. The team panel will include all the players on the semi-final game against Naomh Mhuire and in addition Andy Dwyer (Ferns) who missed the game through a family illness.

Since the club was formed in 1959 the Fr. Murphy's club have won every championship and league title in London hurling competitions except the senior championship and it is hoped that this will be added to the list on Sunday next.

WEXFORD DISAPPOINT IN LONDON S.H. FINAL

FATHER MURPHY'S (the all-Wexford side) first appearance in a London senior hurling championship final was a disappointing one when they were convincingly defeated 2-19 to 3-4 by St. Gabriel's at New Eitham last Sunday.

St. Gabriel's were fully deserving of this victory—they had the upper hand in every sector of the field and on their display were capable of matching any club side in Ireland. In fairness to Fr. Murphy's, this was a day when nothing went right for them and all of their star players on whom so much depended, failed to shine. However, the Westfordmen never gave up trying and battled hard to the final whistle.

The first half was brilliant of fast and exciting hurling which delighted the big attendance. Fr. Murphy's had the first score when Tommy Howell pointed a 40 yards free, but the lead was short-lived as St. Gabriel's had a Tony Prehill goal in the 12th minute which was followed by two points and a McCarthy goal in quick succession. After a scoreless five minutes the Westfordmen fought back in brilliant style with two great goals by P. J. Fortune and with the crowd behind them Fr. Murphy's lifted their first further scores but it was St. Gabriel's who snatched the vital points to lead 2-8 to 2-3 at the interval.

TURNING POINT

The turning point came the turning point of the game when St. Gabriel's scored points from four successive frees without reply. This was the stage when Fr. Murphy's needed a few quick goals but they never came and although the Westfordmen dictated the final quarter of an hour they never looked capable of bringing down the St. Gabriel's lead.

For Fr. Murphy's Mick Butler in goal played well and had no chance with the shot that beat him. Jim Ryan did best in a full-back line that was completely over-run on occasions. The Westford half-back line which has been the mainstay of the team in all previous matches was outplayed on this occasion and only Davy Lawlor in patching showed his true form. At midfield Andy Dwyer after a quiet first half did best in attack. P. J. Fortune, Larry Maher and substitute Denis Cummins played well and were the only players that could look back on the game with any satisfaction.

For St. Gabriel's Pat Cronin was the outstanding defender on the field, and was well supported by John Maher and Karl Burke. Frank Cannon, Brendan Barry, Tony Prehill and Martin Linnane were the stars in a fast-moving attack.

Scores for Fr. Murphy's were P. J. Fortune (2-0); Denis Cannon (1-1); Tommy Harrell (0-2) and Davy Lawlor (0-1).

The team—Mick Butler (Bathmore), Jim Ryan (Donard), John Holohan (don.), Dick Butler, Oliver and Davy Lawlor (Adamstown), Mick Devereux (Cushinstown), Andy Dwyer (Ferns), Tommy Harrell (Hortonwood), Sean Howlin (don.), Mick O'Connor (Enniscaulley), Larry Maher (Rathmore), Jim Howlin (don.), Nick Power (Ballyhogue), P. J. Fortune (Enniscaulley).

Subs—Denis Cummins (Cloughdown) for Howlin; Sean O'Leary (Westford town) for Harrell; Larry Murphy (Ballycaulley) for D. Butler; Jimmy Furlong (Adamstown) for Tom Byrne (Blackwater); John Morgan, Bill Hegarty and Jack Murphy (Cushinstown).

Father Murphy's underage teams 1973



Fr. Murphy's, London's newest football team made its debut last Sunday at New Eltham and drew with Bro. Kennedy's in the u-14 league.



Fr. Murphy's Juvenile Footballers pictured at New Eltham Grounds, with their adviser, Tom Harrell from Wexford.

1974 – 75

The 16th Annual General Meeting was held at the Cricklewood Hotel on Sunday 13th January 1974. At the meeting Jim Ryan, Chairman urged all to "pull their weight" in every way possible especially on the social side, on the field the meeting agreed there should be a big push to attract new players. The sportsman of the year trophy was presented to PJ Fortune.



The Oxford Sevens attracted many Club teams from all over England as well as Ireland such was it's importance, in 1974 the Father Murphy's team reached the final, and were narrowly beaten by Camross of Laois.

Father Murphy's participating at the Oxford 7-a-side competition

Back L to R. T Ryan, D Lawlor, J Holohan, M O'Neill, M Butler

Front L to R. J Fitzgerald, M Connors, M J Butler, T Harrell, PJ Fortune

Murphy's pipped in London final

BRIAN BORUS 0-10
FR. MURPHY'S 0-0

IN an exciting London junior football championship final, Brian Borus defeated Fr. Murphy's, 0-10 to 0-0 at New Bilton.

Played in sunny conditions, a fine attendance witnessed a game that produced a standard of football far superior to that normally associated with the junior grade.

Fr. Murphy's, who are noted for their hurling ability, were complete outsiders in the championship race but surprised everyone watching the final. They certainly had the opportunity of winning the cup, but the forwards missed some good scoring chances in the opening stages of each half.

Fr. Murphy's played with the wind in the first half and dictated the course of the game but their superiority was not reflected on the scoreboard and they only led 0-3 to 0-0 at the interval.

On resumption the men in purple and gold made a series of goals and a couple of great scoring chances were missed, one in particular, when Anthony Giboy slipped with an open goal in front of him.

After withstanding the initial onslaught, Brian Borus steadily gained control but the closing six minutes was a matter of excitement as Fr. Murphy's made a last desperate attempt for victory and John Furlong was really unlucky with two overhead flicks that went inches wide.

For Fr. Murphy's Mick Butler had a very quiet hour in goal. The full-back line of Declan Shallow, P. J. Fortune and Willie Miller was very solid and Miller,

in particular, had a very fine hour. Fr. Kevin Cullen was an imposing figure in centre back and was rarely beaten. Although Josie O'Leary and John Mullen have often played better, they contained the fast-moving opponents for most of the hour.

At midfield Tom Foley was opposed to Billy Connolly, the best player on the Brian Borus team and he did a good job in containing him. Gerry Murphy was only rarely effective at midfield.

Jim Carroll was Fr. Murphy's best forward but he lacked support and too often was forced to go it alone. Mick O'Connor gave a wholehearted effort and John Furlong, although only 18 years old, showed great promise and with experience could develop into a great player.

The team: Mick Butler (Backsman); Declan Shallow (Enniscoreagh); P. J. Fortune (Idon); Willie Miller; John Mullen (Sligo); Fr. Kevin Cullen (Armagh); Josie O'Leary (Cambridge); Tom Foley (New Ross); Gerry Murphy (Idon); Mick O'Connor (Enniscoreagh); Jim Carroll (New Ross); Donald Deane; John Furlong (Donard); Eamonn Murphy and Anthony Giboy.

Subs.—Michael O'Loughlin for G. Murphy; George Browne (Crossagh); Dick Butler (Adams-town); Pat Byrne (Carnagh).

Scorers: J. Carroll (0-3), E. Murphy (0-1), G. Murphy (0-1), M. O'Connor (0-1), J. Furlong (0-1), H. Deane (0-1), Fr. Cullen (0-1).

1976



Josie O'Leary before the 1976 hurling final against the Gabriels

London Gaelic News

15-4-76

Fr Murphy's take 1st juvenile title

HISTORY was made at New Eltham when Fr Murphy's won their first ever under-14 football championship by defeating Astonmore 3-1 on 2-2.

This was an exciting game and both teams showed some excellent skills, despite their young backgrounds. At half-time Fr Murphy's led 2-1 to 0-0, after winning with a stiff breeze.

On resumption they involved a series of Astonmore attacks through the efforts of Michael Searcy in goal and Tim Keogh at full-back. After 20 minutes the sides were level and it was in the closing stages that Fr. Murphy's registered the vital scores.

On a well-balanced side Tim Keogh, Kevin Mulderin, Michael Butler and James Mahonara were outstanding in defence. Noel Eurling and captain, Eddie Falvey, controlled midfield. Hero of the attack was Tim Ryan who scored three consecutive goals. Paul Ryan and James Keane also showed excellent form.

The Fr. Murphy's juvenile club was founded in 1971 by Thomas Harrell (Horsewood), and its players comprise the best of mostly Westford players but all boys irrespective of their background are welcome to join. Tim Ryan (Donard), present Chairman, Tom Ryan (Donard) and Chairman, Mick Butler (Rathmore), John Mulderin (Donard), Phil Roche (Glen), and Jim Doyle (Adamstown) have played important roles in keeping the club in existence and their efforts have been well rewarded.

Any Westford skills interested in the juveniles can telephone Thomas Harrell, Club Secretary,

any evening: 401-427-6743; or write to 36 Ashdown Road, Harrow, Middlesex.

Fr. Murphy's intermediate hurlers put up a gallant show against St. Gabriel's senior hurlers in the opening round of the Collins Cup at New Eltham, before losing 2-1 to 0-4.

In the opening half Fr. Murphy's played some brilliant hurling and scored four points without reply. After 20 minutes play the sides were level 1-1 to 0-1 and then tragedy struck for Fr. Murphy's when Josie O'Leary had to retire injured from the centre-back position. St. Gabriel's then added two quick goals and at half-time led 3-1 to 0-3.

For Fr. Murphy's Jim Rowlin and Tim Ryan were outstanding in the half-back line and Mickie O'Connor was also impressive when he moved back. The full-back line of Dick Butler, John Holohan and Declan Shallow was very shaky all through. At centre half, Thomas Hickey turned in an excellent hour and was well supported by Mick Lambert. The attack faded after a brilliant start and Seamus O'Leary and P. J. Fortune were most consistent.

The team: Mick Butler (Rathmore), Dick Butler (Adamstown), John Holohan (Rathmore), Declan Shallow (Ennisceorthy), Jim Ryan (Donard), Josie O'Leary (Castlebridge), Tim Rowlin (Rathmore), Thomas Hickey (Glennrich), Mick Lambert (Westford town), Tommy Harrell (Horsewood), Martin Searcy (Monaster), Seamus O'Leary (Westford town), Mick O'Connor (Ennisceorthy), George Brooks (Cromwell), P. J. Fortune (Ennisceorthy), Seamus O'Leary (New Ross), John Farrell (New Ross) for Seamus John Rowlin.

1977

1977 was the most successful year during the seventies for the Father Murphy's, the Club winning the "double", both Intermediate hurling championship and league. Captain of the victorious team on the day was Tommy Harrell.



Back(LtoR). T Byrne, F Doyle, D Shalloe, PJ Fortune, T McGarry, J Howlin, M Deer, J Ryan, Front(LtoR). Fr. McComer, M Butler, S O'Leary, T Harrell, P Nolan, M Connors, J Ryan, J O'Leary



Tommy Harrell receiving the Intermediate trophy

Fr. Murphy's are London champs

FR. MURPHY'S 4-9
BRIAN BORU'S 1-5

FR. MURPHY'S won their second intermediate hurling championship when they defeated Brian Boru's in the final at New Eltham last Sunday, 4-9 to 1-5.

This was a great day for team, as it was their first major hurling win with the exception of junior honours since 1961, when they won the senior hurling league. Incidentally, only four of the 1961 team remain—Mick Devereux, P. J. Fortune, Jim Ryan and Tommy Harrell.

FAVOURITES

The Wexfordmen entered the game as favourites having disposed of the main contenders, St. Gabriel's and St. Mary's, and with the exception of the opening quarter, they fully justified this tag.

Brian Boru's surprisingly dictated the exchanges from the throw-in. However, due to solid work by Fr. Murphy's defence they only scored two points to which the Wexfordmen replied with three well-taken points by Tommy Harrell.

In the second quarter, Fr. Murphy's improved considerably and goals by John Holohan and P. J. Fortune, plus points by Holohan, O'Leary and Harrell left the half-time score, 2-6 to 1-3.

On resumption, Brian Boru's attacked strongly but Fr. Murphy's did the scoring with points by Fortune and Harrell. After twelve minutes play Fr. Murphy's sealed the issue with a good goal by John Holohan. The closing quarter was without incident apart from a goal by Sean O'Leary which was the best score of the game.

For Fr. Murphy's, Mick Butler was unbeatable in goal. The full-back line of Jim Howlin, Jim Ryan

and Declan Shallow was once again Fr. Murphy's most consistent line, and did not concede one score.

In the half-back line, Tom Byrne had another very good game. Josie O'Leary at centre-back had a quiet game by his standards, while Mick Connors was a model of consistency at left half-back.

At midfield Mick Devereux and Des Coughlan, after a very quiet first half, completely dominated in the second half.

Peter Nolan was always in the thick of the fray at centre-forward and Seanie O'Leary deserves special mention for his brilliant goal. John Holohan is rapidly becoming the best full-forward in London and P. J. Fortune, although lacking in mobility, still showed some brilliant touches.

Fintan Doyle was below his best due to a back injury and his replacement, Denis Shallow, tried hard, without securing any scores.

The Team—Mick Butler (Rathnure), Declan Shallow (Enniscorthy), Jim Ryan (Donard), Jim Howlin (Rathnure), Tom Byrne (Blackwater), Josie O'Leary (Castlebridge), Mick Connors (Enniscorthy), Des Coughlan (Faughs) (Dublin), Mick Devereux (Cushinstown), Tommy Harrell (0-5, Horeswood), Fr. Peter Nolan (0-1, Buncloody), Sean O'Leary (1-1, Wexford town), P. J. Fortune (1-1, Enniscorthy), John Holohan (2-1, Rathnure), Fintan Doyle (Carrross). Subs—Denis Shallow (Enniscorthy) for Doyle, Fr. Willy McCormack (Clare), Tom McGarry (Tipperary), Mick Lynch (Limerick).

After the game, Mick Kenny (Galway), Vice-Chairman of the London County Board, presented the cup to Tommy Harrell, captain of the Fr. Murphy's. He paid tribute to the Fr. Murphy's on their great display and also for their magnificent contribution to London hurling since 1959.

FATHER MURPHY'S H. & F. CLUB

INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 31.12.77

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
To Loughs Co. Board	104.00	MEMBERSHIP FEES	50.00
To Minder Board	50.00	DRAW @ JAMES PROFIT	270.00
" Wexford Co. Board	15.00	Donations	70.00
" Geraldines	10.00	AGRICULTURAL CORP.	12.10
Loss on CLOUGHAN VINT	38.50	PROFIT on EMMISQUARTY Rd. —	35.38
" Hurleys	138.00	PROFIT on DUNE ROAD JAMES	55.30
" Hurling Balls	69.00	" " CASHING " "	5.00
" SECRETARYS EXPENSES	99.00	CASH DRAW	208.00
" TICKET PRINTING	35.00	PROFIT on Wexford Road.	28.00
" Fixing Reception	25.50		
" Hire of Pitches	23.40		
" Entry Fees	9.00		
" WEARTH	6.50		
" Loughs Wexford Assoc	14.00		
" Balance of Income over			
Expenditure	97.58		
<u>£ 733.78</u>		<u>£ 733.78</u>	
SURPLUS FOR YEAR ENDING 31.12.77		£ 97.58	
DEFICIT AS AT 1.1.1977		£ 91.00	
CASH IN HAND		<u>£ 6.58</u>	

Tommy Harrell, presented the accounts for the year showing a small surplus of £97.58 for the year compared to a deficit in 1976. The accounts show it cost £733.78 to run the club for the year, the biggest expense being purchases of hurleys which cost £138 and cost of hurling balls exactly half the cost of hurleys at £69.

A bit of G.A.A history was written in London in February, when the Irish Post-B&I sports star of the year awards for 1977 were announced. The recipient of the hurling award was Josie O'Leary, Castlebridge a former Shelmalier clubman in Wexford. The prestigious award is the highest of its kind among the Irish in Britain. The awards committee commented on his wholehearted and intelligent display, his coolness under pressure and his high degree of hurling skill.

GAA News & Comment

Josie O'Leary is 'Hurler of the year' in Britain

A bit of Wexford G.A.A. history was written in London last week with the publication of the Irish Post/B. & I. Sports Stars of the Year Awards for 1977. The recipient of the hurling award was Josie O'Leary, from Ballyboggan, Castlebridge, the former Shelmaliers and Wexford senior and currently a Fr. Murphy's player.

His many friends in Wexford will wish to congratulate Josie on this prestigious award which is the highest sporting award of its kind amongst the Irish in Britain.

Knowledgeable critics of the game in Britain rate Josie highly, not only for his wholehearted and intelligent displays but also for his coolness under pressure and his high degree of hurling skill.

His performance this year has

had much to do with Fr. Murphy's championship and league successes and also as the captain of the intermediate selection, he made a major contribution to their successful year.

Josie, from a famous Castlebridge hurling family, learned his hurling in that famous nursery of the game "Over the Water". After a brilliant juvenile and minor career he graduated to the

senior ranks with the famous Shelmaliers team of the early 60's.

Wexford GAA's will recall the impact the Shelmaliers made in the senior ranks at that time, a feature of their positive hurling being the contribution of Josie and his brother, Pat, in a brilliant Shels forward line. These displays led to a permanent spot on the Wexford senior hurling team.

On emigrating, Josie became a regular with Fr. Murphy's, the London based all Wexford hurling club, and soon graduated in the London senior team.

In latter years he has switched from being a forward to make the centre back position his own, where his sound positional sense and long clearances make him a formidable opponent for any forward.

Josie will be presented with his award at the B. & I. Irish Post dinner in London in March. Award winners from other codes include: Tommy Stack, horse racing; Steve Highway, International Performer of the Year; Frank Newton, soccer; Patsy Padon, snooker.

All Wexford GAA's at home and abroad can be justly proud of Josie, and warmly congratulate him on winning this award for Castlebridge and Wexford.



LONDON REPORT

FR. PETER NOLAN (Buncloody), Chairman, presided at the committee meeting of the London Fr. Murphy's Hurling and Football Club, held at the Prince of Wales, Willenden Lane, London, N.W.6.

The committee expressed their thanks to the Wexford Co. Board for their generosity in donating a set of jerseys to the club, which was a great help, especially in view of the club's financial situation.

Congratulations were extended to Josie O'Leary (Castlebridge) on being elected as "Hurler of the Year" in Britain. Josie is the first Fr. Murphy's player to receive the award.

Fr. Peter Nolan was unanimously elected "Club man of the Year", in view of his sterling performance on the field and also his great work in raising finances for the club.

Many tributes were paid to Frank Shrobban (Cloughmown) as a result of his re-election as Secretary of the London Co. Board. Frank was a founder member of the club and is now President.

The Fr. Murphy's Club are helping to organise a benefit dance at the Galtermore Club, Crieslewood, Brinsford, on Friday, 24th February. The proceeds will go to the gift and three young children of Tony Wall.

Tony was a native of Kilkenny City and played hurling for the club from 1967-1971. He died suddenly last September at the age of 32 years.

Tickets at 50p each are now available from Tommy Harrell (Tel. No. 01-427-6768) and all current and former club members are urged to support this worthy cause.

Exiles in stormy London tie

FR. MURPHY'S vital senior hurling championship match against Thomas McCurtains was abandoned by the referee ten minutes from time when several players were involved in fighting.

Prior to this incident Matt O'Leary of Fr. Murphy's received a nasty facial injury. Fr. Murphy's were awarded a free, but then Ted Roche and 'Butch' O'Connor were sent to the line for fighting.

Temper got very frayed following this incident and when Josie O'Leary was struck when going for a ball a free-for-all developed and the referee then abandoned the game.

Fr. Murphy's played great hurling for the first twenty minutes at which stage they led 1-3 to 0-1. The defence then fell in pieces and allowed McCurtains to lead 2-4 to 1-4 at half-time.

The second half was closely contested and the result was always in the balance. It is only fair to point out that up to the time of the Matt O'Leary incident, there was not a dirty stroke from either side.

For Fr. Murphy's Jim Ryan did best in a new look full-back line. John Redmond was the dominating figure in the half-back line. Mick Devereux and Matt O'Leary, up to the time he retired, were in good form at centre-field.

In attack, Mick O'Connor, 'Butch' O'Connor and John Holohan were always prominent. How-

ever, the moving of John Holohan from full-back to full-forward was debatable as John was badly missed in defence.

Fr. Murphy's: Michael Butler (Rathnure), Michael Holohan (Rathdowney), Jim Ryan (Donard), Declan Shallow (Enniscorthy), Joseph O'Leary (Castlebridge), John Redmond (Rathnure), Jim Howlin (do.), Michael Devereux (Cushinstown), Matt O'Leary (Ballygarrett), Tommy Harrell (0-4) (Horeswood), Mick O'Connor (Enniscorthy), 'Butch' O'Connor (0-2) (Oulart), Fr. Peter Nolan (Buncloody), John Holohan (0-1) (Rathnure), P. J. Fortune (1-0) (Enniscorthy).

Subs.: Sean O'Leary (Wexford town) for Fortune; Mick O'Grady (Oulart) for M. O'Leary.

Brave display in cup final

St. Gabriel's 2-9
Father Murphy's 1-5

IN a very exciting Collins Cup final at New Eltham, a depleted Fr. Murphy's gave one of the most spirited displays in the club's history.

Fr. Murphy's were forced to field without three of their suspended stars — Josie O'Leary, 'Butch' O'Connor and Jim Howlin — and in addition Fr. P. Nolan, Mick O'Connor and Mick Holohan received nasty head injuries during the game.

St. Gabriel's, who are unbeaten in London club hurling for many years, had to fight hard all the way to achieve victory and the final score gives a very false impression of the trend of the game.

At half-time the Wexfordmen were only two points behind, 0-6 to 0-4, and with fifteen minutes

to go the excitement was tremendous when Fr. Murphy's scored a goal to leave only a point between the sides.

St. Gabriel's broke away for a goal against the run of play but Fr. Murphy's fought back and were awarded a semi-penalty but Tommy Harrell's effort was saved and in a terrific tussle after this shot the Wexfordmen failed to get the ball into the net. In the final minute St. Gabriel's added a further goal.

The team: Mick Butler (Rathnure), Jim Ryan (Donard), John Holohan (Rathnure), Declan Shallow (Enniscorthy), John Redmond (Rathnure), Mick Devereux (Cushinstown), Fintan Doyle (Camross), Matthew O'Leary (0-1) (Ballygarrett), Sean O'Leary (Wexford Town), Tommy Harrell (0-3) (Horeswood), Fr. Peter Nolan (0-1) (Buncloody), Mick O'Connor (Enniscorthy), Michael Holohan (Rathdowney), Mick O'Grady (Oulart), P. J. Fortune (Enniscorthy). Subs.: Fr. Joe Kavanagh for O'Grady; Mick Lynch (Limerick) for Nolan.

BOARD'S VERDICT

At the London County Board meeting, Chairman Dermot O'Brien awarded the match to the Thomas McCurtains. The referee in his report stated that he abandoned the game because Jim Howlin refused to leave the field.

'Butch' O'Connor and Josie O'Leary were suspended for two months along with three players from the McCurtains. Jim Howlin has to appear before the next Board meeting to explain his behaviour.

Fr. Murphy's have appealed to Provincial Council against this decision. It seems very harsh considering that the club has never been in trouble before and that the only player to receive a serious injury was Matt O'Leary.

★ ★ ★

1979

The 21st Annual General Meeting was held at The Cricklewood Hotel, Cricklewood Broadway on Sunday 29th January 1979. There was a good attendance, Peter Nolan (Chairman), thanked everyone for their contribution during the year and looked forward to a successful year in 1979. It was decided to enter senior and junior hurling teams along with a junior football team. Captains for the year were Josie O'Leary (hurling) and Peter Nolan (football). On the field the Father Murphy's had a successful year winning their first ever London junior football league against Guinness's 4-6 to 1-6.

Father Murphy's take London football title

11-1-1980

Father Murphy's 4-6
Guinness 1-6

Father Murphy's 21st anniversary celebrations ended on a high note when they won the London junior football league final replay at New Eltham by defeating a gallant Guinness side (4-6 to 1-6).

The Wexford men got off to a disastrous start with Guinness scoring a goal in the first minute. At the end of the first quarter Guinness had stretched their lead to 1-3 to nil.

Fr. Murphy's mentors then made two moves which changed the whole trend of the game. The most important one was the introduction of John Furlong (a late arrival) for the injured Declan Shallow. John's speed and drive was a source of constant worry to the Guinness defence and brought the Murphy's attack to life.

The other move was the switching of corner backs John Mullen and Martin Hutchinson which lightened up the full back line.

In the sixteenth minute Kieran Kennedy opened Fr. Murphy's scoring with a point and then mid-fielder Mick O'Connor soled through for two great points. John Furlong added a point and on the stroke of half time John Houlihan finished the ball to the net and levelled the scores 1-4 each.

Guinness started off the second half attacking strongly and the Fr. Murphy's defence had a few narrow escapes. Slowly the Wexfordmen began to get on top, thanks to the great work of Mick O'Connor and after seventeen minutes play took the lead for the first time with a John Furlong goal.

Then John Hyan had a similar score which knocked most of the fight out of the Guinness side. Kieran Kennedy, with a point and John Houlihan with a goal completed the scoring.

For Fr. Murphy's, Mick Butler was his usual reliable self in goal and had no chance with the shot that beat him. The full back line of Martin Hutchinson, Peter Nolan, and John Mullen played well after a shaky start and the latter in particular was outstanding in the second half.

Josie O'Leary controlled the exchanges at centre back and although wing backs Jim Howlin and Tony Stamp were often troubled by the speedy Guinness wingers, they came out on top at the finish.

Mick O'Connor at centrefield was the man of the match and ranged the whole of the field. Sean Stuart gave him every assistance. Kieran Kennedy was very impressive at centre forward and once again John Houlihan

proved he is Fr. Murphy's greatest goal scorer with another two to his credit.

Butch O'Connor after a quiet start made a tremendous impression at corner forward and figured in most of the scoring moves. John Furlong was a real match-winner on his appearance.

John Ryan although only sixteen years old showed he has a great future and his goal was a gem. It was a particularly happy day for the Ryan family as his father, Jim, was a sub and would have been playing but for a heavy cold. P. J. Fortune and Fintan Doyle also contributed substantially to the victory.

The team: Mick Butler (Rathnure); Martin Hutchinson (Enniscorthy); Peter Nolan, (Buncloody); John Mullen (Sligo); Jim Howlin, (Rathnure); Josie O'Leary (Castlebridge); Tommy Stamp (Monageer); Mick O'Connor (Adams-town); Sean Stuart (Monageer); Butch O'Connor, (Oulart); Kieran Kennedy, (Belfast); John Ryan, (Donard); Declan Shallow, (Enniscorthy); John Houlihan, (Rathnure); P. J. Fortune (Enniscorthy). Subs: John Furlong (Donard) for Shallow; Fintan Doyle, for Fortune; Jim Ryan (Donard), Mick Furlong (Donard).

BEST WISHES FROM OULART-THE-BALLAGH G.A.A. CLUB

Congratulations on 50 years and all your recent successes and good luck in the future. Hope you have an enjoyable and successful evening.

Father Murphy's playing in Jersey, May 1979



*Back (LtoR), T Ryan, J Howlin, M Cooney, M Lynch, M O'Grady, M Devereux, S Diveney, D Gaul
Front (LtoR) PJ Fortuen, P Nolan, M Butler, T Harrell(sitting) S O'Leary, Mrs O Howlin,
M Connors, Mrs S Flatherty, J O'Leary.*

1980

In 1980, Father Murphy's fielded Intermediate and Junior hurling teams along with a junior football team, and in addition combined with St Mary's and the Cuchulainns. The combined team played in both the Senior league and championship and reached the final in both competitions, the combined team was beaten by two points in the final of the championship and only one point in the final of the league.

During the year Buffers Alley, Askamore and Duffry Rovers made visits to London to play the Murphy's. For the second year in a row the Junior football team won the league final, captained by Josie O'Leary.



The combined Father Murphy's, St Mary's, Cuchulainns

1981 and 1982 were two very successful years for the Murphy's, the Intermediate hurling team captained by John Redmond captured the league title in 1981. The junior footballers also won the 1981 league title for the second consecutive year.

In 1982 Father Murphy's played a record thirty nine games in all competitions, the Intermediate hurling team won the league and championship double, the McCullough Cup, the Independent Cup. In addition the junior footballers retained the league title for the third year in a row, the footballers also captured the delayed 1981 Mullarkey Cup and the McArdle Cup.



Back (LtoR) J Dempsey, L Hilis, J Howlin, P Nolan, J Holohan, M Cooney, M Connors, D Shalloe, T Ryan

Front (LtoR) T Harrell, J Ryan, M Connors, T Stamp, PJ Fortune, M Butler, T Dunne, T McGarry,
J Redmond



JANUARY 1st, 1982 PAGE 27

London IHL title for Fr. Murphy's

770. MILLER, J. H.	1.0
771. MILLER, J. H.	1.0

DR. MURPHY completed their living programme for the year with a concluding L.H.A. host victory song and thank, through Walter, at a highly sold New Edition. "This was a concert of the Supremacists (and which Nene's Music seen by a poet as a study of a 'man' and to the last accuracy of the poet."

traced to everybody that they
were the best information able
to develop the case.

17. Morley, playing against the wild, got off a great start with two consecutive goals by kicking forward Tommy Sharp in the first ten minutes. The remainder of the first half was closely contested with Howard Morris having a slight advantage in it. At half-time they were level 1-1. A.S.

The exemption, March 1846,
 still had to get a rack and

by, were failed by the reliable Herb Eades. With Herb Carver and Jack Demaree, insurance salesman, Fr. Murphy's Norwalk had a liberal supply of the tall, low round crumple sticks.

Midway through the half P. J. Parrino put his side on the road to victory with a well-taken goal. It is the last on a dramatic season's climax. There everything that matters is there and in the championship final, but on this occasion Fr. Murphy's College did not reach.

For the Western side, Jim Hanley was the man of the match, with a magnificent run at left-half back. His tackle was efficient as well as good. A. Conner, John Holden and W. Gould are from behind a good full back line. Jack O'Leary gave his strongly professional assistance and neither John Redmond who was working as a hooker — a very unusual occurrence in London during — nor Steve Woodcock.

At midfield, Mike Casareo gave a fine exhibition of heading and had a reliable partner in J. Sponner. In the attack, Mike O'Connell and Tom McDermott were deadly partners. Eddie Collins led the attack, scoring and P. J. Foyette was in the thick of things at his forward. Tommy Russo deserves special mention for his two goals. Larry Mills was scattering from the back and he is controlled by Thomas Doyle who immediately, on the attack, scored a great goal.

The 1999-2000 roster consists of 10 players: Mike Cooper (head), Mike Hoffman (asst.), Tim Ryan (asst.), Joe Hovine (asst.), Josh O'Leary (assistant), John Anderson (manager), Mike Connor (assistant), Jack Dempsey (assistant), Mike O'Connor (assistant), Kevin Delaney (assistant), Larry Hahn (assistant), Tommy Roney (manager), P. J. Perrino (manager), Tim McGarry (manager), Mike Hynes (asst.), Devin Connor (asst.), Mike Turner (asst.), Chris Thomas (asst.), and Matt Blumstein (asst.).

1983

1983 proved to be a very successful year for the Murphy's under age teams, the under 14 football team managed and coached by Phil Roche and Pat Byrne won the London Under 14 Football championship, in addition the same team won the Under 14 League title. In addition the Under 16 football team won the London Under 16 League title.



Phil Roche and Pat Byrne with the victorious Under 14 London County champions.



Some of the Under 14 squad including Jimmy Howling and Adrian Deasy showing off the various silverware won during the year.

1984



Chairman for the year was Jim Ryan, hurling captain J Dempsey, football captain R Butler. A trip home was organised for 11-19 August and was an excellent success with sixteen players travelling.



Father Murphy's Seven-a-side team 1984

*Back L to R, J Howlin, J Holohan, D Shalloe, J Redmond
Front L to R P Nolan, M Connors, T Harrell, M Holohan*



*Best Wishes
to*

Fr. Murphy's GAA Club
on your Golden Jubilee from all at

S. Walsh & Sons Ltd.

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1985

Father Murphy's senior hurling team had a very successful year winning both the Senior B Championship and the Senior B League. In addition the hurlers also captured the McCullagh Cup for only the second time and the Irish Independent Cup for the second time. In addition the new generation of footballers expertly coached by Phil Roche were extremely happy winners of the Paddy Lane trophy.





PJ Fortune and Phil Roche with Under 16 Football squad



Duffry Rovers

G.A.A. Club

CONGRATULATIONS ON 50 YEARS OF ACHIEVEMENT,
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, ENJOY YOUR
CELEBRATIONS, AND WE WISH YOU EVERY
SUCCESS IN THE FUTURE

1986-1989



Back (LtoR) J Howlin, J O'Hanlon, M Connors, S O'Leary, L Griffin, J Howlin, P Nolan, R Quirke, G Redmond, D Byrne, PJ Fortune

Front(LtoR) E Shalloe, M Laffan, T Power, K Casey, M Butler, R Dunphy, D O'Hanlon, P Collins,

1986 to 1989 were three very lean years for the Father Murphy's only capturing one hurling title of note winning the Miller Cup for the first time, the team was captained by Kevin Casey. In 1988 the junior football team captained by John Grogan won the McArdle Cup for the second. The minor football team was more successful winning the London league title.

Congratulations to
The Father Murphy's
on their 50th Anniversary

from

John Ryan,
Mucky Paws

Dog Grooming Parlour
Enniscorthy



1990

Chairman Josie O'Leary was re-elected chairman of the Club, and it was decided to enter a Senior B team and a reserve team, along with a junior football team, Josie appealed for a more concerted effort during the year to land more silverware. The junior hurlers reached the semi-final of the championship only to lose out to Robert Emmets. Senior hurling captain for the year was Kevin Casey who led the Senior hurlers and retained the Miller Cup and again this was the only silverware landed in the year.

1991

Father Murphy's Chairman Josie O'Leary thanked everyone for their efforts during 1990, and asked all to double efforts to achieve even more during 1991. Hurling captain for the year was Billy Walsh and football Liam Griffin. It was agreed to enter a team in the Cannon Stritch tournament which was open to all teams in Britain and the Senior B teams in London, it was also agreed to play the final of the Mickey Connors cup against the Granuaile on Sunday 13 October.

The Club were successful in winning the Senior B championship, and retaining the Mickey Connors cup, certainly fortunes were looking better for the Club.

1992

Chairman Josie O'Leary was again elected Chairman, and he looked forward to 1992 with the belief the Murphy's could progress even further.

Training ground and home games were played at Neasden, the club also welcomed the many new players.

Father Murphy's hurling team got to the final of the Tipperary Cup which was played at Oxhey Park against the Eoghan Ruadh, a game in which the Murphy's triumphed.

The highlight of the year on the hurling front was winning the Canon Stritch Cup, the tournament was open to all England Clubs, and Father Murphy's were the first winners of the Cup.

A trip to Enniscorthy where the Murphy's would play the Shamrocks for the Mickey Connors Cup was arranged for May. It was also agreed to play the St Martins a challenge match the same weekend. The trip was a complete success with the Murphy's retaining the Connors Cup against the Shamrocks in Belfield Park, Enniscorthy.



Players and supporters with the victorious Canon Stritch winners

Standing L to R. L Griffin, J Howlin, T McGarry, D Deasy, P Doyle, P Collins, D O'Hanlon, G Redmond, T Neville, M Laffan, K Casey (with cup), S O'Leary, J O'Hanlon, K Quinn, T Dunne, M Connors, J O'Leary.

Front L to R. J Grime, D Shalloe, R Dunphy, M Connors, M Butler.



Kevin Casey receiving the Mickey Connors cup from Mickey's sister at Belfield Park, following the victory over the Shamrocks from Enniscorthy.



The Father Murphy's junior football team who were starting to make their presence felt in 1992 and 1993.



Father Murphy's 7-a-side team who participated in the summer Irish Festival in Willesden
Back (LtoR) Jim Howlin, John O'Hanlon, Ger Redmond, Mickey Connors, Darren Howlin, Don Deasy
Front LtoR. Kevin Casey, Tom Neville, Josie O'Leary

1994

In 1994, Father Murphy's bridged a 25 year gap when they claimed the Junior football championship for only the second time with a comprehensive victory over favourites St. Kiernans. Father Murphy's, managed by Phil Roche won the game by 8 points the scoreline being 2-8 to 0-6. Scores were level at half time with Kiernans seemingly holding the upper hand, but in the second half Murphy's put in a power packed display led from the back by man of the match Stan O'Leary, he was ably assisted by Darren Howlin, Padraig Kearney, Declan O'Hanlon, Noel Furlong, Jim Howlin(1-4), Adrian Deasy and Enda Flanagan(1-1). The Senior hurlers reached the semi-final of the championship only to be beaten following a replay, but the same team did bridge a 33 year gap and won the senior League title.



*Back L to R, S O'Leary, D O'Hanlon, E Flanagan, S Roche, J Howlin, D Cooke, D Byrne, D Howlin
Front L to R, N Furlong, P Kearney, M Laffan, E Hickey, A Fitzpatrick, A Deasy, P Collins*



The 1994 London Junior Football championship winners with jubilant supporters immediately after the game.



The 1994 Senior Hurling league champions with mentors

Back LtoR P Nolan, J Howlin, R Maher, P Kavanagh, R Quirke, J O'Hanlon, M Hyland, D Deasy, D Cooke, J Howlin, E Roche, G Redmond, P Bergin, D Howlin, D Byrne, P Doyle, J O'Leary, M Connors

Front LtoR. A Fitzpatrick, D O'Hanlon, M Laffan, P Collins, K Casey, M Butler, T Power, R Dunphy, J Grimes, L Griffin, S O'Leary, PJ Fortune, P Slattery

1995



Club Officers proudly display trophies won or retained in 1994 at the 1995 Annual General Meeting held in the Corrib Rest on the 22 January 1995.



A section of the crowd attending the 1995 Annual General Meeting

1996/1997

FR Murphy's now had Intermediate teams in hurling and football and a senior hurling team and were progressing from strength to strength. In 1996 the Intermediate team won the London Intermediate hurling championship, captained by the able goalkeeper Josie O'Leary.



The 1996 Intermediate hurling team



*Back (L to R) N Guiney, R Maher, D Cooke, R Quirke, J Howlin, D Byrne, M Hyland, M Reck
Front (L to R) D O'Hanlon, P Collins, M Doyle, M Butler, K Casey, T Power, S O'Leary*

1998 will be a year to remember for the Father Murphy's footballers who won a first ever Intermediate football title for the Club at the Emerald Grounds in Ruislip on the 25th October 1998. On a blustery day, brilliantly led by captain Trevor Clancy, Father Murphy's dominated the game and ran out deserved winners on a scoreline of 2-14 to 0-11.

THE IRISH

Murphy's storm to cup triumph

Fr Murphy's.....2-14
Western Exiles...0-11

By JOHN CROWLEY

DESPITE the weekend storms blowing over a tree across the city park of the Emerald Grounds in Ruislip, the London Intermediate Football final between Fr. Murphy's and Western Exiles went ahead on Sunday.

It was a tribute to the ground staff at Ruislip that the game took place at all. But at 2.30 p.m., both teams took to the pitch and, considering the atrocious weather conditions, played out a very entertaining final.

Fr. Murphy's emerged worthy victors, though the winning 2-14 to 0-11 scoreline did scant justice to the contribution that the Western Exiles made to the game.

Playing with the wind, Fr. Murphy's started brightly and after five minutes had scored 1-2 without reply. The goal, in particular, was a superbly worked move as Dave Murphy's high ball into the full-forward line was deftly flicked on by Darren Howlin to Owen Maher, who kept his cool and sent the 'keeper the wrong way.

The Exiles responded admirably to this sudden punch with scores of their own from Paul Dillon and Michael Ward. During this spell, Murphy's 'keeper John Doyle had to be at his best to knock John Rillane's quickly-taken free around the posts.

But then Jimmy Howlin entered the fray and scored five points in the space of 10 minutes. It was an important period for Murphy's and by half time they led by 1-9 to 0-5.

Western Exiles opened the second half with a brace of points, but soon the Murphy's were back on track as Trevor Clancy (0-2), Paul McManus,



MURPHY'S LAW: Western exiles' Mark Fagan clears from Fr. Murphy's Paul McManus (above). Trevor Clancy lifts the Intermediate championship trophy (right).

PHOTOS: NICK BAKER

Jimmy Howlin and Paul Timmons all added extra scores.

With five minutes to go, Howlin killed off the game with a splendid goal.

It was a carbon copy of his sides first, as Billy McManus' ball was flicked on by Maher to Howlin, who finished with great aplomb.

His contribution of 1-7 proved to be a match-winning one.

Pat Joyce knocked over four late points for John O'Malley's side to give their score some respectability, but by then Fr. Murphy's had built up too much of a lead for the Exiles to stage a comeback.

Fr. Murphy's captain, Trevor Clancy, paid tribute to the hard work and effort of his side.

"We're absolutely overwhelmed by this. We're overjoyed. It's obviously a big



boost to the club. We've been training since January and I'd like to thank all the players, coaching staff and supporters who have contributed to this fantastic day."

TEAMS:

Western Exiles:

Chris Staunton; Dave Cassidy, Michael Fox, Sean Gibb; Pat Ginty, Tom Gaffinan, Mark Fagan; Pat Joyce (0-4), Michael Ward (0-4); John Almon, Tom McManus (0-1), Mark Dineen; Graham Gallagher (0-3), Paul Dillon (0-1), Sean O'Reilly.

Fr. Murphy's:

John Doyle; Mick Hanton, Cathal McManus, Tom Neville; Terry Bennett, Brenda Mayanagh, Paul Timmons (0-1), Billy Morris, Trevor Clancy (0-2), Paul McManus (0-2), Dave Murphy (0-2), Paul McManus; Jimmy Howlin (2-7), Darren Howlin, Owen Maher (1-0).

Referee: Marty Maher.

3 players from the winning team played on the London Senior Football Team. John Doyle who also played on the Wexford Senior Football Team, Dave Murphy who also played on the Dublin Senior Football Team and Jimmy Howlin.



The victorious team with supporters

Back row LtoR. JO'leary, J Howlin, M Harrell, B Morris, B Kavanagh, D Howlin, E Shalloe, C McManus, W Duggan, M O'Hanlon, B Byrne, J Doyle, PJ Fortune, D Murphy, G Redmond, J McMenimen

Front LtoR. P McManus, T Clancy, T Bennett, P Timmons, O Maher, T Neville, J Ryan



Trevor Clancy holding the cup aloft, surrounded by happy team mates and supporters

2000

Probably the best year to date in the Club's history, Father Murphy's finally made the long awaited breakthrough and captured the London Senior hurling championship for the first time, in addition the senior hurlers added the London senior hurling league title, the Collins Cup, the senior provincial title the, the All-England seven-a-side title.

"Father Murphy's crowned a brilliant weekend of hurling for Kilburn by capturing their first ever senior championship title. They followed Kilburn Gaels' triumph n the intermediate competition earlier in the day with a brilliant 2-10 to 2-7 victory over favourites Sean Treacy's. The unfancied Murphy's blew their south London opponents away with a blistering first half display that put them thirteen points ahead at the interval. Treacy's clawed their way back and in a tense closing ten minutes were within a goal of their victors. But the gap proved too great and Murphy's captured a senior county title for the first time since they formed in a the Sir Robert Peel (Red Lion) pub in 1958. Captain John Ryan said "Forty two years is a long time to be waiting for a trophy in this town. We started off well this season when we won the Collins Cup and now we have done it. We did it for all those players, young and old, who have played their part for this club over those 42 years. Treacy's keep hurling going in south London. They're a gallant team. It's mean for a team to play like that and end up on the losing side."



The victorious London senior hurling champions and mentors

*Back LtoR. M Butler, D Duggan, P Doyle, D Howlin, E Shalloe, M Harrell, , G Redmond, PJ Fortune, R Devlin, D Shalloe, P Slattery, J Howlin.
Front LtoR. , J Murphy, A Fitzpatrick, B Carty, J Murphy, S Howlin, P Greene, M Harrell, M Reilly, E Kinlon, J Ryan, J O'Leary, P Roche, J Howlin*



Father Murphy's Captain John Ryan receiving the championship trophy



Jubilant scenes in the dressing rooms after the match



The Howlin Family enjoying the celebrations

The Howlin family, like so many other G.A.A. and Fr. Murphy families typify what is good about the G.A.A. in London and is one of the reason why it is still alive and well. The entire family contribute their piece to ensure the Father Murphy's Club remains successful, Jim down the years as player, committee member, manager and coach, Olive who cares for other players as well as her own hurling and footballing family, washing and preparing jerseys on many occasions, Margaret Jimmy, Darren, and Sean on the field of play and as committee members, Patricia(missing from picture) as Club secretary over the years, Darren and Sean coaching and managing the ladies teams, their effort and the effort of all the other families must be commended and is invaluable to our Club.

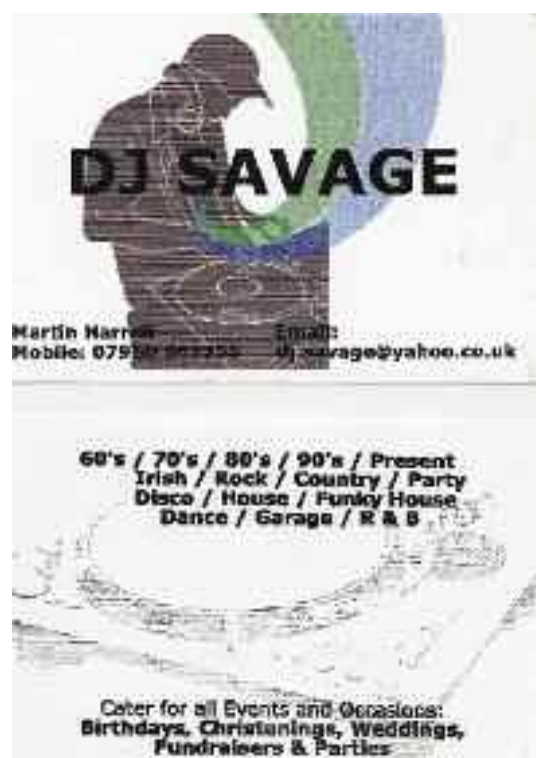


All-England 2000, 7 a-side Champions

Back LtoR. P Doyle, J Howlin, B Carty, E Shalloe, B Teehan, J Dunne, PJ Fortune, M Harrell, D Howlin, H Lewis.

Front LtoR. J Howlin, J Ryan, P Greene, T Neville, O Rocks, M Butler, S Howlin(in front)

On Sunday 7th May 2000, at Parnell park five senior hurling teams competed in the Annual Irish Ferries 7 a-side championship. IN the preliminary round St Gabriels had a runaway victory over a weak Thomas McCurtains and came out easy winners by 9-8 to 1-3. St Gabriels then played Bros Pearses in the semi final where they once again came out rather facile winners by 3-1 to 1-21. In the other semi- final Father Murphy's and Sean Treacys played out a very close encounter before the Murphy's gained the edge to come out narrow winners by 3-4 to 2-6. In the final Father Murphy's led at the interval by 1-3 to 0-2, but the St Gabriels staged a comeback in the second half and came within a point of the deserving winners. Fr Murphy's with the scoreline at the final whistle Fr Murphy's 1-5 St Gabriels 1-4.



***Congratulations
to all the
Father Murphy's
men and ladies***

***Enjoy the night and
may the next fifty
years be even more
successful.***

Fr Murphy's 2-11
Sean Treacy's 1-7

When the two sales met in

Within a matter of days, Tracy's wife is the last

Exchanges were even and late for the remainder of the half until just before half-time when referee Sean Rose allowed deadly Colby Hooyca for an unceremonious challenge on Jimmy Hewlin. Unfortunately it was to be an incident that changed the entire tone of proceedings for the remainder of the game as Sean Hooyca's Kevin McGrath closed the scoring of the first half with a superb finish. The 1-0 for Murphy's was

On the resumption, unlike in the opening contest, Sean Treacy's settled for points and Kevin Heaney gave them a three point lead after only three minutes. However soon after there was yet another altercation in the middle of the field which resulted in four more players being yellowed carded including Sean Treacy.



Collins Cup Winners: The victorious Fr. Murphy's team, who defeated Sean Treacy's last Sunday to win the Collins Cup, are pictured with the trophy in the custody of captain and goalkeeper John Ryan and their many supporters.

However there was very evident "red blood" among some of the players as a result of the earlier skirmish and this inevitably manifested

The remainder of the game was dominated by Fr. Murphy's who with two goals in three minutes by

There was however to be some injury wise for Pe Murphy's when full-back Germain Laffan was stretched off with a suspected broken leg.

Murphy's class 'Rocks' Mitchell's

Fth. Murphy's unexpected addition to the provincial title in their recent District First London title when they overhauled a game John Mitchell's team from Birmingham at Osney Park Watford last Sunday.

Conditions were ideal on a especially prepared pitch as referee Eddie Maher said

In the 17th century the Birmingham area was given more names for rights when William and John Gascoigne, a family first based in the Marston area

A tandem parent duo, it left the Birmingham tale with a morsel of Forest purple: both a club and when my son added a further 1-1 early in the second half during Scotland's second-half effort, resulting in the hosts' 4-1, from Harry

In what was their signal to proceed all waited quietly for Murphy's final word and permission. On both occasions and captain John Ryan, deckhand Pat Cronin, John and Murphy, Nick Roddy and Declan O'Hanlon. In one, Eddi James Murphy and Rory Devlin were never

Juan M. Wilfredo, Sandra L. Wilfredo, Michael J. Meyerson, J. Theodore M. McCarty, C. McCann, M. Edwards, N. Blaney, P. Cox, F. Farwell, P. Hendry, J. Hooley, J. Huang, S.-C. Lee, A. Dierman, J. Gaudette, J. McGowan.

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2001

Father Murphy's senior hurling team once again swept the boards in 2001 retaining the senior hurling championship, the senior league title, the Collins Cup, and the All-England 7 a-side title.

Murphys reign supreme

**FR MURPHY'S 2-8
SEAN TREACYS 0-8**
London MCC final,
Rushy
By Robert Blaine

REIGNING champions Fr. Murphy's retained their status as the best team in London by retaining their county title with a convincing victory over Sean Treacy's.

Murphy's dominated from start to finish, leading from the off and capturing the trophy that was to be their 10th in the club's history.

The London board of hurling is celebrating a sensational year, with 20 titles won over 20 clubs, the success being aided by a complete support from the London board of hurling.

Seán Treacy's team, who claimed the title, the club's first since 1987, lost to Murphy's in the final.

Treacy's side, who made the players more famous, had their share of success, with a top goal and a top point, but they were not enough to overcome Murphy's.

Murphy's looked to have a very easy day, but they were not to be taken lightly. Sean Treacy's team, who claimed the title, the club's first since 1987, lost to Murphy's in the final.

Treacy's side, who made the players more famous, had their share of success, with a top goal and a top point, but they were not enough to overcome Murphy's.

Murphy's side, who made the players more famous, had their share of success, with a top goal and a top point, but they were not enough to overcome Murphy's.

Murphy's side, who made the players more famous, had their share of success, with a top goal and a top point, but they were not enough to overcome Murphy's.

Murphy's side, who made the players more famous, had their share of success, with a top goal and a top point, but they were not enough to overcome Murphy's.



The victory for Murphy's was the perfect end to a year of success for the club.



Mark O'Reilly receiving the 7's trophy from London County Board Chairman Larry O'Leary

Collins Cup Final Facile win for Fr. Murphys

BY MICHAEL O'REGAN

**Fr Murphys 4-10
Sean Treacys 0-14**

PROVINCIAL and County Champions Fr. Murphys continued on their winning ways when they had an easy win over Sean Treacy's in the final of the Collins Cup.

At the end of the first quarter, Fr. Murphys had gone into a 1-5 to 0-1 after Darren Howlin was on target with a well taken goal on the fifth minute. But then the floodgates opened up when following primarily goalkeeping and defensive errors, Fr. Murphys were gifted three goals from Sean Treacy, Jimmy Howlin and Ian Rocks.

Timmy Moloney with 0-3, Sean Cormac 0-2 and Francis Davey 0-1 kept Sean Treacy's in the game. On the resumption Ian Rocks added two quick points before the Sean Treacy's fought back with a succession of points from Timmy Moloney and young Sean Cormac, but the gap between the two sides was too great and Fr. Murphys came out winners by 4-10 to 0-14.

The winners were best served by Rory Devlin, John Murphy, Mark Reilly, James Murphy, Darren Howlin, Sean Treacy, Ian Rocks and Eric Kinson.

Sean Treacy's had commendable performances from Timmy Moloney, Sean Cormac, Barry Sheehy, Colin and Kevin Hickey.

Scorers: Fr. Murphys: Ian Rocks 1-4, Eric Kinson 0-4, Darren Howlin 1-1, Sean Treacy 1-1, Jimmy Howlin 1-0, Martin Harrell 0-1, James Cermody 0-1.

Sean Treacy's: Timmy Moloney 0-3, Sean Cormac 0-2, Francis Davey 0-1.



Larry O'Leary, Chairman of the London County Board presenting the Senior Hurling League Cup to Fr. Murphys Captain Mark O'Reilly.

2002

In 2002 although Father Murphy's were unlucky in the senior hurling championship, they made history and were the first team from England to win the All-Ireland Kilmacud seven-a-side Shield.



*Back LtoR Johnny Murphy, Darren Howlin, Rory Devlin, Declan O Hanlon, Paddy Culhane
Front LtoR. Eric Kinlon, John Ryan, Liam Lynch and Martin Harrell*

John Ryan's intelligent play helped set up scores. Declan O Hanlon & Rory Devlin were outstanding especially in the 1st half of the final, they broke down the oppositions attack every time. Darren Howlin scored a very important goal in the first half, whilst Liam Lynch, Eric Kinlon and Paddy Culhane reinforced the lead with slick points. The last 5 minutes was extremely tense as Naomh Moninne fought back. The Father Murphys held on till the final whistle to become the first British team ever to win a Kilmacud Seven a Side Tournament in the history of the event. After the referee blew his whistle, the presentation was made by Sean McCague and the Shield was presented to Rory Devlin, the Captain of the Father Murphys.

2003

Father Murphys collected their 3rd London senior hurling title in four years with a very easy win over a disappointing St Gabriels side. For good measure the Murphy's also captured the senior league title, the Provincial title with a win against John Mitchells from Warwickshire as well as retaining their All-England seven-a-side title. Father Murphy's ran Newtownshandrum from Cork very close in the quarter final of the All-Ireland Club championship.

"A Simon Byrne inspired Father Murphy's clinched the 2003 Irish World Senior Hurling Championship when they completely out-gunned a disappointing St Gabriels by 3-9 to 0-6 in a game that never really caught fire. The win is the Murphy's third senior crown in four years. and they must now prepare for the Provincial final against John Mitchells from Warwickshire".



Captain Eric Kinlon receiving the championship trophy from Larry O'Leary, London County Board Chairman.



John Ryan leading the celebrations



2003 Seven-a-side All-England champions

2004

2004 was a quiet year by Murphy's standards, having played well throughout the year Father Murphy's reached yet another Senior championship final, only to be narrowly beaten by the Robert Emmets.

Due to lack of players, for the first time since the formation of the Club, the Father Murphy's were unable to enter a football team in the London championships or league.

Danny O'Sullivan & Sons Ltd.

**22 Barretts Green Road, London
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Tel: 020 8961 1900

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*Congratulations to The Father Murphy's,
50 years is a great achievement
enjoy your celebrations*

2005

After a narrow semi-final victory over Kilburn Gaels, Father Murphy's regained the Senior hurling championship at Ruislip on Sunday 2nd October.

"Underdogs Fr.Murphy's regained their senior hurling crown after a dramatic finish to the county final. The new kingpins of London hurling won their fourth title in six years, were outsiders entering the final and appeared to be heading for defeat until they struck with two late goals to deny holders Robert Emmets a back-to-back title. Emmets powered by a number of London's Rackard Cup winning side, were firm favourites to retain their title but were eventually overcome by a spirited Fr.Murphy's team who showed vast improvement in form since their semi-final appearance. Led by their inspirational captain and centre-back Mick Gordon and also a man-of-the match performance from former Tipperary minor Michael Harding, Fr. Murphy's were not overawed in any way and took the game to the champions from the throw-in."

Father Murphy's ran out deserved winners on a scoreline of 2-11 to 0-13, the last ten minutes of the game being the most exciting during which the Murphy's netted twice.



Captain Eric Kinlon "saying a few words" after accepting the championship trophy.

2006 – 2008

2006

The Club had a very quiet year in 2006, and were soundly beaten by Kilburn Gaels in the quarter final losing 2-13 to 1-7.

2007

Father Murphy's having played some good hurling, reached the semi final of the Senior hurling championship only to lose in extraordinary circumstances to Robert Emmets by four points 1-11 to 0-10.

"For the opening half of the semi final holders Robert Emmets ran Father Murphy's ragged leaving them punch drunk at half time facing a staggering 1-10 to 0-1 deficit. The Murphy's were totally disorientated, like a rudderless ship as the champions ripped them apart at every opportunity leaving the purple and gold warriors in a very embarrassing situation the likes of which we may never see again. Most amazingly the Murphy's could only manage a point from a free in the first half. But even more amazingly Emmets for whatever reason posted a similar tally during the entire second period." Murphy's stormed back in the second half and were unlucky not to overhaul the Emmets lead.

2008

Father Murphy's bowed out of the senior championship at the semi-final stage, 1-16 to 0-6 to a very strong Robert Emmets side.



The 2008 beaten semi-finalist's with club mentors



Officers of the Club at the October 2008 Club meeting

Back LtoR, Tommy Harrell, Phil Roche, Jim Dunne, Josie O'Leary, Jim Howlin, Paddy Doyle, Michael Sills.

Officers and Committee 2008

Life presidents

President

Sean Diviney, Tom Ryan, Frank Sheehan,
Mick Butler

Chairman

Josie O'Leary

Vice-Chairman

Jimmy Howlin

Secretary

Jim Dunne

Treasurer

Jim Howlin

Assistant Treasurer

Paddy Doyle

Committee Members

J Howlin (jnr)
M Butler
T Neville
T Harrell

M Harrell
P Roche
B Weller
S Holohan

S Howlin
M Sills
T Grace

P Slattery
D Butler
D Higgins
D Donohoe

Father Murphy's Ladies Football & Camogie Club



The First Team - The Father Murphy's Ladies Junior football team

Back LtoR: S O'Leary, J Friday, Elaine, A Slattery, M howlin, C Doyle, B Butler, N Cullen, C Sherry, K McIntee, S Caduggan

Front LtoR , C McCann, J Butler, O Harrell, U Laffan, L Roche, S Roche, T Lynch

Early Years – recounted by founder member Patricia Casey



The Father Murphy's Ladies Football GAA Club was formed as a Junior Football Club in 1988. The Father Murphy's ladies had participated in Irish festivals regularly prior to the official formation of the junior football clubs, success at the Roundwood festival continued and the Club won the tournament in 1990,1992,1994,1995 and 1996. The Club also won another festival tournament during 1994 in Peckham.

In 1991 the Club organised the Mick Butler Shield competition which the Club won in 1991 through to 1994. In 1995 the Shield competition was renamed the Michael J. Butler Shield and has been retained by the Ladies every year to date, in the same year the Murphy's won their first London junior football championship. In 1996, the Club entered a team in both the Junior and Senior Championships and was the first year to land a title winning the junior championship. At the time the Father Murphy's were one off the only Clubs in the country to be represented at both junior and senior grade.



A ladies festival team from 1984



1991 Butler Shield winners with team mentors

1998

In 1998 a Camogie team was formed mainly made up of football players. The camogie team soon gained success on the field winning the junior championship in their first year.



The victorious ladies junior camogie team

The Ladies football team also landed the senior league title in a thrilling contest against Parnell's Father Murphy's deservedly won by the narrowest of margins 3-7 to 3-6. "At Parnell Park father Murphy's gave a true "Spirit of '98" performance when they had a well deserved win over Kingpin Parnell's, in the final of the 1998 Senior Football League; in doing so, they deprived Parnell's of their seven-in-a-row dream. The contest itself was keenly contested throughout and full of passion, but at times boiled over, so intense were the exchanges.

Fr Murphy's were worthy winners and had sterling performance from all members of the team, but were best served by June O'Hanlon, Maeve Cronin, Aoife Murphy in the backs, Anne Marie McDonnell and Aisling Moloney who controlled midfield and Maggie Byrne, Maggie Greally and Angie Fogarty in attack.

The full team on the day was; Helen Higgins, Claire Cullen, June O'Hanlon, Jean Duggan, Karen O'Connor, Maeve Cronin, Aoife Murphy, Anne Marie McDonnell, Aisling Moloney, Breda Weller, Maggie Greally, Angie Fogarty, Theresa Maher, Maggie Byrne, Sandie Eratt.

Father Murphy' also retained the Michael J Butler Shield, and in addition to complete a very successful year the football team came out on top in winning the Shannon Rovers 9-a-side tournament.

1999 to 2000

1999

In 1999 Father Murphy's retained the Michael J Butler Shield, otherwise it was a very quiet year off the back of a very successful 98 campaign.

2000

In 2000, Father Murphy's camogie club yet again won the junior championship and league titles, defeating Brother Pearses by 1-5 to 0-4 in the final of the championship.

Camogie Corner

London Junior Camogie Championship Final

**Fr Murphys 1-5
Brother Pearses 0-4**

Fr Murphys and Brother Pearses met in the final of the London Junior Championship at Tir Chonaill Park on last Sunday. Playing conditions were difficult due to heavy rain during the week, but despite this an exciting match took place.

The first half of the match saw a ding-dong battle take place with only one goal and five points being scored in total. Pearses opened the scoring when Caroline Fennel slotted the sliothar over the bar from a 30 yard free after one of the forwards was fouled while in possession. Caroline scored again shortly after when a 45 was awarded. Pearses responded with two points leaving the sides level with five minutes to go. By the time Collette Wisener blew her half time whistle, Angie Fogarty netted the sliothar past Gemma Lee in the Pearses goal from a free. Gemma Lee was unlucky on this occasion when the heavy sliothar dropped from her hand and crossed the line. Pearses ended this half with another Caroline Fennel point. The half time score read Pearses 0-3 Fr Murphys 1-2.

Murphy's restarted the game by registering another goal. This time it was Elaine Kelly who got her name on the score-sheet. Murphy's continued to pressurise the Pearses' defence, who were playing out of their skin closing down the Murphy's attack. Murphys scored three more points before the final whistle. These came from the hurl of Angie Fogarty and Ash Maloney. Caroline Fennel took her fourth point of the game before the final whistle. Gemma Lee in goal for the Pearses pulled off a number of fine saves in the second half of the game keeping Pearses in the game.

Pearses were best served by Gemma Lee in goal, Claire Burke, Mary Sweeney and Sheila Gannon in the back line. Caroline Fennel and Brigid Aylward tried hard in mid-field.

Fr Murphys now progress to senior competitions next year. They should be well able to compete at this level given the new players they fielded for the junior championship. Those players that caught the eye on the day were Angie Fogarty, Ash Maloney, Annemarie McDonnell and their full back Audrey Melia.

The County Board would like to thank Tir Chonaill Gaels and the London GAA Board for the use of Tir Chonaill Park and to those groundsmen who prepared the pitch. Congratulations to Collette Wisener for her refereeing of the game. The next meeting of the County Board will be Monday 13 November at 8.30pm, venue to be confirmed.

2001/2002

In 2001 the Club made the breakthrough at the top level winning the title that eluded them for so long: the Senior Football Championship. Having secured the Senior League and the Mary Feehan Cup honours in the same year, 2001 will be remembered as one of the Club's greatest years.

London Ladies Senior Football Championship Final

Murphys Worthy Champions of London

**Fr Murphys 3-5
Parnell 0-5**

BY MICHAEL O'REGAN

FORMED SOME eleven years ago, Fr Murphys ladies football team came of age in the London Senior Championship ranks when they had a historic and well deserved victory over Parnells to clinch their first senior championship title.

Parnells who were going for the seventh London Senior title in a row, led at the interval by 0-4 to 0-2 courtesy of two pointed frees from Linda Finnegan and a point apiece from Geraldine Munnely and a fine solo effort from Rhona O'Mahony. Fr Murphys response came from points by Marie Quinn and Elaine Kelly.

On the resumption the Murphys had drawn level by the fifth minute with points from Ballybooley lass Joanne Deward and Elaine Kelly.

This spurred the wearers of the Purple and Gold onto greater feats and with Karen O'Connor and Caroline Crean taking over the supremacy of the exchanges at midfield the Murphys went into overdrive.

Then followed two quick goals from Elaine Kelly in as many minutes at the end of the third quarter.

Parnells lone response for the half came immediately afterwards with a pointed free from Linda Finnegan but her side were punished further when Angie Fogarty goalied on the 25th minute to make Fr Murphys comfortable winners by 3-5 to 0-5.

Best for Fr Murphys were player of the match, Elaine Kelly, Karen O'Connor, Deirdre Kelly who led by example, Coleen Conneely when introduced, Maggie Byrne, Catriona McKeown and June O'Hanlon.

Parnells were best served by Linda Finnegan, Rhona O'Mahony, Jackie McCowan, Cathy McCaryville, Geraldine Munnely and Ann Harney.



London Senior Champions Fr Murphys



2002

The Club retained the junior camogie league and championship titles along with the senior football league title in 2002.

2003

Father Murphy's were now competing at senior level in camogie and football, and were the first club to do so in England.

In May 2003, six Fr. Murphy camogie players represented London in the All-Ireland Championship playing against Derry.

Seven members of the senior football team represented Britain in the Inter-provincial tournament in Mullingar. Six of the same seven players represented London in the All-Ireland Football Quarter-Final against Sligo at Markievicz Park in August.

2003 will also be remembered as the year that the Fr. Murphy Ladies launched an underage team, forging links with Cardinal Wiseman RC School in Greenford and St James RC School Colindale. In April Fr. Murphy's won the Tir Chonaill Gaels International 9-a-side tournament, having entered a team comprised of both senior and underage players.

Other trophies lifted in 2003 included the London 9-a-side title, the Birmingham Women's Gaelic Sports festival title.

2004/2005/2006

Father Murphy's lifted the Mary Feehan football trophy in all three years 2004 to 2006. In addition the senior football league title last won in 2002 was regained in 2005 and then retained in 2006. The senior camogie team made their first appearance in the final of the championship in 2006, but were unfortunately unsuccessful. The senior footballers made it to the final of the championship only to be defeated by Parnell's



The 2006 Ladies football team

*Back Ltor. Pat McNab, K. Keating, G Ganny, S Sexton, J deWard, O Tieman, H Thompson, B McLernon, N Lee, S Byrne, N O'Connor, N Seward, C McKeon
Front LtoR. S Daly, M Muldoon, S McMenamin, E Taylor, H Thompson, N Parsons, S Keogh, F Breen, C Towey, M Hughes*

Our sincere thanks to our existing sponsors **Cara Personnel** who have supported our Club over the past few years, and we now look forward to a rewarding partnership with new sponsors Garryowen and Diceys.

The Ladies teams would like to take this opportunity to thank Darren and Sean Howlin for their continued support, Sean Quinn our new camogie manager, football managers Shane O'Hare and Brian Tighe, Breda Weller for her continued invaluable hard work, Larry O Leary for his invaluable hard work, continued dedication and support, and Wes for attendance at games, consistent care shown on and off the pitch, and finally the supporters without you we would not be where we are today.

2007

2007 was a remarkable year; Father Murphy's became the first GAA Club in London to secure the senior camogie and senior football Championships in the same year. In addition, the Club won the Michael J Butler Shield, The London Junior camogie League and London junior camogie seven-a-side (with its second team), and the London senior football nine-a-side title.

History is made!

London County Senior Camogie Championship winners 2007



Father Murphy's Camogie beat Bros Pearse in a nail biting final! (2-9 to 1-10)

Back row (LtoR) Suzie Byrne, Emma Mc Daid, Natalie O'Connor, Grainne, Melanie Hogan, Brid Keane, Kim Hickey, Aine Doyle, Emma Taylor, Breda Lernihan, Nat Parsons, Niamh, Evelyn Quigley, Sheila sexton, Caroline, Larry O Leary

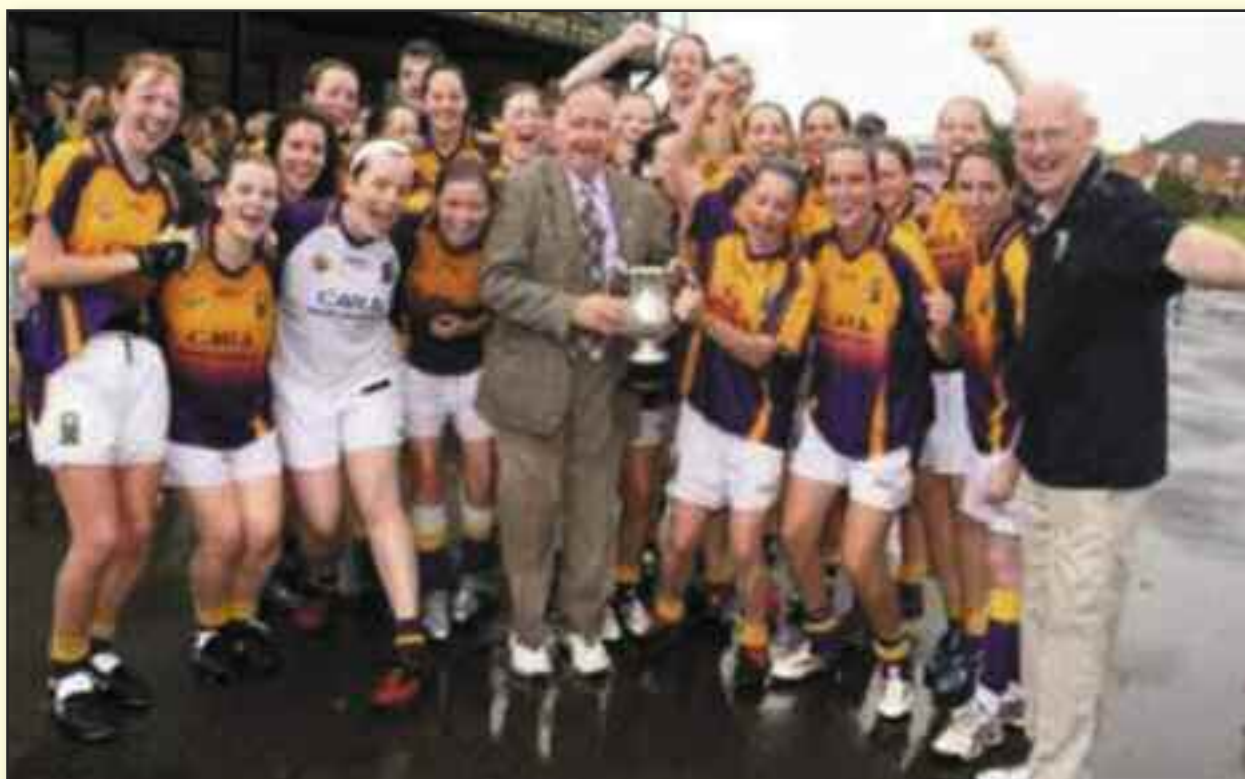
Front row (LtoR) Claire Towey, Neasa, Michelle Muldoon, Ciara O Donnell, Bronagh Mc Leron (captain), Brenda Kerr, Roisin Houlihan, Eimear O'Higgins, Sinead Kirk, Darren Howlin (manager)

London County Senior Football Championship winners 2007



Back (L to R) Sean Howlin, Darren Howlin, Brenda Kerr, Bronagh McLernon, Linda Taighe, Naomi Lee, Sarah Allen, Anne Marie O'Dwyer, Emma Taylor, Natalie Parsons, Natalie O'Connor, Narelle Seward.

Front (L to R) Eileen Rowsome, Sinead Whelan, Orna Tiernan, Michelle Muldoon, Shauna Keogh, Suzanne Byrne, Shauna McMenamin, Sinead Daly, Karen Keating and Claire Towey



The victorious 2007 football team celebrating with Larry O'Leary

2008

History repeats itself; Father Murphy's not only do the double yet again, but are now the first team in history to win the double in consecutive years. In addition the camogie club were the first ever to reach a Leinster senior camogie quarter final

The camogie Club also won their first ever Birmingham International 9's tournament. The football club also won the Dubai International 9's tournament.

Back-to-back London County Senior Football Championship winners 2008.



Back row (LtoR) Larry O Leary, Narelle Saward, Eileen Rowsome, Anne Marie O Dwyer, Natalie O Connor, Sarah Allen, Shane O Hare, Liz Breen, Brian Tighe, Ruth Foley, Anne Marie McDonnell, Claire Toweey and Niamh Keane.

Middle row Sinead Egan, Sinead Daly, Shauna McMenamim, Linda Tighe, Shauna Keogh, Bronagh McLernon, Jade O Neill, Sinead "Sparrow" Kirk, Front Captain Karen Keating with Kate Clarke Cup.



Father Murphy's Ladies football team completed the historic back-to-back double at Ruislip Saturday 25th October 2008. The team easily defeated Tara with a scoreline of 1-08 to 2-0. Father Murphy's were dominant throughout the game and had to deal with very blustery conditions.

Captain Karen Keating in action in the final

Back-to-back London County Camogie Championship winners 2008.



Fr Murphy's beat Croydon 4-03 to 3-03 to retain the Championship title - Great team work!

Back LtoR Larry o Leary, Emma Taylor, Bernadette Ryan, Ashling Murphy, Sarah McLaughlin, Ciara O Donnell, Melanie Hogan (vice captain), Sinead Kirk, Liz McGrath, Zoe Power, Laureena Murphy, Grainne Hunter, Sean Quinn (manager)

Front Lto R. Jade o Neill, Tina Quinn, Brenda Kerr, Claire Towey, Bronagh McLernon, Eimear O Higgins (captain), Sinead Egan, Edel Byrne, Anna Gibson.

Eight Father Murphy's players in 2008, namely Claire Towey, Sinead Daly, Linda Tighe, Liz Breen, Karen Keating, Natalie O'Connor, Shauna Keogh, Niamh Keane, won All-Ireland medals with London.

Murphy's' epic battle to keep camogie title FR MURPHYS 4-3 CROYDON 3-3

FR. MURPHYS retained their London senior camogie championship after overcoming a resilient Croydon side.

Having won the toss and elected to play against the wind, they took the lead after three minutes when a long range shot from Laureena Murphy found its way into the Croydon net, this was followed by another goal this time from corner forward Ciara O'Donnell.

The reigning champions looked to be cruising, but Croydon woke up and hit a goal and a point for themselves, some minutes later Sinead 'Sparrow' Kirk lifted the sliothar, raced away and placed a perfect handpass in the net, Croydon's turn now, they hit another goal and a point to lead at halftime 3-2 to Fr Murphy's 3-1.

Croydon knew they had to play a very tight game to contain the windassisted Murphy's in the second half, this they did with a certain amount of success, however mid-way through the half Fr Murphy's full back and captain, Emer O'Higgins surged forward and goaled, her team now two points up, they then proceeded to block and hamper all Croydon's efforts, county footballer Claire Towey, had an excellent first-half at centre-field and then switched with full-forward the sparrow Kirk Laureena Murphy added another point and the champions had retained their crown on a score of 4-3 to 3-3.

Fr Murphy's savaged by injuries to key players, showed heart and determination in abundance, never let the heads drop and never gave up. Croydon also played a great part in this final, with Aishling Touhy, Anne Marie O Dwyer, Sarah Allen and Rosita Harvey always a threat, but Fr Murphy's midfield pairing of Sarah McLoughlinn and Claire Towey, prevented the Croydon pair winning clean ball to feed their forwards.

The game was excellently refereed by Peter Downey from Liscarroll in Cork.



Birmingham 2008 – international 9's winners

Back row, (LtoR) Larry O Leary, Laureena Murphy (player of tournament), Ashling Murphy, Liz McGrath, Bronagh McLernon, Sinead Kirk, Sean Quinn (trainer)
Front row (LtoR) Darren Howlin (manager), Ruth Foley, Sinead Egan, Eimear O Higgins, Melanie Hogan (captain), Emma Taylor



Dubai 2008

Aideen Campbell, Eileen Rowsome, Eimear o Higgins, Emma Taylor
Sinead Kirk, Bronagh McLernon, Sinead Egan

It is sometimes hard to believe the successes of 2007 and 2008, but when one realises the consistent effort, commitment and sheer hard work put in year after year by the players, mentors and supporters it is not a wonder the Father Murphy's Ladies Football and Camogie Club have set such a high standard and have achieved so much, the hope is that the Club will continue to flourish with the objective of achieving even greater success in the coming years, and in doing so continue promote the Father Murphy's Club in London, the UK and the rest of the world.

Father Murphy's Youth Club

As early as 1973, Father Murphy's fielded under-age football teams in London and in 1975 The Father Murphy's made the breakthrough winning their first Under 14 Football championship, under the management of club men Tommy Harrell and Phil Roche.

In 1980 the London Wexford Association joined forces with the Father Murphy's Club to form a very successful youth club. PJ Fortune was elected chairman, Michael Sills Secretary and Martin Kirwan the Treasurer. Committee members were Phil Roche, Pat Byrne, Sean Diviney, Dick Butler, Don Deasy, Tommy Harrell, Joan Kirwan, the late Jim Ryan, and the late Mickey Connors.

Members of the youth club comprised mainly of pupils from Cardinal Hinsley School, Harlesden, and Saint James School, Colindale. To get the Club up and running a major fundraising venture was organised and thanks to the wonderful support received from parents and also Sean Diviney our targets were easily achieved with the result a few years later we had our own team minibus.

In 1981 the Jim Byrne Under 16 winter league was started in Wexford by the late Seamus Keevans with the winners travelling to London, while in London they were invited to play the Father Murphy's. Bannow-Ballymitty was the first winners of the Jim Byrne cup and were rewarded with a trip to London. The trip was a huge success after which a wonderful friendship developed between the two clubs. Father Murphy's Youths were invited back to Wexford the following year as guests of Bannow-Ballymitty where they were warmly received by the local parish who housed all the players and mentors for the duration of the stay. Three chairmen travelled with the team, Jim Ryan, Chairman of the mens Club, PJ Fortune Chairman of the Youth's and Michael Sills Chairman of the Wexford Association, a great time was enjoyed by visitors and locals alike with Wallace's caravan park the centre of much merriment, Michael Wallace, Brian Wallace and Jim Ferguson catered for every need. On the field the Father Murphy's youth team were very successful culminating in winning the under-age tournament held at Grantstown, the Father Murphy's youth team and mentors left Bannow-Ballymitty with very fond memories.

In the same year 1983 Father Murphy's also enjoyed tremendous success winning the London Under-14 football championship and league, nine of the same players went on to win the Under 16 league in the same year. In 1985 under Phil Roche's guidance the Father Murphy's also won the Under -12 Paddy Lane trophy.

In 1987 Father Murphy's won the London Minor football league and were very unlucky not to win the minor championship. Five of that minor team were selected to travel to New York to represent the London Minor team in the championship against the New York minors.

Eight of 1994 junior football championship team were part of the successful 1987 minor team, and some are still playing their part both on the field and off the field for the club today illustrating just how important the work of the founders has become, and the importance of a strong youth policy.

Today, the Father Murphy's work in partnership with other clubs developing and encouraging Gaelic games across London.