CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL COOK

COOLANEY/MULLINABREENA GAA CLUB

Golden Jubilee Celebration Sligo Senior Football Champions 1958

BANQUET AND PRESENTATION SUNDAY OCTOBER 26TH 2008 CLARION HOTEL SLIGO





1958 Team

Back Row (L-R):

Front Row (L-R):

Missing from photo:

Seamus McGuinness, Padraig Gorman, Frank Lang (RIP), Pat Hunt, Padraic Gallagher, Liam Marren, Tom Walsh, Eamonn McGuinness, Peter Gallagher.

Roger McCarrick, Joe Johnston (RIP). Tom Johnston, Batty McLaughlin, Jerry McManus, Joe Gorman, Nace O'Dowd (Capt. RIP), Harry McGowan,

Peadar Gorman, Jim Brett, Pat McGuinness (RIP), Sean Gorman (Chairman, RIP), Mickey Gannon (Secretary, RIP), Fr. F. McGuinn (RIP).

Welcome Message from Coolaney / Mullinabreena Chairman



On behalf of Coolaney/Mullinabreena GAA club it is a great honour and it gives me great pleasure to welcome you, the members of the 1958 Senior Championship winning side to the celebration of the golden jubilee of this historic triumph. The team of '58 had players from our own club and from our neighbouring parish of Bunnanadden and I would like to extend a céad mile fáilte to the members of Bunnanadden GAA club also.

Our club has a proud tradition in Gaelic games dating back to 1889 in the locality. Our only success at the senior grade was in 1958 and

the team was captained by the legendary Mullinabreena and Sligo star Nace O'Dowd. The platform for this great success was laid with Minor and Junior Championship successes in 1957. I am glad to report that the tradition of the men of '58 is alive and well in our vibrant club at all ages.

I would like to express my grateful appreciation to the organising committee who made this memorable occasion possible and a big thank you to all of you who made a special effort to be here with us this evening.

I hope you have an enjoyable evening.

Mise le meas,

Frank Gilmartin Cathaoirleach Cúil Aine / Múllach na Bréine C.L.G

Welcome Message from Bunnanadden Chairman



A Cháirde Gael.

We in Bunnanadden G.A.A. are delighted to be associated with this function and the Coolaney Mullinabreena Club's commemoration of the County Champions of 1958. Our two clubs have a long association together and indeed this is evident in the 1958 team with two members coming from Bunnanadden. They were the legendary Pat Hunt who went on to play for many, many years with Bunnanadden G.A.A. and also Gerry McManus whose nephew, Peadar, is currently starring for our Under 16 and minor teams.

I wish all the team the best and hope all has an enjoyable night.

Mise le meas,

Sean O'Flatharta, Cathaoirleach, Bun an Fheadain C.L.G.

Welcome Message from the County Board Chairman



On behalf of Coiste Chontae Shligigh it is my privilege to welcome and congratulate the Mullinabreena County Senior Football Champions of 1958.

It is a wonderful occasion for all of you involved and this should be a night to remember - I am delighted to be associated with it.

To celebrate a fiftieth anniversary in life is a milestone and when this is the clubs only senior championship to date it is in indeed special and makes you men a part in the history of your Community.

This particular time in the history of your club was very successful with Minor and Junior Championship Titles won in 1957 and followed by the Senior Championship in 1958. Some of you were involved in

all successes and I congratulate you.

All or any championship is difficult to win but I believe a club championship is the most special of all. You do it with your own people, friends, family and really for those. In 1958 you were kings of Sligo Football and I have no doubt all of Mullinabreena walked taller because of your achievements.

I hope the celebration of this success and the clubs acknowledgement of the people and the year will lead to further achievements on the field for the club in the years ahead.

My sympathies to the families of members of the panel who have passed away since 1958. I am sure they will be remembered in a special way. Enjoy the night among your friends and reminisce of the time when you were kings.

Congratulations.

Sean Ó Murchú Cathaoirleach

Congratulations from Tommy Kilcoyne



Heartiest congratulations to the Coolaney/Mullinabreena GAA club on the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the Sligo Senior Football Championship success in 1958. That was a momentous occasion for the club and the area, achieved through the efforts and skills of a very talented group of players led by their captain, the great Nace O'Dowd from Carrowrile. The final against Sooey was a special occasion and a great game in Corran Park, Ballymote and the Owen B. Hunt Cup returned to Mullinabreena amid great scenes of jubilation. That achievement has assumed even more significance over the years, as all the efforts by the club to repeat the feat have been unsuccessful in the

intervening years. The closest the club has come to winning the SFC again came in 1970 when Mullinabreena were defeated in the county final. However, I feel confident that this will be rectified in the near future as the club is pursuing a very effective youth policy with all juvenile members receiving expert coaching in the skills of Gaelic Football and this has resulted in much recent success at Juvenile and primary school level. A great upsurge in interest in Ladies Football in the area has also been a feature of recent years and the St. Nathy's Football Club have brought great honour to the area winning many County Titles at all levels in great style.

Coolaney/Mullinabreena GAA club have supplied many fine players to county teams down the years. Nace O'Dowd won a Minor Football Championship medal with Sligo in 1949. Unfortunately he did not get a coveted Connacht Senior Championship medal losing out to Galway in two Connacht Finals in 1954 and 1956. However his displays on the football fields of the country earned him great renown and he was selected at mid-field on the Connacht Team of the Millennium. It is fitting that the local GAA Park in Mullinabreena is named in his honour. I have very happy childhood memories of travelling to Connacht Railway Cup interprovincial matches in the 1950's with my father and Nace.

John Brennan, Robert Lipsett and Francis Kilcoyne won Connacht Minor Football Championship medals in 1968. That fine Sligo team narrowly lost the All-Ireland Final to Cork by one point. Long time Mullinabreena GAA Club Secretary and current Club President Walter Kivlehan was a selector with team manager Colm Mullarkey for that team.

When Sligo broke a 47-year famine by winning the County Senior Football Championship Final in 1975 there were five Coolaney/Mullinabreena players involved: John Brennan, Robert Lipsett, Ben Wilkinson, Peter Walsh and Padraig Rooney. Thus John Brennan and Robert Lipsett are among the very few Sligo players to hold both Minor and Senior Connacht medals. The club's proud tradition of having players on successful Sligo teams was maintained in 2007 when Barry Kivlehan won a Connacht Senior Football Championship medal.

During my years as Sligo GAA County Secretary I had the pleasure of being closely involved with the great players mentioned above, all of whom have added much to the tradition of the GAA in our club area and in the county. The present club is carrying on and embellishing a proud tradition dating back almost to the foundation of the GAA in the post famine era of the 1880's. I pay tribute to all the current players and officials led by Chairman Frank Gilmartin and Secretary Eugene Henry.

I recall with pleasure the Silver Jubilee celebration for the 1958 heroes at Cawley's Hotel in Tubbercurry in 1983. It was a most enjoyable and memorable occasion. It is entirely fitting that the club, fifty years on, should remember and honour the great men of the Senior Championship winning team of 1958 and their deeds in those far off days which are still remembered with such pride in their native place.

Clár an Lae

11:30am	Mass of remembrance for the deceased members of the 1958 Senior panel and the deceased members of Coolaney/Mullinabreena GAA club in Sacred Heart Church, Mullinabreena	
12:20pm	Reception in St Nathy's Hall Mullinabreena with a slideshow of photographs illustrating the history of Coolaney/Mullinabreena GAA down through the years	
7:15pm	Drinks reception in the Clarion Hotel, Sligo.	
7:45pm	Golden Jubilee Banquet - seated at 7.45 for meal.	



1957 Junior Championship Winning Panel

Back Row (L-R): S. McGuinness, F. Gannon, J. Murtagh, J. Gorman, P. McCarrick, P. Gallagher, R. Gallagher, R. McCarrick, J. Dunleavy, J. Mullen (RIP), J. Brett, E. McGuinness, T. Stenson (RIP), M. Gannon (Club Secretary, RIP).

Front Row (L-R): H. McGowan, P. Gorman, T. Johnston, B. McLaughlin, F. Lang (RIP), L. Marren, P. Roddy, P. Gallagher.



Luke Colleran (Co. Board Chairman), Nace O'Dowd, Owen B. Hunt and Tommy Kilcoyne Snr. (Co. Secretary)

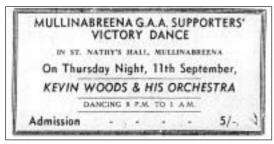


Nace O'Dowd
Winning Captain with the
Owen B. Hunt Cup

It was a time when many were obsessed with the national tragedy that was emigration. It wasn't a very colourful period in Irish history. Sean T. O'Kelly was President of Ireland, Eamon de Valera was Taoiseach and Sean Lemass was Tánaiste. Lord Brookeborough was more than half way through his tenure (1943-1963) as Prime Minister of Northern Ireland. Pope Pius XII died and was succeeded by Pope John XXIII.







Galway were beaten by Tipperary in the All Ireland hurling final and Dublin beat Derry in the football final. Christy O'Connor was one of the world's great golfers and with Harry Bradshaw won the World Cup (then called the Canada Cup) in Mexico City.

Tony O'Sullivan 'the green ghost' was one of the best rugby players of his time. Galway's Sean Purcell and Joe Salmon were probably Ireland's best in Gaelic football and hurling. Johnny Glynn was President of the Irish Rugby Football Union. Brazil won the world cup in Sweden and introduced a 17-year-old player called Pele. The Currach races were an annual feature of the Irish sporting calendar.

The ballroom was the centre of entertainment and social life. The Clipper Carlton and Mick Delahunty were in their prime. Five shillings was the normal admission charge but it was six shillings on Shrove Tuesday, not surprising as there were no dances during Lent and the next dance would not be held until Easter Sunday with the exception of a reprieve on St. Patrick's night.

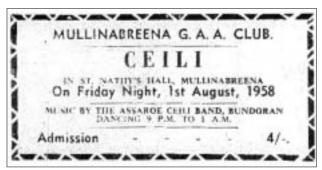
Cinemas were going strong. The seats in all three cinemas were equipped with ash trays. All patrons were welcome to smoke their way through all and every show. Pipe smoking was most acceptable and patrons could enjoy the real or was it the true Virginia flavour of Sweet Afton, Gold Flake and Players Please, or even the exclusive Churchman or heaven forbid the lowly Woodbine.

A KLM plane crashed into Galway Bay with a loss of 99 lives. It was also the year when so many of the Manchester United soccer team were killed in an air

disaster in Munich. The space race began when the USA launched 'Explorer 1'. Ireland had no television station and probably very few televisions. It had one radio station called Radio Eireann that transmitted daily from 8am to 11.30pm but with three closedowns at 9.15am, 2.30pm and again at 11.30pm. The staple diet of the daily schedule appeared to be News, Nuacht, Hospital Requests, Question Times, Topical Talks, Cattlemarket reports, Stock Exchange prices. But the young and the reckless tuned into Radio Luxemburg, 'the station of the stars', and became acquainted with the new phenomenon of pop music.

World in 1958

- 45 million American households have television sets.
- Charles de Gaulle becomes premier of France, a position he will hold until 1969.
- Modern consumer credit is born. The American Express Company introduces a charge card meant to compete with the successful Diners Club card. The Bank of America introduces the BankAmericard, which will become the Visa card. (never thought it would lead to the current credit crunch!).
- The Hula hoop is born.
- Nelson Mandela weds Winnie Madikizela.
- Pope Pius XII died. Pope John XXIII took over.
- In the US the worst recession since World War II, nearly 5.5 million people are out of work.
- The first women are admitted to the British House of Lords. Oh, jolly good!
- Mao Tse tung start "Great leap forward" movement in China.
- Oscar for best picture Gigi, best actor David Niven and best actress Susan Hayward.



Brief History of Coolaney/Mullinabreena

The roots of the Gaelic Athletic Association in the Achonry-Mullinabreena-Coolaney area go back well into the nineteenth century. Sligo G.A.A Centenary history edited by Co. Sligo Librarian Mr. John McTiernan and published in 1984 recalls that two teams from Achonry Red Hugh's and Achonry Davitts were prominent in Sligo GAA from 1889 onwards. The records also show that there was an active Club in Killoran in 1890.

The Achonry Davitts reached the Sligo County Final in 1892 only to be beaten by Ballymote on a scoreline of 0:3 to 0:1 in a game played at Collooney.

The team the Davitts fielded that day was, D. Gallagher (Capt.), W. Crosbie, M. Kennedy, P. Lally, M. Torsney, M. Connolly, B. Coleman, N. O'Donnell, P. Murphy, J. Brennan, P. Doherty, P. Finan, J. Mullen, P. Torsney, D. Rutledge.

The area was not represented again in a county final until 1958 when Mullinabreena had a magnificent victory, defeating Sooey by 1:12 to 1:8 in the decider at Corran Park in Ballymote. Earlier they had defeated the holders and local rivals Tubbercurry in the first round by 2:9 to 1:8. The final was regarded as the best of the decade.

The Mullinabreena team on duty that day included players from Coolaney and Bunninadden and captained by the incomparable Nace O'Dowd was as follows: Liam Marren, Frank Lang R.I.P., Jerry McManus, Eamon McGuinness, Seamus McGuinness, Joe Gorman, Peter Gallagher, Roger McCarrick, Pat Hunt, Tom Johnston, Nace O'Dowd R.I.P., Harry McGowan, Padraig Gorman, Batty McLaughlin & Padraig Gallagher.

Tom Walsh, Joe Johnston R.I.P., Pat McGuinness R.I.P., Peadar Gorman and Jim Brett were also members of the panel.

Mullinabreena's next and most recent appearance in a county final was in 1970 when they were defeated by a Mickey Kearins inspired St Patrick's on a scoreline of 1:13 to 1:5.

The game was played in Kilcoyne park, Tubbercurry and the Mullinabreena team on the day was Sean Sweeney, Tom McNulty, Sean Roddy, Willie Rooney, Peter Gallagher, Padraig Gorman, Tom Roddy, James Finan, John Brennan, Francie Gallagher, Robert Lipsett, Tom Kilcoyne, Francie McCarrick and Francis Kilcoyne.

Mullinabreena have never won the Senior League title but have been in the final twice. In 1961 they were beaten by Ballisodare in Corran Park and a decade later they were beaten by Tourlestrane in the final in Kilcoyne Park, Tubbercurry. This particular game was one that got away as Mullinabreena were 10 points ahead at half time.

Mullinabreena have won the Junior Championship on five occasions: 1910, 1957, 1968, 1984 & 1988. In 1910 Mullinabreena beat Emlanaughton in the final. In 1957 Mullinabreena won the south divisional title in fine style and went on to beat the Northern Champions Coolera in the county Semi-final by 2:7 to 2:4. In the final Easkey were the opposition. Although Mullinabreena were six points in arrears at half time they fought back with admirable determination and eventually won by one point 2:5 to 2:4. The team on duty was Jackie Murtagh, Eamon McGuiness, Joe Dunleavy, Liam Marren, Robert Gallagher, Joe Gorman, Batty McLaughlin, Roger McCarrick, Frank Lang, Tom Johnston, Peter Gallagher, Padraig Gorman, Padraig Gallagher, Johnny Mullen & Harrry MacGowan.

In 1968 Mullinabreena regained the Junior Title with a 0:7 to 0:3 win over Knocklassa in the final at Markievicz Park. The team on the day was Sean Sweeney, Willie Rooney, John Brennan, Tom McNulty, Pat Reynolds, Padraig Gorman, Tom Roddy, James Finan, Robert Lipsett, Laurence Gilmartin, Francis Kilcoyne, Francie Gallagher, Stanley McCarrick, Sean Roddy.

In the GAA Centenary year of 1984 Mullinabreena after a lapse of sixteen years captured the Junior title beating Calry in the final by 0:10 to 0:05. The team lined out as follows; Pat Coleman, Eamon Gorman, John Brennan, Tom O'Donnell, Micheal Gorman, Kevin Johnston, Frank Gilmartin, Benny Wilkinson, James McDonagh, Tom McBrien, Gerry Connolly, Tony Moran, Francie Gallagher, Fr. Tom Colleary, Gerry Mullen. Subs: Michael McDonagh, M. Coleman, Aidan Walsh. Mullinabreena also won the Junior League in 1984, repeating their Championship win over Calry Gaels in the final. The Clubs most recent win in the Junior Championship was in 1988 when they beat Ballymote in the final in Kilcoyne Park in Tubbercurry. The team was Kieran Gorman, Eamon Gorman, Frank Gilmartin, Tom O'Donnell, Michael Gorman, Michael McDonagh, John Mullen, Francie Gallagher, James McDonagh, Leo Coleman, Paul O'Donnell, Gerry McDonagh, Gerry Mullen, Noel Johnston, John Gorman. Subs: Bernie Finan, Padraig Coleman, John Brennan, Robert Hosey, Francie Benson, Eugene Henry, Fergal McNulty.

Coolaney contested the Junior Final in 1939 in which they were beaten by Ballisodare. Four years later Killoran were defeated in the Junior final in Templeboy.

Coolaney/Mullinabreena contested two Intermediate finals in the 1990's. They lost out to Drumcliffe in a final played in dire weather conditions in Dromard in 1992 and Ballymote were the opposition in 1996 but the title eluded them. Coolaney/Mullinabreena lost out to Calry by two points after a replay in the final of 2004. Finally Coolaney/Mullinabreena entered the promised land when Padraig McHugh lifted the Intermediate Cup in 2005 after we overcame Eastern Harps in the final.

The team was: Francis Brennan, Sean Walsh, Padraig McHugh, Shane Marren, John McGowan, David Hosey, Anthony Walsh, Barry Kivlehan, Peter O'Dwyer, Matthew Conlon, Daniel Davey, Kieran Finan, Shane O'Brien, Trevor McGuinn, Donal Doherty. Subs: Denis Gormley, Josie Lee, Shane Kivlehan, Tomás Toolan, Anthony McGowan, Oliver Lee, Paul Kivlehan, JJ Devaney, Enda McCarrick, Trevor Sexton, Colin Connolly, Jason Davey, Alan Duggan, Tom Kilcoyne, David Lipsett, Bernard Finnegan. Coolaney/Mullinabreena contested the final again in 2008 and lost the replay in extra time by a single point to St. Molaise Gaels.

In minor football Mullinabreena have captured the minor championship on just one occasion - 1957 when they completed the Minor/Junior double. The 1957 minor team included players from neighbouring parishes and lined out as follows: S. Kildunne, E. Johnston, Liam Marren, M. Durcan, T. Walker, B. MacLaughlin, P. Gallagher, T. Kilcoyne, P. McGee, T. Johnston, M. Kilcoyne, P. Gorman, M. Gallagher, J. O'Grady, W. Brennan.

In 1948 Achonry were defeated in the county final by Craobh Rua.

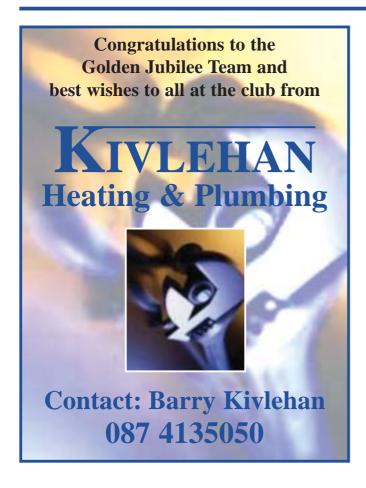
In relation to Minor football the Club is very proud of its contribution it made to Sligo's successes in the Connacht Minor Championship of 1949 & 1968. Nace O'Dowd was in centre field in the 1949 team, which lost the All-Ireland semi-final against Armagh at Lurgan. In 1968 Robert Lipsett and John Brennan played at right fullback and full-back respectively in the team which beat Mayo, Galway and Armagh on the way to the All-Ireland final meeting with Cork which they lost by the heartbreaking margin of a single point. Francis Kilcoyne was a sub on that team and Walter Kivlehan was a selector.

Several members of our club have made great contributions at county board level including Walter Kivlehan, Peadar Gorman, Padraig Gorman, Tommy Kilcoyne Snr. and Tommy Kilcoyne Jnr.

In U-16 football Mullinabreena-Collooney reached the county final in 1979 only to be beaten by Enniscrone. In 1970 the Hurlers of Mullinabreena scored a notable success when they captured the county minor title beating Tourlestrane in the county final on a scoreline of 2:1 to 1:2. The team was F. Kivlehan, P. Davey, J. Mullarkey, P. McCarrick, N. McDonagh, M. McIntyre, P. Coleman, M. Anderson, J. Kildea, F. Ryan, J. Egan, J. McIntyre, T. Clarke & J. Kivlehan. In 1992 and 1993 St. Nathy's Club including players from Achonry, Mullinabreena & Coolaney captured the U-21 county title.

Two Mullinabreena players have played on All-Ireland Selections. Nace O'Dowd played for the Ireland team against the combined Universities exhibition games at Croke Park. Two decades later John Brennan followed in his footsteps when he played for the Carrolls Allstars at Wembley against Kerry having a memorable duel with Mick O'Dwyer. Mullinabreena played a proud and prominent part in Sligo's 1975 Connacht SFC final success. John Brennan, Robert Lipsett and Benny Wilkinson played in the senior final replay against Mayo while Padraig Rooney & Peter Walsh were also members of that panel. Barry Kivlehan helped Sligo win their historic Connacht Championship in 2007.

Down through the years the club has depended on the generosity of local farmers for the use of fields for playing purposes. Match and training sessions have taken place at many location in the parish including Roddy's field, Armstrong's field, Johnny Mullen's, Val Brett's, Terry O'Brien, Francie Marren's, Peadar Gorman's, Coleman's fields(the present park), and Pat Gormleys'. The situation was rectified by Peadar Gorman and Walter Kivlehan, club chairman and Secretary respectively who in 1977 organised the purchase of six and a half acres of the Coleman estate at Caroclare from the land Commission. The official opening of the pitch occurred on May 8th 1994 following a blessing of the pitch by Rev Fr. Tommie Johnston. The grounds are named in honour of the clubs most famous son.



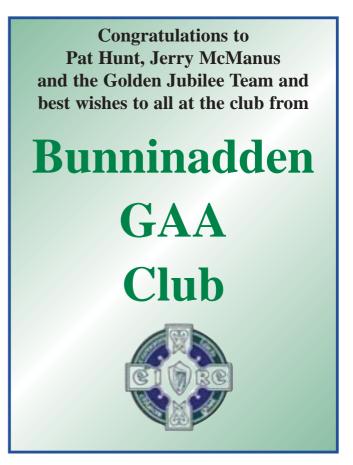


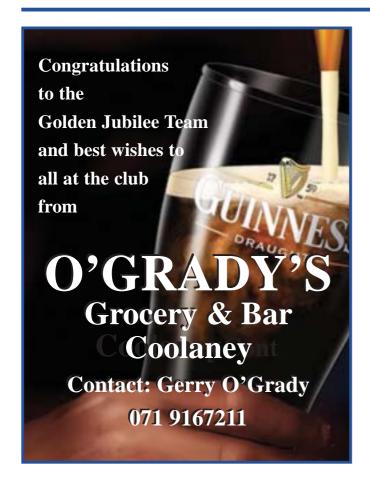
Congratulations to the Golden Jubilee Team and best wishes to all at the club from

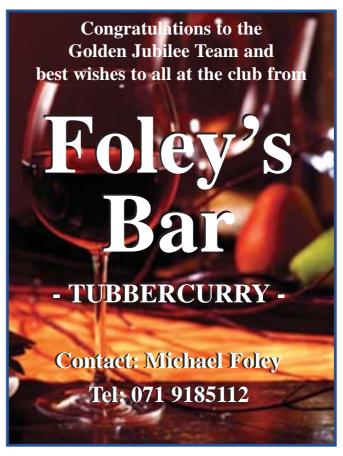
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BROOKS

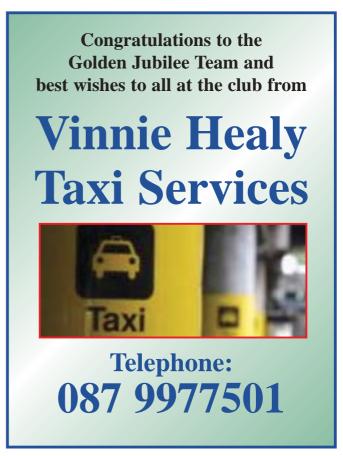
Ask us We'll know.



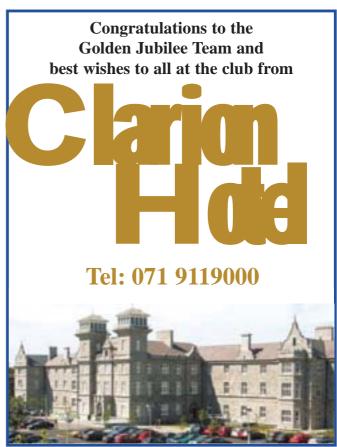


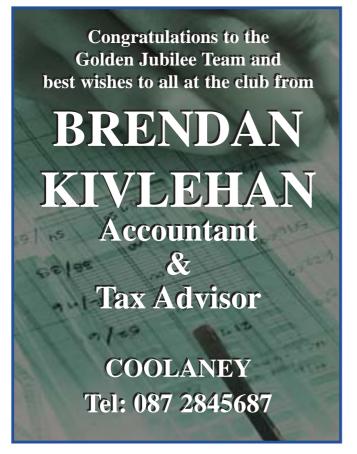












Congratulations to the
Golden Jubilee Team and
best wishes to all at the club from

Our Club Sponsors 2008:

- Barry Kivlehan
- Frank Gilmartin
 - Vinnie Healy
- Gerry O'Grady
- John Perry TD
- Chadwicks Plumbing
 - Gillespie's



Nace was born in Carrowrile on 1st August 1931. He attended Carrowrile N.S. and Tubbercurry Vocational School. There was very little organised football in the schools in those days and very little under-age football in the county. Nevertheless Nace showed exceptional footballing ability from an early age.

His first success on the football field was with Ballinacarrow Minor team, which won the County Championship in 1947. Nace played on the County Minor team in 1947 and 1948 and again in 1949 when he captained the Sligo team that won the Connacht Championship. That team was later beaten by Armagh in the All-Ireland Semi-Final played at Lurgan. After his impressive displays at Minor level Nace was immediately promoted to the county Senior Team and he soon became a house-hold name, not just in Sligo but throughout the country. He loved playing football and was a very dedicated player whether he was playing for Connacht in Croke Park, or for

Mullinabreena in the Killoran Tournament he always gave of his best. He was a strong, fit, powerful man whose display would rouse the players around him to raise their game and his inspirational football gave great joy to the supporters who flocked to see him play for various teams in the 1950's.

At Club level, Nace played for Tubbercurry in the early 50's and won two Senior Championships. He then transferred to Castlebar Mitchells and led them to a Mayo Senior Championship victory in 1953. He then returned to Tubbercurry for another County Championship success but I am sure the success that brought most joy to Nace must have been the County Senior Championship victory with his native Mullinabreena in 1958. He had noticed a crop of very good young footballers coming up in the Parish and he rejoined the Club early that year. Mullinabreena immediately became a strong force in senior football in the County and it culminated with that famous victory over Sooey in the County Final. Nace had also played some Club football with Ballymote and Fr. Griffin's in Galway. The standard of County Football in Connacht in the 1950's was very high as is evidenced by the fact Mayo were All-Ireland Champions in 1950 and 1951 and Galway were Champions in 1956. Yet the Sligo team of that era led by Nace O'Dowd were almost as good as the great teams of Mayo and Galway. On a personal level Nace matched the legendary figures of that era. Men like Sean Purcell, Galway; Padraig Carney, Mayo; Gerry O'Malley, Roscommon and Pakie McGarty, Leitrim. Indeed, Nace joined these players for many years on the Connacht team and played a major part in bringing the then, much coveted Railway Cup to Connacht in 1951, 1957 and 1958.

Nace played football in the era prior to the All Star Award Scheme but if the All Star Awards were then being awarded I'm sure Nace would have picked up a few. In fact one of the highlights of his playing career was in 1954 when he played for Ireland against the Combined Universities in Croke Park. And Nace was picked again in 1955 on the Ireland team.

Nace O'Dowd Profile (Cont.)

In 1959 Nace emigrated to New York and continued his footballing career there and soon became a legend in Gaelic Park. In the early 70's Nace returned to Ireland and with his wife Bridgie set up a very successful business in the Sancta Maria Hotel in Strandhill. He also became involved again with the G.A.A. at Club and County level. In his latter years he spent many hours coaching the young players of the Coolera Club. He also served as County team manager and represented Sligo on the Connacht Council. Nace died aged 56 on the 16th May 1987 R.I.P. Mullinabreena/Coolaney GAA club are proud to name our grounds The Nace O'Dowd Park and hope that his memory may inspire some other young people from the Parish to follow in his footsteps.

Career Honours

Year	Club/county	Honour
1947	Ballinacarrow Club	County Minor Championship
1949	Sligo	Connacht Minor Championship
Early 50's	Tubbercurry	Two Sligo County Senior Championships
1953	Castlebar Mitchell's	Mayo Senior Championship (Castlebar Mitchell's)
Mid fifties	Tubbercurry	Sligo County Senior Championship
1958	Mullinabreena	Sligo County Senior Championship
1951/7/8	Connacht	Three Railway Cup triumphs

Preview of the Sligo County Final 1958 in the Sligo Champion

The Sligo Champion

Saturday,
August 30, 1958

Mullinabreena meet Sooey in
championship final
BY M.R.

Mullinabreena oppose Sooey in the county Sligo Senior Football Championship at Corran Park, Ballymote on Sunday Although the standard of football in the majority of the preliminary rounds has been anything but attractive, it would be sheer heresy to even suggest that the final will not come up to expectations. The same undoubtedly be further enhanced by the intense excitement which has gripped the county for weeks past and the alluring features of such a novel pairing.

All eyes will, however, be on the senior game. The latent talent of the different players will come to light and their individual idiosyncrasies will be laid bare. Such is, inevitably,

the case in a county final and we can take it that Sunday will be no exception. It takes two superior teams to make a good final, and I think that in Sooey and Mullinabreena we have all the ingredients for a first class decider. **SOOEY.**

In the first round of the competition Sooey defeated Craobh Rua by 0-8 to 0-4 and on that occasion they were considered lucky to survive. There were many weak spots in the team and mistakes in both the attack and defence were almost tantamount to throwing the game away. The second round saw them matched against curry, and again, the side lacked vigour and many of the players seemed to treat the game in a casual and nonchalant manner. Although the score of 1-7 to 0-4 might suggest a clear cut win, Sooey were lucky and by their luck they qualified for the final.

I hope that I have not given the impression that it was by luck alone

that they won through. This was not true. On the Sooey team are a number of footballers who constitute the very essence of county football in the North-West today. Any unsavoury comments must be ruled out as far as they are concerned. But there are others who have taken things a little easy and, in surviving the dangers constituted by the small minority, Sooey have been lucky. It will take the concentrated efforts and over brimming onthusiasm of

It will take the concentrated efforts and over brimming enthusiasm of every man on the team if Sooey hope to pull through on Sunday. If not there is nothing but defeat staring them in the face.

A goal keeper well above average is the Sooey keeper, Noel Mullaney. He has given many superlative displays this year and on other occasions he has represented the county in both senior and junior grades. He has been responsible for putting his team well on the road to what may be a very well merited victory.

Preview of the Sligo County Final 1958 in the Sligo Champion (Cont.)

Right full-back, Martin Connor, is a cool reliable, if unspectacular defender. He has given the Sooey club unblemished service over the years. A good full-back is always important to a team. Filling this berth for Sooey will be Seamus Mullaney, a player renowned for his whole hearted mode of football. He has been seen to advantage in this his first year in the full back position. Seamus was a member of the Sooey team the last occasion they won the senior championship.

Noel O'Rourke, a left full-back who will always be remembered for the manner in which he has served his club, can rely on his weight and strength, allied to his uncanny anticipation and will, no doubt, apprehend more that one of the opposing forwards.

Right half-back, Jonnie Meehan, is a player with a glowing reputation and one of the most improved players in the county this year. A tenacious tackler he is usually at his best when the odd are heaviest.

Tommy Deignen, back again with his home club after a period with Keash, is playing better now than ever before. A county junior and ex-county minor, he is a clever and industrious defender and his presence should be felt at centre half-back.

To complete the defence Alfie McHugh moves into the left half-back position. He was the left corner forward on this year's senior county team but will therefore line out in his best position on Sunday. A former Belcamp College player, his shrewd passes and well placed clearances have set many a Sooey forward movement in motion.

Biggest man of the fifteen and a brilliant exponent of the catch and kick game, John Haran at centrefield, has shouldered the burden of responsibility in this section both with Sooey and when he played with his former club, Mental Hospital. He has always acquitted himself with distinction and much will depend on him in the all important decider.

He will be partnered by Sean Sexton who has represented his county in all grades over a period of a few years. He is a strong and fast player and possesses a great pair of hands. He is expected to be at his best on Sunday as only his best will suffice if the Sooey officials hope to see their forwards make an impression on the Mullinabreena defence. Another player who has done much for Sligo in all the grades is ginger haired Oliver McDyer and it is on this Wicklow domiciled six footer that so much will depend. He is capable of registering points from fifty and sixty yards and would be a valuable asset to any team.

Another forward of repute is Padraig Nangle who has played with the Minor and Junior county teams. Paddy learned most of his football tactics in Summerhill College, home of so many well known stars, and can use both his speed and his brain when the occasion arises.

Captain of the Sooey team is Paddy Duggan, a well known figure both as a player and as a referee. Paddy, another ex-Mental Hospital footballer, is a noted distributor of the ball and is the prime executor in most of Sooey's attacking movements.

Donal Deignan, a veterinary student at University College, Dublin, won a Connacht Colleges medal with Summer College. He is strong and accurate and moves well with his team mates. He is a younger brother of half-back, Tommy Deignan.

Michael McHugh is yet another

ex-Summerhill College player. A neat two footed forward, he improves with every game and always figures on the score sheet. John Cogans has won a medal with Sooey and has often starred on many Sligo, Keash and Knockalassa teams. He played a major role in bringing Sooey to the final this year and he will fight hard to win another medal in what might be his hast championship final.

Another footballer of the "old brigade" is six-footer Paraic Lang who has seen service with Teelin and is usually noted for his opportunism. He has figured in almost every position from full-back to full-forward.

James Mulhern captioned the Summerhill College team in 1950

and accuracy and speed more that make up for his lack of inches. If Jimmy plays on Sunday his opposite number will have to keep wide awake if he hopes to outwit this clever Sooey forward.

And finally, Terry Leydon, a comparative newcomer to the side. He may be lacking in match practice but is a grand ball player at all times. Goalkeeper, Liam Marren has always been a dependable net-minder. He won a junior medal with Mullinabreena when they won the Junior Championship in 1957. He has also figured on the Sligo minor team.

Right full-back, Frank Lang, an ex-Summerhill player, is a consistent defender and a member of last year's victorious junior team.

Full-back, Gerry McManus, is a player with great anticipation. He is cool in every emergency which makes him excel in his position. He is a Senior Connacht and all-Ireland medal holder with St. Nathy's College, Ballaghaderreen.

Mullinabreena will have at left full-back E. McGuinness who has made the position his own with his calm efficiency. He is the holder of a 1957 junior medal.

Seamus McGuinness, at right half-back, is Mullinabreena's Gerry O'Reilly. Although small in stature he can always be relied on to give a good account of himself. He is also the holder of a 1957 junior medal.

Centre half-back, Joe Gorman, is a utility player of great renown. He has played both senior and junior with Sligo and he holds a 1956 Connacht Junior Championship medal and a 1957 Sligo Junior medal.

Filling the left half-back spot will be Peter Gallagher, who has given many great displays during the current season. He holds a Sligo Minor and Junior Medal for 1957.

Pat Hunt at centre-filed is one of the most competent mid-fielders in the game to-day. He has represented Sligo on numerous occasions both in the junior and senior grades and is the holder of a 1956 Connacht Junior Medal.

Preview of the Sligo County Final 1958 in the Sligo Champion (Cont.)

Hunt will be partnered by Roger McCarrick, a tireless worker, who never fails to give plenty of the ball to his forwards. He is the holder of a 1957 junior medal.

Right half-forward, Tom Johnston, is a speedy right-winger and can be deadly accurate with either of his feet. He is the holder of a 1957 Junior and Minor medal.

The Mullinabreena team will be captained by the Sligo county team's one-man-army, Nace O'Dowd, who has a reputation of winning games all by himself. If he get going on Sunday there may be little Sooey defence can do. Nace has represented Ireland, the Province and the County on different occasions.

He is the holder of Sligo, Mayo and Galway Championship Medals and many other trophies too numerous to mention.

On his left will be Padraic Gorman, a very shrewd player who always has an eye for an opening in the opposing defence. He is the holder of 1957 minor and junior medals.

The full forward line can boast Padraic Gallagher, always a dangerous forward who possesses a useful shot. He is the holder of a 1957 junior medal.

Much will depend on the different full-forwards on Sunday. In this position for Mullinabreena, Batty McLoughlin will take his stand. This player always seems to rise to an important occasion and he has represented his county in the minor championship this year. He is the holder of junior and minor medals (1957).

To complete the fifteen, Harry McGowan, a player who has shown tremendous improvement in recent games, comes in at left full-forward. He holds a junior medal for 1957 and could be a match winner on Sunday. The Minor Football Final commences at 2.30 p.m. (Referee. P. Henry, Keash); Keash meet Riverstown at 3-45 p.m. and Mr. F. Flannery will referee; The Senior Championship final starts at 5 p.m. with Mr. John Faul as referee.

1958 Senior County match report from the Sligo Champion

The Sligo Champion

Saturday, September 6, 1958

Mullinabreena are worthy

county champions

(BY M.R.)

Mullinabreena 1-12; Sooey 1-8. Mullinabreena, from many viewpoints a team of unknown qualities. deservedly captured the Owen B. Hunt Cup and the County Sligo Senior Football Championship title at Corran Park, Ballymote, on Sunday last when they defeated Sooey in a game which produces some excellent football and seldom, if ever, fell below the standards expected. Mullinabreena because they took advantage of an undisputed first-half superiority - a superiority which stemmed from an accurate front-line and an unique mid-field pairing.

This was the first occasion on which I saw the champions in action since they won the Junior title in 1957, and I readily admit that they created a very favourable impression. From the opening minutes they combined football genius with honest-to-goodness endeavour. They played a consistent brand of football and this, in the final analysis, brought about the undoing of Sooey.

On the resumption, as so often

Sooey became happens, the masters and they dictated the play for a considerable time. The Mullinabreena defence seemed to lose confidence, while the centrefields and forwards were taken completely by surprise by a rejuvenated Sooey fifteen. The winning margin was cut to a mere three points, and, with only ten minutes of the second half gone, Sooey looked all set for victory. It appeared as if experience would carry the day.

And then Sooey fell down on the Job. The forwards squandered chances. The mid-fielders relaxed momentarily, while the defenders took time off for what they probably deserved - a few minutes rest.

Mullinabreena were back in a flash. Although scores did not materialise immediately they began once more to hold their own in all sectors. Where Sooey had dominated the play, Mullinabreena quickly moved in to fill up any open spaces. As far as Sooey was concerned, victory slipped from their grasp in these few valuable minutes. Although they had only four points to spare at the finish, Mullinabreena, at that time, were undisputed leaders and very worthy champions.

Sooey did lose the battle for honours in this important sector.

Both John Haran and Oliver McDyer were outclassed and, for the most part of the hour, outplayed by Pat Hunt and Roger McCarrick.

I have to go as far back as this year's Connacht Championship encounter with Mayo, when Pat Hunt gained a position on the Sligo team. Although he was by no means spectacular on that occasion, he showed promise. On Sunday last he never put a foot wrong. His catching and, in particular, his fielding were in a class of their own. He was the instigator of many a Sooey score and, in the months to come he will undoubtedly play a leading part as far as football in this county is concerned.

Partnered by Roger McCarrick, Hunt could not have asked for more. McCarrick was a tremendous worker, and his speed more that once left the opposing two-some bewildered. However, when the Sooey revival did come about, McDyer jumped immediately into the picture and, as we have seen him do before, he led the attack. Nevertheless, for most of the hour, the Mullinabreena were undisputed leaders.

The Mullinabreena victory can also be attributed to the fact that in front of Hunt and McCarrick there was a half-forward line of considerable strength and ability. In this line the shining star was Nace O'Dowd.

1958 Senior County match report from the Sligo Champion (Cont.)

For the opening thirty minutes he gave the Sooey defence little rest. From all angles he registered these all-important points and, as captain of the winning team he played more than a captain's part. This must have been one of his greatest hours. He can certainly look back on it with pride.

To his right was Tommy Johnston, a highly dangerous half-forward if there ever was one. In the closing minutes Tommy can be thanked for putting his side well back on the winning path. At left half-forward Padraig Gorman played a clever game and was constantly a spectacular winger.

Nor were there any faults in the of Padraic full-forward line Gallagher, Batty McLoughlin and Harry McGowan. Gallagher was the man who always managed to be in the right place at the right time. His goal was a gem of opportunism. McLoughlin, too, came through with unblemished record. hard-fighting full forward, he was an able leader. McGowan was yet another forward who played an individual part in the victory.

The Mullinabreena defence had its moments. Goalkeeper Liam Marren saved the day on many occasions with his well-timed and coollyexecuted saves. In front of him. full-back Jerry McManus responsible for putting paid to many of the Sooey attacks. He gave a superlative display in both the first and second periods. Right full-back, Frank Lang, always had the better of his opposite number, while E. McGuinness, at left full-back, helped to make the line sound and dependable.

Centre half-back Joe Gorman enhanced his glowing reputation on Sunday. He was a tenacious tackler and could compare with the very best of them. He was especially noticeable after the interval, when Sooey were on top, and also in the closing stages when he urged his team mates on to further scores.

Left half-back Peter Gallagher made the grade in a distinctive fashion, while right half-back Seamus McGuinness was reliable and dependable throughout.

Although I may have painted the picture rather black for Sooey, I will say at this stage that they were up against it on Sunday. They were deserving finalists, but they gave the Mullinabreena men far too much rope in the first half.

Noel Mullaney made a few good saves, while Seamus Mullaney, at full back, did more that his share to keep the scoring of the dangerous Mullinabreena forwards to a minimum. Sean Sexton who had to watch O'Dowd, won the battle for honours more than once but was really never allowed to get moving. Tommy Deignen moved from the right-back to the half-forwards during the game, and although he worked hard he found the opposing defenders difficult to handle.

Skipper Passy Duggan did his utmost to urge his forwards on to better things, while right full-forward, Paddy Nangle and full-forward John Cogans were industrious foragers. Mullinabreena went into an early lead, after three minutes, when P. Gallagher sent to the net following a goal mouth melee. One minute later Nace O'Dowd pointed a 21 yard

In the eight minute Sooey shot right back into the game when Oliver McDyer converted a penalty kick, and Cogans added a point a minute later to put Sooey on level terms.

Hunt pointed a sideline free in the 10th minute and O'Dowd added points in the 14th and 15th minutes. Mullinabreena continued to press and Gallagher had a point from play before O'Dowd scored two further points in the 21st and 25th minutes. Lang registered a point for Sooey in the 26th minute but P. Gorman and O'Dowd increased the Mullinabreena tally with points from frees in the 29th and 30th minutes.

Mullinabreena led 1-9 to 1-2 at the interval.

The second half was only three minutes gone when Paddy Duggan pointed from play. Sooey continued to press. Points came from Cogans in the 4th and 8th minutes. Paddy Nangle added a grand point from play and Gallagher replied for Mullinabreena.

With time ticking away, Johnston had a point from play, and Nangle immediately replied for the losers. Johnston again strengthened the Mullinabreena margin and three minutes before the end McDyer had the final point of the game from play.

Mullinabreena: L. Marren; F. Lang, G. McManus, E. McGuinness; S. McGuinness, J. Gorman, P. Gallagher; P. hunt, R. McCarrick, T. Johnston, N. O'Dowd, P. Gorman; P. Gallagher, B. McIoughlin, H. McGowan. Sooey: N. Mullaney; M. Connor, S. Mullaney, N. O'Rourke; J. Meehan, S. Sexton, T. Deignan; J. Haran, O. McDyer; A. Mchugh, P. Duggan, D. Deignan, P. Nangle, J. Cogans, P.Lang. Sub: J. Mulhern for Lang.

Referee. Mr. J. Faul, Tubbercurry.

Selection of Photographs from the match



Eamonn McGuinness, Frank Lang, Liam Marren.



Eamonn McGuinness, Jerry McManus, Joe Gorman

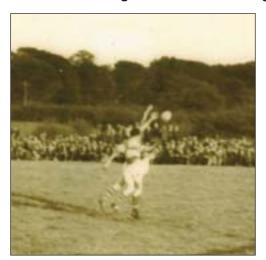


Joe Gorman, Jerry McManus

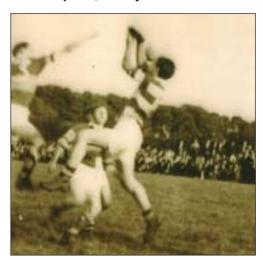
Selection of Photographs



Sligo Team 1974 including Robert Lipsett, Benny Wilkinson and John Brennan.



Seamus McGuinness, Peter Gallagher



Eamonn McGuinness



Liam Marren 'Ball is on it's way out, not in!'



Club-TeamaRhotographs



C/M U-14 C League Winners 1998



Minor B Champions 2002



Achonry School Team in mid 1960's



Benson Cup Winners 1991

Back Row (L-R): Michael Moore, John Brennan, John Mullen, Eamon Gorman, Robert Hosey, Denis Gormalley, James Gormalley, Frank Gilmartin, Eugene Henry, Leo Coleman, Kieran Gorman, Michael Hosey, Tom O'Donnell, Peadar Gallagher, Ollie Wynne.

Front Row (L-R): Bernie Finan, Des Henry, Michael McDonagh, James McDonagh, Gerry Mullen, Michael Gorman, David Hosey, Aaron Moore.



Mullinabreena Junior Champions 1988

Back Row (L-R): Eugene Henry, James McDonagh, Tom O'Donnell, John Mullen, John Gorman, Kieran Gorman, Bernie Finan, Eamon Gorman, Francis Benson, Robert Hosey, John Brennan, Padraig Coleman.

Front Row (L-R): Francis Gallagher, Michael Gorman, Fergal McNulty, Noel Johnston, Frank Gilmartin, Michael McDonagh, Paul O'Donnell, Gerry Mullen, Gerry McDonagh, Leo Coleman.



Junior Champions 1984

Back Row (L-R): James McDonagh, Rev. T. Colleary, Benny Wilkinson, Pat Coleman, Tom O'Donnell, Eamon Gorman, John Brennan, Gerry Connolly.

Front Row (L-R): Tom McBrien, Michael Gorman, Frank Gilmartin, Kevin Johnston (Capt.), Francis Gallagher, Gerry Mullen, Tony Moran.



Mullinabreena, home based players, 30th Oct. 1966
Back Row (L-R): W. Kivlehan (Club Sec.), R. Lipsett, H. Devaney,
S. Haran, P. Durkin, J. Finan, F. Kilcoyne, D. Cuddy, T. Toolan,
J. Brennan, J.F. Henry.

Front Row (L-R): P. McHugh, S. Murrin, S. Sweeney, T. Roddy, H. McGowan, T. Johnston, E. O'Hara.



Intermediate County Final Team 1996

Back Row (L-R): Michael Gorman, James McDonagh, Michael O'Brien, Anthony Henry, Trevor McGuinn, Frank Gilmartin, Eugene Henry, David Hosey.

Front Row (L-R): John Mullen, Josie Lee, Peadar Gallagher, Anthony McGowan, Paul O'Donnell, Gerry Mullen, John McGowan.



Intermediate Final Panel 1996



Mullinabreena/Bunninadden Team from circa 1950

Back Row (L-R): J.P. Brennan (Chairman), Dominic Gilligan, Sean Wims (RIP), Cafferkey, Pierce Coleman (RIP), Sean Gorman (RIP), Pake Marren (RIP), Gerry Scully (RIP), Vincent Feeley (RIP).

Front Row (L-R): Sean Hunt (RIP), Peter Horan, Gus Gorman, Mick Maher, Joe Horan, Jack Coleman (RIP), P. Gormalley (RIP), Donal

Front Row (L-R): Sean Hunt (RIP), Peter Horan, Gus Gorman, Mick Maher, Joe Horan, Jack Coleman (RIP), P. Gormalley (RIP), Donal Deehan (RIP).



Intermediate Champions 2005



Intermediate Finalists 1992



Padraig lifts Intermediate Title in '05



Minor Panel 2008



Nace O'Dowd Park Opening team 1994



Under 16 Panel 2008



Under 8 Team 2008



Under 10 Team 2008



Under 14 Division II Champions 2008 (B Championship Finalists '08)



Under 12 Panel 2008 (A Championship Finalists '08)



Under 21 Championship Winners 1993



St. Nathy's Under 21 Championship Winning Team 1992



St. Nathy's Minor Champions 1992



Mullinabreena Team for Bunninadden Pitch Opening in 1994



2007 Connacht Champions



Sligo Connacht Champions 1975

There were five Coolaney/Mullinabreena players involved
- John Brennan, Robert Lipsett, Ben Wilkinson, Peter Walsh and Padraig Rooney.



Sligo Minor Team 1968 - All Ireland Finalists.

John Brennan, Robert Lipsett and Francis Kilcoyne won Connacht Minor Football Championship Medals in 1968.

Coolaney / Mullinabreena GAA Website

In 1998 Coolaney/Mullinabreena GAA Club set up their first website. It was one of the first clubs to have a website. In 2008 the site was completely redesigned and it now maintained by our current PRO Oliver Lee. The website address is www.coolaneymullinabreena.com The site has the following areas of interest: general news, underage news, events, lotto news, photo gallery, PRO updates and an extensive archive section. Please visit the site to keep fully abreast of the goings on in your club.



Silver Jubilee celebration in Cawley's, Tubbercurry

This souvenir programme will be available to download from our site and there are lots of archive photographs also available in our photo gallery.

If you have any other memorabilia -photographs, match reports, newspaper cuttings relating to our club please send them to Oliver Lee or David Hosey. We will scan them and return the originals to you and everyone will be able to access the material online.

Club Lotto

The club introduced a lotto membership in 2007. This has proved to be a great success. Club membership costs €100 and this includes entry into monthly lotto draws. The current jackpot stands at €5400 and we encourage all supporters to join the club via our Lotto. It is a vital source of funds for the day to day running of the club and your support is greatly appreciated. Anyone can play the lotto by visiting our website.

Club Crest



The club introduced a club crest in 2007.

The crest is based on a native wild bird (protected species) found in the area - Woodcock - standing on a Gaelic football. The club name is depicted in the crest and the year the club was founded is also referenced (1889).

At the bottom of the crest the word Sligeach is included to denote our county.

Today's Guest Speaker (Martin Carney)



Coolaney/Mullinabreena GAA club are delighted to welcome RTE's Sunday Game Live commentator and analyst, Martin Carney as guest speaker tonight for the club's 1958 Jubilee team celebration. Carney, a Donegal native is a renowned footballer of the 70's and 80's and holder of six provincial medals, two with Donegal and four with Mayo. He's a former captain of the UCG Sigerson Cup team and holds a Railway Cup medal from the combined universities team in 1973. Having previously managed Mayo at both minor and U-21 level, he is currently involved with the Mayo senior football management team and is a regular contributor on television and radio sporting programmes. The former All-Star nominee also acted

as a selector for the International Rules Series in 2002 and 2003. Working as a secondary school teacher in Swinford, he presently resides in Castlebar.

2008 Club Officers

President: Walter Kivlehan
Chairman: Frank Gilmartin
Vice Chairman: Brendan Kivlehan
Secretary: Eugene Henry
Treasurer: Shane O'Brien
PRO: Oliver Lee

Coaching Officer: Eamon Gorman
Cultural Officer: Hilary Brennan
Insurance Officer: Paul Kivlehan

1958 Jubilee Committee: Oliver Lee, Benny Wilkinson



Intermediate Management Team 2008

Commemorative Special Presentation



The players, representatives of the players no longer with us and club officials of the time will be presented with a specially commissioned commemorative piece of artwork. The artwork is inspired by the 1958 Senior Championship medal which was based on the Sligo Crest of the time.

Presentation piece

Artist: Bernard Bryce originally from Donegal now based in Pollinore, Corofin, Co. Galway. Only one of a handful left in the country with the skills required to create and design the piece.

^{1958 County Medal} First very carefully hand drawn and then transferred electronically using Computer Aided Design. Each piece is hand cast in cold cast Bronze using a mould inspired by the 1958 winning medal. It is then finished by hand insuring that the product is of the highest quality. Finally each is personalised with hand written inscription on the base.

Thank You

Thank you to all who contributed to the production of this commemorative programme (donated photographs, typed up newspaper articles, scanned newspaper articles, sponsors etc). If you have any additional photographs/memorabilia relating to the club please send them to Ollie Lee or David Hosey - we will scan them, publish them on our website and return the originals to you. Thank you.

Intermediate Final versus St. Molaise Gaels 2008



COOLANEY / MULLINABREENA TEAM 2008

Back Row (L-R): Bernard Finnegan, Colin Connolly, Enda O'Donnell, Padraig McHugh, Barry Kivlehan, Brendan Coleman, Sean Coyle, Tomas Toolan. Francis Brennan, Shane O'Brien, Shane Marren, Kieran Finan, Peter O'Dwyer, Walter Kivlehan,

Front Row (L-R): Matthew Conlon, Josie Lee, Paul Marren, Anthony McGowan, Donal Doherty, Raymond Gallagher, John McGowan(C), Ollie Lee, Sean Walsh, Anthony Walsh, Shane Kivlehan, Jason Davey.