



DUNLOY CUCHULLAINS



Hurling

In 1908, Andy Dooley, Bob Black, Dan Boyle and Paddy McCamphill founded the Dunloy Cuchullains. The club had a promising beginning and within three years they had won the North Antrim Championship. Despite this encouraging start, the Cuchullains struggled to match this early success with County final defeats in 1930 & 1939, at the hands of rivals Loughgiel Shamrocks in 1963 and Rossa in 1976.

It took until 1990 for Dunloy to win their first County Championship, beginning a remarkable period of success. The triumphant Cuchullains also claimed the Ulster Championship and played in the All-Ireland Club Championship for the first time. Four years later, they made it all the way to Croke Park taking Birr, Co. Offaly to a replay which they lost 2-13 to 2-3

Dunloy dominated the hurling scene in Ulster at the beginning of the new Millennium, winning the Antrim and Ulster Championships four times between 2000 and 2003. This achievement made them the only team to win three Antrim Championships in a row in both codes and the first team to win four Provincial Championships in a row. Despite this success, the All-Ireland title continued to elude Dunloy despite two further final appearances in 2002 and 2003.

In 2007, Cuchullains defeated Loughgiel to win their 10th County Championship. In 2009, they matched this record Ulster Championship, bringing the Liam Harvey Cup home to the village for the 10th time.

Football

In 1923, the Cuchullains' football team won their first Antrim Junior Football Championship and promotion to Senior level. The team adapted immediately to the higher standard, defeating the renowned James Stephens to win the Senior County title at the first attempt. Further Championship victories followed in 1925 & 1926, completing a hat-trick of wins. Club success led to Dunloy players being recognised at a higher level. Patsy McGuckian, John McFerran and Pat Cunning all featured in the Ulster team for the first Railway Cup held in 1927. In 1942, Cuchullains' footballers were relegated to Junior status ending a remarkable 18 year period during which the club contested 16 County finals.

In 1977 Dunloy's footballers gained promotion to Division 1 of the County League becoming the only North Antrim team to have teams from both codes in the top division.



Dunloy's footballers 1910 line-up included founding members Dan Boyle (Back row 3rd from left) and Paddy McCamphill (Front row 2nd from right). Paddy often acted as doctor and kit man for the team as well as playing!



The 1922-1927 side was the most successful football team in Dunloy history. Barney McNally, Watty Brogan, John McFerran, Pat Cunning and Fr. Cullen were selected to play for Antrim after the first Senior County success.



Hugh Boyle, Bishop of Johannesburg and Dunloy native, blessed Pearse Park at the opening of the ground on 21 May 1950. Cuchullains hurlers faced McQuillan's Ballycastle in the first game on the new pitch.



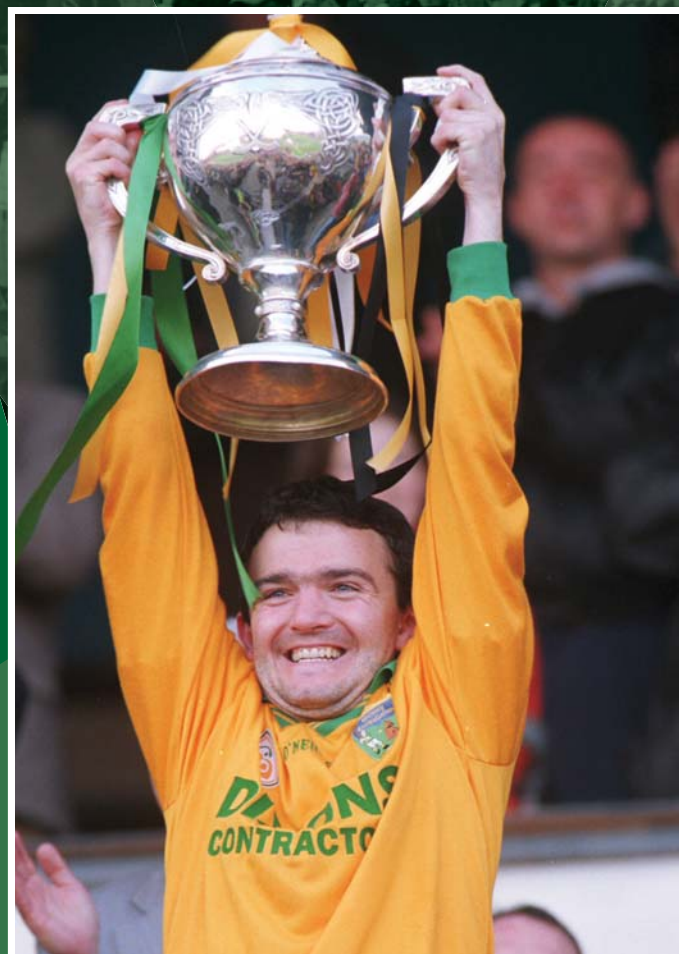
Dunloy met Cusendall in the final of the Centenary Cup at Loughgiel, a one off trophy to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the G.A.A.



Gary O'Kane receiving the Minor Hurling Championship trophy in 1987. Dunloy dominated youth level hurling in the County throughout the 1980s and these players formed the backbone of the successful teams of the following decades.



1990 was the breakthrough year for Dunloy's hurlers as they won nearly every competition they entered including their first County and Ulster Championships.



Goalkeeper Shane Elliot lifts the Volunteer Cup in 1998. Shane has won trophies with Cuchullains at every level including a Senior and U21 County double in 1990.



Nigel Elliot escapes the attentions of three Lavey players as Dunloy win 3-11 to 1-7 in the 2001 Ulster Final. It was the second title of their historic four in a row.



Heartbreak again as Dunloy fall in the All-Ireland final 1-19 to 0-11 against Birr in 2003. They had made history by becoming the first team from Ulster to defeat a club from each province in the All-Ireland Club Hurling Championship.



In 2007 Sean Mullan, Gregory O'Kane and Alistair Elliot celebrated winning a record 10th County Championship medal. Elliot and O'Kane would clinch an incredible 11th in 2008.