

125
YEARS OF **Cork**
Constitution
FOOTBALL CLUB

Edmund Van Esbeck

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AUTHORS NOTE & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

When the Cork Constitution Club celebrated the centenary of its foundation I had the privilege of writing the history. Now I have been entrusted with updating that chronicle. While obviously the emphasis will be on the events of the last twenty-five years - the most momentous period in the history of rugby union - as a tribute to the founding fathers, the first chapter of the original history will yet again appear.

While it would not be practical to include a detailed history of the first 100 years chapter two is a brief resume of the achievements of the first fifty years and likewise chapter three embraces the significant events of the second fifty years in the illustrious history of one of Ireland's great sporting institutions. There follows the detailed history and achievements, and they were considerable, of the last twenty five years.

I owe a considerable debt of gratitude to many people for their help during the compilation of this book.

In that regard I would particularly like to thank Noel Walsh, the man with whom I liaised during the writing of the book. I would also like to thank the club president Jerry Holland, Jim Murphy, Stan Waldron and Michael Daly. Michael's assistance on the chapter on Temple Hill was invaluable.

I would like to thank my wife Mary and my family for their help and support, in that regard special thanks to my daughter Geraldine without whose assistance this book would not have come to fruition.

For 125 years Cork Constitution Football Club has been an outstanding sporting institution in a city where sport is a way of life for so many.

Finally I hope I have done justice to the people in the club who fashioned its great traditions and to the current generation who have maintained and embellished them.

Edmund Van Esbeck

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I am privileged to congratulate Cork Constitution Football Club on celebrating the 125th Anniversary of their establishment in 1892. The club was literally a throw in from our family home which of course resulted in me being enrolled in the underage ranks at age 6 by my brother Tom who has acted as the club's match doctor for many years.

Edmund Van Esbeck was regarded as the supreme rugby reporter in Ireland and among the leading sports writers in these islands. He was knowledgeable and disciplined with a work ethic and analytical capability that was unrivalled. It has been said that his match reports were read by many so that they could find out what they should think.

But above all Ned was a charitable and sensitive reporter. He understood that players were fallible on the pitch and to expose their personal shortcomings was unnecessary. His work revealed above all his mastery of his profession and his character as a real Cork gentleman.

This excellent edition and the centenary year book record events that colourfully decorate the rich tapestry of the club's history. But no words can give full expression to the friendships made within the rugby fraternity in Templehill and beyond that has truly enriched the lives of many.

The photographs and narrative will warm our memories and keep alive the great rugby people who did so much to make the history of this club an extraordinary one. Both on the pitch and off it.

I am reminded of Wendell Berry from "Rising"

But this is not the story of a life.
It is the story of lives, knit together,
overlapping in succession, rising
again from grave after grave.

Great success has enhanced the very warm welcome extended to all visitors to Constitution and it will be remembered by many as a home from home. A family club and a community club without par.

I welcome this opportunity as Lord Mayor of Cork to extend to President Jerry Holland and all Constitution members and friends my best wishes for continued success and hope there will be many great days ahead for future generations over the next 125 years.

CLLR. DES CAHILL
LORD MAYOR OF CORK



Cork Constitution Football Club

It was a very proud day for me when I was asked to take on the role of President of this great club, for the 2016-17 season, on the 125th Anniversary of its foundation. I am happy to report that Cork Constitution FC is thriving in the year of its Quasquicentennial, both in terms of consistent top-tier performance on the rugby field and in terms of a strong, active and committed membership.

It is fitting that Edmund Van Esbeck continues where he left off from his book '100 years of Cork Constitution Football Club'. Ned has been a great supporter of the club over the years and we thank him for his excellent summary of the history of 'Con' over the past 25 years. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those who contributed to pulling together the material for this book, particularly Stan Waldron who has been the club historian for many years and Noel Walsh. I would also like to thank Martin O'Brien who provided a wonderful pictorial history of games and events in the club over many years. A very special mention to our club chairman, Michael Daly, who played a central role in bringing the entire enterprise together.

When the club was founded in 1892, many of the elements that are at the core of Cork Constitution today were at the forefront of the mind of the club's founders. In particular, the club strives to uphold the ethos of the game of rugby:

- to build friendships that last a lifetime,
- to develop the character of all of our players from under-age to senior, and
- to support those players to achieve the highest performance that they can aspire to,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those people who have supported the club over the years. Cork Constitution has a committed and vibrant volunteer base that allows the club to continue its proud tradition of contributing to Munster and Irish rugby at the highest levels. I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the club's benefactors, be they ordinary members or local businesses.

The new clubhouse stands as a proud testament to the hard work that has gone onto keep the club running on a firm financial footing. Temple Hill continues to be the focal point of the Club and on any Saturday morning, during the season, it is gratifying to see the literally hundreds of club members of every generation, gathered there to renew or begin lifelong friendships.

It is a tribute to those who have played for, managed and supported the Club through the last 125 years that each challenge they faced was overcome with enthusiasm, endeavour, honesty and integrity. This is the legacy that is passed on to each generation that has the honour and privilege to represent the Club. It is not a legacy to be fearful of, but rather, one to be embraced and savoured. I have no doubt that the firm foundations that have been laid over the past 125 years, will continue to serve the club well in the years to come.

Yours in Sport,

Jerry Holland
President



IRFU

10/12 Lansdowne Road,
Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Ireland

T +3531 647 3800
F +3531 647 3801

E info@irishrugby.ie
W www.irishrugby.ie

Irish Rugby Football Union
P. R. Browne
Chief Executive

As President of the Irish Rugby Football Union it is my privilege to share in the celebration of Cork Constitution FC's 125th anniversary season. I greatly treasure my visits to Temple Hill down through the years and warmly savour the friendships I forged with many members of this distinctive club.

The production of this beautifully produced and written updated history by the esteemed rugby journalist and historian Edmund Van Esbeck adds richly to the folklore of Irish rugby, in which the Cork Constitution club commands such an eminent place.

I extend my congratulations to club President, Jerry Holland and through him to all members of a club that can so proudly reflect on a great heritage and equally look forward to a bright future.

Your pioneering founders would be well pleased that their lofty ambitions, as members of the local Cork Constitution newspaper seeking sporting activities to pursue in their leisure time back in the 1892-'93 season, have been realised well beyond their dreams.

What the club and its representatives, whether in the multitude of famous Lions, Ireland and Munster capped players, or in the administration of the game at Provincial and National level have achieved, is a telling testament to a brand name whose renown commands the highest repute beyond the confines of Temple Hill, Munster and Irish rugby.

I can assure you that at the Lansdowne Road Headquarters of the IRFU; your contribution to the game is fully recognised and greatly appreciated.

As this updated history book bears witness, the Cork Constitution club has a wonderful story of achievement to tell, from senior grade down to minis and youth. You can all be so proud!

STEPHEN R. HILDITCH
President



Irish Independent Park,
Tramore Road,
Cork. Ireland.
T +353(0) 21 4323563
F +353(0) 21 4323956
E info@munsterrugby.ie

It is my pleasure as President of the Munster Branch to extend my best wishes to everyone at Cork Constitution on the occasion of your 125th anniversary, especially your President Jerry Holland.

Your club has been to the forefront of Munster, Irish and World rugby down the decades and long may it continue. You have contributed players and management at every level of the game and have a proud tradition that is universally recognised.

You place a huge emphasis on your family and volunteer ethos and this focus has contributed in no small way to your success both on and off the field. Family names are recognisable down the generations and associated with your great club. Your victories in Cup and League campaigns speak for themselves and do not need to be highlighted. When our club competitions went national you led the way winning the All Ireland League and followed League titles with Bateman Cup victories.

Your players have seamlessly progressed from White to Red Jerseys and this season it has been my pleasure to work with two outstanding Cork Constitution Captains of Munster in Billy Holland and Peter O Mahony. They are a credit to their families and club and Munster has reaped the benefits of their presence and leadership.

I wish to congratulate the Holland family especially this season for which it is a momentous year. Jerry's contribution to your club and the game has been recognised by you in electing him to lead the club in this historic 125th year. Billy has received his first International cap and I congratulate both on achieving this Father and Son milestone. Billy of course was joined by his club mate John Ryan who also gained his first International cap this season. They are but the latest in a long line of famous and great players your club has produced for Munster and Ireland, long may it continue.

On a personal note I would like to thank and acknowledge the support I received from your club man and our immediate Past President Bertie Smith. He is a wealth of knowledge and experience, which I drew on and needed in my years as Vice President and for which I am grateful.

Enjoy your year Cork Constitution.

Gerry O'Shea

President Munster Rugby.

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CHAPTER I

THE FOUNDING FATHERS

The sporting traditions of Cork city and the county boundaries that enclose its broad and fertile acres run deep in the history of Ireland. The different sporting pursuits, now so much part of everyday life, had not been perfected into the defined and sporting art forms as we now know and enjoy them today when Victoria was in the midst of her long reign as queen of Great Britain and Ireland and the Empire beyond the sea.

Yet even the most cursory expedition down the avenue of historical investigation of Ireland's sporting history and traditions, will not fail to emphasise that it was in the closing quarter of the 19th century that sport began to take on a new meaning in the lives of the ordinary citizens of this land in general and Cork and its citizens were ready to take a full and active part.

Rugby football and association football had their common roots before they went their own separate ways, cricket and tennis had by then their own identity and long before the end of the 19th century had administrative bodies to legislate for the games. They were, alas, the pastimes of the more affluent in the society of people that populated this island and her neighbouring one across the stretch of the Irish Sea.

The Gaelic Athletic Association, later to play an important part in Cork's sporting story, was established in 1884, nine years after the first administrative body for rugby was set up in Ireland on the initiative of a group of students at Trinity College.

Cricket had been well established as the 19th century entered its closing decade and that is important within the tread of this story. So, too, it must be appreciated that many people involved in sport, its playing and administration, had diverse interests, being proficient in cricket and football in its various forms and indeed in the ancient Irish game of hurling. Perhaps that is well illustrated by the fact that among the founders of the GAA were a rugby international St John McCarthy, and the man considered to be the inspirational font of the GAA, Michael Cusack, was a rugby player and indeed administrator.

The laws that our rulers had implemented in the parliament of Great Britain, from whence the edicts came that governed the Irish state, underwent radical alteration in the second half of the 19th century. The minds of progressive men who cared for the generality of the subjects and their welfare saw it as necessary that not only the landed gentry had time to indulge in sport. The hunting, shooting and fishing sets of those days were not burdened with the chore of having to do a day's work and seven days a week at that, the ordinary citizens were.

It is then highly significant that so many sporting administrative bodies were set up in the last quarter of the 19th century and that so many clubs and teams were formed, thus giving freedom of opportunity for expression to all to indulge in whatever sport they chose. While the organisation of sports in their different forms was in the initial stages rather loose, order was obtained by the process of evolution and the hard work and dedication of many. Proper laws were drawn up, and clubs formed, based on neighbourhood affinity in many instances, parish pride and in some cases from schools with former pupils forming themselves into clubs after leaving their academies. Rugby and association football especially benefitted in that particular area.

But the parish, the old school and the neighbourhood were not the only things that bound men together in the desire to form a sporting club, even the staff of a newspaper saw its benefits and here basically our story, the story of Cork Constitution Football Club begins. The Cork Constitution was a well read newspaper of the day in the last decade of the 1800's, unionist in tone with the content geared towards the better-off citizens of Cork. It was news sheet that did not publish on Sundays, thus allowing the staff to be free on Saturday afternoons. Cricket at that time was extremely popular in the Cork area and, with several of the staff of the Cork Constitution sports-minded and proficient in diverse sports, it was decided to form a cricket club, at least it was decided to set up a team from the paper and to engage in matches on a reasonably regular basis. The Cork Constitution newspaper offices and printing works were in Marlboro Street, with the newspaper having been founded in 1825. In 1885, the newspaper was taken over by Henry Lawrence Tivy, a member of a respected and affluent Cork family. Henry Tivy's father had founded the family fortune with a butter business. Subsequent shrewd investment in South Africa brought further wealth and in 1885, he decided to extend his business interests and thus bought the Cork Constitution newspaper. He subsequently branched out still further and purchased the Dublin Evening Mail.



*Henry Lawrence Tivy
First President of the Club
1892 - 1923*

It was in the natural order of things that he should have been installed as the patron of the cricket club formed from within his staff. The encounters of the cricket club in the initial stages were very much on an informal basis, and those who inspired the foundation of the club were mainly Englishmen, employed on the printing staff of the newspaper.

That club prospered and it was decided to affiliate the club to the administrative body. Initially the members were confined to members of the staff, but eventually it was decided to open the door to outsiders.

Cricket was in a healthy state in Cork in the 1880's and clubs proliferated, some brought together on a casual basis, while others were more firmly established. But cricket is a summer pursuit and, obviously prompted by the enjoyment derived from their summer activities, thoughts turned to winter activity and to rugby football in particular. Some of the staff members were proficient in several sports, not least one David Kilroy, who was an all-rounder in the true sense. Kilroy was apprenticed to the printing trade. He had an able cohort in his wide sporting interests in another apprentice, Andrew Williams. With the cricket firmly established, the rugby club came into existence in 1892. The authenticity of that date is ratified by documents and accounts of the foundation of the club written by some who were acquainted with the early days.

In this respect what is particularly relevant is an account of the early days of Constitution Cricket Club written by Dick Magrath, an eminent rugby international, oarsman, cricketer, one-time IRFU president and lifelong Constitution stalwart about whom much more will appear in the text of this book.

It is important to look at the rugby scene in Cork in the 1880's and 1890's to appreciate that, while officially only a few clubs were registered with the parent body the IRFU, many came into being who did not register with the parent body or indeed the Munster branch.

In the official IRFU annual produced in 1880 by R M Peter, the secretary of the IRFU, only six Cork clubs were official. They were Blackrock, Cork FC, Cork Bankers, Middleton College, Queen's College and Queenstown. There was also a club called Bulldogs, but its exact location and officials were vague in the extreme.

By the early 1890's however, clubs playing rugby, and no doubt also engaging in other activities notably soccer, proliferated. Reference to these clubs is made in the newspapers of the day, yet most were not registered with the IRFU in the decade of the 1890's.

With the only competition open to rugby clubs in Cork being the Munster Senior Cup, there was no real incentive for clubs to toe any official line, nor is there any evidence that they did. Cork FC, later Cork County, Cork Bankers, Bandon and Queen's College were all involved in the Munster Senior Cup which had been started in 1886. Bandon won the inaugural competition, so the Munster Senior Cup, arguably the most difficult trophy to win in Irish domestic competition had found its first home in the west Cork town. Cork Bankers did not compete after 1887, but there is no doubt the start of the competition had a profound influence in helping the spread of the game in Munster with Cork at the forefront as clubs were started, some survived, some did not.

The Munster Branch of the IRFU ran affairs, but their activities were scarcely onerous. Their purpose was to provide representation to the IRFU, select the Munster team and run the Senior Cup competition. So all matches run below senior level were in fact unofficial and registration for other than senior clubs was not deemed necessary. Nor was there any scarcity of grounds on which to play. The city limits did not extend very far, green fields were plentiful and easily accessible even in those days of restricted private transport, though by that time Cork had a city tram and a comprehensive rail system extended from the city.

That was the climate into which the members of the Constitution Cricket Club turned their attention to the rugby game, with David Kilroy unquestionably the motivating force.

There was no shortage of opposition either in the Cork of the early 1890s. At one time over 40 junior or minor clubs operated in the county, most of them within the city. There was scarcely a suburb of the city that did not have some kind of team and it is interesting to note that a team existed and was called Sunday's Well. The club that now bears that name and which has been on the senior scene in Munster for so long, was not officially founded, as we know it today, until 1923. Significantly rugby was played in Cork's very famous schools, Christians Brothers College and Presentation Brothers College who, through the years have contributed so much to the game in Cork, Munster and Ireland. There was a team too in another famous academy North Monastery, also run by the Irish Christian Brothers, but it was in organised college hurling that this famous sporting school made and continues to make an indelible imprint on the sporting scene. Bandon Grammar School and Midleton College were also engaged in the rugby game as the 19th century was in its closing decade.

But organisation was loose, playing conditions primitive to say the least, and referees and touch judges hard to find. In March 1894 a club named 'The Ivy Club' organised a competition for the 'lower orders' and Ramblers met Shandon in the final. That was the area of competition that the first Constitution rugby players operated within and it was obviously an area that Kilroy, the main inspiration for the foundation of the club, did not relish. Kilroy was a fine organiser and he had gathered around him players of sufficient quality during the initial two years to prompt him to set the club on a proper foundation and to make everything official.

The Constitution Cricket Club played in and around 1892 on ground provided by Henry Tivy adjacent to his home at 'Barnstead', Blackrock, a residence that stands to this day. It is a reasonable assumption that the rugby players under Kilroy's guidance enjoyed the same facilities for there is no doubt that Henry Tivy was patron and provider to Constitution Rugby Club in its early days as he was to Constitution Cricket Club. Kilroy also lent his talents to the Ramblers Athletic Club and among his colleagues were men such as W.Pyne, Robert Beamish, Charles Wilkins and J.Hurley. Those and other names would appear later on by Kilroy's side in the colours of Constitution Rugby Club.

If the early days and the two initial years were not marked by activity of the most strenuous and demanding nature, big things lay immediately ahead when Kilroy, aided by Tivy in a patron's role, was to put Cork Constitution Rugby Club on a firm footing. Obviously content in the belief that he had now assembled around him players of sufficient quality to take on any organised opposition, his ambition would, too, be matched by achievement. Those who ran the Munster Branch and the IRFU were about to have a club join their ranks that would make a truly remarkable impact and in David Kilroy there is no doubt Constitution had the man to meet the needs of the hour.

It was Kilroy who inspired the hearts of his colleagues. But he was no purveyor of mere words. He stood ready to lead by precept and example and he was to see his club rise

from humble beginnings that embraced rugby in a rather crude form played in rather primitive conditions on an ad hoc basis. Kilroy believed that he had the men to lift the club from out of that scene into the big time. How correct he was in his assessment of the talent and the men at his disposal.

If, to some, it may seem strange that a club engaged in playing activity for a two-year period had not taken upon itself to affiliate to the governing body, in this case the Munster Branch, that in the climate of the time was in a way unusual. Many clubs then in existence and subsequently to gain eminence did not affiliate. The reason would not seem hard to find, the reasoning not difficult to define.

Competition is the spice of trade and unquestionably the spur and, in those long-gone days the historians like to refer to as the Gay Nineties, although for the majority they far from gay, there was little incentive to put things on an official footing. The matches played were informal and indeed as far as the ruling bodies were concerned, might never have taken place. Unless a club was senior club or had designs in that immediate direction, there was, in effect little reason to row in with the establishment.

The IRFU and indeed its four constituent branches were, in some respects, well organised, in other respects far from it. Nor was there an acute desire on the part of the parent body or branches to offer great incentive to new clubs to join the fold. At international level things were fairly well organised. The interprovincials were by now well established, but meetings of union and branches were few.

Accounts of matches in newspapers of the day were scanty and in the main devoted to the representative scene with the focus at club level being very much on the senior side. Nevertheless there was a new awareness within the club context, brought about principally by the establishment of senior club competitions. The Leinster Senior Cup was started in 1882, Ulster followed suit in 1885, then came the Munster Cup in 1886 and Connacht, where the struggle to keep the game alive was in those days an arduous task, started their Senior Cup in 1896. The schools cups in the four provinces added a new dimension to the game with Ulster the forerunners in this respect, followed by Leinster in 1887. But it was not until 1909 that the Munster Branch saw the wisdom of establishing a schools senior cup in Munster.

Examination of the records of the IRFU provide conclusive proof that clubs in existence in the 1890s and indeed well prior to that date had not in fact registered with the parent body. In this regard the records of the IRFU for the early 1890s are revealing. What they do not show is that the game in general was more popular than one would elicit from examination of those records. That was the atmosphere of the day and it was into such an environment that Cork Constitution Football Club was born.

But things were changing, a new awareness was current and for men such as Kilroy the challenge was obviously irresistible. It was his desire to put Constitution on a proper and official footing and that came to pass within two years of the club's foundation.

The competition run by the Ivy Club may well have proved inspirational for Kilroy, no doubt that allied to his natural competitive spirit provided the incentive to regularise affairs and so in the evening of 26th September 1894, Constitution decided to go public as it were and to join the fold in an official capacity.

A meeting was called for this purpose and members of the staff of the Cork Constitution were summoned to the colours. Not surprisingly Henry Lawrence Tivy was elected president and the vice presidents were T.O'Driscoll and R.O. Dawson. Who else would be named captain but David Kilroy. He had fulfilled that task from the outset, now he would lead his official forces into battle. The vice captain was Dowling Cottrell. The task of honorary secretary was entrusted to Charlie Wilkins, so long a Kilroy colleague and fellow participant on the field of play. Peter Grant was in charge of financial affairs in his capacity as honorary treasurer. And the names of the rest of the committee found an echo in earlier years. They were Messrs J.Hurley, S.Wood and W.Pyne., all members of the Ramblers Athletic Club with Kilroy. No time was lost in throwing down the challenge to those who cared to take it up and to this end an advertisement appeared in the Cork Constitution on September 27th 1894.

Under the heading Cork Constitution FC the advertisement ran: Challenges will be received for the season by the secretary of Cork Constitution FC from junior clubs, with the word junior underlined. The initial challenge came in from Queenstown Pirates and the match was scheduled for November 3rd 1894 with the venue at Newtown on the outskirts of Queenstown, now of course Cobh.

The Constitution players duly assembled outside 42 Marlboro Street, walked to the railway station at Glanmire Road and took the 1pm train to Queenstown. They got off the train at Rushbrook, and walked to the ground at Newtown and thus prepared, readied themselves for the challenge. The team that played was: G.Martin; J.Crowley, D.Cottrell, C.Wilkins, D.Kilroy; R.Beamish, B.Adams; W.Pyne, G.Wolfe, G.McDonagh, E.Ireton, C.O'Sullivan, J.Heffernan, W.Williams, D.McCarthy.

On the morning of the match the Cork Constitution carried the names of that selected team. In fact it contained A.N.Other, a place filled by Dowling Cottrell that afternoon, while when the team played there was one change in addition, R.O.Dawson played instead of D.McCarthy.

It was, too, an auspicious start to Constitution's official participation. Constitution won by a try to nil, no mean feat against Queenstown and proof that Kilroy had had his players honed to a sharp competitive edge in the days prior to club's official establishment.

Within a week, the club was in action again, this time against the second XV of Queen's College. The venue was The Park, a wide expanse of open greenery at the city end of the Marina, part of the Cork Racecourse complex, then home of Cork, later Cork County FC.

Constitution took the lead with a try from Heffernan, but Queen's got a try in the second half and it was converted, thus a 5-3 defeat in a match that drew a large attendance.

That Kilroy was dedicated to the pursuit of fitness was evident by regular notices in the newspaper about practice and they were held each Thursday at The Park.

The third match that season was against a side under the name Excelsior FC. The match took place at The Park and Constitution won 17 points to nil.

A name later to leave an indelible imprint on the history of the club, Mossy Landers, appeared in the Constitution side for the first time and he was listed among the forwards. Landers, like Kilroy, was a noted sportsman of the day, proficient at cricket and much else in the sporting arena.

South Munster played North Munster in January 1895, but no Constitution player was named in the side.

At the time a major controversy arose at IRFU level when the Munster Branch had its powers in national selection reduced because only £4 instead of £5 had been paid by the officially registered Munster clubs.

Not the least important decision taken prior to the start of the 1895-96 season was to open the club membership to people other than those employed by the Cork Constitution newspaper. In this regard that had been in effect prior to the end of 1894-95 season. Thus the inclusion of Mossy Landers in the side.

Kilroy was at the helm again in 1895-96 and it was not until November that the first match was played, not unusual in those days when, invariably it was November before most clubs got down to the business of playing and the season ended in March.

The consequences of opening up the club were, too, to have an echo in controversy with the club being accused of poaching and the Cork Constitution newspaper being accused of inaccurate reporting.

The accusations came after the club had played against Queen's college. Cork Constitution had beaten Queen's College readily, but there followed a letter to the Cork Constitution. The accusations were rejected out of hand and the writer firmly put in his place. But there were happenings of greater moment on the horizon and another letter to the editor of the Cork Constitution complained about the lack of incentive for junior clubs. While clubs in various forms played on an ad hoc basis, official junior teams were apparently few and the author of the letter believed this to be due to lack of incentive and organisation.

Whether prompted by that letter on the advisability of starting a cup competition, or by their own initiative, Constitution held a meeting in October 1895 with a dual objective. The object of that meeting on October 5th 1895 was to discuss the inauguration of a cup competition for junior clubs.

On December 16th there was a meeting of junior clubs at the Royal Victoria Hotel for the purpose of starting the Junior Cup. It was to be confined, or open to, depending on the way one wished to look at it, to junior clubs in Cork city and county. The following clubs attended: Queen's College Seconds, Fawcetts, Cork Constitution, Grammar School, Middleton College, Fermoy, St Nicholas, Favourites and Cork FC Seconds.

Constitution, meanwhile, continued to play regularly and by the start of January had played seven matches. David Kilroy was given a Munster trial, but did not win selection on the provincial team.

In February Constitution played St Nicholas and the name of Dick Magrath appeared in the Constitution side at half back. On February 28th 1896, a further meeting was held and a committee appointed to run the Junior Cup competition. The meeting was presided over by the Lord Mayor of Cork, Sir John Harley Scott, the Vice President was J.F.Maguire and the Honorary Secretary was George Bateman. Rules were drawn up, an entrance fee of 10 shillings per club was agreed and the draw fixed for March 5th. Constitution came out of the hat with their old rivals Queen's College. Some of the clubs at the original meeting did not participate, but eight clubs did with Middleton College, Wanderers, Comrades, Cork FC, Queen's College Seconds, Favourites and Wellingtons all going into the hat with Constitution. Wanderers beat Middleton, Cork beat Comrades, and the Cork Constitution newspaper was in trouble again when it reported that the Comrades club was comprised of fishermen from Blackrock. That drew a letter stating that not one Blackrock fisherman played on the Comrades side. 'Eight of the side came from Ballintemple and seven from Cork. Blackrock men go in for hurling and not football' stated the author, one D.O'Leary.

Constitution beat Queen's College by 15 points to three. Kilroy who had played at senior level for Queen's College, although never a student there, was ruled ineligible.

In the semi final Constitution played and beat Wellington and Cork FC beat Wanderers. Heffernan, in Kilroy's unavoidable absence, captained Constitution who beat Wellington by eight points to nil. The final was fixed for Good Friday. The venue was Civility Stud Farm, Old Douglas Road, courtesy of Mr John Reece.

So on April 2nd 1896 Constitution contested their first cup final and won it by two tries to nil with W.McCarry and J.McLernon getting the tries. Heffernan duly went to collect the spoils, in the form of the cup which was presented to him amidst scenes of great enthusiasm by Miss McOstrich, daughter of one of the Munster Branch officials.

So Constitution ended the season with a record of played 13 , won 12 and one drawn, an unbeaten record and the first piece of silverware on the sideboard. Meanwhile the captain, J.Heffernan, on receiving the cup was in the mood for prophesy, when he said: 'the club had done much to revive rugby football in the south and from the junior clubs there is likely to spring a team that will revive the dying fortunes of Cork football circles'. How right he was to prove. The first team to bring a trophy to Constitution was: E.Fitzgerald; J.McLernon, W.McCarry, M.Landers,

A.Williams, 'Roberts', A.Black, J.Heffernan Capt., F.H.Collings, D.Murphy, J.McDonagh, W.Adams, E.Foley, A.Miller, 'O.Aubrey'.

On April 18th there was a meeting held to review the success of the inaugural competition and to elect officers to run it for the following season.

At the general meeting of Constitution, David Kilroy was again selected captain. Significantly eleven new members were elected at the meeting. Meanwhile in October two of the cup winning team, F.H.Collings and W.H.Adams, took their leave of Ireland when they emigrated to South Africa. They were the recipients of presentations from their club colleagues with Kilroy in the chair as he invariably was, for Henry Tivy seldom took any active part in the running of the club.

CHAPTER II

A NEW CENTURY AND GREAT ACHIEVEMENT

Having retained the junior cup in 1897 the ambitions of the club clearly rose to a level of expectation that it was time that they entered the major competition in the province and so it was that Cork Constitution decided to enter the Munster Senior Cup in 1897. The entry was late but readily accepted and the club got a bye in the first round.

Thus they were through to the semi-final and drawn against a major force of the day in Queen's College (now UCC). Alas it was not to be an auspicious debut in the competition in which the club was to make such an impact in the years to come. They were readily beaten by a very good Queen's College side. But not daunted, the spirit prevailed and the determination in the club was manifest.

At the start of the season 1897/98 there was a major development when the club acquired new playing fields at Turners Cross on the Kinsale Road. Meanwhile the Cork Junior Challenge Cup was won for a third successive year and that certainly convinced the membership that the club could achieve great things when playing at senior level on a regular basis. The club got a major boost when one of its players Edward McCarthy was picked to play for Ireland against Wales, a game that took place in Limerick on March 19th 1898. It was in fact the first international played on Munster soil. McCarthy, was a noted all round sportsman and among his achievements was a Cork County Senior Football Championship medal with the famous Lees Club.

Constitution's feats were extending beyond the regions of Munster and on the afternoon of February 3rd 1899 they played their first match in Dublin when they met Old Wesley at Donnybrook. The club won for the first time on Dublin soil on January 23rd 1900 when they beat Old Wesley by 8 points to 6.

There is no doubt that the roots that had been laid by the founding fathers were now beginning to bear fruit. On St Patrick's Day 1900 Constitution played Clonmel in the Munster Senior Cup. The town was enveloped in sunshine when Constitution arrived for the match. That was a great occasion for the club when they won by a goal to nil with the winning score coming in the second half. So it was on Tipperary soil that Constitution won a Munster cup tie for the first time and reached the semi-final. That however was as far as they went that particular season.

Ever anxious to broaden horizons just before Christmas 1900 new ground was broken again when Constitution set out for Wales on their first cross channel tour. On December 21st the club left Cork and travelled to Wales. Constitution lost both matches going down to LLannelli 13-0 and Newport 19-0. One could scarcely say that this was a setback of any kind, on the contrary, as both clubs were well established in the Welsh region at that stage.

The inauguration of the Munster Senior League in the 1901-02 season saw Cork Constitution win their first senior trophy under the captaincy of one of the great figures of the club's history, Mossy Landers. Landers became the club's second international when he was capped for Ireland in 1904.

There was disappointment that season in the Munster Senior Cup when Constitution failed and indeed they had to wait for another few years before the great breakthrough came and the Holy Grail was attained when for the first time in history the club won the Munster Senior Cup under the captaincy of another legendary club man, David Desmond.

There was another major development when in September 1904 the Mardyke grounds were opened. Cork Constitution and Cork County FC, sadly since defunct, became joint leaseholders of what was then termed "Western field" and so it was that the Mardyke became a renowned rugby ground. That ground was later of course to pass into the possession of University College Cork.

Ireland met England in an international at the Mardyke in 1905 and that was a famous match marked by a great victory for Ireland. The gate receipt earnings for that match were a remarkable £900, a huge sum of money for that time.

Now the Munster Senior cup beckoned and there were high hopes that Cork Constitution might make the breakthrough and make it they did under the inspirational leadership of David Desmond they won the cup for the first time beating Queen's College 11 points to 3 in the Mardyke on April 13th 1905. The Munster Senior Cup was secured and all was well with the world in Cork Constitution F.C.

In the 1905 season a new competition also came on schedule when the Cork Charity Cup was inaugurated. This was to provide funds for Cork hospitals. The Cork Minor cup was also inaugurated that year and so the competitive base in Munster and Cork in particular was broadening on a very wide scale.

That great breakthrough in 1905 under David Desmond's leadership was crucial and the Munster Senior Cup was retained in 1906 and 1907. Jimmy Musgrave led the side in 1906 and David Desmond again in 1907 so the first three in a row, a truly remarkable achievement for a club that had been founded less than twenty years previously. Indeed that 1906 season was quite notable for in a four month spell Constitution won the Munster Senior Cup, the Charity Cup, the Junior League, the Cork Junior Cup and the newly inaugurated Cork Minor Cup. It was a striking testimony to the strength in depth of the club but indeed that has been a feature of Cork Constitution through the years that while the first 15 is always the show piece there has been tremendous strength throughout the club that has always been cultivated by great attention to the players in the lower regions who like their senior club counterparts have had a great distinction by winning so many trophies.

A great Cork Constitution legend Dickie Magrath was captain in the 1907-08 season. Magrath was to become another of Cork Constitution's internationals, indeed one could say of him that he performed a hat rick for not alone was he a rugby international, he was also to become an international referee and subsequently President of the IRFU. I think that is a fair testimony to his abilities and many years later he was the man to establish the famous Connettes team in the 1940s when he devoted so much time and effort to the rugby playing youngsters of the Cork region.

Cork Constitution won the Munster Senior Cup for the fourth time in 1910 under the captaincy of SK Hosford. Meanwhile the club got its first Lion when Oliver Piper was chosen to tour South Africa. More international caps were to follow with Billy Riordan capped in 1910 and Mike Heffernan in 1911. But things were to occur in the second decade of that century that were unprecedented in the history of the world.

What has been termed the Great War broke out in Europe in 1914 and that was to have a devastating effect on the country socially, economically and in sporting terms and rugby was no different from any other game. Competitions were suspended for the duration of the war. To add to that problem after the rising by the Irish volunteers in Easter 1916 against the forces of the crown the Irish were at war on two fronts. When eventually peace obtained in Europe in 1918 it did not however herald a prolonged period of tranquillity in Ireland and while things got back to some semblance of normality a subsequent civil war in Ireland saw loss of life and disruption. During the Great War all domestic and international rugby was cancelled but matters on the rugby front resumed in 1919 and there was some competitive rugby, within a few years there would be cup glory for Constitution yet again.

Pa McGrath was elected captain of the club for 1921/22 season. McGrath, a well known figure in Cork was later to become a member of Dáil Éireann and Lord Mayor of his native city. In fact he was one of several Cork Constitution members to fill that distinguished office. Pa led the team to victory in 1921/22 and repeated the feat in 1922/23, a cup double of huge significance.

A competition for the Bateman Cup had been inaugurated between the clubs which had won the provincial cups in the four provinces and Cork Constitution represented Munster in that first season of Pa McGrath's captaincy, however it wasn't to prove successful. In later years there would be great glory in that arena for the club.

The club's ingenuity was revealed when during those troubled times they were due to travel to Dublin but were unable to go by road or rail as bridges and rail services had been blown up. The club wasn't daunted and sailed to Dublin to fulfil their commitments to the Leinster clubs, an achievement that is unlikely to be repeated.

The 1922/23 season brought more success when under Pa McGrath's leadership the Senior Cup, the Senior League and the Cork Charity Cup were all won, that feat had not previously been achieved by any club.

There was no notable success for Cork Constitution until the 1928/29 season when Matt Murphy was elected captain and he led the club to more cup success with a 5-0 victory over Young Munster in the final at the Mardyke. Young Munster were the reigning cup holders and had won the Bateman Cup the previous season.

Jimmy Riordan captained the club to success in the Munster Senior Cup 1932/33 with a 12-0 win over Bohemians in the Mardyke on 22nd April 1933 and the cup was not to be won again for another decade. In the meantime war intervened once more when in September 1939 World War Two broke out. That was to have considerable consequences but it did not in fact curtail club rugby in Munster as had happened in World War 1.

So the first fifty years of Cork Constitution FC had passed into history and in that time the Munster Senior Cup was won nine times as indeed was the Munster Senior League. Ten of its club men had been capped for Ireland going back to Edward McCarthy in 1898 with Jimmy Riordan the most recent in 1934. Two club men had been elected President of the IRFU, Dickie Magrath and Jimmy Musgrave, while at branch level it provided no fewer than six presidents with PJ Meade, Jimmy Musgrave, Dickie Magrath, David Desmond, PJ Fitzgerald and Dan O'Connell. So the founding fathers could look down from elysian fields and be very pleased with the men who had succeeded them.

Meanwhile Noel Murphy had also been capped for Ireland in early 1930s and he was one of the great figures in the history of the club. He was to see his son of the same name and his grandson Kenny capped for Ireland and like some of his illustrious predecessors became president of the branch and of the union.

CHAPTER III

THE NEXT FIFTY YEARS

As the war raged in Europe domestic rugby in Munster was maintained, the interprovincial series was deemed to be unofficial. While internationals were cancelled and didn't resume until 1947 there were victory internationals in 1946. A remarkable feature is that the army were fielding a very strong team in the Munster Senior Cup and League series in this period and in 1942-43 Constitution met them in the final. That Constitution team, captained by a very good centre Cecil O'Driscoll beat the army 22-0 on April 7th 1943. That Constitution team included some great players such as Jack Mackessy, a Munster interprovincial, Tommy Riordan, Ned Murphy at scrum half, Batt Hayes, a former Irish final trialist and interprovincial, Pat Barry, a member of a very distinguished family and one Bertie O'Hanlon who featured on the Irish team that won the Triple Crowns, Grand Slams and Championships in the late 1940s and early 1950s but who subsequently went to play for Dolphin.

Cork Constitution's next cup win came in 1945-46. They played against the Army in the first round in Thomond Park winning 23-13, beat Sunday's Well 14-5 in the semi-final and in a great final in April 1946 beat Garryowen 3-0 in the Mardyke. That match was won by a dramatic try in the last minute by Tom Riordan who made a tremendous run down the right wing scoring in the right hand corner. Included in that Constitution team was Tommy Moroney, a very talented rugby player at Presentation College Cork and an outstanding soccer player who went on to play for West Ham United. The team was captained by Johnny Irwin and included people like Pat Barry and Frank Cantwell, a brother of Noel. Batt Hayes was also in that team. John Christopher (JC) Daly played in the front row and was on the Irish team that won the Grand Slam in 1948. In fact he was the man who scored the winning try against Wales to give Ireland the Grand Slam that year.

And so the 1940s passed into history, peace had been restored in Europe. The early 1950s brought a major problem for Cork Constitution as the lease on the ground in the Mardyke was due to expire and there was a major clamour to get a new ground. That apart there was another very significant happening in 1948-49 when for the first time Constitution led by captain Peter Fitzgerald won the Munster Junior Cup, always a prized possession and one that had eluded them for quite some time. The club was to win it on twelve more occasions including 1991-92.

There was tremendous anxiety in relation to the playing facilities, fortunately for Cork Constitution they had a man at the helm as President in 1949-50, John Tierney, a Bank Official, who steered them through this difficult time. A committee was established to raise funds for the club with a series of dances in Crosshaven and the city hall. Albert Beasley as chairman had some excellent supporters at his side such as John Costigan, Jim Donovan, Eddie Fahy, Charlie Connolly, Tom Horan and Flor O'Leary for fund raising.



CONSTITUTION'S NEW GROUND OPENED

Cork Constitution's splendid new grounds at Temple Hill, Ballintemple, were formally opened on Saturday by the club's immediate past-president, Mr. John Tierney, who had taken a leading part in the planning of the pitches and clubhouse. Although the club is 60 years in existence, Temple Hill is its first real home for many years. They had been co-tenants with U.C.C. at the Matdyke.

September 1953

CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB.

OFFICIAL OPENING BY LORD MAYOR OF PAVILION AT TEMPLE HILL ON 30TH NOV. 1952.



BACK ROW - J.SULLIVAN, M.OWENS, P.CANTY, J.V REASDON E.ROYCROFT, W.J.O BRIEN.
 SECOND ROW - F.OLEARY, (CAPTAIN), F.BEASLEY, J.HARVEY, M.B.M'HAUGH, J.L.DONOVAN, F.MURPHY, (ARCHITECT), D.DWYER, E.MURPHY, E.J.MORGAN.
 FRONT ROW - H.J.DEANE, R.MAGRATH, J.TIERNEY (PRESIDENT), THE LORDMAYOR ALDERMAN P.M'GRATH T.D. D.F.O CONNELL, J.C.M'CARTHY J.J.HORGAN.

Constitution Football Club
Official opening of New Clubhouse and Grounds
26th. September 1953



THE FIRST MATCH
Constitution v Lansdowne



Fifty Years On

Several sites around Cork were investigated but proved fruitless. Then at a very important meeting which took place in 1951/52 special General Meeting in Desmond's Hotel on Friday November 30th 1951 John Tierney told the members that several sites had been inspected, every aspect and detail had been examined and he was now in a position to inform the meeting that a site which they thought satisfactory and which had great potential was located in Boreenmana Road near Ballintemple. The cost of the site was £3000.

The Bank of Ireland was approached and agreed to lend the club £2000 repayable with £100 per annum with interest. "It is" said John Tierney "a milestone in the history of the club and we are now in a position to purchase our own ground." That was to prove extremely beneficial for Cork Constitution in the days ahead. Archie O'Leary the club captain gave a warm welcome to the ground from a player's viewpoint. The atmosphere at that meeting was one of unbridled delight.

Later in this history a chapter will be devoted to Temple Hill but suffice to say an official opening took place on September 1953 when the first match was played between Constitution and Lansdowne on September 26th that year. Harry Dean was president when the first match took place at the new grounds.

There is no doubt that the members rallied round splendidly and while through the years Temple Hill underwent several periods of development including the purchase of a second pitch for the comfort and convenience of players what was to transpire ten years into the new decade was to see a new Temple Hill arise and what a magnificent job was made of it.

There was to be no senior cup success for Cork Constitution for some years but a trophy did adorn the clubhouse when the senior league title of 1952-53 was brought home, the first of many cups throughout the structure of the game from youth right up to senior level.

Eleven years had elapsed since the last cup win in 1945-6 but the barren spell ended when in the 1956-57 season Constitution regained the Munster Senior Cup with a 14-3 win over Dolphin. That team was captained by Jim Kiernan brother of Tom and son of Michael, an outstanding official in the club who once occupied the Presidency. Jim subsequently moved to Dolphin, a club to which he rendered outstanding service.

That success also marked the first cup medal for Noel Murphy Junior, son of the illustrious Noel F of 1930s fame. It also included players like Gary Horgan, Michael Keyes, Des Barry, Joe Cunningham, Jackie Crowley and Liam Coughlan, an outstanding back row forward very unlucky not to play for Ireland.

The decade of the 1960s was an outstanding one for Cork Constitution for the amount of success the club enjoyed. It started with a win in the senior cup when they beat Garryowen 12-5 in 1961. A feature of that team was that it included Jerry Murray, a stalwart of the club for so long who unfortunately died just over a year ago. Jerry was as committed a Cork Constitution man as ever stood in Temple Hill. He was a marvellous player who enjoyed tremendous success

at cup and league level, a final Irish trialist and very unlucky not to win a cap. He subsequently filled the Presidential chair in the Munster branch and was also an Irish selector. While the international cap alluded him he was honoured with a cap for the Barbarians and was certainly worthy of that.

The cup was won again in 1963-64. That team was captained by Noel Murphy and included Tom Kiernan who had finished his studies at UCC and in the natural order of things joined the club, an extremely and mutually beneficial alignment. The cup was retained in 1964-65 under the captaincy of Dan Murphy and was won again in 1966-67 when one Barry McGann kicked two penalty goals to beat Highfield 6-0. Barry, a distinguished player went on to play for Ireland and subsequently moved to Lansdowne. The team was captained by Jerry Murray, a fitting honour for one of the great servants of the club.

Cork Constitution's achievement in the Munster Senior league in the 1960s was remarkable. It was won on nine successive occasions from 1963-64 under Noel Murphy's captaincy right up to 1971-72. It is worth adding during that golden decade the cup and league double was achieved. In 1969-70 Constitution won the trophy yet again under Tom Kiernan's captaincy. Barry McGann was still calling the shots at outside half and had now been joined by another great club man Donal Canniffe at scrum half who had come in for Bobby Casey who had played so well in partnership with Mick Keyes during so many of the successes of the 1960s. Stan Waldron was also in that cup winning side as indeed were Noel Murphy and Tom Kiernan.

1972 saw Garryowen annihilated in the Munster Senior Cup Final 30-6 at Musgrave Park on April 22nd. McGann and Canniffe were outstanding at half back on that side and had an accomplished hooker in Gerry Leahy. Stan Waldron and Jerry Murray (captain) also played with MJ Murphy on the flank (no relation to Noel Murphy who had called it a day). Tommy Kiernan also played and was there again in 1973 when Constitution defeated Dolphin 15-9. It was Tommy's swan song and a fitting way to depart the playing scene. The 1972-3 team was captained by Stan Waldron.

The Munster Senior League was also won seven times during that decade of the 1970s. It was a competition in which Constitution prospered as no other. It was not until the 1982-83 season that Constitution won the cup once more by beating Shannon 15-9 in the final at Musgrave Park with a team that included Moss Finn, an excellent recruit from UCC. It also included Michael Bradley, a man who was to leave such an indelible mark and lead the club to so much success in future years. Ralph Keyes played at out half, keeping up the family tradition. Anthony O'Leary, son of Archie, was in the team while Christy Cantillon captained the side. It also included one Donal Lenihan, another great player from UCC who has rendered outstanding service to the club. Greg Barrett was also a member of that winning side and subsequently president of the club, he played for Ireland A and is currently a Munster Branch representative on the IRFU.

Anthony O'Leary captained the team to win the cup in 1985 beating Shannon 12-7 once more on April 27th in Musgrave Park. Included in that team was Mike Gibson, an extremely good recruit who had served his apprenticeship with Trinity College Dublin and also became

an Irish international. Constitution ended the decade in the most appropriate manner with yet another cup win beating Shannon in 1989. The team was captained by Michael Bradley and won in dramatic fashion when Kenny Murphy kicked a late penalty goal depriving Shannon of a victory that looked certain right up to the final whistle meaning the cup did not go back to the parish in Limerick. Constitution had scored an excellent victory. Jerry Holland, the current President of the Club was a member of that team and also helped to win the Munster Senior League with the club. In fact he holds a rare distinction of winning senior cup medals with three different clubs having helped UCC to lift the trophy, as well as winning two Leinster Senior Cup and two Leinster Senior League medals with Wanderers.

Now we were on the cusp of something different with the advent of the All-Ireland League. The Cork Charity Cup was a frequent visitor to those years of the 1960s '70s and '80s but club rugby was to change with emphasis from the provincial leagues to the All-Ireland League when it was inaugurated in the 1990-91 season.

Constitution won it with an incredible victory over Garryowen in Dooradoyle in the crucial match. Ralph Keyes kicked a penalty and Constitution also got a penalty try which sufficed. Constitution won that league having played eight, won seven, drew none, lost just one, scored 119 points and conceded just seventy-eight. The team was captained by Michael Bradley and what an inspirational leader he was. Kenny Murphy was at full back, and Brian Walsh played too. He was later to make such a contribution to the club both as a player and coach. Ralph Keyes, Donal Lenihan were all in that side as were Paul Derham, Philip Soden and Paul McMcCarthy.

So Constitution were to enter their centenary year as winners of the inaugural All-Ireland League. There could not have been a more appropriate entry to celebrate such an occasion.

On an individual level during that period from the 1942 right through to that great victory in the All-Ireland League several Cork Constitution players were capped on a regular basis. Beginning with John Christopher Daly in 1947 there followed Archie O'Leary, Marnie Cunningham, son of Jack a player and club President. Marnie was an outstanding back row forward who subsequently joined the priesthood. Noel Murphy, Tom Kiernan, Barry McGann, Jimmy Bowen, Donal Lenihan, Moss Finn, Michael Bradley, Ralph Keyes, Derek McGrath, an extremely good recruit from UCD, and Kenny Murphy were all honoured with selection for the Irish fifteen.

Meanwhile Dan O'Connell, Noel Murphy Senior and Tom Kiernan were all honoured with the Presidency of the IRFU during that period. Dan O'Connell in 1951-52, Noel Murphy in 1960-61 and Tom Kiernan in 1988. Kiernan was also an outstanding coach and led Ireland to victory in the Triple Crown in 1981-82. He was also the man who coached Munster to the province's greatest victory when in October 1978 they beat the All Blacks 12:0 in Thomond Park on a never to be forgotten occasion. How well Cork Constitution were represented on that side. Moss Finn was on the right wing, Jimmy Bowen on the left, Greg Barrett was in the centre, the team was captained by Donal Canniffe, then with Lansdowne. Christy Cantillon was on the flank and scored the try in that famous victory. He also rendered outstanding service to the club as player and coach.

In the Munster context too during that second fifty years, Dan O'Connell was President of the Munster Branch in 1942-43, Noel Murphy 1949-50, John Tierney in 1956-57, Dr Reg Sutton in 1967-68, Tom Kiernan in 1977-78 and Noel Murphy Junior in 1987-88. Indeed the new century started when another Munster man at the helm, Jerry Murray was President of the Munster Branch in 2000.

During that second half century of the club's existence several Cork Constitution players were selected for the Lions. Noel Murphy in 1959 in Australia and New Zealand and again in 1966 while he was coach to the team that toured South Africa in 1980. Tom Kiernan was part of the team that travelled to South Africa in 1962 and captained the Lions Team to South Africa in 1968.

Donal Lenihan toured New Zealand in 1983, was captain of the Lions in the IRB Centenary match in Cardiff in 1986 and also toured Australia with the Lions in 1989. Tom Kiernan captained the Ireland side that toured Australia in 1967 and scored an historic victory in that international.

There was a singular tribute paid to Noel Murphy in Musgrave Park in September 1980 when a Constitution team played the Lions losing by 17-23, that team was made up of players who had represented the Lions in South Africa in 1980 and was captained by Bill Beaumont.

The touring concept that was started so long ago with that December tour to Wales has continued through the years. Cork Constitution toured Kenya and Zambia in 1971, toured the East Coast of the United States in 1973, Canada in 1980 and Italy in 1986.

CHAPTER IV THE CENTENARY SEASON

There could not have been a more appropriate preface to the centenary year celebrations of the club. Cork Constitution entered that season as the inaugural All-Ireland League Champions.

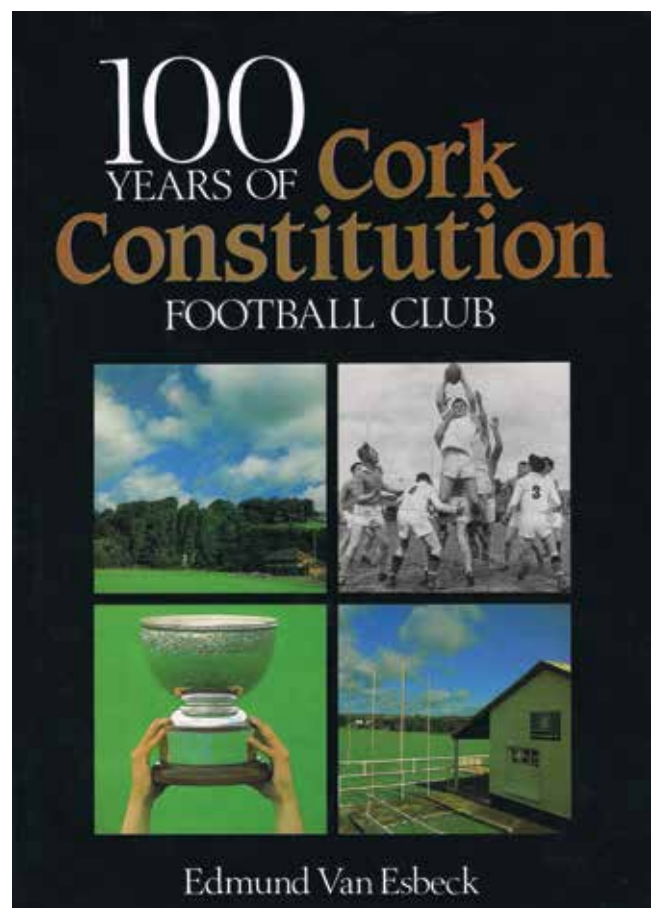
The founding fathers must certainly have looked down from elysian fields secure in the knowledge that what they had started all those years ago was being embellished by the successive generations that followed them.

The centenary year president of the club was Tom Kiernan while the first team captain was Donal Lenihan, assuredly two of the club's most distinguished sons.

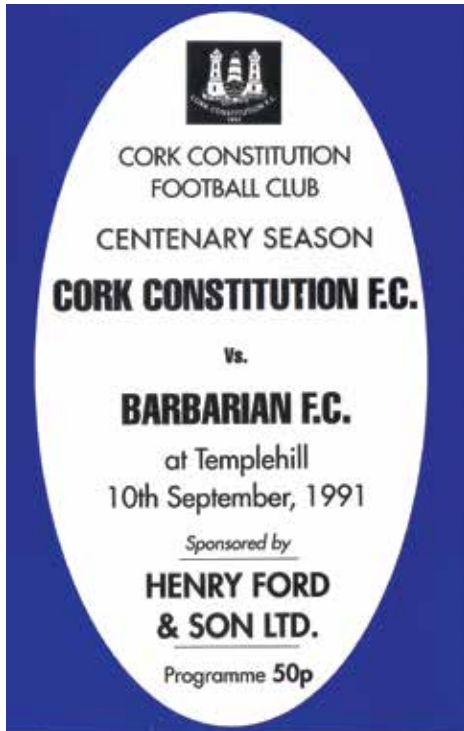
The final touches were put to the club history, "One Hundred Years of Cork Constitution Football Club", written by Edmund Van Esbeck and printed by Litho Press, Midleton. This was launched, together with the announcement of club sponsors, at a function at Temple Hill on Thursday, August 22, that was attended by many dignitaries including the Lord Mayor, Mr Denis Cregan. Sponsorship cheques were presented by Ford of Ireland, Barry's Tea and Allied Irish Bank for the major events of the year.



Michael Keyes & Stan Waldron



An elaborate programme both on and off the field was put in place to celebrate one hundred years of great endeavour. On the field, the famous Barbarians Club paid the club the singular tribute of coming to Cork for the first and only time and, while the Barbarians won readily, that in itself was not of consequence. Their presence at Temple Hill was. The great English club Wasps also visited and won readily while a combined Cork Constitution Old Wesley Team, Old



Action against the Barbarians

Wesley were also celebrating their centenary, played an Irish team as preparation for the World Cup that was taking place that autumn. A visit was made to Bath and, the club played a combined universities side at Temple Hill, strengthening the ties that existed between Cork Constitution and University College Cork. All those matches took place in the early season and were highly significant, an illustration of the esteem in which the club was held throughout the game.

The results of the Centenary Games were

Cork Constitution	v	Wasps	9-42	Temple Hill	31/8/91
CFC / Old Wesley	v	Ireland	12-38	Temple Hill	7/9/91
Cork Constitution	v	Barbarians	12-32	Temple Hill	10/9/91
Cork Constitution	v	Combined Universities	23-9	Temple Hill	28/12/91

Another significant rugby event was that the club was awarded the Irish Rugby Writers 'Team of the Year' trophy for 1991 having won the inaugural All Ireland League in the 1990-91 season.



Ladies and gentleman at the centenary dinner

A centenary dinner was held at Jury's Hotel on the Western Road and was attended by an esteemed gathering from across the whole spectrum of the game in these islands. The late great Jack Kyle was the guest speaker in what was a wonderfully memorable night. The toast to the club was proposed by the late Kevin Quiligan, former President of the IRFU. While the IRFU delegation was led by its President, Dr Tony Browne.

Among the distinguished guests was arguably Cork's favourite son, the former Taoiseach and legendary sports man, Jack Lynch. It was a wonderful night of celebration and nostalgia.

Through the years the Ladies Committee has made a huge contribution to the club and they were not forgotten when a centenary ball was held at the Silver Springs Hotel and that like the centenary dinner was also a great and memorable occasion for those present.

On the field, the club had its problems, and while they entered that season as All-Ireland champions, as the league progressed so did anxiety about maintaining the club's presence in the premier division.

The maintenance of its presence in the top division came down to a crucial match against St Mary's College in Dublin but as was so often the case the club answered the call and scored a great 13-12 victory which secured its presence in the top division. It is worth pointing out even at this stage, that to the present day, Cork Constitution FC is the only club in the country to have maintained a permanent presence in the top division of the All Ireland League. An unfortunate footnote to that match against St Mary's is that it was the last game Donal Lenihan played for the club, He had been troubled by a neck injury that ended his career. Donal was to go on leave his mark in an administrative capacity on the game as a Munster and Ireland selector, as manager of the Ireland team and manager of the Lions. He is now making a contribution to the world of journalism in his capacity as commentary for RTE and a columnist with The Irish Examiner.

The club's great contribution to successive Ireland sides continued that autumn when three of its players represented Ireland in that World Cup Series. They were Ralph Keyes, Donal Lenihan and Pat O'Hara. That was Donal's final curtain call in the Ireland jersey that he had worn over fifty times. Ireland suffered a last minute one point defeat in the quarter final to Australia. Ralph Keyes was outstanding in that series of matches from which he emerged as the leading points scorer in the 1991 World Cup.

With the travails of the All-Ireland League behind them the hope was that Cork Constitution might further embellish its great record in the Munster Senior Cup. Their journey in the competition ended with the 21:17 defeat to Young Munster in Thomond Park. But there was significant success on the field when the club won the Munster Junior Cup, never an easy competition to win, when a side captained by Peter O'Leary, a member of a family which has given wonderful service to the club, led his team to victory by beating Bandon in the final. A pairing of Cork Constitution and Bandon had its roots firmly embedded in history as Bandon had won the inaugural Munster Senior Cup in the long ago.

The club also undertook a number of rugby tours during the season. In October 1991, a 38 man tour party from the minors left the club on the first of the clubs Centenary Tours, on the back of winning the Dennehy Cup.

The tour was a two-week trip into England, Wales and Scotland and took the tour party to London, Cheltenham, Cardiff and Edinburgh. It was a busy two week playing five undefeated matches, against London Irish, Blackheath, Cordoba from Argentina, Cheltenham and Edinburgh Academicals.

On their journey, they watched the England vs. All Blacks opening match of the World Cup in Twickenham, All Blacks vs. USA in Kingsholm Gloucester, Wales vs. Argentina in the Cardiff Arms Park, Australia vs. Samoa in Pontypridd and Ireland vs. Scotland in Murrayfield, Edinburgh.

The tour was managed by Brian Ludgate, captained by Jeremy O'Callaghan, coordinated by Tony O'Connor and the extended committee consisted of Billy Casey, Denis Ormond, John O'Leary and Conor McGowan.

At the end of the season in May 1992 the club senior squad travelled to California and played games in San Francisco, San Diego and Santa Monica. The party was led by Pat O'Donovan, Bill Jones, Jerry Holland and Donal Lenihan, while Charlie Murphy was tour captain. They played and won four games and the tour was declared a great success by players and supporters, of whom there were many.

There was also a trip to Holland for some players that didn't tour to America. As winners of the 'Kinsale 7s' tournament the club were invited to play in an international tournament in Amsterdam sponsored by Heineken. The team was managed by Michael Keyes and his son Ralph captained the side. While they started well they were eventually beaten by a very strong Dutch national side.

Thus a significant milestone came to an end with the conclusion of the centenary season and the club braced itself for the unprecedented challenges that were to come.



Anthony & Gary Horgan



John Murphy, Wally Morrissey, Bill Jones & Ned Murphy



Henry Deane & Peter Barry



Bill O'Brien, Paddy Kelly, Frank O'Connell & Stan Waldron

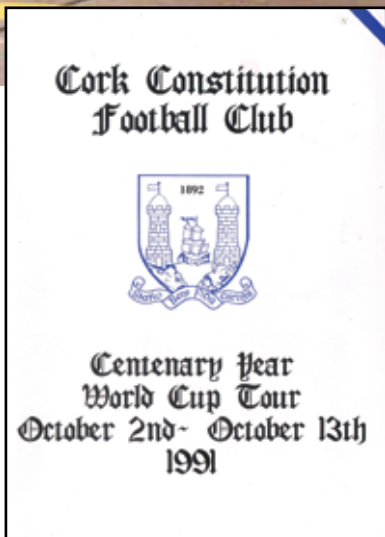


Jim Murphy & Pat O'Donovan



Michael Keyes with 7 a side squad en route to Amsterdam

MINOR TOUR 1991



Des Murphy



Denis Ormond, Brian Ludgate, Conor McGowan, John O'Leary & Billy Casey

TOUR 1992

*CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.
CENTENARY TOUR TO CALIFORNIA, U.S.A.
1992.*



*F.GOOD, D.MURPHY, N.MURPHY, G.HORGAN, P.DERHAM, R.KENNEDY, A.BYRNE, B.WAISH, L.DINEEN, O'BRIEN -
CAPTAIN,*

- CHIEF, R.MCKNIGHT, P.SODEN, T.BARRY,

*R.HEALY, P.DRISCOLL, O.HILL, J.HYLAND, W.JONES, D.GENTRAN, P.DONOVAN, J.HOLLAND, C.MURPHY, D.CORKERY, B.FITZGERALD, -
SECRETARY, INST. MGR., MANAGER, COACH, VICE-CAPT,*

- J.CROWLEY, D.MURPHY, J.ACHER, S.HAYES, B.SMITH,

T.O'CONNOR, T.WELDON, I.MURRAY, P.KEEFE, R.BUCKLEY, I.MICHELL, C.TOMEY, L.MURPHY, B.M'DOUGHLIN, D.O'DOWD, N.PIMM,



Video Session



Training Camp



*Trevor Barry, Donal Lenihan,
Pat O'Keefe & Jerry Holland*

CHAPTER V A TURBULENT DECADE

The closing decade of the 19th century was marked by a major controversy in the game of Rugby Union. That came about when some of the clubs in the north of England wanted to be paid for what was termed 'broken time', in other words they wanted to be paid for the time lost at work by playing Rugby Union. The rugby authorities would not hear of such a suggestion and so it was that The Rugby League was formed in England consisting of some of the clubs who in fact broke away from the Rugby Union Code.

If that caused controversy, what happened in the closing decade of 20th century could certainly be termed more revolution than evolution. When the inaugural World Cup was played in New Zealand and Australia in 1987 there were murmurings about 'pay for play' but it amounted to no more than that. When the 1991 World Cup came about, those winds seemed to grow stronger and so it was that when the 1995 World Cup took place in South Africa what was a gentle breeze turned into a hurricane.

At a meeting of the International Rugby Board, the game's ruling authority, in Paris in the summer of 1995 it was decided on majority vote that the game would go open, in other words professional. Ireland's representatives at that meeting were Tom Kiernan and Syd Millar. Kiernan and Millar fought a good fight to try and maintain the amateur ethic but alas it was in vain and those who wanted the game to go open had a comprehensive victory.

That was to have a huge effect on the game right through every level, club, province and international rugby.



Philip Soden, Lord Mayor Cllr. Damian Wallace & Billy Casey

In Ireland the inaugural All Ireland League which was won by Cork Constitution prompted those clubs who initially had opposed an All-Ireland League to embrace the concept and so by the end of the decade all the senior clubs in the country had entered it and instead of having just one division it was running right through to four. For Cork Constitution there was a third place finish in 1993. Thereafter a few places like fifth, sixth and third came about but then came the breakthrough when in 1998-99 it was decided that the League would be won

not just on the league basis but with a play off between the top four teams. Cork Constitution finished second in the league stages and met Buccaneers in the semi-final of the league in a packed Temple Hill and triumphed readily enough by 32-20. Meanwhile in the other semi-final

Garryowen had come through and before a great crowd at Lansdowne Road in the final Cork Constitution triumphed with a 14-11 victory. That win came about after extra time when Ronan O’Gara, later to leave such an indelible imprint on the game as one of the greatest kickers in the history of Rugby Union, landed the crucial penalty in extra time that gave Cork Constitution a second league title. Resulting from this great victory the club was awarded the Irish Rugby Writers ‘Team of the Year’ trophy for 1999.

The success of the All Ireland league resulted in large crowds attending the matches in Temple Hill, especially the hard fought games against our Cork & Limerick rivals. This put additional pressure on the volunteers who ran the club and a Club Administrator was appointed in 1995.



To improve the spectator facilities the old grass bank on the stand side of the pitch was removed and replaced in 1991 with a concrete terrace for the full length of the pitch. This was first upgrading works for some time and it cost about £40,000. This was followed in 1993 by concrete terracing on the north side of the pitch. This also involved the removal of the tennis courts, moving the second pitch and the widening of the main pitch to the maximum allowed width.

But there were other happenings, too, apart from the fact that the game went open. Conscious of what was happening in the southern hemisphere where provincial sides were in competition in Australia and New Zealand, Tom Kiernan and Vernon Pugh of Wales two far thinking men, proposed that a European League be inaugurated. Kiernan was aware that it was necessary to have something above the competition of interprovincials just below international level to try to keep pace with what was happening south of the equator.

So it was that The European Cup came into being and Munster, Leinster and Ulster all participated in that inaugural competition. Munster’s first match in that was against Swansea at Thomond Park which was won but they were subsequently defeated in France by Castres.

The coach of that Munster side was Jerry Holland. Tom Kiernan was on the International Rugby Board, Noel Murphy had managed the Irish team at The World Cup in 1995 and became president of the Irish Rugby Football Union in 1998-1999. Meanwhile before the decade was out Donal Lenihan had been made manager of the Irish team. In addition club member Bertie Smith refereed the 5 Nations match between Scotland and Wales in 1997.

So a remarkable contribution from one club in the administrative sphere.

The enthusiasm generated by what became The Heineken Cup after the initial European Cup was absolutely remarkable. It was however to have an adverse effect on the clubs because the cream of the talent from the clubs was obviously being brought in to play in the provinces. But that exodus was not just attributable to the European (Heineken Cup). When the Celtic League, subsequently the Magners League and now the Pro12 began it also meant that in fact the players involved in those competitions were not available at all to the clubs or if they were it was on very rare occasions. They were contracted by the IRFU to the provinces. But what emerged generated a great degree of interest in the game in this country.

The tradition of Munster playing against southern hemisphere touring sides was continued when Australia visited Cork in 1992. Again the visitors got a warm welcome and Munster won a very competitive game by 22-19. The Cork Con players Charlie Haly, Brian Walsh and Paul McCarthy all contributed to the great victory.

In 1998 the Springboks played a Combined Provinces side in Cork. This match was the official switching on of the new floodlight system at Musgrave Park which was performed by IRFU President Noel Murphy. The World Cup holders, the Springboks provided a great show of strength to win easily by 22-5 before a huge crowd. John Kelly was the only Cork Con player that night. There was another club involvement that night as the Combined Provinces side was managed by Jerry Holland.

While Cork Constitution won the League title in the memorable final against Garryowen there was no success in the Munster Senior Cup in the closing decade of the century. Cork Constitution did reach one final but lost to Garryowen. The Munster Junior Cup proved far more profitable for the club. Peter O'Leary captained the team to win it in 1991-92, Ray Clarke led the junior team to success in 1993-1994 while the following year saw Constitution win the Junior Cup again, this time under Roy Healy when Kevin Flanagan won a remarkable eight MJC medal. They had also lost two finals in that decade both to Midleton.

Cork Constitution had three representatives on the Ireland side that played in that 1995 World Cup in South Africa in the presence of Paul Burke, Michael Bradley and David Corkery. While before the decade was out Gabriel Fulcher, David O'Mahony, Paul McCarthy, Brian O'Meara and Pat O'Hara were all added to Cork Constitution's distinguished list of senior internationals. In fact it was O'Meara who captained the team when Cork Constitution beat Garryowen in the league final when the club captain Philip Soden was not available. In fact O'Meara was the only player to represent the club in the 1999 World Cup Squad.

So the game had taken a dramatic turn, a turn that none could have envisaged even twenty years previously. Things were changed, one could say changed utterly and that was to be reflected as the years went by and we turned into a new century that would be a century where we would see further alterations some for the better some not for the better. Clubs unfortunately put themselves into debt by bringing in players from abroad and paying them not always with great success while others did bring in some players that proved more beneficial. In that respect Cork Constitution, could not have been considered to be one of the leaders of the pack so to speak.

But the club continued to prosper in every possible way, they met the challenges that were embraced in the game going professional but as the new decade approached there isn't any doubt about it that a new focus became very much on The Heineken Cup.

The provincial leagues were truncated, in fact twice during the 1990s the league didn't take place at all. Cork Constitution under the captaincy of Kenny Murphy did however win the league in 1997. It was further distinction for the Murphy family who could claim to have had father, son and grandson all capped for Ireland while when Noel Murphy was made president of the I.R.F.U. he followed in the distinguished footsteps of his father, also Noel who had filled that office. There have only been three instances in the history of the game where fathers and sons have been president of the Irish Rugby Football Union. Noel Murphy, meanwhile went on to take over from Tom Kiernan as one of Ireland's representatives on the International Rugby Board a few years later.

INSIDE THE RAIL



Ralph Keyes



Junior Cup Action



*Barry Howell, Conor Twomey, Paul McCarthy,
Don Lynch, Michael Bradley & Philip Soden*



*Stephen Hayes, Len Dineen, Paul Derham
& Don Lynch*



Michael Bradley, Len Dineen & Donal Lenihan



Barry Howell



Gabriel Fulcher, Len Dineen, Paul McCarthy & Pat O'Hara



Kenny Murphy & Eric Crotty



Gabriel Fulcher



Michael Bradley, Pat O'Hara & Charlie Murphy



Paul Burke



Denis O'Dowd



Jerry Murray



David O'Mahony



Christy Cantillon



Victor Donnelly & David Corkery



Kenny Murphy



Conor Kehelly



Gabriel Fulcher



Conor Kehelly, John O'Driscoll, Alan Byrne & Shane O'Connor



Michael Bradley



David Lee & Niall Murray



David Corkery



Ken Murphy & Ian Murray



Ronan O'Gara



O'Callaghan Brothers



Philip Soden



Dave O'Brien & Brian Walsh



Donal Sheehan, Jerry Murray, Ultan O'Callaghan & Brian O'Meara

OUTSIDE THE RAIL



Charlie Hennessy, John Gillane, Kenny Murphy & Barry McGann



Con O'Sullivan, Bobby Casey, Tom Meade & Billy Casey



Dave Power, Peter Barry, Bill Jones & Noel Murphy



Paul Derham, Don Mullins, Greg Barrett & John Davies



Ned O'Connor presenting medals to juveniles



Niall Murray, Len Dineen, Bertie Smith & Bobby Kahn



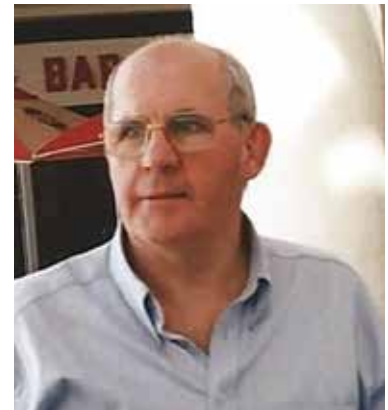
Charlie Connolly



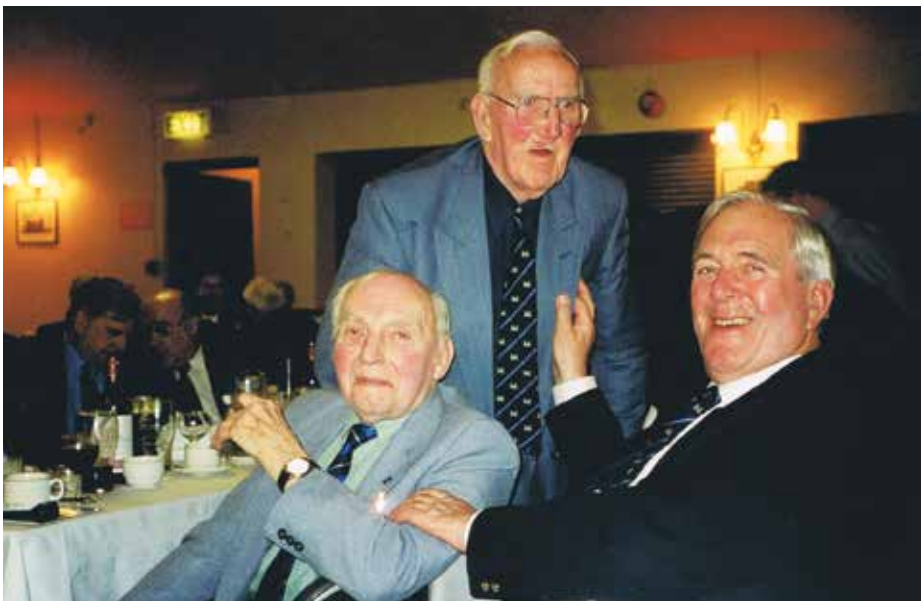
Con O'Leary



Jackie Crowley, Noel Walsh & Jack Dinan



John Hyland



Jim O'Donovan, Ned Murphy & Flor O'Leary

CHAPTER VI

THE FIRST DECADE OF THE NEW MILLENNIUM (2000-2010)

The first decade of the new Millennium was an extremely productive period for Irish rugby on the international scene and within the context of the provincial situation, a decade where Munster achieved some great success and Constitution players were at the heart of so much of that success both for province and for country.

The I.R.F.U inaugurated a Millennium Cup for Junior One and Junior Two. Des Murray led the side to success in the Junior One Millennium Cup in 2000-1 with a victory over Shannon in the final while the previous season in the Junior Two Millennium Cup, Eoin Mac Manus was captain when Cork Constitution captured the Cup. The club have indeed maintained their tremendous level of achievement in the Munster Junior Cup. Brian O'Leary led the team to Junior Cup success in 2002-03, Dave O'Brien was captain in 2004-05 and Robert Casey was at the helm when the Junior Cup was won again in 2007-08. Thus three Junior Cups in that decade was certainly not a bad return while they also lost a final to Cobh Pirates.

An A.I.B. Cup was added to the All-Ireland League and Frank Cogan had the great satisfaction of being captain when Cork Constitution won that competition in 2005-06 with a 37-12 victory over St. Mary's. Shortly before the final the club lost one of its leading players Conrad O'Sullivan who died suddenly on the 22nd March. Conrad joined the club from UCC in 2003 and had become a key member of our team. Conrad played for Munster a number of times and had played on Ireland Schools and U20 sides; he also had the honour of captaining the Irish schools team in 1999. He was warm and friendly and had a cutting edge in competition. *'Ar dheis De go raibh a anam.'*

Con show immense character

COACH Brian Walsh couldn't have asked for a greater response from his players in the most demanding circumstances.

Conrad O'Sullivan's untimely death touched everyone and having to play a game of such historic proportions posed obvious questions.

"They showed great strength of character. We talked about it during the week and again the night before the game.

"It's part of us and we'd bring it with us, rather than drawing a line on the sand.

"It maybe took a greater effort to get motivated, but once they got into their stride I thought they played very well.

"It could have got very emotional before the game, but we decided we'd deal with those things afterwards.

"And for a young side they did very well," he said.



MARK WOODS

Con's last couple of visits to Lansdowne ended in defeat and how they badly needed a national trophy.

"It's a big lift for the club. It's a young team which has bonded particularly very well over the last couple of weeks. I'm delighted for them. It's a great achievement.

"The danger coming into the game was that we didn't know how the team would react not having played for a month and going into the intensity of a final.

"We felt we were the underdogs coming into the final and that helped us. St Mary's were on a roll, though the Leinster Cup final last week took a bit out of them.

"We tried to avoid pressure. It wasn't a must-win situation. The team has come a long way, when you consider 10 of the side hadn't played in the first division at the start of the season."

And Con's approach reflects a change from the win-at-any-cost mentality, placing emphasis on player development and most of all, enjoyment.

"We've put in place a structure where we concentrate on skill levels, making individual players better.

"The main thing is that we want to play with smiles on our faces and we're trying to do that.

"We don't play to pattern. We give guys their heads and they enjoy it.

"I wouldn't go as far as describing as free spirit, because there's a balance between structure and free spirit. We call it a system rather than a pattern.

"We're quite happy for people to make mistakes once they learn from them and we're happy to throw the



Conrad O'Sullivan's untimely death touched everyone involved with Cork Con and his teammates showed great strength of character on Saturday to lift the inaugural All-Ireland Cup.

ball about when we get the opportunity.

"To do that the players have to take a lot of responsibility for making decisions on the park.

"They've done that throughout the season and it's shown in their rugby. And in the last couple of weeks they did it off the park as well, taking a balanced direction in relation to the game.

"There's a huge sense of relief. Everything hasn't been in vain to a certain extent and they're a very happy bunch."

Con's season is far from finished. Two more league games left and then a semi-final and maybe final, yet Walsh isn't looking too far ahead.

"We've a tough couple of games left, Trinity and Galwegians, who are fighting for their lives and we'll regard them as two finals in our attempts to be in the top four.

"If we qualify we'll probably have to travel to Clontarf or Garryowen for a semi-final and that will be tough, but we've a trophy to show for the season and that's great."

In the All Ireland League, which of course was the main competition, there were some very disappointing results for Cork Constitution during the decade. Yes they had tremendous success in the League element of it coming on top four times but unfortunately on all four occasions losing in the final of the competition at the play-off stages. Twice they went down to Shannon as well as Garryowen and Dungannon.

But everything comes to he who waits and under the captaincy of Merle O'Connell at last the League was won in 2007-08 with an 18-9 victory over Garryowen.

That match was played at Musgrave Park as Lansdowne Road was undergoing what one might call a revamp but a rebuild might be more appropriate. That victory over Garryowen was a tour de force by Jeremy Manning, a young New Zealander who was playing for Cork Constitution. He scored five penalty goals and a drop goal and that sufficed to see off the challenge of the Limerick men and it was a jubilant O'Connell who led the victory celebrations at Musgrave Park on that afternoon. The significance of this win was acknowledged by the Irish Rugby Writers who awarded the club the 'Team of the Year' trophy for 2008.

Irish Rugby Writers 'Team of The Year' Presentations



2008 - Jack O'Sullivan



2010 - Pat O'Keeffe

As the decade was drawing to its close Cork Constitution won the All- Ireland League for the fourth time in 2009-10 under the captaincy of Evan Ryan when, after topping the League stages with ten wins, a draw and three losses, they played Dolphin in the semi-final and won by 31-18. In the final they faced St. Mary's College on 8th May and won by 17-10 with tries from Jeremy Manning and Cronan Healy and conversions from Richie Lane and a penalty goal from Manning. And so it was that season that Cork Constitution were to complete a notable double, for in the A.I.B. Cup Final they were also triumphant.

In the semi-final of the cup they beat Ballymena by 18-9 and in the final defeated Garryowen 15-11 in a match that was played at Dubarry Park in Athlone. Their tries that afternoon were scored by Richie Lane and Daragh Lyons, and what a wonderful servant to Cork Constitution Lyons has been, with conversions and a penalty goal by Scott Deasy who like so many other players from the southern end of the province eventually ended up in Dublin playing

CHELTENHAM RACE DAY



Ladies examine the form



The Cheltenham Gold Cup Day 2003



Peter Good, Peter O'Leary, Rea Kennedy & Fergus Hickey



Frank O'Connor



Dave Fitzgerald, Ian O'Leary, Der O'Riordan & Alan Byrne



Enjoying The Racing



Brian Humphries & Pat O'Keeffe

for Lansdowne and that was the currency at the time with recession and everything else involved in the country.

That A.I.B. Cup and the All Ireland League double made Cork Constitution the only club in the country to have achieved such a distinction. Following the winning of the All Ireland League and Bateman Cup the club were again awarded the Irish Rugby Writers 'Team of the Year' trophy for 2010.

But what of the beloved Munster Senior Cup, a competition that holds a special place in the hearts of all Munster rugby followers and while the professional era may have diminished it in the eyes of some, it has been and I hope always will be, a coin of the highest value and certainly in Cork Constitution it is still an extremely treasured prize.

In that final of the 2008-09 cup campaign Cork Constitution under the leadership of Brendan Cutriss defeated Old Crescent at Tom Clifford Park in Limerick by 21-13 and so after a twenty year lapse the trophy was carried back again in triumph to Temple Hill.

The change to professional rugby and the introduction of the Heineken Cup and Celtic League tournaments for the provincial sides raised the standards of player welfare and facilities at club level. This resulted in putting extra financial burden on the club and the need to consider additional fundraising ideas in addition to team sponsorship and pitch side hoardings.



Car parking on the pitch



Clodagh & Erika O'Sullivan, Rose Dunne & Jack O'Riordan

Various different fundraising ideas were tried and one in particular proved a great success. The 'Cheltenham Gold Cup' function with live TV racing and a lovely lunch in the relaxed atmosphere of the Rochestown Park Hotel was started in 2003 by the then President Noel Walsh. This event has been held annually since then with the input of a number of committee members with Frank O'Connor as Chairman.

Also during the 2003/04 season the club ran a hugely successful fundraiser based on the National Lottery. Members made a subscription, some of which went directly to the club development fund and the balance went to purchase multiple National Lottery 'Quick

CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.
TOUR TO CANADA
2002



J VIGARZA, ASHERRARD, MITCHELL, DWHITE, DMURRAY, T KIERNAN, DDILLON, -
-DKEANE, RMURPHY, G WILLIAMS, EBUSTEED, DJOHNSON,
RODONOVAN, LHURLEY, D OGRADY, RMEEHAN, R MCGRATH, CMAHONY, IDOYLE, M ROSS -
-BOLEARY, GMURRAY, R WILLIAMS.
KMURPHY, RTWOMEY, UOCABAGHAN, BFITZGERALD, N WALSH, WMORRISSEY, GCANTILLON -
/HON. TREASURER / TOUR CAPTAIN, / TOUR MANAGER / PRESIDENT, / DIRECTOR OF RUGBY / COACH.
JMURRAY, SHORGAN, JOSULLIVAN.
/HON. SECRETARY



Site seeing party



Brian FitzGerald, Noel Walsh & Peter O'Leary



Pick' tickets thus giving the members a chance of winning a Jackpot share. It ran for two years and netted substantial funds for the club and a modest dividend for members but alas no Jackpot.

Other ideas which proved to be good fundraisers were the car parking on our pitches when there were concerts or big GAA matches in Pairc Ui Caoimh and the introduction Of TAG rugby on some midweek evenings during the summer months. This meant the club facilities were in use all year round and also contributed to the club finances.

To facilitate the large increase in juvenile members it was decided to sell the club gear directly to the juveniles. Initially Pat Moynihan had a 'pop-up' shop in the bar; this progressed to a shop at the end of the hall which was run by Clodagh and Erica O'Sullivan.

In line with ongoing developments in online communications the club setup a website in 2005; www.corkcon.ie The website contains general information on the club, match results, news items as well as history section. The bulk of the work to maintain the website is done by Conor Kehelly who has continued his hard work to date.

At the end of the decade the club opened a Facebook page which is linked to the website. This page is maintained by Martin O'Brien and is uploaded regularly with match results and photos of the activities in the club.

Also as a further information source for our members Pat Twomey started an electronic newsletter called the "Ezine" which he edits and issues to all members during the week of our home senior competitive games. This newsletter covers all aspects of our club actives at adult, youth and juvenile sections as well fundraising and social events.

Following the Rules revisions in 1999 the club undertook a major review of the management structure to address the new challenges raised by the changing faces of club rugby. This was completed in 2002 and it defined a new management structure, the role of the Director of Rugby and other posts such as the Chairman of the Management Committee.



San Francisco Touring Party, June 2006

The Director of Rugby was added to the list of Club Officers in 1999 and the Chairman of the Management Committee was added in 2009.

When the Heineken Cup and Celtic league competitions grew in popularity the All Ireland league lost its popularity and the attendances fell back. This and the new club management structure meant that the Club Administrator was no longer required and the role ceased in 2005.

The development of the facilities continued with the installation of match standard floodlights on the main pitch in 2002 at a cost of £174,000. Again in 2004 further works were carried out to the kitchen area which was completely refurbished and fitted out with new equipment at a cost of €100,000. While the kitchen area was subsequently demolished all the equipment was transferred to the new clubhouse which was completed in 2012.

In the 2002/03 the club tour to Canada was led by the President Noel Walsh and the Tour Captain Ultan O'Callaghan. Two matches were played, the first against the Irish Canadian Rugby Club in Toronto and the other against Montreal Olympic in Montreal. Both games were tough encounters which we eventually won but not without knowing we were up against pretty strong opposition.

There was a further club tour in September 2006 led by the President Colm Murphy, team manager Bobby Kahn and the Captain Frank Cogan. They played two matches which they won easily, the first game was against the Orange County Bucks near Los Angeles and the other against Club Olympic in San Francisco.

During the course of the decade there were two major ground developments. Lansdowne Road was knocked down and rebuilt in the second half of the decade while Thomond Park was also reconstructed with the capacity now of 26,000 people. The rugby internationals were moved to Croke Park something that could hardly have been envisaged in the not so long ago. Croke Park proved a popular venue and was packed to capacity for all those matches that Ireland played



Frankie Sheahan, John Kelly, Fred Casey & Ronan O'Gara

not alone in the Six Nations but against the southern hemisphere countries and there were some notable victories.

Turning to Munster the Celtic League was won three times. The Celtic Cup was also won. But the Holy Grail was really the Heineken Cup. Twice Munster lost the finals in 2000 at Twickenham to Northampton by a point and then in 2002 they lost to Leicester at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff.

That Munster team was managed by Jerry Holland who gave outstanding service to the province and how well Cork Constitution were represented when at last in 2006 at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff Munster beat Biarritz to take the trophy home under the captaincy of the late Anthony Foley.

Now the Munster and Ireland half back combination was Ronan O'Gara and Peter Stringer. O'Gara had helped Cork Constitution to win the All-Ireland League against Garryowen in the previous decade, while Stringer was never attached to Cork Constitution as a senior player he had served his apprenticeship as a youngster under the guidance of Fred Casey along with O'Gara and that promising partnership, that helped to win a competition in Europe when they were no more than children, was now to come to full fruition for Munster and for Ireland.

In that Heineken Cup final played on 20th May 2006 in Cardiff Munster triumphed by 23-19. Anthony Horgan and John Kelly were in the back line along with Ronan O'Gara and Peter Stringer while Denis Leamy, Donncha O'Callaghan and Mick O'Driscoll were all in that Munster team under Jerry Holland as Manager. That was a great contribution from the Cork Constitution Club. Frankie Sheahan, a hooker of international quality unfortunately got an injury early in the season which ruled him out but Denis Fogarty another Cork Constitution man was on the bench and sub hooker.

The following season Munster went out at the quarter final stages but in 2008 once again in Cardiff Munster returned to the top of the European scene when Ronan O'Gara, Donncha O'Callaghan and Denis Leamy again starred for Munster and Frankie Sheahan also picked up a medal.

Under the captaincy of Paul O'Connell Munster beat Toulouse 16-13 and in that Munster side Ronan O'Gara was partnered by Tomas O'Leary, another player who initially saw service with Cork Constitution. O'Callaghan was also there as indeed were Mick O'Driscoll and Denis Leamy while Denis Hurley was at full back. Leamy scored a try, O'Gara converted it and he kicked three penalty goals so Munster were European Champions for the second time in the space of three years. Enthusiasm for the game and the province was at an all time high particularly in the representative arena.

The All Blacks played Munster for the official opening of the new Thomond Park stadium in 2008. Munster lost narrowly in an absorbing contest to a late score by 18-16. Again the club were well represented with Frank Sheahan, Tim Ryan, Mick O'Driscoll, Denis Leamy, Denis Fogarty, Billy Holland and Jeremy Manning all playing on the night.

In 2010 Australia again visited, this time they played Munster in Limerick. The match which was played in very wet conditions was won by Munster by 15-6. The club players who played that night were Denis Hurley, Duncan Williams, Billy Holland, Ian Nagle, Peter O'Mahony, Stephan Archer, Brian Hayes and Scott Deasy.

Donal Lenihan was manager of the Lions team that toured Australia in 2001 and was accompanied by another member, Pat O'Keeffe as Baggage Master.

Ronan O'Gara made his first Lions tour in company with his Cork Constitution club mate as manager while O'Gara was also to go to New Zealand in 2005 and South Africa in 2009. Thus he became the first Cork Constitution player to go on three Lions tours as a player. O'Callaghan joined him on the tour to New Zealand in 2005 while he was also on the South Africa tour in 2009.

Three times during that opening decade Ireland won the Triple Crown in 2004, 2006 and 2007 and were extremely unfortunate that they didn't add a Grand Slam to that.

But that great day was at hand in 2009 and once again in Cardiff Ireland for the second time in their history won the Grand Slam with O'Gara dropping the crucial goal that saw off the Welsh in the decisive match and so for the first time since 1948 Ireland had won a Grand Slam. O'Gara was central to their triumph and O'Leary at scrum half was replaced before the end of the game by Stringer and it was Stringer's pass to O'Gara that enabled the out half to drop the crucial goal. Donncha O'Callaghan was also in that team while Mick O'Driscoll was in the panel so, just as Cork Constitution had been represented by JC Daly in the 1948 Grand Slam team, the ongoing contribution was once more evident with three representatives when the final whistle blew that afternoon.

During the course of that decade Frankie Sheahan, Mick O'Driscoll, John Kelly, Donncha O'Callaghan, Anthony Horgan, Denis Leamy and Denis Hurley were all recognised with international caps to add to the distinguished list of so many great Irish internationals that came out of the club going back to Edward McCarthy in 1898.

While the professional game was developing it was decided to hold Club International games for amateur club players. The first Constitution player to be honoured was Frank Cogan with Merle O'Connell, Cronan Healy, Shane O'Connor, Des Murray, Evan Ryan and Martin Gately also honoured before the end of the decade.

Club members to the fore in running the Munster Branch were Jerry Murray as President of the Munster Branch for the 2000-01 season and Garrett Fitzgerald who continued as Chief Executive of Munster Rugby to which he was appointed in 1999.

INSIDE THE RAIL



Mick O'Driscoll



Ulta O'Callaghan, Jim Williams & Ian Murray



Donncha O'Callaghan



John Kelly



Ronan O'Gara



Derek Dillon, Frankie Sheahan, John O'Driscoll & Brian O'Meara



Cian Mahony



Pat McCarthy & Ultan O'Callaghan



Brian O'Meara



Conor Mahony



Marty Morrissey & Ian Doyle



Team flight to Belfast in 2006



Brian Walsh



Tom McLaughlin, Frank Doyle & Terry Dillon



Shane O'Connor



Denis Hurley



Garret Murray



Cronan Healy, Anthony Horgan & Tom Gleeson



Billy Holland



Richard Lane



Frank Cogan & Duncan Williams



Pat O'Keeffe, Garret Murray & Tom Cahill



Conrad O'Sullivan



Daragh Lyons



Jeremy Manning



Denis Fogarty & Tim Ryan



Anthony Horgan



Gordon McKnight & Mrs. Dennehy



Frank Murphy



Mike Ross



Frank Cogan



Scott Deasy



John Ryan



Ian Nagle

OUTSIDE THE RAIL



Dave Murphy & Landy Hill



Brian Ludgate, Colm Murphy, Michael Daly & John Sullivan



Tom Lynch & Noel Walsh



Jackie Crowley, Flor O'Leary & Brian Wain



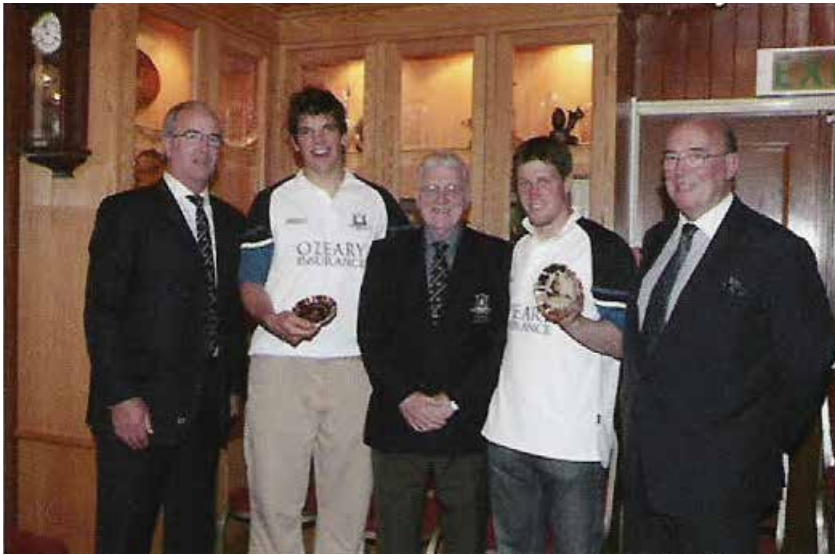
Pat O'Keeffe



John Gillane, Wally Morrissey, Michael O'Gorman & George O'Connell



AIL Winning Presidents; Anthony Horgan, Jack O'Sullivan & Jim Murphy



Anthony O'Leary, Donncha O'Callaghan, Brian Wain, Ronan O'Gara & Archie O'Leary



Rose Dunne & Eddie Kehelly



Minor Dinner Group



Stan Waldron



Frank O'Connell, Michael Daly & Colm Murphy



Tom Kiernan, Ian Doyle, Liam Hurley, John O'Driscoll & Robert Casey



J4 Cup Presentation, Eric Wise & Noel Murphy



Kevin Flanagan



Frank Doyle & Fred Casey



Noel Walsh, Joe Casey & Mark Connelly



Colin Kilbride, Charlie Murphy, Rea Kennedy & Adrian Murphy



Liam Coughlan & Dan O'Connell



Dave Power, Der O'Riordan & Kevin Waters



Pat O'Keeffe, Ralph Keyes, Michael Barron & Donal Grogan



Tom Kiernan & Jerry Murray



Group at J2 Cup Final 2007



Donal Lenihan & Hugh O'Donovan



Santa with small children



Billy & Jerry Holland



Frank Cogan, Brian Whooley, Brian Walsh & Terry Kingston



John Curtin & Brian Ludgate



Michael Daly, Owen O'Callaghan & Landy Hill



Billy Dowling, Jerry Murray, Robert Kennedy & Archie O'Leary



Santa with a bigger kid!



Critical viewing!



Rose Dunne - Saturday Morning



Dixie Whelan



Aidan Barry, Ray Clarke, Pat Desmond, Shane Horgan & Frank Slater



Jerry Murray, Val O'Mahony & Charlie Murphy



Cork Con stalwart Trevor Barry whose death deprived his friends of a character with special communication skills.

Friends pay fulsome tribute to the loyal and colourful Trevor Barry

OBITUARY

THE recent death of Trevor Barry will be greeted with immense regret, not just in Cork or Munster but throughout the country.

He was a great character, a marvellous communicator and a special friend to people of all ages throughout the length and breadth of Ireland.

He was born and reared on the College Road opposite the Bon Secours Hospital where he finally passed away on Sunday, May 20.

He was formally educated at PBC but it was the lessons that he learned from an early age as a cattle dealer that honed his marvellous communication skills which set him apart in any gathering.

Trevor won six Munster Junior Cup medals with Cork Constitution as well as two Senior Cup medals. These achievements could stand alone but they really do not tell you anything about his charm, wit and loyalty. He was in fact one of the most loyal members of Cork Constitution and, in the few days before he died, he was constantly asking his friends if they thought they would beat Young Munster in the semi-final. Con did not leave Trevor down in the same way as Trevor

never left them down in his long career both as a player and committee member. As a rugby fan, he travelled with his close friends all over the world following Ireland. He was on tour in Japan, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, Hong Kong. He was a great Munster supporter and he was great company to be with on all those outings. Stories of these tours are legendary, always laced with Trevor's great humour.

He was diagnosed with cancer eight months ago and, whilst the prognosis was never good, he fought each day as if it was his last five yard scrum for Con. He made it very easy for all his friends to visit him in hospital because he talked openly about his illness. He kept his humour as best he could until the end.

Trevor leaves a wife, Wendy, and young son Robert.

Trevor's life changed when he met Wendy after an All game in Dublin. His happiness with life was now complete. They got married two years after meeting and moved to Fountainstown. We all spent many days on his lovely boat which coin-

identally was named Skibbereen after one of his favourite marts. Trevor married later in life than many of his friends and it was we who were the beneficiaries of that. He had a marvellous relationship with all our children and all these children attended his funeral ceremonies not because of their parents but because they loved him.

Typical of Trevor, he asked us to give him a good send off in one of his favourite places, Bunynyconellan, looking out to sea. We did not leave him down and all the memories that were spoken off that night were spoken with great loyalty, charm and the celebration of a life that touched so many people in Ireland.

When Trevor was under pressure in any situation, he always cut the cord by saying "it will be alright". For Wendy, it will never be the same but his friends will now keep an eye out for his family not just because it is our duty, which it is, but because the time has come for us to repay Trevor for all the lovely things he did for all our families over many, many years.

May he rest in peace

Trevor's Friends.



Pat Connolly, Mick Leahy, Pat Mulcahy, Ross O'Dowling, Peadar Comerford & Barry Leahy



Pat Twomey, Mike O'Brien, Shane Horgan & Kieran Barry



Sean O'Sullivan, Eddie O'Connor & Declan Scott



Kenny Murphy, Billy Dowling & Bertie Smith



*Liam Casey, Kevin Flanagan, Pat Moynihan
& Hugh Foley*



*Jack O'Sullivan, Michael Daly, Charlie Hill, Ian O'Leary,
& Jimmy Bowen*



*Stephen Hayes, Finian O'Driscoll, Robert Casey,
Maurice Kearney & John Lenihan*



City Hall Reception 2010 with Lord Mayor, Cllr. Mick O'Connell

NORTH TERRACE
FAN ZONE



CHAPTER VII

BATEMAN AND MUNSTER CUP GLORY

The initial stages of the second decade of the new millennium once again saw Cork Constitution play a prominent role in the All Ireland League. Cork Constitution headed up the League section on the 2010-11 season with 47 points with Old Belvedere in second place and Young Munster and St Mary's College also qualified for the semi-finals. Old Belvedere saw off St Mary's 22-20 in one and Cork Constitution beat Young Munster 19-9 on 11th April 2011. The final was fixed for Donnybrook on May 1st and Cork Constitution went into that match as warm favourites. However things just didn't work out and on a day when chances were missed, Old Belvedere prevailed by 20-17.

The Munster Junior Cup was won in 2011-12 when Peter O'Sullivan led the team to victory. It was the eighteenth time the club had won the Munster Junior cup, a striking testimony to the strength in depth in the club throughout the years.

The Fraser McMullen Cup which was essentially the All Ireland under-20 championship was also won in 2013-14 & 2015-16.

When the IRFU decided to revive the old Bateman Cup in 2011 it gave new impetus to the club scene. That competition was originally started in 1922 when the four provincial cup winners would meet to decide what was in essence the Irish Championship. Cork Constitution actually contested the first final in 1922 when they lost 6-5 to Lansdowne, ten years later they also reached the final but lost comprehensively to Queen's University. That competition continued until 1939 when war called a halt. Then after the long absence came the revival in 2011 and unprecedented glory was on hand for Cork Constitution.

The final of the Munster Senior Cup 2012-13 was played at the Mardyke and brought Cork Constitution against UL Bohemians. It was fifty years since the last Munster Senior Cup final was contested at that famous old ground on the banks of the Lee and that final for excitement and drama lived up to many of the epic battles that had taken place through the years at the Mardyke.

With the game into injury time Constitution trailed but a try by Niall O'Driscoll proved decisive and saw Cork Constitution prevail in the most dramatic fashion with a 15-14 victory. If it was heartbreak for UL Bohemians it was the very opposite for Cork Constitution who were now into the Bateman Cup semi-final.

That injury time try scored by O'Driscoll was the second of two tries he scored in that game while Johnny Holland scored a penalty and a conversion.

In the semi-final of the Bateman Cup Cork Constitution beat Ballymena by 20-13 and so opened the way for the final which was played against St. Mary's College at Templeville Road.

In the Bateman Cup Final first half tries by Robert Clune and Scott Deasy, a conversion by Johnny Holland together with three penalties and a drop goal saw Constitution home. They led by 21-9 at half time but in the second half had to withstand a tremendous rally by St Mary's to cut the deficit but Cork Constitution prevailed to win the Bateman Cup for the first time.



Johnny Holland receiving Young Player of the Year Trophy

If the Munster Senior Cup Final of 2012-13 could be said to have been dramatic it almost paled into insignificance by what happened in the final of 2013-14 when Constitution met their great old rivals Garryowen at Thomond Park.

Played in the most difficult of conditions, with the game well into injury time the score was level at six points each and under the rules of the competition had it remained so Garryowen would have won having scored the first points.

But full back Chris Quinn was handed the task with a 30 metre penalty from an acute angle and with unerring accuracy and a cool nerve duly slotted the points over the bar to give Constitution a magnificent victory and leave Garryowen to rue what might have been.

Cork Constitution were in the Bateman Cup final once again that season. They had an easy 46 –14 win over Queen's University in the semi-final and the final was fixed for Temple Hill with UCD the opposition.

With Daragh Lyons and the inspirational skipper Gerry Hurley outstanding, Constitution built a 10-6 half time lead, with a try from Lyons, converted by Hurley who also kicked a penalty. In the second half Hurley added three more penalties and the UCD challenge was well and truly broken before the cup was handed to Gerry Hurley. Thus Hurley had the distinction of having captained Cork Constitution to win the Munster Senior Cup and now to successive wins in the Bateman Cup. Two in a row and further glory beckoned.

Cork Constitution set out on the trail in the 2014-15 Munster Senior Cup the following season seeking three in a row and remarkably that had not been achieved for over a century.

The mission was duly accomplished when at Musgrave Park once again Cork Constitution beat Garryowen by 26-22. Rob Jermyn scored two tries to give Constitution a good start and they led 13-6 at half time. Tomás Quinlan was outstanding in that game and the three in a row in the Munster Senior Cup meant that a similar achievement in the Bateman Cup was now at stake for the club.

In the semi-final of the Bateman Cup Constitution saw off the challenge of Buccaneers with a 36-25 point win and so it was Clontarf's turn to face the Cork club in a match that took place at Temple Hill before the faithful.

Constitution led 14-9 at the interval with tries from Luke Cahill and James Ryan, both converted by Daragh Lyons. In the second half Lyons once more demonstrated his capabilities with a drop goal and the scoring was finished off with a try converted by Tomás Quinlan to give the club a most worthy 24-9 win.

Three in a row in the Bateman Cup had only once before been achieved and that was by Lansdowne over eighty years previously. That was a measure of Cork Constitution's achievement.

Gerry Hurley who had served the club so brilliantly left for pastures new prior to the 2015-16 season. Hurley who played his early rugby with Garryowen was an outstanding player for Constitution and his record of three successive Munster Senior Cups and Bateman Cups is going to take some beating. The captaincy for the ensuing season was taken over by another club stalwart James Ryan.

In the 2015-16 Bateman Cup competition Constitution readily saw off UCD in the semi-final and so made the trip to Galwegians seeking four in a row. They didn't disappoint beating the Galway side by 38-19, it was the first time in history that any club had won the Bateman Cup four years in succession. Constitution made a good start against a lively Galwegians side and led 20-12 at half time.

Tomás Quinlan stretched the lead with a penalty leaving Galwegians with a 14 point deficit but to their great credit they fought back and eventually trailed 26-19.

But it was Cork Constitution who finished the stronger as Galwegians paid the price for some infringements including a yellow card and the Cork men capitalised on that. The Constitution tries came from Ryan Foley (two) Shane Daly and Max Abbott, Tomás Quinlan kicked three penalty goals and two conversions for a very significant contribution.

It should be noted that the four Batemen Cup successes were achieved with Kenny Murphy as Team Manager but under four different coaching teams. The following players were involved in all four winning squads – James Ryan, Daragh Lyons, Cathal O'Flaherty & Graeme Lawler.

That same weekend the Cork club faced Young Munster in the final of the Junior Cup at Musgrave Park but unfortunately came up short as the Limerick side scored a worthy victory which was some compensation for the fact that they had lost to Constitution in the semi-final of the All Ireland league.

It was Young Munster again who faced Constitution in the final of the Munster Senior Cup at Thomond Park.

That victory in the Munster Senior Cup came after Constitution had been beaten by Clontarf by 28-25 in the All-Ireland League Final at the Aviva Stadium. The Dublin side who had won the trophy for the first time in 2013-14 had lost the final the previous season. This victory made ample amends for that setback. Constitution trailed by 21-3 at the interval with their only score coming from a Quinlan penalty.

True to tradition the Cork club made a spirited fight back in the second half with a try by Max Abbott converted by Tomás Quinlan and another penalty goal saw the club cut the deficit to 21-13. Clontarf added another seven points leaving the Cork men with a mountain to climb. They continued to fight on with Rob Jermyn and Darren Sweetnam scoring a try each and Tomás Quinlan converting one of these to leave the club trailing by just three points. That however was as close as Constitution came to adding the All Ireland League title to its long list of honours that season.



Munster Club of the Year Award. Michael Daly receiving the award from Simon Zebo & Bertie Smith

Constitution's achievements in winning three of five provincial or national finals was highly significant. Thus the end of the season as the Cork club approached its one hundred and twenty-fifth year was marked by an achievement of considerable merit. This was acknowledged by the Munster Branch in awarding the 'Club of the Year' award to Cork Constitution.

Following the investment in the new club facilities the club had to again think of new fundraising ideas. A group of members lead by Peter O'Leary came up with a novel idea which proved very successful. In 2015 the club started 'Strictly Con Dancing' based on a popular TV programme. This involved some players, older members and friends practising dance routines for a few months before the show night. The show was held before a full house in the Rochestown Park Hotel. Due to the great success of the show it was held again in 2016 with a new cast, again it was a great success.

STRICTLY CON DANCING



*Organising Committee 2015
Michael Boland, Pat O'Keeffe, Gillian O'Leary, Peter O'Leary,
Declan McGinn, Fiona Burke, Brendan Hyde & Paula Good*



BUSINESS OF SPORT LUNCH



Donal Lenihan, Kenny Murphy & Peter O'Mahony



Joe Schmidt & Peter Good



Full to the brim!



Noel Murphy & Joe Schmidt

Also in 2015 Anthony O'Leary developed his idea to get further use of the facilities and organised a 'Business of Sport' lunch in the clubhouse. The new clubhouse was full to capacity with 282 guests who were treated to a top class lunch while they watched the Irish coach Joe Schmidt being interviewed by Donal Lenihan.

On the international front Ireland won back to back Six Nations Championships in 2014 and 2015 and two club players were central to that success in Peter O'Mahony and Simon Zebo while Zebo had added further distinction to the list of representative honours that have been won by the club when he was selected to travel on the Lions Tour to Australia in 2013.

The World Cup last season was a singular disappointment to Ireland who reached the quarter final stages readily enough but fell to defeat against Argentina, yet again failing to qualify for the semi-final of the tournament.

In addition to O'Mahony and Zebo, both capped first for Ireland in 2012, another name was added to the club's list of internationals players with Stephen Archer being selected for Ireland that same year.



U20 Players with the Lord Mayor Cllr. Des Cahill & Club Officials

The Club Internationals continued for the amateur players and Gerry Hurley, Cathal Quinn, Philip Donnelan, Darragh Lyons, Andy O’Driscoll, Willie Ryan, James Ryan, Ger Sweeney and Max Abbott were selected for the Irish club side.

In 2016 an Irish men’s team defeated an All Blacks team for the first time by 33-24. This was at the Under 20 World Cup and club players Shane Daly, Vincent O’Brien and Evan Mintern were part of that Irish team.

Off the field club members continued to play a major role in the administration of the game with Bertie Smith as President of the Munster Branch in the 2015-16 season. During this period Garrett Fitzgerald continued as Chief Executive of Munster Rugby.

Before the start of the “Quasiquicentennial” which is the 125th anniversary season the club went on a short tour to Newfoundland and Montreal in Canada. The tour was led by the President Jerry Holland, managed by Ian O’Leary and Brian Humphries with the Captain Niall Kenneally. The squad included a number of young players as some of our more senior players involved with Munster were not available to travel.

Our first match was against Swilers Rugby Club in St John’s. Despite losing by 12-5 at halftime we eventually won by 29-19. In this match six young players made their senior debuts. Our other match was against Ontario Blues outside Montreal. The match was billed as Canadian Champions versus Irish Champions as they were the five time Canadian Rugby Champions and we were Bateman Cup holders. The Blues proved to be very tough opposition and we lost a very tight game by 2 points. After the match the Ontario Blues were presented with the Mac Tier Cup for their Championship win by the Al Charron the much capped Canadian international.

TOUR TO CANADA 2016



Tour Party



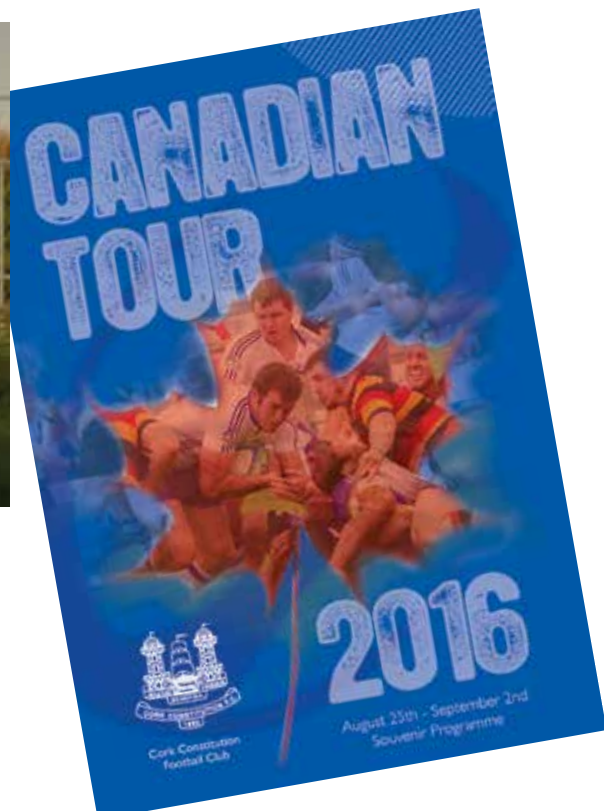
Jack McHenry, Jason Higgins, Tomás Quinlan & Ger Sweeney



Packing Down in Montreal



Sonny Dwyer



INSIDE THE RAIL



Brendan Cutriss, Simon Zebo, Des Murray & Duncan Williams



Daragh Lyons



Brendan Cutriss & Merle O'Connell



Evan Ryan & Tom Gleeson



Dave Hayes, Shane Thornhill, Eddie Quinn, Darren O'Connell, Cian Parks, Simon Barry, Doug Abbott, & Cormac Doherty



Peter O'Mahony



Cormac Fouhey



Ger Sweeney, Andy O'Driscoll & James Ryan



Darren O'Connell, Cormac Fouhey & Cian Parkes



Ryan Foley, Niall Kenneally & Max Abbott



Rory Burke



Gerry Hurley



Conor Kindregan, Luke Cahill, James Ryan & John Poland



Max Abbott & Tomás Quinlan



Brian Hayes



Shane Daly



Darren Sweetnam



Award for Tom Tierney - Coach



Brian Hickey



Paul McCarthy



Don Mullins



Graeme Lawler, Rob Jermyn, Brian Hayes, Niall Kenneally & John Poland



Frank Cogan & Ivan Dineen



Michael & Ralph Keyes



Peter & John O'Mahony



Niall Kenneally, James Ryan, Rob Jermyn & Liam O'Connell



Niall Kenneally, Luke Cahill, James Murphy & Gerry Hurley



Brendan Cutriss, Billy Holland, Robert Quinn, Stephen Archer & Brian Hayes



Mick O'Driscoll, Denis Leamy & Donncha O'Callaghan



Cathal O'Flaherty & Simon Zebo



Gerry Hurley & Darragh Hurley



Stephen Archer, Robert Quinn, Martin Gately & pack



Peter O'Mahony, Cronan Healy & Evan Ryan

OUTSIDE THE RAIL



Greg Barnett, Pat Sheehan & Rory Horgan



Paul Derham, Liam Hurley & Brian Humphries



Anthony O'Leary & Jim Murphy



Jack O'Sullivan, Jim Murphy, Tony Roche & Tom Kiernan



Stan Waldron



John O'Mahony & Ian O'Leary



Finian O'Driscoll, Stephen Murphy & Colin Kilbride



Critical Observers



Ian Mitchell



Padraig Higgins



Pat Moynihan & Aidan McNamara



Lord Mayor Cllr. Mary Shields with Club Officials



*John Lynch, Phil O'Sullivan, Tom Mangan
& Mark O'Sullivan*



Brian Jones, Barry Jones, & John Murphy



Jimmy Bowen, Pat Mulcahy & Finian O'Driscoll



Pat Twomey, Tony O'Connor & Finian O'Driscoll



Finian O'Driscoll & Kevin Minihan



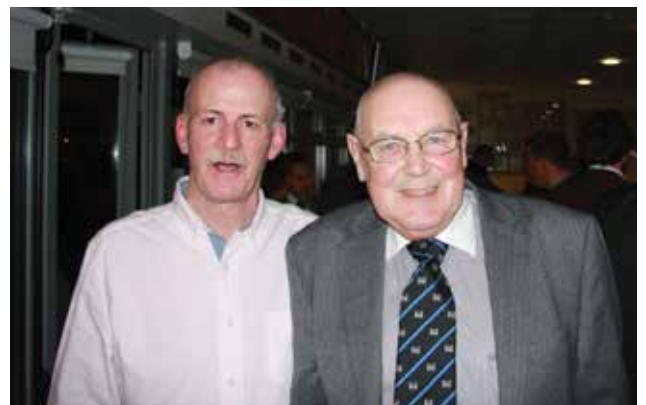
Dermot O'Leary & Der O'Riordan



Kevin Murphy-O'Connor presenting his father's club cap to Der O'Riordan



Liam Coughlan & Charlie Hill



Martin O'Brien & Dan O'Connell



Fundraising for CUH



Fiona Burke & Jim Murphy



Moss Finn



Dermot O'Leary



O'Riordan brothers James, Der & Don



Aidan McNamara



Brian FitzGerald, Der O'Riordan & Michael Boland



Frank Daly, John Murphy, Gary Duffly, Colm Murphy & Landy Hill



Paul Derham, Ian O'Leary, Don O'Riordan & Conor Clune



Kevin Clarke, Tom Cahill, Kieran McDermott



Jimmy Holmes



Jim Murphy, Pat Twomey & Bernie O'Shaughnessy

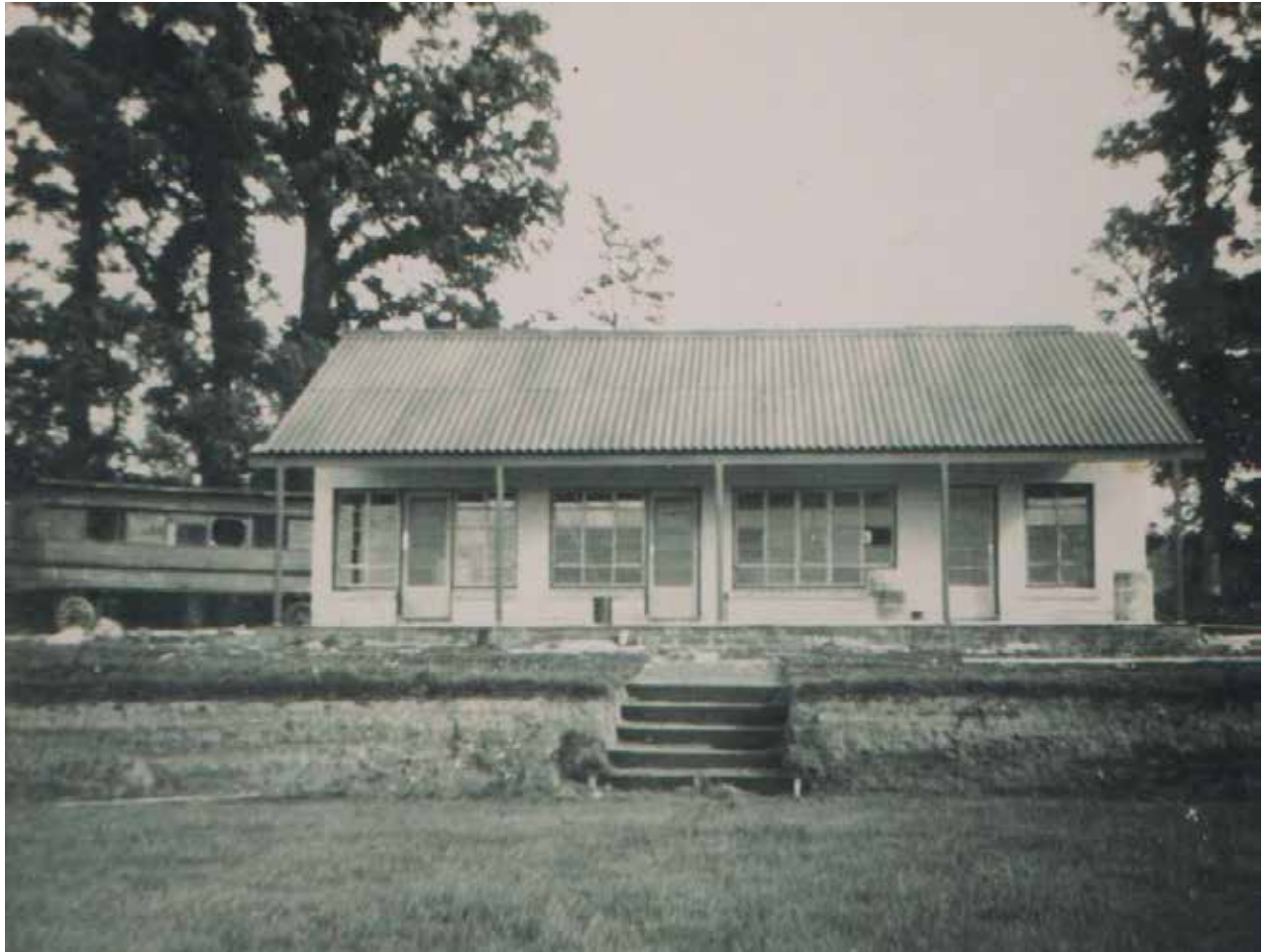


U14 Coaches with Doug Howlett



Conor Kindregan & Joe Schmidt

CHAPTER VIII TEMPLE HILL



c.1953

When Temple Hill was acquired by the club and officially opened in September 1953, it could be said that the facilities were basic. By comparison with today, some might say Spartan but let it be recorded that those facilities were of their time in accordance with what prevailed on the day.

Through the years the site at Temple Hill has undergone major change. Two pitches were laid out, the Dan O'Connell stand was constructed on the Ballinlough side of the ground, terracing was built and, more recently in 2001, flood lights installed. The Temple Hill ground is now a striking tribute to the club and to those who through the years have run it.

The splendid clubhouse that now stands on the grounds, the superbly equipped gymnasium and dressing rooms are also very different to long ago.

But they are a tribute to those who have worked hard to put in place the facilities that would now stand among the very best that any club has in this country or indeed well beyond the shores of this land.

The original clubhouse was, through the years, expanded as the facilities improved and they were adequate for their time and suited the need. But the desire was there to make things better and the burning ambition of so many dedicated people in Cork Constitution now sees a grounds and clubhouse, gymnasium and dressing rooms that are probably the envy of many of the club's rivals.

In the late 1990's the Club was bursting at the seams with players at all levels and experiencing a chronic lack of playing pitches to accommodate the numbers. The Club installed floodlighting in 2000-1 and having completed that project started to look at how it could resolve the lack of playing pitches. One of the solutions was to install an all-weather surface either on the main pitch or a secondary pitch. The Club established a committee, with Greg Barrett as Chairman, to look into the matter and also processed a lottery grant application to assist financially. When the figures were finalised it quickly became apparent that the gap between the budget cost and the club's funds of grant money, own resources and an affordable bank loan, was too great.

It was decided to investigate if there were alternative ways to resolve the pitch problem and the Club quickly came to the conclusion that it needed more ground. Options considered to achieve this were

1. Locate land to purchase and develop using its own finances in conjunction with Temple Hill
2. Locate land and open discussions with a developer with a view to selling Temple Hill and moving to a new location.

The club decided to initially find suitable alternative grounds before contacting a developer. Having considered the demographic profile of the Club membership it was obvious that the main body of members lived on the South side of the City and predominantly in the South East corner. This provided a guide to establishing potential locations and eventually a ground at Ballyorban was identified.

A meeting of the Trustees with Greg Barrett then decided to investigate the possible purchase and development of this site and established a committee of Tommy Kiernan, Michael Daly and Greg Barrett. Having established that the farmland was for sale the committee then approached developers and three offers were received. The offers were considered in detail and it was decided to progress the proposition with O'Callaghan Properties (OCP).

After many meetings with both the Trustees and OCP a draft contract was drawn up so that the proposition could be put to the membership for consideration. It was proposed that OCP would purchase the farmland and then sell it to the club as part of a deal to sell Temple Hill to OCP, all subject to planning permission being granted for the development at Ballyorban and rezoning of the Temple Hill grounds.

The membership then considered the proposition in January 2007 and decided by a large majority to accept the offer and move to Ballyorban. The new location in Ballyorban would provide a clubhouse with all modern facilities and playing pitches.

The Developer then applied to Cork County Council for planning permission to construct the Ballyorban facility; this was granted in 2008 following an appeal to An Bord Pleanala by a local property owner. OCP also applied to Cork City Council to have Temple Hill rezoned for residential and commercial use but this was refused. And so this situation took on a new meaning as without the rezoning there could be no major redevelopments at Temple Hill and no move to Ballyorban where the new facilities would have embraced every possible modern amenity.

From 2008-11 a club committee of Greg Barrett, Brian Ludgate, Donal Lenihan and Michael Daly (Chairman) in conjunction with OCP considered various schemes for the redevelopment of Temple Hill. It was decided that a new single storey clubhouse would be built with a new gym and additional dressing room facilities. In late 2011 work started on the new clubhouse and the committee was joined by Stephen Murphy and Charlie Murphy for the design and construction work.

“That committee did a superb job for the club and the facilities that now exist at Temple Hill are not alone a tribute to the commitment of our members but of the work performed by that committee. Mick Daly was a superb chairman and was meticulous in everything that that committee did and we owe them all, as we owe the members, a great debt of gratitude”, said current president Jerry Holland.



Contract Signing

Back Row: Jack O'Sullivan, Niell Fitzgerald, Michael Lucey & Kevin Hennessy

Front Row: Peter Heffernan, Brian Humphries, Tom O'Donovan, & Michael Daly

Invitations to tender for the construction works were issued in 2011 and the contract with the successful bidder was signed by the President Brian Humphries later that year. The reconstruction really consisted of a few phases. While the first phase work on the new clubhouse was being undertaken the old bar, function hall and dressing rooms were maintained so the day-to-day work of the club could continue. The new clubhouse facilities included a Presidents bar, a members bar and a large function hall as well as a kitchen, toilets, cold room, office and shop. The shop was transferred from the old hall and continues to provide club gear mainly for the juvenile members. Clodagh and Erika O'Sullivan have continued to manage the shop in the new clubhouse.

In 2012 the clubhouse was completed and opened in August to allow phase two work to proceed; these were finished in late 2012. The development was opened in February 2013 by the IRFU President Mr Billy Glynn and the Club President Mr Finian O’Driscoll on the occasion of an Ireland v England club international match. The final phase of refurbishing the existing dressing rooms and fitting out of the new gym and new dressing rooms was then commenced and completed in 2013.



Lillian Crowley chatting with John Gillane in the old bar



Ladies at the first night of the new bar

A tribute to the new facilities was that the IRFU subsequently requested the club to host the club international matches against Scotland in 2014 & 2016.

Now as one enters the gates of Temple Hill it is incredible to look at the new clubhouse, the gym and dressing room facilities. How brilliantly the members rallied to the cause to raise the necessary finance. The total cost of the work on the Clubhouse, Dressing rooms and Gym was about €1,500,000. There were two grants obtained from the national lottery, but the committee



New layout of gym, car park & clubhouse

also raised well in excess of €100,000 from the club members and that certainly was a striking commitment to their dedication to the cause of Cork Constitution Football Club. The money from the national lottery, the contribution of the members and the support of the developer still left a shortfall but, as of now, a very small debt for the extensive work completed.

In 2016 the club again invested in the facilities with the refurbishment and upgrading of the floodlights in Temple Hill at a cost of €170,000. The club now has match standard lighting on two pitches. Again the club received support from the national lottery for this work.

The development work in Temple Hill didn't solve the problem of the lack of pitch space. The club sought and was granted the use of a pitch in the Mahon area of Cork City Council. The pitch, while mostly used by the Youth teams, has been of great benefit to the club. In 2016 the City Council approved the granting of a 99 year sporting lease to the club on the pitch.

Temple Hill, as currently constituted, bears no resemblance to the site that was there in 1953. But it must be stated that then, as now, the members of the club were not found wanting when it came to coming to the aid of the club and making sure that the facilities would be there to provide every modern amenity for the current generation of players and members and that certainly is the case. Any visitor to Temple Hill is immediately struck by the outstanding facilities that now obtain at the ground and they are a wonderful tribute to all concerned.



Clubhouse & Hall c.1960



Refurbished Juvenile Dressing Rooms c.2000



Hall Extension



New Clubhouse 2013



Stephen Murphy, Greg Barrett, Brian Humpries, Billy Glynn, Michael Daly, Brian Ludgate, Finian O'Driscoll, Donal Lenihan & Charlie Murphy

OFFICIAL OPENING NIGHT



Club President Finian O'Driscoll with IRFU President Billy Glynn cutting the tape



Bishop Paul Colton & Bishop John Buckley



Club President Finian O'Driscoll



Lord Mayor Cllr. John Buttiner



General attendance



Ladies group

CHAPTER IX IN CONCLUSION

Any club or institution that could survive and prosper over a period of 125 years must have a great amount to commend it. In this respect, Constitution has been singularly fortunate in the commitment of so many people in so many different capacities through the years. The Ladies Committee that for so long did sterling work for the club could really be said to have been established even before Constitution moved to Temple Hill all those years ago. Then when the club moved to Temple Hill, as the facilities improved, the Ladies Committee did an admirable job in providing lunch and refreshments for visiting teams. Due tribute was paid to the Ladies Committee and those individual members when the history of the first 100 years was written 25 years ago, but it would be remiss not to commend them again for all that they did for the club.

We live in a different era now and of course the facilities that are provided at the club are such that visiting teams are entertained to lunch and the committee in that respect does sterling work for Cork Constitution.

Turning to another element of the club that is the all-important youth system and how brilliantly Cork Constitution has been served in this respect by so many. One has to mention, in particular, Fred Casey. Fred's contribution, for the better part of half a century, to the development of young players in the club has been extremely beneficial to Cork Constitution and indeed to those youngsters who were fortunate enough to come under his guidance.

The popularity of the Juvenile section continued to grow and at one time there were close to 500 young players. To cater for this the Director of Rugby role was divided and Assistant Directors of Rugby were appointed in 2010 for both the Juvenile and Youth sections. These roles were filled initially by two long term club stalwarts Peter Good and Kevin Flanagan, followed by Kevin Fielding and Des Murphy in the Juvenile role with Ray Clarke in the Youth role. Another person who has played a major role in the managing of the Juvenile section is the membership administrator Rose Dunne; Rose deserves great credit for the manner in which she has won the respect of all the members, the kids and their parents over the last 30 years.

Now, the structure is such that in the juvenile section all groups from U6s to U13s have coaches overseeing them. While in the youth section, the U18s, U16s & U14s are equally well served.

Nor can one forget the people who have coached the various teams from the first XV right through the whole structure of the club. Once more, Cork Constitution has been splendidly served by so many great coaches in the different strands of the club. The structure of the club, as constituted at the moment, bears no resemblance to those long ago days when the founding fathers established what has become a wonderful sporting institution in the city of Cork. Now

there are subcommittees for rugby, for the bar, for the grounds, for the clubhouse, for special events, for sponsorship, for lunches, for the Cork Constitution Ezine, for the club shop and for the website and how well those people who are members of those committees serve the club.

Obviously, the first XV will always be the shop window for any club but the amount of work done in the lower structures for all the different teams is brilliantly illustrated by the level of success that has been attained by these teams below the level of the first XV.

Now, as the founding fathers look down from the Elysian Fields upon Temple Hill and the marvellous facilities that are there, I have no doubt that they will certainly say that those who have inherited what they founded most certainly kept Cork Constitution at the forefront of the game and embellished a wonderful tradition.

The erosion of the amateur ethic presented a challenge to all involved in the game that has been met so very well. That challenge was taken up by the various people through the years in Cork Constitution Football Club and the club can now look back with great satisfaction at what has been achieved and look forward firm in the belief that the club will continue to be at the forefront of the game in this country and will continue to give to the province, the country and the Lions many more great players and administrators in the future as they have done in the past.

These are demanding times. But let us be assured that those who follow the current generation will, as those who have gone before them, continue to serve Cork Constitution with the same level of intelligence and dedication. Here's to the next century.

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Sponsors Season 2016-2017

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Previous Main Sponsors 1991-2016

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CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB

CLUB OFFICERS

1991 - 2016

YEAR	PRESIDENT	CAPTAIN	HONORARY SECRETARY	HONORARY TREASURER	CHAIRMAN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	DIRECTOR OF RUGBY
1991/92	TJ Kiernan	DG Lenihan	JJ Hyland	JN Murphy		
1992/93	PJF O'Donovan	LM Dinneen	JJ Hyland	JN Murphy		
1993/94	WF Jones	CM Murphy	JJ Hyland	PE Mulcahy		
1994/95	JE Murray	LM Dinneen	JJ Hyland	JN Murphy		
1995/96	WT Morrissey	DP O'Mahony	JK Murphy	LS Coughlan		
1996/97	RL Kahn	NR Murray	M O'Gorman	LS Coughlan		
1997/98	JJ Gillane	KJ Murphy	M O'Gorman	LS Coughlan		
1998/99	JN Murphy	PJ Soden	M O'Gorman	LS Coughlan		
1999/00	WJ Casey	JJ Murray	M O'Gorman	LS Coughlan	WJ Casey	WT Morrissey
2000/01	JG Barrett	U O'Callaghan	M O'Gorman	JN Murphy	JG Barrett	WT Morrissey
2001/02	TJ Lynch	U O'Callaghan	M O'Gorman	P Twomey	JG Barrett	WT Morrissey
2002/03	JN Walsh	IP Murray	S Horgan	P Twomey	JG Barrett	WT Morrissey
2003/04	WF Dowling	JJ Murray	S Horgan	P Twomey	JG Barrett	PD Derham
2004/05	B Wain	CJ Mahony	S Horgan	P Twomey	JG Barrett	PD Derham
2005/06	ME Daly	FW Cogan	M O'Gorman	P Twomey	WT Morrissey	PD Derham
2006/07	MC Murphy	FW Cogan	M O'Gorman	P Twomey	WT Morrissey	PD Derham
2007/08	JJ O'Sullivan	MJ O'Connell	M O'Gorman	P Twomey	WT Morrissey	PD Derham
2008/09	BV Ludgate	BL Cuttriss	C Kilbride	P Twomey	J O'Sullivan	PD Derham
2009/10	PJ O'Keefe	EP Ryan	C Kilbride	P Twomey	J O'Sullivan	JJ Holland
2010/11	TD O'Riordan	FW Cogan	C Kilbride	S Murphy	J O'Sullivan	JJ Holland
2011/12	BT Humphries	GD Murray	C Kilbride	S Murphy	J O'Sullivan	JJ Holland
2012/13	F O'Driscoll	G Hurley	C Kilbride	S Murphy	BT Humphries	JJ Holland
2013/14	IF O'Leary	G Hurley	J O'Mahony	JN Murphy	BT Humphries	JJ Holland
2014/15	P O'Leary	G Hurley	J O'Mahony	JN Murphy	ME Daly	JJ Holland
2015/16	GPM Good	J Ryan	J O'Mahony	JN Murphy	ME Daly	JJ Holland

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
CLUB PRESIDENTS

1991 - 2000



TJ Kiernan
1991-1992



PJF O'Donovan
1992-1993



WF Jones
1993-1994



JE Murray
1994-1995



WT Morrissey
1995-1996



RL Kahn
1996-1997



JJ Gillane
1997-1998



JN Murphy
1998-1999



WJ Casey
1999-2000

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
CLUB PRESIDENTS

2000 - 2009



JG Barrett
2000 - 2001



TJ Lynch
2001 - 2002



JN Walsh
2002-2003



WF Dowling
2003 - 2004



B Wain
2004 - 2005



ME Daly
2005 - 2006



MC Murphy
2006-2007



JJ O'Sullivan
2007-2008



BV Ludgate
2008-2009

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
CLUB PRESIDENTS

2009 - 2017



PG O'Keeffe
2009-2010



TD O'Riordan
2010-2011



BT Humphries
2011-2012



F O'Driscoll
2012-2013



IF O'Leary
2013-2014



P O'Leary
2014-2015



GPM Good
2015-2016



JJ Holland
2016-2017

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
HONORARY POSITIONS

1991 - 2016

CLUB TRUSTEES

FORMER	PRESENT
HJ Deane	GD Horgan
A O'Leary	TJ Kiernan
DJ Power	NA Murphy
JJ Hyland	OE Hill

HON. MEDICAL OFFICER

FORMER	PRESENT
Dr D Whelan	Dr T Cahill

HON. LEGAL ADVISOR

FORMER	PRESENT
C Hennessy	R Shanahan

HON. AUDITORS

FORMER	PRESENT
MB McAdoo	E Keyes

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
IRB / IRFU / MB REPRESENTATIVES

IRFU PRESIDENT



NA Murphy
1998 - 1999

MUNSTER BRANCH PRESIDENTS



JE Murray
2000 - 2001



HA Smith
2015 - 2016

COMMITTEE MEMBERS / REPRESENTATIVES

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY BOARD

TJ Kiernan
NA Murphy

MUNSTER / SOUTH MUNSTER BRANCH

JS Waldron
WT Morrissey
JG Barrett
BT Humphries

IRISH RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

TJ Kiernan
NA Murphy
JS Waldron
JG Barrett

SOUTH MUNSTER BRANCH

BE Kelly
BV Ludgate
P Higgins
GPM Good
J Burke

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
HALL OF FAME

1991 - 2016

YEAR	NAME
1999	J. DONOVAN
2000	E. MURPHY
2001	G. O'CONNELL
2002	A. O'LEARY
2003	F. O'LEARY
2004	J. CROWLEY
2005	J. MURRAY
2006	G. HORGAN
2007	P. BARRY
2008	N. MURPHY
2009	T. KIERNAN
2010	P. FITZGERALD
2011	F. CASEY
2012	S. WALDRON
2013	L. COUGHLAN
2014	C. HILL

MINOR HALL OF FAME

1991 - 2016

YEAR	NAME	ERA
2002-03	K. WATERS	1960's
2002-03	J. O'LEARY	1980's
2003-04	W. QUIRKE	1970's
2004-05	I. MITCHELL	1990's
2005-06	D. O'RIORDAN	1980's
2007-08	F. O'CONNOR	1980's
2008-09	A. O'CONNOR	1980's
2011-12	E. QUINN	2000's
2014-15	P. HIGGINS	1980's
2014-15	J. MURPHY	1970's

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB TROPHY ROOM

1991 - 2016

SENIOR COMPETITIONS

ALL IRELAND LEAGUE

(INAUGURATED 1990-91)

1990-91	M.T. Bradley	Division 1	Winners
1998-99	P.J.Soden	11-6	Garryowen RFC
2007-08	M.J.O'Connell	17-6	Garryowen RFC
2009-10	E.P.Ryan	15-11	St. Marys College RFC

ALL IRELAND CUP/BATEMAN CUP

2005-06	F.W. Cogan	37-12	St. Marys College RFC
2009-10	E.P.Ryan	17-10	Garryowen RFC
2012-13	G.Hurley	24-19	St. Mary College RFC
2013-14	G.Hurley	19-6	UCD RFC
2014-15	G.Hurley	24-9	Clontarf RFC
2015-16	J.Ryan	38-19	Galwegians RFC

MUNSTER SENIOR LEAGUE WINNERS

(INAUGURATED 1901-02)

Season	Captain	Finalists	Score
1901-02	M.F Landers		
1902-03	A.W.Williams		
1910-11	O.J.S.Piper	Shared with Garryowen	
1911-12	J.O'Regan	Shared with UCC	
1913-14	J.Murphy-O'Connor	Shared with UCC	
1921-22	P.A.McGrath		
1922-23	P.A.McGrath		
1926-27	B Hyland		
1938-39	C.Murphy		
1944-45	T.Riordan		
1952-53	F.O'Leary		
1956-57	J.A.Kiernan		
1963-64	N.A. Murphy	Shannon	11-0
1964-65	N.A.Murphy	UCC	3-0
1965-66	T.J.Kiernan	UCC	9-3
1966-67	J.E.Murray	UCC	14-0
1967-68	A.J.Horgan	Young Munster	16-12
1968-69	J.Pyne	Young Munster	17-8
1969-70	T.J.Kiernan	Garryowen	12-6
1970-71	B.J.McGann	Garryowen	12-9
19771-72	J.E.Murray	Garryowen	6-6; 10-6
1974-75	W.J.Casey	Garryowen	18-9
1975-76	J.S.Waldron	Dolphin	6-4

1976-77	D.Smith	Bohemians	13-3
1978-79	B.J.McGann	Dolphin	13-6
1983-84	M.C.Finn	Highfield	12-6
1986-87	J.P.Barry	Young Munster	26-6
1987-88	M.C.Finn	Shannon	15-3
1997-98	K.J.Murphy	Garryowen	16-10

CORK CHARITY CUP WINNERS

Season	Captain	Finalists	Score
1905-06	J.G.Musgrave	Cork County	13-0
1907-08	R.M.Magrath	Queens College	5-3
1908-09	R.M.Magrath	Cork County	3-0
1909-10	S.K.Hosford	Cork County	12-0
1910-11	O.J.S.Piper	Cork County	6-0
1911-12	J.O'Regan	UCC	0-0; 11-0
1914-15	H.C.Magrath	UCC	5-3
1918-19	F.O'Keeffe	Young Munster	15-0
1922-23	P.A.McGrath	Dolphin	3-3; 20-4
1923-24	D.F.O'Connell	Dolphin	5-0
1925-26	J.F.Wilkie	Sundays Well	13-3
1926-27	B.Hyland	Sundays Well	18-3
1929-30	J.R.McCormack	Sundays Well	6-3
1939-40	E.Murphy	Dolphin	3-3; 3-0
1942-43	C.J.O'Driscoll	Army	8-3
1943-44	C.Crowley	Sundays Well	6-3
1944-45	T.Riordan	UCC	13-3
1952-53	F.O'Leary	Sundays Well	10-8
1961-62	J.E.Cunningham	Dolphin	6-3
1966-67	J.E.Murray	UCC	25-0
1967-68	A.J.Horgan	UCC	13-9
1968-69	J.Pyne	Dolphin	9-3
1969-70	T.J.Kiernan	Dolphin	12-3
1970-71	B.J.McGann	Highfield	18-9
1971-72	J.E.Murray	Highfield	6-0
1973-74	N.J.Murphy	UCC	6-3
1982-83	C.D.Cantillon	UCC	26-3
1983-84	M.C.Finn	Sundays Well	15-9
1984-85	A.F.O'Leary	Dolphin	9-3
1985-86	P.D.Derham	Sundays Well	12-3
1986-87	J.P.Barry	Dolphin	17-15
1987-88	M.C.Finn	Shannon	15-3
1991-92	D.G.Lenihan	Dolphin	14-6
1992-93	L.M.Dineen	Highfield	41-23
1993-94	C.M.Murphy	Dolphin	41-17
1995-96	D.O'Mahony	Sundays Well	27-6
2003-04	J.J.Murray		
2004-05	C.J.Mahony	Highfield	31-0
2005-06	F.W.Regan	Dolphin	27-14
2007-08	M.J.O'Connell	Highfield	14-12
2009-10	E.P.Ryan	Dolphin	33-20
2010-11	F.W.Regan	UCC	26-6
2013-14	G.Hurley	Cashel	16-14
2015-16	J.Ryan	Sundays Well	21-0

J1 COMPETITIONS

MILLENNIUM CUP

Season	Captain	Finalists	Score
2000-01	D.Murray	Shannon	18-5

MUNSTER JUNIOR CUP WINNERS

Season	Captain	Finalists	Score
1948-49	P.Fitzgerald	St. Marys	11-0
1950-51	C.Connolly	Old Crescent	5-3
1955-56	J.Cunningham	Old Crescent	16-0
1956-57	R.Hennessy	Young Munster	9-3
1957-58	D.Murphy	Young Munster	0-0; 8-0
1972-73	J.Hogan	Bandon	6-3
1981-82	F.O'Driscoll	Shannon	43-7
1982-83	R.Kennedy	Old Christians	9-6
1985-86	N. Murphy	Young Munster	9-9; 9-6
1986-87	T.Barry	Garryowen	9-4
1991-92	P.O'Leary	Bandon	13-3
1993-94	R.Clarke	Shannon	13-9
1994-95	R.Healy	Shannon	17-3
2002-03	B.O'Leary	Nenagh Ormond	23-13
2004-05	D.O'Brien	UCC	17-15
2007-08	R.Casey	UCC	17-10
2011-12	P.O'Sullivan	Skibbereen	13-10

MUNSTER SECONDS LEAGUE WINNERS

Season	Captain	Finalists	Score
1977-78	C.Parfrey		
1985-86	N.Murphy		
1987-88	T. Barry	Shannon	14-3
1992-93	P.O'Leary	Young Munster	21-0
1998-99			
2001-02	I.Doyle		
2004-05	D.O'Brien	Shannon	26-8
2005-06	J.J.Cahill	Sundays Well	13-10
2011-12	P.O'Sullivan	Garryowen	22-3
2015-16	S.Dwyer	Shannon	45-12

J2 COMPETITIONS

MILLENNIUM CUP

Season	Captain	Finalists	Score
1999-00	E McManus	Old Wesley	15-19

JUNIOR 2 CUP (MINOR A) WINNERS

(INAUGURATED 1905-06)

Season	Captain	Opponents	Score
1905-06	H.Magrath		
1907-08	H.Magrath	Blackrock Road	3-0
1908-09	P.McGrath	Wanderers	n/a
1909-10	T.O'Brien		
1910-11			
1913-14	F.Cogan	Dolphin	4-0
1933-34	M.Laide	Highfield	3-0
1935-36	P.Barry	UCC	9-0
1941-42	M.Martin	UCC	13-12
1944-45	M.Lane	Dolphin	12-0
1945-46	C.Connolly	Highfield	3-3 Shared
1949-50	J.Martin	Highfield	8-0
1953-54	C.O'Leary	Dolphin	9-0
1954-55	J.Cunningham	Dolphin	3-0
1964-65	B.Dowling	Old Christians	3-0
1969-70	J.Hogan	Beagles	9-6
1970-71	J.Murphy	Constitution A	9-3
1973-74	R.Jermyn	Kanturk	16-9
1974-75	R.Jermyn	Highfield	21-4
1977-78	W.Quirke	Dolphin	12-3
1978-79	J.Lynch	Highfield	15-15; 13-9
1979-80	J.O'Leary	Dolphin	20-0
1980-81	D.Wilkins	Clonakilty	9-6
1984-85	D.O'Riordan	Dolphin	6-0
1991-92	J.O'Callaghan	Muskerry	13-0
1992-93	P.Higgins	Castleisland	11-0
1995-96	R.McKnight	UCC	42-5
1998-99	E.McManus	Clonakilty	21-5
2000-01	I.Mitchell	Dolphin	11-9
2001-02	J.O'Mahoney	Old Christians	16-3
2005-06	G.McKnight	Highfield	23-3
2006-07	B.Ring	Dolphin	48-10

DENNEHY CUP WINNERS

(INAUGURATED 1972-73)

Season	Captain	Opponents	Score
1974-75	R. Jermyn	Constitution B	20-0
1976-77	K.Dinan	Sundays Well	15-3
1978-79	J.Lynch	Highfield	18-10
1979-80	R.Kennedy	Old Christians	12-6
1981-82	R.O'Dowling	Highfield	
1982-83	V.Laing	Sundays Well	15-13
1984-85	D.O'Riordan	UCC	15-10
1985-86	P.O'Leary	Old Christians	28-6
1989-90	F.O'Connor	Dolphin	17-10
1991-92	C.Kilbride	Sundays Well	12-0

1992-93	D. Healy	Cobh Pirates	15-5
1995-96	R.McKnight	Highfield	20-12
2002-03	R.O'Sullivan	Bandon	23-0
2005-06	G.McKnight	Highfield	16-10
2006-07	B.Ring	Midleton	30-10
2007-08	P.Crowley	Douglas	29-10
2009-10	P.Hughes	Highfield	18-8
2010-11	G.Feehan	Ballincollig	13-7
2013-14	C.Fouhey	Mallow	29-13

JUNIOR 2 LEAGUE WINNERS

Season	Captain	Season	Captain
1909-10	T.O'Brien	1914-15	
1923-24		1924-25	D.Barry
1931-32	M.Foley	1934-35	P.O'Sullivan
1936-37	J.L.Donovan		

Records are incomplete from 1937 to 1958 when a new Cup was presented by W.J.O'Brien, Hon. Sec., Munster Branch

1957-58	C.Fairley	1970-71	F.Casey
1971-72	A.Murphy	1974-75	R.Jermyn
1978-79	J.Lynch	1980-81	D.Wilkins
1981-82	R.O'Dowling	1982-83	V.Laing
1983-84	M.O'Donovan	1984-85	D.O'Riordan
1990-91	D.O'Riordan	1992-93	P.Higgins
1994-95	F.Dennehy	1995-96	R.McKnight
1999-00	E.McManus	2003-04	G.Williams
2005-06	G.McKnight	2006-07	B.Ring

JUNIOR 3 CUP WINNERS

Season	Captain	Season	Captain
1980-81	John Costigan	1991-92	Colin Kilbride
1986-87	Frank O'Connor	1993-94	Colm O'Callaghan
1990-91	Colin Kilbride	1995-96	Eoin McManus

JUNIOR 3 LEAGUE WINNERS

Season	Captain	Season	Captain
1966-67		1982-83	Mark O'Sullivan
1969-70	Peter Murphy	1989-90	Colm O'Callaghan
1972-73	Hilliard Bryan	1991-92	Colin Kilbride
1976-77	Aidan Bowles	1992-93	Denis Healy
1978-79	Michael Hegarty	1994-95	Shane Moynihan
1981-82	Peter Comerford	1995-96	Eoin McManus /Shared

JUNIOR 4 CUP WINNERS

Season	Captain
1981-82	Pat Walsh
1993-94	John Crowley
2005-06	Eric Wyse

UNDER 20 COMPETITIONS

ALL IRELAND - FRASER MCMULLEN TROPHY

Season	Captain	Opponents	Score
2013-14	M.Murphy	Terenure College RFC	12-7
2015-16	R.Horgan	UCD RFC	38-14

UNDER 20 CUP WINNERS

(INAUGURATED 1979-80)

Season	Captain
1981-82	Matt Kearney
1999-00	Denis White
1993-94	Barry O'Connell
1994-95	Jerry Murray
1996-97	Dave O'Brien
2002-03	Brian Mahony

UNDER 20 LEAGUE WINNERS

(INAUGURATED 1982-83)

Season	Captain
1984-85	J.Wain
1988-89	B.Keary
1989-90	I.Murray
1997-98	R.O'Donovan
1999-00	D.White
2001-02	C.Love
2002-03	B.Mahony
2014-15	M.Murphy
2015-16	R.Horgan

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
SENIOR SQUADS

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB.
WINNERS OF ALL-IRELAND LEAGUE DIVISION I.
 1998 - 1999



Л.СОУНІАН, РОКЕРГЕ, ШРОГАРГ, ДОВРЕН, ДОРРИСОЛ, ДЖЕРМАН, ЖЕЛІС, ТКЕРМАН, АНОРГАН, РОГАВА, ІРЛЕМІНГ, СМУРНІХ;
 ТРЕНЕРИ
 ТІМ АДМІНІСТРАТОР.

М.ВРАДБЛЕХ, УМОРРИСЕХ, МОГОРМАН -
 СОАЧІ -
 ДІРЕКТОР ОФ РІУІЛІТ;
 КЛУБ СІСЛАВІАЛІ

-СМУРНІХ, ЕШЕНІАН, ДШЕНІАН, КМУРНІХ, ДОСАДІАН, СЕНЕЛІХ, ДАННІНГ, С.МАНОН, УОСАДІАНІАН.

ІМУРРАХ, АВУРНЕ, ВАУЛІН, ДСОКЕРГ, РСОДЕН, ДМУРНІХ, ДЖЕЛІХ, ВОМЕРА, СМАНОН, ДМУРРАХ;
 САРТАІН, ПРЕСІДЕНТ.

-ДКАІН, ДГОХ, РЕБІАНІАН;
 ТРАІН СЕЛІСІОН;
 СЕЛІСІОН;
 МАНОН;
 ІМУРРАХ;
 СОАЧІ -

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
WINNERS OF INAUGURAL ALL IRELAND AIB CUP, CORK CHARITY CUP AND CROWLEY CUP
 2005 - 06



J. O'SULLIVAN, D. FOGARTY, M. O'CONNELL, J. MOLONEY, J. CAHILL, S. O'CONNOR, R. LANE, R. O'DONOVAN, B. CURTISSE, P. DERHAM
 JUNIOR DEPUTY PRESIDENT DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

B. WALSH, B. KAHN, A. RYAN, T. RYAN, C. MURPHY
 COACH MANAGER DIRECTOR

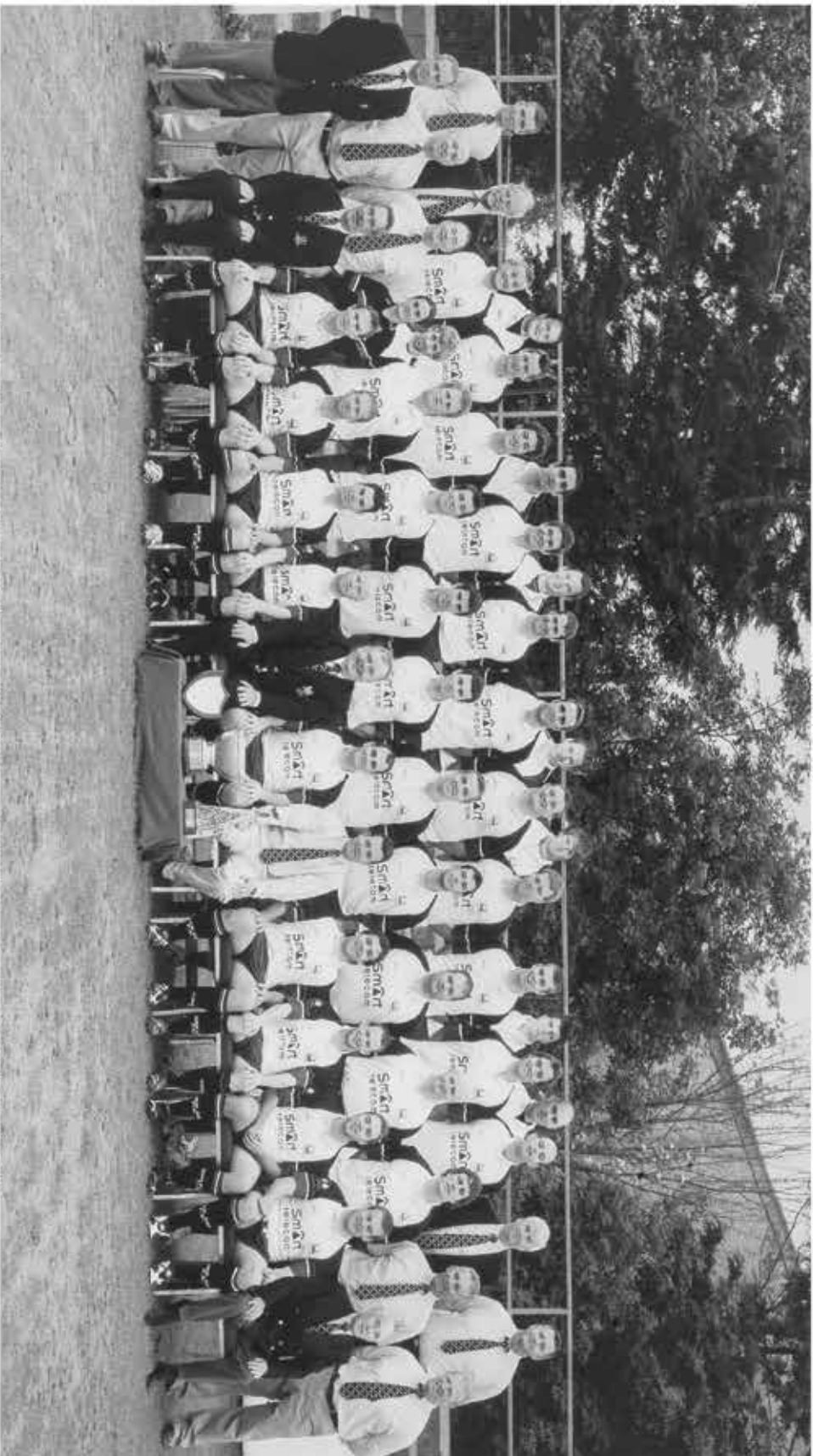
D. MURRAY, G. MURRAY, P. O'LEARY, T. KINGSTON
 ASSISTANT COACH

T. O'GORMAN, D. LYONS, C. HEACY, F. COGAN, M. DALY, F. MURPHY, C. QUAIL, P. TWOMEY
 HON. SECRETARY HON. TREA-SURER

Not in Photograph - C. O'Sullivan, J. Sheehan, A. O'Brien, M. Ross, S. Cottrell, B. O'Leary, J. Danagher, D. O'Riordan, L. Hill
 CAPTAIN PRESIDENT

**CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB.
 ALL IRELAND LEAGUE WINNERS.**

2007-08.



R.QUINN, D.KELLY, D.NETHERY, B.O'CONNOR, D.DALY, M.O'LEARY, J.STRINGER,
 I.DOYLE, B.LUDGATE, J.MANNING, D.HURLEY, T.GIBSON, B.HOLLAND, J.MOLONEY, S.O'CONNOR, T.RYAN,-
 TEAM SEC. DEPUTY PRES.
 - C.MURPHY, P.BROUGHAM, E.RYAN, J.CULLEN, P.KEEFE, P.O'LEARY,
 ASST. COACH. PHYSIO. DIRECTOR.

P.DERHAM, K.MURPHY, B.HICKEY, F.CASEY, C.NOIAN, D.HURLEY, B.CUTRIS, E.EAMRY, R.IANE, F.COGAN, D.O'KANE,-
 DIR. OF RUGBY. MANAGER. ASST. COACH. PHYSIO. CAPTAIN.

P.TWOMEY, J.KELLY, A.HORGAN, D.O'LEARY, C.HEALY, J.O'SULLIVAN, M.O'CONNELL, B.WALSH, D.MURRAY, D.LYONS,-
 HON. TREASURER. PRESIDENT. HON. SECRETARY. HON. SECRETARY. COACH.

NOT IN PHOTOGRAPH: R.MASCAN, ROOTTER.

CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.
 MUNSTER SENIOR CUP & ALL-IRELAND DIVISION I LEAGUE WINNERS,
 2008 - 09.



J. DOYLE, R. O'DONOVAN, S. ZEBO, TRYAN, E. LEAMY, A. O'BRIEN, P. O'MAHONY, B. HOILAND, -
 KIT MGR.

- D. KELLY, J. MAHONEY, R. LANE, P. KELLEHER, P. O'LEARY,
 SELECTOR.

D. O'RJORDAN, J. O'SULLIVAN, B. HICKEY, R. WILMOT, F. SHEAHAN, T. RYAN, D. HURLEY, T. KENNEALLY, -
 JUNIOR DER PRES. COACTE
 P. BROUGHAN, F. COGAN, M. O'CONNELL, G. MURRAY, J. MANNING, D. WILLIAMS, C. NOLAN, K. MURPHY, -
 TEAM MGR.

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB.
WINNERS OF ALL-IRELAND LEAGUE & CUP.
2009/2010.



A.HORGAN, G.MURRAY, R.CLUNE, R.LANE, B.HOULAND, C.FOULHY, L.NAGLE, P.O'MAHONY, M.CONNELL, J.McSWINEY, P.O'LEARY (SELECTOR)
 D.O'RIORDAN, C.KILBRIDE, B.FOX, M.O'LEARY, D.O'DRISCOLL, A.ROSS, M.GATELY, B.CUTTRISS, RQUINN, DLYONS, IDOYLE, J.HOLLAND,
 DEPUTY PRESIDENT, HON. SECRETARY, PHYSIO
 P.TWOMEY, S.IDEASAY, B.HICKEY, P.COOGAN, B.WALSH, E.RYAN, P.KEEFE, CHEALY, K.MURPHY, T.GILLESON, D.WILLIAMS, B.HUMPHRIES,
 HON. TREASURER, ASST. COACH, COACH, CAPTAIN, PRESIDENT, TEAM MANAGER, JUNIOR DEPUTY MGR.
 SHANE T. DUKELOW, C. DESMOND, SZEGO, ELEANOR RHELEHER, J. MANNING, D. HURLEY, S. ARCHER, P. DOOLEY, T. KEENEHAYLE, R. MASSAN, C. GOUVET, A. RYAN, B. JAMES.

**CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.
ALL-IRELAND BATEMAN CUP WINNERS.
2012-13**



A. CUDMORE, R. CLUNE, P. DERHAM, S. ARCHER, S. DEASY, C. DESMOND, L. DINEEN, B. CAGNEY, JAMES RYAN, N. O'DRISCOLL, JOHNNY RYAN, - B. VAUGHAN, F. O'DONNELL, J. ROCHFORD, D. O'BRIEN.

B. HICKEY, I. DOYLE, P. O'LEARY, J. HOLLAND, I. O'LEARY, C. KILBRIDE, C. HEALY, A. RYAN, B. HAYES, B. CUTTRESS, P. DONNELLAN, G. LAWLER, ASST. COACH, TEAM SEC., SELECTOR, DIR. OF RUGBY, DEPT. PRES., HON. SEC.

- C. O'FLAHERTY, R. GALVIN, B. HUMPHRIES, S. MURPHY, D. POWER, M. KEARNEY, T. KINGSTON, K. MURPHY, CHAIR. MGT. COMMITTEE, HON. TREAS., TEAM SEC., ASST. COACH, TEAM MANAGER.

C. MCGOVERN, A. WHITE, B. O'HARA, D. LYONS, F. O'DRISCOLL, G. HURLEY, E. WAJSH, J. HOLLAND, P. PARFREY, A. O'DRISCOLL, PRESIDENT, CAPTAIN, COACH.

**Cork Constitution F.C.
Winners of All Ireland Bateman Cup
2013-14**

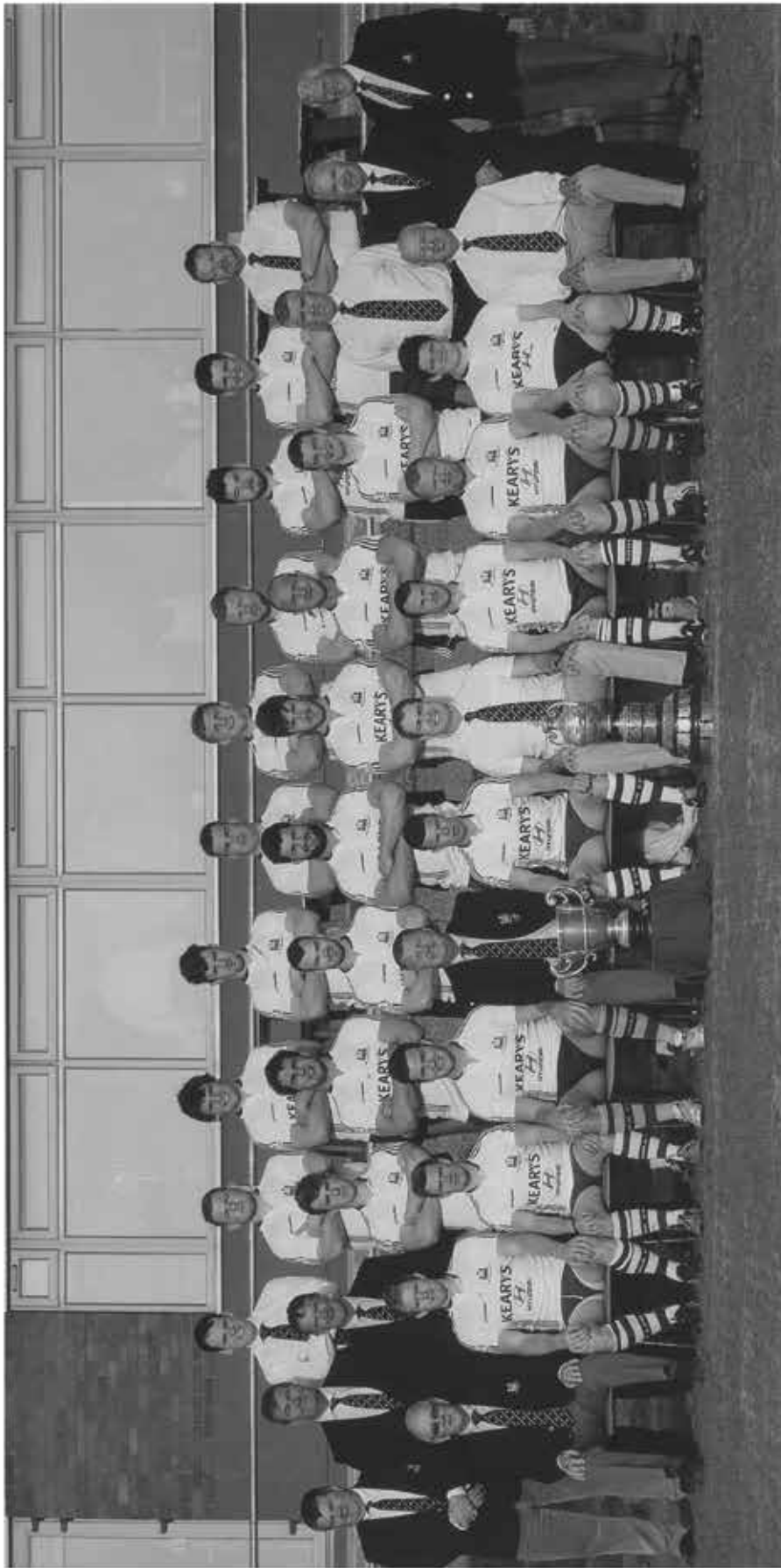


Back Row: M. Murphy, A. Ryan, J. Holland, G. Sweeney, L. Cahill, B. Fitzgerald, B. Coney, L. Duffly, C. Desmond, G. O'Sullivan, S. Dwyer, C. Quinn, A. Ross, I. Dillon, Asst. Coach.

Middle Row: K. J. Murphy; **Team Manager:** P. O'Leary; **Deputy President:** J. O'Mahony; **Hon. Secretary:** T. Quinlan; **C. Corkery;** E. O'Donnell; **M. Keyes;** J. Rochford; **C. O'Flaherty;** S. O'Connor; **G. Lavelle;** N. Kennedy; **J. Mc Sweeney;** M. Amott; **I. Doyle;** **Kic Myle;** J. Holland; **Director of Rugby:** P. Good; **Junior Deputy President:** J. Murphy; **Hon Treasurer:**

Front Row: C. Quinn, G. Duffly, A. O'Driscoll, J. Ryan, T. Maloney; **Team Coach:** G. Harney; **Captain:** I. O'Leary; **Presidents:** D. Lyons, **Vice-Captain:** R. Foley, R. Burke. **Not in Photo:** C. Joyce, R. Jennings, W. Ryan, C. O'Donnell, P. Galvin, D. O'Brien, Y. Bourque, B. Holland.

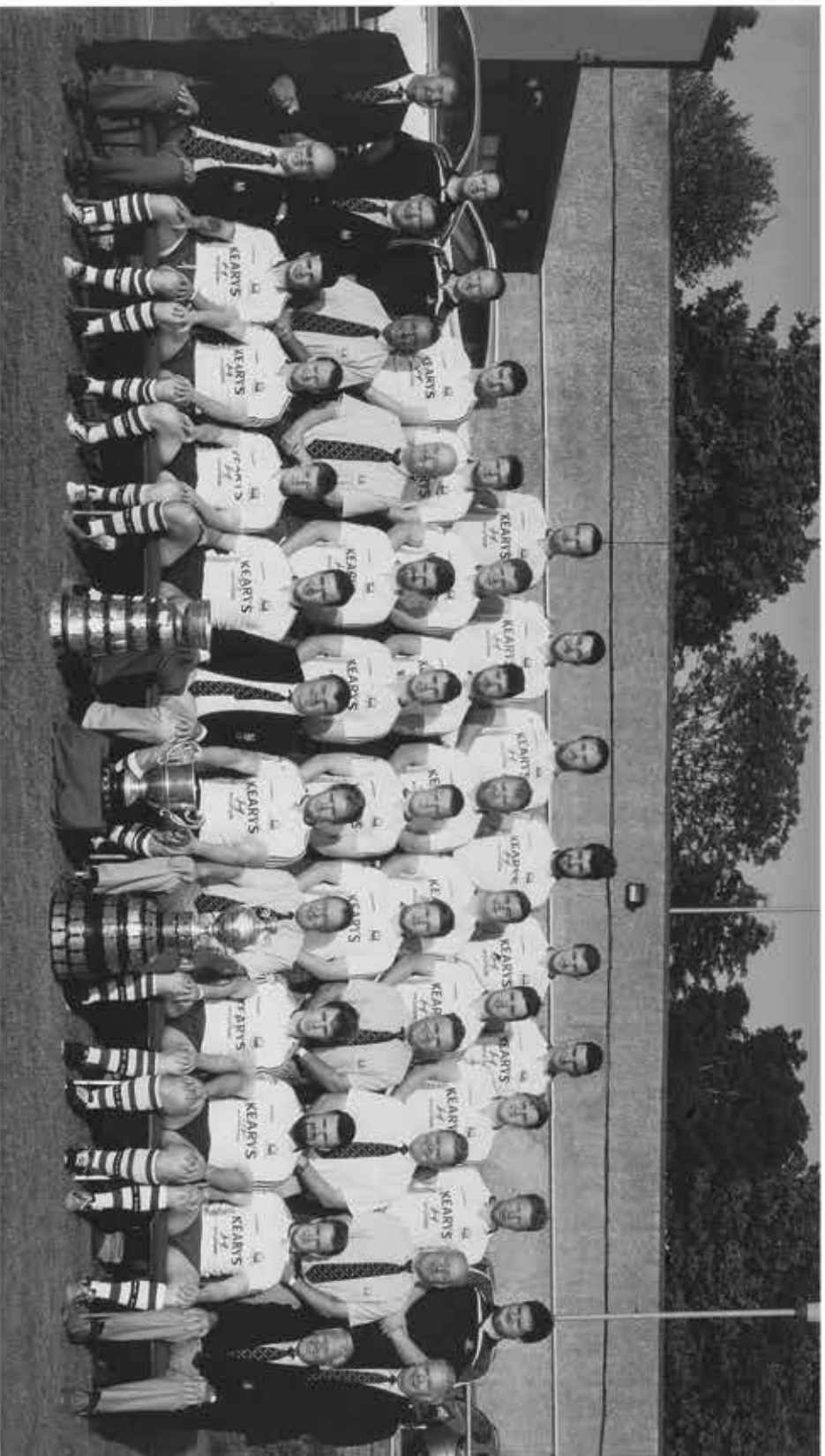
**Cork Constitution F.C.
Winners of All Ireland Bateman Cup
2014-15**



Back Row: M. Keaneey (Kitman), L. O'Connor, N. Hodson, D. Sweetman, G. Duffly, J. Murphy, R. Jessiman, J.J. O'Neill, R. Hoogan, D. Coskey (Asst Coach),
 Middle Row: P. Good (Deputy President), J. Holland (Director of Rugby), J. O'Mahony (Hon Secretary), T. Quinnan, A. Ross, M. Keyes, G. Lawlor, C. O'Flaherty,
 L. Cahill, S. Dwyer, I. Doyle (Team Secretary), R. Keyes (Selector), J. Murphy (Hon Treasurer),
 Front Row: M. Dohy (Chairman of Management), J. Ryan, A. Doogan, N. Kennelly, P. O'Leary (President), G. Hazley (Captain), T. Tierney (Coach), D. Lyons,
 G. Sweeney, A. Statters, K. Murphy (Manager).

Not in Photo: D. O'Brien, M. Abbott, J. Power, C. McAuliffe, S. Galvin, G. Murray, K. Desmond, C. Coskey, A. O'Driscoll, S. Keohane, A. Ryan, F. McSwainey

**Cork Constitution F.C.
Winners of All Ireland Bateman Cup
2015-2016**



Back Row: S O'Leary, C. Kinneegan, B. Hayes, G. Lawlor, A. Springs, S. Daly

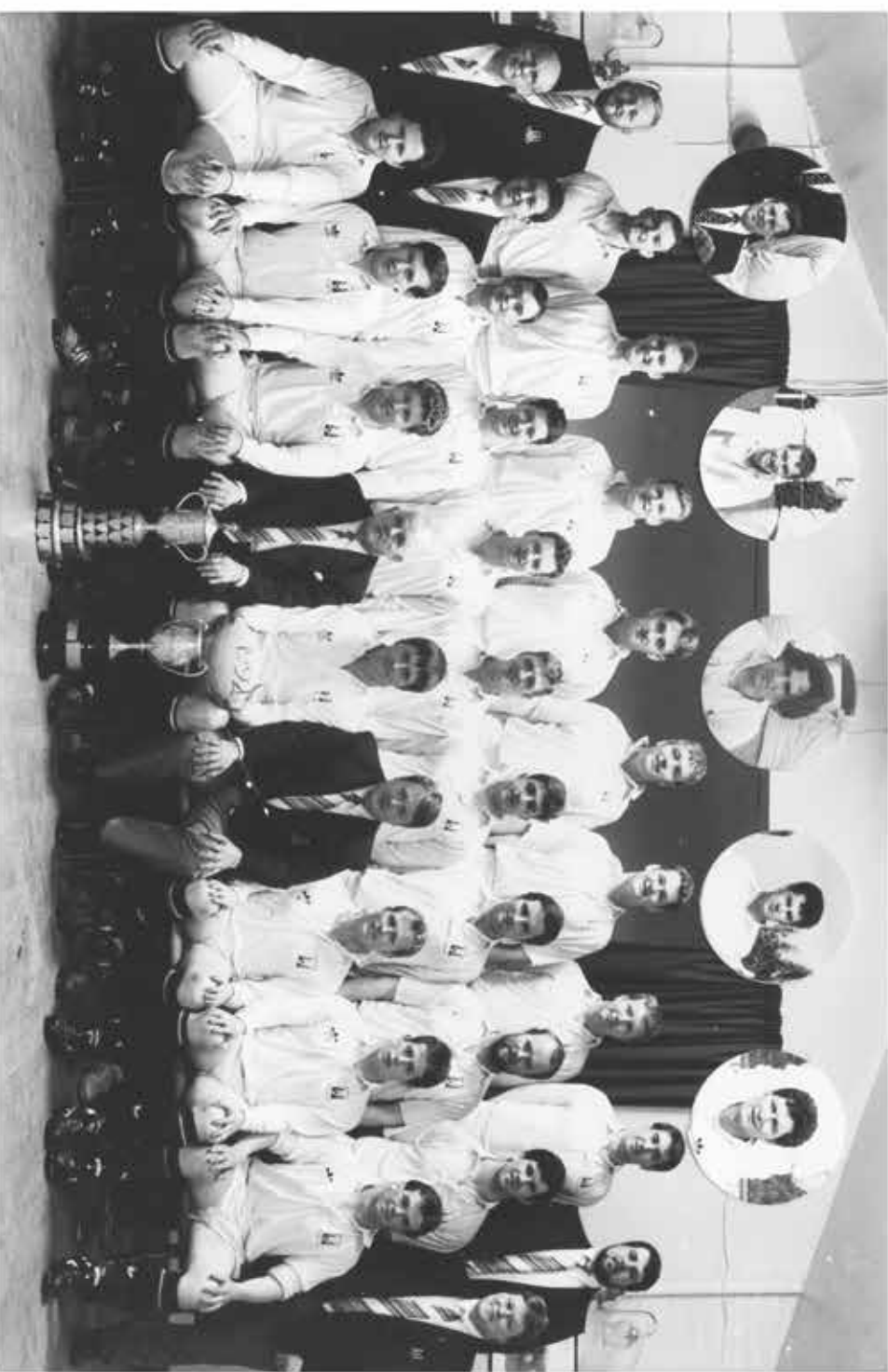
Third Row: J. McGahey (S&C), K. Duggan (Wool), S. Dwyer, J. McHenry, B. Quinlan, J. O'Neill, G. Sweeney, G. Duffly, M. Amoret, J. Murphy, R. Jermyn, E. Roche (Kitman)

Second Row: J. Holland (Director of Rugby), J. O'Mahony (Hon Secretary), D. Mullins (Team Secretary), P. Bane (Asst Coach), R. Horgan, J. White, J. Higgins, L. O'Connor, D. McGinn (Team Secretary), P. McCarthy (Asst Coach), K. Murphy (Manager), R. Keyes (Selector),

Front Row: M. Daly (Chairman of Management), R. Foley, D. Lyons, J. Polans, N. Kennolly, P. Good (President), J. Ryan (Captain), B. Hickey (Coach), T. Quinlan, R. Burke, A. Duggan, J. Murphy (Hon Treasurer)

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
JUNIOR SQUADS

CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.
 WINNERS OF MUNSTER JUNIOR CUP AND CORK JUNIOR LEAGUE,
 CENTENARY YEAR - 1991-92.

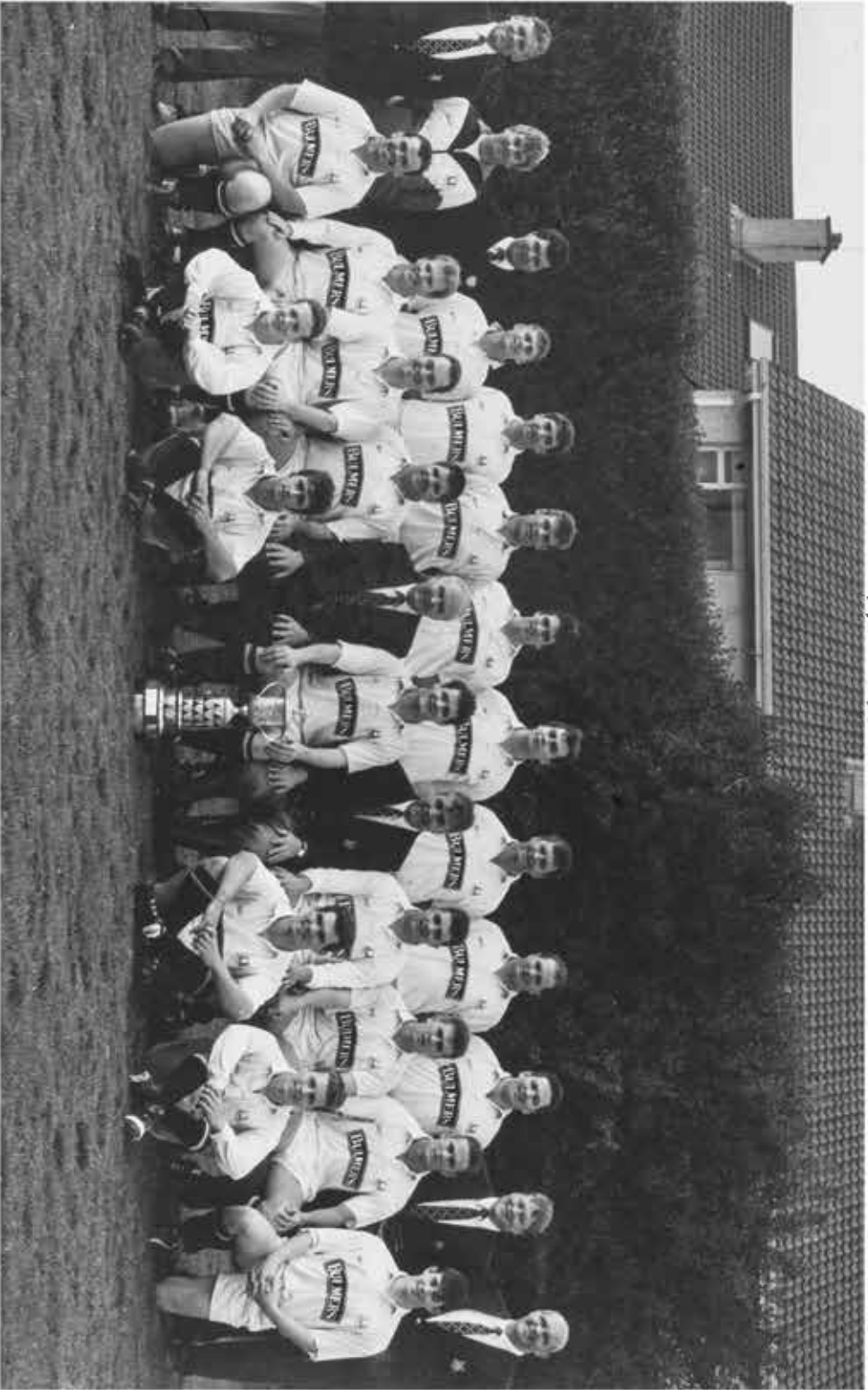


D. O'RMOND, R. CLARKE, M. MURRAY, D. CORREY, O. O'BRIEN, F. O'DRISCOLL, R. NEELY, K. FINN, B. STITZBERGER, D. A. MURPHY, ^{SELECTOR}
 J. HILLAND, P. O'SULLIVAN, H. FOXKER, S. MURPHY, A. CORREY, R. CASEY, A. BRYNE, J. CARROLL, S. WARD, S. LATTERY, B. MURPHY, ^{SELECTOR}
 M. GINN, F. GORMAN, T. TOUNY, T. KIERMAN, P. O'LEARY, T. O'NEILL, K. O'NEILL, S. TOWMEY, I. MITCHELL, ^{SELECTOR}

PRESIDENT: G. O'NEILL, COACH: M. GINN, TEAM MANAGER: J. MURPHY, F. O'NEILL, STITZBERGER, O'NEILL, KINGSTON

Photo: J. MURPHY, F. O'NEILL, STITZBERGER, O'NEILL, KINGSTON

CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.
 WINNERS MUNSTER JUNIOR CUP
 1994 - 1996



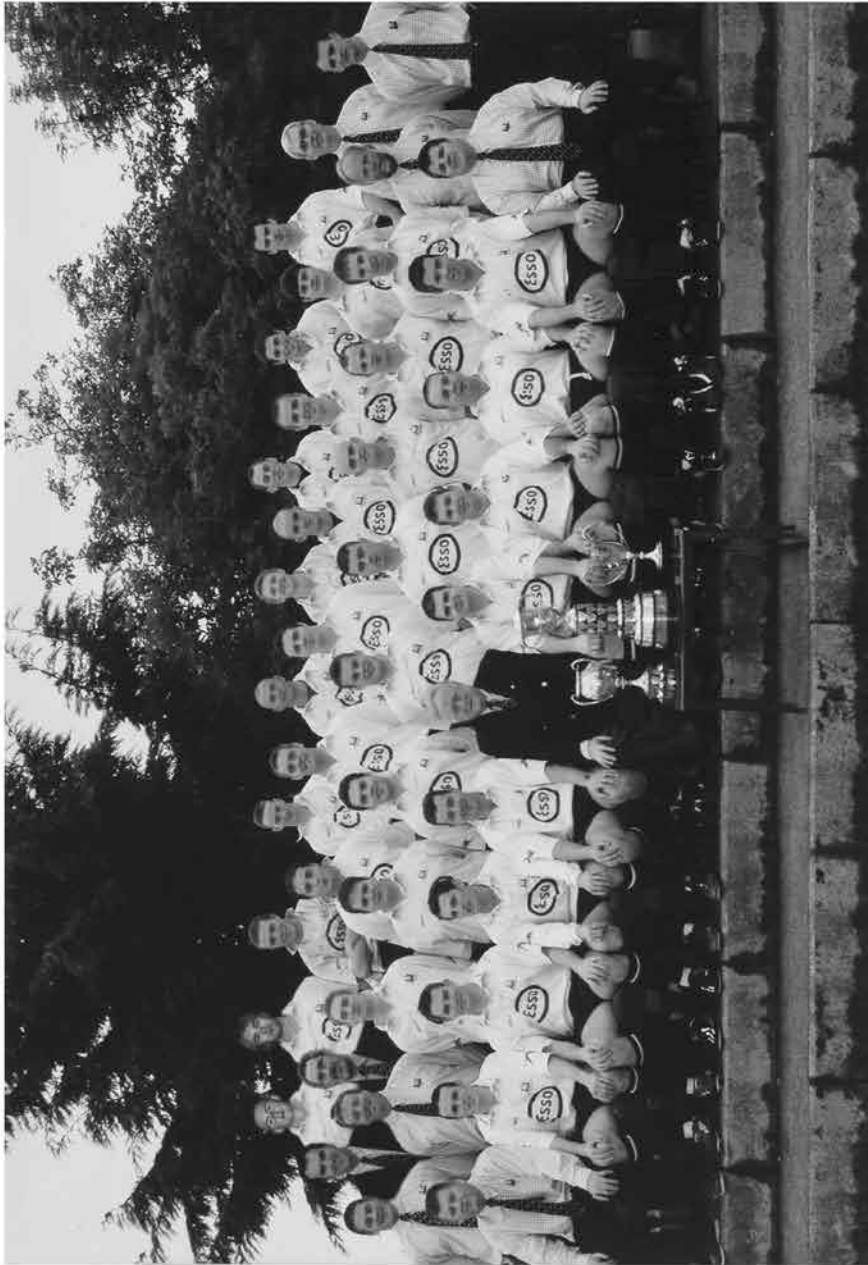
ДМУРРНУ, РОКЕФФЕ, МВАРРОН, БМАННННГ, ВПТЗЗБЕРАД, ДЖАНН, СКЕНЕДЛУ, УДОННЕДЛУ, -
 ЧЛОК, ТРЕДЖ, ТЕММ МОНВЕЛЛЕ, ТЕММ БЕС, - РОДЖАРУ, ДЖЕДДС, ИМУРРАУ, В.НУМРНРЕХ, ДНУЛАНД, -
 ИМТОНЕД, КФЛАНДАН, РВУСКДЛУ, РБФД, ДМУРРАУ, РНЕАЛУ, Ф.ОДРИССОЛУ, А.ВУРНЕ, -
 - РДИНЕН, ЛОДЖАРУ, ВОМЕАРА, СЕЛЕТОР, ПРЕСДЕНТ, КАПТАН, ЧЛОК, БЕС, -
 Б.УНДЕАН, С.СОНУАУ, ДМУРРАУ, Д.ОДОКОВАН,

CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.

WINNERS OF

CORK JUNIOR LEAGUE, MUNSTER JUNIOR CUP, DANÁHER SHEEHAN CUP,

2002 - 2003



G.WILLIAMS, B.O'CONNOR, D.KEANE, D.IYONS, E.BUSTEED, H.CASEY, J.STRINGER, S.MEANEX, V.SODEN.

S.HORGAN, P.TWOMEY, M.DAUNT, C.O'KEEFE, K.COUGHLAN, E.CASSIDY, F.COGAN, C.CUMMIN, C.CANTILLON,
HON. SEC. HON. TREAS. CLUB COACH.

D.MURRAY, D.O'RIORDAN, R.CREMIN, T.RYAN, D.MURRAY, D.FOGARTY, D.FOLEY, J.CUILLEN,
TEAM SEC. SELECTOR.

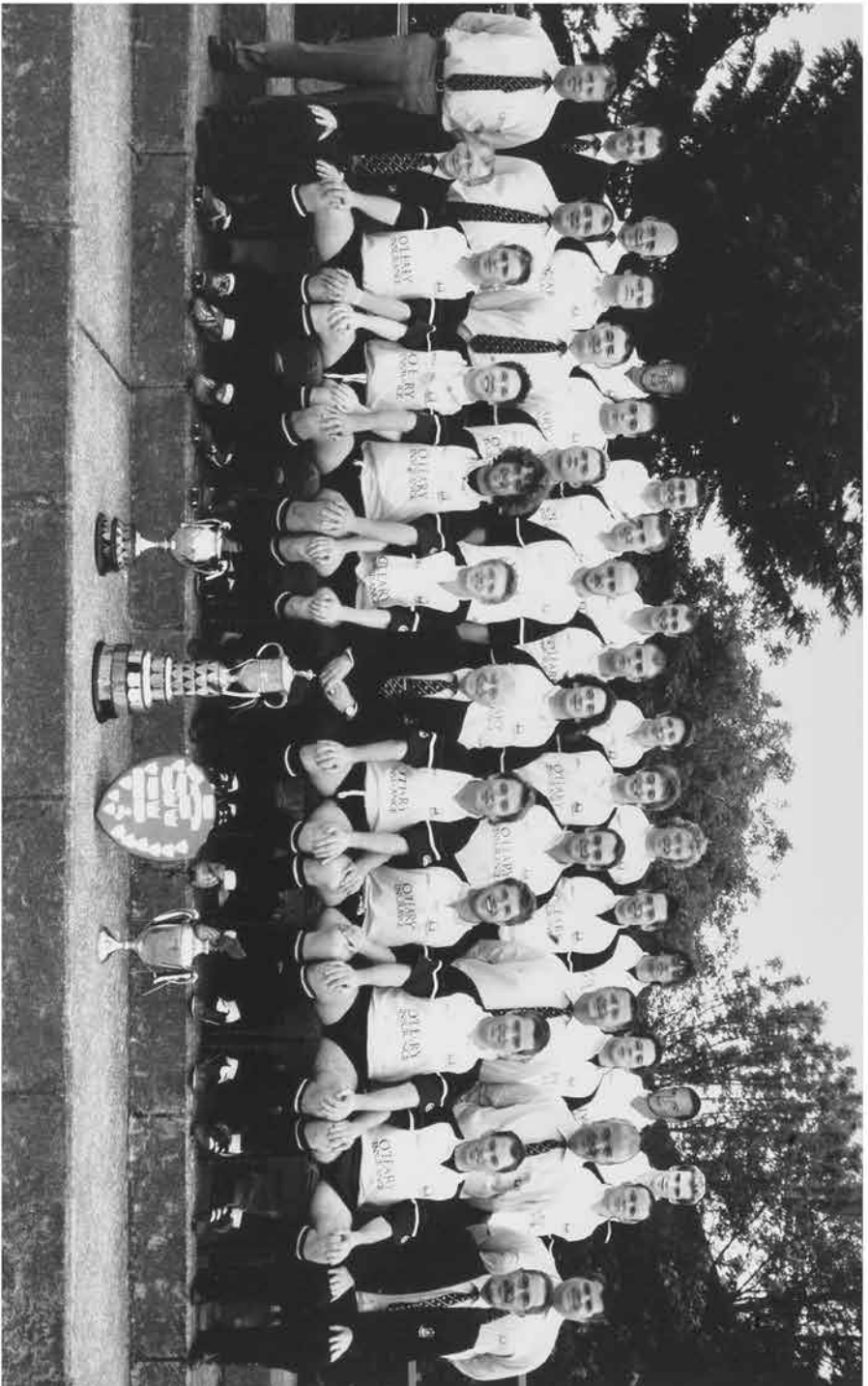
- WHYDE, TOJEARY, B.JUDDGATE, B.SMITH,
MANAGER. SELECTOR.

P.O'JEARY, N.KENNEALLY, C.O'MAHONY, J.VIGARZA, B.WAISH, N.WAISH, B.O'LEARY, I.MURRAY,
SELECTOR. COACH. PRESIDENT. CAPTAIN.

- JODRISCOLL, I.DOYLE, P.GOOD,
SELECTOR.

Not in photo: D.SODEN, A.COWLEY, R.O'SULLIVAN.

CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.
WINNERS OF CORK JUNIOR LEAGUE, MUNSTER JUNIOR CUP,
MUNSTER SECONDS LEAGUE, & STARRY CROWLEY CUP,
2004 - 2005



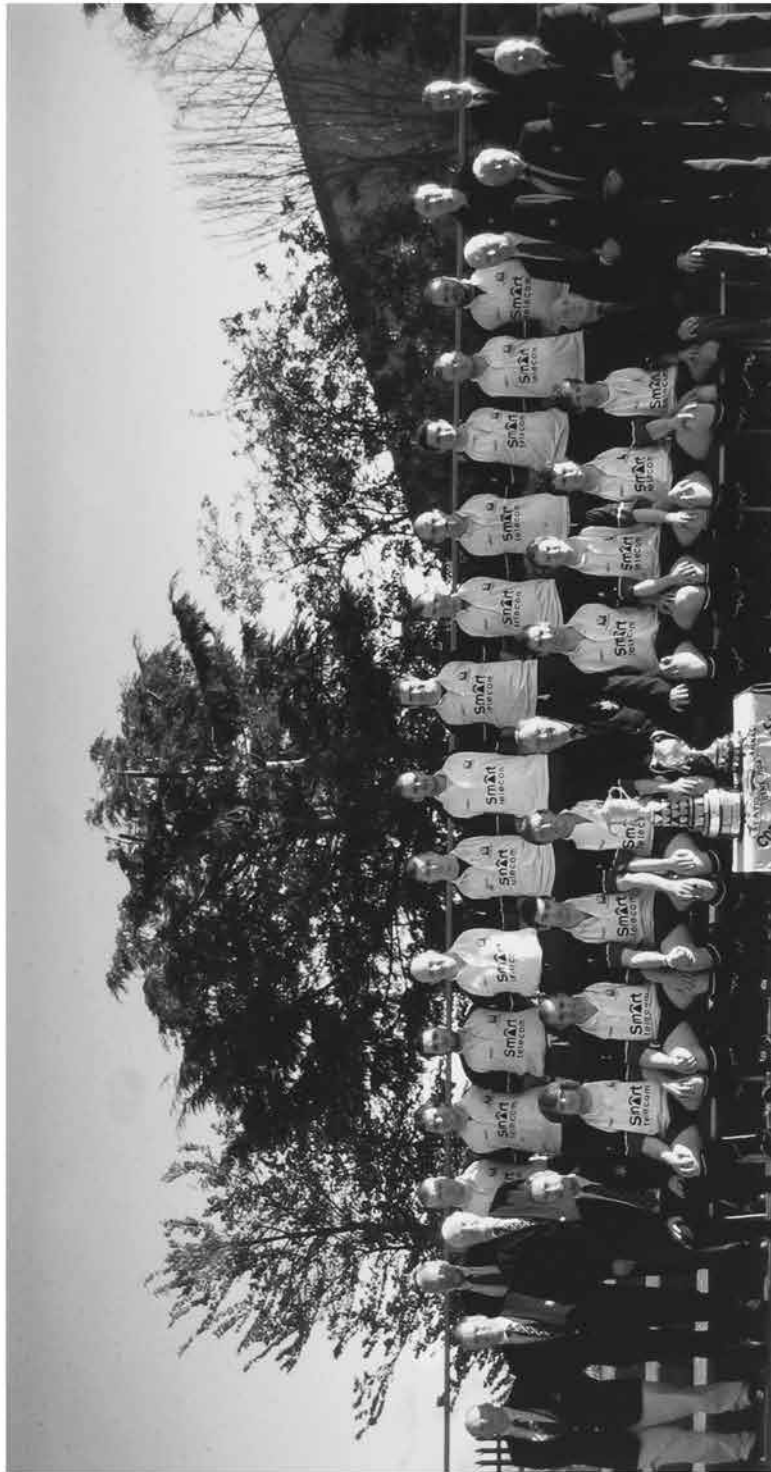
FO'CONNOR, D.FOGARTY, E.MURPHY, JJ.CAHILL, A.ROSS, G'KEANE, A.RYAN, D.IYONS, F.GUINIAN,
TEAM SECRETARY
 S.HORGAN, J.DANAGHER, M.DAUNT, F.COGAN, J.CULLEN, A.KELLEHER, M.ROSS, P.DOYLE, N.KENNEALTY,
HON. SECRETARY

D'ORJORDAN, A.BYRNE, S.COUGHLIN, E.BUSTEED, E.CASSIDY, G'HEGARTY, D.O'DOWD, P'OLEARY -
SELECTOR COACH MANAGER SELECTOR

L'HURLEY, L'HILL, R.KENNEALTY, R.O'DONOVAN, H.CASEY, E.WAIN, D'O'BRIEN, R.COILLINS, -
SELECTOR COACH MANAGER SELECTOR PRESIDENT CAPTAIN

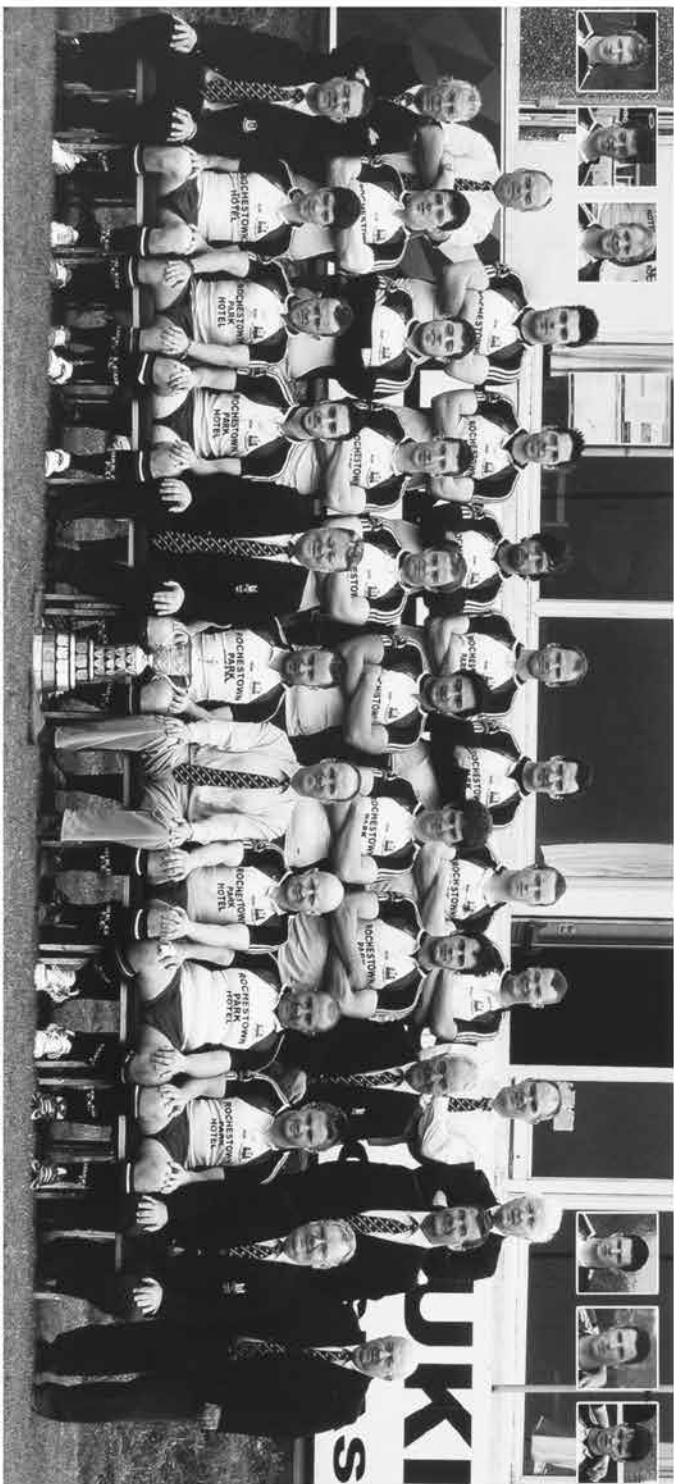
(*Not in photo: D'FOLEY & R.HASSEN.*)

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB.
 MUNSTER JUNIOR CUP & CORK JUNIOR LEAGUE WINNERS.
 2007-08.



B.LUDGATE, SR. E.McSWEENEY, D.MURRAY, M.O'LEARY, G.MURRAY, P.BROUGHAN, E.CASSIDY, -
 DEPUTY PRESIDENT.
 - J.MOLONEY, M.KEYES, J.CUILEN, J.NOONAN, P.CROWLEY, T.RYAN, S.COUGHLIN, D.O'RIORDAN.
 COACH.
 I.MITCHELL, P.DERHAM, SWALDRON, P.KEEFE, JNR. W.MORRISSEY, D.FITZGERALD,
 DIR. OF RUGBY: TEAM MANAGER. DEPUTY PRESIDENT. CHAIRMAN OF MANAG TEAM SECRETARY
 P.TWOMEY, D.DALY, R.HASSAN, E.LEAMY, R.CASEY, J.O'SULLIVAN, D.O'LEARY, D.LYONS, PHURLEY,
 HON. TREASURER. CAPTAIN PRESIDENT.
 - C.NOLAN, M.O'GORMAN. HON. SECRETARY
 Also Played: S.COSTIGAN, N.BARRY, B.NEWMAN, S.CAUL, D.KANE, R.QUINN, B.MELBOURNE, -
 -ACOUGHAN, D.KELLY, D.NETHERY, J.SHORT.

CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.
WINNERS OF
MUNSTER JUNIOR CUP, MUNSTER SECONDS LEAGUE,
& SOUTH MUNSTER JUNIOR LEAGUE,
2011-2012.



IAN MITCHELL, DAVE O'BRIEN, MATT ROSS, ALEX ROSS, ROGAN GEE, DANNY O'SHEA,
 ASSISTANT COACH.

- ANDREW WHITE, MICHAEL KEYES, JERRY MURRAY, STAN WALDRON,
 ASSISTANT COACH, TEAM MANAGER.

IAN O'LEARY, CHRIS CORKERY, EDDIE QUINN, CONOR DESMOND, BRIAN VAUGHAN, YASIN BROWNE,
 JUNIOR DER PRES.

- BARRY FITZGERALD, ALAN ROSS, FINIAN O'DRISCOLL, JERRY HOLAND, DAVE FITZGERALD,
 DEPUTY PRESIDENT, DIRECTOR OF RUGBY

COLIN KIERIDE, SEAN O'G MURPHY, SEAN KELLY, EGIN O'DONNELL, BRIAN HUMPHRIES,
 HON. SECRETARY

- PETER O'SULLIVAN, NIAL MURRAY, GARETH MURRAY, RYAN HASSAN,
 CAPTAIN, TEAM COACH, CLUB CAPTAIN

- KIERAN STOKES, JACK O'SULLIVAN,
 CHAIR OF MANAGEMENT

Manager: A. KELLEHER, R. DOOLEY, D. CAHANEY, C. McGOVERN, S. DESMOND, G. MURRAY



J1 MILLENNIUM CUP WINNERS 2000-01



MUNSTER SECONDS LEAGUE WINNERS 2005-06



MUNSTER SECONDS LEAGUE WINNERS 2015-16

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
MINOR SQUADS



DENNEHY CUP WINNERS 1992-93



J4 CUP WINNERS 1993-94



J2 CUP WINNERS 1998-99

CUP TEAM 2000/2001

Back Row:- Rory O'Connell, Kevin Flanagan, Alan O'Connell, John Hyde, David Soden, Eoin McManus, Jack Daly, Frank Mulvihill, Pat O'Donovan.

Middle Row:- Michael Behan, Kevin Coughlan, Tom Creedon, Nessian O'Sullivan, David Ludgate, Anthony Costello, Rob Johnson, Ron O'Sullivan, Padraig Higgins.

Front Row:- Sean Hickey, Denis O'Donovan, Roy O'Leary, Greg Barrett (President), Ian Mitchell, Barry Wayne, Johnny O'Mahony.



CUP TEAM 2001/2002

Back Row:- Paddy Kelly, Des Murphy, Gareth Williams, Rory O'Sullivan, Nessian O'Sullivan, Colin O'Keefe, Kevin Cooper, Emmet Cassidy, Kieran Murray, Ian Mitchell, Micheal Behan, Shane Moynihan.

Front Row:- David Ludgate, Vincent Soden, Peter Murphy, Rory McDonald, Johnny O'Mahony, Roy O'Leary, Donal O'Callaghan, Dave Foley, Eoin McManus, Ron O'Sullivan.



CORK CONSTITUTION F.C.
WINNERS OF J2 MILLENNIUM ALL-IRELAND CUP,
1999 - 2000.



A MURPHY; K MURPHY; D O'DONOVAN, R O'SULLIVAN, R ZWICKERT, R WILLIAMS, B O'MAHONY,
COACH - BACKS
 - J ELLIS, S O'CONNOR, I MITCHELL, M CONNOLLY; C WARD, D WHITE, D MURPHY;
COACH - FORWARDS
 T O'CALLAGHAN, J DAVY, E McMANUS, G BARRETT, K FLANAGAN, R JOHNSON, J O'MAHONY, M LAWTON,
CAPTAIN, SENIOR V. PRESIDENT.
 I DOYLE, G MCKNIGHT, J HYDE, C MAHONY;



DENNEHY CUP & J2 CUP WINNERS 2005-06



J4 CUP WINNERS 2005-06



DENNEHY CUP, J2 CUP & LEAGUE WINNERS 2006-07



DENNEHY CUP WINNERS 2009-10



DENNEHY CUP WINNERS 2013 - 2014

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
UNDER 20 SQUADS

**Cork Constitution F.C.
 Winners of Fraser Mc Millen U20 All Ireland Cup & Munster U20 League
 2013-14**

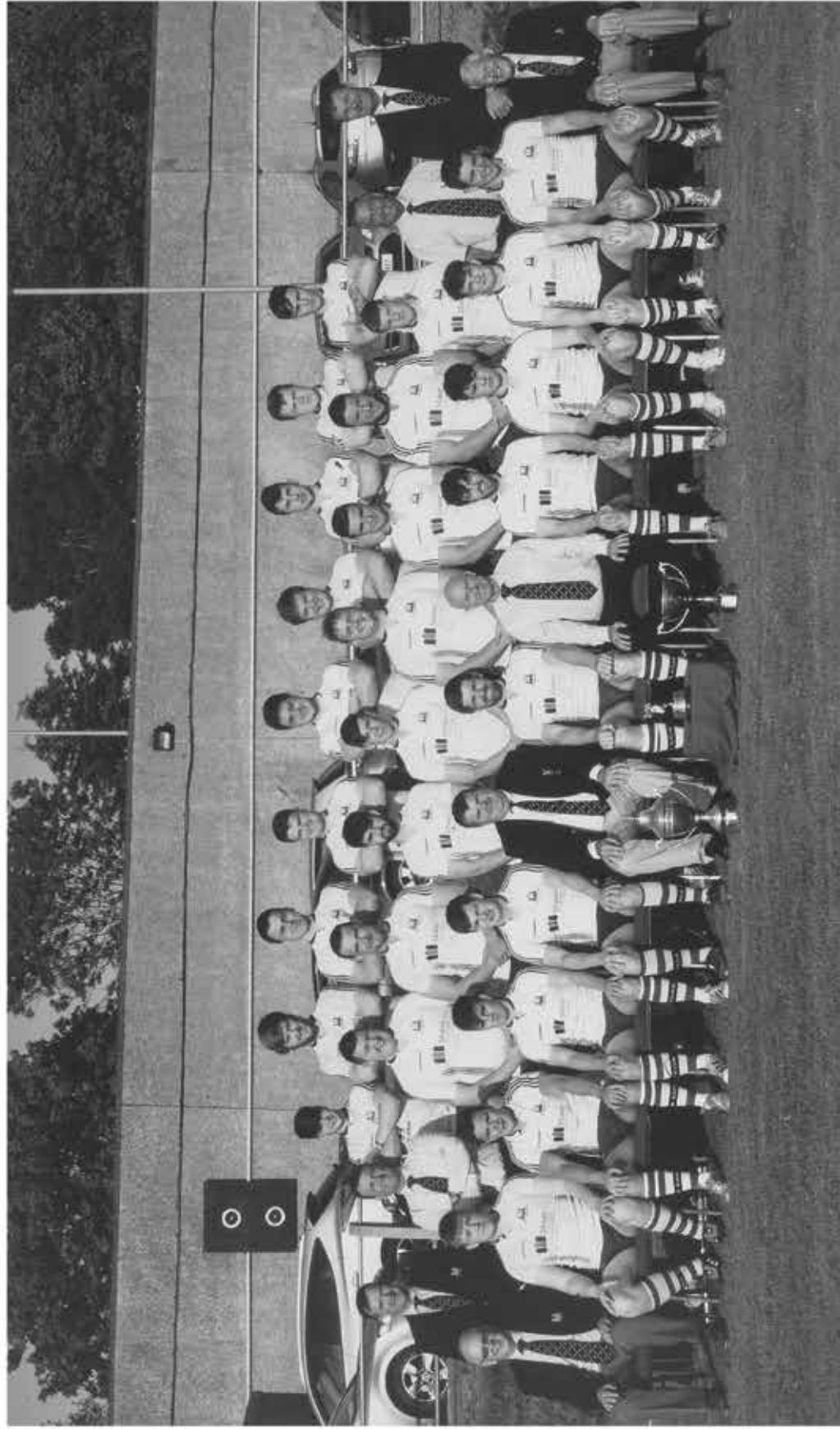


Back Row: S. McGinley, D. O'Callaghan, L. O'Connell, R. O'Halloran, G. Mullins, E. Beechmore, D. Moloney, M. Coughlan, J. Murphy, J. Murray, C. Cunningham, D. Hurley, E. Moore, D. Mullins, Team Manager.

Middle Row: C. Kinnane, Hon Secretary: B. O'Hara, Selector: P. O'Leary, Deputy President: J. O'Mahony, Hon Secretary: M. McTigue, T. Quinn, K. Clancy
 P. Stokes, M. O'Sullivan, D. O'Sullivan, R. Flanagan, G. Ryan, C. McAuliffe, A. Smyth, S. Galvin, J. Lehan, L. McKernaghan, R. Keyes, Selector:
 P. Good, Junior Deputy President: J. Holland, Director of Rugby: J. Murphy, Hon Treasurer.

Front Row: P. McCarthy, Asst. Coach: A. Duggan, S. O'Sullivan, S. Dwyer, I. O'Leary, President: M. Murphy, Captain: R. Foley, Vice-Captain:
 B. Walsh, Coach: R. Burke, M. Annett, A. Slattery.

Cork Constitution F.C.
Winners of Fraser McMailan U20 All Ireland Cup and Munster U20 League
2015-2016



Back Row: K. Cooke, C. Murphy R. O'Mara, V O'Brien, G. Roche, L. Walsh, J. White, D. Coughlan, A. O'Keefe.

Second Row: J. O'Mahony (Hon Secretary), C. Kinsabe (Team Secretary), R. Nylara, S. O'Leary R. Walsh, J. Murphy J. Tierney S. Daly E. Minneen, J. Polanz, D. Mullins (Manager), J. Holland (Director of Rugby).

Front Row: M. Daly (Chairman of Management), C. Barry S. Kennedy J. Ahear, M. Clune, P. Good (President), R. Horgan (Captain), T. Mulcahy (Coach), K. O'Brien, I. O'Brien, E. Lacey S. Gray J. Murphy (Hon Treasurer).



UNDER 20 LEAGUE WINNERS 1999-00



UNDER 20 SQUAD 2005-06



UNDER 20 SQUAD 2010-11



UNDER 20 LEAGUE WINNERS 2014-15

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
YOUTH SQUADS



U14 SQUAD IN BRISTOL 2010



U14 SQUAD 2010-11



U14 SQUAD IN EDINBURGH 2012



U14 TEAM - CUP FINAL 2015



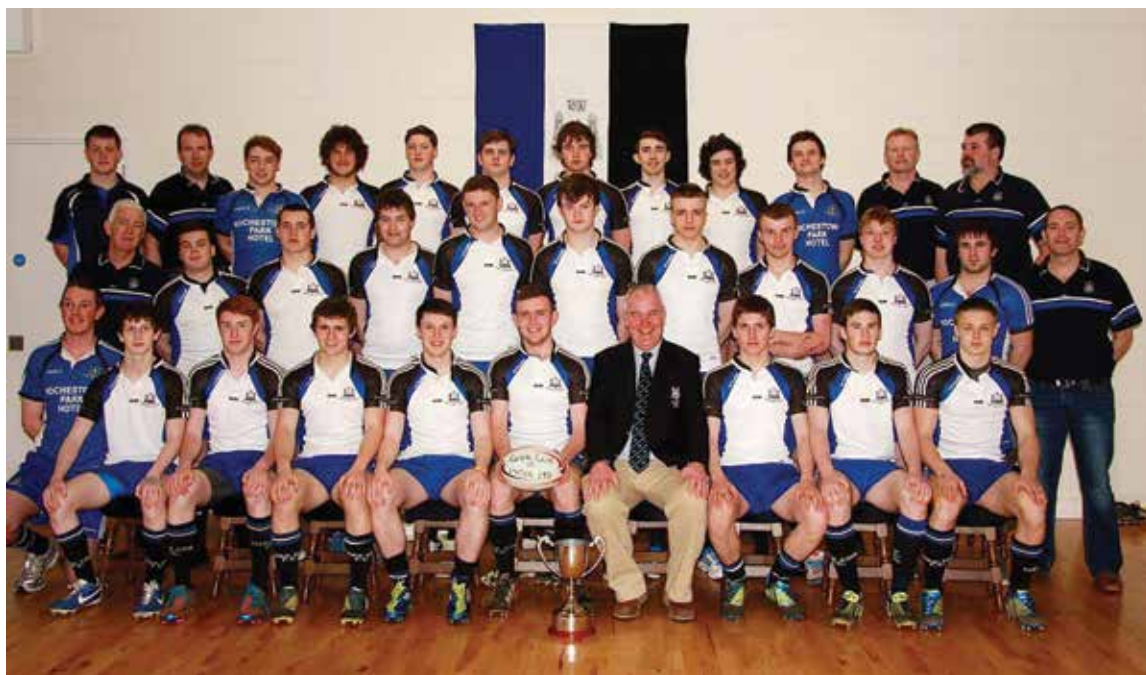
U14 SQUAD IN KERRY 2013



U14 SQUAD IN THOMOND PARK 2016



U18 SQUAD 2011-12



U18 SQUAD - CUP WINNERS 2012-13



U18 SQUAD - 2014-15

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
JUVENILE SQUADS



UNDER 7 2015 SQUAD



UNDER 8 1992-93 TEAM



UNDER 9 2012-13 SQUAD



UNDER 11 2011 SQUAD



UNDER 12 1995-96 SQUAD



UNDER 12 1997-98 SQUAD



UNDER 12 2007 SQUAD



UNDER 13 2007 TOUR TO ROME



UNDER 13 2011 TOUR TO BATH



UNDER 13 2012 TOUR TO ROME



UNDER 13 2012 TOUR TO ROME



UNDER 13 2013 TOUR TO PARIS



UNDER 13 2015 TOUR TO LONDON



UNDER 13 2016 TOUR TO WALES

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
REPRESENTATIVE PLAYERS

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS

BRITISH & IRISH LIONS

O.J.S. Piper	1910 SA
N.A.Murphy	1959A NZ 1966 A NZ
T.J.Kiernan	1962 Sa 1968 SA (Captain)
D.G.Lenihan	1983 NZ 1986 IRFB Centenary 1989 A
R.J. O’Gara	2001 A 2005 NZ 2009 SA
D.F. O’Callaghan	2005 NZ 2009 SA
S. Zebo	2013 AUS

IRELAND

FULL INTERNATIONALS

E.McCarthy	1898	P.T.J. O’Hara	1991
M.F.Landers	1904	P.T.McCarthy	1992
R.M.Magrath	1909	D.S.Corkery	1994
O.J.S.Piper	1909	G. Fulcher	1994
W.F.Riordan	1910	P.A. Burke	1995
M.R.Hefernan	1911	D.P.O’Mahony	1995
I.Popham	1922	B.T. O’Meara	1997
N.F.Murphy	1930	R.J.O’Gara	2000
J.D.Egan	1931	F.J. Sheahan	2000
J.V.Rearden	1934	M.R.O’Driscoll	2001
J.C.Daly	1947	J.P.Kelly	2002
A.O’Leary	1952	D.F.O’Callaghan	2003
M.J.Cunningham	1956	A.P.Horgan	2003
N.A.Murphy	1958	D.Leamy	2005
T.J.Kiernan	1963	D.Hurley	2009
B.J.McGann	1970	P.O’Mahony	2012
D.St J.Bowen	1977	S.Zebo	2012
D.G.Lenihan	1981	S.Archer	2012
M.C.Finn	1982	B.Holland	2016
M.T.Bradley	1984	J.Ryan	2016
R.P.Keyes	1986		
D.G.Mc Grath	1987		
K.J.Murphy	1990		

IRELAND

A & B INTERNATIONALS

H.A.Smith	1975	L.M.Dinneen	1993
D.St.J.Bowen	1976	D.S.Corkery	1995
A.F.O'Leary	1979	D.P.O'Mahony	1995
J.G.Barrett	1979	B.T.O'Meara	1996
C.D.Cantillon	1982	R.J.O'Gara	1999
P.D.Derham	1982	F.J.Sheahan	1999
M.T.Bradley	1983	C.J.Mahony	1999
R.P.Keyes	1984	J.P.Kelly	2000
J.P.Barry	1984	M.R.O'Driscoll	2000
J.A.O'Riordan	1989	A.P.Horgan	2000
K.J.Murphy	1990	D.F.O'Callaghan	2001
P.T.McCarthy	1990	D.Hurley	2008
P.J.Soden	1990	D. Hurley	2008
B.A.Walsh	1993	D. Fogarty	2009

IRELAND

CLUB INTERNATIONALS

F. Cogan	2006	P.Donnellan	2012
M. O'Connell	2007	D.Lyons	2013
C. Healy	2007	A.O'Driscoll	2014
S. O'Connor	2008	W. Ryan	2014
C. Healy	2008	G. Sweeney	2015
D. Murray	2008	J. Ryan	2015
E. Ryan	2010	M. Abbott	2016
M. Gateley	2010		
G. Hurley	2012		
C.Quinn	2012		

IRELAND

UNDER 21 INTERNATIONALS

D.S. Corkery	1993	D.Fogarty	2004
B.T. O'Meara	1996	B.Keeshan	2005
A.P.Horgan	1997	T.Gleeson	2006
R.J. O'Gara	1997	P.O'Mahony	2009
F.J. Sheahan	1998	B.Hayes	2010
D.F.O'Callaghan	1999	S.Zebo	2010
J.M.Fogarty	1999	D.O'Driscoll	2010
S.O'Connor	2003	B.Cagney	2010
T.O'Leary	2004	D.O'Mahony	2011
B.O'Connor	2004	C.O'Flaherty	2011

IRELAND

UNDER 20 INTERNATIONALS

R. Burke	2014	V. O'Brien	2016
M. Abbott	2014	S. Daly	2016
D. Moloney	2014	E. Mintern	2016
R. Foley	2014	J. Poland	2016
L.O'Connor	2015	D. Walsh	2016
T. Quinlan	2015		

IRELAND

UNDER 19 INTERNATIONALS

D.F. O'Callaghan	1998	R.T. McGrath	1999
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IRELAND

UNDER 18 / YOUTH INTERNATIONALS

R. Thomas	1993	D. Murray	1997
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CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB MUNSTER PLAYERS

1991-1995 – INTERPROVINCIAL SERIES

1991-92	LM Dineen PT McCarthy CM Murphy	V Donnelly RP Keyes	BA Walsh PJ Soden
1992-93	C Haly	PTJ O'Hara	MT Bradley
1993-94	G Fulcher	G O'Sullivan	KJ Murphy
1994-95	K Murphy DP O'Mahony	PA Burke	DS Corkery
1995-96	C Twomey		

MUNSTER SQUAD PLAYERS

1995 – HEINEKEN CUP COMMENCED

1995-96	PA Burke DP O'Mahony	DS Corkery BA Walsh	G Fulcher
1996-97	LM Dineen U O'Callaghan	PT McCarthy BT O'Meara	I Murray FJ Sheahan
1997-98	AP Horgan	JP Kelly	RJ O'Gara
1998-99	CJ Mahony	C Mahony	MR O'Driscoll

2001 – CELTIC LEAGUE COMMENCED

2001-02	DF O'Callaghan	J Fogarty	J Williams
2002-03	D Leamy		
2003-04	F Murphy D Pusey	S O'Connor D Sheehan	C O'Sullivan
2004-05	T Bowman	D Fogarty	J Manning
2005-06	B Cutriss		
2007-08	T Gleeson T Ryan	D Hurley	D Hurley
2008-09	B Holland	D Williams	
2010-11	S Archer B Hayes	S Deasy I Nagle	I Dineen P O'Mahony
2011-12	J Ryan	S Scanlon	S Zebo
2013-14	G Hurley		
2014-15	J Holland		
2015-16	D Sweetnam	L O'Connor	

CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB
CLUB BENEFACTORS



Cork Constitution F.C.

NEW CLUBHOUSE DEVELOPMENT
OPENED, 2013



PATRONS

Barrett Greg
Barrett Mark
Barry John
Barry Kieran
Barry Peter
Barry Tim
Boiland Michael
Booker Harry
Bowles Aidan
Bowles Damien
Bruce Alan
Burke Eoin
Cagney Dave
Cahill Tom
Cain Joann
Casey Joe
Clarke Ray
Chines Conor
Comyn Arthur
Coughlan Liam S.
Crawley Jack
Cullinane John
Daly Michael
Dempsey Pat
Dennehy Fergal
Derham Paul
Dineen Len
Dowling Billy
Dinan Jack

Doyle Joe
Duffy Gary
Fairley Clifford
Fielding Kevin
Fisher Paul
Fitzgerald Brian
Fitzgerald Pat
Fitzgerald Peter
Galvin Michael
Gately Tommy
Gillane John
Glavin Paul
Good Peter
Grogan Donal
Hennessey Jack
Hickey Brian
Hill Charlie
Hill Orlando
Holland Jerry
Horgan Gary
Humphries Brian
Hurley Liam
Hurley Martin
Jones Brian
Kahn Bobby
Kavanagh Thomas
Kennedy Robert
Keohane Dan
Keys Ralph

Kiernan Tom
Kilbride Colin
Lenihan Donal
Livingston Shay
Lucy John
Luke Chris
Lynch Garvan
Lynch Tom
Moloney Mick
McCarthy Paul
McCarthy Tadig
McGinn Orla
McNamara Aidan
Meade Tom
Morrisey Walton
Moynihan Colin
Moynihan Humphrey
Moynihan Pat
Mulkahy Pat
Mullins Don
Murphy Charlie
Murphy Colm
Murphy Dave
Murphy Jim
Murphy John F.
Murphy Noel A.
Murphy Kenny
Murphy Stephen
Nathan Vir

O'Brien Frank
O'Connell Barrie
O'Conner Frank
O'Conner Tony
O'Driscoll Finian
O'Flynn Denis
O'Flynn Gerald A.
O'Gorman Michael
O'Hara Pat
O'Keefe Pat
O'Leary Anthony
O'Leary Archie
O'Leary Flor
O'Leary Ian
O'Leary Peter
O'Mahony John
O'Neill Eoin
O'Riordan James
O'Sullivan Jack
O'Sullivan Mark
Rechie Tony
Scott Declan
Smith Bertie
Touhy Liam
Twomey Pat
Walsh Stan
Walsh Dermot F.
Walsh Noel



CORK CONSTITUTION FOOTBALL CLUB CLUB SPONSORS SEASON 2016 – 2017

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O’Neills Sportswear
Cushman & Wakefield Ireland

Cork Constitution would like to thank the following sponsors:

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Excelsys Technologies	National Business Machines
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Ford Motor Company	O’Sullivan’s Pharmacy
Fota Island Resort	Phil O’Sullivan Electrical
GP Wood	Porterhouse Craft Brewery
PJ Hegarty & Sons	RDJ Solicitors
Heineken	Ramen Aisan Street Food
Holland’s Pharmacy	Roberts Nathan
Hyde Auctioneers	Rochestown Park Hotel
Insight Risk Management	Ryan’s SuperValu
Invesco Pension & Investment Consultants	Sigma Homes
Irish Distillers	John Sisk & Son
Irish Rugby Tours	TeamServe Cleaning & Facility Services
Irish Life Investment Managers	The Village Veterinary Clinic

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