

Dunnamaggin's Hurling Heroes - The Men of '97

Victory in this famous game
Brought glory to the parish game
To Nowlan Park, the crowds they came
To see Dunnamaggin take the title.

In life's long march you have made us proud
And your names we call from out the crowd

Call out the names, aloud aloud
Of Dunnamaggin's hurling heroes

We watched you that October day
Entranced, as though in heaven
Watched you stride majestically through the fray
The Kilkenny kings of '97

And Kilmoganny men who saw you then
Will forever speak in awe
In the Horse and Hound and Dunphys' lounge
They'll tell of what they saw

The hands that gripped the flashing ash
And the men who played with style and dash
Oh Erins Own once felt the crash
And the Boro boys and Gowran.

So now to those who won the crown
To the men who put Young Irelands down
In goal, we had the best around -
Brave Anthony McCormack.

The Hickeys brothers manned the full-back line
Their defensive play was quite sublime
There was Jim and Noel and Tom by name
What a day he chose for the finest game.

Eamonn Kennedy has had such a marvellous year
At centre-half-back, a man without peer
Flanked on the field by two men brave and tall
The close marking Noel Lahart, the proud captain Paul Cahill.

Our midfield pair, they chose their day
To treat us to their best display
With heart and skill, they both held sway
Mick O'Neill and Denis Lahart.

Our forward line, how these lads did shine
There was Ramie Cahill and the slick Sean Ryan
And when frees were gifted near the line
We had the accurate Michael Moran.

Now this has been Paul Carney's year
And with his team-mates, he's struck fear,

But could we, I ask, have won this day
Without the skills of Matt and Ken O'Shea.

The subs we carried to the park
Were all so keen to make their mark
Now, who to play, that could be tricky
The call went to Richie O'Neill and big John Hickey.

If you ever need a hurling plan
Then Brendan Fennelly is your man
How this trainer works, that's a secret closed.
Pray it is never leaked to all our foes.

To you who support this champion team
And to all who have helped create this dream
Now is your time to taste the cream
May the memory last forever.

And now, before I down my pen,
We say "Thank You" to our backroom men.
To each who would make this dream unfold
May the sun never set on your Green and Gold.

Tom Peters