

Foreword

In this the 60th continuous year of the GAA in the parish of Aghaderg it is my good fortune and honour to be the chairman of Aghaderg GFC and Ballyvarley HC. Over these sixty years and indeed before that the GAA has provided a much needed and valuable service to the community of Aghaderg and in doing so has rooted the traditions of Cumann Luthchleas Gael within the people and families of our small rural community. Indeed, it is difficult to imagine our parish without the active involvement of the GAA. Therefore it is only but right that we as a club and as a community acknowledge the huge debt we owe to the original founders of our club and all those people in the intervening years who have worked so hard to keep alive the spirit, ethos and traditions of the great organisation of which we are all part.

The true measure of a club's success is not simply the number of trophies it wins, rather it is in the way it extends to all the members of its community, young and old, boys and girls, the talented and not so talented, the opportunity to partake within the community and to feel appreciated for the efforts they make. On this measure, Aghaderg GFC and Ballyvarley HC can consider themselves among the best in Co. Down and to have remained true to the principles of our founding members and the GAA. Today our young people have opportunities to partake in football, hurling, camogie, Irish dancing, athletics and scor thanks to the enthusiasm of our coaches and the dedicated members of our club who work tirelessly to ensure its continued success.

Our club like all clubs owe a lot to our ladies who perform a lot of good work that is often overlooked. Those women and girls who have cleaned, served, prepared and organised so many functions and gatherings over the years, have brought an extra and much appreciated dimension to our club. Their efforts, often discreet and unpretentious, have added enormously to our club and we are much indebted to them.

It is my privilege and honour on behalf of all of us who have benefited from our club over the years to extend our heartfelt and warm thanks to all of those, past and present, who have worked for the GAA in Aghaderg thereby providing both enjoyment and excitement to many thousands of people over the past sixty years.

Chairman

Aodhan O'Labhra

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Sixty Years A Growing Aghaderg GFC and Ballyvarley HC.

Sunday August 29th 1943 witnessed the establishment of the present Aghaderg GFC, which has actively promoted Gaelic games and culture within the parish until the present day.

The highlight of the first year was a runner up position in the newly formed Frontier Junior League where they continued to play until 1948 when they gained promotion to the intermediate league.

While juvenile and minor football was not as well organised during this period within the county Aghaderg were very much to the fore in encouraging their young players. A number of Aghaderg players were on a combined Aghaderg, Tullylish and Banbridge minor team which won the minor championship 1947 and again in 1951 seven Aghaderg players were on the Banbridge team, which won the same competition. These included Joe, John and Eddie Lennon, Hugh and Nat Ross, Patsy Kearney, Jack Warnock and Eamon Byrne. During the early 1950's Aghaderg had a number of successes in seven a side competitions and indeed these players along with the promising minor players were to form the foundation of a very successful era which stretched from 1954 to 1961. The Lennon brothers, Joe, John, Eddie and Frank (RIP), Hugh Ross, Jack Warnock and Gerard McGrath all represented Down at various levels during this period.

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In 1958 Aghaderg gained promotion by winning section 1 of the newly formed South Down Intermediate League and by defeating Longstone , the winners of section 2 in the league final.

The 1960's were to see less success on the playing fields but hurling and football continued to be promoted while the success of ex playing member Joe Lennon at inter county level was always an inspiration. It is interesting to study the records and note those players who contributed to each era, in most instances without winning any silverware but enjoying the game, the camaraderie and by making their own distinctive contribution to the life and development of the parish.



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A typical year? -1964 Aghaderg finished in 6th position in the South Down Intermediate league and were defeated in the third round of the championship by Drumaness. The Aghaderg story records that the following 28 players represented the club Hugh Ross(23) Gregory McGovern (22) Francis Burns, Gerard McGrath, Jim Ross and Barney McGivern (21) Jim McAvoy, Eugene McGrath and Frank Lennon (20) Pat McCourt and Carbie McGovern (17) Kevin Quinn (16) Dessie Quinn and Pat Meehan (14) Fr P Kearney and Mickey McGrath (7) Seamus Byrne and Louis Campbell (6) Noel McGrath and Sean McGrath (3) Martin Lennon and Brendan Warnock (2) Celestine McGrath Davy Ferguson, Fr J Warnock, Joe McGrath, Gus Lennon Francie McGrath (1)

The early 1970's also witnessed the first juvenile success in the club when an U 16 team captained by Raphael Cribbin and managed by Seamus McGrath were defeated in a championship final by Newry Shamrocks but gained revenge by beating Shamrocks in a South Down seven a side competition. The final was played after a National League match and refereed by All-Ireland

referee Patsy Devlin, Tyrone. Many of this team including Brendan Lennon, Michael Sands, Raphael Cribbin, Michael Higgins, Liam Ross, Gregory and Brendan McGrath formed the backbone of senior football teams for the next decade. During the late '70's and early '80's Michael Sands won All Ireland minor and U 21 medals , an Ulster Senior championship and a National League title. Michael is also the proud possessor of a full range of college medals from Corn Na Nog to Hogan.

The 1980's were to see continued efforts at both juvenile and senior level but lack of numbers made it difficult to gain success and the greatest disappointment occurred in 1984 when a golden opportunity for promotion was lost in the committee room. The senior panel of Brendan Malone, Peter Donald, Cairbre McGovern, Gusty Lennon, Brendan Lennon, Brendan Donald, Michael Higgins, Sean O'Neill, Anthony McGrath, Kevin O'Neill, Martin Burns, Tom Sands, Seamus O'Rourke, Damien Lennon, Francie McGrath, Aidan McAvoy, Finbarr Lennon, Francie Burns, Martin Malone, Gerard McAvoy Gerard Lennon, Gerard O'Neill and Paul Neeson under the direction of Seamus McGrath were to lose a golden opportunity to gain promotion in centenary year when a bizarre decision by the county committee robbed the Aghaderg club of their just rewards. In the 1990's at senior level Aghaderg won the 1995 South Down Winter League under the direction of Kevin Murphy and barely missed promotion in the play offs. However, they were to struggle in the next few years as they suffered from the twin scourges of emigration and transfers.

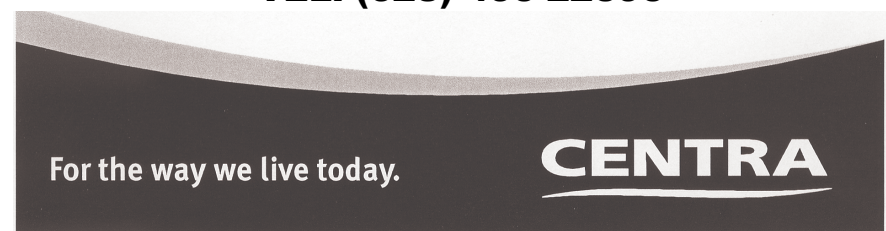
The 1990's like the 1970's were to witness a major commitment to juvenile members of the club. The problems associated with declining numbers were addressed by seeking amalgamations with some of our neighbouring parishes. A number of juvenile teams gained success at South Down divisional level on our own at U 14 level, with Glenn at U 15 Og Sport and at U 16 level, with Annaclone at minor and U 21 level. The U 21 team had two excellent years when they proved themselves a match for the best in the county. In 2000 they beat Rostrevor in the South Down Final but were narrowly defeated by an outstanding Kilcoo side who had defeated them in the corresponding Og Sport final four years previously. In 2001 they were defeated by An Riocht in the South Down Final. The Aghaderg coaches involved in the different levels in this era included, Gusty Lennon, Seamus McGrath Adrian Lennon, Gerard O'Neill, Michael Sands Gerard Mc Avoy and Eamon Farrell. Many of these players are now the backbone of the present senior team who gained promotion to division 3 in 1999 and were beaten finalists in the 2001 Junior Football Championship. This Championship final was to generate great excitement in the parish, as Aghaderg had never managed to reach a championship final in its fifty-eight

year existence. Training was stepped up to three hard sessions per week and the expertise of Brian Canavan ex Armagh manager was introduced to support the efforts of team manager Seamus McGrath and his assistant Gregory McGrath. Their efforts were dealt a blow when they lost three players to injury and one to suspension. However, on the day Mitchels proved marginally stronger and more experienced to win 2-9 to 0-9. Nine teenagers played on this historic day and they were ably supported by players such as Anthony McGrath, Pat Lennon and Gerard McAvoy who had laboured for more than two decades in the Aghaderg colours. A disappointing result but a tremendous experience for all those involved. Three of this teenage group played minor football for Down in the Ulster championship viz Rory Simpson, John McAreavey and Colm Farrell while eleven played in the 2001 championship campaign – can you spot them in the team photograph?

The new millennium witnesses the continued promotion of Gaelic football in the parish of Aghaderg. The senior football team had a disappointing year when they failed to maintain their division 3 status as they lost out in the play offs. The 2003 panel included Paul McGrath, Donal Moran, Mervyn Colgan, James McGrath, Martin Fitzpatrick, Paul McGivern, Graeme Donaghy, David McGovern, Conor Lavery, Martin O'Neill, Rory Simpson, Pat Lennon, Aaron McAvoy, Stephen Fitzsimmons, Damien Simpson, Anthony McGrath, Cathal McGrath, John McAreavey, Willie Fitzpatrick, Kieran Lennon, Mark McGrath, Colm O'Neill and Ciaran Connolly under the direction of Tony Kearney. Hopefully this disappointment can be seen as an opportunity to follow the example of Banbridge, Ardglass and Glenn who in the last three years have benefited enormously by using this less competitive division to regroup, reorganise and blood a few young players as each in turn gained promotion and success in the Junior championship.

Throughout this review of football in Aghaderg, there is the recurring theme of the promotion of the game at juvenile level. 2003 again demonstrates this commitment as a dedicated group of parents and club members have coached and organised an enthusiastic group of young boys and girls in the skills of the game. The final activity on the football pitch this year was an internal juvenile football blitz when 28 U 10s and 28 U 14s took part in the day's events which were coordinated by Donal Moran, Mervyn Colgan, Martin Donnelly and Gerard McAvoy.

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THE CLASS OF 1999

*99 is almost gone and suddenly we enter a new dawn
'cause Aghaderg GFC has finally found a new home
And what a struggle it has been after the depressing years some of us
have seen
For me it started back in '82
I didn't know then what I do know now – how it would take 17 years to
end this depression with blood sweat and tears.
Now some of the things that have happened on the field in this time are
too excruciating to mention but in saying this the odd one or two deserve
a little attention
I remember the year we almost went up but we couldn't avoid the odd
punch up
Glassdrumman it was who couldn't settle it on the pitch so they took their
quarrel to the locals on the ditch.
We had managers galore during this period but at the end of each year
the clock kept repeating the same old chime
I remember the wins and many of them there were but it was the losses
that were hard to bear
For a number of years we just didn't prepare and in many cases the
players just didn't care.
But for some who did it caused great pain because for them football was
more than just a game.*

Meanwhile Seamie and others were working away to develop the youth for another day.

With Kevin and Paul, Rory and Stevie, Coke junior Cathal James and Marty coming into the side there was a feeling our goal was near.

Still having lost all our matches only a year ago there were many who would have said we were a definite no

Seamie brought in Micky he of medals fame and some of us suspected it just might not be the same old refrain.

Training was tough going at first but when the play offs came round there was a feeling we might be sound.

St John's put a stop to that though in the first game and that feeling wouldn't go away – it would be more of the same.

'Kinler came next but we were up to the task and our dream was within touching distance at last.

Seven points the difference it was at the end but it did'nt really matter to us as we did'nt create much of a fuss.

Seriously though, it mattered to many to see Dundrum fall

So we have ended this so called famine and we're in Div 3 and the year ahead is equally important I'm sure you'll all agree.

To get out of this league took far too long and now it's down to each and everyone to make sure there's no repeat of the same old song.

Augustine Lennon



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BALLYVARLEY - A CENTURY OF HURLING TRADITION

This year the parish of Aghaderg and the town land of Ballyvarley, in particular, celebrates 100 years of hurling tradition. It is a remarkable milestone in a proud and distinguished association with Down hurling that ranges from the Clann Na Banna hurling teams of 1903 – 1907 that played in “The Hurley Field” of McConvilles at the Blue Road, through the legendary period that was Ballyvarley Shamrocks from 1908 – 1934 and up to the present day. Those early Clann Na Banna teams played, at various stages, in the Down and Belfast Leagues and several players from the Ballyvarley area played on those teams. In 1908 Ballyvarley Shamrocks were born and up until 1921 they competed in Down Senior League and Championship. In 1910 Ballyvarley Shamrocks won the Down Senior Hurling Championship beating Newry Faughs and in 1916 they drew the Final 6-1 to 6-1 with Kilclief in Castlewellan but for some reason there was no replay and Kilclief were awarded the title. In their final year, in 1934, Shamrocks won the Rathfriland and District Hurling League.

When the present Aghaderg Club was founded in 1943 hurling tradition yearned for a hurling team and on March 29th 1946 the myth of the Shamrocks inspired the men of Ballyvarley to form Ballyvarley Hurling Club. Five months later, on August 29th at Aghaderg GFC's AGM, the club assumed it's present title of “Aghaderg GFC and Ballyvarley HC” and today we remain unique as the only club in Down with a double-barrelled name.

The hurling selection committee for their first season was Fr Pettit, Bertie Leckey, Jack Fitzpatrick, Harry McCann, Jimmy McShane, Gerard Taylor and Harry McKay and the team that lined out for the first competitive game against Ballela Seconds was John Toner, Jim Loughran, Jimmy McShane, Jimmy Fullerton, Michael McGrath, Harry McCann(capt), James McGrath, Dinny Macken, Gerry Lennon, Augustine Lennon, J.H. O'Neill(vice-capt), Bertie Leckey, Sean McGrath, Ned Barry and John Lennon. Subs: Dan Lennon, Hugh McGrath, Seamus McGrath, Jackie Toner, Jim Murnaghan, Geordie Murnaghan, Jimmy Stewart, James Trainor and John McGarry.

In 1955 and 1958 Ballyvarley were Down Junior Hurling Championship Finalists but on both occasions lost to Leitrim. Throughout the sixties the senior selection committee included Pat Meehan, Ned Barry, Augustine Lennon, Gerard McGrath, Brian Murphy, Bob Farrissey, T B Lennon and Jimmy Stewart and in 1963 the current club captured their first senior hurling title by winning the South Down Hurling League. The victorious players were as follows: Gregory McGovern (capt), John H O'Neill, Eugene McGrath, Dan Lennon, Martin Lennon, Francis McEvoy, Fr Malloy, John Stewart, James Robert

Lennon, Noel McGrath, Gerard McGrath, Bob Farrissey, Augustine Lennon, Frank Lennon, Jimmy Stewart, Sean Cribbin, Pat Meehan, Desmond Quinn, Sean McGrath, Mickey McGrath, Brian Murphy, Eddie Lennon, Mickey Keenan, T.B Lennon, Aidan Flanagan and Barney McGivern.

That league success signalled the phased retirement of a number of hurling stalwarts and by the end of the decade local hurling stock was fairly low. However fortunes were about to change and an influx of young talent lead to a gradual revival in the clubs standard of hurling. The breakthrough came in 1974 when Ballyvarley took Kilkeel to a league play-off in Ballykinlar and did the seemingly impossible by winning 4-4 to 4-3 to capture the Down JHL title. The Ballyvarley team on that occasion was: Billy Clarke; Gerard O'Neill, Sean O'Neill(capt); Eugene McGrath, Martin Byrne, Sean Cribbin; Francis McGrath, Gabriel Barry; Brendan Lennon, Gabriel Cribben, Raphael Cribbin; Joe McGrath, Joe Cribbin. Subs: Seamus Lennon, Seamus Murnaghan, Michael Higgins, Adrian Lennon, Liam Ross, Brian Sands, Cairbre McGovern, Sean McShane, Paul Simpson, Dermot Maguire, Michael Farrissey and Jimmy Stewart.

The victory run continued into the Junior Championship Final of the following year when Ballyvarley renewed acquaintances with Leitrim for the third time in a Junior final. The Reds were under-dogs but with their entourage of flag-waving supporters they breezed into Holy Cross Park in Attical fully confident of a famous victory. It was an experience never to be forgotten as the Reds overcome their more experienced opponents to win by 3-6 to 3-2 and bring a Championship trophy back to the Parish after a drought of 65 years.

Everyone involved in that famous victory now set their sights on the Intermediate Championship and for the next twenty years the Reds were consumed with the unsuccessful quest for this Holy Grail. You need luck to win a championship and that fickle lady never smiled on the Reds. Circumstances dictated that we had little chance of winning the finals of 1979 and 1983, but there were four other occasions when Ballyvarley were at their peak and capable of taking that elusive crown. In 1976 the Reds looked like making it three senior trophies in consecutive years but Ballyvarley were squeezed out at the semi-final stage by Ballycran in Ballykinlar by 2-7 to 4-3 and felt they were robbed by some key decisions by an Ards referee. In the following season the Ballykinlar jinx, an Ards team and an Ards referee conspired once more to stop the Reds on their march to glory, with Ballygalget edging us out by 4-5 to 4-9 in a hotly contested game. Those confidence sapping victories succeeded in stifling the meteoric rise of Ballyvarley hurling but in 1981 we were back in contention again. It is an old cliché that a game is

never over until the final whistle and unfortunately Ballyvarley learnt that lesson the hard way. Ballyvarley looked to be heading for victory in their semi-final clash with Kilkeel in Leitrim but an injury time goal from Owen Sheehan snatched victory from Ballyvarley's grasp on a 3-8 to 2-10 score line. That defeat was a crushing blow which was made even more regrettable when Kilkeel went on to hammer Ballygalget by a cricket score in the final. The team on that occasion was: Liam Ross; Cairbre McGovern, Brendan Lennon, Martin Byrne; Gerard Lennon, Sean O'Neill, Seamus Lennon; Colm Broderick, Gerard O'Neill; Brendan Malone, Kevin O'Neill, Liam Stewart; Martin Malone, Michael Higgins, John Lennon. Subs: Francis McGrath, Aidan Hegarty, Anthony McGrath, Kevin Stewart and Seamus Stewart.

(Eugene Stewart)



ES HOMES
PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT

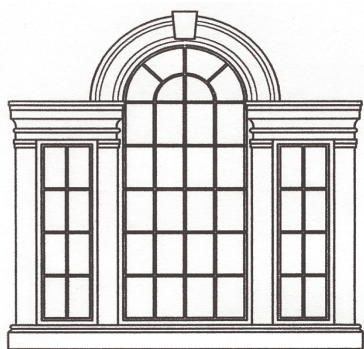
The fourth and final occasion when we were good enough to win the Intermediate Championship was when we reached our third final in 1987 against Ballycran. The team had already knocked the favourites Leitrim out at the semi-final stage but their efforts were to be thwarted by one of their own. An internal dispute led to the teams full back boycotting the game and there is little doubt that without this handicap Ballyvarley would have won a game they had dominated and that long sought after Intermediate Championship Trophy would have found a welcome home in Aghaderg. Jimmy Stewart and Cairbre McGovern were joint managers and the team lined out as follows: Martin Burns; Aidan Hegarty, Sean O'Neill, Seamus Lennon; Michael Higgins, Brendan Donald, Martin Malone; Kevin O'Neill, Anthony McGrath; Eugene Stewart, Finbar Lennon, Sean Warnock; Dermot Stewart, Gerard O'Neill, Aidan

McAvoy (capt). Subs: Cairbre McGovern, Billy McEvoy, Kieran Lennon, Gerard McAvoy.

Ballyvarley's hurling stock showed signs of another great revival in the nineties as another group of young players broke into the senior ranks. In 1994 we lost the Betsy Gray Cup Final to Newry but in 1998, the Reds were an impressive force and looked like the team of the future with a 5-10 to 0-2 victory over Newry Shamrocks in the Betsy Gray Cup Final in Ballykinlar. The team that day was: Martin Malone; Brian Donald, Pat McGrath, Michael Higgins, Kieran Lennon, Gerard Lennon, Cathal O'Neill; Colm O'Neill, Conor Grew; Eugene Stewart, Anthony McGrath, Martin O'Neill; Paul Stevenson, Sean O'Neill, Liam Cairns. Subs: Aidan McAvoy, Graeme Donaghy, Paul McGivern, Gerard Fullerton, Dermot Stewart, Damien Simpson, Stephen Fitzsimmons, John O'Neill, Gerard O'Neill.

Since then we have been narrowly piped on the post by Clonduff and Darragh Cross for league honours. Darragh Cross again thwarted the club in the Betsy Gray Shield final of 2000 and in 2002 we had one of our finest ever seasons but lost out to the combined strength of a Clonduff/Rostrevor team in both the Betsy Gray Shield Final and in the ACHL Division 2 Final.

Throughout the history of the club the hurling panel has always been noted for the loyalty of its players, their positive attitude and good team spirit and many players have given long-term service to the senior team. Sean O'Neill has been typical of this breed of player and this year he set a new record by completing 33 years on the senior team.



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2003 was a big disappointment as injuries, withdrawals from the panel and the vagaries of student life all contributed to the struggle to actually field a team.

2004 will test the players' commitment to our hurling tradition as the hurlers of yester-year lay down the challenge to today's players to continue our hurling tradition towards a second centenary.

The current senior panel is: Cathal O'Neill, Brian Donald, Gerard Lennon, Pat McGrath, John O'Neill, James McGrath, Michael Cairns, Eugene Stewart, Colm O'Neill, David McGovern, Martin O'Neill, Paul Stevenson, Eunan McConville, Dermot Stewart, Mark McGrath, Conor Lavery, Conor Grew, Cathal McGrath, Anthony McGrath, Sean O'Neill, Stephen Fitzsimmons, David Lavery, Ciaran Connolly, Sean Kennedy and Donal Moran.

Four Junior Feis Sevens Titles

For many people in the club the hurling Feis Sevens competition was always regarded as something very important. Ballyvarley's first appearance in the finals at Newcastle in 1963 and the nostalgia aroused by the team photograph that appeared in the Armagh Observer's "Down Memory Lane" inspired others' in later years, to try and emulate that historic achievement. The team didn't win in 1963 but unknown to them they left a legacy that encouraged others to go one better. The team mentors in '63 were Ned Barry and T.B. Lennon and the players were Mickey McGrath, Jimmy Stewart, Gerard McGrath, Brian Murphy, John Henry O'Neill, Francis McEvoy, Augustine Lennon and Gregory McGovern.

Ballyvarley qualified for 8 more finals losing in 1975, 1976, 1982, 1994 and winning in 1978, 1983, 1987 and 1999. A total of 31 players took part in those four winning finals and they were Gerard O'Neill(played 3); Michael Higgins, Brendan Malone, Kevin O'Neill, Damien Lennon, Sean O'Neill, Gerard Lennon, Aidan Hegarty, Aidan McAvoy, Anthony McGrath, Martin Malone, Finbar Lennon, Seamus Lennon and Eugene Stewart(played in 2); Liam Ross, Brendan Lennon, Raphael Cribbin, Francis McGrath, Martin Byrne, John Lennon, Brian Donald, Pat McGrath, Colm O'Neill, Kieran Lennon, Conor Grew, Cathal O'Neill, John O'Neill, Dermot Stewart, Martin Malone, Martin O'Neill, David Lavery and Liam Cairns(played 1).

Juvenile Hurling Success

In 1963 Ballyvarley entered a minor team in the championship and in 1965 they won the U-15 Hurling League. Ballyvarley's proud tradition in Juvenile hurling really started in the seventies and from that point onwards, they have always been a significant force in South Down hurling. Two golden periods of under-age success are easily discernable:

1971-1982 was a buoyant period and 18 different pieces of silverware came our way but in 1972 our Minor team that was one of our strongest ever yet won nothing. A stirring 5-8 to 4-1 victory over Portaferry on their own ground was typical and they finished as Championship finalists and leaders of an unfinished All County League. The players were: Des Mackin, Brian Campbell, Liam Ross, Sean O'Neill, Sean Maguire, Alan Sheehan, John Higgins, Brian Sands, Gabriel Barry, Billy Clarke, Ned McCartan, Brendan Lennon, Martin Byrne, Seamus Rooney, Raphael Cribbin. Charlie McCartan, Seamus McAreevey, Seamus Lennon, Adrian Lennon, Michael Higgins, Michael "Jack" Lennon.

1993 – 2000: Ballyvarley continued to enter juvenile competitions throughout the 80's but struggled with numbers and the quest for honours soon became a fading memory. However, a new drive to bring back the "Glory Days" began in 1988 when Gerard, Kevin and Sean O'Neill initiated the Saturday morning coaching sessions for Under 12s. Players were divided into small groups according to ability and coached in the skills of the game by a growing group of coaches who have included Cairbre McGovern, Deirdre McGrath, Pat McGrath, Gerard Lennon, Conor Lavery, Colm, Martin and Cathal O'Neill, Seamus Lennon, Martin Malone and Dearbháil O'Neill.

This new venture included hurlers from Glenn and the resurrection came in 1993 when the U-14 hurlers made a clean sweep of hurling honours beating Kilclief to win both the Division 2 Feile and the Championship, before beating Clonduff in the League play-off. This ground-breaking team were: Martin O'Neill, Niall Burns, Christopher Sands, Colm O'Neill, Cathal O'Neill, Adrian McEvoy, Christopher McGovern(capt), Liam McGrath, Peter Farrelly, Gerard Fullerton, Aidan McConville, Niall Sands, David McGovern, Patrick Sands, Michael McConville, Philip McGovern, Darren Macken, Paul Stevenson, Cathal McGrath, Cathal Farrelly, James McGrath, Eunan McConville, Darren McGrath, Mark Devlin, Paul Strain, Gary Strain, Paul McGovern and P Convery

Success mixed with heartbreak continued for the next seven years with 11 more final appearances and 8 more titles being added to the role of honour. A third Div 2 Feile title in 1994, two more U-14 league successes (1994,1996), two U-16 HC(95 and 96), two U-16 HL (1995,1998) The infamous U-16 Championship Final in Leitrim in 1995 saw Downpatrick go berserk during our 2-11 to 0-1 victory and the impact of this disastrous PR exercise was to signal the end of the partnership with Glenn.

The long awaited breakthrough at minor level came in dramatic fashion in 1999 when a point from a last minute side-line cut by Martin O'Neill settled a thrilling championship semi-final with Kilclief in Ballykinlar and at the same venue a few weeks later the club captured it's one and only minor championship with a 2-7 to 1-5 victory over Castlewellan.

County Administration

The headline in the Armagh Observer on 6th December 1984 ran "Half dressed hurlers" and went on to state that "***There are some who might maintain that any gathering of hurling administrators in this county is only "half dressed" without the lively and stimulating presence of a Ballyvarley delegation.***" The story was referring to the suspension of the Aghaderg and Ballyvarley Club following that notorious football league game with Glasdrumman and the lack lustre County Hurling Convention that ensued when the Ballyvarley delegates could not attend. The article bore testament to the fact that Ballyvarley's administrators have always been to the fore in providing leadership throughout the County and they have played key roles in various Down Hurling Committees throughout the years. This select group include Richard McConville, Bertie Leckey, Jimmy Stewart, Gerard McGrath, Gerard O'Neill and Brendan Lennon.



Mervyn Colgan
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Team Management

Let us pay tribute to the team mentors and coaches who have promoted hurling throughout this period. With regard to juvenile hurling Brian Murphy Augustine Lennon (Senior), Ned Barry, Pat Meehan, Michael Cribbin, Frank McGrath and Sean Cribbin helped to run our teams in the pre 1970 period while Aidan Hegarty was prominent throughout the 1980's. Jimmy Stewart played a key role in the 1963 to 1972 era and continued to be involved with our youth teams until the mid 1980's. Seamus McGrath's contribution to juvenile hurling from 1971 to 1977, in particular and helped lay the foundations for our hurling resurgence in the 70's and early 80's. In 1973 Gerard O'Neill entered hurling management and by 1975 he had introduced the concept of the organised coaching of hurling skills.

This year he has completed 31 years of juvenile coaching and management. The hurling manager was often a lonely figure with responsibility for organising all aspects of team affairs, but from 1988 onwards the manager was blessed with the support of his backroom team and the task became less onerous. A new core of dedicated coaches and managers has arisen to keep hurling to the fore and they include Sean and Kevin O'Neill, Dermot and Eugene Stewart, Gerard Lennon. And Colm O'Neill

The names who have been consistently involved in senior hurling have been few. Jimmy Stewart became the first manager in 1970 and filled that role for a record eighteen years from 1970-1984(15) and 1986-1988(3). Francis McGrath was manager in 1985 and Brendan Donald ventured into the hot seat for a short period. Gerard O'Neill has been coach to the senior team for 19 years from 1985 to 2003 and has been manager for fifteen of those years (1989-2003), with Kevin O'Neill acting as assistant manager for most of this period.



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THE CLUB'S GOLDEN JUBILEE 1943 – 1993

The football celebration was on the 23rd April. Fr Jackie Warnock presented commemorative scrolls to the team which won the SDML in 1958: Celestine McGrath, Gregory McGovern, Seamus Byrne, Sean McGrath, Gerard McGrath, Dermot Lennon, Eddie Lennon, Fr Patsy Kearney, Michael Anderson, Hugh Ross(capt), Vincent Sands, Jim Ross(R.I.P.), Pat Byrne, John Lennon, Joe Lennon, Brendan Warnock, Hugh Byrne, Terry McGovern, Jimmy McAvoy, Eamon Byrne, Jimmy Stewart, J.P. Quinn.

The hurling celebration was on the 18th June. Down Hurling Manager Sean McGuinness presented commemorative scrolls to the Down JHC Team of 1975: Liam Ross, Adrian Lennon, Cairbre McGovern, Sean O'Neill, Seamus

Lennon, Martin Byrne, Sean Cribbin, Gerard O'Neill, Gabriel Cribbin(capt), Brendan Lennon, Gabriel Barry, Raphael Cribbin, Joe McGrath, Francis McGrath, Michael Higgins, Joe Cribbin, Seamus Murnaghan, Kieran McGovern, Noel McGrath, Michael Farrissey and James Stewart(manager).

Sponsored Walk took place on Sunday 13th June from McQuaid's field on Greenan Hill, Loughbrickland, to the football field in Ballyvarley, retracing the steps taken when the first goalposts were taken by pony and van from Greenan Hill and erected in Lennon's Chapel Meadow, Lisnagade in April 1943. Club members and supporters, with their flags and banners made this an outstanding commemoration in every way and raised almost £4000 for club funds.

Sports Day was postponed on Sunday 1st Aug due to the sudden death of club president Mons McAleavey PP. The Mass for deceased members went ahead on Sunday 1st Aug at 10 a.m. in Loughbrickland and was concelebrated by Fr Jackie Warnock, Fr Patsy Kearney, Fr Charlie Byrne and the recently ordained Fr Andrew McMahan. The joint choirs took part and the readers and gift carriers represented the various sections of the club.

On the Sports Day on 29th Aug a parade of members spanning 50 years took place. Addressing the gathering at 3 pm Bertie Leckey said that if he had been speaking two hours earlier it would have been 50 years exactly to the day, the date and the hour of that first meeting in 1943.

The Camogie Celebration took place on Friday 3rd September. Nuala Colhoun, Down Camogie Board Chairperson presented the scrolls to the Down Junior League and Championship team of 1989: Katrina McGrath(capt), Bronagh Lennon, Brenda McAvoy, Shauna McGovern, Leanne Winters, Dolores Lennon, Pauline Stewart, Bernice McGrath, Majella McCarthy, Nuala Warnock, Sinead McGovern, Maureen Stewart, Jacqueline McNally, Delia McCartan, Ciara Fitzpatrick, Sharon Lennon, Caroline Fegan, Sinead Lennon, Deirdre McGrath, Claire McGovern and Francie McGrath(manager).

Annual Dinner Dance was held in the Carlingford Bay Hotel in Warrenpoint on Friday 19th November. Amongst the guests at the top table were GAA President Peter Quinn; Past President Paddy McFlynn; Down Chairman Danny Murphy; Down Camogie President Fr Tony Davies; Fr B McAteer PP Aghaderg; Dean JJ Pettit, club's founding chairman; Fr Andrew McMahan; Club Chairman, Adrian Lennon; Bertie Leckey, club's founding secretary

Commemorative scrolls were presented by GAA President Peter Quinn to the surviving members of the first committee and the first players to represent the club in the Frontier Junior League: Dean J Pettit, Bertie Leckey, Harry

McCann, Dan Lennon, John McShane, Tommy McParland, Sean McGrath, Hugh Cranney, Brian Murphy, Jim Murnaghan, Greg McCartan, Mick Goodman and Joe Lennon(Banbridge). A special presentation was made to Bertie Leckey "In appreciation of 50 years service to the club and the GAA".

CLUB FINANCE THROUGH THE YEARS

In 1943 overheads were very small and easily manageable as a set of jerseys, a few footballs, bus fares, and field rent (a nominal fee to the local farmer) were the major part of the years expenses. Affiliation, League and Championship fees were nominal. When the Ballyvarley Hurling team entered the fray in 1946 our costs rose appreciably.

For our first 15 to 20 years in existence the main fund raising events were – 7-a-sides and full team tournaments, Ceilidhes, small raffles, guest teas, whist drives, sale of work and an annual sports day. The Sports Day attracted athletes from all over Ulster and sometimes from as far away as Dublin. The tournaments were exciting with valuable prizes and the Aghaderg, Scappaticci or McGrath Cups at stake. The Ceilidhes were mostly in Ballyvarley Hall with the local Ard-Na Mona Band on stage but on a few occasions St Patrick's Hall, Banbridge, was rented and bands of all-Ireland fame such as the Gallow Glass, Fitzgerald and McCuskers were booked.

The Guest Teas were always popular. The ladies took tables and invited their friends and acquaintances. They brought their own best china, provided excellent food and took up a voluntary silent collection. One notable guest tea was held in the Castle Ballroom in Banbridge which realised almost £400. The popular tenor, Peter Tumilty and his wife Gertie (Wine) both came from Portaferry to entertain for the princely sum of £5.

With underage teams, expenses began to increase and a direct appeal for funds was made in 1956. The response was tremendous and a useful sum of 92 pounds, 12 shillings and 6 pence was realised.

In the 60's and 70's the club became even more active and once more the running costs increased accordingly. During the late sixties plans for new facilities were debated. A number of successful 240 club draws were completed. Much funding was generated from a long running Bingo session which was then succeeded by a monthly whist drive which continues to this day. At present the numbers have fallen off but it is still an enjoyable evening out.

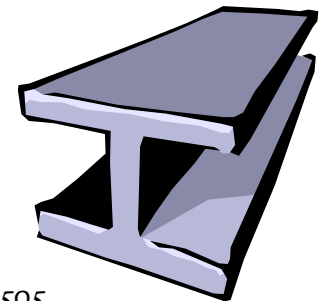
The next major objective was the provision of a new hall and dressing rooms. Though most of the work was voluntary, materials etc were costly and a lot of expense was incurred. The sale of the old hall helped but more was needed and a system of interest-free loans was considered. An approach was made to members and friends and the response was excellent. Major sums were realised and the loans were repaid when the sale of a building site at the corner of the field was completed.

In the late 80's the club and the parish, joined a Northern Ireland wide Inter-Link Draw, which earned both around £5000 per year. The draw ceased to function after a few years. At the end of 1993 a draw was organised on the same basis with club and parish funds benefiting to much the same extent but it ended around the middle of 1996. Other sources of revenue include the annual Barbecue and Night At the Races whilst a Club Membership Scheme (1994) and Indoor bowls (1995) have made their contribution. In 1997 a successful initiative was launched when advertising boards were sold for display in the field. 25 of these are now on display. The current major fundraiser is a weekly Lotto Draw which has proved most successful.

In 2002 Aghaderg GFC and Ballyvarley HC had an income of £25,761 and outgoings of £22,572. Our outgoings included £1,450 rates, £4,728 affiliation, league and players insurance, £2000 + field maintenance, £1500 to replace the mower to highlight but a few. Far removed from the nominal fees of the 1940's! This brief summary of the history of the finances of our club illustrate the stamina and ingenuity of the various committees throughout the years. The promotion of Gaelic games and culture within the parish has a significant financial cost but the returns for the individuals and the community are beyond measure. The most recent financial support from within the parish is illustrated in our souvenir booklet and the Aghaderg / Ballyvarley Club encourages you to support our sponsors and our fundraising events.

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MAIN OFFICE BEARERS

Chairman (16)

Rev John J Pettit(6)	1943-1949	Frank McGrath (14)	1949-1963
Jimmy Stewart (13)	1964, 1971-1975, 1979-1981, 1992, 1997-1999	Bertie Leckey (1)	1965
Gerard McGrath (5)	1966-1969, 1976	T B Lennon (1)	1977
Francis Burns (2)	1970, 1978	Seamus McGrath (1)	1984,
Brendan Lennon (2)	1982-1983	John P Lennon (1)	1988
Brendan Warnock (3)	1985-1987	Gerard O'Neill (3)	1990-1991, 1996
Seamus Byrne (1)	1989	Martin Malone (1)	2000
Adrian Lennon (3)	1993-1995		
Aidan Lavery (3)	2001-2003		

Secretary (17)

Bertie Leckey (18)	1943- 1961	Jimmy Stewart (2)	1962, 1985
William O'Keefe (1)	1963	Michael Anderson (4)	1963-1966
Agustin Lennon Snr (3)	1967-1969	Jim Morgan (3)	1970-1972
Margaret Lennon (1)	1973	Liam Ross (4)	1974, 1977-1979
Francis McGrath (2)	1975-1976	Gerard O'Neill (7)	1980-84, 1986-87
Gregory McGrath (1)	1982	Gus Lennon Jnr (5)	1988-1992
Ciaran McNally (3)	1993-1995	Seamus McGrath (3)	1996-97, 2003
Liam McDermott (1)	1998	Donal Moran (3)	1999-2001
Mark McGrath (1)	2002		

Treasurer (14)

Rev Fr Pat Gavin (3)	1943-1945
William McDermott (15)	1945-1959
Jimmy Stewart (2)	1960-1961
Celestine McGrath (1)	1962
T B Lennon (13)	1963-1975
John Simpson (2)	1976-1977
Jeannette Sands (1)	1978
Francis McGrath (6)	1979-1984
Brendan Lennon (1)	1985
Felicity Stewart (5)	1986-1990
John P Lennon (1)	1991
Sean Warnock (2)	1992-1993
Bertie Leckey (8)	1994-2001
Pat Lennon (2)	2002-2003

Playing Fields and Facilities.

The fledgling Aghaderg Club went down the traditional route as they turned to the local farmers to obtain playing fields. The first base was the Chapel Meadow but this proved a little cramped and the games were moved to the two fields behind Leckey's which were known as Pearse Pk and Shamrock Pk. A Nissan hut was erected and acted as changing rooms. In 1954 the club moved to the Blue Rd. The old Ballyvarley AOH hall was refurbished and acted as a focal point for the, meetings, social activities and dressing rooms.

The sixties were to see the realisation that the growing club required bigger and better facilities if it was to promote the games in the modern age. The committee and members of that era developed the ambitious plans which have resulted in the present playing field, changing facilities and club rooms.

The first of two small parcels of land were purchased by May 1967 and the field finance committee of Bertie Leckey, John Lennon, Gerard McGrath, Jimmy Stewart, Michael Anderson, Augustine Lennon and Terry McGovern became the main movers in the development of this historic project. The first competitive game on the new pitch featured Ballymartin Sunday 19th March 1972 in the South Down Intermediate league.



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The club purchased and erected a large wooden pavilion on the Scarva side of the field in 1972 but on Monday 29th January 1973 it was burned down as the result of a fire caused by an incendiary device. This was a major financial loss

and a severe blow to the morale of the club members. However from this setback the committee and members debated the way forward and in 1981 the first steps were taken to build the new changing facilities and club rooms. This was perhaps the greatest achievement of our parish as this building was completed for approx £40,000 in materials by the VOLUNTARY labour of the club members and friends. The majority of the work was completed on Saturdays and Sundays and was financed by the compensation award for the destruction of the original wooden building, the sale of the old hall, a GAA grant approx £1200 and the funds raised from within the parish some by means of an innovative series of interest free loans. Major sums were realised to ensure that the necessary development was completed.

June 10th 1984 was a proud day for the whole community when chairman Seamus McGrath hosted the official opening by the President of the GAA Mr Paddy Buggy. Aghaderg GFC / Ballyvarley HC had now obtained their modern playing field and facilities as a result of their own efforts, skills and organisational ability. It was and remains the aim of the club that these facilities are used for the promotion of Gaelic games and all community / parish activities.

The field and clubrooms have served the parish and community well in the last two decades. Can the present generation of committee, members and community complete the development of the surplus land and further development of the hall?

A Day To Remember

All All-Ireland winning captains, I imagine, prepare some sort of an acceptance speech in anticipation of winning. Although determined and confident of success the writing of this rang a little alarm bell – overconfidence – a player’s worst enemy.

In addition to the usual ‘Thank you’s’ I included a reference to the unfortunate victims in Biafra, and said I would get the match ball autographed by all players of both teams and raffled in aid of the Biafra Relief Fund.

On the morning of the match, I think I played a few holes of golf before packing my bag and heading for Croke Pk. Unlike today, there was little or no hype.

Players attended to their final preparations so focussed that the pre match advice barely registered. We all knew what had to be done and how to do it. That undercurrent of confidence was there amongst the players if not the officials whose time for influencing events was about to run out.

By half time Down had a commanding lead, but I had sustained a bad muscle injury and took myself off. The team was more important

The second half lasted an eternity as our lead was whittled away to a couple of points.

The relief of the final whistle was short lived for then the hustling and bustling really began.

Over to the Hogan Stand, receiving the Sam Maguire, saying my party piece before struggling down the steps through a sea of smiling faces and a forest of outstretched hands.

An old Poyntzpass school friend, Gertie Magill dragged me over and planted a big kiss saying ‘there I have kissed the winner before his wife’

Much more hugging and backslapping followed before the team reached the Montrose Hotel where I met my overjoyed father. I’ll never forget his face when I handed him the Sam Maguire.

I never cease to be amazed that strangers still recognise me – often people who seem barely old enough to have attended that final.

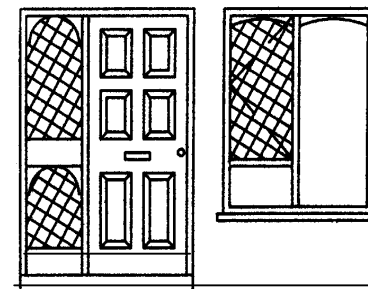
It is true to say that I and my team have wine and dined off such successes for 35 years and this, like tonight’s function, indicates the gratitude of our supporters.

Having received so much from the game, I tried to repay it by writing and working on coaching and fitness training. And finally a philosophy that will help those whose duty it is to preserve the game by guarding its rules.

Without the experience I gained while playing for Aghaderg, I would never have made the Down team or the ensuing success. Hence I am privileged to say to Aghaderg once more,

‘Thank you very much for all the opportunities and for all the wonderful memories’

And to Bertie Leckey, thanks a million. I don’t know what Aghaderg would have done without you.



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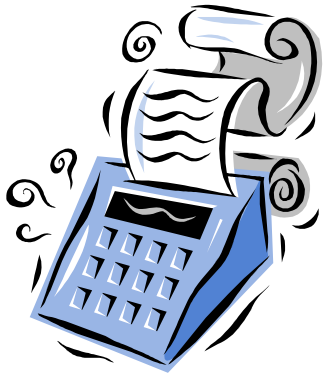
Referees.

The Aghaderg / Ballyvarley club has contributed a small but select number of personnel to the ranks of the referees.

In the early days Paddy Lennon and Frank McGrath acted as referees sometimes taking the whistle when the official referee did not turn up but they also refereed throughout the local area.

T B Lennon acted as a hurling referee from 1970 to 1980. The highlight of his career was officiating at the Down Intermediate hurling final Ballygalget –v- Kilclief when he had the distinction of receiving his memento from John Dowling ex All Ireland hurling referee. Gerard O’Neill and Brian Murphy acted as hurling referees, mostly during the 1970’s while in 1977 Gerard O’Neill acted as secretary of the Down Hurling referees board.

Gerard McGrath refereed for more than 20 years, commencing in the mid ‘60’s and has many memories of senior league tussles in both codes, inter county minor hurling clashes and has the distinction of refereeing a Fr Davis final Glenn –v- Saval under floodlights in Burren.



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Terry Grant retired from senior football and commenced refereeing in 1980 and hung up his whistle in 1991. Among the highlights of his career were a reserve championship final Shamrocks –v- Longstone and an Ulster minor Football League final Armagh –v- Antrim. Often players and mentors are critical of the referee’s decisions which have to be made in a split second but Terry recounts the story when he was being heavily criticised by the Ballyholland team mentors concerning a disputed penalty claim he confused them by pointing out “that the referee is right even if he is wrong” - true!

Next to take up the whistle was that man of many talents, Dessie Winters who refereed football, hurling and camogie from 1990 to 1997 and ranks the Down minor championship hurling final Portaferry v Ballycran as the highlight of his career. Kieran McNally refereed both games, mainly at Juvenile level while Donal Moran has had a short career to date in juvenile football.

The Aghaderg / Ballyvarley club are actively seeking to recruit referees in both codes. There is an excellent training programme, which takes place in February. This is an opportunity to become involved in the association in a new area and gives you an opportunity of progressing from local juvenile games to Clones or Croke Park.

CAMOGIE.

There is a record of camogie being played in the parish of Aghaderg in 1928 and a Loughbrickland team, under the direction of Fr Mick McCartan, was particularly successful and were Down Camogie champions in 1932. Unfortunately this club ceased to function in 1934 and it was exactly fifty years later that a team was formed in the parish.

The centenary year of 1984 was to see the formation of a camogie section within the club when Deirdre McGrath an ex Bryansford player and Down County camogie secretary introduced the game. Camogie was coached and played from 1984 to 1997. During this time there was success at both club and county level.

Aghaderg were to win the Down novice championship in 1988, the Junior league and Championship in 1989 and the Intermediate league in 1993. In 1993 they were also awarded the Camogie Club of the year award. They were to compete in the senior league and championship until they withdrew from the league and championship in 1997 due to lack of playing members.

Combined with this success at club level there was representation with the county at minor, junior and senior level. 1996 Sinead, Claire and Ciara McGovern along with Clare McGrath played on the Down senior team that won the Ulster senior championship and the Maguire Cup.

Team mentors during this successful period were Francie and Deirdre McGrath who inspired their enthusiastic charges to realise their considerable potential. Their expertise was recognised at county level where Francie managed at minor and senior level while Deirdre managed at juvenile level. The success of the Aghaderg players at club and county level also owed much to the expert instruction from the club hurling coaches and those early Saturday morning sessions that have been in place for almost two decades.

It is hoped that the club will be able to enter the camogie league next year as a panel of players have been training from August last under the direction of Kevin O'Neill and Deirdre McGrath.

Irish Dancing by Cathv McGrath

Back in 1994 the McGrath School of Irish Dancing began in our club hall. The classes began with 20 dancers and now number 60 dancers, reaching across both communities within our Parish. The age range is from 3 year olds to 15 year olds. They learn all kinds of Irish Dancing, from Reels and Jigs to Riverdance, the more modern version of Irish Dancing. Irish Dancing has enabled our young people to experience the dance and music of Ireland and the traditions that go with them. It is something which they can always revert to no matter what age they are or what country they are in. They will always be able to share part of their culture with others.

The Irish Dancing classes provide a focal point for our young people to meet each week to learn their Irish Dancing and socialise. New friends are made and hopefully the seeds of a sense of belonging and loyalty to our community have been sown. The McGrath School of Irish Dancing has also given our young people the opportunity to mix and socialise with young people from other traditions, as the dancing classes are cross community, with dancers coming from Portadown to the weekly classes.

Our dancers have entered many competitions and won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes with some dancers also winning 'Most Promising Dancers' in these competitions, which makes us very proud of our young people and makes working with them so worthwhile. Hopefully Irish Dancing has given the dancers many fond memories of their time spent in our club hall, which they will look back on in years to come and possibly carry on the traditions, which have started here, in Aghaderg.



CLUB CREST EXPLAINED

Our Club crest depicts the two main landmarks of our Parish namely Loughbrickland Lake and Lisnagade Rath. The green area is the playing field and the hurling sticks and football represent the games we play.

Cultural Activities by Eugene & Winifred Fullerton.

It is worth remembering that our ancestors participated in Gaelic cultural activities long before the current club was established in 1943 and it was they who provided the inspiration for many activities over the years. Our Club has been most vibrant in the cultural aspect so we now have the impossible task of packing sixty years of fun, laughter and action into these few paragraphs.

The very first presentation ceili was held in Ballyvarley Hall on St. Patrick's night in 1944 and throughout the years ceilis have been prominent and many a young man/woman met and courted their future spouses at these events. In latter years Dances and, more recently, Discos have been popular events although they are now only held three or four times per year.

1945 saw the inception of the Club Sports Day which became an annual event where young and old took part in all kinds of fun, games and shenanigans. From this interest in sports there developed a very successful athletic club which saw members pick up medals and awards in All Ireland Competitions.

In the 1950's the hall was used for the drama groups. Plays like "The Upper Room", "The Nativity Play" and "The Golden Priest" were another avenue for people to get together and appreciate the finer things in life. This tradition continued with regular concerts and plays so its no wonder then that we ourselves, for a number of years, involved a large number of young people in Nativity Plays and short story adaptations. The weeks of preparation coming up to Christmas were well worth the effort when on the Sunday before Christmas the hall was filled to capacity to enjoy the plays and to meet Santa Claus.

During the 1960's and 70's people came from all over to play bingo and feel the thrill of "checking" on a line or a full house. Many a family won a turkey for Christmas at one of the bingo sessions.

1969 saw the club hosting a series of winter concerts and talent shows. This naturally led on to members taking part in Junior and Senior Scór Competitions in instrumental music, ballad group, solo singing, recitation, motion speaking, novelty acts, set and ceili dancing and of course quiz teams. The "craic" involved in preparing our acts for the events was very much the highlight of the Scór scene and our many successes over the years once again highlights the fantastic talent that is out there. It would be a great shame if the tradition of Irish music, song and dance were to be lost due to lack of interest.

Other activities have been classes held in Irish language, tin whistle and Irish

dancing, guest teas, treasure hunts, whist drives, sales of work and bowls. Communication has always been important and for this purpose the “Aghaderg News” was first published in December 1980; today we are still kept in touch with results and pending events through the monthly newsletter.

The club has catered for all tastes throughout the past sixty years, spreading Irish Culture and building a strong community spirit and it is a credit to all those who unselfishly gave of their time, energy and talent. The challenge now, and for the future, is for new people to continue the tradition and ensure that the work done by others is not allowed to become extinct.

AGHADERG GFC AND BALLYVARLEY HC CLUB AWARDS

CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR

For the first nine years of the club awards, 1966-1974, there was only one club award and this was called the Clubman Of The Year Award. This award was competed for by both players and officials and the winner was selected by the main club committee. Players dominated this award in the early years. The trophy presented in the first two decades of the award was the “Aghaderg Cup”.

Joe McGrath	1966	Francis Burns	1967
Charlie Simpson	1968	Peter Morgan	1969
Gerard McGrath	1970	Raphael Cribbin	1971
Brendan Lennon	1972	Seamus McGrath	1973
Gerard O’Neill	1974	Jimmy Stewart	1975
Seamus McGrath	1976	Gerard McGrath	1977
Francis Burns	1978	Jimmy Stewart	1979
Gerard McGrath	1980	Gerard O’Neill	1981
John Higgins	1982	Gerard O’Neill	1983
Helen Stewart	1984	Jimmy Stewart	1985
Gerard O’Neill	1986	Brendan Warnock	1987
Deirdre McGrath	1988	Felicity Stewart	1989
Gus Lennon	1990	Bertie Leckey	1991
Gus Lennon	1992	Bertie Leckey	1993
Adrian Lennon	1994	Adrian Lennon	1995
Francis McGrath	1996	Seamus McGrath	1997
Donal Moran	1998	Seamus McGrath	1999
Damien Simpson	2000	Donal Moran	2001
Mark McGrath	2002		

YOUTH AWARD

Andrew McMahan	1984	Felicity Stewart	1985
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Brenda McAvoy	1986	Bernice McGrath	1987
Bronagh Lennon	1988	Aidan Lennon	1989
Sean Warnock	1990	Sean Warnock	1991
Kieran Lennon	1992	Kieran Lennon	1993
Ciara Fitzpatrick	1994	Damien Simpson	1995
Cathy McGrath	1996	Damien Simpson	1997
Cathy McGrath	1998	Colm O’Neill	1999
Paul McGivern	2000	Colm O’Neill	2001
Conor Lavery	2002		

SENIOR FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

Michael Higgins	1975	Joe McGrath	1976
Gregory McGrath	1977	Michael Sands	1978
Michael Higgins	1979	Sean O’Neill	1980
Kevin O’Neill	1981	Anthony McGrath	1982
Gusty Lennon	1983	Tom Sands	1984
Kevin O’Neill	1985	Cairbre McGovern	1986
Martin Malone	1987	Martin Burns	1988
No Award	1989	Brendan Malone	1990
Brendan Malone	1991	Sean McAvoy	1992
Martin Burns	1993	Martin Fitzpatrick	1994
Jonathan McGovern	1995	Kevin Burns	1996
Martin Fitzpatrick	1997	Mervyn Colgan	1998
Mark Rice	1999	Jonathan McGovern	2000
Cathal McGrath	2001	Rory Simpson	2002

SENIOR HURLER OF THE YEAR

Sean O’Neill	1975	Martin Byrnes	1976
Gerard O’Neill	1977	Sean O’Neill	1978
Kevin O’Neill	1979	Kevin O’Neill	1980
Sean O’Neill	1981	Kevin O’Neill	1982
Gerard Lennon	1983	Michael Higgins	1984
Brendan Donald	1985	Seamus Lennon	1986
Seamus Lennon	1987	Kevin O’Neill	1988
Sean O’Neill	1989	Kevin O’Neill	1990
Sean O’Neill	1991	Sean O’Neill	1992
Anthony McGrath	1993	Sean O’Neill	1994
Seamus Lennon	1995	Gerard Lennon	1996
Eugene Stewart	1997	Colm O’Neill	1998
Martin O’Neill	1999	James McGrath	2000
Gerard Lennon	2001	Martin O’Neill	2002

SENIOR CAMOGIE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Dolores Lennon	1987	Katrina McGrath	1988
Jacqueline McNally	1989	Shauna McGovern	1990
Nuala Warnock	1991	Catherine McDermott	1992
Sinead McGovern	1993	Clare McGovern	1994
Clare McGrath	1995		

RESERVE FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

Martin Cunningham 2001

MINOR HURLER OF THE YEAR

Colm O'Neill	1998	David Lavery	1999
Martin O'Neill	2000	Michael Cairns	2001

MINOR FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

William Fitzpatrick	1992	Dan Strain	1993
Graeme Donaghy	1998	Kevin Falloon	1999
Cathal McGrath	2000	James McGrath	2001

U-16 HURLER OF THE YEAR

Kevin O'Neill	1974	Aidan McGrath	1975
Michael McKiverigan	1976	Kevin O'Neill	1977
Colm Broderick	1978	Terence Lennon	1979
Damien Lennon (Loughbrickland)	1980	Brendan Donald	1981
Sean Warnock	1982	Damien Lennon (Banbridge)	1983
Peter Murray	1984	Kieran Lennon	1985
Anthony Blackburn	1987	Conor Grew	1988
Gerard Fullerton	1994	Chris McGovern	1995
Martin O'Neill	1996	Cathal O'Neill	1997
Paul McGivern	1998		

U-16 FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

Danny Smith	1974	Kevin O'Neill	1975
Patrick Higgins	1976	John Lennon	1977
Damien Lennon	1978	Brendan Donald	1979
Martin Burns	1980	Sean McAvoy	1981
Martin Burns	1982	Kevin Burns	1983
Martin Burns	1984	Sean McAvoy	1985
Jonathan McGovern	1987	Dan Strain	1990
Liam Burns	1991	Michael Cribbin	1994
Chris McGovern	1995	Colm O'Neill	1996
Paul McGivern	1997		

U-14 HURLER OF THE YEAR

Andrew McGrath	1988	Chris McGovern	1992
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Chris McGovern	1993	Paul Stevenson	1994
Paul Stevenson	1995	Paul McGivern	1996

U-14 FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

Jonathan McGovern	1990	Chris McGovern	1992
Gerard Fullerton	1993	Colin O'Malley	1994
Paul McGivern	1995	Kevin Falloon	1996

U-12 HURLER OF THE YEAR

David McGovern 1991

U-12 FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

Jonathan McGovern	1988	Chris McGovern	1991
Philip McGovern	1992	Paul McGivern	1994
Martin Farrell	1995	John McAreavey	1996

KEY EVENTS IN 100 YEARS OF AGHADERG GAA HISTORY

1903

- Aug - 1st recorded GAA game in Aghaderg Parish: Clann Na Banna hurling team v. Fag An Bealac(Newry) in McConville's Hurley Field at the Blue Road, Ballyvarley

1904/05

- Clann Na Banna are Down Senior Football Champions

1907

- Formation of Ballyvarley Shamrocks. Played in Shamrock Park.

1909

- Ballyvarley Shamrocks are Down SFC Finalists v. Newry Faughs in Ballyvarley

1910

- Ballyvarley Shamrocks are Down SHC Winners. Beat Newry Faughs.
- Ballyvarley Shamrocks are Down SFC Finalists v. Newry Clan Uladh 1-1 to 2-1

1913

- Erection of AOH Nationalist Hall at Blue Road, Ballyvarley

1916

- Ballyvarley Shamrocks are Down SHC Finalists. Drew 6-1 to 6-1 with Kilclief. Game not replayed.

1917

- Shamrocks move back to McConville's Hurley Field at Blue Road

1921

- AOH Hall at Blue Road burned to the ground. Subsequently rebuilt.

- Eire Og, Loughbrickland formed
- 1921-24**
- Leagues suspended due to “Troubles”
- 1926**
- Pat McCann, Frank McGrath, Fr Mick McCartan and a.n.other McCann played for Down Senior Hurlers
 - Club colours are black and amber stripes
- 1930**
- Formation of Loughbrickland Camogie Team
- 1932**
- Loughbrickland are Down Camogie League Champions
 - Ballyvarley enter Rathfriland and District Hurling League
 - Ballyvarley enter South Down and Mourne Junior Football League
- 1933**
- Loughbrickland are Down Camogie League Runners-up.
- 1934**
- Ballyvarley win Rathfriland and District Hurling League
 - Loughbrickland are Down Camogie League Runners-up
 - Formation of St Colmans Football team, Loughbrickland
 - Transfer of Fr Mick McCartan signals demise of GAA teams
- 1940-41**
- Aghaderg GFC(Loughbrickland) become first team to bear the Parish name
- 1943**
- Aug 29th – Formation of Aghaderg GFC
 - Play at Pearse Park(the Cottage Field), behind Bertie Leckey’s
 - Club colours are red and white
 - Oct 17th – 1st league game v. Rostrevor (away). Won 2-4 to 0-6
 - Runners-up in Frontier Junior League
- 1944**
- Two grounds used – Pearse Park and Greenan Hill
 - May 21st – First appearance in Feis Sevens competition, in Hilltown
 - July – First championship game in JFC v. Drumgath(away). Lost 0-4 to 1-4
- 1946**
- March 29th – Formation of Ballyvarley Hurling Club
 - August 29th – At AGM club assumes title of “Aghaderg GFC and Ballyvarley HC”
 - September 8th – 1st hurling game was JHC in Banbridge v. Ballela Seconds (lost)

- December- Club moves to Shamrock Park (home of Ballyvarley Shamrocks). 1st dressing rooms erected (a nissan hut)
- 1947**
- Combined Aghaderg, Tullylish and Banbridge team win Down MFC
- 1948**
- Runners-up in Frontier Junior League. Promoted to Intermediate League
 - Bertie Leckey is Down Hurling Secretary for 48-49
- 1949**
- Jackie Warnock wins McCrory Cup medal and plays for Down MF
 - Harry McCann, John Henry O’Neill and Bertie Leckey on Down SH panel
 - Gerard McGrath is goalkeeper for Down MH.
 - Bertie Leckey is Asst Secretary South Down and Mourne League 1949-1964
- 1951**
- Banbridge, with seven Aghaderg players, win Down Minor FC
 - Club changes it’s colours to black and amber hoops.
 - Bertie Leckey is Down County Board Member 1952-70
- 1953**
- Aghaderg qualify for Feis Sevens football finals in Newcastle
 - Joe Lennon plays for Down JF
 - John Lennon and Hugh Ross play for Down MF
 - Joe Lennon beats his brother Eddie to win the Down Handball Title
- 1954**
- Club move to Brennan’s Field at the Blue Road
 - Aghaderg win Winter League and promoted to All County SFL
 - Hugh Ross plays for Down MF in Ulster MFC Final
- 1955**
- Aghaderg play in the All County SFL “B”
 - Joe and Eddie Lennon on Down Senior football team
 - Joe, Eddie and John Lennon play for Down Juniors in Ulster Final v. Derry
 - Ballyvarley play in Down JHC Final in Newcastle. Lose to Leitrim
- 1956**
- Aghaderg are runners-up in SFL “B” and win promotion to SFL “A”
 - 1st Senior football championship game v. Clonduff (home). Lost 0-8 to 2-10.
 - Eddie Lennon plays for Down JF

1957

- Gerard McGrath and Hugh Ross play for Down SF
- Eddie Lennon, Gerard McGrath and Hugh Ross play for Down JF
- Suez Crisis – All County Leagues abandoned for regional leagues
- Dan Lennon wins Irish Marathon Championship

1958

- Aghaderg win S.D. Intermediate FL by beating Longstone 3-3 to 1-4 in the Final
- Aghaderg qualify for the 2nd time for the Feis Sevens football finals in Newcastle
- Ballyvarley are Down JHC Finalists. Lost to Leitrim in Ballela
- Dan Lennon wins 2nd Irish Marathon Championship

1959

- Aghaderg play in SFL “A” for the first time. Relegated at the end of the season
- Aghaderg’s 1st SFC victory. Beat Dromara in Annaclone by 2-5 to 0-3
- Joe Lennon on 1st Down team to win the Ulster SFC. Plays for Ulster in Railway Cup.

1960

- Aghaderg qualify for 3rd time for Feis Sevens football finals in Newcastle
- Frank Lennon wins Ulster MFC Medal
- Joe Lennon stars on Down team that captures their first All-Ireland Senior Football Title. Wins a Railway Cup Medal with Ulster.

1961

- Aghaderg’s last season in the All County SFL. Relegated to Intermediate League
- Joe Lennon wins his 2nd All-Ireland SFC Medal and his 3rd Ulster SFC medal

1962

- John Lennon plays for Down SF. Plays in Ulster JF Final, losing 0-8 to 0-7 to Cavan

1963

- Ballyvarley win 1st senior title by winning the South Down HL
- Ballyvarley Hurlers qualify for the Feis Sevens Finals in Newcastle for first time
- Ballyvarley enter first juvenile team in competition (minors in MHC)

1964

- Aghaderg’s first Youth Club Committee is formed in November
- Bertie Leckey is South Down Board Secretary 1964-65

1965

- Ballyvarley win their 1st juvenile competition, the South Down and Mourne U-15 HL.
- Bertie Leckey is All County League Secretary 1965-70

1966

- Club move to Jimmy Lennon’s field in Lisnagade
- Land is purchased from Gerry Taylor for a new playing field on the Scarva Road. Planning permission for a new field is granted in June.

1967

- Field Committee set up to plan for the “New Field”

1968

- Joe Lennon captains Down to their third All-Ireland Senior Football Title

1969

- Martin Byrne and Dessie Macken play for Down U-16 H
- Bertie Leckey resigns from Down Co Board ending an association lasting 20 years
- The first of two seasons of Winter Quiz and Talent Competitions are organised in the Hall

1970

- Eugene Fullerton plays for Down MH
- Gabriel Barry plays for Down U-16 H

1971

- First Scor Seachto Competitions begin in January
- Quiz team of Seamus McGrath, Gerry Davis and Augustine Lennon (snr) win the South Down Title
- Ballyvarley play U-16 HC game v. Ballela on New Field
- Ballyvarley win South Down U-16 HC
- Martin Byrnes plays for Down MH
- Sean O’Neill, Gabriel Barry, Brian Sands, Raphael Cribbin and Brendan Maguire play for Down U-16 H

1972

- Sun March 19th – 1st official competitive game in “New Field”. South Down IFL game v. Ballymartin. Score: 0-3 to 3-8
- Ballyvarley in Down MHC Final v. Portaferry in Leitrim
- Martin Byrne, Gabriel Barry and Sean O’Neill play in Ulster MHC(Sp) Final in Ballyvarley v. Armagh
- Martin Byrne and Gabriel Barry win All Ireland MHC(Sp) Medals
- Down JHC Final is played in Ballyvarley. Ballela beat Leitrim
- New Youth Committee is formed in March

- Patsy McKernan in Down Final of Scor's Instrumental Music
- The 1st Junior Scor Seachto competitions are held in Ballyvarley Hall on Fri 25th Feb

1973

- Mon 29th Jan – Club's Pavilion is destroyed by fire
- Mary O'Neill (solo-singing) and the Quiz team (Brendan Lennon, Liam Ross and Seamus McAreavey) are South Down Scor na Nog Champions
- Aghaderg are South Down U-16 Football League and Championship Finalists and South Down 7-a-side Champions
- Ballyvarley win South Down U-16 HC
- Seamus McGrath, Martin Byrne, Joe McGrath, Cairbre McGovern play for Down JH
- Gabriel Barry and Sean O'Neill play for Down MH
- Raphael Cribbin, Brendan Lennon and Liam Ross play for Down U-16 H
- Billy Clarke and Raphael Cribbin win All-Ireland(minor counties) U-15 Voc Schools Hurling Medals
- Ballad Group (Seamus Kelly, Chris McParland, Louise Byrne and Patsy McKernan) and the Quiz team (Seamus McGrath, Gerard Davis and Gerard O'Neill) are County Scor Champions

1974

- Ballyvarley win Down JHL, beating Kilkeel by 4-4 to 4-3 in play-off in Ballykinlar
- Ballyvarley win Ulster Community Games U-14 H Title
- Mary O'Neill (solo-singing) wins South Down Scor na NOg Title
- Quiz team (Brendan Lennon, Liam Ross and Kieran McGovern) win County Title in Scor na NOg and reach the Ulster Final
- Chris McParland (solo-singing) wins County Scor Title
- Raphael Cribbin plays for Down MF
- Raphael Cribbin, Liam Ross, Michael Higgins and Brendan Lennon play for Down MH
- Dermot Maguire, Michael Farrissey and Seamus McAreavey play for Down U-16 H
- Sean O'Neill, Joe McGrath, Francis McGrath, Gerard O'Neill, Brendan Lennon, Liam Ross, Martin Byrne, Gabriel Cribbin, Raphael Cribbin and Joe Cribbin play for Down JH
- Raphael Cribbin, Dermot Maguire, Billy Clarke, Michael Farrissey and Charlie Grimes on Down Voc Schools Hurling team
- A Hall Committee is formed to plan for the building of a new hall

- Gerard McGrath is on the South Down Board

1975

- Mary O'Neill (solo-singing) wins 3rd South Down Scor Na Nog Title
- Ballyvarley win Down JHC, beating Leitrim by 3-6 to 3-2 in the final at Holy Cross Park in Attical
- Ballyvarley qualify for Feis Sevens Finals
- Michael Sands, Raphael Cribbin and Seamus Rooney play for Down MF
- Liam Ross, Raphael Cribbin, Brendan Lennon, Michael Higgins play for Down MH
- Gerard O'Neill, Sean O'Neill, Francis McGrath, Martin Byrne, Joe McGrath and Liam Ross play for Down JH
- Sean O'Neill and Liam Ross win Ulster U-21 HC Medals
- Bill Geoghegan, Dermot Maguire, Michael Farrissey and John McClorey win All-Ireland Voc Schools (minor Counties) Hurling Medals
- Liam Ross and Michael Sands win Hogan Cup Medals with St Colmans College
- Patsy McKernan (Instrumental Music) wins South Down Scor title
- Quiz team of Seamus McGrath, Brendan Lennon, Liam Ross and Jimmy Stewart are County Scor Champions
- Gerard O'Neill on Down Youth Board and is South Down Juv H League Secretary

1976

- Ballyvarley qualify for Feis Sevens Hurling Finals
- Ballyvarley win South Down U-16 H Lg and C'ship
- Ballyvarley U-14 Hurlers win South Down U-14 H Lg and C'ship and 7-a-side title
- Michael Sands plays for Down MF
- Gerard O'Neill, Sean O'Neill, Martin Byrne and Brendan Lennon on Down JH team
- Sean O'Neill plays for Down U-21 H
- Michael Farrissey plays for Down MH
- Kevin O'Neill, Brendan Malone, Michael McKiverigan, John Lennon and Aidan McGrath on Down U-16 H team that reach All-Ireland Final
- Gerard O'Neill on Down Youth Board and is South Down Juv H League Secretary
- Novelty Act, "The Irish Politician" (Michael McKiverigan and Seamus McEvoy) are Down and South Down Champions in Scor Na NOg
- Bertie Leckey is member of Commission 1976-78

1977

- Ballyvarley win South Down U-16 HL
- Michael Sands at Centre Half Back on Down's All-Ireland MFC Winning team
- Raphael Cribbin, Liam Ross and Brendan Lennon win Ulster U-21 HC Medals
- Brendan Malone and Kevin O'Neill play for Down MH
- Gerard O'Neill is Asst Secretary on Down Hurling Board and is Secretary of Down Hurling Referees Board

1978

- Ballyvarley win Down Junior Hurling Feis Sevens
- Ballyvarley Minor Hurlers win South Down MHL and are All Co C' ship Finalists
- Ballyvarley win South Down U-16 HL and C' ship
- Ballyvarley win South Down U-12 HL
- Michael Sands wins Ulster SFC Medal and Ulster U-21 FC Medal
- Gerard O'Neill played for Down SH
- Raphael Cribbin and Liam Ross play for Down U-21 H
- John Lennon, Michael McKiverigan, Kevin O'Neill and Brendan Malone win All-Ireland MHC(Sp) medals beating Kerry in a replay at Croke Park by 2-9 to 2-6. Gerard O'Neill was manager
- Colm Broderick and Terence Wilson win All-Ireland U-16HC(Sp) Medals
- Gerard O'Neill is Asst Secretary of Down Hurling Board and Secretary of the Down Hurling Development Committee

1979

- Aghaderg are relegated to SFL Div 5
- Ballyvarley are Down IHC Finalists in Kilclief. Lose 0-3 to 2-10 to Ballygalget
- Ballyvarley Minor Hurlers win South Down Hurling League
- Michael Sands plays for Down SF and wins an All-Ireland U-21 FC Medal
- Kevin O'Neill plays in All-Ireland Minor HC(Sp) Final
- Gerard O'Neill on Down Hurling Development Committee
- John Joe Sands is selector for the Down team that wins the Ulster MFC

1980

- Quiz team of Agustin Lennon(Jnr), Eugene Stewart and Andrew McMahon are Down Scor Na NOg Champions

- Michael Sands plays for Down SF
- Kevin O'Neill plays for Down U-21H
- Kevin O'Neill is midfield on only Down team to reach the All-Ireland U-19 Voc Schools(Senior) Final in Pairc Ui Caoimh, Cork. Galway win by 2-7 to 3-8
- Jimmy Stewart is Vice-Chairman of the Down Hurling Board

1981

- Ballyvarley win U-14 South Down HC
- Ballyvarley U-14 Hurlers visit Blackrock Club in Cork
- Ballyvarley win South Down U-12 HL
- Michael Sands plays for Down SF
- Kevin O'Neill plays for Down SH
- Tom Sands plays for Down MF
- Damien Lennon and Gary McQuaid play for Down U-15H
- Jimmy Stewart is Vice-Chairman of the Down Hurling Board and Chairman of the Down Juvenile Hurling Committee
- Gerard O'Neill is Secretary of the Down Juvenile Hurling Committee and is on Down Youth Board
- Gerard McGrath is on Down Hurling Referees Board
- Terry Grant wins South Down Recitation Title in Scor
- October – Work begins on the New Hall

1982

- Ballyvarley lose Down JH Feis Sevens Final to Leitrim
- Ballyvarley win treble of Div 2 of the Feile and the U-14 HL and C' ship
- Kevin and Sean O'Neill play for Down SH
- Damien Lennon wins an All-Ireland U-16 HC(Sp) Medal v. Kerry at Croke Park
- Gerard Lennon, Aidan McAvoy, Eugene Stewart and Damien Lennon play for Down MH
- Bertie Leckey is on the Down History Committee 1982-84

1983

- Ballyvarley are Down IHC Finalists. Lose to Ballygalget in Loughinisland by 0-3 to 7-7
- Ballyvarley win Down JH Feis Sevens by beating Leitrim 4-5 to 2-2
- Ballyvarley Reserve win Division 4HL(South)
- Kevin and Sean O'Neill play for Down SH. Kevin plays in Croke Park in All-Ireland "B" HC Final. Down lost by 2-13 to 3-16 to Kerry
- Brendan Donald and Finbar Lennon win All-Ireland U-16 HC(Sp) medals beating Carlow in Croke Park

- Damien Lennon is on the Down MH
- Jimmy Stewart, Gerard O'Neill and Brendan Lennon are on the Down Hurling Board. Jimmy is also Chairman of the Down Hurling Development Committee. Gerard is Chairman of the Down Juvenile Hurling Committee responsible for fixtures
- The Club's third Youth Committee was formed in January
- April 29th – The Official Opening of the New Hall
- The club wins the South Down Club Of The Year Award

1984

- June 10th - Official Opening of Club Grounds by GAA President Paddy Buggy
- Launch of official club history "The Aghaderg Story"
- Tullylish win South Down U-16 FC with 5 Aghaderg players. Lose County Final to Drumaness by 1-6 to 2-7
- The club are suspended, along with Glasdrumman, following incidents during a league game, in Ballyvarley
- Jimmy Stewart on Down Hurling Board and Chairman of the Down Hurling Development Committee
- Gerard O'Neill appointed as Down's first Director of Coaching for Hurling. Organises first Down Coaching Seminar
- Quiz team of Aidan Lennon, Sean McMahon and Dermot Stewart win the South Down Scor Na NOg title
- Bertie Leckey on the County History Committee
- Kevin O'Neill playing for Down SH
- Damien Lennon and Brendan Donald win Ulster MHC Medal
- Damien Lennon plays for Down MF
- Damien Lennon wins Ulster U-21 HC Medal

1985

- Gerard O'Neill is Down Director of Coaching for Hurling
- Sean O'Neill, Brendan Donald and Anthony McGrath play for Down JH
- Brendan Donald wins 2nd Ulster MHC Medal
- Martin Burns wins Hogan Cup Medal with St Colman's College

1986

- Quiz team of Aidan Lennon, Sean McMahon and Dermot Stewart are Ulster, Down and South Down Scor Na NOg Champions
- July - Jimmy Stewart is All-Ireland and Ulster Clubman Of The Year

1987

- Quiz team(Aidan Lennon, Sean McMahon and Dermot Stewart) retain

- Ulster and Down Scor Na NOg titles
- Ballyvarley beat Ben Dearg by 2-7 to 1-1 to win 3rd Down JH Feis Sevens Title
- Finbar Lennon wins an Ulster U-21 HC Medal and plays for Down SH
- Aghaderg Camogie team are Down Novice Championship Finalists v. Ballyholland
- Ballyvarley are Down IHC Finalists, losing to Ballycran by 1-5 to 1-7 in Newcastle

1988

- Aghaderg win the Down Novice Camogie Championship Final, beating Annaclone by 3-1 to 2-2 in Ballela
- Katrina McGrath, Shauna McGovern, Nuala Warnock and Delia McCartan play for Down Minors

1989

- Aghaderg win Down Junior Camogie League Final by beating Drumaness 5-4 to 3-2 in Annsboro
- Aghaderg win Down Junior Camogie Championship Final, beating Mayobridge by 2-2 to 1-1 at St Mark's, Warrenpoint
- U-14 Footballers win their section of the South Down League
- Katrina McGrath and Delia McCartan on Down Minor(U-16) Camogie team
- Sinead and Claire McGovern on Down U-14 Camogie team
- Quiz team of Aidan Lennon, Sean McMahon and Donal Doyle are County Scor Na NOg Champions

1990

- Aghaderg win Jean McGrath Memorial Trophy for the first time
- Aghaderg win South Down U-14 Camogie 7-a-side title
- Jacqueline McNally and Shauna McGovern play for Down Junior Camogie team
- Sinead McGovern, Claire McGovern, Caroline Fegan, Nuala Warnock and Ciara Fitzpatrick play for Down Minor(U-16) Camogie team
- Ciara McGovern and Claire McGrath play for Down U-14 Camogie team

1991

- Kieran Lennon and Gerard Lennon on Down JH team
- Sinead McGovern is Down Minor(U-16) Camogie Player Of The Year

1992

- Anthony McGrath, Sean O'Neill, Aidan McAvoy and Kevin O'Neill win Ulster JHC Medals

1993

- Claire McGrath and Ciara McGovern win Ulster Minor Camogie Lg and C'ship medals. Francis McGrath was manager
- Sinead McGovern wins Maguire Cup medal with Down Seniors
- Ballyvarley win treble of Div 2 Feile, Lg and C'ship
- Aghaderg win the Intermediate Camogie League and promotion to the Senior League
- Anthony McGrath wins All-Ireland JHC Medal v. London at Ruislip
- Christopher McGovern plays for Down U-14 H who win the Tony Forrestal Cup in Waterford
- Katrina McGrath, Sinead and Claire McGovern play on Down Junior and Senior Camogie teams
- Aghaderg Club receive the Camogie Club Of The Year Award
- Sinead McGovern is the County U-18 Player Of The Year
- Bertie Leckey is the secretary of the Down Referees Committee

1994

- Aghaderg Camogie team in Senior League and Championship
- Ballyvarley lose Feis Sevens JH Final to Darragh Cross
- Ballyvarley U-14H lose the Div 2 Feile final to Kilclief
- Ballyvarley win U-14 HL and lose the C'ship Final to Downpatrick
- Ballyvarley lose Betsy Gray Cup Final, in Hilltown, to Newry Shamrocks by 4-1 to 2-8
- Christopher McGovern, Gerard Fullerton, Christopher Sands, Neil Blevins and Niall Sands play for Down U-16 H
- Colm O'Neill plays for Down U-14 H
- Paul McGovern and Philip McGovern play for South Down U-12 F
- Sinead and Claire McGovern play on Down Senior Camogie team
- Ciara McGovern and Clare McGrath play on Down U-18 Camogie team
- Clare McGrath plays on Down Minor Camogie team
- Gerard O'Neill on Down Hurling Board and Down Communication Committee
- Francis McGrath manager of the Down Minor and U-18 Camogie teams
- Aghaderg introduce the Club Membership Scheme

1995

- Aghaderg Senior Footballers win the South Down Winter League
- Aghaderg Senior Footballers lose out in Promotion Play-offs
- Ballyvarley lose U-14 HC Final to Downpatrick

- Ballyvarley win U-16 HL and Cship. Beat Downpatrick in an "infamous" Hurling Championship Final in Leitrim by 2-11 to 0-1
- Clare McGrath plays for Down Minor Camogie team
- Gerard Fullerton, Neil Blevins, Niall Sands and David McGovern play for Down MH B Team
- Gerard Fullerton, Darren Macken and David McGovern play for Down U-16 H B Team
- Christopher McGovern and Christopher Sands play for Down U-16 and Minor Hurling A Teams
- Paul Stevenson plays for Down U-14 H
- Rory Simpson and Colm Farrell played for South Down U-12 F
- Sinead, Claire and Ciara McGovern play for the Down Camogie Senior and Junior Teams, winning Ulster Senior C'ship and losing All-Ireland Junior Final
- Clare McGrath and Ciara McGovern win U-18 Ulster C'ship
- Gerard O'Neill on Down Hurling Board and Down Communication Committee
- Bertie Leckey on Down County Referees Committee
- Francis McGrath is manager of the Down Senior Camogie Team
- Deirdre and Claire McGovern were managers of the Down U-14 Camogie Team

1996

- Ballyvarley win Div 2 Feile and U-14 HL. Lose C'ship Final
- Aghaderg win the South Down Division 2 U-14 FL, beating Drumgath by 5-9 to 3-13
- Ballyvarley win the U-16 HC, beating Kilclief, at St John's by 1-6 to 1-4
- Bertie Leckey is the 1st winner of the South Down Hall Of Fame Award
- Sinead, Claire and Ciara McGovern and Clare McGrath win Ulster Senior Championship and the Maguire Cup
- Dessie Winters referees County Minor Final and Ciaran McNally referees the U-16 County Final

1997

- Ballyvarley U-14H win Banbridge Council's Youth Team Of The Year Award
- Bertie Leckey wins Banbridge Council's Service To Sport Award
- Ballyvarley lose U-16 HC final replay to Leitrim by 2-7 to 3-8 in Ballela.
- James McGrath and Michael Cairns play for Down U-14 H
- Martin and Cathal O'Neill play for Down U-16 H "B" Team

1998

- Ballyvarley win the Betsy Gray Shield, beating Newry Shamrocks by 5-10 to 0-2 in the Final in Ballykinlar
- Ballyvarley win the U-16 HL but lose C'ship Final to Kilclief

1999

- Aghaderg win promotion to SFL Div 3
- Ballyvarley win 4th Down JH Feis Title, beating Castlewellan by 4-4 to 1-2
- Ballyvarley win 1st MHC, beating Castlewellan by 2-7 to 1-5 in Ballykinlar
- Aghaderg are runners-up in the South Down MFL
- Aghaderg GFC and Ballyvarley HC received the Chairman's Award for Achievement at the South Down Awards Night, for the success of the football and hurling teams this year
- Martin O'Neill plays for Down MH
- Rory Simpson is on Ulster U-17 Compromise Rules Team

2000

- Ballyvarley lose Betsy Gray Shield Final, in St Johns, to Darragh Cross by 1-6 to 3-6
- Ballyvarley lose MHC Final, in Annsboro, to Kilclief
- A combined Aghaderg/Annaclone Minor team win the South Down League
- Aghaderg/Annaclone U-21 Team beat Rostrevor, after a replay, to win the South Down final. Lose to Kilcoo in County Final.
- Jimmy Stewart wins Banbridge Council's Service To Sport Award
- John McAreavey captains Down U-16 Footballers
- Colm O'Neill plays for Down JH
- Martin O'Neill, James McGrath, David Lavery and Eunan McConville play for Down MH
- Martin O'Neill and David McGovern played for Down U-21 H
- Rory Simpson and John McAreavey play for Down MF
- Kevin Maguire and Martin Farrell play for South Down U-14 F and Martin wins Bord NaNOg Skills Competition

2001

- Aghaderg reach 1st Junior Football Championship Final. Lose to Newry Mitchels by 0-9 to 2-9
- A combined Aghaderg/Annaclone team win the South Down MFL, beating Newry Bosco by 0-17 to 1-10 in final
- Rory Simpson and Colm Farrell play for Down MF
- Colm O'Neill plays for Down JH

- Aghaderg/Annaclone U-21 Team are South Down finalist's v An Riocht.
- James McGrath and Michael Cairns play for Down MH

2002

- Ballyvarley lose Betsy Gray Shield Final to combined Clonduff/Rostrevor team in Newry
- Ballyvarley lose ACHL Div 2 play-off to Clonduff/Rostrevor by 1-6 to 2-10
- John McAreavey plays for Down MF
- Colm O'Neill and David McGovern play for Down JH
- James McGrath plays for Down U-21 H
- Aoibhne O'Neill plays for Down U-14 Camogie team.

2003

- Martin O'Neill and David McGovern play for Down JH
- Aghaderg relegated to SFL Div 4
- Club celebrate Diamond Jubilee and a Centenary of GAA Activity in the Parish

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