

“IN THE BEGINNING”

*A Celebration of One Hundred Years of
Dolphin R.F.C.*

2002 - 2003

Compiled, and written by Ger Hodgkinson.
Layout by Kieran Dwyer.

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Dolphin R.F.C.**

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Acknowledgments

With the Centenary season fast approaching I was approached by Paddy Clery, Club President 2001/2002, to work on the club history. "Sure you have a lot of it done already", referring to a few paragraphs I had done for the Club Newsletter. What a "hospital pass" it turned out to be.

Where do you start on such a project, the club records were destroyed in a fire many years ago.

Jerry Healy started on the Club History a few years ago, with the aid of our oldest member Sidney Mahony. He put together the short history which was contained in club programmes and membership cards over the past few years. Sidney has been very helpful; he can remember the mid 1920's as if it were only yesterday. In recognition of this, the title of this book is the same - "In the beginning".

A Club is only as strong, interesting and colourful as it's members. During my research I found many fascinating stories about "The People of Dolphin". What I hope is that I have been able to capture these stories and do the many characters justice.

This book could not be written without the assistance of many people, but where does one start.

Over the past 15 years an annual programme has been published. There was a lot of information in these programmes and I would like to express my thanks to all the contributors.

Since I could not get a lot of historical match information though Dolphin, I wish to express my gratitude to the authors of the various club histories of Cork Constitution, Young Munster, Cobh and UCC.

I would also like to thank Hugh Farrelly of the Irish Examiner for providing old match reports and photographs and Stan Fuller for his information on the referees.

I must not forget Butch Coleman, Hugh Mullins, Rossa Williams, Dave McCormack, Michael O'Halloran, Pearse O'Leary, Ronnie Moore, George Carpenter, Milo Lynch, Maureen O'Mahony, J.V.O'Callaghan, John O'Flynn, Ann Giltinan, and Gerald Aherne for the photographs and newspaper clippings they provided. Also, Des Daly for information on the AIB League and Olan Allen & Frank Byford for information on Munster players and competitions.

I would like to especially thank J.B.Murphy, Frank Dorgan, Ann Reidy and Fergus O'Donoghue for their articles.



Sidney Mahony and Ger Hodkinson check the archives

John Waterman of Waterman's Printers and Kieran Dwyer have been very helpful with suggestions regarding lay out etc of the book and Sean McCarthy of the Evening Echo saved me some embarrassment when he gave it the once over, editing the project. I must also mention Val Murphy & Michael O'Riordan for their assistance.

I wish to express my thanks to my wife Siobhan, for her understanding for all the time that was spent in compiling the book and to my young sons James and Eoin who used to wait patiently for me to stop to allow them a chance to play on the computer.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the many fine people associated with the club over the past 100 years in particular those who gave their all on the pitch - those who went out to 'die for Dolphin'. I would sincerely like to apologise to anyone whose achievements have been overlooked.

Ger Hodkinson

President's Message

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate Ger Hodkinson on writing and producing the 100-year history of Dolphin Rugby Club. The amount of time and hard work devoted to this onerous task gives some idea of his achievement. It is a case of "Cometh the hour, Cometh the man". We are all extremely grateful to him and to his wife and children for their patience.



To our "founding fathers", the members of Dolphin Swimming Club, and all Past Presidents and Officers of the Rugby Club who worked tirelessly down through the years, we owe an enormous debt of gratitude. The Club can look back on the last 100 years with pride and satisfaction and hope that the younger members will continue and strengthen this tradition.

Dolphin can be justifiably proud of the many players who represented the Club on Provincial and International teams and to those who administered the game at all levels.

I would like to convey sincere thanks to our Centenary Committee who have done Trojan work in organising celebratory functions and fundraising events. Also our grateful thanks to our Ladies Committee who have catered for over 40 years and were the envy of many visiting clubs. I take this opportunity of expressing appreciation for the support and assistance given to the Club by the Munster Branch and Irish Rugby Football Union.

I must also thank the generous sponsorship of the Thomas Crosbie Holdings Ltd./Examiner Newspaper Group who sponsored this publication.

In this professional era it is important to remember that rugby is a sport. Through sport, lasting friendships are made. Hopefully this will also be so as we reflect on the words of W.B. Yates "Think where a man's glory most begins and ends, and say we had such friends".

Finally I wish our Coaches, Players and especially the Youth Section, a very enjoyable and successful season.

Gerald F Reidy

A Monumental Milestone

To a varying degree, anniversaries are always important events but significantly, in the lives of people, institutions and more specifically in the life of a rugby club, a one hundredth anniversary is a monumental milestone indeed. On such an occasion, we are reminded of all members past and present who have been responsible for the success and well-being of a club and whose concerted efforts and dedication have made it all possible. This is the case with Dolphin Rugby Football Club who will celebrate one hundred years as a club in this season of 2002 — 2003.



In the course of the celebrations, I am sure that many references will justly be made on many occasions to that important trio made up of Louis Daly, Harry Golden and Fred Thomas who, in 1902 as members of the Dolphin Swimming Club, formed a Rugby Club the main objective of which was to keep the swimmers together and active during the winter months. Little could they have known then of the importance in rugby terms of what they had started nor of the impact that Dolphin Rugby Football Club would make over the ensuing one hundred years on Munster and Irish Rugby.

As President of the Irish Rugby Football Union, I wish to pay tribute to your club for the contribution that your members have made to Irish Rugby down through the years; both on and off the field. You have produced players of immense stature; many of whom were legends in their own life-time as some of whom still are. Names of men such as Jim Mc Carthy, Mick Lane, Paddy Lawlor, Bertie O'Hanion, John O'Meara and Gerald Reidy trip lightly off men's tongues and through those names, one is reminded of other glory days of Irish Rugby as though the names of Phil O'Callaghan, Michael Kiernan, Terry Kingston and Gus Aheme, we are reminded of further glory days in the more recent past. In mentioning some names of your members both former and current, I should mention my good friend Dick Roche whose contribution to the game was also considerable, especially in the West of Ireland.

Dolphin Rugby Football Club has not only produced players of the calibre such as those whom I have already mentioned, but it has also produced administrators par excellence; three of whom went on to become presidents of the Irish Rugby Football Union: C.J. Hanrahan (1954 - 1955), I.F. Mahony (1973 — 1974), and Gerald Reidy (1983 — 1984). During Gerald's term of office, the East Stand in Lansdowne Road was officially opened and brought into use. It is indicative of the loyalty and dedication of Dolphin REC members that Gerald Reidy, after his record as player and administrator, made himself available to become President of Dolphin RFC in this your Centenary Year. He is a most fitting person to fulfil that role in this auspicious year in your proud and illustrious history!

I wish to extend my heartiest congratulations to Dolphin Rugby Football Club on reaching this major milestone and may your season be one of great celebration and success.

With every best wish for the next one hundred years,

Don Crowley,
President
Irish Rugby Football Union



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CHAPTER 1

“In the beginning”

It all began in 1902, when, at the close of the summer season, three young sporting members of the Dolphin Swimming Club, Messrs Louis F Daly, Harry Golden and Fred Thomas formed a Rugby Club as a means of keeping their swimmers together during the long winter months.

The full Committee of the Swimming Club approved, and for some early years were sponsors and financiers of the then offshoot, the now famous DOLPHIN RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB.

The baby grew apace and in a relatively short time was able to stand on its own feet. The story goes that it all began on £5 borrowed from the Swimming Club and it was to be repaid in half-crowns- but was it repaid?

Interestingly, Dolphin Swimming Club celebrated its centenary just last year. Despite the years, the connection between the two clubs through joint membership still survives.

There were others of course, M.Keeshan, the Mahony's, Bradley's, and Lannin's. Two members of these famous families, Jack Mahony & Michael Bradley were dual Internationals- they represented their country at both Rugby & Water Polo. There was a lot of rugby played in the early 1900's; newspapers at the time mention the following teams. Cork FC, Montenotte, Limerick County, Tralee, Queenstown, GPO, Knockree, Evergreen, Berwickins, Leicester Regiment, Rockboro, St.Finbarr's, Western Road, Bandon, Clonakilty The Pirates, Queenstown Corinthians, Douglas, Skibbereen, The Favourites, Berkley Hill, Wellingtons, Mallow, Youghal, Kanturk and the Cork Garrison. Amongst the schools were Midleton College, Christian Brothers College, and Presentation Brothers College.

The teams that played in the Munster Senior League in the year Dolphin was formed, 1902/03, were Queens College (now UCC), Clonmel, Constitution, Limerick County, Cork County, Tralee, and Nenagh Ormonde. Unfortunately all of the clubs early records were destroyed in a fire some years ago so early records are a bit sketchy, however we have been able to piece together quite a bit of information. The first mention in the Cork Examiner was not until February 18th 1905- that was giving details of a game scheduled between Christian Brothers College and Dolphin S.C.

Team

Fitzgerald, Cowhie, Connell, Hegarty, Dooly, Leech, Mahony, Merrick, Daly, Ross, Barry, Lawlor, Duffe, Purcell, Spencer. No report or result was included in the following week's papers.

The club commenced by playing at minor level and in 1906/07 entered the Cork Junior League for the first time, playing their home games at Glasheen Road. Their inaugural competitive match was the league fixture v Constitution. The game finished in a draw 0-0.

The team that day was:

Barry, Donnelly, O'Brien, Forde, Spinks, Cohen, Thomas, Rose, Boardman, McGann, Swanton, Stewart, Davis, Angleton, Murphy, Russell.

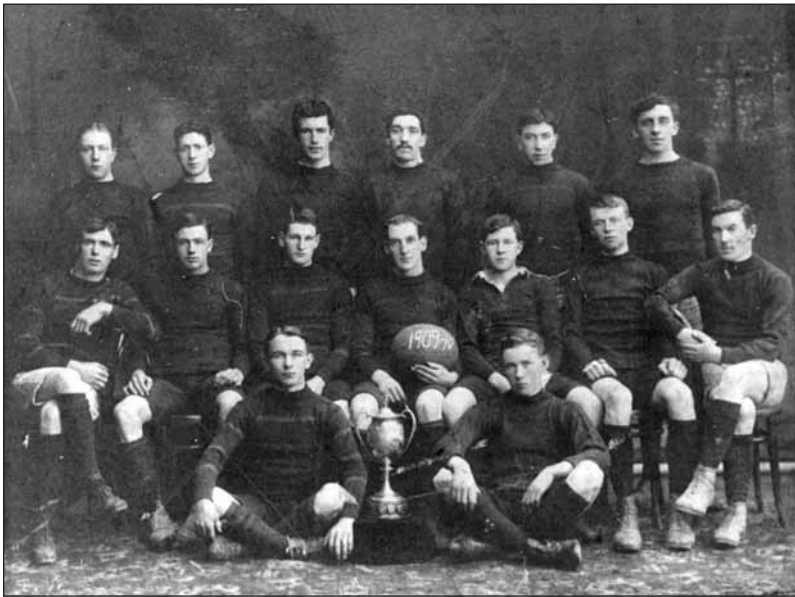
In 1908 there were just four teams playing in the Cork Junior League, Dolphin, Cork County 2nds, Queens College 2nds, and Constitution 2nds. After five games, Dolphin led the League but were beaten in the final game by Cork County who won the League as a result of that win.

The club's fourth AGM was held on 3/10/1908. Nothing unusual came out of the meeting, they decided to retain the usual practice field, fixed subscriptions at 4s and decided to enter for the Charity Cup for the first time.

What is of interest is the Officers who were elected that day when compared to the Officers of the Dolphin Swimming Club elected at their AGM a few months later.

The President of both clubs was W.J.Hegarty while Fred Thomas captained both clubs. L.R.Daly was Hon Secretary & Treasurer of the Rugby Club and Vice President & Delegate to the Munster Swimming Council, while James Dwyer was Vice President of both clubs.

For the 1909/10 season, the club moved grounds to the Ferry Walk, Mardyke. They had an excellent performance in the Junior League that season. They played University College, Constitution, Queenstown and Cork County and won seven of their eight fixtures, apart from a 0-0 draw with Constitution and conceded only one try and captured the Club's first trophy.



1909/10 Cork Junior League Winners

*Back - M.Barry, L. Cohan, F.Boardman, T.O'Connor, F Merrick, T.J.Murphy.
Sitting - W.Mercer, D.Attridge, W.G.Spinks, F.Thomas (Capt) F.Colthurst, J.Bowen.
Front - R.Humphreys, E.McNamara.*



1912 Dolphin Swimming Club

*M.J. Keeshan, J.Bowen, F.Thomas
F.M.Bradley, R. T.Sisk (Capt) R.N.Cross (Vice Capt) D.Saunders
J.Mitchell, R. Wynne.*

They went on to beat Cork County in the first round of the Munster Junior Cup, but Constitution defeated them in the next round.

In 1910/11 Dolphin played Constitution in the semi final of the Munster Junior Cup, the game resulted in a draw and Constitution won the replay 8-6 but both teams played an illegal player. The game had to be replayed and Constitution advanced.

T. Murphy became the club's first Interprovincial player when he represented Munster v Leinster in the inaugural Junior Interprovincial 13/1/1912. (Leinster won 6-3)

Munster Junior Cup

This trophy was first played for in 1909 when Jack MacAulay presented the trophy to be competed for by all the junior clubs in the province.

In 1911/12 Dolphin defeated UCC in the first round, and Sunday's Well 4-3 in the semi final. Their first final appearance was against Limerick City at the Market's Field when the home side won by a try and penalty goal to nil.

The 1912/13 season was a year of many records, Irelands rugby fortunes were mixed, the 38-0 loss to South Africa was the biggest defeat in the history of international rugby up to then. They subsequently beat France 24-0 in Cork which is still the country's best ever performance against France.

Dolphin was in the ascendancy; the name of the Club was inscribed on the plinth of a provincial trophy for the first time. The opening round resulted in a 10-3 victory over Douglas, followed by a 6-0 victory over UCC. They defeated Constitution 6-0 after three 0-0 draws. The final was against Shannon; late in the game Shannon got a try. However as soon as Dolphin got close to the Shannon line, Dan Attridge took the opportunity to take a drop goal and was successful. Shortly afterwards the final whistle went and Dolphin had won 4-3. (It was 1948 before a drop goal was reduced to three points- in 1970/71 a try was increased to four points and to five in 1992.)

Team

P.Meehan, D.Attridge, F.N. Colthurst, Brennan, P.J.Murphy, R.T.Lowen, V.O'Neill, L.Daly*, W.G.Spinks, F. Thomas*, F.Simmins, T.Murphy (capt), M.J.Bradley, P.Martin, T.Hurley, J.Bowen. * Founder members.

Munster Senior Cup

The Munster Senior Cup was the brainchild of Limerick's W.L.Stokes and J.Forbes Maguire of Cork, to bring about for the first time, senior competitive matches between all the playing areas of the province. They appealed to all the clubs, as well as many individuals, for subscriptions. Within three months the cup, which weighs 88

ounces and stands 21 inches high, was made in Sheffield at a price of £65 and won by Bandon in its inaugural year, 1886. An exact replica replaced this Cup in 1993/94, which was valued at £13,000.

Dolphin having won the Munster Junior Cup applied for and was granted senior status. They made their first appearance in the Munster Senior Cup in Tipperary against Clanwilliam in February 1914. While it was an exiting game it still finished 0-0. Dolphin's first Senior Cup Team was: R.Sisk, J.Morris, C.Murphy, D.Attridge, W.Spinks, J McNamara, F.N.Colthurst, T.Murphy, L.Daly, J.Boardman, J.Bowen, Mullins, Shanahan, M.Bradley, Folium.

It was a strong Clanwilliam team that included international R.W.Jackson. In the replay at the Mardyke, Dolphin asserted their superiority and in the first half, following a line out close in, D.Attridge picked up and ran through for a try close to the post, which Sisk failed to convert. Early in the second half from a five-yard scrum Dolphin scored a try at the corner flag. Clanwilliam replied with a try. From the drop out, a great run by Spinks led to a second try for Attridge. However, the semi final appearance v Garryowen resulted in a heavy defeat, seven goals and seven tries (56-0).

Dolphin's second team took part in the Munster Junior Cup for the first time in 1914 and nearly repeated the success of the previous season. They had a 3-0 victory over Douglas and in the second round came from 5-0 behind at half time to defeat UCC 26-5. The final was against Shannon who were much heavier and stronger, Dolphin were not helped by having to carry a passenger, as a forward got injured coming on to the field and was forced to play. Six of the Shannon players appeared for Garryowen in the first round of the Munster senior Cup against Constitution the previous week. Shannon went on to win 11-0.



1914 First Munster Cup Appearance

Team

P.Meehan, R.Sisk, Murphy, Moore, Sexton, Carr, McNamara, Boardman, Daly, Hanrahan, McGrath, Mullins, Martin, Lysaght, Golden.

1914 also marked the minor's first appearance in the Minor Cup Final; unfortunately it resulted in a 4-0 defeat by Constitution.

There were no formal competitive matches between 1914/15 and 1919/20 seasons, however the club did engage in War Charities fixtures.

With the country in a state of unrest due to atrocities being carried out by the Black and Tan's, rugby was slow to organise. The AGM of the Munster Branch was held at Limerick Junction in November 1919. The outgoing Secretary, J.F.O'Regan of Constitution tendered his resignation and Dolphin's Louis Daly was unanimously appointed as his replacement. Louis Daly was also elected a Munster senior selector in 1919 and he retained this position until 1927.

C.E.Walker presented the Walker Charity Cup in 1906, to the Trustees of the Cork Football Grounds (owners of the Mardyke before they fell into financial difficulties and sold to UCC in 1912) to be played for annually in aid of the North & South Infirmaries. It is now known as the Cork Charity Cup but was open to Limerick sides until the Limerick Hospital's Charity Cup was first played for in 1924/25.



1919/20 Charity Cup

Backrow - L.F.Daly(Hon Tres), W.J.Hegarty(President), J.Reid, J.Sullivan,M.J.Bradley, J.Mahony, D.Sullivan, F.Thomas.

Frontrow - T.O'Sullivan, M.Canty, D.Keane, T.J.Murphy(Capt), D.Attridge(Vice Capt), J.Bowen(Hon Sec), V.J.O'Neill, T.Cogan.

Sitting - R.Coleman, P.Sheehan.

1919/20 and it was the club's second season at senior level. And a year that Dolphin won their first senior trophy, the Munster Charity Cup.

Dolphin had a 5-3 victory over Constitution, then went on to win the coveted "Walker Cup" with a two tries and a drop goal (10 points) to 0 victory over Young Munster.

From a financial point the North & South Infirmary hospitals in Cork divided over £100 between them. K.Daniels & P Murphy scored tries and M Canty dropped a goal from outside the 25-yard line.

There was two unofficial meeting places for the club at this stage, Fred Thomas's bar & restaurant, The Buffet which was next door to the Rob Roy on Cook St and Matt Canty's Bar in Pembroke St, a bar which still carries the name today. Fred Thomas was a Corkman and not as previously thought a Welshman- but with a name like Thomas this oversight is not surprising.

CHAPTER 2

The Twenties - First Senior Cup Victory



1920/21 Munster Senior Cup Winners

*Back Row - W.J.Hegarty (President) J.Dorgan, D.Keane, W.Murphy, J.O'Sullivan, P.Kelleher, J.Mahony,
W.S.O'Brien Ass Hon Sec.*

*Middle - L.F.Daly Hon Treas. J.Bowen, M.J.Bradley, R.J.Coleman (Capt) T.S.O'Sullivan, T.Cogan, F
Thomas Vice Pres*

Sitting - J.O'Neill, R.Long, J.Wren, J.Wellwood.

Inset - P.Sheehan, G.Studdart, M.J.Canty.

In 1920 only four teams, Garryowen, UCC, Cork Constitution & Dolphin entered for the Munster Senior Cup when it was revived. Dolphin forced a draw at

the Markets Field with favourites Garryowen before giving it their best on home ground. Dolphin were without Michael Bradley while Garryowen had a strong pack, which contained three internationals and won by 10-0.

Apart from Bandon's win in the first final in 1886, the next 28 victories were by the three sides, Garryowen, Queens College and Cork Constitution until Dolphin finally broke their stranglehold.

Cork Constitution were very confident of winning the 1921 final, the team arrived in sidecars giving a thumbs up to their supporters. Dolphin had a strong and durable team under the captaincy of scrumhalf, Dicky Coleman, he was the first of 3 generations (so far) to have played senior for the Club. His sons Dick & Norman were Club President's in 1973-74 and 1977-78 respectively.



Dick Coleman

While the game was held in the middle of the Troubles, Dolphin forgot them for at least the weekend as they celebrated their first victory in the competition by virtue of a try by Michael Bradley, converted by Dicky Coleman to win 5-3.



Michael J Bradley

The Vice Captain on that 1920-21 team and also a Junior Cup medal holder was the club's first International, Michael J. Bradley. He won the first of his 19 caps against Wales on 13/3/1920 at hooker. When fellow Corkman, Billy Dorgan, a centre, retired injured early in the first half, it was Bradley that was moved to the centre. It was the one and only time he played there and at half time he moved back to his accustomed position.

He was according to contemporary reports a magnificent forward. He toured South Africa in 1924 with the Lions but did not make the Test side. If he had been a recognised goal kicker he might have made the test side, because they lost both goal kickers by the end of the first match and during the 21 games only managed to land just five conversions and three penalties, yet managed to draw one of the four tests and lost another by just 7-3. Bradley scored a conversion and three penalties in his Munster career.

When he arrived in Cape Town with the Lions, having got off the train, he heard a voice asking "Is Bradley there?". Yes, Bradley is here he replied. The stranger's name was Barry – a brother of Tadhg Barry, the well-known republican, who was the Chief of Police in Cape Town.

Tom Voyce the famous English International told the story that it took the rest of the Lions party a month to understand Bradley's strong Cork accent and when he returned to Cork three months later the locals had difficulty with his newly acquired accent for a while.

He has a really versatile player, playing for his country in all three front- row positions, 14 times at prop & five at hooker. He also represented his Country four times at Water Polo.

He played in each of the four internationals in 1925/26 when Ireland were only inches from a Grand Slam. Having beaten France, England and Scotland, they travelled to Wales seeking a victory. They were 11-8 down with a minute to go, a drop goal (4points) attempt from outside the 25-yard line sailed towards the upright. Unfortunately it carried on and hit it, bounced back and Wales cleared their lines just as the whistle went. The ironic point was that this was the only Welsh victory in seven games between the two sides.

The following year he played against France on New Years day at Stade Colombes, the Irish played well and were 8-3 ahead. The crowd were very vocal and the referee sensed there could be a problem. As they walked back for a free, the ref said he would blow the whistle the next time they got near the pavilion, then "run for it" he said, which they did. They were prisoners for close to an hour; bricks, slates etc were being thrown before the referee was smuggled out in the back of a Renault.

Prior to the 1921-22 season, the club had no official ground of their own, but finally a pitch was secured in Ballintemple Village, about two miles from Cork City centre. It had no pavilion or washing facilities: the players were kindly granted permission to tog out (among the beer barrels) in Murphy's Pub, whose owner rejoiced in the name 'Long Boat Murphy'. This pub was situated near Blackrock village, which was then a small fishing community with a thriving salmon fishing industry on the River Lee. The players then had to walk about a quarter of a mile to the field.

After the game they used a 40-gallon barrel half filled with water to clean themselves. They had to as cattle grazed on the pitch from time to time.

In those days players were not seen from one Saturday to the next, however midweek training had begun by the mid 1920's with such players as Michael Bradley, Charlie Hanrahan and Jack Mahony and fellow Munster interpros- Wesley Wellwood, Dicky Coleman, Jack O'Neill, John Jagoe, W.O'Sullivan & J Kilpatrick taking part in the training sessions.

The Minor's won the Tramway Cup for the first time in 1922 with a victory, after a replay, over Cork Constitution.

The Tramway Cup was donated by the Cork Tramway & Electric Light Company and was first played for in 1905/06 and is still played for today. Dolphin retained the trophy in 1923 with victories over UCC and Highfield.



1922/23 Munster Junior Cup & Cork Junior League Winners

*Back Row - W.S.O'Brien Hon Sec. J Kilpatrick, E.Ryan, J.J.Buckley, F.Thomas, R.O'Regan,
C.O'Mahony, R.Lees, L.F.Daly Hon Treas.*

Front Row - J.Hodgins, J.Jagoe, H.P.O'Shaughnessy, T.Gregory (Capt) C.O'Reilly, J.Wren, T.Cogan.

Inset - C.J.Hanrahan, W.Hill

Absent - A.Foley, J.Dorgan, B.Sullivan, D.Keane, I.Cohen, M.Coombes, G.Jagoe.

1922/23 also saw the elevation of Young Munster to the Senior Ranks. The Garryowen (then the only senior team in Limerick) delegate proposed Young Munster be made senior and Dolphin seconded the motion. Young Munster's first visit to Leaside was a tragic one. They played UCC at the Mardyke in the Munster Senior Cup, a game which had to be abandoned after 20 minutes as the River Lee burst its banks and flooded the pitch. Three of their players went for a look around the city and were stopped by a young Free State patrol. They were asked to raise their hands and identify themselves, a shot rang out and one of the players Michael Hickey was killed. Dolphin were beaten in the final of the Munster Senior Cup 6-0 and also the Cork Charity Cup by Cork Constitution, 20-4 after a 3-3 draw.

1923 was a hundred years after William Webb Ellis picked up and ran with the ball for the first time, it was also the year that Dolphin also picked up the Munster Junior Cup and Cork Junior League double. The Munster Junior Cup final was against Young Munster, the holders, where Dolphin came out convincing winners on a 10-3 score line.



Jack Mahony

It's difficult to know where to start when talking about one of Cork's greatest Sporting Families. Mahony, while attending CBC excelled at many sports- he was school handball champion, captained the school swimming team to Munster Schools Senior Squadron title in 1917 & 1918. He hurled with the CBC team that was beaten by Farranferris in the final of Cork Schools Cup, and then there was rugby. He captained CBC to the Cork Senior Schools title in 1918 and also captained the Munster Schools team. In 1921, he captained the Irish Giants against the Yankee Invaders at the Mardyke in the Baseball Championship of Ireland. He attended UCC until 1920 when he commenced his long association with Dolphin. His rugby career was short; he gained one International cap v England in 1923 and was a travelling substitute for the Scotland and Wales games. The following year he suffered a serious injury in the Munster trial and did not play again until 1925, when he was again substitute against England and Scotland. In 1926 he retired owing to a recurrent injury at the age of 25. Jack always said that he was instrumental in encouraging 36 new members within a short time, eight of whom were on the victorious 1921 Senior Cup team. Jack was a brother of Nacey Mahony, a future I.R.F.U. President. Another brother Theo was the captain of the winning Junior Cup team in 1926. He was also a member of the Dolphin Swimming Club and represented Ireland at water polo.

The 1923/24 season was to be a landmark season for the club. They won the Munster Senior League for the first time, less than 10 years after achieving senior status.

They also qualified for the Munster Senior Cup final against Garryowen, having defeated Cork Constitution 5-3 in the semi final to make up for a 5-0 defeat by them in the Charity Cup final. The packs were well matched, with Dolphin the stronger in the scrum and Garryowen in the loose. While Jack O'Neill had a great game, the backs did not combine with any great success and some poor handling cost Dolphin the game, which finally ended up with Garryowen winning 8-0. Two of the Garryowen players were well known to Dolphin, they (D Reynolds and W O'Sullivan) had played for Dolphin and both represented Munster while with the club.

Dolphin Team

R.J.Coleman, W.R.O'Sullivan, P.Sheehan, J.Hodgins, M.Canty, J.O'Neill, W.Wellwood, T.O'Sullivan (Capt) M.J.Bradley, J.Mahony, C.Hanrahan, J.Kilpatrick, T.Gregory, C.Mahony, T.Cogan.

Garryowen went on to play Bective Rangers in the final of the Bateman Cup, The Cork Examiner contained this article the following Monday. "On arriving at Lansdowne Road on Saturday last the captain of Garryowen team was handed a telegram from Dolphin F.C. (Cork) wishing him and his team success in the Bateman Cup final. This kind and thoughtful act was greatly appreciated by Garryowen, and is just typical of Dolphin, sportsmen, one and all, to their fingertips." It was to no avail as they lost by a last second try in injury time.

In 1924/25 Dolphin won the Charity Cup and sprang a surprise when they defeated Cork Constitution 8-0 in the Munster Senior Cup semi final setting up another final appearance with Garryowen at the Mardyke. A record crowd of over 6,000 attended the Mardyke, two special trains carried over 2,000 people from Limerick with many others arriving by road.

There were terrible delays at the turnstiles, Garryowen only got into the ground at 3.30pm for a 3.45pm kick off and the game finally got underway at 4.20pm.

With the benefit of the wind, a strong pack and an adventurous backline Dolphin were the stronger team in the first half and were unlucky to miss a kick from a very difficult angle, going only inches wide. A Garryowen player fielded a kick from Wellwood on the line and the Limerick man was tackled in possession. Scenes of great excitement were witnessed when Dolphin went over the line and it was thought that they had scored. The pressure of the crowd at this point-near the main entrance – became so great that the palings collapsed, fortunately no body was injured, though several hundred supporters ended up on the pitch. When play resumed it was found that Dolphin had not succeeded in scoring, but were awarded a free for holding. Williamson took the kick but missed by inches. The game finished 0-0 and the replay was held the following Saturday at the Markets Field in Limerick.

This time it was Dolphin who turned up 20 minutes late, the reason was not recorded. In a game dominated by forward exchanges, Garryowen scored a penalty in the first half, which was described by the Cork Examiner as follows- "After one of the most stubbornly contested matches ever seen in the Munster Senior Cup competition, Garryowen retained possession of the trophy when at the Markets Field, Limerick, on Saturday they defeated Dolphin, by one of the luckiest penalty goals ever registered. Even the most partisan supporter of the Limerick side must admit that splendidly directed though Hegarty's kick was, the ball would have gone to the far side of the post were it not for the exceedingly lucky gust of wind which caught it and brought the leather over the crossbar."

It was thought that Dolphin with the aid of the strong wind in the second half would win, they had a claim for a try disallowed when Canty followed a kick ahead but was not given the try, and the game finished 3-0 to Garryowen.

Senior Cup Team

F Williamson, M Canty, G Barry, A Foley, W D Harrington, J W Wellwood, J O'Neill, T Cogan, J Fitzpatrick, T Gregory, M J Bradley, R.F.Kennedy, T O'Sullivan, J Mahony, C Hanrahan.

Dolphin's stubbornness cost them a place in the Junior Cup final. The semi- final of the Munster Junior cup between Cork Constitution and Dolphin in February 1925 had finished scoreless, Dolphin refused to play extra time and later the Munster Branch ruled that Cork Constitution go on to the final which Shannon won after a replay.

The following year Garryowen and Dolphin met once again in the Munster Senior Cup, this time in the first round. It was played after a period of dry weather and the Fire Brigade poured tonnes of water over the pitch (Markets Field) on the morning of the match to make it playable. Dolphin led 6-4 at half time after a penalty goal from Fred Williamson and a try by Jack Mahony following a forward foot rush to a drop goal from J Hegarty. J O'Neill, the scrum half, suffered a fractured leg early in the second half. Garryowen held a numerical advantage for a while until such time as the referee had to order off one of their players. Garryowen went on to win by 1 point, unfortunately a penalty in the last minute in front of the post was missed which would have stopped Garryowen going on to win their third title in a row.

One of the players from the 1920's went on to have a very distinguished legal career. Wesley Wellwood qualified as a Barrister and later went to the UK to further his career. He became an Honary Master of the Bench at Grays Inn; he shared the honour with such people as the Prince of Wales, Edward Heath and the Lord Chief Justice of England. Tommy Cogan was another character, a big man; Tom the Bull as he was known, he was in charge of the Foundry in Fords. When the Foundry closed he was made Chief Inspector of Production.

In 1925/26 Dolphin won the Munster Senior League and Munster Junior Cup. The Junior Cup victory was over the Limerick side, Star. It was unique as a game in view of the violence on the pitch and Star finished with only 11 players, with 3 being sent off (one of them a Clergyman) and 1 retiring with a broken collarbone. The game was interrupted for 20 minutes when during a disturbance on the field, spectators broke down the fence and went on to the pitch and fought with the players. The Civic Guards had to get involved to bring back some normality to the scene. The "spectators" to get on to the pitch knocked over the Dolphin touch judge Gerald Barry, in the scramble. Dolphin had 2 sent off and ended with just 13. The final score was 15-3, tries from Mahony, Coltsman and Proes, all converted by O'Donovan.

Dolphin were an innovative club and were one of the first club sides to use the "Roamer" system, which was widely used in the Southern Hemisphere. Michael Bradley brought it back from the Lions Tour to Dolphin. The forwards packed down

with only seven, they had no number 8. He would put the ball into the scrum and the ball would shoot out to the scrum half who was standing behind the second rows. JJ Wren was the roamer for the Junior Cup Final.



1925/26 Munster Junior Cup Winners

Back Row - J.Bowen Vice Pres, E.Ryan, C.O'Mahony, J.Wren, W.J.Hegarty President, R.May, J.B.O'Shaughnessy, A.Ryan, F.Thomas Vice Pres.

Middle Row - G.Barry, C.Flaherty, J.A.O'Shaughnessy, M.T.Mahony(Capt) T.O'Halloran, C.Riordan, J.R.Willis.

Front Row - M.F.Long Assist Hon Sec, R.S.Mahony, H.Powell, W.J.McIntyre Hon Sec

Inset - F.Coltzman, Dr J.S. O'Donovan, G.Proes, Y.Casey

A couple of years later, one of this team, C O'Mahony died as a result of a collapsing scrum when playing for Lansdowne 2nds on the back pitch at Lansdowne Road.



Things were also progressing off the pitch with W J Hegarty being Dolphin's first member to hold the position of Munster Branch President when he was elected in 1925/26.

Charles J Hanrahan

He earned the first of his 20 caps on 27/2/1926 in a 3-0 victory over Scotland. A Prop, who attended Castleknock College. He was one of the many bankers who have become associated with Dolphin over the years. He scored one international try and later

became an international selector between 1946/49. In 1955/56 he became Dolphin's first I.R.F.U. President. He captained Munster in their fixture with Ulster in November 1927, which was unique for the fact that it was the first game that the sides met outside of Dublin. Up to then the games were held on successive Fridays and Saturdays in Dublin. For the record, this game was held at the Mardyke and resulted in a 17-3 victory for Ulster. Another Dolphin man Jack O'Neill was also included in that Munster team.



1925/26 Munster Senior League Winners

*Back Row - J.Bowen (Vice Pres.) E.Ryan, S.Barry, W.J.Hegarty (President) J.B. O'Shaughnessy
M.O'Mahony, F.Thomas*

*2nd Row - M.Long Assist Hon Sec. C.O'Mahony, F.Kennedy, T.Gregory, R.May, M.Bradley,
W.McIntyre (Hon Sec).*

3rd Row - F.Williamson, T.O'Sullivan, J.O'Neill, J.Mahony, (Capt) C.J.Hanrahan, H.Powell, T.Cogan.

Front Row - G.Barry, R.S.Mahony, J.Willis, C.Riordan.

Between 1924/1931 Dolphin shared the Ballintemple grounds with Cork Bankers RFC, the original rent payable per season by the Cork Bankers was £5. The Bankers Club began to have difficulties in fielding teams and the clubs informally amalgamated in 1931.

In another first for the club John Bowen served as the Hon. Sec. of the Munster Branch in 1926/27 and 1928/29.

Dolphin defeated Garryowen in the first round of the 1926/27 Munster Senior Cup and took a further Limerick scalp when they beat Young Munster 15-10 in the semi-final.

However, third time lucky was not the case when they faced Bohemians in the final. Dolphin were favourites to beat Bohemians in the final. Dolphin had a strong team including an all international front row of Bradley, Hanrahan and Mahony. Bohemians also had many fine players including Dave Barry & Tom Crean (future Dolphin greats), and after a draw at the Markets Field, Bohemians inflicted a 5-0 defeat on Dolphin at the Mardyke.

Dolphin notched up a third Charity Cup victory in 1928/29.

Team

F.Williamson, W.F.Treacy, P.Hickey, P.J.Heffernan, C.J.Riordan, J.R.Willis, A.W.King, C.J.Hanrahan, T.F.Crean, C.W.Flaherty, J.F.Fallon, R.E.Porteous, T.A.Riordan, J.J.Buckley, T.Mangan, J.O'Neill, T.J.Cogan, R.Maye, D.R.Walsh.

Tom Riordan from Mallow, one of this victorious team was a great player; he was on the verge of the Irish team for a few years but was unfortunate not to make it.

Dolphin's early teams wore striped jerseys, in the early 20's they switched to all navy with a Dolphin crest; it was not until the late 1920's that the yellow and white stripes were introduced. The senior team reverted to the original colours for the 75th Anniversary in 1976/77.

CHAPTER 3

The Thirties

If it's the Senior Cup-It must be Garryowen again



Fred Williamson

Fred W Williamson a full back, became Dolphin's first International Back on 8/2/1930 and started his career with a 4-3 victory over England; it was the first of three caps. He practised his goal kicking at the back of Club President W J Hegarty's house at Glenanaar, Boreenamana Road – this was next to the Pub, which now is known by the same name. Jack Willis and Pierce Hickey, were bankers, who were in digs just up the road and Sidney Mahony who lived 2 doors away, were always around for the kick about.

Dolphin met Waterford City RFC in the 1929/30 Munster Junior Cup final. Waterford City were a fine side and were figuring in the final of the Munster Junior Cup for their third successive season. Dolphin held them well until 5 minutes from time, when Waterford ran out winners by 2 tries to nil.

In 1931 the well-known Cork builder, John Sisk (associated with the club) built and donated a wooden-structured pavilion at Ballintemple, complete with shower and tea-room to the club and was an immediate signal for further success.

Dolphin were defeated by Young Munster 14-6 in the Munster Senior league final in 1930/31. They opened their Munster Senior Cup campaign against Waterford City with a 15-3 victory.

An interesting point, in this our Centenary year, was that the referee on that occasion was Dr Tom Neville who was the Centenary President of UCC RFC. A penalty by C.J.Hanrahan early in the match was sufficient to earn a 3-0 victory over UCC in the semi-final.



1930/31 Munster Senior Cup Winners

Back Row - W.J.Hegarty (President) D Mangan, T.Mangan, T.Riordan, J.Fallon, W.Cassidy, C.Rezin, D.Barry, W.Igoe, L.F.Daly (Hon Treas)

Front Row - T.Heffernan, C.J.Hanrahan, J.O'Neill, T.Crean (Capt) C.J.Riordan, W.Tracy, R.S.Mahony,

Sitting - G.Thomas, A.King Inset - R.Barrett, T.Gregory, W.Dennehy.



1931 Dolphin Captain T.Crean being chaired off the field.

This set up a final appearance and a deserved 5-3 victory over strong favourites Garryowen in the Munster Senior Cup final at the Mardyke. Half the population of Limerick seemed to travel to Cork, there was a record crowd of 12,000- including 3 Bands, Sarsfield Fife Band, St.John's Brass & Reed Band and St. Mary's Fife & Drum.

C.J.Hanrahan had the first opportunity to score but his kick fell beneath the cross bar. Cyril Rizen who was a prominent comedian with the



Mardyke 1931

Cork Operatic Society for many years, got first to a breakdown, kicked ahead and followed up and kicked over the goal line and fell on it to score a try, which Charlie Hanrahan crucially converted. One of their secrets was the playing of 7 forwards and 8 backs; Billy Igoe was used as a “roamer” between Centre and Full Back.

According to Charlie Mulqueen’s “Carling Book of Munster Rugby”, “good Dolphin men like Dave Barry & Nacey Mahony swore years later that Cyril Rizen would have had another try had he not been tripped by a spectator as he raced up the touchline.” This was not quite what occurred, what actually happened was that a Garryowen player kicked ahead and there was a chase for the line. Sidney Mahony would have easily won this if it were not for a spectator who came off the benches and pushed him over and the Garryowen player won the race for the touchdown. The strange thing about it was the spectator had on a Young Munster scarf.

The referee was in a quandary, what should he do, it was not covered in the laws of the game. He decided in his wisdom (of course), and to the dismay of the Garryowen players and supporters to disallow the try and gave a 25- yard drop out to Dolphin.

Sidney Mahony was also on the Junior Cup winning team of 1925, he went to the Bahamas for approx 35 years where he was a Founder Member and President for 6 years of Freeport RFC and is still regularly attending Dolphin games. He was also a keen hockey player, he was a Munster junior interprovincial, played senior hockey for Harlequins and played on the Harlequins team which were defeated 1-0 in the Irish Senior Cup final. Sidney was Secretary of the Cork Operatic Society and took the

stage of the Opera House as did many other members over the years including Pierce O'Leary, James N.Healy, Cecil Rezin, Bill Twomey and Donie O'Sullivan.



Dolphin v Castleisland 1932

Back row - D.Coleman, E.Ryan, J.Mulcahy, E.Heaney, W.Twomey, J.Fallon, C.Flaherty, D.Mangan, T.Mangan, J.Mahony

Front row - T.Riordan, S.Mahony, R.Dunlea, W.Treacy, C.Rordan, M.O'Neill, B.Deacon, J.O'Neill



Dave Barry

His contribution to the game and the club was truly immense; he was renowned for his integrity, courage in speaking his mind at all times. He was a man of humour and wit.

He was the Manager of Lipton's in Patrick St in 1931 and had difficulty in getting off for the Munster Senior Cup final. While the rest of the team met at the Turkish Baths and went to the match in a coach, he arrived by bicycle and as soon as he collected his medal was back on his bike to the shop. He loved the game and was invariably on hand to offer support and encouragement. When thinking of Dave Barry most people will remember him down on the back pitch with the likes of Walter Murphy watching the Minors or Youths or whatever team was playing, it is said that he would watch up to 200 matches a year. That was the measure of his commitment to, and love of rugby.

Dave was not born into Dolphin; he won a Munster Senior Cup medal in 1927 with Bohemians, the following year when in Waterford he was on the Waterford City team that won the Munster Junior Cup. Then came his long and so productive and happy association with Dolphin. He was an excellent judge of a rugby player and that was recognised when he was named as a Munster selector. His astute judgement and objectivity in player assessment

saw him elected on to the Irish selection committee in 1957 where he sat for three years. In 1957 he was the first Munsterman to be honoured as a Lions Selector for the Tour to Australia and New Zealand. He went on to become President of Dolphin twice, in 1962/63 & 1969/70.



*Nacie Mahony (8) protects the scrumhalf
(can the caption be removed)*

Ted Ryan gets the ball back to his scrum half- also in the picture is Nacey Mahony 8- Arthur Allen 9 and at the back of the lineout John Williams.

Another interesting aspect of the 1931 victory was that in the front row that day was Jack O'Neill who played at Three quarters in the victorious 1921 team.

When talking of committed clubmen, two men who deserved medals for their dedication were brothers, Tom & Denis Mangan.

They were Drapers from Killorglin, their dedication was immense, they would cycle over 20 miles to Killarney in the morning, get the train to Cork, play a match and get the mail train back and cycle home very late at night.

Another Kerryman on the team was Billy Dennehy. He joined Dolphin from UCC and later when he returned to Kerry he became a County Councillor. Being from Currow Co.Kerry he had to be related to one of its famous sporting sons- he has two famous international nephews, Mick and Tommy Doyle.

Dolphin did not get the opportunity to represent Munster in the Bateman Cup in 1931 as the Munster Final was held too late to allow the inclusion of Dolphin in this famous competition.

The following season the junior's had a 5-0 victory in the Junior League decider over Cork Constitution, who also provided the opposition for Dolphin in the Minor League final which Dolphin won by 8-0.

Rockwell College provided the opposition in the Munster Senior Cup in 1931/32; they played a scoreless draw in the first game, but in the replay an excellent performance by Cashel Riordan and two tries from Tom Riordan helped Dolphin to a 16-0 victory. Garryowen got their own back for the final defeat of the previous year by beating Dolphin in extra time, Dolphin initially objected to the Munster Branch for being obliged to go to extra time. The committee meeting was held in Cruise's Hotel in Limerick and a reflection of the great interest in the outcome was that hundreds waited outside the hotel to hear the outcome. Dolphin withdrew their objection and Garryowen went on to beat Cork Constitution in the final.

The 1932/33 campaign was a rather dramatic one; in the first round Garryowen & Dolphin played a 3-3 draw in front of a 9,000 crowd in Limerick. D.O'Leary was injured in the 14th minute and retired and a free followed which M Fallon kicked. Garryowen objected both before and after the game against the validity of Vincent Dennehy. The issue was his status, having been regraded. The Munster Branch according to the Limerick Leader met and ordered a replay, yet they gave no reason why each member was sworn to secrecy "on the peril of execution". The replay was won by Garryowen by a drop goal, (4pts) to nil. Dolphin qualified for the final of the Charity Cup against Cork Constitution. The conditions were terrible and soon the two teams were nearly indistinguishable, Constitution won by the only score, a penalty goal to nil.

R J Coleman who captained Dolphin to the club's first victory in the Munster Senior Cup and was Dolphin's second Munster Branch President in 1933/34.

Again in 1933/34, Garryowen were the team to put Dolphin out of the Munster Senior Cup, this time 21-3 in Cork. In the eleven seasons, 1924/1934, 1930 was the only year that Dolphin did not meet Garryowen in the Munster Senior Cup. At local level, Cork Constitution defeated Dolphin 14-0 in the semi-final of the Cork Charity Cup.

1933/34 was the first season since 1919/20 that there was no Dolphin representative on the Munster senior team.

Preseason training was a totally different concept during the 1930's, back then training would start on the beach at Myrtleville, just kicking around a ball and practising some passing movements much to the delight of the other holidaymakers. A match would be arranged with the residents of Myrtleville and a few outsiders, mostly from the British Army stationed in the forts.

After the match they would be entertained in the NAFFI restaurant. A half pint of beer cost two pence against eight pence in an ordinary pub so it was a popular fixture. Serious training would then commence in September.

Sunday's Well ended Dolphin's interest in the Munster Senior Cup in 1935/36. They drew with both sides scoring just one try and it took twenty minutes of extra time in the replay before Sunday's Well won out by two tries to one. Dolphin had started well and Cashel Riordan scored a try within 10 minutes, but Bertie Deacon went off injured soon afterwards and they failed to score in the following 90 minutes.

They had interesting fund raising ideas in those days. The winning time was 19 mins.33secs to Eight O'Clock.



Ted Ryan

The mid to late 30's were dominated by UCC, in 1937 they defeated Dolphin 9-0 in the second round of the Munster senior cup, two of the College stars that day were future Dolphin players, D.B.O'Loughlin & Bobby McClement.

Dolphin's fifth International player was yet another prop, Edward G Ryan. He earned the first of his three caps in a 5-3 victory over Wales at Ravenhill in 1937 and captained Dolphin for two seasons.



Dave O'Loughlin

Another fine forward was Kilmallock man David B O'Loughlin, a second row who won a total of four Munster Senior Cup medals, two each with UCC & Dolphin. He won the first of his six international caps on 12/2/1938 v England, he would have no doubt added to this total were it not for International Rugby being postponed and no games held between March 1939 & January 1947. He played three times during this period for Ireland v British Army and two unofficial games in 1946. According to the records he was very versatile as he was capped as a prop, second row and wing forward. He scored one try against Scotland in 1938 and later went on to become an Irish selector between 1949/51 and 1954/56. J.S.McCarthy said of O'Loughlin, "I was honoured to play with him, he was an inspiration to me and must have been the epitome of the original fiery Irish



forward." He later moved to Limerick and played with Garryowen and captained them in 1949.

The club were a bit more bureaucratic back in those days. Looking back at old membership cards from the 1930's its interesting to note while the club was running three teams they had thirteen Vice Presidents including Rev. Bro. Fitzpatrick & Rev.Bro. Maher and 23 Hon. Life Members (in 1938/39) In those days the Brother Superior of CBC was automatically made a Vice President of Dolphin RFC.

Bertie Deacon played for many of the famous teams of the 30's & 40's, and was capped for Munster on numerous occasions and was Club President in 1963/64.He joined the club from Cobh Pirates having won a County Cup medal with them in 1934/35.



Dolphin v UCC c.1930

Another man who was a regular Senior player during the 1930's was George Carpenter. He was an all-rounder, he played first team with the original Cork City Football Club when he was only 15. He was a good oarsman, a Munster title winner at Badminton and represented Ireland at fencing in the 1952 and 1960 Olympic Games at Helsinki and Rome. He did all this and ran the Glenbrook Hotel for 30 years. Bill Treacy introduced him to Dolphin. The first thing he did was go to Elvery's and buy a book on rugby before he played. He was also involved in the Boys Brigade and in 1935 (the year before he retired from rugby) travelled with them to Berlin; they had an audience with Adolf Hitler and he even shook his hand. How many more Dolphin men did this? How Billy St John at a later stage would have liked to have him in his sights!!!!

Walter Murphy was another great clubman, he was a regular hooker when available, but due to this job with the Munster Arcade, his Saturdays off were limited. He served on various Committees for many years with great interest in the Club and its members.



Senior Team 1935

Picture includes C Reardon, B. Shanks, T Ryan (Capt), S. Thompson, I.F. Mahony, B. Deacon, G. Carpenter, J. Musgrave, T. Heffernan, W.G. Twomey, R. Dunlea, G. Ryan.

In 1939 W.J. Hegarty put up a prize for the best goal kicker in the club. One of the Minors practiced hard and beat the more fancied Senior & Junior players. That player was James N Healy who was at the time building up a career on the stage.

A very popular social event would be the Dolphin New Year's Eve Dance, which would attract crowds of up to 1,000 people. All the men would be in evening dress and the ladies in long flowing dresses. The men would normally be at the bar or the food counter but by five to twelve everyone would be on the floor and at midnight down from the ceilings would fall hats, whistles, balloons, streamers and crackers. Sidney Mahony played Father Time for nine years and would dress up and enter at midnight.



The 1939 Munster Senior Cup campaign began with a 3-3 draw with Cork Constitution, Dolphin made no mistake in the replay. It was Bohemians then in the semi final – the following heading in the Cork Examiner summed up the tie.

Bohemians did every thing but score, they had twelve kickable penalties and between the three kickers they used, failed to convert even one. Bohemians made no mistake in the replay and they won 11-0.

In the late 30's there was a newspaper reference to the Army bringing boxers to Cork and one of the clubs mentioned as providing opponents was Dolphin. There was no direct association between the rugby and boxing clubs although at one stage Sidney Mahony was treasurer of the boxing club, which he joined to keep fit.

There was a boxing association with the Mahony family. Nacey & Jack's father was at one stage the amateur heavyweight champion of Cork.



1939/40 Cork Junior League Winners

Back Row - A.M.Kavanagh, D.Barry, R.P.O'Leary.

2nd Row - W.S.O'Brien, R.Madden, J.Grath, J.T.Russell, T.O'Driscoll, R.Bogan, T.Keane, M.Hogan, K.Magner.

3rd Row - R.O'Shea, J.Harvey, W.Dennehy, J.Holmes (Capt) E.Goldberg, F.Murphy, J.Curran.

Front Row - D.O'Shea, J.B.Casey, M.Coughlan, N.O'Mahony

CHAPTER 4

An Alicadoo looks back

By Frank Dorgan

I always say that “Ould Fellas” like myself should convert to the written word, their wonderful memories of days gone by, before it's too late. I am grateful to the Dolphin R.F.C. historian Ger Hodkinson for asking me to contribute to the history celebrating the first hundred years since the club was founded. It is wonderful to think that, as I write, I have lived through ninety one of these years and so can recollect events back to about 1920 about Dolphin, and somewhat further back in regard to the stormy period from 1918 on, such as the burning of Cork, the funerals of Terence McSweeney, Tomas MacCurtain, and the faithful day, the 23rd of August 1922, when I touched the cold hands of Michael Collins, as his body lay in Shanakiel Hospital, the morning after he was killed in an ambush.

I suppose rugby was in my blood- my father Jerome, a noted oarsman with Shandon Boat Club, also played rugby, with considerable distinction for Cork County Rugby Club.

The youngest of ten children, by the time I was twelve, one of my elder brothers, Jimmy, had already won two schools Munster Cup Medals, and Munster Junior & Senior Cup medals with Dolphin. Two other brothers Hamilton & Bertie, were later on a Constitution team, which also won Senior Cup medals. How I first became interested and indeed, seemingly, a wild supporter of Dolphin, I cannot quite remember, but I do recall, so well, the verbal battles which took place between my brothers over our evening meals on Saturdays, after the matches, especially if Dolphin and Constitution were involved. Our mother was a stern referee and woe to the offenders.

But to talk of these days! The place to be on Saturday afternoons was the Mardyke (De Dyke) All the Cup matches were played there and on these occasions, the atmosphere was really electric. The trams from the City stopped outside the turnstiles opposite the Sacred Heart Church and disgorged the fanatics! The Eastern side of the main pitch was allocated to the “unemployed” mostly post war veterans who were great judges of the game and vociferous in their comments! The Referee was often subjected to all kinds of abuse such as “change your gansey, Ref” And if a player failed to dive at

the feet of two or three opposition forwards, not to fussy about whom they kicked, there would be screams of "H.L.I." which, in effect, meant Highland Light Infantry- the only Regiment in the British Army reputed to have turned it's back on the enemy!

But for youngsters like myself getting into the matches was a huge problem, we all had different ways of "ducking in" But when Constitution started a juvenile Club and all those boys got tickets. Needless to say, I succeeded in getting one too. But disaster followed. I presented my ticket at the Schoolboy gate but who was in charge but none other than Mr John Bowen, a great friend of my brother Jimmy, and after whom the Bowen Shield was later presented and named. He was furious and complained me to Jimmy! Peace was restored, however, and I was then given a ticket marked "Dolphinette". It cost me two shillings! I wonder if I was the first of that particular breed. However, a trend was seemingly established and lots of boys from the Western side of the City were treated the same way and grew up as great Dolphin players and supporters.

The other City Clubs had, of course, their own grounds. For example, Sundays Well were at the top of Shanakiel and Dolphin in Ballintemple, none of whom had proper changing facilities but in the corner of the Ballintemple ground there was a rusty old bath full of often stagnant rain water in which, after practice matches, we would wash off the mud plus whatever else, before dressing in a back room of a local pub. Later a small timber hut and one single cold, very cold shower was provided. That was after I left school. The field is now overbuilt- Menloe Gardens, I think.

In or around 1927 PBC won the Munster Schools Cup and retained the Coholan and Simcox Cups for hurling. It must be unique for players to win medals in two different codes in the same season. Others to support rugby were CBC, as well as Grammar and Midleton College and other sources were Banks, Insurance Companies and indeed the newly founded Free State Army. The supporters would critically assess new players, appearing on the scene for the first time, and comments were not always comforting. "Who is that fella" "Oh he's only a Bank Clerk- one of those guys who wears his Sunday suit every day of the week"

Some years ago, it was my pleasure to present to Dolphin the Minute Book of the now defunct Cork Bankers Rugby Club. This club in its short life, made a huge contribution to Dolphin. Two minutes from the book are worth recording.

(1) "The Hon. Treasurer is authorised to expend the sum of 2 shillings and 6d on white paint, to be used for painting the club balls, for practising at night under the reflected lights of the nearby street lamps and the head lights of member's cars."

(2) "The player complained of shall be suspended from Membership for having elected to play for another local club in a Cup match."

(3) "The player complained of" was C.J. Hanrahan who later represented Ireland.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Bankers Club was another stalwart Member and President of Dolphin 1954/55- Aidan Archer.

In these early years, it was no secret to say that Munster Rugby had an unenviable reputation for "robustness" and the story went around that when a senior Dublin-based Referee, was transferred by his Company to a new job in Cork- he vowed to

clean up Munster Rugby. His first game in charge was the Munster Junior Cup final between Dolphin & Limerick side Star- he put off five players, the last one a Clergyman. Another match I can remember was a local derby- Charity Cup, around 1925/26. Dan Daly of Cork Constitution and Freddie Williamson of Dolphin gave a wonderful exhibition of goal kicking, five each, and all from the ten-yard line beyond the halfway line.

Freddie went on to play for Ireland, on the outbreak of the Second World War; he took temporary leave from the Bank to join the Army but never returned. He always had a great interest in Dolphin and later on, even though he was hospitalised and unable to communicate, I wrote through the Army Superintendent of the Hospital, occasionally and kept him in touch. He died in 1996.

There was a great military connection with the Munster Senior Cup winning team of 1930/31 under the captaincy of Commandant Tom Crean. Scrum half Archie King became an RAF Spitfire pilot; he lost a leg after a crash landing returning from a mission over Germany. I went to school with Billy Igoe, who won a Senior Cup medal with Pres, he joined the RAF as a career soon after and achieved a very high command post at Biggin Hill in the Battle of Britain. The both survived the War, Billy played for the British Forces at Twickenham and in Egypt.

My brother Jimmy was also another Free State soldier; he was on Dick Coleman's Senior Cup team of 1920/21 and served as Club President in 1970/71.

I left school about 1928 and was employed for two years by my uncle in his china store during which time I cycled down to Ballintemple for practice matches every Sunday morning. I was never much good at the game, but in 1930, I joined the Munster & Leinster Bank and played quite a bit of rugby at junior level in places such as Thurles, where I captained the Club for two years, and frequently in Nenagh, Tipperary, Cashel, Clonmel (where I came across a former Dolphin President W.McIntyre) Waterford and finally Wanderers. At this stage Freddie Williamson and Dick Wellwood were playing at Wanderers, of course at Senior level.

Dick, although a Corkman joined Dolphin from Bohemians, he was never short of a good story about the game! For example, the day he cried like a child in the dressing room in Lansdowne after "I lost the Bateman Cup for Bohs, when two points down with two minutes to go, and in my pride that I had the speed I needed, I decided to "sell a dummy" to Ernie Crawford. The dream ended with a despairing hand trip by the old master! In the shower, later, an old and seasoned teammate said, "stop your blubbing and remember all the matches you won for us and forget the only one you lost."

Dick is buried in St Lukes Churchyard in Douglas, only a "short pass" away from my dear friend and associate in the bank, Bertie Deacon, who died very recently and who had a distinguished career on the pitch as a centre for Dolphin. Happy the memories of his company with other Alicadoos at Musgrave Park down the years, enlightened by his comments and readings of the game. As a player he narrowly missed going all the way to the top.

Now for me, at my age, it must be nearly over but what lustre membership of Dolphin gave to my life. As I look back and remember the lists of people who gave so much to the club and to the game. I dare not write of all the friends without leaving stories untold and looking at the lists of presidents, vice presidents, captains, interprovincials and finally, internationals, I will mention only a few going back almost to the beginning.

W.J.Hegarty, a name I barely recall. Harry Golden, I can see him at matches at the Dyke. Louis Daly, one of the well-known legal and banking family, I think. I recall him after the Cup final in 1931, with his back to the railing, looking up to the stand as Dick Coleman was presented with the cup- bawling his head off from sheer joy and emotion. P.J.Collins, a big man in every sense and a Director of Suttons, Jim Fallon, another Banker, he died doing what he loved, playing golf. J.F.Mahony, one of a family that gave so much to Rugby, and I'll finish with schoolmate and Broadcaster, Bill Twomey, who brought us the thrill of matches in distant places, and Sidney Mahony, home from sunny climates.

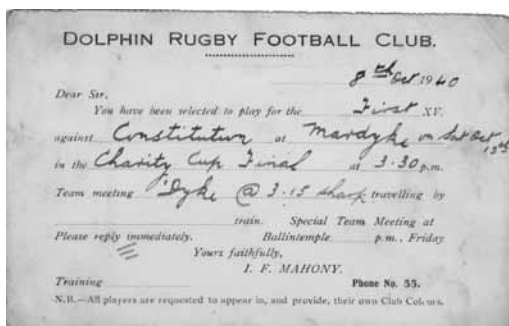
Finally, my greatest memories- seeing Triple Crowns won in Lansdowne Road, Ravenhill and Swansea. Trips to Twickenham and Cardiff, coming home on the "Innisfallen" with early morning Sunday mass in the Bar, celebrated by the great lover of the game, Father Dalton of St Peter & Paul's. And last of all to Thomand Park to see the All Blacks, beaten by Munster and with Dolphin members playing in most if not all of these great matches. But as I go on my way, a link remains- my daughter Grace is married to Dolphin and former Munster Centre, Joe Harvey.

CHAPTER 5

The Forties A Clean Sweep

The 1939/40 Senior League was abandoned due to a petrol shortage as a result of the outbreak of "The Emergency". However, the Munster Senior Cup went ahead. Dolphin brought UCC's fine record of five finals in a row (4 wins) to an end when they defeated them 3-0 with an I O'Connell try in the opening round.

Dolphin were unlucky not to score another try, Bobby McClement followed up a kick ahead, gathered the ball and on the 25 passed the ball to wing-forward Fred Godfrey. The pass was a bit dubious a whistle sounded. It was not a referee but a supporter. Godfrey almost stopped in his tracks, then dashed towards the line and was stopped two yards short. At half time the referee and members of the teams questioned the spectators about the "mysterious whistle".



*Notification of Selection, 1940 Style
(Note- team meeting 15 minutes before Cup Final kick off)*

Young Munster were the semi final opponents, the tie went to a replay after a 3-3 draw. The Mardyke was the venue for the replay and the game was brought to life early in the second half when a Dolphin knock on close to the Young Munster line led to a great run by C.Lee.

He beat the defence and as he approached the line he slowed slightly where John Harvey got him only inches from the line. In the last fifteen minutes a lovely passing movement led to a try from C.J.Dillon, a few minutes later from a maul near the line Nacey Mahony crossed for a try. Not for the first time a Dolphin /Garryowen final ended in a draw, this time a 3-3 draw. In the replay, Bertie Deacon broke two ribs after 10 minutes and made little impact in the game after that. Noel C

Mahony kicked two penalties, but Garryowen won by 9-6. It was the first time Garryowen had won a Cup final in Cork since 1903 (they won 11 Finals in Limerick in the meantime) and it was to be a further 35 years before they did so again.

Team

N.Mahony, I.O'Connell, H.Deacon (Capt) F.Murphy, C.J.Dillon, G.Mahony, R.McClement, J.J.Curran, A.Allen, E.Goldberg, J.Williams, F.Godfrey, H.O'Neill, J.Musgrave, F.McNicholl.

Louis F Daly, one of the club's founder members and club president for the previous few years, became Dolphin's third Munster Branch President in 1940/41. He was a quiet spoken man, who was the "original entrepreneur" working out of an Office in Maylor Street.

In May 1938 the Munster Branch had purchased land from Mr P Buckley at Ballyphehane, at this stage it was well out in the country – the nearest Bus Service being at Turners Cross. The Main pitch was levelled by pick and shovel, Kate Kearney's Cottage was built and the 2nd pitch made usable immediately. The Lord Mayor, Ald. William Desmond, performed the Official opening of Musgrave Park, named after the late J.G. Musgrave, on 10th November 1940. (Alderman Desmond was a Grand Uncle of Dolphin's Jim Kiernan)

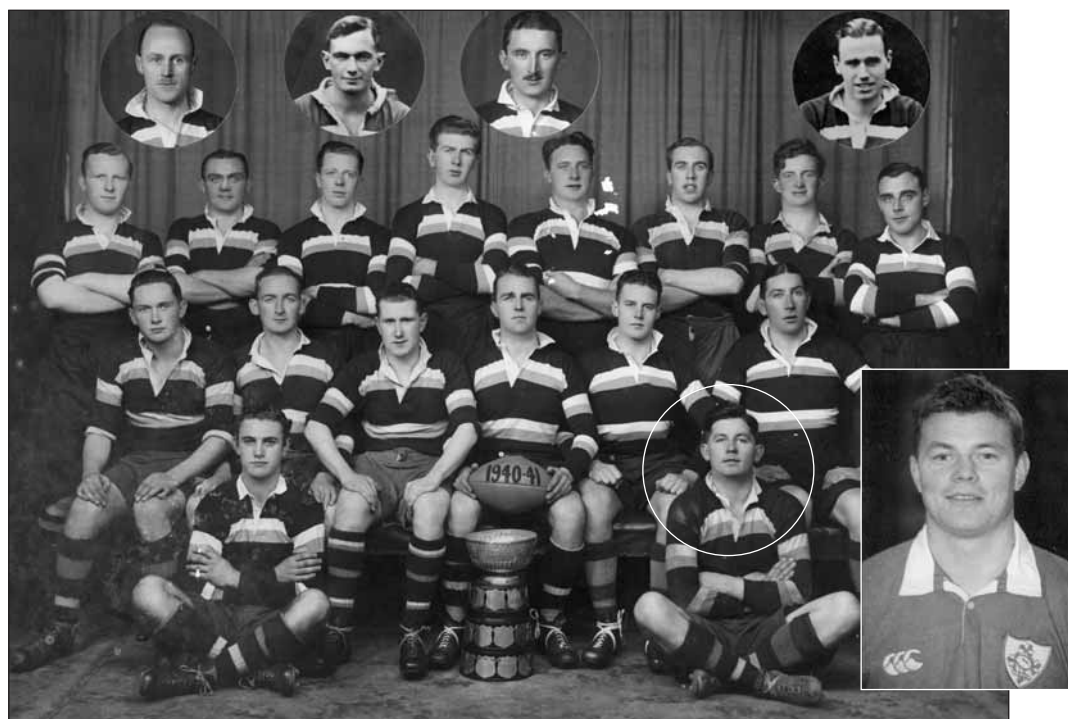
In 1940/41 Dolphin gained revenge for the previous year's final defeat when a try five minutes from time gave them a 3-0 victory over Garryowen. From a ruck, Bertie Deacon drew the defence, B. McBratney was fed the ball and he rounded the defence far out to score but Garryowen did not have the time to strike back. This set up a semi final meeting with Young Munster who they overcame 6-0 in a replay after the drawn game had ended all square at 3-3.

One of the characters of this team was Din Joe Fitzgibbon. During the semi final, he came around the blind side and crashed into an opponent and was knocked senseless. The next thing he remembered was coming around and there was someone standing over him, with as he put it himself a wee bottle." I lowered its contents and never have I tasted anything like it". It must have been good because he made a marvellous recovery to score the try that won the match.

They met UCC in the final, tries by Lieut G.Gibson and Bertie Deacon were not enough to defeat UCC, two penalties to leave the score 6-6. The replay was another close affair and despite a try by O'Sullivan and penalty by Fitzgibbon, UCC were narrow 8-6 winners.

The season finished with Dolphin beating Sunday's Well 8-0 in the Charity Cup final. Niall Barrett scored both tries and Din Joe Fitzgibbon converted one.

Niall Barrett was an Engineer who joined Dolphin from UCC, his brother Cyril later joined. Niall's son in law Frank O'Driscoll played on the Irish Tour to Argentina in 1970, his grandson, also a centre; Brian O'Driscoll is one of the best-known players now in the game.



*Brian O'Driscoll(insert) & his grandfather Niall Barrett(circled)
from Dolphin Rugby Football Club Winners Cork Charity Cup, 1940/41.*

Inset I.F.Mahony, F McNicholl, H.O'Neill

*Back Row - J.Griffin, J.Williams, B McBratney, T.O'Driscoll, D.B.O'Loughlin, R.Bogan, S.O'Sullivan,
H.Deacon.*

Middle - R.Bolster, A.Allen, D.Fitzgibbon, R.McClement (Capt) J.Harvey, I.F.Mahony.

Front Row - M.Coughlan, N.Barrett.

Din Joe Fitzgibbon moved on to become M/D of Opel and he became a household name as presenter of "Take the Floor" on a Sunday afternoon on Radio Eireann.

Team

N Mahony, I O'Connell, B Deacon, F.Murphy, C.J. Dillon, G Mahony, B McClement,J.J. Curran, A. Allen, E. Goldberg, J Williams, F.Godfrey, H.O'Neill, J.Musgrave, F.McNicholl

In 1942 Dolphin moved to the Branch grounds and became co-tenants with Sunday's Well, and shared dressing room facilities in the building known as "Kate Kearney's Cottage".

Facility wise, they had just two cold showers. In 1957, Dan McCarthy on seeing his son Jim coming out after training and taking a freezing shower, called a plumber to install a hot shower. It was done at a cost of £8.00 without permission of the committee; he almost lost his membership and ended up paying for it himself.

Munster Senior & Junior Cup double.

1943/44, was a year never forgotten by Dolphin, the club captured virtually every competition possible i.e. Munster Senior & Junior Cups, Cork Junior Cup and League, Cork Minor Cup & League. Dolphin became the first Club ever to win the Munster Senior & Junior Cup double.



1943/44 Munster Senior Cup Winners

Back Row - D.Barry, E.O'Mahony (Hon Treas), C.J.Hanrahan, P.J.Collins (President) I.F.Mahony, W.G.Twomey, W.Magner (Hon Sec)

Middle - J.Buckley, R.McClement, R.Bogan, C.Prior, D.B.O'Loughlin, R.Fegan, D.Kirby, L.Hawke

Front Row - G.Aherne, A.Allen, R.Bolster, J.Williams (Capt) J.McCarthy, T.Daly, C.Corbett.

Sitting D.O'Callaghan, J.Harness.



John Williams

The senior Captain was Midleton man John Williams, a tough back row forward, a great player who knew no fear, his team talks would have the players spitting fire going on the pitch. He won two County Cup medals with Midleton, before he joined Dolphin. He made 27 appearances for Munster and was a reserve for the Irish XV v British Army in 1943.



John Williams holding Munster senior cup aloft. The two young lads in the picture are Milo Lynch, Club vice president 2002-03(left) and well known rugby writer Ned van Esbeck(right).

He later served as President of Midleton RFC and was very proud of the fact that he was never dropped off either the Dolphin or Munster teams before he retired at the age of 29. He followed up the tradition of Dave Barry and the Mangan brothers. He cycled up from Midleton before the cup final.

A win by 8-6 over the Army (Southern Command) set up a semi final appearance against UCC. A try by Jim McCarthy, converted by Dick Dennehy who also kicked a penalty made another 8-6 victory and set up a final appearance against Garryowen at Thomand Park. After a 3-3 draw it was back to the Mardyke for the replay.



*1943/44 Scenes of joy at the Mardyke
Johnny Harness chaired off the field by Ted Murphy and Bill Twomey, Team Captain John Williams also held high. In the foreground is Life member J.B.Murphy.*

They did it the hard way, in the 21st minute one of their most influential players Dave O'Loughlin went off injured and in those days there were no substitutes. The pack played very well, despite being down a man, they won all but four scrums during the game. At out half was Johnny Harness, an 18 year old who had won a Schools Cup medal with C.B.C. only a few weeks earlier. What a medal haul he had that year, Minor & Junior League, Junior & Senior Cup & Senior Schools Cup.



1943/44 Munster Junior Cup Winners

*Top row – D.Barry, S.McGrath, E.J.O'Mahony (Hon Tres) P.Collins (President)
I.F.Mahony, W.G.Twomey, W.K.Magner (Hon Sec)*

*2nd row- J.S.McCarthy, J.B.O'Carroll, G.Aherne, D.O'Brien, P.Dromey, L.Hawke, T.Daly, C.Corbett,
R.Fegan.*

*Front row – R.F.Murphy, W.Meaney, D.O'Callaghan, J.Lannin, (Capt) M.O'Shea, T.Murphy,
R.T.Dennehy. Seated – J.Harness, M.O'Flynn*

He was not eligible to play in the Minor Cup having already played Senior Cup so he missed out on that one. As the game moved into injury time Dick Dennehy took the ball in the out half position from Bobby McClement and coolly slotted over the winning drop kick. The hooker was Arthur Allen- he was called the father of the team. He was virtually ever present in fifteen years of playing and the number of games he missed could have been counted on one hand. That year the junior team beat Cork Constitution 6-0 in the Cork area final/Munster Junior Cup quarter-final, it also doubled as a junior league game so they finished unbeaten winners of the league. They went on to beat Clonmel 12-6 in the semi final, Dick Dennehy was

Dolphin's only scorer. He was the hero of the Junior final also, he dropped another goal against Limerick side Presentation in the final, like the Senior Cup, this was the only score of the game. Jimmy Lannin was the Junior Captain, the Lannin family were very involved in the Swimming Club, Jimmy Lannin was an Irish Breaststroke Champion. Also on that side was hooker, John B O'Carroll. He was very unlucky not to have played in the Senior Final; he was selected but was suspended after being sent off by Aidan Archer (a Dolphin man) in a Schools Cup match when playing for P.B.C. against C.B.C. He was deemed to have illegally tackled fellow Dolphin man, Johnny Harness in an effort to stop him scoring.

CBC were very strong in 1942/43 & 1943/44, they won the Schools cup on both occasions, with nine players winning two medals. At that time Schools players could play in adult competition for clubs and ten of the side won Minor League medals in 1943/44 with Dolphin. In the Minor Cup a 3-0 victory over Cork Constitution in the semi final set up a final appearance v UCC B. Dolphin led by a try to nil (3-0) when the referee made an important decision. UCC had kicked a penalty goal, but the referee disallowed it as one of the UCC players was in front of the kicker.



1943/44 Minor League Winners

Back Row - J.B.O'Carroll, L.Hawke, M.O'Shea, C.Mulcahy, R.Hegarty, W.Meanly, D.O'Callaghan, A.Jones,

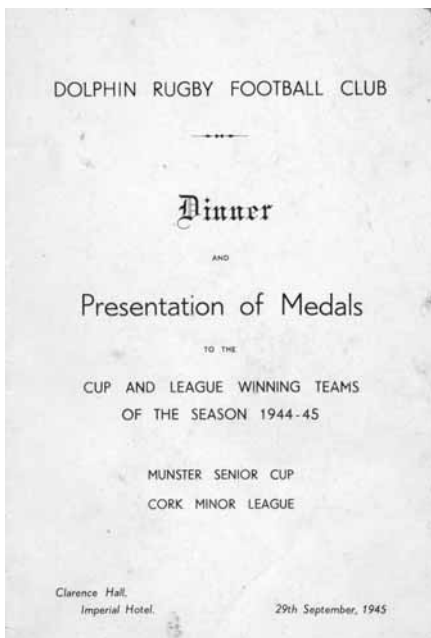
Middle - G.Aherne, T.Murphy, A.O'Brien, F.O'Kelly Lynch, J.Hennessy, G.Reidy, F.Crowley

Front Row - R.J.B.Murphy, E.Barrett, F.O'Shea, D.Donnery, J.Harness (Capt) M.O'Flynn, R.Coleman,

M.O'Hanrahan, J.S.McCarthy Seated G.Henry, B.Humphries



Robin Bolster, later a well respected Limerick Insurance Co. Branch Manager, led the Club to the Senior Cup the following year, a team that also contained J S McCarthy, D B O'Loughlin, Michael O'Hanrahan, Bertie O'Hanlon & Gerald Aherne. Dolphin had a 7-5 victory over UCC in the semi final.



What was interesting was that Dolphin had four former UCC players including Dave O'Loughlin and Bobby McClement and UCC three former Dolphin men, John Harvey, John O'Flynn and John Harness. Dolphin drew 3-3 (M O'Donovan try) with the Army in Thomand Park in the final. Included in the Dolphin line up was Michael O'Flynn, who was still in CBC, at 5 ft and 9 stone must have been one of the smallest forwards to play in a Munster Senior Cup final. He won a total of six medals with Dolphin when he was still at CBC; in 1943/44 he collected Minor and Junior Cup and league medals (in addition to 3 with CBC) and the following year Minor league and Senior cup medals.

Dolphin went on to defeat the Army 8-0 in the replay at the Mardyke, having been down to 14 men. Hooker J.B.O'Carroll broke his collarbone after 20 minutes. Bertie O'Hanlon & Noel O'Mahony were the scorers.

They were very fortunate to have the services of Noel Mahony, (brother of Sidney) he was based in Dublin and playing with Clontarf but they did not select him in the Senior Cup so he was able to play for Dolphin. He was also very involved in other sports; he gained nine international caps at cricket, six as captain. He was President of the Irish Cricket Union in 1979. Noel had the distinction of playing for both Munster and Leinster cricket teams in the same season- 1946. Noel also played Table Tennis at interprovincial level for Munster. The Minor's retained the League (1944/45) and went through the campaign undefeated.

There has been a great connection between Dolphin and the Army, with people like Tommy Crean (1931 Cup winning Captain) Alphie Nicholson, Dermot Gibson, Tom Furlong (Past President) Cormac Bunyan, Tim Harrington, Jerry Healy (Past Captain), John Skehan (RTE), Joe Higgins, Donal Murphy, Martin Murphy (Operations Director-IRFU) & others.



1944/45 Munster Senior Cup Winners

*Inset - C. Corbett, R. Fegan, N.C. Mahony, E. O'Mahony Hon Sec. R. McClement, M. O'Donovan
Back Row - T. Daly, P.J. Collins (President) W.G. Twomey, D. Barry, I.F. Mahony, W. Magner
Middle - J. McCarthy, R. Bogan, D. O'Loughlin, M. O'Hanrahan, J. Williams, D. Donnery, B. O'Hanlon.
Front Row - R. Murphy, J.B. O'Carroll, G. Aherne, R. Bolster (Capt) R. Dennehy, J. Buckley, M. O'Flynn.*



The Alternative Photo

Mick O'Hanrahan scored the opening try, however Young Munster went 10-3 ahead, a drop goal from Dick Dennehy was not enough to save Dolphin and they went out 10-9.



Senior Officers 1945/46

*Sitting - W.G. Twomey, D. Barry, P. Collins,
I.F. Mahony*

Standing - W.K. Magner, E.V. Mahony.

They also reached the Senior league final that year, only to go down to a 5-0 to Garryowen. Later in the season Dolphin defeated Sundays Well 6-0 in the opening round of the Munster Senior Cup before going down 12-0 to Young Munster in a replayed semi-final having drawn 5-5 in the first game.

That game was unique as Dolphin appeared in unusual colours. They played in red to prevent any confusion between the teams (there is no record of this happening on any other occasion between these two sides.) Aidan McElhinny scored a try, which

The Minor A' were unable to retain the Tramway Cup, they were beaten 12-0 in the final by Cork Constitution, who were captained by Mick Lane, who later, after a successful career with UCC, joined Dolphin.

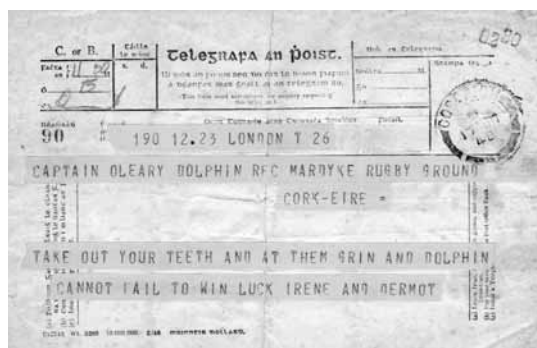
The three-in a row was not to be, Young Munster provided the opposition in the first round, and they converted a penalty kick, which turned out to be the last kick of the game to draw level 6-6. In the replay

The following season (1946/47) Dolphin scored six tries in the semi-final of the Charity Cup against Highfield (B.O'Hanlon 3, M.O'Hanrahan, J.S.McCarthy & D.O'Callaghan) in a 26-3 win to earn them a place in the final against Cork Constitution. That game was an exiting contest which was decided by a clever cross kick by Mick O'Hanrahan which led to a try by Bertie O'Hanlon. This was followed by a penalty by Reg O'Shea and a further try from Jim McCarthy to give Dolphin a 9-3 win.



*1946/47- Cork Charity Cup-semi final team v Highfield Team
G.Aherne, J.O'Flynn, M. O'Flynn, R.Murphy, J.McCarthy, D.Donnery, B. O'Hanlon, M.O'Hanrahan,
R.P.O'Shea, R.Bolster, W.Burke, R.P.O'Leary, A.McElhinney, Lt.A.Moorkins*

was converted by R.Coleman. Everyone thought Bertie O'Hanlon had scored under the post after a fine run only for the play to be brought back inside the Dolphin 25 as the touch judge had his flag up. In the dying minutes the touch judge again played an important role. Then it was Young Munster's turn; they also had a try claim overturned as the touch judge had a flag up. Unfortunately they got possession again from the lineout and got a try.



Pearse O'Leary led the Club to a third victory in Senior Cup in five years in 1947/48 when they also won the Musgrave Cup (7 a-side). Before one of the biggest crowds to attend a Munster Senior Cup Final for years Dolphin defeated Young Munster 8-3 (Nicholson try and Dennehy try & conversion) in a hard fought game at the Mardyke. Dolphin were superior in the scrums, winning 18 out of 22 in

the first half alone. The try by Alphonie Nicholson was a great individual try, he was fed by one of the forwards from a lineout inside his own 25 cut through the Young Munster defence and scored under the posts.

Team

M O'Hanrahan, B Reidy, B O'Hanlon, G Aherne, Lieut. A Nicholson, R Dennehy, N Coleman, D Healy, J O'Flynn, J.B. O'Carroll, Lieut J Skehan, P O'Leary, J McCarthy, D Donnery, R.P. Murphy.

Pearse O'Leary had arranged with his brother that if Dolphin won, as soon as the game was over he would slip him his dentures. He could not find the grounds man and the dressing rooms were locked, so when Nacey Mahony as President of the Munster Branch presented him with the cup he could only mumble a brief reply. He had earlier received this telegram from his sister and husband who were on their honeymoon.

The proud President during the successful Cup winning period of the 40's was Paddy Collins, he was a well known and respected figure who was at the time the General Manager of Suttons.

There were many great characters in those teams of the 40's, one of those was Des (Basher) Healy who played in the 1947/48 team, a Roscommon man, and a Munster interprovincial, one of the very few to better Tom Clifford in a Senior Cup Final (but that's another story) He had never actually seen a rugby ball until he went to Rockwell College and later turned professional and played for Halifax in the Rugby League Cup final at Wembley.



1948/49 Munster team v Ulster

Back - 1st from right Dick Dennehy, 2nd Alphie Nicholson

Front - 1st from right Mick Lane, then UCC, 2nd J.S. McCarthy, 3rd Des Healy, 6th Gerald Aherne, 7th Bertie O'Hanlon.

There was a great Rockwell contingent at the club in those days, Bertie O'Hanlon, Gerald Aherne & Des Healy being the best known. Gerald Aherne won a Minor Cup medal with Cork Constitution when still at school, it was J.S.McCarthy and his father, Dan, who was Gerald's Uncle, who approached him at Easter to play Minor for Dolphin as Cork Constitution were already out of the competition, he would then be free to return to Cork Constitution, but he never did. The following year he helped Bertie O'Hanlon draft his resignation to Cork Constitution.

Gerald went on to be President in 1974/75, his three sons, John, Declan & Fergus all joined Dolphin from UCC. They have a number of unique records, Gerald and his sons all played at Senior Interprovincial level. Fergus had the distinction of being selected for Ireland before playing at Interprovincial level. He then moved to Dublin and Lansdowne and declared for Leinster. He later declared for Munster and played just once at senior level for Munster, as a replacement against Connacht in 1995/96. They all won Munster Senior Schools Cup medals, Gerald in 1942 with Rockwell, alongside Bertie O'Hanlon, John in 1974 with CBC, two more Dolphin men Michael O'Halloran & Joe Lane were on that team. Declan actually won two medals, in 1976 & 1977 with CBC, Jim Crotty, Tom O'Donoghue and Barry Coleman were also on both sides, while John O'Kelly Lynch and Dan Harvey were on the 1977 team. Finally, Fergus in 1980, also with CBC, alongside Maurice Scraggs, Con Cremin, Chris O'Callaghan, Frank Quirke and Terry Kingston.



1947/48 Munster Senior Cup

*P.Collins, A.Archer, C.Prior(Hon. Sec.), W.G.Twomey(Hon. Treas.), M. Dowling(Capt.)
A.McElhinney, D.Healy, T.T.Dennehy, B.Reidy, M.O'Hanrahan, Lieut.A.Nicholson, D.Donnery,
J.B.O'Carroll, R.P.Murphy,
J.O'Donoghue, G.Aherne, J.O'Flynn, R.P.O'Leary(Capt.), B.O'Hanlon(Vice Capt.) D.O'Callaghan,
J.McCarthy. Sitting - N.Coleman, M.O'Flynn. Inset; Lieut J.Skehan*

Besides winning Munster Senior Cup medals with Dolphin, Gerald Aherne won a Leinster Senior Cup medal with Lansdowne, as did John while Fergus won two with Lansdowne. Gerald Aherne was a great all rounder, while at Rockwell he won a Munster Hurling Medal and also played Football for the College. A little known fact is that he played a number of League of Ireland games for Cork Athletic.

Gerald's brother John captained the Munster Schoolboys and later played for Leinster and also for the Rest of Ireland against the Defence Forces in February 1944. There were Dolphin men in opposition that day, D.B.O'Loughlin for the Rest of Ireland and John Williams for the Defence Forces. (Defence Forces won 12-7)



Looking back at those three Munster Senior Cup victories, Dick Dennehy, Gerald Aherne and Jim McCarthy each won three Senior Cup medals, Bertie O'Hanlon won two having won another with Cork Constitution in 1942/43. The man who holds the most Senior Cup medals was Bob McClement; he won four with UCC (1935/36/37/39) before winning a further two with Dolphin in 1943/44 & 44/45. He also

won a Bateman Cup medal in 1936/37, Munster Junior Cup Medal with UCC in 1932/33 and captained Dolphin's Cork Charity Cup winning team of 1940/41.

It was 42 years to the week since a major touring side had visited Munster with Australia providing the opposition in December 1947; they had won 29 of their previous 35 games having walloped Ireland 16-3 a few days earlier. The day was foggy, the Mardyke was pretty muddy, 10,000 supporters saw a very close and exiting game, where three Dolphin men played, Dick Dennehy, Aidan McElhinny and J.S.McCarthy. Munster led 5-3 with a try 5 minutes from time. However a last minute try for Australia won the game 6-5.



Bertie O'Hanlon

1947 also saw the first of 12 caps for Bertie O'Hanlon. Born in Ballyclough, Mallow, he was introduced to rugby at PBC before boarding at Rockwell College. He was scrumhalf on the Junior Cup team at Rockwell when the former president of Ireland, Paddy Hillery, was wing forward in 1939. In 1942, his final year at Rockwell he won a schools cup medal and helped Cork Constitution win the Minor Cup and league from out-half before switching to wing to help Cork Constitution Seniors win the Munster Senior Cup.

An all round sportsman, he also represented Rockwell at Gaelic Football and was South of Ireland sprint champion over 100 and 220 yards and long jump champion for two years. He was selected 13 times for Ireland, but had to cry off against Australia in 1947 because of injury. He had a short international career of four seasons (1947-1950) that was littered with honours, two Triple Crown's and the Grand Slam, which Ireland only won once. The pinnacle of his career should have been the Lions tour of New Zealand & Australia in 1950, in those days the tours lasted 6 months and he was asked by the IRFU to allow his name go forward but his employers would not release him. He scored two tries on his International debut, a 22-0 victory over England on 8/2/1947.



Michael Lane

The following month Michael Lane, another winger won his first cap against Wales; he was also an Irish Junior Sprint champion. He went on to win 17 Caps when at UCC and made the Lions Tour party to Australia & New Zealand. On leaving UCC he joined Dolphin and was included in the Irish tour of Argentina & Chile in 1952. His two sons Joe & Martin were regular senior players in early 1980's

Young Munster beat Dolphin in a cup replay in Cork that year, however they got their revenge the following year with Alfie Nicholson using his pace to get the winning try.



J.S. McCarthy

James S McCarthy was Dolphin's next International and one of its finest. He joined Dolphin from CBC where he won a schools cup medal in 1943. Capped a total of 28 times, Jim McCarthy captained Ireland four times and scored total of eight tries, including one on his debut against France. His most famous try was his try that clinched the Triple Crown for Ireland in 1949 in Swansea. Played in all of the Grand Slam & Triple Crown victories of 1948 & 49 and toured with the Lions to Australia and New Zealand in 1950 and Argentina & Chile with Ireland in 1952 with "The Shamrocks" as they were known.

After the 1948 Triple Crown outside the team hotel, he gave a young 12 year old his autograph (for the first time) 6 years later they were teammates on the Irish team, his name- A.J.F.O'Reilly.

He was a very dedicated player, his daily training schedule included running a few circuits from his home on the Lee Road, via the "Anglers Rest", down the Carrigrohane Straight, over Wellington Bridge and in bed by 9pm. Part of his pre match ritual was to have

two raw eggs. In today's terms he was small and light, just 12 _ stone but he was fast, as Cliff Morgan said in his autobiography, J.S. McCarthy would arrive with the ball to nail him or hurry his pass. He was the first Munster man to lead his country. He was also a Committee Member of the famous Wolfhounds.

Both Bertie O'Hanlon and Jim McCarthy were amongst the nine players who played in each of the 1947/48 Grand Slam games. A goal kicker is of the utmost importance nowadays, and its amazing that in the four Grand Slam games they scored ten tries but only three were converted and they did not get any penalties or drop goals.

1948/49 saw a historic back- to- back Triple Crown wins. This was only the third time that it had been done.

Going back to the club scene, 1948/49 saw Dolphin doing another treble, this time the Musgrave Cup (7- a- side competition) Cork Charity Cup and Munster Senior League. In the Munster Senior Cup an opening round victory by 23-3 over Bohemians set up a semi-final against Cork Constitution and a 9-5 victory. They were beaten by Sundays Well 8-0 in the Senior Cup final, their first ever Senior cup win. One player tied a Jersey around the top of Father Matthews Statue on Patrick St. where it flew proudly for a few days.

Charity Cup Team.

D.McCormack, C.O'Regan, R.Dennehy, M.O'Hanrahan, B.O'Hanlon, J.Bhito, N.Coleman, M.O'Flynn, M.Lawlor, J.B.Murphy, P.O'Leary, P.Lawlor, R.Murphy, T.Woods, D.Donnery, J.McCarthy, G.Reidy.

Lt A Nicholson scored four tries in the Munster trial and a total of six Dolphin players were selected for Munster v Ulster in November 1948. They were G Aherne, R Dennehy, B O'Hanlon, A Nicholson, D. Healy & J McCarthy. Mick Lane then with UCC was also in the team. Jack Kyle was in great form in Ulster's 13-6 victory. The Munster scorers were Dick Dennehy (penalty) and Jim McCarthy (try). The team was unchanged for the following game v Leinster.

The favourite place to hang out around that time was at "96". A pub owned by McCarthy's at 96 Oliver Plunkett St. Once 10.30pm and closing time was called it was out to the pub now known as the Anglers Rest.

CHAPTER 6

The Club I Love So Well

By J B Murphy

Quite recently I was entertaining or boring some of the current young Dolphin players with some story of valiant deeds of the past. In the middle of my narrative one impatient young chap intervened wanting to know if the happenings I recalled all happened in black and white!!! I would therefore crave the indulgence of the younger set if my Dolphin stories were not quite in glorious Technicolor.

I'm happy to say I have been associated with Dolphin for over sixty years. We played the game for fun- got great enjoyment out of it, and made friends for life.

My first memory of Dolphin is playing U/14 in the old pitch in Ballintemple, which was initially shared with Cork Bankers R.F.C. From those days I recall the names of Frank O'Leary (Pearse's brother) "Cuse" Campbell, the Hargrave brother's, Gerald Reidy, Frank O'Shea, Milo & Billy Lynch and others. My eldest brother Donal, an engineer in the Army, played regularly with the famous Dolphin Wednesday team (started by W.S.O'Brien in 1937/38)

In Cork at that time, the Draper shops had a half-day on a Wednesday. Amongst the Drapers who played on Wednesday afternoons was one Walter Murphy (no relation) who subsequently gained fame as a club administrator. Others who played on Wednesdays were Tiger O'Brien, Dave O'Loughlin, Ted Ryan, Dan and Billy O'Brien, Max Hogan, Reggie and David O'Shea, the "Bull" Santry, Leonard Hawke, Davy Jones, D. McBrackney and many others.

In the season 1942/43 my other brother Ted, who captained two famous Christian College Munster Senior Schools Cup winning teams thought we could do with some extra matches. "Right lads" he said. "Get out your bicycles, we are going out to Dolphin" - and we did. At the time we hardly knew where the grounds were for they

had just moved out to Ballyphehane - way out in the sticks of the black ash. The nearest Bus Service was only to the new church at Turners Cross. Ted brought out the whole team out to Dolphin, with the exception of one boy who had leanings towards Constitution- you will always get one or two strays!! With a Pres boy as captain we won the Minor Cup and league for Dolphin and yet another Munster Schools Cup for C.B.C. All those lads stayed with the club- Gerald Reidy, Johnny Harness, Jim McCarthy, Andrew O'Brien, Rex Hegarty, Frank Linehan, Barry Humphries, G.G.Henry are but a few of the names I recall. My brother Ted also won a Junior Cup medal that year in the final against Presentation (Limerick).

At the time the annual Dress Dance was on New Year's Eve at the Arcadia and subsequently at the City Hall. The young lads would act as Stewarts and get in free. The Mick Delahunty Band from Clonmel would be the entertainment. There was a shop in Patrick St at the time, Santry's, they were tobacconists and also sold Fancy Goods. One of the family was known as "The Bull" Santry. He went to the Dress Dance one year and was selected for a Minor League match the following morning. He turned up for the match still in his dress suit having no sleep the previous night.

1949 and all that;-

One memory sticks not alone in my mind but in my throat as well. The incident I recall happened in 1949 when I played in the Munster Senior Cup final. I'm afraid the result was not very satisfactory from a Dolphin point of view. With the modern technology of sound bytes, modems, and the popularity of lap top dancing, it is possible that the IRFU could introduce retrospective citing. I would hope that in that case the result would be reversed and I would get my 1949 medal after all those years. As Martin Luther King said " I have a dream".

In the late forties petrol rationing was still in force. I can now reveal that it was I who had to unearth the methodology of obtaining petrol coupons on the black market in order to fulfil a senior fixture in Galway. Hopefully the statute of limitations applies to pensioners.

At that time we usually travelled by train to Dublin on the morning of the match. The weekend arrived when we were to play a Star-studded Lansdowne team, who were holders of the Leinster Senior Cup. Derry Donnery had borrowed his father's car and invited a few of us to travel with him on the Friday night. We headed off about five thirty and when we got as far as the Glocca Morra Inn we decided to go in for a drink. I forget what hit tunes I was playing that night on the piano, but I do recall it was four in the morning when we finally left the pub. Were we to return to Cork or continue our journey to the metropolis? Having been sworn to secrecy by Derry Donnery we decided to continue our journey. The following day, Dolphin captained by Jim McCarthy beat Lansdowne 16points to 6. The try was three points at the time,

and the Glocca Morra four scored all Dolphin's four tries!! At the team meeting in the Metropole on the following Tuesday night J.S.McCarthy praised the try scorers and said that in future we should all travel by car the night before. We delinquents kept our heads down for silence was golden.

Over the years there were great characters in the Club. James N Healy, Bull Santry, Vernon Greene, Tim Daly and Joe Higgins are but a few who lightened our load if we were beaten, which at that time I'm glad to say was not very often!

Nowadays, the emphasis is very much on Youth Development. I'm proud to say that I was on the first South Munster Youth Committee with Fred Casey of Con, Tom McNamee of Sundays Well and Ray Barrett of Highfield. That committee at the time had considerable trouble even to get the Munster Branch to give us some form of recognition. Now of course things have developed so much that we even have Youth International matches. I must say that I got as much fun out of coaching the Dolphin Youths as I did out of playing. Con O'Driscoll, Des Smyth, Hugh Mullins, John Walsh and Phil O' himself were always to the fore with the youths. Nowadays I take my hat off to Dave Kirk the Youths Chairman, Gerry O'Connell, Liam Baylor, Tom Fitzgibbon, Tony Moloney, Jim Royal, Sean Drimley and the ladies, God Bless them, Majella Royal and Nuala Kingston. The next hundred years for Dolphin will depend on the development of youth and these wonderful people are laying the foundations for the New Century.

In my year of Presidency of the Club (1972/73) I had as my Senior Vice President the famous Dick Coleman, one of the well-known Coleman brothers. Dick of course was a wonderful character who has since past on. I remember cycling up to the Mardyke to a Schools Bowen Shield game against Pres.

We had to go into the Sacred Heart Church across the road to say a prayer before the game. Going through his life, Dick never changed and always maintained this attitude. So much so that in the year of my Presidency Dick offered to drive to Limerick for a game against Old Crescent a Senior game. So off we went and we made our first stop at the grotto in Blackpool and got out and said a prayer. We stopped at every Grotto on the way to Limerick, we reached Punches Cross when a car with a trailer full of hay cut across us and put us across the road. We got a fright all right and there was hay everywhere. I might have said a few choice words as only could be expected but Dick never did. I said to him that it was his fault for stopping at all the grotto's- "no Bur" and this was the essence of the man, "only for stopping at the Grotto we would be dead now". May God rest his soul, a great Dolphin man in his time.

In my playing days I had the company of two brothers who I played with in my school; days in CBC.- John O'Flynn a hooker, and Michael O'Flynn also a hooker who also figured quite often as scrum half. John was in the catering business and used to do the catering at the Dolphin Dance in the City Hall. They were both great characters and great Dolphin men over the years.

Nothing changes in Dolphin, for I now find the friendliness and camaraderie in the younger players and their respect for the “Elder Lemons” in the Club is at as high a level now as it used to be in the old days. And as regards characters we still have them. The famous Dick O’Meara who looks after the clubhouse so well, I can recall scorching down the wing to win his Minor cup medal.

Of course we have *Billy St.John* who served overseas and fought many a battle for Montgomery. He is a character and a great clubman and also one of the Trustees of the Thursday Club.

Dolphin over the years has been a second family to me, and happily I have maintained the friendships I made in my youth and made more with the new generations that continue to come along.

Coming up to date to this our Centenary Season, it is a source of great pride for us older members and hopefully the younger members will take the same pride in Dolphin and in the wearing of the Dolphin jersey.

The season just past may not have been our greatest for one reason or another, but our thanks must go to those who stuck with it through thick and thin. I would appeal to our present playing members to remain with the Club after they hang up their boots. If you do this you can be assured of the same pride and pleasure that Dolphin has given me.

To hell with the knockers – I say. It’s better to light a candle or two than to forever complain about the dark.

CHAPTER 7

The Fifties *Four more International's*

The early 50's were lean times for the club as they failed to land a senior cup. However, in 1950 there were medals for John O'Meara, Mick Lane & Vince Giltinan who were on the UCC cup winning team that defeated Dolphin in the semi final, They won again in 1951 when Jim Kiernan was on the team and Jim added a second medal in 1955.

In 1951 Gerald Reidy, J S McCarthy and Derry Donnery represented Munster against the Springboks, as did UCC's John O'Meara, Mick Lane and Jim Roche who played with Dolphin & Garryowen.

An attempted clearance by Dennis Fry, landed in the arms of Mick Lane, J.S.McCarthy who was man of the match said later that he was covering behind the backs when Mick Lane gathered the ball and passed it to him in his own half. The field was wide open and off he went with Lane in support. So he handed, not passed the ball to Lane who was that close and he went over for a try that they thought would win the match. Referee Ossie Glasgow who was back around the half way line, disallowed the score for a forward pass. A marvellous photograph appeared in the following days Cork Examiner of McCarthy in full flight confirming McCarthy's view. There were no video referees then either!!!! After the let off South Africa won the scrum and surged forward and scored a converted try to win 11-6. O.B. Glasgow the referee was an Ulsterman, who went as assistant manager on the 1959 Lions tour to Australia and New Zealand.

In 1951 Dolphin beat Cork Constitution 11-3 in the Munster Senior cup semi final after a replay to set up a final appearance with UCC. The students had a great start with a converted try in the first five minutes. J.S. McCarthy scored a try but, another converted try left UCC leading 10-3 at half time. Norman Coleman kept them in touch for a while with his place- kicking but,UCC finally ran out winners on

an 18-9 shoreline. Dolphin had qualified to play Young Munster in the Munster Senior League final that year, however, due to postponements the game was held over until the following season when Young Munster emerged as winners 9-3, Vince Giltinan with a try getting Dolphin's only points. Dolphin did however win the 1951/52 Charity Cup.

Team

D.McCormack, V.Savino, B.Reidy, M.Lynch, J.O'Sullivan, J.S.McCarthy, C.Bunyan, S.Dawlings, M.O'Hanrahan, N.Coleman, V.Giltinan, D. Donnery, T.Russell, J.Love, M.O'Sullivan, N.McCormack, B.O'Farrell, B.Murphy.



John O'Meara

John was another former CBC schoolboy who also attended another rugby school- Clongowes Wood. He earned the first of his 22 caps in a narrow 9-8 victory over France on 27/1/1951. He had a lengthy partnership with Jack Kyle (19 games) and scored two tries.

He earned his first cap while still at UCC, having learned that there was a chance of being a sub for the Final Irish Trial he went up to Dublin the night before. This was in 1951, the only transport available to him that evening was in the back of a Cork Examiner van, he only learned two hours before the game that he was playing. Irish rugby in general saw his beautiful diving pass for the first time that day and they liked it a lot. However, he was withdrawn at half time and Hubie McCracken was selected to play against France. When McCracken again withdrew through injury, the Irish selectors arranged for O'Meara to oppose Ernie Strathdee in a club game the following Saturday and O'Meara was named as the new scrum half after that game. He ended his international career against Wales in 1958; he kicked a ball from the base of the scrum and won the race for the touchdown. He was later carried off on a stretcher midway through the second half with a leg injury which was a disappointing way to finish a distinguished international career. When at UCC he won Munster Senior Cup medals in 1949/50 and 1950/51, he captained the Dolphin team to victory in 1955/56 but unfortunately had to sit out the final with a broken thumb.



Paddy Lawlor

Paddy was a solid second Row who won 12 caps between 1951/56. His early representative career was with Munster; he later earned 13 interprovincial caps for Leinster between 1954/56 when he was playing with Clontarf. He enjoyed his tour with Ireland to Argentina & Chile so much in 1952 that he later emigrated there. !

The 1951-52 Munster Senior Cup campaign was an unusual one, with a bye into the quarter-final, Dolphin could have won the cup in just three matches. Yet they ended up playing six games and never even made it into the final. The first game was against Sunday's Well, after two 3-3 draws Dolphin qualified for the semi-final by virtue of an 11-8 win.

Their opponents were Garryowen and again it took three games for a winner to emerge. What was unusual was that again the first two games ended 3-3 all before Garryowen progressed by 6-3 in the second replay.

The 1952-53 Junior Cup team got off to a great start to their campaign with a 15-9 victory over UCC, owing to a technicality the game was declared void and replayed. The replay ended in a draw, however, after extra time, and a third meeting; UCC won 5-3, and went on to win the Munster Junior Cup.

In January 1954 Dolphin's representation on the Munster team in a narrow 6-3 defeat by the All Blacks at the Mardyke was four, Norman Coleman, John O'Meara, J.S. McCarthy & Gerald Reidy.



Maurice Mortell

Also playing for Ireland in 1953/54 was another Dolphin man Maurice Mortell. The Bandon born winger won the first of his six caps in a 16-3 victory over France on 24/1/53. He scored a total of five international tries including one in each of his first three internationals. He also played for Bective Rangers with whom he won two Leinster Senior Cup medals in 1955 and 1956 and also won twelve Leinster caps. He also played with Bohemians.



Gerald Reidy

Gerald was a fine backrow forward who won five caps between 1953&54. He first played in a Dolphin jersey with the Youths in Ballintemple in 1939. He played for CBC at Junior & Senior level and won a Munster Senior Schools medal as a front row forward, alongside two other future Dolphin men, John O'Flynn and J.B. Murphy. He played for Munster 20 times, showing his versatility by playing in the front, second and back rows. He won his first cap and a Leinster Senior Cup medal with Lansdowne in 1953 before returning to Dolphin where he won a Munster Senior Cup medal in 1956. He missed the Munster Senior Cup final due to a serious knee injury, which forced his retirement. With 13 seasons of senior rugby behind him, he coached Dolphin and later spent 12 years as a Senior selector. In 1974 he was first nominated to the Munster Branch and became President of the Munster Branch in

1975/76 and received the highest honour as President IRFU in 1983/84 and is still very well respected within Union circles today. Always a true Dolphin man, he has answered the call twice as Club President 1967/68 and is this years Centenary President.

The Minor A's qualified for the Cup final, only to lose 9-0 to Cork Constitution.

While Musgrave Park was open 13 years at this stage, it was only in 1953 that the Munster Branch actually completed the boundary wall, which enclosed the grounds for the first time. They then commenced the original Stand in Musgrave Park, which was officially opened on 13/11/1954. At the same time the wall around the main pitch was completed- (the first railings around the pitch came from CIE's locomotive boiler tubes)

In 1954/55 Dolphin won a double in the Charity Cup and Munster Senior League.



1954-55 Munster Senior Cup and Charity Cup winners

Back Row - D.Barry, J.Healy, T.Harrington, P.Crowley, R.Hyde, M.Sullivan, F.Vaughan, G.Reidy, D.McCormack, G.Aherne. Front Row - P.O'Callaghan, P.O'Regan, B.Coleman, V.Giltinan (Capt) A.Archer (President) J.O'Meara, N.Coleman, J.S.McCarthy. Sitting - B.Barrett, G.Reardon, D.Bradley, J.Wilkins.

The Minor A's were defeated for the second year in- a- row by Cork Constitution, this time by 3-0 in the final of the Tramway Cup.

In September 1955 the present pavilion was built, members were very proud of their Clubhouse which cost £10,000 and was one of the most modern in the country at the time. It was thanks to the hard working Building Committee of John O'Flynn, Dan McCarthy and David Bradley, assisted by Frank Murphy, another clubman was

the architect. Another man who was involved in the fund- raising was Tom Furlong. As was the norm at that time, the new pavilion had gas showers installed.



*Opening of Club Pavilion 8/9/1955
C.J.Hanrahan (President I.R.F.U.) I.F.Mahony, A.Archer, W.G.Twomey, D.Barry, F.Murphy (Architect)
J.O'Meara (Captain) Group Captain Ranji Walker whose XV were visitors for the occasion.*



*Combined Teams, Dolphin & Group Captain Ranji Walker's XV
Match celebrating opening of Club Pavilion 8/9/1955*

The groundsman would come in and turn on the tank in the morning but it was an expensive way of heating them. So the committee came up with a unique idea, which was soon copied by many clubs. They installed a hot shower with a penny metre, so when players came in at different times from training they could put a penny in the meter and work away.

The club president that year was I.F. Mahony, the official opening was performed by another clubman, C.J.Hanrahan in his capacity as IRFU president. Guests for the opening were Group Captain Ranji Walkers XV.



I F Mahony

Nacey attended Castleknock College and then CBC. He captained the minors, juniors and then the seniors in 1937/38 and again in 1938/39. He was a man destined for high office, Munster Branch President 1947/48, Dolphin President in 1955/56, and finally IRFU President 1973/74- Presidency of the IRFU that season was a tremendous honour as it was the centenary of the IRFU. As part of tradition at the time, Nacey, was touch judge at Ravenhill for the Munster v Ulster fixture in 1947, the Ulster Vice- President ran the other line.

He represented Dolphin on the Munster Branch for 32 unbroken years up to the time he was IRFU President and had been on the IRFU committee for 17 years. His brother Jack played for Ireland, his sons Paul and Brian gave great service to the club, and his grandsons Conor & Cian were stars of the team that got promoted to and played in Division One of the AIB League. He was also a keen swimmer and won a medal for the 50-yards sprint championship of Munster. His father, back in 1887, became the two- mile champion of Cork- on the penny-farthing bicycle and was also amateur heavyweight boxing champion of Cork and captain of the Cork Volunteer Fire Brigade.

1955/56 was the first time Connacht beat Munster on Munster soil, it was also the last time that Dolphin have won the Munster Senior Cup (todate). It was the start of a great season and the only time the club won the senior treble, Cork Charity Cup,



*1955/56 Presentation of Munster Senior Cup
Mrs W Stokes presents the Munster Senior Cup to John O'Meara*

Munster Senior Cup & League. Captain that year was John O'Meara. He and vice captain Gerald Reidy missed the Senior cup final due to injury. The captain on the day was Norman Coleman, is there anyone in the country who has not seen his medal!!! In fairness to him, his golden boot won the Cup as they went though the cup

campaign without scoring a try. He scored four penalties in the 12-6 victory in the semi final over Young Munster and also the penalty goal in a 3-0 victory over Sundays Well in the final.



1955/56 Munster Senior Cup & League & Cork Charity Cup

Back - D.Barry (Sel) B.Downey, J.Healy, W.Mason, P.Crowley, M.Sullivan, F.Vaughan, G.Reidy, D.Donnery, D.McCormack, J McCarthy (Sel) G.Aherne (Sel)

2nd Row - D.Hyde, J.Harrington, B.Coleman, J.O'Meara (Capt) I.F.O'Mahony (President) V.Giltinan, N.Coleman, D.Bradley, J.Wilkins

Front - B.Barrett, J.Reardon, D.Barry, P.O'Callaghan.

Inset - F.Crowley, J.O'Sullivan.

UCC nearly spoilt the outcome of the senior league campaign, they pushed Dolphin all the way and finally the game finished 6-6 but Dolphin had taken the title.

Prop, Vince "The Gilt" Giltinan, was a great sportsman. He won a schools cup medal with PBC in 1948, three Munster Senior Cup medals (1950&51 with UCC) and represented Munster.

He was an Irish University Boxing Champion and won numerous rowing medals with the Cork Boat Club. He coached Abbeyfeale to two successes in the Munster Junior Cup in three years, 1964 & 1966. He captained & coached Dolphin and was a Munster Selector for a number of years including 1978 when they beat the All Blacks. Well known for his years with Murphy's Brewery, as was his team- mate Gerry Reardon who was with Guinness. Vince, Dave "Junior" Barry and Bob Dowley made a formidable front row combination. Bob used travel up and down from Carrick-on-Suir, he played in the final Irish trial in 1959. Junior Barry subbed for Ireland but was never capped. He did star in the 11-9 victory for the Rest of Ireland over the Combined Universities in 1956 and also played for the Wolfhounds.

On 26/11/1955 John O'Meara captained Munster in their 12- 9 victory over Leinster, among the scorers was Norman Coleman with a penalty.

Dolphin has always been a family club, however there were an amazing number of relations in the senior teams of the 50's. Aidan McAlhinny was a brother in law of J.B.O'Carroll. He and Mick Lane were married to sisters, Mick Lane's sister is married to Jim Kiernan, and Gerald Reidy is married to Jim Kiernan's sister Ann.



*Norman Coleman being carried off by supporters
Norman Coleman practices his place kicking*

The Minor A's captured the Cup after 12 years giving the club their fourth trophy of the season with a 11-6 victory over UCC after extra time. The club made a unique presentation to the players; instead of the traditional medal they received a silver pin of the Cork Coat of Arms with a rugby ball in gold across the towers.

Dolphin retained the Cork Charity Cup in 1956/57 having defeated UCC 13-3 in the semi-final and with a narrow 6-3 victory over Cork Constitution in the final.

Team

J.Reardon, P.Crowley, W.Mason, D.McCormack, N.Coleman, J.O'Meara, D.Bradley, R.Dowley, D.Barry, V.Giltinan, J.O'Sullivan, M.Sullivan, J.Healy, J.Casey, P.O'Callaghan, D.McCarthy.

Dolphin had strong hopes that they could repeat this in the Munster Senior Cup. Earlier victories over Bohemians 5-3, Young Munsters 3-0 and Highfield 5-0 set up a

final appearance against Cork Constitution. A fractured jaw forced Jerry Reardon to leave the field and leave Dolphin with 14 men, a Bob Dowley try was not sufficient and Cork Constitution won 14-3.



Dick Roche

Four new players joined Dolphin in 1957, Vivian Harrison, Dick Roche, Derry O'Shaughnessy and Jim Kiernan. Vivian joined from Clongowes and had played out half for the Leinster Schools the previous year. Dick Roche, who had earned his fourth (and final) international cap six months earlier against Wales, played his first game for Dolphin against his old club Galwegians.

Derry O'Shaughnessy and Jim Kiernan joined from Cork Constitution. Jim Kiernan won two Munster Senior Cup medals with UCC, he was a fine full back and played for Munster. He was capped for Ireland at Cricket. He captained Dolphin in the 1961/62 season and was President in 1978/79. He became an Irish Selector in 1984 and continued in that role until 1987.

On 21/1/1958 the ground staff at Thomand Park did a Herculean job of clearing the pitch of inches of snow for the Australia V Munster fixture. They did not do it all themselves as dozens of school children were also pressed into service to help clear the pitch. Most of the visitors had not seen this "phenomenon" before and became quickly involved with the locals in running snowball battles around Cruises Hotel. The game finished in a 3-3 draw, included in the Munster team were Dave McCormack & Bob Dowley.

<p>OUR "GREEN SPOT" J. J. & S. 10 Years Old</p> <p>is matured for a minimum period of 10 years in our own cherry casks in our own warehouses and bottled under expert supervision.</p> <p>There is no finer whiskey!</p> <p>MITCHELL & SON 21 KILDARE STREET DUBLIN</p> <p>PHONE - 4827</p> <hr/> <p>Everybody's Favourite</p> <p>H.B. CREAM ICES HUGHES BROS. LTD. DUBLIN</p> <p>Handbook — Rathfarnham (DUBLIN) Phone 5801</p>	<p>LEINSTER XV (Blue Stripes) Full Back:</p> <p>15. F. McMULLEN (Christchurch)</p> <p>Three-quarters:</p> <p>14. M. FITZSIMONS (R. Wing) (University College)</p> <p>13. A. O'REILLY (R. Centre) (Old Brideshead)</p> <p>12. P. GOFF (L. Centre) (Blackrock College)</p> <p>11. N. BROPHY (L. Wing) (University College)</p> <p>Half Backs:</p> <p>10. S. KELLY (Stand-off) (Blackrock)</p> <p>9. J. HORNE (Scrum) (Christchurch)</p> <p>Forwards:</p> <p>1. P. O'DONOGHUE (Capt.) (Christchurch)</p> <p>2. R. DAWSON (Blackrock)</p> <p>3. D. SHAW (Christchurch)</p> <p>4. P. COSTELLO (Christchurch)</p> <p>5. P. TRAYNOR (Christchurch)</p> <p>6. D. McSWEENEY (Blackrock College)</p> <p>7. L. LYNCH (Blackrock)</p> <p>8. R. KAVANAGH (Woolerstown)</p> <p>Youth Judge: C. J. MURPHY (President, Assn. of Referees, Leinster Branch)</p> <p>Referee: M. B. HOLLAND (Assn. of Referees, Connacht Branch)</p>	<p>MUNSTER XV (Red Stripes) Full Back:</p> <p>15. P. BERKERY (Old Crossmolina)</p> <p>Three-quarters:</p> <p>14. N. McCORMACK (R. Wing) (Blackrock)</p> <p>13. F. BUCKLEY (R. Centre) (Blackrock)</p> <p>12. N. HENRY (L. Centre) (University College, Cork)</p> <p>11. D. McCORMACK (L. Wing) (Blackrock)</p> <p>Half Backs:</p> <p>10. M. ENGLISH (Stand-off) (Blackrock)</p> <p>9. J. A. O'MEARA (Scrum) (Capt.) (Blackrock)</p> <p>Forwards:</p> <p>1. V. GILTINAN (Blackrock)</p> <p>2. D. BARRY (Blackrock)</p> <p>3. G. WOOD (Blackrock)</p> <p>4. M. SPILLANE (Old Crossmolina)</p> <p>5. D. KIELY (University College, Cork)</p> <p>6. N. MURPHY (Blackrock)</p> <p>7. T. McGRATH (Blackrock)</p> <p>8. M. O'CONNELL (Trinity, Waterford)</p> <p>Youth Judge: M. J. SCANLON (Munster Assn. of Referees)</p>	<p>R. TYSON LTD. (Shiraz, Hatters and Hatters) HATTERS AND CLASS COLOUR SPECIALISTS</p> <p>Twined Jockey, Shells, Stags, Crests, Crests, Uniforms, Shirts, Waistcoats and Hosiery Materials</p> <p>New 50c Tin of all Rugby Club Colours now available</p> <p>SOLE AGENTS FOR LUCK HATS, BRIGGS UMBRELLAS</p> <p>57 GRAFTON ST., DUBLIN. Telephone 7750</p> <hr/> <p>GORMAN RATHMINES</p> <p>TYPE "GREEN" MEANS FINE WEAR</p> <p>To remove this expensive stain, which is due to impregnation of wool fibres, we have invented a "Wooler Wash". This preparation will quickly and safely remove this stain in case of time near its year out. This is the thing to do to "green" wool.</p> <p>"GO TO GORMAN" They will do it.</p> <p>GORMAN Brothers Ltd. Wool Washers Upper Rathmines Dublin Tel. 2328 & 2329</p>
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Dave McCormack joined the club from Cobh Pirates having won a Cork County medal in 1948. His brother Niall (Nux) also played with Cobh Pirates, he was like Dave, a winger. They played in the Munster v Leinster fixture at Lansdowne Road in November 1956 with a McCormack on either wing. Nux went on to play for Sale and Cheshire and was on the Sale team that

won the Middlesex Seven's, the first non-London side to do so. In a cruel twist of faith he perished in the Aer Lingus Tuskar Rock plane crash as did another club member, Rory Delaney.

The highlight of the 1957/58 season was the winning of the Charity Cup for the fourth year in succession. Lord Mayor R.V. Jago presented team captain Jerry Healy with the Charity Cup after a 6-3 victory over Cork Constitution. Norman Coleman with a penalty and Dick Roche with a try were the Dolphin scorers.

Team

J.Reardon, P.Crowley, W.Mason, D.McCormack, N.Coleman, J.O'Meara, L.Dillon, J.Horgan, D.Barry, J.O'Sullivan, M.Sullivan, J.Healy, P.O'Callaghan, D. O'Shaughnessy, J.Kiernan, R.Roche, B.Coleman, V. Harrison.



Bill Twomey

Club President in 1959/60 was W.G. (Bill) Twomey. He captained PBC to win the Harty Cup and the following season the Munster Senior Schools Cup. Unfortunately the two medals were melted down due to the intensity of fire in the old Cork Opera House. An early injury cut short his playing days and he later had a successful refereeing career. He was the referee of the 1938 Munster Senior Cup final, the first held in Thomand Park. UCC were the firm pre-match favourites, they were going for four in- a- row, and they met their match that day in Young Munster. They forgot to bring the cup with them and Young Munster had to wait until that evening for the cup to arrive up from Cork. While UCC scored the only try, which was then worth three points, Young Munster won with a drop goal to a try (4-3).

Getting back to Bill Twomey, he was famous as the voice of radio and brought his wide knowledge of the game to bear in a most descriptive and interesting manner. His first broadcast was Munster v Ulster at the Mardyke in December 1944. A lifelong friendship began with the famous BBC Rugby commentator Bill McLaren and he would often acknowledge receiving information from his friend Bill Twomey.

One of his most interesting broadcasts must have been from the Stades Columbes in Paris when 20 minutes before the France & Ireland game Bill broke his top dentures in two when biting into a French roll in a bistro across the road from the stadium with Dermot Russell of the Cork Examiner. He could not talk without slurring his words. In something of a panic, he found a little shop where he bought 5 rolls of what was called scotch adhesive tape and a pack of tissues. Armed with this Dermot Russell sat beside him and repaired the denture every time it came adrift. But he completed the broadcast and no one ever knew why it had been liberally punctuated by pregnant pauses.

Bill became Munster Branch president in 1954/55; he also filled all senior executive posts with Dolphin, as president, treasurer and secretary.

In addition to this he was also a Munster Junior Selector. He was well known to the general public as the Manager of the Cork Opera House, and a regular on the stage.

A little known fact is that Mick Doyle played senior for Dolphin around 1959, five years before he was capped for Ireland when at UCD.

The Sunday night Dances at the club were very popular at this stage. Players often found themselves rushing back from the likes of Killarney or Abbeyfeale to get to the dance in time before the gates were closed. One evening one carload had the misfortune of having an accident on the way back. They fixed the damaged car, but arrived too late to get in. Not to be deterred, the lads put it behind them, scaled the wall and went into the dance.



Dolphin Soccer Team.

Beat Sunday's Well 4-2.

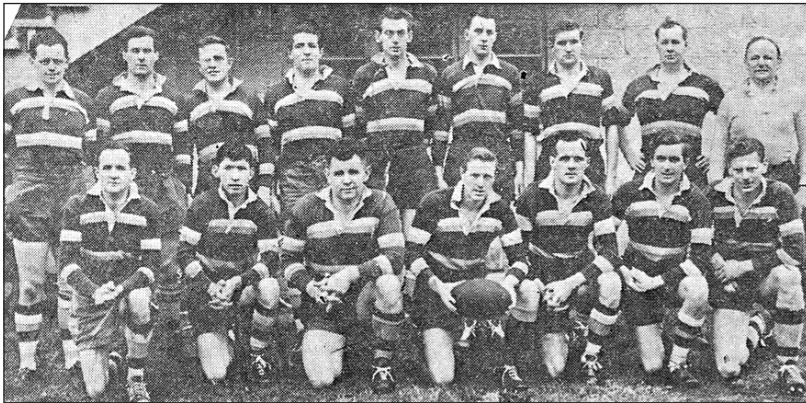
Back Row - B.Coleman, P.Crowley, J.Monaghan, J.Casey, S.McCann, D.Foley.

Front Row - P.Dundane, R.Moore, N.Farnan, J.Reardan, J.Murphy.

CHAPTER 8

The Sixties *“Who is that Local lad”*

While the previous decade had not started on a winning note, the sixties started on a much brighter note. The club had a 8-3 victory in February 1961 over Cork Constitution in the Cork Charity Cup final. Playing with the wind Cork Constitution had a half-time lead of 3-0. After 15 minutes Derry O'Shaughnessy caught his opposite number in possession on the line and Sars Smith was up for the try, which was converted by Dick O'Brien to put Dolphin ahead, Gerry Barry scored another try after a foot rush by O'Shaughnessy Moore & Smith, to put the game beyond Cork Constitution.



1960/61 Charity Cup Winners

*Back Row - D.O'Shaughnessy, D.O'Brien, C.O'Driscoll, J.Horgan, M.O'Sullivan, J.Casey,
M.Rose, V.Giltinan.*

Front Row - B.O'Mahony, G.Barry, J.O'Sullivan, V.Harrison, J.Kiernan, S.Smith, R.Moore.

Ronnie Moore represented Cork in the Inter City game against Limerick, but finished on the losing team. Ronnie was never a man to give up and that worked against him in a senior league game against Old Crescent. The ball was kicked towards

the Old Crescent posts; it deceived the full back when it hit the post. Ronnie dived on the ball, scored the try and in the process his face hit the upright knocking out two front teeth. The first he knew about it was when Norman Coleman handed him his teeth. He did not even get the satisfaction of scoring the winning try; they still lost the game by a point.



Phil O'Callaghan

In 1960, a sixteen-year-old local Ballyphehane lad joined and very shortly was playing on the senior team - his name, Phil O'Callaghan. He was a soccer player with Blues United, a local Ballyphehane team. He dropped into Musgrave Park on a Sunday morning to watch the Dolphin Minors who were captained by his friend Dick O'Meara. As they were short a man Dick asked Philo to play. He played a few games and the following season he started playing with the minors, but after a few games he made his senior debut. His colleagues on the senior team at that time included Tony O'Reilly, Vince Giltinan, Henry Wall and team captain Jim Kiernan. They won their first round game in Limerick against Shannon, Philo set his own record as he was asked to play in each of the club's Munster Senior Cup campaigns from then until 1980.

Philo was capped 21 times for Ireland; he made his debut on 21/1/1967 in the historic 15-8 victory over Australia. (First time an Irish team defeated a Southern Hemisphere on their own soil) He won most of his caps between 1967/70 and came back and played in the 1976 Championship. He also represented the Barbarians between 1967/69 and toured Australia, Argentina & New Zealand with Ireland.

Philo has been a great clubman. He loved the game and the club and kept involved. You could find him anywhere, helping out with the minors or the youths. In 1983, he coached the U/20s to a first ever Cup win, a team captained by Terry Kingston. He also answered the club's call once again that year and played in the Senior Cup semi-final, nineteen years after his first appearance in the Munster Senior Cup final, unfortunately another final appearance was not on the cards, losing out in extra time in the semi final replay to Shannon.

There are many stories told about Philo, you could write a book about him all just proving what a character he is, but even though he is now living in Dublin he is still a regular at Dolphin matches.

We nearly lost Philo in 1967, returning from the Australian Tour the party stopped in Hawaii, he was standing by the deep end of the swimming pool and someone pushed him in. Nobody realised at first that Philo was not a swimmer and finally the late Terry Moore of Highfield, helped him, with the aid of Jerry Walsh, out of the water.

One of the most famous Irish, and international rugby stories is about Philo, who has not heard of the discussion between Philo and Meirion Joseph, the referee during an international. When penalising Philo in a scrum, "your boring O'Callaghan", "your not so interesting yourself ref" came the reply. At this stage its quoted in books as having taken place in at least three different venues, "if only I had a £1 for every time the story was told I would be a wealthy man" says Philo now.

On an Easter Barbarians Tour, Philo was warming the bench when he was called upon to play, he ran towards the touchline and then suddenly stopped, putting his hands in his pockets- He was checking his pockets thinking he had dropped his cigarettes and matches. (Gareth Edward's if you are reading this, it did not happen at an international at Murrayfield as you said in your autobiography)

Philo was playing alongside Karl Mullen, the Irish Captain, who was a Gynaecologist, one day when he dislocated his shoulder. "I'll put your shoulder back in but I warn you it will be painfull". Philo understandably roared and Mullen told him he should be ashamed of himself. "I was with a 16-year old girl this morning in the Rotunda and she gave birth, there was not even a word of complaint from her". "I wonder what she would have said if you tried putting the bloody thing back." - was the reply.

Philo was also ahead of his time, he was good at lifting in the lineout, so much so that Owen Moriarty shouted at him during one game, "Philo, let me down, me hands are frozen"



A J F O'Reilly

Tony O'Reilly spent two years in Cork and played for Dolphin in 1960/61 & 1961/62 during his tenure on the Irish team. He made his overdue Dolphin debut on 26/11/1960 having recovered from a shoulder injury he picked up at Twickenham. He soon found form and scored three tries in his first two games for Dolphin. Capped a total of 29 times for Ireland, his first cap came on 22/1/1955 against France at 18 years of age and after only 6 senior club games. One of those games was against Dolphin where O'Reilly got a couple of early tries. However Flor Crowley, the late TD ensured he got no further space and Dolphin went on to win 17-16. He played on the Leinster schools team for three years and was also a schools cricket interprovincial. His red hair made him easy to spot on the field, but his physique made him a difficult opponent to stop. He celebrated his 19th birthday on the 1955 Lions tour to South Africa where he scored 16 tries. Four years later he set a Lions record of 22 tries in the 33-match tour of New Zealand, Australia & Canada. He combined a successful business and sporting career and when he was dropped in 1963 everyone thought that it was the end of a great career but when there was a late cry off for



Dolphin centre Tony O'Reilly is well tackled when trying to break through the Blackrock defence in the senior friendly at Musgrave Park on Saturday. — ("Examiner")

Tony O'Reilly In Brilliant Form For Dolphin

Dolphin, 8; Blackrock College, 8.

ANY doubts about Tony O'Reilly's fitness must have been well and truly dispelled at Musgrave Park, Cork, on Saturday, when, playing in the centre, he scored two remarkable tries, which helped Dolphin to draw 8-8 with Dublin visitors, Blackrock College. O'Reilly, who cried off the Leinster team for Saturday's interprovincial match, came out of his way to give himself a gruelling test and emerged with flying colours.

To say he was the star of the game would be an understatement and his display was a mixture of speed, skill and sheer strength. His first try was an amazing effort. Vivian Harrison gave him the ball fifteen yards from the Rock line and O'Reilly was faced by three big defenders. He charged right through them with his head lowered and scored far out. Later in the match he was to demonstrate his skill and scoring power by taking another chance brilliantly to score.

This was a match which Dolphin, apart altogether from O'Reilly's presence, deserved to win. Their pack stood up manfully to the strong close-knit Rock eight and behind the scrum they showed far more initiative.

Dolphin's captain, Vivian Harrison, returned to the side after a long lay-off through injury and, despite one glorious cut through, obviously felt the lack of match practice. But his leg stood up to the testing and he felt no ill effects after the game.

COMPETENT DISPLAY

The home side had a nippy scrum-half with a grand passing action in Gerald Barry, while Jim Kiernan at full-back gave a very competent display, his kicking being particularly good. In the back made quite an impression in the back row, while Jerry O'Sullivan and Connie O'Driscoll, side and wing, the latter working very hard. Mick Rose came out of his book with Connacht interprovincial Locky Butler without losing any prestige.

On the Rock side the accent was more on defensive tactics with the attacking being left to the pack and men like Eric Pembrey and Don Kinsane was very powerful. Norman Cullen was good at scrum-half and caught the home defence badly off guard for his late try. While out-half Donald Greaney showed very safely. Niall Connolly had his last go at full-back but performed his task well.

SCORED FIRST

Blackrock scored first when Don Kinsane picked up near the line and gave a forward pass. Niall Connolly, who was in the second half, O'Reilly had his second go at full-back but performed his task well.

convert kick. Near the end Blackrock heeded from a scrum under the home posts and Cullen nipped over for a try. Niall Connolly converted.

Dolphin: J. Kiernan, C. Breen, J. O'Driscoll, W. Harrison, G. Barry, C. O'Driscoll, R. Rose, M. Rose, O'Sullivan, J. Morgan, J. Carty, D. McCarthy, R. Moore.
Blackrock: N. Connolly, A. Moloney, D. McLoughlin, D. Breen, D. Eames, D. Cullen, J. Greaney, L. Butler, J. Ball, J. Austin, G. O'Leary, D. Kinsane, E. Pembrey, R. Turley.
Referee: M. M. Barry.

Fog Hits Cork Greyhound Racing

Meeting Abandoned After First Race

After one race had been run and the second run but declared void, the card at the Benefit meeting at the Cork Track on Saturday night had to be abandoned owing to heavy fog. Conditions were not too good for the first event which was won by the reserve, Kansas Kid, but the dogs were able to follow the hare.

When the second race started, the fog got very dense at one end of the track and the dogs were lost to sight. When they came back into sight in the straight, it was obvious they were not racing. Consequent, a 6-1 number, stopped over the line in front, but all had gone unnoticed and the race was declared void.

A long wait ensued in the hope of the fog clearing, but apart from a few brief minutes, the circuit remained blighted out and eventually the meeting was abandoned.

It is hoped to get permission from Bord na gAoid to run off the remainder of the card next Saturday night. The result of the only race run was: 325 Yards—J. J. Crowe's (1st), 37/1; 2, P. Pennequin (2), 6/1; 3, Trunk (4), 11/4; 4, A. J. O'Brien (5), 11/4; 5, Jack (6), 11/4; 6, 33/1.

THURLES OFF

Thurles greyhound racing on Saturday night was also called off owing to fog and rain.

WATERFORD: N. Kinsane, W. 11/4; 2, 22/1; 3, 22/1; 4, 22/1; 5, 22/1; 6, 22/1; 7, 22/1; 8, 22/1; 9, 22/1; 10, 22/1; 11, 22/1; 12, 22/1; 13, 22/1; 14, 22/1; 15, 22/1; 16, 22/1; 17, 22/1; 18, 22/1; 19, 22/1; 20, 22/1; 21, 22/1; 22, 22/1; 23, 22/1; 24, 22/1; 25, 22/1; 26, 22/1; 27, 22/1; 28, 22/1; 29, 22/1; 30, 22/1; 31, 22/1; 32, 22/1; 33, 22/1; 34, 22/1; 35, 22/1; 36, 22/1; 37, 22/1; 38, 22/1; 39, 22/1; 40, 22/1; 41, 22/1; 42, 22/1; 43, 22/1; 44, 22/1; 45, 22/1; 46, 22/1; 47, 22/1; 48, 22/1; 49, 22/1; 50, 22/1; 51, 22/1; 52, 22/1; 53, 22/1; 54, 22/1; 55, 22/1; 56, 22/1; 57, 22/1; 58, 22/1; 59, 22/1; 60, 22/1; 61, 22/1; 62, 22/1; 63, 22/1; 64, 22/1; 65, 22/1; 66, 22/1; 67, 22/1; 68, 22/1; 69, 22/1; 70, 22/1; 71, 22/1; 72, 22/1; 73, 22/1; 74, 22/1; 75, 22/1; 76, 22/1; 77, 22/1; 78, 22/1; 79, 22/1; 80, 22/1; 81, 22/1; 82, 22/1; 83, 22/1; 84, 22/1; 85, 22/1; 86, 22/1; 87, 22/1; 88, 22/1; 89, 22/1; 90, 22/1; 91, 22/1; 92, 22/1; 93, 22/1; 94, 22/1; 95, 22/1; 96, 22/1; 97, 22/1; 98, 22/1; 99, 22/1; 100, 22/1; 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Members who served with United Nations Force in the Congo 1961-'62

Comdt. T.V.Furlong Comdt. D. Gibson

Lieut. Harrington Capt. J.C.Healy Lieut. M. Shannon

Another international player played for Dolphin in the early 60's; it was Limerickman Michael Hickey who was a famous tennis international and coach.

In December 1963, Munster ran New Zealand close in a 6-3 defeat in a very exiting game in the wind and rain and mud of Thomand Park, Henry Wall scored Munster's try, Dolphin were also represented that day by Noel Kavanagh.

In 1963/64 the Charity Cup was won by a team that contained a lot of "future" people, two future internationals, team captain Henry Wall & Phil O'Callaghan and four future club presidents Con O'Driscoll, Derry O'Shaughnessy, Matt O'Mahony & Jim Kiernan. They were defeated 6-3 in the Munster Senior Cup final by Cork Constitution.



Henry Wall

Henry Wall made his international debut at No 8 in a 16-6 victory over Wales on 27/2/1965, the first of his two caps. Henry joined the club from UCD whom he captained for two seasons, 1960/61 & 1961/62.

In 1965/66 Dave McCormack, the former interprovincial winger was elected President of the Munster Branch.

When the club history was being compiled, one of the areas where there was a dispute was who had a photograph



that contained the most Presidents. The photograph above from 1966, which was of the Senior team that defeated Shannon 27-6 in the Munster Senior League, contained 6, (nearly 7). Derry O'Shaughnessy (89-90), Con O'Driscoll (82-83), Hugh Mullins (97-98) Matt O'Mahony (93-94) Noel Elliot (92-93) and Tony Fitzgibbon (80-81). Noel Kavanagh was senior vice president, but due to work commitments had to relocate to Dublin and could not go forward for president.

In January 1967 Munster finally earned their first victory over a major touring side, Australia, in an 11-8 victory, in the front row that day was Phil O'Callaghan. It was also a great day for Cork, the game was in Musgrave Park, 11 of the team were Cork players and each of the 5 Cork Senior Clubs were represented. The Minor's captured the Minor Cup with a 9-0 victory in the final over UCC, after an eleven-year gap in 1966/67 with tries by P.Griffin and Dick O'Meara and a drop goal from Mick Gaffney. UCC however piped Dolphin in the Minor League to take the title.

This made up for the disappointment of the previous year when they were undefeated in competitive fixtures but ended up without any silverware. They drew two of their league fixtures and finished runners up. A player cried off very late for the Cup semi final and unfortunately in the selectors anxiety to field 15 players overlooked that the replacement had started a junior Cup match the previous year and they were excluded from the competition



1966/67 Minor Cup Winners

Back Row - M.Gaffney, D.Foley, D.Kirk, F.Aherne, D.Jagoe, T.Long, K.Lee, D.O'Meara.

Front Row - F.Looney, V.Kelleher, M.Buckley, N.Fleischmann (Capt) B.O'Flynn, B.Twomey, P.Griffin.

Phil O'Callaghan was once again Dolphin's only representative against South Africa in what was known as the Apartheid tour, a huge band of police and the good humour of protesters assured there were no major incidents in Limerick.

Dolphin's only victory in the Dooradoyle Cup, a 7 a-side competition, came in 1967/68.

In 1968/69 Cork Constitution defeated Dolphin in the final of the Cork Charity Cup final 9-3 and the following year repeated the success with a 12-3 win.

CHAPTER 9

The Seventies

Phil O'Callaghan and Joe Barry were within a whisker of being the first Dolphin players to beat a touring All Black side in 1973. But New Zealand managed to hang on for a 3-3 draw at Musgrave Park on 14-1-1973. Phil O'Callaghan also came close to landing another big touring scalp that year when Munster drew 12-12 with Australia that year.

The Juniors were very successful in the early 70's; they won the Cork Junior League three times in five years, 1969/70, 1971/72 and 1973/74.



Cork Junior League Winners 1973/74

The most successful Senior team of the mid 60's and early 70's was without doubt Cork Constitution; they won the Senior Cup five times and were undefeated in the Senior League between 1964 & 1972.

Then in 1973, Dolphin- who had earlier won the Cork Charity Cup- ended up playing Cork Constitution twice within one week in the Senior Cup & League finals. Cork Constitution won the Cup, 15-9, having been 12-0 up at half time, a determined come back by Dolphin left it 12-9, but a further penalty won it for Cork Constitution.

However, Dolphin got revenge and won the league title with a Des Prendergast try and Dave Coen penalty to a try, in a game that had been postponed from earlier in the season.

Four of that team were previously team mates on the PBC Senior Cup winning team of 1965, they were Noel Elliott, Tony Fitzgibbon, Des Prendergast and Eoin Moriarty.



Charity Cup & Munster Senior League Winners 1972/73

Standing at back – N.Kavanagh (Sel) J.Healy (Coach) D.Barry (Sel) J.Kiernan (Sel)

I.F.Mahony (Branch Rep)

*Standing – A.Fitzgibbon, W.Corrigan, J.Rolfe, M.Gaffney, O.Moriarty, P.Mahony, J.Meehan,,
W.Crowley, J.Barry, G.Nyhan.*

*Sitting – V.O'Leary, M.O'Mahony, P. O'Callaghan, T.O'Connell, R.J.Coleman (Vice Pres) N.Elliott
(Capt) J.B.Murphy (President) D.Coen, J.Harvey, P.Berkley.*

Absent – G.Hipwell, T.O'Kelly, D.Prendergast.



Pulling Faces

Team Captain Paul Mahony tackles Philo, in the Charity Cup final

By virtue of this victory, they qualified for the Rehabilitation Institute League Champions Cup against Wanderers the following week. It was the second year of the competition. Wanderers scored an early try and in the eighth minute Phil Berkley dropped a goal. A second try for Wanderers was followed by two Dave Coen penalties. A further try for Wanderers gave them a 12-9 lead, but there were no further scores until two tries in the last 10 minutes by R McGrath & E O'Rafferty converted by Tony Ensor left the score 24-9.

Team

D Coen, J.Barry, V.O'Leary, P.Berkley, J.Harvey, M.O'Mahony, T.O'Kelly, J.Rolfe, N Hickey, P.O'Callaghan, D Prendergast, P.Mahony, T.O'Connell, G.Hipwell, W.Corrigan.



1972/73

*Mary Murphy presenting Kevin O'Flynn Wanderers with the trophy.
President J.B.Murphy in the background.*

One of the characters of the team was Father Gerry Hipwell, a brother of International forward Mick Hipwell. Fr. Gerry was based in Kinsale and would travel up and down from the friary by motorbike. Another stalwart on the team was Eoin Moriarty, a dependable and hard working second row. In recent years he has become deeply involved with Muskerry and assisting them in their continuing progress. The Junior's also had a good season having lost only four games out of 23. However, they surrendered their Junior League title as one of the defeats was in a play-off for the Junior League by UCC.

The following season 1973/74 was also very successful season for the Junior's under captain Mick Gaffney, they won 17 of their 20 games, and won the Cork Junior League. They defeated Ennis 18-14 in the semi final of the Munster Junior Cup, with tries from Olan Healy, Frank Byrne (2) (who crossed the line in every round of the cup) & Eoin Moriarty and a conversion from Derek Daly. This set them up for their first final appearance since 1944, unfortunately it resulted in a 16-7 defeat by Waterpark.

Two days after celebrating the Junior League win at the Metropole Hotel, the club lost one of its greatest stalwarts in a tragic water ski accident. Eddie O'Connell was a staunch clubman for close on 20 years and served with distinction as a player in all grades of football as well as an administrator and committee member.

September 1974 marked Dolphin's first appearance in the Dennehy Cup, they waited until 1977 to record their first victory and to date have won it a total of eight times. Also in September 1974, the Junior team won the Dr O'Mahony trophy in the Abbeyfeale 7's with victories over Clanwilliam 22-0, Kanturk 22-0 and holders Thurles 16-4 in the final.



1973 Senior Club figures with the Ladies Committie

Backrow Tom Furlong, Dick Coleman, Caroline Murphy, Gerald Reidy, Nacie Mahony, Eithne Murphy, Ann McCarthy, Olwen Fitzgibbon, Ann Fitzgibbon, Walter Murphy.

Front row Laura Murphy, Maureen Mahony, Joe Coleman, Brendan Murphy, Mary Murphy, Ann Reidy, Angela Kiernan.

According to GPC Minutes, J.B. Murphy proposed the acceptance of Michael O'Riordan as a club member in October 1974, Aidan McSweeney seconded this; Michael was made Club Secretary in 1975, a position he still fills with distinction today.

The main funding of the Club around this time was a very successful Disco and Bar, its strange looking back now how with a full house of 300 people would net a profit of only £130 a night (in 1975 entrance to the Disco was increased to 60p) Mick Gaffney and later Frank Dorgan, Eric Treacy and Kevin Corcoran did great work in keeping this source of revenue continuing for many years.

At this stage the club were running three minor teams and the rule was that if a player did not train at least once on the week of the game he would not be allowed to play.

It is interesting now in the age of professionalism to look back at how players contributed towards expenses, according to the club minutes in 1974 players going to Dublin paid £1.50 and a further £1.00 if they were staying overnight, quite often in the Montrose Hotel. Jack O'Rourke was the club's connection to the Doyle group. When up in Dublin he arrived at the first Doyle Hotel to book in and they explained that they were not open yet. However, P.V.Doyle was there and he insisted that Jack should stay and later as P.V.Doyle added more hotels to the group he invited Jack to be the first guest in to stay in each one.



1973- U/16's

*Backrow J.B.Murphy (President) P.Oliver, J.Guiry, C.O'Hanlon, J.Harvey, T.Conboye, K.Fleming,
J.Hackett, P.O'Callaghan (Coach) R.I.Coleman (Vice Pres)
Front row G.Sheehan, J.Aherne, J.Lane, J.Fleming, M.Coleman, T.Hodkinson, M.Prenderville,
M.O'Halloran, G.O'Flynn.*



1974- U/12

Victor Donnelly leads the charge, backed up by Pat Bradley, Tony O'Callaghan and Paul Crowley.



*1975/76 Abbeyfeale 7- A Side- Dr O'Mahony Trophy
M Gaffney, M.Lane, J.Lane, J.Christie, F.Dorgan.
P.Young, F.Harrington, E.Moriarty.*

In view of Dolphin's association with Abbeyfeale through Vince Giltinan it was good to see them successfully defend the Dr George O'Mahony 7's trophy in 1975/76.

On 13/1/1976 Tony Ward made his Munster debut as a late replacement for Barry McGann in a narrow 15-13 defeat by Australia, Phil O'Callaghan and Irish trialist Noel Elliot were on the team that day.

There was a good showing by the Senior team in 1975/76, Noel Elliot had the honour of captaining the side for the second time in five years to victory in the Charity Cup.

Team

B.Macken, J.Harvey, G.Nyhan, J.Lane, O.Healy, R.O'Brien, V.O'Leary, P.Young, M.Dwyer, N.Hickey, P.O'Callaghan, P.Mahony, O.Moriarty, D.Prendergast, W.Crowley, K.McCarthy, N.Elliot, M.O'Sullivan, T.O'Connell.

Dolphin also beat Cork Constitution in the final of the Munster Senior League 6-4, and were also runners up in Munster Senior Cup.



1975/76 Senior Cup Finalists

*Back row P.Culliton, M.Dwyer P.Mahony, A.Hickey, L.Nolan, P.O'Callaghan, D.Prendergast.
Front row G.Nyhan, J.Harvey, P.Young, B.Macken, V O'Leary, N.Hickey, J.Lane, R.O'Brine*

The Senior Cup final that year was against a strong UCC team, Dolphin were strong both up front and in the backs, the half back pairing of Pat Young and Joe Harvey had scored 17 tries that season between them.

However, Noel Elliot was hospitalised through illness and two other influential forwards Eoin Moriarty and Tom O'Connell were sidelined through injury. To compound matters, out half Joe Harvey had to play on with a broken wrist despite severe pain. They were 10-3 down at half time, but rallied to score twice in eight minutes with a Des Prendergast try and a Bobby Macken penalty to level it. Unfortunately a penalty by Moss Finn sealed a 13-10 victory for UCC.



1976/77 Youths including J.A. O'Meara

The Minor A's also had a good season and under Captain Mick Gibbons, beat Charleville 16-13 in the Cup final. Having scored 137 points in their previous four-cup matches they were favourites to win, but came up against a tough and determined Charleville side. It took a Joe Barry try, converted by Mick Gibbons five minutes into injury time to win the game. Munster were defeated narrowly 15-13 by Australia, Phil O'Callaghan and Noel Elliot who received an Irish trial that season were the Dolphin representatives in that game.

Dolphin had many other representatives on Munster teams in the 70's and early 80's, Kevin McCarthy, Joe Harvey and Matt Dwyer played for the first Munster U/23 team against Young Munster, while Denis Collins, Michael O'Halloran Declan Aherne, Joe Lane and Eamonn Walsh earned Munster Junior Honours, with Joe Harvey, Michael O'Halloran and Declan Aherne later playing for the Munster Senior team as did Gerry Nyhan and Olann Kelleher and John Aherne

Gerald Reidy was the club's seventh Munster Branch president in 1975/76. The following year, Paddy O'Callaghan of Bohemians was president. He played for Dolphin when working in Cork with the Munster & Leinster Bank. He later moved to Limerick and Bohemian's and he played in the front row many times for Munster.

There was much preparation for the 1976/77 season which marked the club's 75th anniversary. The members of the GPC were working overtime, records show that they met 42 times that season. To mark the occasion of the anniversary the club completed a £26,000 extension to the Pavilion of a Downstairs Bar, Kitchen and 3 dressing rooms with the Youth Section in mind. In October 1976 the official opening took place and it was followed by a game against Munster.



1976/77 Senior Panel- Jubilee Year

Backrow J.B.Murphy, O.Healy, O.Kelleher, J.Lane, N.Elliot, W.Cashman M.O'Halloran, D.Daly, St.J.Murphy, N.Kavanagh, J.Kiernan.

Middle W.G.Twomey, W.Murphy, A.McSweeney, D.Coleman, D.Collins, D.Prendergast, J.Fitzgibbon, E.Moriarty, L.Nolan, M.O'Sullivan, K.McCarthy, M.Baston, I.F.Mahony, V.Giltinan.

Front row D.Barry, B.Macken, J.Harvey, J.O'Meara (President) P.Mahony (Capt) N.Coleman (Vice Pres) N.Hickey, P.O'Callaghan, A.Hickey.

Munster 20 Dolphin 4

The rain spoilt this fixture; it was difficult to hold both the ball and feet. The scoring star of the day for the full-strength Munster team was UCC's Moss Finn. A try and two penalties along with a Pat Whelan try putting Munster 14-0 ahead at half time. Two further penalties were kicked by Finn before a break by Olan Healy, carried on by Bobby Macken led to a Phil O'Callaghan try after he showed a great turn of speed.

Dolphin

R.Macken, O.Healy, M.O'Halloran, G.Nyhan, J.Harvey, D.Daly, A.Hickey, T.Nolan, N.Hickey, P.O'Callaghan, D.Prendergast, K.McCarthy, W.Crowley, M.O'Sullivan, M.Bastion.

Munster

L.Maloney, S.Dennison, G.Barrett, J.McDonnell, B.Smith, M.Finn, D.Canniffe, J.Brislane, P.Whelan, B.Clifford, M.Keane, B.Foley, S.Deering, D.Spring, J.Hayes.

In November 1976, in one of the best finals for years, Dolphin, defeated Cork Constitution by 10-6 to retain the Charity Cup. They took control as early as the fourth minute with a try from Olann Kelleher, and two penalties by Donal Daly completed the scoring for Dolphin with the pack and it particular Paul Mahony, Phil O'Callaghan and the Hickey brothers Noel & Aidan playing prominent roles.



1976/77 Cork Charity Cup Winners

Back row D.Coleman, N.Kavanagh, N.Elliot, J.Kiernan, V.Giltinan

*Middle D.Collins, O.Kelleher, M.O'Sullivan, J.Fitzgibbon, D.Prendergast, K.McCarthy, W.Crowley,
M.Baston, A.Hickey*

*Front row O.Healy, N.Hickey, J.Harvey, P.Mahony (Capt) J.O'Meara (President) B.Macken,
P.O'Callaghan, D.Daly.*



1975/76 Cork Charity Cup Winners

Back row D.Coleman, N.Kavanagh, J.Kiernan, V.Giltinan

*Middle O.Healy, P.Prendergast, P.Mahony, E.Moriarty, M.O'Sullivan, W.Cashman,
K. McCarthy, M.Baston.*

*Front row J.Lane, B.Macken, J.Harvey, N.Elliot (Capt) A.McSweeney (President)
N.Hickey, P.O'Callaghan.*

Team

B.Macken, O.Healy, M.O'Halloran, J.Lane, D.Daly, J.Harvey, St.J.Murphy, D. Collins, O.Kelleher, L.Nolan, P.O,Callaghan, N.Hickey, P.Mahony (capt) O.Moriarty, K.McCarthy, M.Baston, A.Hickey, M.O'Sullivan, D,Prendergast.

Spot the difference

The two photographs (above) were taken on the same day- the alec's forgot to move around.

Spot the deliberate mistake.

They forgot to change their jerseys- When the 75/76 team won; they were wearing the navy, yellow and white, the following year they had changed to navy.



1977/78 Dennehy Cup & Minor League Winners

Back Row P.J.Dinnen (Coach) G.O'Connell, P.Clery, E.O'Kelly, M.O'Neill, M.Magner, F.Twomey, P.Hitchmough, D.Ahern, M.O'Sullivan (Coach).

Front Row M.O'Riordan, B.Lynch, P.Young, T.Hodkinson (Capt) N.Coleman (President) G.Ganley, D.Harvey, S.Dineen.

After good victories over Highfield and Bohemians in the early rounds, Shannon put paid to Dolphin's hopes of winning the Senior Cup in the semi final. Shannon went on to win the competition for the second time, their previous victory being in 1960.

The final jubilee fixture came in April 1977 when Dolphin played Cardiff Athletic. Cardiff was the stronger side and despite a penalty by Donal Daly and a Bobby Macken try, they went on to win 12-7.

The IRFU decided in 1977 to reconstruct the West Lower Stand at Lansdowne Road, this had a knock on effect for Musgrave Park as the Munster Branch bought the old promenade seats, which were being dismantled. The old stand at this stage was in poor repair and was later demolished.

The following season, 1978 was a good one as the Minor A's beat Old Christians 14-3, to win the Dennehy Cup for the first time, under their Captain Torlac Hodkinson, with tries from Martin Sheehan, Declan Aherne, and Mick O'Neill and a Pat Hitchmough conversion. It was a strong Old Christians team containing many

ex CBC players from the previous year including Donal Lenihan and Barry Coleman, who later saw the light and joined the club of his forefathers. They won 23 of their games, with just two losses and a draw. They beat Mallow 11-9 with a Martin Sheehan drop goal and tries from John Stallard and Jerry McAnaney in the League final. It was a good recovery from the previous week's defeat by Cork Constitution in the Cup final 12-3. They scored a total of 159 points in their 11 league games, 10 of which they won. The Minor B's were defeated in the Cup semi final. One of the most difficult results to get over in that season was the defeat by Sunday's Well in the Annual Squash fixture!!!!. The club reached the Munster Senior League decider for the third time in the decade, but lost to Cork Constitution 13-6.

The Lane family made their land off the Airport Hill available to the Munster Branch, but it was Dolphin who got the benefit of this, playing most of Minor, U/20 & Youth matches there for about 12 years. The first match was played there on 14-1-1978, an U/16 friendly v Sunday's Well. Future International Pat O'Hara scored the first try but it was Dolphin who won the first game there by 14-6.

Team

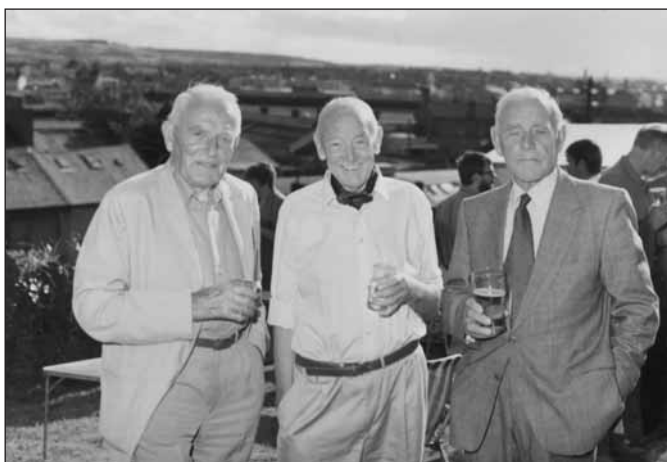
M Harvey, J Dillon, C.O'Callaghan, A.Forde T.Fitzgibbon, T.Keegan, F.Quirke, C Cremin, M.McCarthy, G Hodkinson, M.Field, B.Twohig, T.Woodward, A Byrne, D.O'Flynn. The Youth Section was flying at this stage, reaching three semi finals in the Highfield Mini Rugby Festival and the final of the Sir Patrick Hennessy U/16 Tournament in Cork Constitution. In 1978/79, the Senior's were defeated in the Munster Senior League final, the Minor A's made it to the Cup final, only to be beaten by Cork Constitution.



Michael O'Halloran avoids a tackle from Highfields Tim Riordan to score a try.

October 1979 has gone down in history as one of the best days in Irish Rugby as Munster defeated the All Blacks 12-0 at Thomand Park. There was no Dolphin

representation on the pitch, but Olann Kelleher was sub scrum half and on the bench. The other Dolphin connection was that Vince Giltinan was one of the Munster Selectors. Olann Kelleher later went on to become a Munster Selector. Olann, during his UCC days won a nice selection of honours, Senior & Junior League medals as well as Minor & Dennehy Cup medals and he also captained the Munster Junior Team.



*The Elder Lemons
Max Hogan, Jack O'Rourke & Bertie Deacon*

In 1979/80 Young Munster defeated Dolphin 11-0 in the semi-final of the Munster Senior Cup after victories in the previous rounds over Waterpark & Cork Constitution 6-0. The Minor A's suffered defeat for the second year in a row by Cork Constitution when they were well beaten by 20-0 in the Minor Cup final.



*Alecadoo's - 75th Anniversary Celebrations
Standing - N.Coleman, G.Aherne, R.J.Coleman, V.Giltinan, G.Reidy, J.Kiernan, J.B.Murphy, N.Kavanagh
Seated - M.Hogan, W.Murphy, D.Barry, J O'Meara (Club President) A.McSweeney, I.F.Mahony,
W.G. Twomey. Inset - J.F.O'Rourke*

CHAPTER 10

The Eighties

Amongst the new members who joined in August 1980 was 24 year old Nigel Leeming from Saracans who played for Yorkshire after leaving school and also Pat Neary from Pontypridd. Another new member was scrum half Pat Aherne who went on to give many years of service to the club as player, selector, manager and coach. On 17th November 1980 Michael Kiernan & Jim Crotty (then with UCC) played in the 15-6 Munster victory over Australia. Donal Daly was on the bench being kept off the team by Tony Ward.

In 1981 the club decided that they needed to expand and while Musgrave Park would remain home for the Seniors more room was needed for the other five adult teams (including U/20's) and the Youth Section running teams from U/8 to U/18. Finally suitable land was found five miles from Musgrave Park near Ballygarvan. The purchase of the 34 acres proved too much of a financial burden during a period of high interest rates so the land had to be resold before it was ever developed.

While they never played on the new grounds they had done a deal with a local farmer for use of his flat field in exchange for grazing on the clubs land and they played matches here for a while. Over the following years once Lane Park was no longer available they played many matches at the Branch grounds at Cois Laoi and took at various times land close to the Airport thanks to John Rolf and also at Raffeen.

Some memories stick in your mind, I can recall a minor B fixture at CoisLaoi. It was an important league fixture, played during a very wet winter. The match ball was kicked over the fence and into the river. It was the only ball, the referee would have had no choice but to abandon the game and Dolphin were well ahead. One of the Dolphin subs waded into the river over his waist and retrieved the ball. Dolphin won the game and the league.

UCC won the Senior Cup in 1981, four of the team later played for Dolphin, Declan Aherne, Donal Daly, Peter Madden and Jim Crotty. February 1982 was a

tragic time for the club, five of the Minor team who had played together right through the Youth Section were involved in a road accident returning on a Sunday evening after a match. Sadly Cyril O'Mahony died and Gene O'Keeffe and Michael Field were left with severe injuries.

In the Munster Senior Cup, Dolphin defeated Highfield 13-6 in the quarter- final after a difficult first half with tries from Trevor Levis and Martin O'Sullivan and a Donal Daly penalty and conversion. In the semi-final at Musgrave Park against Young Munster Michael Kiernan opened the scoring with a penalty before Gerry Casey had two penalties for Munsters. A Donal Daly drop goal levelled matters until a further penalty won it for Young Munster. Cork Constitution defeated the Minor B's in a league final replay, however the Minor A's once again won the Tramway Cup.



Michael J Kiernan

Michael became Dolphin's most capped player by gaining 43 caps between 1982/91, 34 as centre and nine as a winger. He was Ireland's highest scorer with 308 points from six tries, 62 penalties, 40 conversions and six drop goals until David Humphries overtook him in 2002. His first cap came as a substitute for the unfortunate David Irwin who broke his leg against Wales on the first of the Triple Crown winning games of that season. His most famous kick was the drop goal, which captured the Triple Crown v England in 1985. Amongst his other honours were two Schools international caps with PBC, was the Irish 200m champion and represented Ireland v Scotland in an Athletics International. He played 53 times for Munster (a record when he retired) and played in three Lions Tests in New Zealand. He also earned Lions honours in 1986 in the Lions against Rest of The World game celebrating the centenary of the International Board. He was included on Irish tours to South Africa 1981, Japan 1985 & North America in 1989. On the South African tour he scored three tries against the Gold Cup XV in Oudtshoorn, a record at that stage that was matched only by Alan Duggan and Fergus Slattery.

Dolphin went agonisingly close to reaching the Senior Cup final in 1982/1983. Ger O'Kelly was the match winner in the quarter final to set up a semi final against Shannon. In the game at Thomand Park Shannon were well on top in the scrums. The back row of Tom O'Donoghue, Martin O'Sullivan and John McCarthy were particularly effective in the loose; they won enough ball to give to a very useful back division. Two penalties by John Aherne resulted in the game finishing up 6-6. The experience of Phil O'Callaghan and the young tearaways like Tom O'Donoghue, Paul Christopher and Joe O'Brien bettered the Shannon pack in the replay. Declan Aherne was sent in for a try by Ger O'Kelly to equalise, John Aherne kicked a 50 yard penalty, alas it was not enough as an injury time penalty for a late tackle won it for Shannon 10-7. The junior's were defeated in the League final having won their section of the league. The Minor's won on the double, Gerry Ganley and Dave Leonard captained the successful Minor A and B Cup winning teams.

1983/84 was a good year at every level, apart from the senior team. The Junior's were beaten 6-4 in the semi final of the Munster Junior Cup, the furthest they had progressed for years. They won their section of the Junior League, but were beaten in play off. The Minor A's won the Dennehy Cup and the U/20's the Munster League & Cup double.



Back row - Martin Lane, (Coach) Jerry Twomey, Peter Duggan., Mick Magner, Michael Crowley, Brian O'Connor, and Max Hogan (Pres. 64/65)
Second Row - Tom Deering (Pres. 90/91)), Jerome O'Brien, John Clery, Dave Butler, Mick Pierce, Cormac McCarthy, Mick McBarron, and Michael Riordan
Front row - Denis Collins, Paddy Clery, Malcolm Tyrell, Jack O'Rorke (Pres. 83/84), Martin Sheehan, Kieran Tobin, Tommy Lee, Ian McFarlane, Barry Geary.

The League final was against a very strong Garryowen side, it was only on the third attempt after 3-3 and 6-6 draws before Dolphin finally won out. This was 9-3 with three penalty goals from Peter Dineen.



1982/83 Minor A Cup Winners
Back Row - T.Dumbleton (Coach) P.Aherne, G.O'Connell, M.Scraggs, M.O'Riordan, J.V.O'Callaghan,
Middle - B.Murphy, W.Murphy, M.Baston, N.Cashman, Phil O'Callaghan, C.Woollam, M.Lane,
J.Loughnane, B.Cashman, M.Hogan, T.O'Callaghan.
Front - E.Dignam, T.Kingston, F.O'Donoghue, P.Kiernan, J.O'Rourke, G.Ganley
(Capt)C.O'Driscoll(President)M. Tyrrell,B.Lynch, T.Farrell, G.Desmond.



1982/83 Minor B Cup Winners

*Back Row P O'Callaghan, T O'Callaghan, G Desmond, M O'Riordan, J.V.O'Callaghan
Middle P.Aherne, T.Dumbleton, D.Sheehan, M.O'Mahony, N.Cashman, K.Corcoran, D.McDonald,
M.O'Hanrahan, P.Corkery, B.Murphy, G.O'Connell.
Front Row Ian McFarlane, E.Dignam, T.Kingston, T.O'Halloran, J.O'Rourke,
D.Leonard (Capt) C.O'Driscoll (President) P.Kiernan, N.Harvey, F.O'Donoghue, T.O'Farrell.*

During the 1984/85 season two great club servants passed away, Aidan McSweeney & Walter Murphy. The Seniors lost a number of players including Terry Kingston (luckily he returned to Cork quickly) Martin Murphy, Ted Nolan & Niall Cashman, they did make it to the Cork Charity Cup final where they were beaten by Cork Constitution.



1983 John Aherne on his 25- yard gallop to the line in a M.S.L. game v Highfield.

The only trophy won that season was the Junior Plate, with losses in the finals of four competitions. Charity Cup (9-3) and Minor A defeats by Cork Constitution along with a Minor B loss to UCC after a replay and an U/18 League final loss. Garryowen defeated Dolphin 16-15 after extra time in the Munster Senior Cup

quarter-final. Leading after a try from Trevor Levis and a conversion and three penalties from Donal Daly, Dolphin supporters had began celebrating until the last movement of the game led to the winning try for Garryowen.



1984/85 Junior Plate Winners

Back Row T.Dumbleton (Coach) M Scraggs, I McFarlane, M Magner, D O'Regan, C Woollam, T Nolan, N Coleman, K Corcoran, P Hitchmough, P.Mitchell (Team Sec)

Front Row J Waterman, M Tyrell, J Wolfe, F.Hetherington (President) M O'Halloran (capt) F O'Donoghue, J O'Callaghan, B Lynch.

Some members made up for some disappointment by representing Munster, Ger O'Kelly, Eamonn Walsh and Terry Kingston at Senior level and Barry O'Mahony and Terry Creamer at U/18 level. Eamonn Walsh was a fine strong front row forward. A Student at Thomand College did a thesis on the strength of players in Munster. He found that Eamonn Walsh was the strongest. This for a dedicated player who was farming in Co. Waterford and had a lengthy journey for every match and training session. The Thomand College Student went on to great things in coaching, it was Eddie O'Sullivan, the present Irish Coach.



The UCC v Dolphin 1985 League game was a very unique occasion for the Crotty & Aherne familys. Representing UCC were brothers Tom, Owen & Jim Crotty and Fergus Aherne, his brothers John & Declan were on the Dolphin side. Tom Crotty was the odd man out as the others all played at some stage for Dolphin. They were six of the best- five played at various levels for Ireland and the sixth played senior for Munster.



Terry Kingston

Terry won 29 full caps at Hooker between 1987/95 and scored two international tries. He joined Dolphin from CBC where he earned three international schools caps. He was Captain of the great U/20 League & Cup winning team of 1983/84 coached by Phil O'Callaghan. Also on the team was Michael Ormond with whom he shared Munster U/20 hooking duties and Ger O'Kelly who played with Munster and had an Irish Trial. Brian O'Connor, Pat Cronin, Fergus O'Donoghue and John Waterman, all great clubmen were also part of that team. He spent a short time in Dublin with Lansdowne as did Michael Kiernan. He returned to Dolphin and made his Munster debut against Surrey in 1984. His first international cap was against Wales in the inaugural World Cup in 1987, he captained his country for the first of six times in the following World Cup and was the World Cup Captain when it came around again in 1995. He also led Munster many times including the defeat of the World Champions Australia in October 1992. It was fitting that he achieved his ambition by playing for Dolphin in Division One, retired at the end of that season. He went into coaching the senior team the following year. He also was included in the following Irish Tours, North America 1989, Namibia 1991, New Zealand 1992 & Australia in 1994.



Dolphin President's with Dave Barry Cup

Back J.O'Meara 1976/77, R.J.Coleman 1973/74, N.Coleman 1977/78, J.Casey 1971/72, F. Hetherington 1984/85, V.Giltinan 1968/69, G.Reardon 1981/82, C.O'Driscoll 1982/83.

Front G.Reidy 1967/68, J.O'Rourke 1983/84, M.Hogan 1964/65, L.McCarthy 1985/86, J.B.Murphy 1972/73, H.Deacon 1963/64, M.J.Kidney 1979/80.

Absent W.G. Twomey 1959/60, I.F.Mahony 1955/56, J.A.Kiernan 1978/79, G.Aherne 1974/75, T.Furlong 1958/59, A.Fitzgibbon 1980/81, J.G.Dorgan 1970/71.

In November 1984 Australia defeated Munster 31-19, it was amazing that Roger Gould the Australian full back was able to see through the gloom sufficiently well to knock over seven kicks at goal when the people at the match were doing well to see half the pitch. The Dolphin U/18's arranged a game in Nenagh that morning with a view to attending the match in Thomand Park. It took so long to reach Nenagh that they stayed there and watched the game on television. Officially there was no Dolphin player playing that day, there was however a Michael Kiernan of Lansdowne (try scorer on the day) and Declan Aherne of St.Marys.

In 1985 all clubs were considering a proposal put by IRFU to hold an All Ireland League. Dolphin was one of the many clubs who were in favour of the proposal. However it took a long time for it to come to fruition. Among the new players to join were Terry Kingston, Con Cremin, Peter Madden and Ian Smith. Dave Barry died in September 1985, very quickly the Barry Family put up a Cup to be played for by the two senior clubs he played for, Dolphin & Bohemians, a worthy tribute to a great man. In December both teams played for the Dave Barry Cup for the first time, resulting in a 32-12 win for Dolphin.

During this season Dolphin played a total of seven senior fixtures against Dublin opposition and won six, which was a great result. The Junior's won 24 of their 28 games, however they won no silverware. Cork Constitution beat them in the 2nds League final. It was also a good year for the Minors with the Minor A Cup being won and four players were capped for Munster at U/20 level. Two players' that deserve mention are Pat Aherne & Donal Daly. They played together in CBC and both won Senior Cup medals in 1970/71 & 1971/72 (both were winning captains). When they retired that got involved in coaching and together were Munster U/18 Coaches. Since then they have given a lot of time to the club in coaching and administrative roles.

Vince Giltinan became the Munster Branch President in 1985/86



*1986 Presentation to members who had given 50 years dedicated service to the Club.
Sidney Mahony, Nacey Mahony, Bertie Deacon, Max Hogan, Bill Twomey.*

In September 1986 Ger O'Kelly scored a try for Ireland U/25's against the full Canadian team. The new players who joined this season were Jim Crotty, Fergus Aherne, Kevin Deering, David Howard and Jack Clarke. Five Dolphin players were selected to play v Ulster in November 1986. Mick Kiernan, Ger O'Kelly, Terry Kingston, Jim Crotty and Paul McCarthy.

The only trophy won this season was the Minor B League, with a 13-3 victory over Kinsale leaving them unbeaten. There was a defeat in the Charity Cup by Cork Constitution, this time very narrowly, by 17-15. The Seniors qualified for the Munster Senior Cup semi final after a replay victory over Sundays Well in the quarter final. However, they were defeated 14-12 by Shannon. The Junior's won 24 out of 29 matches but no silverware, they were defeated by Highfield in the Cup semi final, the Minors suffered the same fate in extra time by Dunmanway and the U/20's were very unlucky to be beaten by UCC in the Cup final after extra time.

Few had given Dolphin any chance against Shannon. They did very well in the scrums, where they wheeled and pushed Shannon in the scrums. The front row of Paul McCarthy, Terry Kingston and Maurice Scraggs were superb as were Ted Nolan & Tom Keogh in the lineouts. Paul McCarthy scored a try after eight minutes, which Michael Kiernan converted. They were in front 9-8 with eight minutes to go, after five scrums near the line Sonny Kiely sneaked over for a try, which John Pearse converted to give Shannon a narrow victory.



Fergus Aherne takes on the All Blacks – on his own.



Fergus Aherne

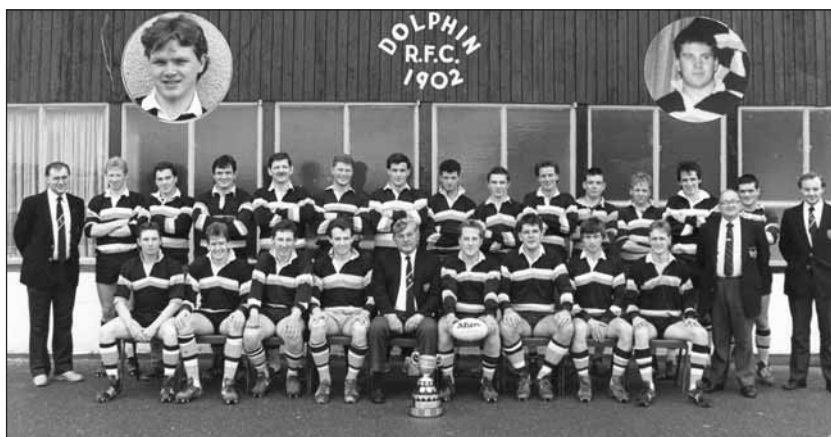
Fergus represented Ireland 12 times between 1988 /1992, and also represented Irish Universities. He was a former CBC player who joined Dolphin from UCC whom he captained to victory in the Munster Senior league in 1984/85. He won a Leinster Senior Cup medal with Lansdowne in 1991. He toured many times with Ireland, to France in 1988, North America 1989, Namibia 1991 and New Zealand 1992, he joined Terry Kingston in the 1991 World Cup squad.



Jack Clarke

Jack joined the club in 1986 from Rockwell College, he was capped at every level, Schools, U/21, U/23, B, and also earned five full caps, he scored a try on his senior international debut v Wales in 1991. He also represented Ireland at international level at the javelin. He was on the Munster team that defeated Australia in October 1992 at Musgrave Park. When Jack joined the club he was still Under 18, he was playing on the Senior & U/20 teams when his eligibility for U/18 was discovered. Jack was born and lived for years in Kenya. The Registrar of the Munster Branch got a little confused, when Jack's registration came back it was as Nacuru Clarke, Nacuru being the Townland he was born in. Unfortunately his Youths career was short as Highfield defeated Dolphin in a close semi final. He captained Munster U/20 and toured with Ireland U/21's to Italy 1989, and Namibia in 1991 and New Zealand 1992.

The Minor cup was once again captured in 1987/88, with a 10-6 win over Kanturk. They had a very good season, of their 28 games; they won 25, drew one and lost only two.



1987/88 Junior 2 Cup Winners

Back Row - M.Magner (Coach) S.Carey, M.O'Hanrahan, J.Noonan, M.Walker, T.Martin, J.Clery, A.O'Mahony, F.Garvey, P.Giltinan, E.Smith, M.Murphy, M.Pierce, P.Cremin, P.Clery (Coach)
Front Row - K.Sheehan, C.O'Mara, D.Butler, T.Lee, W.Ellis (President) G.Desmond (Capt) E.Treacy, K.Cashman, I.Smith, B.Neiland (Medic). Insets J.Murphy, J.Mulcahy

Scott Holden was cleared to play for Dolphin in December having arrived from New Zealand via Sydney. He met up with Ger O'Kelly and Fergus O'Donoghue while in Sydney and they persuaded him to try Ireland and Dolphin. A fearless backrow forward, he earned International honours when he represented New Zealand School's against Australia alongside Zin Zan Brooke. He was with Waikato U/21's for four years and also played with the Waikato Senior side. After retiring, he got involved in coaching both at Senior and U/20 levels and was a Munster U/20 selector and coach for four years. He also excelled at another sport- Judo, a third Dan black belt; he represented New Zealand alongside Steve McDowell in the Commonwealth Games. He also qualified for the World Junior Championships and won events in Oceanic Games.

In 1988 Michael Kiernan was in terrific form in the Senior Cup 28-16 victory over Sundays Well scoring 24 points. Pat Ahern came out of retirement to play against Garryowen in the semi final due to the unavailability of Fergus Aherne, however Garryowen won 18-12.



1988/89 Junior 2 Dennehy Cup & League Winners

Back Row - T.Hodkinson (Sel) J.O'Rourke, G.Desmond, J.Mulcahy, M.Murphy, K.Sheehan, P.O'Connor, M.Walker, P.Christopher, A.O'Brien, A.Barry, N.McMahon, K.O'Reilly, G.Hodkinson (Sel)

G.O'Connell (Coach) B.Neiland (Medic)

Front Row - B.Hadden, D.Bradley, T.Mulcahy, R.Elwood, D.O'Shea, C.O'Mara (Capt) J.Stringer (President) B.Bradley, E.McCarthy, J.Murphy, A.Roche, S.McCarthy.

The Minor A team coached by Gerry O'Connell and captained by Colin O'Mara captured both the Dennehy Cup (10-3 v Old Christians) and the Minor A League in 1988/89. They were undefeated in the League and conceded only one try, which was in the last match. What was very pleasing was that half of the team were products of the Clubs successful Youth Section.

In March 1989 Dolphin defeated Garryowen 7-0 in the Munster Senior Cup, first round replay, Michael Kiernan scored a penalty after eight minutes, in the 22nd minute Paddy O'Donoghue put through a beautiful chip for speedy winger Jack Clarke to cut through the defence and win the race for the touch down. In the second round, played in appalling weather conditions, Dolphin overcame the challenge of Sundays Well. They were much better in the scrum and inspired by Terry Kingston who had a marvellous game in the loose and by Jack Clarke who had a particularly good game despite the conditions. Clarke picked up a loose ball in his own half, drove on 40 yards, after the ruck, Mick Kiernan went over for a try, which he converted, he later kicked two penalties.

Dolphin ran Shannon very close (12-11) in the semi final; it was the clubs first defeat of the year (8/4/89). They went very close, Dave Hyland put a kick through for Jack Clarke to score but Michael Kiernan's conversion attempt came back off the upright. They went into the 2nd half 12-7 down, Dave Hyland created another opening for Jack Clarke who beat four defenders in a 35 yard run. He stumbled out of an attempted tackle lost his footing and grounded the ball in the corner and the difficult conversion went narrowly wide.



1989/90 Junior 2 Cup Winners

Back Row - G.Hodkinson (Sel) J.Sylvester, T.Levis, T.O'Halloran, J.Manning, B.Newton, J.Ellis, P.McCarthy, P.Christopher, C.O'Mara, S.McCarthy, D.Ellis, C.Butler, J.Leonard, W.Reeves, A.Nolan.
Front Row - O.McStay, T.Deering (Vice President) J.Murphy, D.O'Driscoll, K.Elwood, J.Twomey, D. O'Shaughnessy (President) B.Bradley (Capt) D.O'Regan (Coach) P.O'Callaghan (Club Coach) B.Neiland (Medic) T.O'Callaghan (Sel) J.O'Rouke.
Absent - C.Smith, B.O'Brien, J.O'Connor, A.McDonald, P.Hitchmough.

The Club were the Digital /Irish Times Club of the month in March 1989.

The Juniors reached the semi-final of the Munster Junior Cup, but to be defeated by St.Mary's 6-3.



*The Dog and the Dolphins
Club Function 1989
Max Hogan and Sidney Mahony*



In October 1989 Dolphin bridged a 13-year gap with victory over Highfield in the Cork Charity Cup. The hero that day was Michael Kiernan who kicked all the points in a 15-6 win.



*1989/90 Cork Charity Cup Winners
Back Row - P.Giltinan, M.Ormond, T.Taylor, T.Keogh, T.Clarke, P.Crowley, B.Cooney, B.Neiland (Medic)
Front Row - L.Lannon, I.Smith, D.Hyland, E.Treacy, D.O'Shaughnessy (President) T.Kingston (Capt)
J.O'Connor, J.Mulcahy, J.Waterman, T.Deering (Vice President)*



40's & 50's Senior cup medal winners.

Back Row - J.Skehan, J.O'Meara, R.Bolster, R.McClement, Capt. M.J.Dowling.

Middle Row - A.McElhinny, S.Galley, R.Dennehy, B.Reidy, J.Williams, D.Donnery, J.B.O'Carroll.

R.Murphy, - inset A.Nicholson

Front Row - N.Coleman, G.Ahern, J.O'Flynn, P.O'Leary, B.O'Hanlon, J.B.Murphy,

J.S.McCarthy, M.O'Flynn.



1989/90 Junior 3 Cup Winners

Back Row - T.O'Callaghan (Sel) G.Hodkinson (Sel) A.Nolan, K.Cashman, K.O'Reilly, D.Ring, M.Creedon, P.McCarthy, S.McCarthy, J.Ellis, F.Garvey, P.Cashman, T.McCarthy, D.Ellis, P.McCarthy, B.Keating, B.O'Sullivan, D.O'Regan (Sel) G.Desmond.

Front Row - T.Deering (Vice President) J.O'Rourke, M.Murphy, P.O'Callaghan (Club Coach) K.O'Flanagan, D.Daly, D.O'Shaughnessy, J.Casey, M.O'Mahony (Coach) J.O'Mahony, B.Neiland, G.McNally.

Absent - J.McCarthy, N.Cashman, D.McKenna, F.O'Donoghue, T.Healy.

Despite Cork Constitution inflicting a 17-10 defeat on Dolphin in the Dennehy Cup final 1989/90 was a good year for the Minors. Under Captains Bill Bradley and Jack Casey they won the Minor A & B Cup double. The Minor A's went close to winning the league also but were defeated in the final by Muskerry.



1983/84 Dennehy Cup Winners

Back Row - T.O'Callaghan, K.Corcoran, P.O'Callaghan, B.Cashman, B.Oliver, T.Kingston

*Middle Row - W.Murphy, J.Sylvester, M.Baston, M.Lane, J.Loughnane, G.Buckley, C.Wollam,
N.Cashman, C.McCarthy, M. Hogan.*

*Front Row - J.Whitaker, P.Kiernan, M.Tyrell, T.Dumbleton (Coach) G.O'Connell (Capt) J.O'Rourke
(President) F.O'Donoghue, N.Humphries, P.Cronin.*

CHAPTER 11

The Nineties - The All Ireland League

Battles against the club's nearest rivals Sundays Well have always been regarded as special but the club's game in 1989/90 took on an added significance, as Dolphin needed a victory to qualify for the newly formed All Ireland League. The results were combined with the previous two years to decide what clubs would enter the inaugural All Ireland League. Dolphin required victories in their final five games. They managed four wins on the trot but had to beat Sunday's Well in the final game to qualify. Firstly they had to meet in the Munster Senior Cup, with Tony Clarke & Tom Keogh providing an excellent platform from the line out, the possession gained was the difference between the sides. Scotty Holden blocked down a kick caught the ball and charged from 30 yards out to score in the corner. Michael Kiernan converting from the corner, three further penalties sealed the victory 15-9. The following week Sunday's Well had the edge and won 13-9 and thus qualified for Division Two.

Dolphin had to put this defeat behind them and face UCC in the semi final and the game finished in a draw. The first replay led to a cracking 16-16 draw, star of the show was Michael Kiernan who had an excellent game at out half. Another big influence was Tom Keogh. He claimed fifteen lineout balls from the front of a two-man lineout. Dolphin missed the chance and the following week UCC went on to win.

Club President for 1990/91 was Tom Deering; he came from a well-known rugby family. His Uncle Mark was capped by Ireland, his father Seamus earned nine caps, and served as President of Bective Rangers. Even better known was his late brother Shay who captained Ireland

In September 1990 the club undertook a short tour and played Plymouth Albion and Brixham but were defeated 23-12 and 12-9 respectively. The Minor A's were defeated 10-4 by Highfield in the final of the Dennehy Cup.

The club's ninth Munster Senior League title win in 1990/91 led to the qualification for the Round Robin play offs for the All Ireland League. The team was led by captain Tom Keogh, a 6'6" second row with a personality to match; Tom's rugby apprenticeship was very short, the first rugby match he attended was the Ireland against Scotland International in February 1982; he commenced playing with E.S.B. and by November was playing senior rugby with Dolphin. He also played at senior level for Munster. Another of this team to gain representative honours was a strong backrow forward Eddie Walsh, he must have been one of the few Dolphinmen to represent Connacht. Another character was Brian O'Connor, very much a home grown player, played at every level from U/10 upwards, was always ready to answer the call for the club. By winning the MSL they qualified to meet Dungannon, Galwegians and Blackrock in the round robin, three teams to qualify for Division 2.

Dolphin 10- Dungannon 10

The opening game took place at Temple Hill, (clubs could not play on their home ground) After six minutes Eric Treacy scored a try and six minutes later Michael Kiernan was tackled without the ball and he kicked the resulting penalty. Dungannon took over and went 10-7 ahead, but after a Dungannon player was penalised for handling the ball in a ruck and again Kiernan kicked the penalty goal. Dolphin then hung on to claim a share of the points.

Team

O.O'Mahony, A.McGonnell, J.Clarke, M.Kiernan, E.Treacy, T.Taylor, M.Walsh, L.Lannon, T.Kingston, J.Mulcahy, T.Keogh, B.Cooney, E.Walsh, P.Scott, P.Crowley.

The week before the Galwegians game Dolphin played a friendly against Cork Con at Temple Hill, the result was a good omen for the play offs, a 37-0 victory.

Dolphin 12- Galwegians 10

Temple Hill was again the venue for the Galwegians fixture, while Michael Kiernan's drop goal to win the Triple Crown against England is his most famous; from a club point of view his drop goal against Galwegians was more important. Two minutes into injury time with Galwegians 10-9 ahead, the normally reliable Eric Elwood tried to catch Dolphin out with a quick drop out



T.K. gets up to catch yet another lineout ball

but he put it directly into touch. From the resulting scrum, Michael Kiernan who had already scored a try, conversion and penalty, knocked over the winning drop goal and Dolphin were in Division Two. This left Dolphin, Dungannon & Blackrock promoted and no need for the final game against Blackrock.

Earlier in the Senior Cup, Dolphin defeated Bohemian's in the first round and a Tony Taylor try and a Michael Kiernan try, conversion and two penalties resulted in a 16-3 victory over Waterpark to set them up for another semi final meeting and defeat by Shannon.

Cork Constitution won the inaugural AIL Division 1 title in 1990/1991, among their winning side were two former Dolphin players and one future one, they were Victor Donnelly, Paul McCarthy and Denis O'Dowd. The Junior 3's won 18 of their 20 games, drew one and lost one and won the Junior 3 Cup.

The club's first game in the AIL in 1991/92 was away to Blackrock, Dolphin were the underdogs, but they came away victors 12-11, much to the surprise of the Dublin side. Terenure College were next up and another victory, this time 10-6. All thoughts of promotion were soon set aside as four defeats followed. A respectable finish was ensured with victory in the last three games.



"Whats he got up his sleeve"- Tom Keogh slips the ball back to Ritchie Abbot.

In November 1992 Terry Kingston capped a Munster team, which also contained Jack Clarke that beat the World Cup Holders Australia 22-19. This was the third time Munster beat Australia in Musgrave Park. Having been 3-0 behind at Thomand Park against Young Munster at half time in the Munster Senior Cup semi final, Dolphin dug deep and with 10 minutes to go were 6-3 ahead. But Young Munster dug even deeper and forced a late scrum close to the line and got over for a converted try and victory.

1992/93 was a good year, very nearly a great year, there was a change in regulations to allow three teams promoted to Division One, Dolphin won five matches and lost four, three of them by four points or less leaving them fourth. A victory over Wanderers instead of a 12-10 loss coupled with a Terenure victory over Blackrock on the final day would have sent Dolphin up. They were defeated for the sixth year in succession in the Munster Senior Cup semi-final, this time by Young Munster 15-0, having beaten Bohemians in the previous round. This was the fourth semi final defeat by Young Munster since 1979/80.

When reviewing the club programme for 1993/94 there was an interesting article from a certain Michael G Doyle. He told a story from the late Joe Lynch. He described the scouts from the various Cork rugby clubs using the "carrot of the day" to entice schoolboys from Pres and Christians to join their clubs. The Constitution scout would say with that certain Cork Constitution nasal inflexion: Join Constitution boy and we'll make you a bank clerk!" The Dolphin maestro would extol membership of his club: "join Dolphin my man, and you will be a bank manager in no time!". All the poor man from the Well had to offer was excitement and a frisson of hidden danger, as he implored: "join The Well and you'll leave your blood on every fecking rugby field in Ireland.

No trophies were won, the Senior's were however defeated in the Charity Cup final by Cork Constitution. Defeat in the opening four starts left the club facing a difficult battle, however a 23-6 victory up in Ballina kept Dolphin in Division Two.

The 1994/95 season got off to a good start. Under the captaincy of Eoin McCarthy, the Minors captured the Dennehy Cup and went on to be runners up in the League.

The odds were against the Dolphin's survival in Division Two, they had to win away in their final fixture against Old Belvedere who were being crowned Division 2 Champions after the game and UCD needed to at least draw with Greystones. A tremendous win over Old Belvedere set it up, who would have bet on a 36-36 draw between UCD & Greystones to send Greystones down to Division Three and leave Dolphin ninth out of 11.

The U/20's under Coach Peter Kiernan won Division 2 of the U/20 league and promotion to Division 1 for the following season. The Junior's made another semi-final appearance in the Junior Cup but failed to make the final.

1995/96 saw the first commercial club sponsorship, up to then the club were lucky to have such sponsors as Glenline Fitted Furniture and Casey's on the jersey's however TNT commenced the first of their five years as main sponsors. The IRFU changed the rules mid-season regarding relegation, (correctly of course), as a result Dolphin remained in Division 2, despite finishing 10th out of the 11 teams.



1994/95 Eoin McCarthy & Dennehy Cup Winning Team

The junior's won the Quaid Cup in Ballincollig, the Minor B League was unfinished for the season as the play- off between Dolphin & Cork Constitution could not be held before the end of the season and the trophy shared, thus denying Cork Constitution the opportunity for the Grand Slam of all five Minor trophies which had never been done before.



Maurice Cohalan - 'I am sure we would get 20 houses in here'.



1996/97 Senior Squad- Promoted to Division 1.

Back Row - P.O'Donoghue, T.O'Brien, C.Mahony, K.Roche, H.Farrelly, R.Power, D.Sheehan, T.Taylor, R.McGrath, M.O'Shea, M.Ormond, D.Pomeroy, J.Waterman, K.Murphy, N.Lane (Physio)

Front Row - S.Holden (Asst Coach), B.Mccarthy, P.Buckley, R.Kelleher, B.Keary, R.Abbott, N.Hickey (Rugby Chairman) P.Scott (Capt), J.V.O'Callaghan (President) D.Davis, D.O'Dowd, Cian Mahony, C.McCotter, B.Sheehan, D.Kidney (Coach)

Absent - T.Kingston, E.Knowles.



Barry O'Neill, the clubs richest scorer in the AIB League, breaking out of his 22.



1996/97 Junior 3 Cup Winners

Back row - B.Neiland, K.O'Flanagan, K. Comyn, H.Field,D.Broderick, B. O'Shea, B.Kelleher, M.Walley, M.O'Donovan, S.Johnston, T.Reardon, R.Depuis, K.Cronin, G.Corbett,D.Broderick, O.Healy.

Front row - T.O'Sullivan, R. O'Keefe, L.O'Mahony, B.Curran, E.Butts, D.Sheehan, P.Yelverton, A.Miller.



1996/97 Junior 3 League Winners

Back row - P. Mitchell, O.Healy, K. Comyn, L.O'Mahony, M Walley, G McCarthy, E Butts, S.Johnston, T Murphy, A. Costello, D.Broderick, B Kelleher, B. O'Shea, K.Cronin, B.Murphy
Front row - Mark, H. Field, R Depuis, M O'Donovan, T O'Sullivan, B.Curran, D.Sheehan, P. Yelverton, R O'Keeffe, Billy Neiland.

Richie Power & Dave Sheehan, returning from AIL game in the North. "If we fall out , who gets custody of the beer?"



1996/97 Junior 2 Cup Winners

Back row - D.Sheehan R.O'Keeffe, M.Quaid, D. Griffin, B.Hadden, D.Broderick, B.Kelleher, R.Depuis, K.McCarthy, A.Miller; B. O'Connor, M.O'Donovan, M. Walley, O.Healy, Paul Mitchell, A. Costello.
Front row - T.Murphy, K.O'Reilly, B.O'Meara, J.Carroll, D.Casey (Capt) P.McNamara, P.Cronin, E.Butts, C.Smith, N.Mahony.



*50th Anniversary of 1947/48 Munster Senior Cup Victory.
Back row N.Coleman, D.Murphy, J.O'Donoghue, J.B.O'Carroll, B.Reidy
Front row J.O'Flynn, B.O'Hanlon, H.Mullins (President 1997/98) P.O'Leary (Capt 47/48)
M.O'Flynn, G.Aherne.*



Barry O'Meara gets the ball away from the base of the scrum.

CHAPTER 12

The Promised Land

The 1996/97 President J.V.O'Callaghan said at the start of the season we are going to win everything this year, he was wrong, he had to make do with Runner Up in Division 2 of the AIL, promotion to Division 1 and all five Minor Trophies. With coach Declan Kidney at the helm, they put the previous year behind them.

The first game was at home to Wanderers; a poor start was clawed back to finally come out with a 22-22 draw. Things began to improve with a 24-14 victory in Dublin over DLSP and a 32-19 home win over City of Derry. The "away" fixture with Sundays Well was an excellent game and Dolphin came out on top 38-29. Bective Rangers brought Dolphin back to earth in beating them 19-8 at home. A good start and victory was on the cards against UCC at the Farm, however UCC struck back and scored a try in injury time to bring it to 20-19, the conversion attempt by John O'Mahony from the corner went narrowly wide.

Three further victories over Highfield 24-6, NIFC 16-12, and Skerries 23-17 followed. Promotion looked attainable, with coach Declan Kidney in Argentina with the Irish U/19's, the bubble burst, two further losses in Dublin to Monkstown 16-8 and Clontarf 36-17 left Dolphin facing an uphill battle.

A combination of results and a 33-12 victory over Greystones set up the Malone game as a final of sorts, Dolphin needed victory to finish runners up and be promoted to Division one for the first time.

Jerry Reardon marshalled a large Band of supporters by train to Dublin on 12th April 1997, with the Dublin contingent joining two Buses for Belfast in addition to the many others who went for the weekend.

Conor Mahony kicked three first half penalties to leave it 9-9 at half time. Less than 1 minute later a dummy by Mahony put him in for a try which he converted. Malone struck back with 6 points, the players showed no nerves, but you should have

seen the supporters!!!! Another penalty, then Ken Roche scored a try and Hugh Farrelly another. It finished 29-15, RTE Cork had the game live on radio, Billie St. John led the singing on the sideline with "Beautiful City" it must have taken the players 20 minutes to go back to the dressing rooms, there were many grown men seen crying that day.

The crack on the way home was mighty, it was well after midnight when the double Decker bus with players, and supporters pulled up to Musgrave Park, the clubhouse was already full.

Team

C McCoitir, D.O'Dowd, Cian Mahony, B Sheehan, R Kelleher, C Mahony, P.Buckley, D Davis, T Kingston, P Scott (capt) H Farrelly, R Power, T O'Connell, K Roche, D Sheehan

It was very satisfying for Declan Kidney who had joined the club from UCC, his father Joe had been Club President in 1979-80. About the same time his coaching career started with PBC at U/13 & 14 level, in 1983 he started with the junior team and led them to four Munster Schools Junior Cup titles in five years and then the Munster Schools Senior Cup four times in seven years. He also was Irish Schools coach for four seasons, coached Ireland U/19's and then went on to be Munster Coach, led them to two European Cup finals and a semi final in three years. At national level he coached the Ireland A team and recently was appointed Assistant Irish Coach.



*Minor Grand slam 1996/97
Paul Mitchel & Olan Healy(coaches)
J.V.O'Callaghan(Pres), Dave Casey(J2Capt)
Dave Sheehan(J3 Capt), Hugh Mullins (Sen. V.Pres).*

On the playing front he won a Munster Schools Senior Cup medal in 1978 with PBC along side Dave Kelly Walker and Michael Kiernan. The following year he won a Munster Junior Cup medal with UCC, team members included Jim Crotty & Declan Aherne. He also played Senior at out half for Dolphin during the mid 80's to the early 90's. His brothers Kevin & Paul also played for Dolphin.

Paul Mitchell and Olan Healy were the men behind the Minor Grand Slam, with victories in all five Minor (J2 & J3) competitions. The J3's (the former Minor B's) deserve

special mention. The J2's were knocked out of the Dennehy Cup and only players who did not play were entitled to represent the J3's. It was difficult to get a team, even Mitch (Paul Mitchel) had to tog out. Highfield led by 11-6 in the final when four minutes into injury time a Dolphin player was obstructed near the corner and the referee gave a penalty try and Brian Curran had the easy task, knocking over the winning conversion from in front of the posts.

Going back to the Highfield game, arrangements had been made for a friend of Dolphin and Rugby in general, Dave Guiney to be the guest speaker at the pre match lunch. When he arrived he was presented with a tape from the previous days show on 96 FM. President J.V.O'Callaghan had received a call from a "gentleman" who pretended to be Dave Guiney's Commercial Agent and wanted a special plane to bring him to Cork and of course a nice fee. J.V. took it well but before it finished and was aired on 96 FM there were of course a few bleeps, it went down so well it was repeated a number of times.

Planning started immediately for the club's first appearance in Division one. Unfortunately Declan Kidney moved on to the Munster set up, it was later proven with Munster's success that Dolphin's loss was Munster's gain.

Terry Kingston was player Coach along with Michael Kiernan and Scott Holden, it was great to see Terry get his chance in Division one, not many players of his calibre would have stayed as loyal as he did. Barry O'Neill was back, John O'Mahony joined as did Donagh Keeshan, Conor Twomey & John Forde. New Zealander Steve Jackson became the club's first full time professional, the Messiah as some people called him (until the first game).

The Munster Branch President for this historic season was none other than Dolphin man Barry McCarthy.

The omens were good when the Minor A's retained the Dennehy Cup. An opening defeat in Ballymena by 45-16 did not dampen the spirits, Garryowen was the first home game, and a home victory 25-24 was met with great celebrations. The next game was again with Limerick opposition at home, this time Young Munster and a 31-15 defeat. Then followed an away victory over Old Belvedere 23-15, a draw with Blackrock, a further loss to Terenure. Victory over Dungannon left Dolphin quite happy with three wins and a draw out of seven starts. Clubs had rarely been relegated with this many points, but luck was not on Dolphin's side this time. The IRFU had decided to reduce the number of teams in Division one from 14 to 12, (three years later they increased it to 16) Old Crescent, Clontarf and Shannon all got the better of Dolphin.



Marquee erected for AIL fixture v Cork Constitution 1997/98

With three games left they needed a result in two games. The big local derby followed, lunch for 275 in a Marquee at Musgrave Park set the scene for a great day. (well almost) Cork Constitution had quite a few injuries giving Dolphin a great chance, it was not to be, and after a great start they gave away two tries close to half time and Cork Constitution held on to win 35-29.

St Mary's in Dublin was a daunting task. St Mary's had no fewer than five internationals playing. Dolphin were behind at half time having played with a gale force wind. What followed was nothing less than true grit and determination, a few great tries and Dolphin were 32-29 ahead but Denis Hickie got his hands on the ball in the last minute and that was that. The St Mary supporters were very apologetic and agreed that they did not deserve to win.

This left a final game at home with Lansdowne, a draw was not sufficient and the club was on the way back down to Division 2

Relegation to Division 2 was difficult, a number of players moved on, Conor & Cian Mahony, Denis O'Dowd, and also Keith Murphy and Barry O'Neill (both for just a short while). Despite this the club in September captured the Cork Charity Cup with a victory over Waterpark, earlier in the day the Minor's won the Dennehy Cup for the third year in succession.

In what has become typical Dolphin fashion the club only pulled clear from relegation in the last couple of matches. The only victory in the first seven games was a narrow 6-5 victory over Old Wesley but the team got themselves back on the rails again to finish 13th out of 15th to hold onto their Division Two status.

1999/2000 was a bit different; the club finished mid table (9th), for a change, supporters did not have to reach for the tranquillisers and various types of medication.

For 2000/01 The Irish Sporting Club took over as Main Sponsors, on the playing front both Keith Murphy & Barry O'Neill were back. In their second season at the club both Alan Hickey & Pat McCarthy former Schoolboy internationals with CBC, moved on to the next level and were capped at U/21 level.



*Barry O'Flynn, Club President making presentations to U21 Internationals
Alan Hickey & Pat McCarthy.*

The season started brightly with a home win over City of Derry and a bonus point, but after six straight losses relegation was looming. However a draw and five wins out of six left the Club sixth in the League. A draw followed by four wins was the longest unbeaten spell the club has enjoyed since entering the AIB League. The victory over Greystones, 61-22 was a club A.I.L. record and the highest score in the AIB League that season. Yet again the Minor's were the only Cup winners, taking the Dennehy Cup for the fourth time in five years.

With the countdown to the Centenary having begun in earnest, a good season and maybe Division One status for 2002/2003 might be possible. For the first time a player-coach was recruited, Hamish Adams, a Prop forward from New Zealand, a qualified P.E. instructor and rugby coach. A much stronger panel was put together, six players joined from UCC and David Lee who had a Leinster Contract also joined.

Midleton away is as tough a start as you will get, the victory celebrations were short lived as Old Crescent soon brought Dolphin back to earth with a bang. As Christmas approached three wins out of six was not to bad, but then the injuries started to mount up. An excellent performance nearly took the points against Belfast Harlequins who comfortably won the Division 2 title. Six more defeats followed and not for the first time relegation was looming. With two games to play, victory over Sundays Well was

essential, with 30 minutes gone, Dolphin were at the wrong side of an 18-0 scoreline. The character of the team finally kicked in, a great performance for the next 45 minutes left the scoreline 21- 18 to Dolphin, the final few minutes were heart stopping, two players in the sin bin and Dolphin hung onto victory. With Wanderers and City of Derry both losing it gave Dolphin a five- point cushion for the final match, away to Portadown. For the first time all season, Dolphin got four tries and the bonus point, thus confirming Division two status, 15 minutes from time. This brings us up to 2002/2003, a long way from where we started “in the beginning”.

Hopefully the centenary celebrations will go on all season, promotion would be nice, and we also have the upgrading of the clubhouse to look forward to.

On the playing field we might see a player reaching a very important milestone. That is John O'Mahony; up to the end of 2001/2002 he had scored a total of 917 points in the AIB League- 185 with UCC and 732 with Dolphin. Only two players have scored more than 1000 points to date- former international Eric Elwood and Richie Murphy (Clontarf). On three occasions John has been second highest points scorer in Division Two and is the highest points scorer of all time in Division Two with 844.



John O'Mahony.

The book was scheduled to finish with the outcome of the 2001/02 season in May. The Cork Charity Cup Final between Dolphin & Cork Constitution was postponed until 30/8/2002. The fixture was transferred to Templehill, the home side took an early lead but two penalties by John O'Mahony levelled the score. A great break seven minutes before the interval saw Shane Madigan barge over for a try which O'Mahony converted leaving Dolphin 13-6 ahead at half time. The physically stronger Cork Constitution side finally broke down the determined Dolphin defence and tries came from former Dolphin players Cian Mahony and Denis O'Dowd, with a conversion from Pat McCarthy. With five minutes remaining Ken Roche went over for the all-important equaliser sending the game into extra time. Pat McCarthy restored Cork

Constitution's lead with a penalty in the first period of extra time, but then James Coughlan got in for a try which John O'Mahony converted and soon added another penalty. Donagh Keeshan put the game beyond Cork Constitution with a try four minutes from time.

Final result, Dolphin 33 Cork Constitution 21.

Team. D.Keeshan, D.Whelan, J.O'Donnell, M.Manning, S.O'Halloran, J.O'Mahony, K.Murphy, I.Foley, D.O'Farrell, E.Knowles, P.Farragher, R.McGrath, D.Pomeroy, K.Roche, S.Madigan.

CHAPTER 13

The Minors

The heart and soul of any club are the minors, (J2 & J3's to the younger readers) In no club has this been truer than in Dolphin. The success over the years at this level, particularly in the past 20 years has been excellent. There have been many individuals who have more than played their part over the years, Michael (Chuck) O'Mahony, Paul Mitchell are two who stand out, there have been others, Dick O'Meara, Martin O'Sullivan (this season's President of U.L.Bohemians), Gerry O'Connell, Tony O'Callaghan and Alan Miller are people who come to mind. And what about their supporters, Max and Alice Hogan would during the 1980's, plan their weekend around the minor fixtures; they might make the senior match if it did not clash. Max joined the club in 1936 from Bohemians, was junior captain in 1937/38 and served as president in 1964/65. He also served in many other posts in the club but he will be remembered by most in his final role, assistant treasurer, i.e. collecting the subscriptions. He was very involved in the running of the Cork City Regatta and was on the committee for close to 50 years. J.V. and Marie O'Callaghan were also regulars on the sidelines, however one character above all stands out, Billy St John.



Billy St John
Alias Billy Neiland
Wing Commander Neiland
The Doc

Sir William (its reported that Buckingham Palace were most impressed at his rendition of the anthem at recent English internationals in Dublin), Billy St John was once affiliated to another club but saw the light and never looked back. Billy is also a member of the Royal Legion and a proud Corkman. When Shannon won the Senior Cup they sang, "There is an Isle". Not to be outdone, Billy would sing "Beautiful City" as the minors would take home another trophy.

A great man to travel, it was on a trip to Scotland when he was introduced to the flight crew as Wing Commander Neiland, a role that he carried off very well apparently. He continues to be a great servant of the club, every training night he is out, watching the dressing rooms and makes sure "his boys" valuables do not disappear. He was also great with the medical kit and on hearing him being called Doc, more than one new player thought it was a doctor that was giving them medical advice. He claims to have taught Dr Frank Matthews all he knows.!!! In fairness to Frank, he was introduced to the club and asked to be the club doctor for the first season of the A.I.L. and apart from a brief sabbatical has remained as club doctor since.

Billy attended an evening Vigil Mass at Holy Trinity Church, having been earlier at an important AIL game and after having a few harmless pints Billy fell asleep during the priests homily. When the priest finished, with great gusto Billy awoke and shouted, "Up Dolphin, thanks be to God, amen". Needless to say, he was led away in disgrace, by his loyal wife Bina.



Billy, it must be mentioned, is also a founder member of the Thursday club, when himself Ber Murphy, Val Murphy & Benji Kelleher met to discuss rugby over a pint of Beamish served up by Tony or Kay Herbert. This is much to the consternation of Jerry Reardon, who has failed (to date) to convert the boys to Uncle Arthur's best. They are presently recruiting new members, Paul Mitchell is being headhunted, it remains to be seen how long he can continue to refuse to join them.

Paul Mitchell spent many years involved with the Minor's, he progressed to another thankless job, that of team manager for the senior team.

Another man to whom the Club is his life is Dick O'Meara. He was the Minors for many years as Player/ Captain & Coach. He could tell stories for days but his favourite was the Minor trip to Galway in 1976. They had got as far as Dirty Nellies and they had a stop. They met up with a group of American's which tends to happen there and they had a mighty night. The lads introduced him as Coach O'Meara- the Irish National Coach- and they believed it.



*Minor trip to Galway
Coach O'Meara & American friend Judy and Pat Corkery.
In the backround, T.Hodkinson, M.Coleman & M.O'Mahony.*

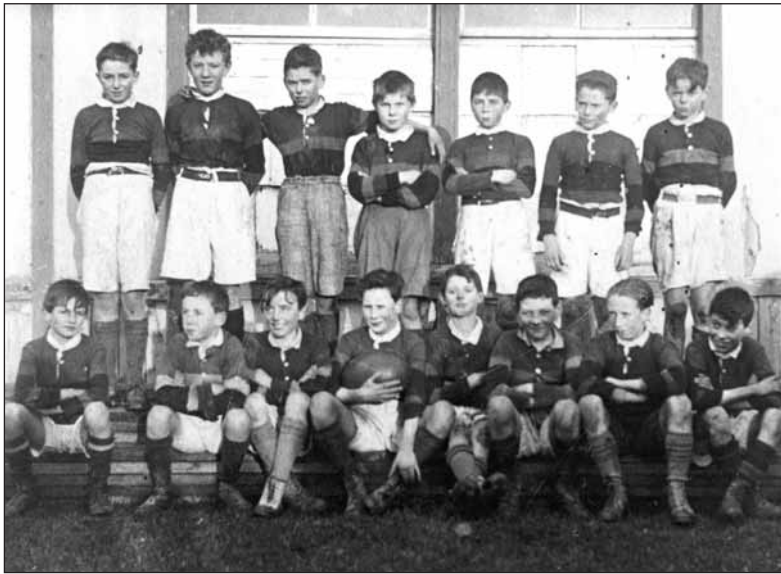
A salute to all involved, a brief summery of the Minors achievements over the past 20 years or so.

	J2 Cup	J2 League	J3 Cup	J3 League	Dennehy
Cup					
1977/78	R/Up	W	-	-	W
1978/79	-	-	-	-	-
1979/80	-	-	-	-	-
1980/81	-	-	-	-	-
1981/82	W	-	-	-	-
1982/83	W	-	W	-	-
1983/84					W
1984/85	-	-	-	-	-
1985/86	W	-	-	-	-
1986/87	-	-	-	W	R/Up
1987/88	W	R/Up	-	-	R/Up
1988/89	-	W	-	-	W
1989/90	W	R/Up	W	R/Up	R/Up
1990/91	-	-	R/Up	-	R/Up
1991/92	-	-	-	R/Up	-
1992/93					
1993/94					
1994/95	-	R/Up	-	-	W
1995/96	R/Up	R/Up	-	Shared	-
1996/97	W	W	W	W	W
1997/98	-	-	-	-	W
1998/99	-	-	-	-	W
1999/00	-	-	-	-	-
2000/01	R/Up	-	-	-	W

CHAPTER 14

The Youth Section

The earliest records available of a Youth Section, was of a game between the Dolphinettes V Magpies at the Mardyke in 1924.



Team

Tom Sutton, Dick Healy, Billy Thornhill, Kevin Mahony (Capt) Charlie O'Connell, Paddy O'Sullivan, Reggie Barry, Barry Recketts, Vincent Curtin, Jim McAuliffe, Joe O'Flynn, Victor Dillon, Tom Magahy, Derry Morrissey, Paddy Galvin.

In 1971/72, J B Murphy was responsible for reforming the Youth Section. He was club vice president and was actively encouraged by Club President, Jim Casey. He started off with a small number of players and was assisted by John Walsh. The numbers grew and over a few short years others including Hugh Mullins, Con

O'Driscoll, J V O'Callaghan & Eamonn McCarthy got involved. At this stage they were running U/10,12,14,16 & 18 teams.

The first Cup winning side was the U/10 in March 1974, winners of the O'Sullivan Cup at the Highfield Mini Festival. Two years later at the same level Young Munster defeated Dolphin 12-8 in the final.



U/10 in March 1974, winners of the O'Sullivan Cup at the Highfield Mini Festival.

There were a number of highlights in the first decade, in March 74 the U/10's victory in the Highfield Mini Festival, the tour by the U 16 & 18's to South Gower, Swansea, in April 1979. The boys enjoyed themselves but probably not as much as the Alocs which included Club President Jim Kiernan, Walter Murphy, Des Smyth, Rob Breatneach, Jim Hodkinson, Eamonn McCarthy, JV O'Callaghan & Con O'Driscoll.



Youths at Cardiff Arms Park.

In 1973 the U/16s qualified for the final of the Sir Patrick Hennessy Trophy but were beaten by Sundays Well by a single point. Five years later the club again reached the final of this competition, again to be defeated, this time 10-3 by Midleton.



1978/79 Wallpaper Distributers Shield

Les Dawson WPD presents Club President Jim Kiernan with the WPD Shield (later renamed the Jim Hodkinson Memorial Shield) a 15-a-side competition for U12's.

Also included - Des Smyth, Jim Hodkinson, J.B.Murphy, J.V.O'Callaghan, Con O'Driscoll, Bob Keegan, Matt Walsh, Rob Breatneach.

April 1980 was a very special time for the Youth Section with the U/16 & 18 Cup double being done in the same week. The U 18's had a 7-6 victory over Highfield, with a penalty from Tony Keegan and a try from Brendan Mills, Highfield kicked two late penalties but Dolphin held out to win, after earlier victories over Highfield B, Tralee and Sundays Well.

A number of the team made the South Munster U/18's that year including Michael McCarthy, Dave O'Flynn, John Harrington & Martin Hanan.



1979/80 South Munster U/18 Cup Winners

Back Row - J.Harrington, D.Sheehan, D.Kelleher, T.Fitzgibbon, B.Mills, D.O'Brien, G.Desmond, M.Smith, M.Hannon.

Front Row - T.Keegan, A.Forde, G.Hodkinson, D.O'Flynn, M.McCarthy (Vice Capt) J.Dillon, J.Spillane, D.Collins, H. Field. Absent - M.Harvey (Capt)

The U/16 game was also a close one with a 9-6 victory over Highfield. Victor Donnelly put up a “garryowen”, two defenders could not clear it and he was up in support to score a try which Pat Cronin converted. Highfield dominated matters for most of the second half and equalised but in the last few minutes a Highfield player went off side and Pat Cronin put over the winning kick.

The team later went on to be the inaugural win the U/18 League two years later, amongst the team were Pat Cronin, Tony O’Callaghan & Barry O’Connor, however they were narrowly defeated in the cup final.

Despite the hard work of Ray Dwyer, Ritchie Casey and later Torlac Hodkinson, Niall Sheehan & Ger Hodkinson the numbers fell and for a few seasons there was just an Under 18 team. Despite this some great players came through, Terry Creamer & Barry O’Mahony played along side Michael Galwey on the first Munster U/18 team in 1984. Fionan Kerrigan was selected on the Munster panel the following year; unfortunately he broke his collarbone the week before the game. In 1986 Fergus Garvey was reserve hooker for the interprovincial series. Other players who came through around this period included Mick Pierce, John & Tim Mulcahy, Victor & Gordon Donnelly.

Over the past 10 years or so as a result of great work from the likes of Caroline O’Shaughnessy, Paul Dorgan, Tony Maloney, Dave O’Regan, Michael O’Halloran, Michael Magner, Liam Baylor, Dave Kirk, Mick Quaid and Jim & Majella Royal. The Youth section continues to flourish and running teams from u/6 to u/18.



1979/80 South Munster U/16 Cup Winners

*Backrow - M.Crowley, J.O'Sullivan, P.Bradley, A.Aucklinglass, B.O'Connor,
A. O'Driscoll, T.O'Callaghan.*

*Middle Row - R. Casey, P.Flynn, D.Fitzgibbon, P.Mortell, J.Ward, A.St.Ledger, V.Donnolly, B.Rohan,
T.O'Halloran, C.McCarthy, P.Cronin, Andy (Groundsman) R.Casey, G.O'Brien.*

*Front Row - B.Keegan, J.V.O'Callaghan, J.Hodkinson, T.Carter, B.O'Connor (Capt) J.Kidney (President)
T.O'Leary, C.O'Driscoll, E.McCarthy, R.O'Dwyer.*

Another man who deserves special mention is Gerry O'Connell, he has always been willing to give a hand out when asked and spent quite few years with the Minors also.



1981/82 U/18 Cup Finalists

*P.Cronin, B.Fuohy, B.O'Connor, V.Donnolly, D.Butler, A.St Ledger, J.O'Callaghan, T.O'Connell.
B.Bradley, R.Casey, B.O'Connor (Capt) J.O'Meara, P.Cooney, T.O'Callaghan.*



April 1979 Alects on Tour- visit to Steel Works

Included are Con O'Driscoll, Jim Kiernan, Walter Murphy, J.V.O'Callaghan, Eamonn McCarthy



April 1979 U/17 v South Gower

*Backrow - P McCarthy, K.Odlum, J.Holland, M.Nagle, D.O'Flynn, G.O'Keefe, J.McLoughlin,
C.O'Mahony, F.Quirke, C.O'Callaghan.*

*Front Row - C.Cremin, T.Fitzgibbon, D.Collins, R.Collins (& friend) D.Smyth, J.Dillon,
M.Field, F.O'Gorman.*

CHAPTER 15

The Under 20's

By Fergus O'Donoghue.

Most people believe U/20 rugby started in Cork in the 1980's, however there was an U/20 Cup in 1947/48, Dolphin were defeated by Cork Constitution 9-6.

When I heard that a club history was being prepared for our centenary, I knew that I had to bring up the story of U/20 rugby in the Club.

It started in the early Eighties, and of course with every good team you need a good leader (or Dictator as it happened) namely one Philip O'Callaghan. Philo had a great captain for the 1982/83 season in Ger Desmond. Philo himself coached the forwards, the backs, was team physio, tactician? Dolphin Rep, Munster Rep, Irish Rep, Readymix Rep, Referee, but most of all a friend to each and everyone of us. Of course we had an ace card up our sleeve, with his lovely wife Anne who kept Philo in order—most of the time anyway.

We had great supporters in Ber & Mary Murphy, Con & Breda O'Driscoll, Eamonn McCarthy, J.V. & Marie O'Callaghan, Max & Alice Hogan, Jerry Reardan and of course Walter Murphy & Dave Barry.

We had the bones of the first successful Dolphin U.18 League Winning team with the likes of Dave (Spooks) Sheehan and Ger Desmond. We received a number of CBC players through the great work of Spooks, Billy (thanks a million Billy) Egan, Peter (Thrifty) Hannon, Dave O'Callaghan and Peter Kiernan. Our most notable recruit was Terence John Kingston, along with 7/8 other CBC players. We also got a few PBC players, Mick Ormond, J.V.'s nephew, Noel (Noddy) Humphries and one Feargus (Froggy) O'Donoghue. Philo then kidnapped a few soccer players, GAA players and people who never played before. What a mixture, what a great mixture, we even got a Cork Minor Footballer, Ian "Foxy" McFarlane, he later gave up football to concentrate on the oval ball.

We had about 30 players, 26 forwards and 4 backs so Philo had a race on the first night of training. It reminded me of a Primary School race, 30 lads lined across the pitch and the first ten across the line would become backs. The scrum half, out half and first centre were all wing forwards so the wings never saw the ball. However we only conceded two tries and had the top try scored in out half Froggy O'Donoghue (open side wing forward) with 19 tries. We also had the top try scoring forward in our No.8 and captain Ger Desmond (poor little wingers)

We lost our first League match to Skibbereen, but it was not noted so much for the loss of the game but more notably for the preparation. We were ready to eat all of West Cork that day, black pudding and all. With ten minutes to go there was no sign of the full back for the day, all of a sudden red cheeked, out of breath and before he could put his gear down and apologise, Philo ate him, chewed him up and spat him out. Philo made him explain to his teammates why he had let them down. In a high pitched voice he told them he had spent all his wages on a Dolphin Jersey and had no money left for the bus. He then had to run all the way out from town to Musser. After that all his teammates were wearing all navy jerseys, which Philo supplied. Philo apologised to the full back and made him wear the Dolphin jersey and also made everyone buy their own jersey for the following match. Philo made every player bring sandwiches to any game we played, for himself and his opposite number. If you brought no food then you did not eat. There is always one, one of the props was found to bring jam sandwiches but used to eat only ham, you can imagine the doing he got when it was found out.



1983/84 Munster U/20 Cup & League Winners

Back Row - P Duggan, B Geary, P Hanon, P McCarthy, D.O'Callaghan (Sel) M Crowley, J.O'Connor, K O'Leary, B.Sheehan (Sel), F.O'Donoghue, K. Woolam, B.O'Connor, E.Barry, K. Corcoran, G.Buckley, A. St.Ledger.
Front Row - T. O'Halloran, T.O'Connell, P.Cronin, J.Walsh (Coach) G. O'Kelly, P.Dineen, F.O'Donoghue, P.O'Callaghan (Coach) T Kingston (Capt) J.O'Rourke (President) P.Twomey, N.Humphries, J.Waterman.

One game stands out from that year; we had to play the cup holders Highfield in the league at Model Farm Road. They had a couple of Schoolboy Internationals, Youth Internationals and Schools Interprovincials, we had seven forwards and Terence, three open side wing forwards and our poor wingers. It was a foregone conclusion, Highfield by 30 points, but every time they got the ball they were hit from all sides by all shapes and sizes. Any penalty we got we tapped and ran straight at their pack, our set pieces were excellent so when we got a scrum on the 22 metre line, our open side (scrum half) popped the ball to another open side (out half) ran at their Munster Schools players, carried the ball, the players and the referee over the line to score the games only try and victory 4-3.

The following year 1983/84 Johnny Walsh came on board to coach the backs. We recruited well, most of the Pres team, Johnny Waterman from Midleton College and the winning under 18 league team including Pat Cronin and Brian O'Connor. No one could touch us that year; we went through the season unbeaten and conceded just a single try. We had the skill to match the previous years spirit, we worked for each other and this great spirit still exists between us all.

Since then there has been teams coached by Torlac Hodkinson, Michael O'Sullivan, John McCarthy, Brian Keating, Peter Kiernan, Feargus O'Donoghue and Ritchie Abbot. I got involved with Peter Kiernan in 1993 and was anchored to the U-20's in Dolphin for seven seasons. It was a great honour to be involved with a great bunch of players from all different backgrounds. That first season we won the 2nd Division through the great work of Peter Kiernan; we had Eddie Knowles, Dan Sheehan, Declan Coppinger and Conor Mahony to name but a few great players that season. Conor Mahony must be one of the best running halves the club have ever had and Eddie Knowles at tight head, what he lacks in inches he more than makes up for in technique and spirit. The following season, Johnny Carroll was captain and we finished joint runners up in the league and pushed UCC all the way in the cup.

In 1995 we were defeated by UCC 11-7 in the semi-final, the find of the season had to be Vince Giltinan's nephew Rory McGrath. Its great to see him playing senior as his potential is being recognised.

It was the same story the following year, beaten in the cup semi-final once again and runners up in the league. It was however a vintage year for characters, Pascal Cronin, Paul Yelverton, Eddie Butts, Brian Curran and Denis Mulcahy to name but a few. But for me Peter Broderick, who, with the others came up through the Youth Section under the care of Barry O'Flynn and Mick Magner, was the complete Dolphin player of the year but a cruel injury cut short a promising career.

For the 1998 season Peter Scott and Kenny Lee came on board with Barry O'Flynn and Mick Magner. Brian Curran who came up through the Youth Section

captained the side. It was the closest we got to emulate the 1983-84 season. What heartache, to be beaten in both the league and cup finals. Eoin Breatneach was one of the most underrated players to come out of the school system, he was a star amongst stars that season while D.J.O'Leary proved to be a great asset that season.

Back to Barry O'Flynn and myself, 1999 was back to being league runners up and beaten semi-finalists, once again defeated by UCC in the last few minutes. What can I say about characters like Kieran Twohig, Pat Dolan, Mick Manning, Peter Cronin, Barry Collins, Alan Hickey and Dave O'Leary.

The 2000 season was to be my last (again) and Ritchie Abbott, Matt Murnal, and Anthony Taylor which saw the following "graduate" to the Juniors and Seniors- Paul Farragher, Larry Buckley, Tom Ryan, Steve Cronin, Pat McCarthy, Pat Horgan, Darren O'Farrell and Big Alan Hickey. The team was captained by Darragh Murphy another great player with senior potential.

To sum up, U/20 rugby has been very good to me as a player and a coach. It has been an honour to work with such good players, each and every one of them, I think anyone who has not had the privilege of coaching at this level has missed out on something special. The understanding of other clubs in releasing players who were unable to field teams of their own must be recognised and on behalf of Dolphin thank you.

Hopefully our Youth Section will continue to prosper and there will be an ongoing supply of talent coming through the ranks.



CHAPTER 16

The Men in the Middle



Capt. Michael Dowling

Without the referees there would be no game, Dolphin has produced many fine referees over the years. The best known was Capt. Michael Dowling; he was widely regarded as the best referee in the game during his 18 game tenure between 1947/56. He was Ireland's first International referee after the Second World War. He also took charge of five Munster Senior Cup finals in 13 years 1942, 1950, 1952/3/4. Dolphin were in three finals during this period and Aidan Archer took charge of another two finals.

W.O'Sullivan was in charge of the Munster Junior Cup final and replay between UCC and Young Munster in 1922. Six years later L.F.Daly was the referee in the 1928 final.

One of the club's founder members Fred Thomas was also a respected referee and was the first Dolphin member to referee a Munster Senior Cup final in 1926. W.G.Twomey's career was cut short by injury so he took up the whistle and took charge of the 1937/38 Munster Senior Cup final. He was a Selector (of referees) for 5 seasons, from 1960/61 to 1964/65. He was a touch judge for the Ireland v France International at Ravenhill in January 1953.



Aidan Archer

Aidan Archer served on the Committee of the South Munster Association of Referees from 1936/37 to 1940/41 and became Chairman from 1941/42 to 1956/57 until the South Munster and North Munster Association's of Referees combined. He became President of the Munster Association of Referees in 1958/59 and served on the Committee until 1966/67. He also acted as a selector for a total of 13 seasons and refereed the 1946 & 47 Munster Senior Cup finals.

Comdt Tom Furlong was another well-respected referee; he officiated at the 1960 Munster Senior Cup final between Shannon and UCC. This was Shannon's first victory in this competition.

Bernard O'Mahony was president of the MAR in 1977/78 having spent the previous two years as a selector.

Joe Kidney was another selector, for five years between 1980/81 and 1984/85.

In recent years the number of former players becoming referees has been low, the only Dolphinman to take charge of an A.I.L. game to date is Ger Desmond.

Club President for 1999/2000 was Barry O'Flynn. He told the clubs supporter's before an AIB League game to leave the touch judge alone. It was his son David who is a member of the Munster Association of Referees.

There have also been Dolphin connections to referees in other codes. Brothers Paddy & Fergus O'Donoghue had a well-known GAA referee in their grandfather. He took charge of the All Ireland final that took place in New York. One of our present crop of referees; Liam Baylor had a grandfather who was an international soccer referee.

CHAPTER 17

Dolphin Ladies

By Anne Reidy

As most members know, I married a man whose religion is Dolphin and it was a certainty that I would be converted to his faith!

My first venture into catering in the club was when Maureen Mahony organised a ladies committee in 1956. We served food from an excuse of a kitchen- one cooker, an old fashioned sink and a basic “dumb waiter” which was pulled by ropes to send the food upstairs!

Nacie Mahony ordered the supplies from Dave Barry of Liptons, which was collected each Saturday morning in Patrick’s St. When the “trolley” acted up, the ladies had to run up concrete steps and in turn, bring the dirty ware down again and finally to wash every item, and store them again under the stairs.

If I were to name all those wonderful ladies who helped over the years – Ger Hodgkinson would have to write another book! Of the original committee, with Maureen Mahony our chairperson, Ann Giltinan, Angela Kiernan, Mida Aherne, and Kay (Crowley) Doyle are still with us, unfortunately some of our wonderful helpers are no longer around but the work of Angela Donnery, Mary Murphy, Enna Hodgkinson, Ita Magner, Ann Love and Freda McClement will always be appreciated.

During these years we “did” the Christmas parties, the lovely confectionary was supplied by the Cork Cake Rooms, (Mrs Aidan Archer) and the Green Door (Mrs Cashel Riordan). Many fund raising events were organised by the Ladies towards the new extension to the Clubhouse and this work was greatly appreciated by the men! We also had Fancy Dress Parties and even held the Annual Dress Dance, ably organised by Clodagh O’Meara.

From the early 60’s Tom Furlong organised the army chefs who came to cook for us, and their efforts made things easier for us, we were happy to “wait” on tables then. When Tom left Cork, Jerry Healy took over and kept us on our toes! In the 70’s we

got a new kitchen and dining-room (now the Bar), we spent many nights as a Committee designing the tables, presses etc. which were a fantastic improvement on what we had previously. The Army chefs had retired by then so we took over the preparing, cooking and serving of the meals.



Dolphin Ladies XV - Date withheld by request.

*Back Row - C Giltinan, J.Ahern, M.Lee, C.O'Neill, M.Hartnett, G.Hickey,
E.Thornhill, M.Tobin, S.Kelleher.*

Front Row - M.Hickey, B. O'Halloran, A.O'Neill, J.Giltinan, A.O'Leary, H.Lane, C.Barry.

During these years we had some superb ladies – from mothers, sisters, daughters and girlfriends and most especially the wives of past presidents who worked tirelessly and willingly. I know other clubs envied our ladies committee and we received many compliments, which Wally Murphy conveyed to us with great pleasure! To this day, whilst the ladies committee no longer functions, most of the “Gals” are still seen around the clubhouse and are great supporters.

CHAPTER 18

Tours & Tourists

The first Club "Tour" outside Munster occurred in 1925/26 when Dolphin played Instonians RFC in Belfast. Unfortunately details are not available of the match.

A tour of Wales was arranged for Easter 1934, arriving on Good Friday was not ideal for not even the hotel bar was open. They passed the weekend pleasantly and on Easter Monday took on the mighty Llanelly (now known as Llanelli) The Welsh side contained 9 Welsh Internationals, whereas Dolphin had just 1 International in their team.



DRFC Llanelly 1934 Jim Fallon, Ivor Jones(Wales) Bertie Daly, Billy Hegarty(President), Ned Heaney, Bertie Deacon and Sidney Mahony.

Llanelly and County Guardian Newspaper had the following report.

Llanelly turned out their strongest possible side on Easter Monday when the Dolphins made their first visit to Sospaville. On the trend of play, the Irishman- a young virile team who are fleet of foot and clever in their conception and execution of the finer phases of the rugby code were decidedly unlucky to be so decisively beaten. At the outset, the visitors took advantage of their opponent's slowness in finding their true form and were leading by eight points to three and had provided the crowd of 5,000 spectators with a most agreeable surprise. Before the game started the prevailing opinion was that the Scarlets would have another runaway match, but the Dolphins soon disillusioned the crowd by not only setting the pace but also calling the tune. They played the five-eight game and this for a while had an upsetting influence upon Llanelly backs. W.Igoe who played as five-eight was a star artist at his job. They showed splendid initiative and enterprise and contributed many sparkling aggressive movements, while when the occasion demanded, they offered uncompromising opposition to Llanelly attacks. As a spectacle the game was almost all that could be desired.



Reception at Neath Council Chambers Welsh Tour 1954

For the record, the Dolphin try scorers were Ted Ryan and Jim Reardon, Noel Mahony converting one try.

One of the Scarlet forwards Ted Merry was taken off injured, 40 years later he visited George Carpenter's Hotel Glenbrook. As he signed the register George introduced himself and explained he played against him back in 1934. He asked his name and what position he played that day, whereby Merry replied that he must have been one of the fellows that knocked him out.

Another snippet related to the Welsh match went as follows.

"In the early hours of Sunday morning the G.W.R. deposited some Irish Dolphins

on our station platform. And pretty lively Dolphins they were too. Llanelli has never been invaded by a more lighthearted set of young sportsmen than these Irishmen proved to be. Yet their merry spirits did not prevent some of the team attending early Mass. Almost immediately after completing their tiring journey from Cork." The Manager of the Cork office of the Great Western received a letter from the manager of the Llanelli station complaining about the conduct of the rugby boys as a hosepipe had gone missing. The hosepipe was left on the train and the Fishguard staff had never returned it.



Llanelli returned to Cork in October 1934, this time with 7 Welsh Internationals, it was a much tighter contest which Llanelli won by 3-0.



Dolphin Selected Team 1933/34 v. Llanelli

*Back Row - T. West (Ref) R. S. Mahony M.L. Powell M. Saurins N. Murphy G.A. McSweeney
Middle Row - J. Sheehan, M.T. Deacon W.K. Igoe E.J. Ryan R. Dunlea W.G. Twomey P. Powell
J. O'Neill R. Driscoll. Front Row - J. V. Rearden C. J. Riordan*

On of the Clubs friendly fixtures in 1935 resulted in a 12- 3 win over a H.M.S. Wescott selection.

Llanelly were guests again in February 1937, they continued with their winning run over Dolphin with a 16-0 score line, this continued the following year with a 13-0 victory.



In 1952, Dolphin took on the might of Pontypool at Pontypool Park on Easter Monday before their biggest crowd of the season. M Doolan put Dolphin ahead with a 40- yard drop goal, however four minutes later Billy Williams scored a converted try and D.Dando scored another to leave Pontypool 10-3 ahead at half time. Two more tries for Pontypool left them well ahead but Dolphin fought back with two tries from J.S.McCarthy (his 20th & 21st of the season) both converted by Norman Coleman who also kicked a penalty leaving Pontypool holding on for a 23-16 victory.

As part of Dolphin's golden jubilee celebrations Newport were visitors to the Mardyke in 1953, a late score gave the visitors victory by 13-8.



*Dolphin v Neath
Neath, 1954*

At Easter 1954 Dolphin undertook another tour to Wales and defeated Neath 18-13. The game was played at a cracking pace throughout and the crowd of 12,000 was treated to a fine exhibition of lively open rugby. Keith Maddocks put Neath ahead with a try but Flor Crowley sent Jim McCarthy in for a try which Norman Coleman converted. Two further tries from Jim McCarthy and Niall McCormack, converted by Norman Coleman, stretched the lead and late in the game John Hewins narrowed the gap with a converted try.

In September 1954, Dolphin played two friendly's against invitation sides. The first being Group Captain Ranji Walkers XV- his selected sides, initiated in 1949 when he brought a team to Swansea for that Clubs 75th Anniversary had gained an enviable reputation for playing fine football. In his first visit to Cork, his selection beat Dolphin 29-11. The Walkers team included two English internationals and Jim Kiernan UCC and P.J.Lawlor of Clontarf. Jim McCarthy scored Dolphin's only try while Norman Coleman got the conversion and a penalty. The second invitation side was the Woodpeckers- a touring side made up of undergraduates at Oxford & Cambridge Universities. Norman Coleman scored a try, two penalties and a conversion, the other try coming from UCC guest J.McGrath in their 16-9 victory.



Welsh Tour 1958 Junior Barry, John Horgan, V.Giltinan.

Tour group outside Mackworth Hotel- Swansea Easter 1958



Newport were visitors to Cork later in October 1954, they deserved their 25-15 victory, all Dolphin's scores came from the boot of Jack Horgan, the former UCC, Cork Constitution and Cheshire County player who was back in Cork on holiday.

The next visit of Group Captain Walker was in September 1955 for the opening of the new Club Pavilion. In September 1957 Dolphin hosted Group Captain Walker's XV once again, only to be defeated 14-6. Another of the highlights of the 1957/58 season was a game between a Dolphin Selection and the Wolfhounds. The

Wolfhounds were only formed in April the previous year and were making their first appearance in Cork. Jerry Healy captained the Dolphin Selection and amongst the seven "guests" were Gordon Wood (father of Keith) and Noel Murphy, former IRFU President. R E Roche was then playing for the club; he had played previously for UCG, Galwegians and Connacht and made four appearances for his country. The game was played at a cracking pace, and finished level at 16 all. Mick English, Dave McCormack (2) scored the Dolphin tries, two of which Norman Coleman converted. The Wolfhounds try scorers were John Dooley, Andy Mulligan & W Burgess.

Dolphin Selection

J Kiernan, R E Roche, J.Walsh,
N.Coleman, D.McCormack,
M.English, J.O'Meara, G.Wood,
D.Barry, V.Giltinan, J.O'Sullivan,
T.Nesdale, J.Healy, T.Kiely, N.Murphy.

In April 1958 Dolphin had a very successful tour to Wales. They beat Ebbw Vale on the Saturday and on the Monday they defeated Llanelli. The Llanelli team contained four international backs, and they had beaten Cardiff the previous week.



Team members and officials of Dolphin R.F.C. pictured before boarding the m.v. Innisfallen for a tour of Wales.

Visitors to Dolphin for the first time in April 1960 were De La Salle College Manchester. They enjoyed their tour and a 17-6 victory. Wales was again the venue for a short tour in 1960, on their third visit to Stradley Park since the war resulted in a 19-9 defeat by Llanelli. Ray Williams opened the scoring, a John Horgan try levelled matters. Dave McCormack landed two long ranged penalty goals but further tries by Williams, Morgan & Gale put the game beyond Dolphin's reach. Also on this tour they took on Neath but were defeated by a try (3 points) to nil.



Dolphin suffered a number of injuries before their fixture v Wolfhounds in September 1960, out were Dave & Nux McCormack and Tony O'Reilly. The Wolfhounds were well worth their 42 -11 winning margin. The away St. Stephen's Day fixtures were always very popular, during the 1930's Bantry was the venue. After the game the players would go back to the hotel to change and have dinner, and head off to Glengarriffe for a dance in the Eccles Hotel. Later, in the 1950's & 1960's Abbeyfeale was a very popular St.Stephen's Day fixture. While it always seemed to be snowing on the way down, there was always a warm welcome when you got there and a good time was guaranteed. During the 70's and early 80's the St.Stephen's day fixture moved to Tipperary against Clanwilliam.

The highlight of 1967 was the club tour to Rome, They won both of their matches (Frascati Roma 16-0) and had an Audience with Pope Paul VI and they presented him with a Chalice.



Tom Furlong, Walter Murphy & Brian Scannel.

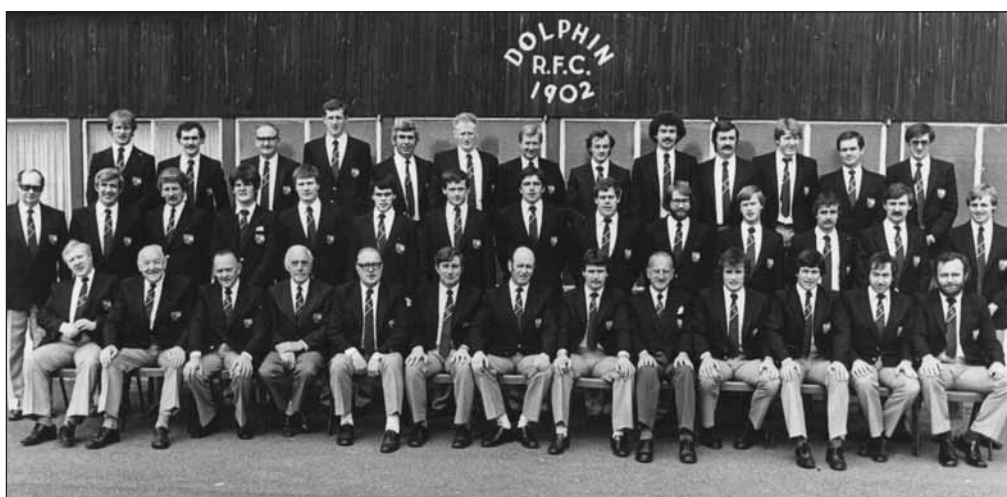


Dolphin Rugby team who beat Frascati Roma by 16-0 in Rome.

The first Club Tour since the 60's took place at the end of the 1979/80 season when an Eight-day tour of Jersey took place.



1979/80 Tour of Jersey



1982 Tour Party to North America

Back Row John McCarthy, M.Magner, J.Stanley, M.Murphy, N.Twomey, Liam McCarthy, B.Cremin, P.Clery, D.Daly, P.McCarthy, P.Christopher, J.Lingwood, K.McCarthy
Middle Row V.Giltinan, T.O'Connell, H.Mullins, E.treacy, M.Scraggs, J.O'Brien, M.Lane, E.Walsh, M.O'Riordan, M.Tyrell, M.Harvey, T.O'Donoghue, O.Kelleher, B.Lynch.
Front Row C.Fitzgerald, J.O'Rourke, D.O'Sullivan, B.Deacon, F.Hetherington, T.Fitzgibbon, J.Riordan, P.Aherne, W.Murphy, M.Kiernan, M.O'Halloran, F.Murphy, M.O'Sullivan.

In 1982 there was a Club Tour to Canada & USA where they were undefeated in their five matches. The first game was against Boston Police; they then went on to beat Montreal Irish 52-0. A 25-3 victory over a strong Quebec Province followed in front of an attendance of 5,000, seven of the side lined out for East of Canada v England

the following week. It was then on to New York with a 25-6 victory over New York Athletic and finally 22-10 over Manhattan in front of a large Irish American audience, including athlete Eamonn Coughlan

Swansea undertook a short tour of Ireland in 1986 but Dolphin scored a well-merited victory over the famous Welsh club. The Swansea tour party enjoyed their trip to Kinsale the previous day accompanied by J.V.O'Callaghan and Eric Treacy and they visited a few local hostelrys sampling some pints of the black stuff organised by Vince Giltinan. They were well recovered by 6.15pm the following evening but faced a Dolphin team with a few guests who put in a marvellous display to win 28-12. The Welsh team contained five full internationals and a B International, Dolphin had just the one full and one B international (six more, Aherne, O'Hara, Collins, Kingston, O'Kelly (U/25) & McCarthy later gained international honours) Dolphin's try scorers were Niall Cashman, Paddy O'Donoghue and Finbarr Kearney while Declan Kidney dropped a goal and Donal Daly kicked three penalties and two conversions.

Dolphin

P Madden, G.O'Kelly, D.Daly (Capt) M.Finn (Cork Con) P.O'Donoghue, D.Kidney, F.Aherne (UCC) M.Scraggs, T.Kingston, P.McCarthy, F.Kearney (S/Well) N.Cashman, A.O'Leary (Cork Con) P.O'Hara, (S/Well) P.Collins (H/field)

Swansea

*R.Blyth, I.Jeffrey, *D.Richards, A.Williams, M.Clement, *T.Clement, A.Williams, S.Foster, P.Hitchings, D.Young, J.Williams, *R.Moriarty, *M.Davis, S.Davis, J.Trotman.

***Internationals**

In April 1989 Dolphin were again hosts to Swansea who were out to seek revenge for the 1986 defeat. They defeated Lansdowne 25-10 in their remaining match of their short Irish Tour and ran the All Blacks 37-22 only four weeks later. Dolphin who had just one guest player, Finbarr Kearney of neighbours Sundays Well, had an excellent first half with tries from Pat Nugent and Terry Kingston, both converted by Michael Kiernan and a Declan Kidney drop goal. It could have been more if the kicks had gone over or if Finbarr Kearney had not been stopped on the line three times or if Dave Hyland was not pulled back for a forward pass. Tom Keogh, Terry Kingston and Paul Crowley were in particular impressive. Swansea improved in the second half but a Chris Bradshaw try and Mark Wyatt penalty and conversion were not enough. Dolphin 15-Swansea 9.

Teams

Dolphin P O'Donoghue, M O'Hanrahan, M Kiernan, D Hyland, J Clarke, D Kidney, D Kelly-Walker, L Lannin, T Kingston (capt) J Mulcahy, T Keogh, T Clarke, P Nugent, F Kearney, P Crowley.

Swansea *M Wyatt, C Bradshaw, A Williams, A Stewart, *M Titley, K Price, A Williams (capt) R Williams, *B James, I Davis, P Arnold, W Pugh, A Reynold, *M Davis, S Davis * Internationals.

The Life and Times of Swansea RFC – The All Whites

A history of the Club, a 455-page book written by David Farmer does not mention either of the matches against Dolphin. It does mention that on their brief Irish Tour they beat Lansdowne.



1993 Canadian Tour Party.

In 1993 Canada was again the venue, another successful tour both on and off the pitch, which included fixtures against Montreal Irish, Chateaguay River Rats, Saracens, and Irish Canadian RFC.



Tour to Plymouth.

When on the subject of tours there is one man that must be mentioned- that is former Club President Liam McCarthy. Liam has been tour manager on virtually every club tour over the past 20 years. He has the respect of all those going on tour and they obey his instructions which has been the basis of all the successful tours the club have undertaken.

In August 2001 West Hartlepool were based in Cork for a pre-season training camp and played Dolphin in a friendly with Dolphin winning 20-5.

APPENDIX 1

Club International's

Full Caps

43	Michael J Kiernan	1982-1991
29	Terence J Kingston	1987-1995
	A.J.F. O'Reilly	1955-1970 * capped also when with Old Belvedere
28	J.S McCarthy	1948-1955
22	John A O'Meara	1951-1958
21	Phil O'Callaghan	1967-1976
20	Charles J Hanrahan	1926-1932
19	Michael J Bradley	1920-1927
17*	Michael F Lane	1947-1953 * won when at UCC
12	B.R. O'Hanlon	1947-1950
	Paddy Lawlor	1951-1956
	Fergus Aherne	1988-1992 * capped also when with Lansdowne
6	David B O'Loughlin	1938-1939
	Maurice P Mortell	1953-1954
5	Gerald Reidy	1953-1954
	Jack Clarke	1991-1992
4	R E Roche	1955-1957 * won when with Galwegians
3	Fred Williamson	1930
	Ted Ryan	1937-1938
2	Henry Wall	1965
1	Jack Mahony	1923

B

3	Jack Clarke	(1990-1991) *Paul McCarthy 1990-91
1	Declan Aherne	(1982)
	Terry Kingston	(1990)
	Michael J Kiernan	(1991)

* Won when with Cork Constitution

U/21

6	Alan Hickey	2000/01	
4	Cian Mahony	1998	
2	Jack Clarke	1989	Pat McCarthy 2000/01
1	Peter Scott	1991	

U/23

1	Jim Crotty	1980
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U/25

3	Terry Kingston	1986-90
2	Jack Clarke	1990
1	Ger O'Kelly	1986

Schoolboy

4	Jack Clarke (Rockwell 1986)	Conor O'Mahony (CBC 1995)
3	Con Cremin (CBC 1980)	Terry Kingston (CBC 1982)
	Denis O'Dowd (Rockwell 1990)	Alan Hickey (CBC 1998)
	Pat McCarthy (CBC 1998-99)	
2	Michael J Kiernan (PBC 1997)	Chris O'Callaghan (CBC 1980)
	Richard Kelleher (CBC 1989)	* Tim O'Connell (PBC 1983)
	Pat Hanlon (CBC 1997)	Keith Murphy (CBC 1995)
1	Peter Madden (CBC 1980)	Mick Quaid (St Munchins 1981)
	David Hyland (PBC 1982)	Conor Twomey (CBC 1988)
	Alan McDonald (CBC 1988)	

*** Captain**

Barry Sheehan (CBC) toured with Irish Schoolboys to New Zealand 1992 but was not capped.

University

9	Jim Crotty	1987-89	
6	Gordon Donnelly	1990-92	Barry O'Neill 1990-92
5	Fergus Aherne	1985-86	
4	David Hyland	1987-88	
3	Declan Aherne 1980-82		Colin Healy 1997-98
	Henry Wall	1959-65	
2	Victor Donnolly	1987-88	John O'Mahony 1997
1	Donal Daly	1980	Hugh Farrelly 1994
	John O'Meara	1956	
	Lenny Twomey	1999	

Youths

2	Brian Kelleher	1996
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Colm McCoitir- Played v Irish Schools B 1990 when with Cobh Pirates.

Students

3	Jack Clarke	1993-95
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APPENDIX 2

Overseas' International Tourists

Fergus Aherne

Ireland	France	1988
Ireland	Canada & USA	1989
Ireland	Namibia	1991
Ireland	New Zealand	1992

Jack Clarke

U/21	Italy	1989
Ireland	Namibia	1991
Ireland	New Zealand	1992

Con Cremin

Schools	Australia	1980
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Hugh Farrelly

Universities	South Africa	1994
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David Hyland

Universities	Japan & South Korea	1987
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Michael Kiernan

Ireland	South Africa	1981
Ireland	Japan	1985
Ireland	Canada & USA	1989
Lions	New Zealand	1983

Terry Kingston

Ireland	Canada & USA	1989
Ireland	Namibia	1991
Ireland	New Zealand	1992
Ireland	Australia	1994

Mick Lane

Ireland	Argentina & Chile	1952
Lions	New Zealand	1950

P J Lawler

Ireland	Argentina & Chile	1952
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Peter Madden

Schools	Australia	1980
---------	-----------	------

J S McCarthy

Ireland	Argentina & Chile	1952
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Chris O'Callaghan

Schools	Australia	1980
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Phil O'Callaghan

Ireland	Australia	1967
Ireland	Argentina	1970
Ireland	New Zealand & Fiji	1976

John O'Mahony

Universities	Australia	1997
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John O'Meara

Ireland	Argentina & Chile	1952
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A J F O'Reilly

Ireland	South Africa	1961
Lions	South Africa	1955
Lions	Australia, New Zealand & Canada	1959

Barry Sheehan

Schools	New Zealand	1992
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BARBARIANS

Michael Kiernan
Terry Kingston
J S McCarthy
Phil O'Callaghan
Bertie O'Hanlon
John O'Meara
A J F O'Reilly

AJF O'Reilly treasures a number of Barbarian records.

Most Caps	30
Most Tries	38
Most Tries in a match	7 v East Africa in the late 50's.

APPENDIX 3

Munster Senior Interpro's

*(Captain)

(Details of any other club they played with when playing at representative level)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • Declan Aherne UCC St Marys Y.Mun | J.Kilpatrick |
| • Fergus Aherne (Lansdowne) | *Terry Kingston (Lansdowne) |
| • Gerald Aherne (Lansdowne) | Mick Lane (UCC) |
| • John Aherne (Lansdowne) | Liam Lannon (Garryowen) |
| • Pat Aherne | Paddy Lawlor |
| • Arthur Allen | Jack Mahony |
| • Niall Barrett (UCC) | Jerry Mahony |
| • Dave Barry Jnr | *Jim McCarthy |
| • W.Barry | Pat McCarthy |
| • Joe Barry | Paul McCarthy (Cork Contitution) |
| • Robin Bolster | Bobby McClement (UCC) |
| • John Bowen | Dave McCormack |
| • Michael Bradley | Niall McCormack (Sale) |
| • Jack Clarke | Aidan McElhinny |
| • C Dillon | P.V.McInerney |
| • Dick Coleman | F.McNicholl |
| • Norman Coleman | Lt. Alf Nicholson |
| • Tom Crean | Gerry Nyhan (Lansdowne) |
| • Jim Crotty (UCC) | Phil O'Callaghan |
| • Donal Daly | J.B.O'Carroll |
| • Bertie Deacon | I.O'Connell |
| • Joe Delany | Bertie O'Hanlon |
| • Dick Dennehy | Ger O'Kelly |
| • Derry Donnery | D O'Loughlin(UCC & Garryowen) |
| • Bob Dowley | *John O'Meara (UCC) |
| • Noel Elliott | John O'Neill |
| • Tony Fitzgibbon | D.O'Sullivan (London Irish) |
| • Frank Forrest | J. O'Sullivan |
| • Vince Giltinan | Tom O'Sullivan |
| • Jack Griffin | W. O'Sullivan |

- *Charlie Hanrahan
- Vivian Harrison
- Alan Hickey
- Pearse Hickey
- Joe Harvey
- John Harvey
- Des Healy
- John Jagoe
- Noel Kavanagh
- F.Kennedy
- Tom Keogh
- Olann Kelleher
- Jim Kiernan (UCC & Cork Con)
- *Michael Kiernan (Lansdowne)

Gerald Reidy
Tom Riordan
J.Roche
M.Rose
Edward Ryan
D.Reynolds
Mick Sheehan
Paddy Sheehan
R.Sheehan
Henry Wall
Eamonn Walsh
Wesley Wellwood
Jim Williams
Fred Williamson (Wanderers)

Munster Junior Interprovincial's

- D.Aherne
- P.Aherne
- G. Barry
- J.Casey
- D.Collins
- D.Corrigan
- D.Daly
- P.Daly (Midleton)
- J.Deane
- W.Dennehy
- A.Fitzgibbon
- D.Fitzgibbon
- M.Forde
- F.Godfrey
- T.Gregory
- M.Hackett
- J Hodgins
- G.Jagoe
- O.Kelleher
- R.F.Kennedy
- M.Kiernan
- J.King
- J.Lane
- L.Lannan (Cappoquin)

- M.Lawton
- J.Lombard
- B.McNeeley
- F.McNicholl
- P.Mahony
- T.Murphy
- R.O'Brien
- I.O'Connell
- M.O'Halloran
- C.Reardon
- J.Reynolds
- G.Riordan
- J.Rolf
- G.Savage
- J.Sheehan
- S.Smith
- J.Williams

Once the series started in 1912 there was only 1 game v Leinster each season- this was until 1970/71, Connacht & Ulster became involved but from 1979/80 only Junior Club players were selected.

APPENDIX 4

Presidents & Selectors

President's I.R.F.U.

1955/56	C.J. Hanrahan		
1973/74	I. F. Mahony	1919/21	L.F.Daly
1983/84	G.F. Reidy	1926/27 & 28/29	John Bowen

President's Munster Branch

1925/26	W.J.Hegarty
1933/34	R.J.Coleman
1940/41	L.F.Daly
1947/48	I.F.Mahony
1954/55	W.G.Twomey
1965/66	D. McCormack
1975/76	G.F.Reidy
1985/86	D.V.Giltinan
1997/98	B.McCarthy

Hon Sec. Munster Branch

Lions Selectors

1957	Dave Barry
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Ireland Selectors

1942/49	C.J.Hanrahan
1949/51 & 1954/56	D.B.O'Loughlin
1957/58/59	Dave Barry
1984/87	Jim Kiernan

Munster Selectors

1919/27	L.F.Daly
1928/37	M.J.Bradley
1938/42 & 43/49	C.J.Hanrahan
1949/51 & 53/57	Dave O'Loughlin
1951/60	Dave Barry
1971/73 & 81/87	Jim Kiernan
1976/81	Vince Giltinan
1988/93	Olan Kelleher

APPENDIX 5

Competition Victories

Munster Senior Cup	(6)
1920/21, 1930/31, 1943/44, 1944/45, 1947/48, 1955/56.	
Munster Junior Cup	(4)
1912/13, 1922/23, 1925/26, 1943/44.	
Munster Junior Plate	(1)
1984/85.	
Munster Senior League	(10)
1923/24, 1925/26, 1928/29, 1943/44, 1948/49, 1954/55, 1955/56, 1972/73, 1975/76 1990/1991.	
Cork Junior League	(8)
1909/1910, 1922/23, 1931/32, 1939/40, 1943/44, 1969/70, 1971/72, 1973/74.	
Musgrave Cup	(2)
1947/48, 1948/49	
Dave Barry Cup	(8)
1985/86, 1987/88, 1988/89, 1989/90, 1993/94, 1994/95, 1995/96, 2001/02.	
Charity Cup- Walker Charity Cup	(19)
1919/20, 1924/25, 1928/29, 1940/41, 1946/47, 1948/49, 1951/52, 1954/55, 1955/56 1956/57, 1957/58, 1960/61, 1963/64, 1972/73, 1975/76, 1976/77, 1989/90, 2001/02	
Dennehy Cup	(8)
1977/78, 1983/84, 1988/89, 1994/95, 1996/97, 1997/98, 1998/99, 2000/01.	
Minor A Cup- Tramway Cup	(12)
1921/22, 1922/23, 1943/44, 1955/56, 1965/66, 1975/76, 1981/82, 1982/83, 1985/86, 1987/88, 1989/90, 1996/97.	

Minor B Cup	(3)
1982/83,1989/90,1996/97,	
Minor A League	(6)
1931/32,1943/44, 1944/45,1977/78,1988/89,1996/97	
Minor B League	(5)
1986/87,1988/89, 1994/95,1995/96 (shared),1996/97	
Dr O'Mahony Cup (Abbeyfeale)	(2)
1974/75,1975/76.	
Munster U/20 Cup	(1)
1983/84.	
U/20 League Munster & South Munster	(1)
1983/84	
Quaid Cup	(1)
1995/96	
Dooradoyle Cup	(1)
1967/68	
Pfizers 7 a side	(1)
1978/79	

APPENDIX 6

Player's of the Year.

	Senior	Junior	Minor
1985/86	Paul McCarthy	Tom O'Halloran	John Clery
1986/87	Declan Kidney	Pat Cronin	Paul Crowley
1987/88	Kevin O'Donovan	Paul Crowley	Jeremy Murphy
1988/89	Tom Keogh	Jeremy Murphy	Ray Elwood
1989/90	Liam Lannon	Barry Cooney	Joe Leonard
1990/91	Tony Taylor	Mick Pierce	Conor Smyth
1991/92	Paddy O'Donoghue	Kevin Corcoran	Kevin Cashman
1992/93	Mick Quaid	John Waterman	Michael Murphy
1993/94	John Waterman	Kevin Cashman	Paudie O'Connor
1994/95	Mick Ormond	Conor Smith	David Casey
1995/96	Mick O'Shea	Conor Smith	Derry McCarthy
1996/97	Conor Mahony	Rory McGrath	Pat Cronin
1997/98	Eddie Knowles	Eoin Breatneach	Brian Curran
1999/00	Donnacha Murphy	Jeremy Walsh	Paul Yelverton
2000/01	John O'Mahony	Dave O'Leary	Pascal Cronin
2001/02	Dixie Whelan	Philip O'Sullivan	Paul McCarthy

**Nacie Mahony Perpetual Trophy
Clubman of the Year.**

1987/88	Michael O'Mahony
1988/89	Phil O'Callaghan
1989/90	Kieran Tobin
1990/91	Donal Daly
1991/92	Pat Aherne
1992/93	Jim Casey
1993/94	Tom Keogh
1994/95	Max Hogan
1995/96	Paul Mitchell
1996/97	Noel Hickey
1997/98	Fergus O'Donoghue
1999/00	Eamonn McCarthy
2000/01	Alan Miller
2001/02	Derry O'Shaughnessy

**John Henchy & Sons
U/20 Player of the Year**

Andrew Nolan
David Ellis
David Hayes
Ronan O'Mahony
John Carroll
Rory McGrath
Peter Broderick
Eoin Breatneach
Peter Cronin
Steven Cronin
Roger Bevan
Mick McGowan

APPENDIX 7

Past Presidents

	Past Presidents	Past Captain's
1902-03	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1903-04	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1904-05	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1905-06	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1906-07	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1907-08	W.J. Hegarty	Not Recorded
1908-09	W.J.Hegarty	F.Thomas
1909-10	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1910-11	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1911-12	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1912-13	W.J.Hegraty	T.Murphy
1913-14	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1914-15	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1915-16	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1916-17	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1917-18	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1918-19	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1919-20	W.J.Hegarty	P.J.Murphy
1920-21	W.J.Hegarty	R.J.Coleman
1921-22	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1922-23	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1923-24	W.J.Hegarty	T O'Sullivan
1924-25	W.J.Hegarty	C.J.Hanrahan
1925-26	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1926-27	W.J.Hegarty	T.Gregory

1927-28	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1928-29	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1929-30	W.J.Hegarty	Not Recorded
1930-31	W.J. Hegarty	T.F.Crean
1931-32	W.J.Hegarty	T.F.Crean
1932-33	W.J.Hegarty	T.A.Riordan
1933-34	W.J.Hegarty	T.A.Riordan
1934-35	W.J.Hegarty	E.G.Ryan
1935-36	W J Hegarty	E.G.Ryan
1936-37	W J Hegarty	R.S.Mahony
1937-38	L.F.Daly	I.F.Mahony
1938-39	L F Daly	I F Mahony
1939-40	L.F.Daly	B.Deacon
1940-41	H.Golden	R.McClement
1941-42	H.Golden	R.McClement
1942-43	H.Golden	R.McClement
1943-44	P.J.Collins	J Williams
1944-45	P.J.Collins	R Bolster
1945-46	P.J.Collins	D Dennehy
1946-47	P.J.Collins	R P O'Leary
1947-48	P.J.Collins	R P O'Leary
1948-49	P.J.Collins	B.O'Hanlon
1949-50	P.J.Collins	R.Murphy
1950-51	P.J.Collins	J.S.McCarthy
1951-52	P.J.Collins	J.S.McCarthy
1952-53	P.J.Collins	D.Donnery
1953-54	J. Fallon	N Coleman
1954-55	A. Archer	V Giltinan
1955-56	I F Mahony	J O'Meara
1956-57	W Bowers	M Sullivan
1957-58	R J Coleman	T Furlong
1958-59	Cmdt. T Furlong	J.O'Sullivan
1959-60	W G Twomey	D McCormack
1960-61	C.J.Reardon	V.Harrison
1961-62	S.G.McGrath	J.A.Kiernan
1962-63	D Barry	M.Rose
1963-64	H.T.Deacon	H.Wall
1964-65	M.J.Horgan	H.Wall
1965-66	W.J.McIntyre	J.Walsh
1966-67	W.K.Magner	N.Kavanagh
1967-68	G.F.Reidy	N.Kavanagh
1968-69	D.V.Giltinan	F.Harrington
1969-70	D.Barry	A.Fizgibbon

1970-71	J.G.Dorgan	P.O'Callaghan
1971-72	J.V.Casey	P.O'Callaghan
1972-73	J.B.Murphy	J.N.Elliott
1973-74	R.J.Coleman	B.Corrigan
1974-75	G.M.Aherne	N.Hickey
1975-76	A.McSweeney	J.N.Elliott
1976-77	J.A.O'Meara	P.O'Mahony
1977-78	N.Coleman	O.Healy
1978-79	J.A.Kiernan	O.Kelleher
1979-80	M.J.Kidney	A.Hickey
1980-81	A.Fitzgibbon	M.O'Halloran
1981-82	G.Reardon	P.Aherne
1982-83	C.O'Driscoll	J.McCarthy
1983-84	J.F.O'Rourke	P.Aherne
1984-85	F.Hetherington	M.O'Sullivan
1985-86	L.McCarthy	D.Daly
1986-87	K.P.Tobin	P.O'Donoghue
1987-88	W.R.Ellis	T.Nolan
1988-89	J.K.Stringer	T.Kingston
1989-90	J.F.O'Shaughnessy	T.Kingston
1990-91	T.M.Deering	T.Keogh
1991-92	C.M.Fitzgerald	M.J.Kiernan
1992-93	J.N.Elliott	T.Keogh
1993-94	M.O'Mahony	S.Holden
1994-95	B.McCarthy	B.O'Neill
1995-96	R.Moore	B.O'Neill
1996-97	J.V.O'Callaghan	P.Scott
1997-98	H. Mullins	P.Scott
1998-99	M.Tyrrell	T.O'Connell
1999-00	V.Murphy	B.Sheehan
2000-01	W.F.O'Flynn	B.Sheehan
2001-02	P.Clery	E.Knowles
2002-03	G.F.Reidy	D.Pomeroy

APPENDIX 8

Insurance Corporation/ AIB League Results

1990/91

Did not qualify

(Dolphins score is
always first)**1991/92****Division 2**

Blackrock (a)	12-11
Terenure (h)	10-06
Dungannon (h)	03-13
Bangor (a)	16-18
Greystones (h)	09-20
Malone (a)	12-21
Sundays Well (h)	13-10
CIYMS (a)	54-09
Wanderers (h)	20-06

1992/93**Division 2**

Blackrock (h)	14-08
Terenure (a)	12-16
Instonians (a)	10-22
Bangor (h)	15-11
Old Crescent(a)	12-09
Clontarf (h)	15-09
Lansdowne (a)	24-28
Galwegians (h)	21-08
Wanderers (h)	10-12

1993/94**Division 2**

Old Belvedere (h)	14-15
Sundays Well (a)	11-16
Instonians (h)	11-17
Bangor (a)	15-20
Galwegians (h)	13-09
Terenure (a)	09-14
Old Crescent (h)	15-12
Malone (a)	12-06
Ballymena (h)	16-29
Ballina (a)	23-06

1994/95**Division 2**

Greystones (a)	09-21
Terenure (h)	12-18
Old Crescent (a)	11-19
Malone (h)	03-06
Bangor (h)	26-17
UCD (a)	06-03
Ballymena (h)	03-27
Bective (a)	17-17
Wanderers (h)	05-09
Old Belvedere (a)	10-07

1995/96**Division 2**

Old Crescent (h)	00-25
Greystones (h)	12-25
Sundays Well (h)	20-44
Bective (a)	08-16
Dungannon (h)	07-10
Malone (a)	24-29
Clontarf (a)	24-27
NIFC (h)	35-18
Terenure (a)	19-34
Wanderers (a)	16-17

1996/97**Division 2**

Wanderers (h)	22-22
DLSP (a)	24-14
Derry (h)	32-19
Sundays Well (a)	38-29

1997/98**Division 1**

Ballymena (a)	16-45
Garryowen (h)	25-24
Young Munster (h)	15-31
Old Belvedere (a)	23-15

1998/1999**Division 2**

Skerries (a)	15-18
Old Crescent (h)	09-24
Old Wesley (h)	06-05
Greystones (a)	06-11

Bective (h)	08-19	Blackrock (h)	13-13	Wanderers (h)	23-25
UCC (a)	20-19	Terenure (a)	10-23	Portadown (a)	07-18
Highfield(h)	24-06	Dungannon (h)	18-10	DLSP (h)	06-06
NIFC (a)	16-12	Old Crescent (a)	06-24	Ballynahinch (a)	12-06
Skerries (h)	23-17	Clontarf (h)	21-46	Sundays Well (h)	26-06
Monkstown (a)	08-16	Shannon (a)	03-30	Bective (a)	16-19
Clontarf (a)	17-36	Cork Con (h)	29-35	Dungannon (h)	23-31
Greystones (h)	33-12	St Mary's (a)	32-36	Old Belvedere (h)	08-05
Malone (a)	29-15	Lansdowne (h)	13-13	Derry (a)	09-43
				Malone (h)	23-25
				UCC (a)	29-14

1999/2000 Division 2

Bective (h)	16-13
Blackrock (a)	06-30
Derry (h)	15-20
Malone (a)	18-20
UCD (h)	21-22
Old Crescent (a)	09-19
Old Belvedere (h)	13-18
B.Harlequins (a)	26-29
UCC (h)	29-14
Portadown (h)	35-21
Wanderers (a)	39-37
Greystones (h)	32-41
Galwegians (a)	24-16
Sundays Well (a)	17-21

2000/01 Division 2

Derry (h)	37-29
Wanderers (a)	08-32
Midleton (h)	17-25
UCD (a)	12-34
Old Belvedere (a)	26-32
Bective (h)	19-28
Carlow (h)	13-17
Ballynahinch (a)	24-24
Malone (h)	42-17
UCC (a)	12-06
Greystones (h)	61-22
Old Wesley (a)	25-10
UL/Bohs (h)	12-28
Sundays Well (a)	14-22
Portadown (h)	31-10

2001/02 Division 2

Midleton (a)	15-06
Old Crescent (h)	22-28
Derry (a)	13-29
Wanderers (h)	12-05
Old Belvedere (h)	25-43
Bective (a)	19-15
Harlequins (a)	21-24
Ballynahinch (h)	13-17
Malone (a)	12-19
UCC (h)	12-23
Thomand (a)	10-27
Barnhall (h)	09-30
UL Bohs (a)	11-22
Sunday's Well (h)	21-18
Portadown (a)	27-32

Player Statistics for AIB League 1991/92 to 2001/02

Top Try Scores

13. Barry O'Neill
12. Conor Mahony
9. Barry Sheehan
- Jack Clarke
8. Colm McCoiter
- Denis O'Dowd
- Hugh Farrelly

Top Points Scorers

732	John O'Mahony	6T. 66 Cons. 182 Pens. 8Dg.
265	Conor Mahony	12T. 26 Cons. 51 Pens
125	Michael Kiernan	1T. 12 Cons. 29 Pens. 3Dg
94	Brendan Keary	6T. 8 Cons. 16 Pens.

Most tries in a game

4. Peter Scott v CIYMS 1991/92.

APPENDIX 9

Dolphin Once Again

J.B.Murphy

(Air of the Irish Rover)

In the year of our Lord 1902,
We set up in the sweet port of Cork.
We togged out in a Pub
And became a Football Club
And played rugby from here to New York.

We had Philo, Mick Kiernan, Jack and Terry Kingston too.
The boys who died for Ireland sober.
When you stand in the crowd
You cannot but feel proud
Were not the last of the Dolphin Rovers.

CHORUS

(Air of A Nation Once Again)

We are Dolphin once again,
We are Dolphin once again
There is no day we are not proud to say
That we are Dolphin once again.

REPEAT CHORUS

Kevin O'Regan, Club Player.

"Some things I keep
close to my heart"

AIB League Pure Rugby

Be with AIB.

