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## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It is a great honour for me to serve as President of what I believe is the finest Cricket Club in the country, for the year 2002. In that capacity, I extend a hearty Clontarf welcome to all visiting players and supporters to Castle Avenue during the season.

We are proud of our reputation as one of Ireland's premier International cricket venues for almost forty years now and we take great pleasure in staging major fixtures on behalf of the Irish Cricket Union. Ireland's most important opponents in 2002 are Nottinghamshire, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Round of the C & G Trophy and we are delighted to have been asked to host this fixture. On this note, a special word of thanks is due to Karl McDermott for his magnificent work in maintaining our ground to the highest standard.

In keeping with our longstanding commitment to the development of young cricketers, this year sees the establishment of the Clontarf Cricket Academy, under the expert eye of Derek Vincent. Eight of our most promising youngsters have been chosen for intensive coaching on a continuing basis throughout the season with a view to fast-tracking them on to the highest level. In addition, over 200 young cricketers will participate in our Friday evening sessions, supervised by Thinus Fourie and his team of coaches.

Apart from the introduction of the Academy, 2002 brings in a number of major developments within the Club, with a revamping of our administrative structures and a rationalisation of bar facilities. In addition, our Club website is now up and running at <http://www.clontarfcricquet.com>. I am most grateful to all those members who are helping to implement these initiatives.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to our many sponsors and advertisers, without whom this Club brochure would not be possible and I hope that they will benefit from the ongoing support of our members and their friends.

Finally, I wish all our team captains and their players every success this season. To all our members, especially the Club Officers and Committee personnel, my heartfelt thanks for your continuing help and commitment to Clontarf Cricket Club.

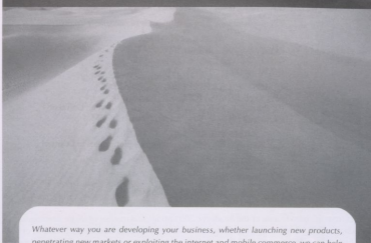
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## Great Expectations!

Clontarf Cricket Club has always recognised that the future of the club, and Irish cricket, lies with the youth. With this in mind the committee decided last year to back a proposal to set up within the club an academy for promising youngsters. The article reproduced below explains the hopes and expectation of the venture.

### *Clontarf's academy aims to realise young potential*

If Ireland is ever going to really take her place among the leading sporting nations of the world, the emphasis must be on the identification, encouragement and promotion of young talent.

Leod knows how many potential sporting stars are growing up in the disadvantaged areas of our cities and larger towns, whose talents cannot be identified. Other countries have long recognised the necessity and the rewards of giving sporting youth its chance. The Australian Institute of Sport is just one example, and it is hardly an accident that Australia ranks among the world's greatest sporting nations.

Clontarf Cricket Club is not located in a disadvantaged area. But the club, like others in Leinster, does all it can to attract girls and boys from its hinterland, and on certain week nights several hundred youngsters turn up to learn the rudiments of cricket.

This season the club has gone a step further by establishing a Cricket Academy for some of its promising younger players. Keith Lewis, long-serving Clontarf stalwart as player and administrator, admits the initial idea was his, but emphasises that he has nothing to do with the running of the academy.

Clontarf, in company with many another cricket club, does impressively well at youth and schoolboy levels; the club has won an enormous number of trophies over the years, and the same goes for Leinster schoolboy sides. But after that comes a falling off and the playing careers of many youngsters seem to decline.

Says Lewis: "I was having a drink with one of the parents at the end of last season and he said to me 'what are you doing for my son?' And I said back to him 'What's your son going to do for us?' and from that exchange was born the notion of some sort of an academy.

"I bounced the idea off Deryck Vincent and he decided this was the answer, and he fundamentally took the concept on," adds Lewis.

Former international cricketer Vincent is now the director of the academy. Brian Nolan is the fitness adviser and Thinus Fourie, Clontarf's South African

professional, is coach to the academy as well as to the club.

Vincent wrote to eight young cricketers aged in their mid-to-late teens to outline the concept and aims of the academy and to ask them if they were willing to give the necessary commitment. The eight youngsters now involved are Conor D'Arcy, Richie Reid, Bill Coghlan, Eoghan Ryan, Chris Cahill, Shane Finnegan, Ross Maybury and James Flynn, some of whom have already played on the Clontarf first XI this season.

Vincent also arranged a meeting with the parents to outline the academy's aims and, hardly surprisingly, the response has been positive. The eight chosen was just a random figure, which could change in the future.

The academy is based on five principles, the first four of which are: technical, physical, practical and mental. To these Vincent added a fifth—that the chosen eight must be prepared to put something back into the club.

The academy began at Easter when the members were assessed under the five principles and their cricketing skills were examined.

Then a program was laid out for each individual which is assessed on a weekly basis. Fourie played a key part in the new initiative; when he was home in Pretoria last winter he went to his local academy and was given invaluable advice by its director.

In the past few weeks Fourie's father Peter, himself a sports psychologist, visited Dublin, met all the academy members and gave them a day on a program entitled "My Best Self", which sets mental goals and deals with mental preparation.

So far the Clontarf Academy doesn't have a sponsor, though such a backer would be useful.

"The main purpose is to give these kids the chance to do their best, to push them a bit quicker and to get them into the first XI and to encourage them to reach their optimum," says Lewis. "The concept is good for Clontarf and is good for the youngsters, and Deryck Vincent is very happy with their attitude overall."

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# Lewis Patrick Hughes

*"The Podger"*

Still to be seen at Castle Avenue, Podge made an enormous contribution not just to Clontarf Cricket Club but to Irish cricket in all aspects of the game.

Today Podge will normally be seen cutting hedges or looking after neighbour's gardens. Never a great spectator he can occasionally be persuaded to watch and have a quiet beer.

At this stage his great fund of knowledge is made available for any who care to listen. A shrewd judge he will immediately identify strengths and weaknesses of players on both sides. Not given to either praise or condemn quickly Podge has a very positive view of the modern game and its players.

In a lengthy career spanning 1959-1987 Podge played for Clontarf, Dublin University, Malahide, the Leinster Interprovincial teams and Ireland. His full career figures are set out below and give some idea of what a great player he was for nigh on 30 years.

To have played with this man was a rare privilege and it still is to be in his company for a few "jars". Never one to bother much about caps, medals or statistics he gave his all on every occasion.

The bare figures give little indication of the man. Memories flood in, Podge bowling very fast taking bagfuls of wickets, throwing from the outfield hard low and flat—no "one for the throw" here—and batting like an express train with the ball scudding to the far flung distant parts of the field.

To the writer's knowledge Podge took two hat-tricks.



*Podge's last innings for Clontarf v Phoenix September 1987*

The first he does not discuss too often as all three were low (Malahide v Watsonians) and his uncle Louis was the umpire.

The second was on tour when a strong Cheadle Hulme XI were well beaten? by a rampant Clontarf side. In truth they were conned but that's another story. Suffice to say in 1980 against a strong batting line-up Podge turned back the clock and at 1960s pace took out batsmen 1, 4 and 5 including two pro-players clean bowled before they had even started to bring the bat down. He was not best pleased when his skipper said at the end of the over "well bowled Podge, great spell, take a little break, thanks". Laws of decency, libel and slander make it impossible to print

his reply!!

In all the years Podge played in Clontarf as well as his on field activities, which were immense, he also devoted his school holidays to all kinds of voluntary work about the club. Coach to many players, bar manager, but most of all ground curator, his contribution has been and still is a measure of the man. His work ethic has shone in all he does, whether bowling, batting, fielding, mowing (not a comment on his batting), rolling, hedge cutting, coaching or whatever.

The debt Clontarf owe Podge can never be repaid nor does Podge wish repayment. All has been done and continues to be done for love of a fine game and a grand club.

In short a "Horse of a Man".

## L. P. Hughes Career 1959-1987

	Batting					Bowling							
	M	I	NO	Most	Runs	Av.	100s	50s	W	R	Av.	5 WI	C
<b>Irish Stats</b>	13	21	6	35	159	10.60	-	-	15	763	50.86	-	11
<b>Interpro Stats</b>	25	15	3	47	111	9.25	-	-	56	732	13.07	3	8
<b>Clontarf</b>	370	286	41	103	3890	15.87	1	9	600	9567	15.94	25	75
<b>Dublin University</b>													
<b>1962-1963</b>	20	10	4	51*	76	12.66	-	1	42	404	9.61	3	5
<b>Malahide</b>													
<b>1963-1968</b>	88	70	7	86*	1008	16.00	-	3	244	2834	11.61	15	20

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## The gift of cricket

Some years ago I saw mention of the service for sportsmen and women held annually in St. Anne's Church in Dawson Street. After the usual details were given I noticed that a well-known sportsman had been asked to deliver the address and that he had chosen the topic of "The Gift of Sport". It seemed a strange title to me as I thought of the word gift as something handed over physically at a particular time to honour a particular occasion.

In the same way that we recall arcane matters, incidents, trivia, snubs and being given out LBW when the game was well and truly lost, this unusual juxtaposition of words remained with me to be explained. I arrived in the beautiful Hawke's Bay area of New Zealand in June 2001 determined to bury some old habits and ways of thinking. With the minimum of fuss I failed miserably at the first hurdle and followed my old practice of nipping down to the nearest test ground and gaping at another field of dreams. In this case the field of dreams was more redolent of Colin Meads, Kel Tremain and Mike Gibson though test cricket has been played at the council owned ground at McLean Park, Napier. All but one of New Zealand's test grounds are better known as rugby grounds and this manifests itself unremarkably in their appearances. Thankfully a new, fully dedicated cricket ground

opened last year in Hamilton, and staged its first test match, while the old lady at the Basin Reserve, Wellington, grows in character as she ages, creaks in spots, is beset by the worst scoreboard on the planet but reeks of cricket like new mown grass and linseed oil and is the silent repository of great deeds and great games. After my visit to McLean Park a phone call confirmed a one-day international against England for the 20th of February 2002 so plans were made, tickets acquired and a day off school was announced.

New Zealand is full of weather and, being a primary producer of everything from forestry products through dairy and beef cattle to orchards and vineyards the national (and regional) weather forecast is not simply of social concern but has important commercial ramifications as well. Thus forewarned we fronted up on a cold, blustery day with the southerlies, still cold, expiring after a long journey from the Antarctic. I had been warned that no alcohol would be allowed into the ground but presumed that this applied to the younger element

and particularly those youths more psychologically attuned to the more crass vulgarity of the Stretford End, The Kop or the home corrals of any premiership soccer team. No amount of persuasion would deter the security staff from separating me from some acceptable plonk so at 0-3 a hole had been dug that needed repairing quickly. We were 12 in all, men, women and children, with good stand tickets, so we took up our seats, hunkered down,

opened the food, spread ourselves out, sent a scout for beer and surveyed the scene. Both teams were practicing in front of us with Vaughan and Thorpe looking very much in touch for England and Astle and Vincent looking in good nick for New Zealand. There was a lot of activity on and around the pitch as the curator defended his hours of labour and Ian Botham and Martin Crowe discussed, for TV audiences, the pitch, the weather, the toss and their likely effect on the game. A real hum had developed with the locals, quiet and friendly as ever, creaking under picnic baskets, the oppositions barny army barny as ever and the numerous corporate guests winned, dined and addressed by Botham prepared to give it a good and prolonged lash (a form of behaviour unknown in either Clontarf C.C./F.C.!!). An Irish accent is a

novelty here so I was soon in conversation with those in the vicinity. I remember being very disappointed at the lack of in-depth knowledge and appreciation of the game at many of the Australian grounds but here it was very different. Whilst many were in from the locality there were people down from Poverty Bay, the Bay of Plenty, in from Waikato and the Manawatu, a whole section from Central Hawke's Bay and others up from the Wairarapa and Wellington. Dotted among them were quiet, self effacing people conspicuous in, and uncomfortable with, brand new tee shirts and creased shorts, cups of tea in hand and Wisdens being perused; shiresmen and women devoted to English cricket, possibly even to England, deeply knowledgeable as I discovered and patiently waiting for the preliminaries to be completed and the umpires to call play. The coin was flicked close by and Stephen Fleming asked Nasser Hussain if he would like to bat. The 5-minute bell rang, the crowd began to settle down and the umpires came out to quiet applause. As flesh piles on, the code of dress is kinder to umpires than to referees but



*The author, J. B. Burroughs, a man with a rare gift and well he used it*

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they're only players diminished in limb, the obsession as strong as ever. The English openers came out to generous applause and a full panoply of Union Jacks while Darryl Tuffy and Chris Cairns marked their run ups. I looked around before the first ball was bowled just to get my bearings when it suddenly struck me that I was bang in the middle of "the gift of sport", "the gift of cricket" in particular, and had been there for so long that I had never realised what it was and had never doubted it's continuance. Communion, surely, as valid as any other. Tuffy bowled to Knight who looked immediately comfortable as did we when our first supply of beer and wine arrived. Expectant children came in from school, accompanied by harassed parents in business suits. A young woman sidled by so beautiful she should have had a police escort. The middle-aged men took note whilst the women

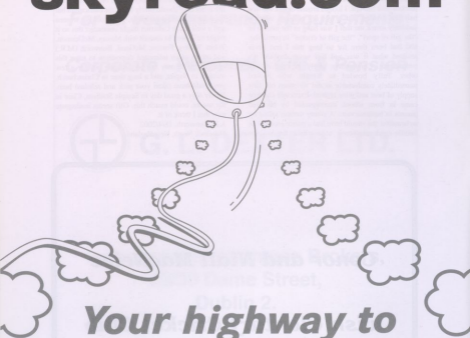
nodded at the sheer predictability of the response. Ben Bunworth (nearly 11 years) leant over to me and whispered conspiratorially, "Not bad, dad", "Chip off the old block", sez I, "Chip off the old block". That life is not easy should surely be on the curriculum but then cricket, com-panionship, good looking women and a well made Cabernet might contradict this so it might be as well to consult with Messrs. McDermott, Tobin, Tuffery, Forrest, McGreal, Bunworth (M.R.) and others of an interested disposition to tease this one out. Astle may not be Aristotle but for a few minutes in Napier, and a long time in Christchurch, you could have taken your pick and relished both. Surely only a good day in Semple Stadium, Clare in the ascent, could match this. Gift seems inadequate now that I think of it.

J. B. Bunworth, 18/4/2002  
Havelock North, New Zealand.

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## '1876 and All That'

Cricket – Cryce, Sax, a stick — *Dr Johnson's Dictionary*.

'Never let the truth interfere with a good yam.' — *Axom*.

'The earliest evidence of the game of cricket is from a drawing depicting two men playing with a bat and ball dated c.1250. The game was played in Guildford, Surrey as early as 1598. The earliest major match of which the score survives is the Kent v. England match of 1744 at the Artillery Ground in London.'

— *The Guinness Book of Records*

### 1876 in Perspective

Clontarf Cricket Club was founded in 1876. Otherwise it wasn't much of a year! The USA celebrated the first 100 years of its existence and the pint was less than 1p, or – if you prefer – a fraction more than a cent in Euro terms! It was a quiet sort of summer enlivened by George Armstrong Custer, who on 25 June virtually threw away the Western League to Crazy Horse, who caught him on a drying wicket at the Little Big Horn.

James Larkin, one of the leading figures in Irish trade union history, and the great S.F. Barnes of Lancashire and England were both born in 1876. Barnes was at his best for his country at the age of 38, which only shows it's never too late to baffle the opposition as our 2nd XI has shown many times.

All this happened a year before the first England v. Australia test.

### 'How Green Was My Wicket'

The original ground was at the Fairview end of Howth Road, near the railway embankment.

It was a junior club, and had one team only. Getting from ground to ground was the major problem in the early days. It was not always easy to get transport from Clontarf to such exotic and far-away places as Sydney Parade and Observatory Lane. For northsiders, in a city with poor public transport (not like now!) these were faraway places. The sense of distance lasted well into the twentieth century. Within living memory, a pavilion member describing the whereabouts of his new home far away in 'a place called Templeogue' was asked how remote it was and replied 'Very far – you have to change horses at Terenure'.

It was this remoteness that made Clontarf CC maintain a low cricket profile until the turn of the twentieth century.

### Some Quotable Quotes

It is sufficient therefore to quote two extracts from *The Irish Sportsman* which are, each in their own way, indicative of the rapturous reception the club

received. The issue of 27 July 1878 describes a match between Pembroke and Clontarf in these terms: 'We are heartily rejoiced to welcome the suburban Club, Clontarf, and wish them every success in their endeavour to promote so healthy and manly a sport in their own district. Although they lost the match by 43 runs on the first innings, yet their performance was very good, and they seem to have amongst them some very excellent cricketers.' The issue of 7 June 1879 paints a different picture – 'On the same day Civil Service had another team in the field on their own ground, playing Clontarf, which Club they managed to defeat by 20 runs, on the first innings. The Home team was bad enough, but Clontarf were worse, about seven of the eleven seeming as if they had never seen a bat, the fielding was very good on both sides, and Messrs Brook and Boswell bowled in capital form for their respective clubs, For Service, Mr Treston got 26 and 0, Mr Coffey 8 and 29, and Mr Tracey 13, Clontarf – Mr Boswell 10 not-out was the only double score. Service 58 and 66. Clontarf 38 and 11 for one wicket.

Note the 'Mr'. None of your "Redser" and "Macker".

### First Trophy

In 1896 the club moved to the present ground at Castle Avenue. The pavilion stood at the southern boundary not far from the entrance gate which was then in the Stiles Lane. Two years later the club gained its first trophy, when it won the Junior Cup. In the final of that season Clontarf beat Old St Mary's by an innings. Chief scorers for Clontarf, who made 177, were A. Cooze 54, G. Frechill 50, S.H. Haire 30, and J.R. Boate 16.

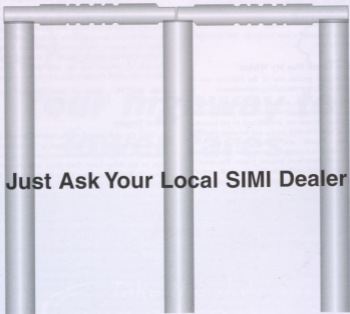
After a further junior success in 1905, the Club was in 1908 promoted to senior status, and in that same year completed a better pavilion on the western side of the ground. This Club House was 75 ft by 18 ft and the contract price amounted to £282. funds for this new venture were to a great extent provided by a Minstrel Concert Party. This group put on several shows at Clontarf Town Hall, now St Anthony's Church. The principal artists were: Messrs G. F.



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Porter, E. Lewis, H. Polden, S. Polden, R. Cashel and L. Hackett.

The 1905 Cup win was the last team success until a 2nd XI won the Intermediate Cup, in 1924, but as no cricket was played during the First World War this record is not as bad as it looks. However, during the years that intervened Clontarf won individual honours. J.G. Aston toured America and Canada as an all-rounder. He was not, however, Clontarf's first international player, for S.H. Crawford played in 1903 in Cork against The London Counties whose leading light was the legendary W.G. Grace. In these pre-war years, the 1st XI was in the main represented by J.G. Aston, H.R. Aston, J. Boyd, R.F. Dunne, C. Reid, L.H. Herbert (captain), S.H. Haire, S.H. Crawford, F.E. Binns, J. Ledwidge, G.A. Crawford and H.C. McCormack. Beyond question, J.G. Aston was by far the most successful cricketer in the XI. His figures for 1912 were:

Innings	13
Not out	1
Highest score	90
Runs	484
Average	40.33
Overs	113
Maidens	19
Runs	305
Wickets	36
Average	8.47

He in fact headed the batting averages for the three years preceding the First War.

In 1911, J. Boyd scored what must remain as one of the fastest centuries ever. Against Co. Kildare at Castle Avenue, this century, which included four 6s and sixteen 4s, was compiled in under 30 minutes.

In these pre-war days only about ten to fourteen matches were played per season.

### The Start of League Cricket

When cricket re-started in 1920 the pavilion was considered inadequate, so additional dressing room and toilet accommodation was provided. The playing strength of the club, however, was not strong. At the commencement of the season there were fourteen adult playing members and some schoolboys. J. Ledwidge headed the batting averages with fourteen innings, once not-out, highest score 30, runs 195, average 15.15. O. Smith headed the bowling averages with 88 overs, 19 maidens, 203 runs, 32 wickets, at an average of 6.34. Ledwidge was not among the batting strength of the 1911-'14 period. While not detracting from his prowess as a cricketer, the fact that he headed the batting averages with an

average of 15.15 is indicative of the weakness of the Clontarf batting about this time. This weakness was to continue until 1926. On the other hand, O. Smith produced a bowling average which was excellent by any standards.

### The Marchant Cup Presented

In 1921 the Senior League was first introduced and the team under the captaincy of J.G. Aston played 19 matches, won 9, lost 9 and drew 1. It is obvious from these statistics that this side, even allowing for a certain weakness in batting, must have been an attractive one to watch. An interesting item appears in *The Irish Times* of 6 July 1921 - A.A. O'Donnell scoring 7 not out against Trinity at Castle Avenue.

In 1922, T.F. Marchant, an ardent follower of the club, presented a cup to the Leinster Cricket Union to perpetuate the memory of his late son, Lt C. Stewart Marchant, who had been a promising member of Clontarf. It was to be presented to the batsman with the highest batting average in Leinster senior cricket each season. The first winner of the cup was R.H. Lambert, with the staggering average of 217!

During the years 1922, 1923 and 1924 the 1st XI, although supported by a young and enthusiastic 2nd XI, were dogged by weakness in batting. Notwithstanding this H.R. Ashton, who twice headed the club averages, scored a brilliant century against Leinster in 1924. Our 2nd XI won the Intermediate Cup in 1924 under G. Freehill. Of this team, E.N. Seymour subsequently played for Ireland. This was the first time this trophy was competed for on a knock-out basis.

In this year the Killingley Memorial Gate was built and opened at the top of the lane leading up from Castle Avenue. It stayed in situ until the early 1980s. By then, it presented an obstacle to the new and longer Guinness delivery trucks. A few of them had actually collided with it. Rather than impede the delivery of a cargo so crucial to the fortunes of both clubs, the gate was removed.

### First League Success

In 1925, the Club gained much-needed strength when joined by F.E. Buxton, O. Sweeney, J.M. Sweeney and W.C. Pemberton. As a result, 1926 was a memorable season. The Senior League was won for the first time. A feature of the team's play was a very high standard of fielding. This side, which many people came to see field, did not gain their success easily. Clontarf opened the season against Dublin University and batting first were all-out for 70, G.N. Kelly in 13 overs taking 9 wickets for 25 runs. Dublin University were 32 for 2 when E.N. Seymour came on. Seven wickets fell at 34, Dublin University being all out for 36. Seymour's remarkable analysis



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*Branch Manager AIB*

was: 7-3: 6: 1:7. E.N. Seymour deservedly went on to head the Leinster bowling averages with 34 wickets at a cost of 7-47 each.

An extract from *The Irish Times* of 20 December 1926 is of considerable interest:

#### **Clontarf Ground to be Remodelled**

'Rugby followers will be pleased to learn that the threatened extinction of Clontarf Club, owing to proposed building and road-making extensions on the Vernon Estate will not take place. The Club will lose its present senior pitch but will be provided with a better one at the back of the pavilion.'

In the same year as the Senior League was won, the first recorded burglary of the Club took place. Unfortunately for those who thought that this was an omen, it was only a coincidence, for if the Senior League honours had followed us the same way as our burglars, we would have had a long string of success. Three men, aged 33, 27 and 18 and all described as labourers, were subsequently charged before Mr Collins of the Northern District Court with the theft of "white flannels, tennis shoes, cricket boots and overcoats...., besides a bottle of whiskey and two and a half dozen of stout and Bass, and cigarettes to the value of £13." Two of the three admitted getting drunk in the pavilion, something that had never happened previously and has not happened since.

After their success of 1926, Clontarf were runners-up in the Senior League of 1927 under the captaincy of F.E. Buxton, the wicket-keeper. In May he scored 105 not out against Phoenix in the Park, performing the unusual feat of carrying his bat through the innings. At the close of this season the club toured County Kerry as guests of J.G. Oulton. After the initial success of 1926 the 1st XI were runners-up in 1928, under the captaincy of A.R. White, while in the year after, under W.C. Pemberton, they occupied 3rd place in the final League table. But following these successes, weaknesses in batting again manifested themselves. In 1928, our seconds again won the Intermediate Cup and were runners-up in the Intermediate League, under the captaincy of A.J.G. White.

#### **Marchant Cup Winner**

The 1930 captain, E.N. Seymour, headed the Leinster batting averages and became the first Clontarf player to win the Marchant Cup. His highest score, 116, was made against Dublin University in College Park. Early in the 1930s G.J. Morgan's name appears for the first time. He was to grace many rugby and cricket grounds, and gained international honours in both games. George Morgan had a dry

wit, and having watched, from his vantage point in the slips, a famous Pembroke warrior play at and miss every ball of the first over he received is said to have remarked, 'Hey - there's a terrible sound off that bat.'

At the end of this year the first ever club dance was held in the pavilion. It was not sponsored by the club's committees, but permission was given by them to A.A. O'Donnell to organise the function if he thought it feasible. With the help of an energetic dance committee and by covering the appalling floor with what was known as a dance carpet, the venture was a success, the receipts being £23 17s. 6d. At about this time the Cricket Club, who had been the original tenants of the ground at £20 per year, agreed to a new lease, becoming joint tenants with the Football Club at £100 per year. This was a considerable increase and further dances helped to pay the increased rent. It was the practice to augment the Club's income, mainly derived from subscriptions, by occasional prize draws. The bar clientele was small both in numbers and thirst. Profits amounted to about £40 per annum!

#### **Introduction of Senior Cup**

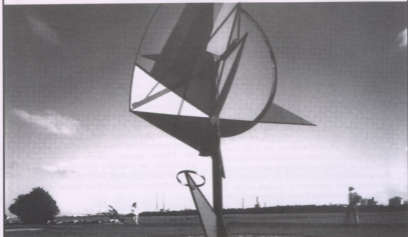
During the 1932 season, when the side was under the captaincy of G.A. Tyndall, G.J. Morgan gave an indication of what was to come (he was the one really consistent bat in the '30s), scoring a magnificent 104 against Civil Service. He captained the side in 1933, '34 and '36. In 1935 the skipper was Bob Smith, that master of the late-cut, later to be one of Leinster's leading umpires. It was in this season that the Senior Cup Competition was first introduced: Pembroke put their names on the first trophy. For Clontarf, T.J. Danne headed the bowling averages, taking 70 wickets at the cost of 10-4 runs each.

#### **Further Improvements**

In 1935, the Cricket Club laid a new floor in the pavilion to facilitate the running of dances and in 1936 the pavilion was again extended, increasing the kitchen and bar accommodation, and lengthening the main room at the north end. This work was done by J.W. Hill at a cost of £150.

This year the 1st XI established a record which we will never want to see broken, being all out for 12 against Phoenix at Castle Avenue. In the return match, however - this shows the inconsistency of the side - they beat Phoenix and completely spoiled the Park club's League prospects. The captaincy next passed to J.D. Guinan, but the side was again dogged by weak batting, only Guinan and Morgan showing any consistency.

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An interesting feature recorded in 1938 – N.C. Mahony played for Leinster v. Ulster in July while the same player played for Munster against Leinster in August. The feat of playing for and against the same province in the same year is surely without parallel. This brings us to one of the great difficulties experienced by the Clontarf Club during these years, for while Noel Mahony was available up to the end of the school term, he returned to Cork for the summer vacation, and Clontarf's batting was robbed of the one man who could, and did for many years, act as sheet anchor.

In 1939 the side was led by that great cricketer, who would travel anywhere to play at any time, J.W. Hill. John Hill was simply one of the most effective bowlers that ever played for Clontarf. One cannot help noticing the number of times that he has taken seven or more wickets. He recorded many eights, and any bowler who could consistently do this must rank very high in the Club's honours list. He bowled a bouncy off-break with a high action and nagging consistency. The best batting display was again produced by G.J. Morgan who in August 1939 scored 105 not-out against Merrion.

It was during this season that R. Furley was first selected for Leinster. He played against Munster at Rathmines, taking two wickets for 12 in the second innings.

### Big Win over Leinster

In the first year of the war J.W. Hill was again captain of the 1st XI, and this side created a record by inflicting the first ever two-innings match defeat on Leinster at Rathmines. The scores in this match are recorded:

Leinster —
118 (Ruddle 5 for 29, Hill 4 for 15)
2nd innings — 116 (Hill 5 for 53, Ruddle 5 for 53)
Clontarf —
194 (Caprani 96)
2nd innings — 42 for 2

This was only Joe Caprani's third senior match. His 96 took over four hours, and contributed largely to the club's eight-wicket victory.

### A Major Expenditure

In 1940 the Cricket Club again decided to enlarge the pavilion. The estimated cost of the proposed new structure was approximately £1,200 and included tables, chairs and additional fixtures in the kitchen. A proposed expenditure of this amount caused quite a controversy. The money was not available from club funds, so it was decided to borrow from the bank, the loan being guaranteed by ten club members. This

method, while not acceptable to all, was agreed on and the work was satisfactorily completed that year.

Our 3rd XI, which had entered competitive cricket in 1934, had its premier success in 1941 when it won the Junior League under the captaincy of J. Burns.

### First Cup Success

In 1943, under the captaincy of L.B. McMahon, the Club gained its second Senior success, and won the Leinster Senior Cup for the first time. What could be more fitting than the skipper to play such an important role in the final against Pembroke. Clontarf, who had scored 219, managed to take two Pembroke wickets for 82 before the close on Saturday night. On Monday, however, things appeared to be going wrong when Pembroke closed at 152 for 4, but the last six Pembroke wickets fell for 42 on the last night. W. Aylward fell to a magnificent one-handed catch at square-leg by Ruddock, and this, together with McMahon's bowling (six wickets for 70 runs), contributed largely to Pembroke's defeat. One cannot leave this match without referring to Joe Caprani's 51. This innings took 4½ hours and included 10 boundaries. It was one of his best ever innings, in the opinion of many, as he rarely lifted the ball. The only chance he gave was that to Frank Miller when he was finally dismissed.

During 1944 two names that were to appear prominently in the records of the club and in the records of Irish cricket, first appeared. L.C. Jacobson, having graduated from Dublin University and returned from England, made his first appearance against YMCA while E.H. Bodell made his first appearance against Merrion in that same year. J.W. Hill further staked his claim as an all-rounder in scoring 119 against Pembroke in a two-day match at Sydney Parade out of a Clontarf total of 264. In the final League match that season against Leinster, R.T. Ruddock recorded the total of 119 not out.

One of the great wartime stories was told by A.A. O'Donnell about that great-hearted cricketer John McAdam, who was then playing for the 2nd XI. John arrived on his bike just as his team was about to take the field. After profuse apologies to his skipper he was just in time to bowl the second over of the innings 'up the hill and into the wind'. He toiled from that end for the complete afternoon under 'A.A.'s pitiless eye. Going in to tea John apologised again: 'I'm very sorry about being late Mr O'Donnell, but the wind was against me all the way from the Curragh!'

### Second Marchant Cup Winner

The year that followed proved a very successful one for the Rev W.J. Moylan, for he won the Marchant

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Cup. He scored a century against YMCA at Castle Avenue (100 not out) and a fortnight later he recorded 103 not out against Dublin University, also at home. In that same season he was selected and played for Leinster against Munster at the Mardyke. In 1946 Clontarf were runners-up in the Senior League to Pembroke, while N.C. Mahony, W.J.

Perth, as he did also for Leinster against Munster at Rathmines, making an unbeaten 114 out of a total of 263. Noel Mahony recorded one of his many centuries for the club when scoring 104 out of a total of 247 to win the semi-final of the Cup against YMCA. Their success of 1943 was not to be repeated, however. In a close finish Clontarf, having totalled 151, were defeated by Phoenix by two wickets. Noel Mahony was top scorer for Clontarf with 69. As on so many other occasions, Jimmy Boucher was the most successful bowler, claiming 7 wickets for 51 runs.



**Leinster Senior Cup Winners-1943**

*Back Row: V. Kelly (sub), J. D. Capriani, T. J. Dunne, E. A. Carey, D. F. Fitzgerald, G. A. Fox, C. T. Burgess (sub), R. T. Radlock.*

*Front Row: S. E. Keegan, N. C. Mahony, L. B. McMahon (Capt), P. J. Bourke, J. W. Hill.*

Moyman and J.W. Hill were included in the Leinster team against Derbyshire. Hill and N.B. Hool, who was later to play for the Club, shared in an eighth-wicket stand of 80 in this match, Hill scoring 57 not out. In May a remarkable match was played at Claremont Road. Clontarf scored 199 for 1 declared, N.C. Mahony scoring 100 not out and E. Dexter 79. YMCA, however, had other ideas, and with C.D. Colter scoring 57 and T.A. Beatty also 57, the match ended in a draw, with YMCA 114 for none, not much fun for the bowlers!

### Purchase of Ground

In 1947 the ground at Castle Avenue was purchased from the Vernon Estate in the joint ownership of both clubs. So that the purchasing loan would be quickly repaid, carnivals were run on the newly-leased Lido Ground during the summers of 1947 and 1948. The Lido Ground – the site of the present cricket ground – had a 99-year lease, with an option to purchase. At the time, it was set in allotments. It was gradually converted to use as a cricket ground in the years 1954–58.

Louis Jacobson made his first appearance for Ireland in 1947. He scored a century against Scotland at

Perth, as he did also for Leinster against Munster at Rathmines, making an unbeaten 114 out of a total of 263. Noel Mahony recorded one of his many centuries for the club when scoring 104 out of a total of 247 to win the semi-final of the Cup against YMCA. Their success of 1943 was not to be repeated, however. In a close finish Clontarf, having totalled 151, were defeated by Phoenix by two wickets. Noel Mahony was top scorer for Clontarf with 69. As on so many other occasions, Jimmy Boucher was the most successful bowler, claiming 7 wickets for 51 runs.

In 1947, Civil Service Crusaders were guests at Castle Avenue. The Clontarf side on that day included Charlie Hallows, the former England and Lancashire cricketer, who was coaching the club at that time. He scored 58 out of a total of 160 for 5 declared, but unfortunately the old enemy – bad weather – put a premature end to the proceedings. Hallows is one of only three players in the history of English first-class cricket who have scored 1,000 runs in the month of May (as distinct from before the end of May), which he did in 1928. The other two were W.G. Grace and Walter Hammond, so Charlie Hallows was keeping very good company. Charlie had the lowest aggregate of the three – exactly 1,000 – but the best average, an equally precise 125.00. Given the realities of the modern English season, this is a feat that will never be achieved again.

The Leinster provincial side played Derbyshire again later in 1947, and included in the side were Clontarf players Noel Mahony, Louis Jacobson and John Hill. Mahony and Jacobson had an opening partnership of 91, while J.W. Hill took three of the five Derby wickets that fell.

### Seven Internationals

In 1948, Clontarf had a side that must be reckoned one of its strongest ever. It included seven internationals and two interprovincials. However, in spite of this strength the side did not feature in the honours list. W.E. Houghton, N.B. Hool and F.M.

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Filgas came into the XI when the university term ended in June. All three were capped before the summer was out. W.E. Haughton won the Marchant Cup, N.B. Hool won the O'Grady Cup for the best senior bowling average in Leinster cricket, but as he had played for Dublin University in the first part of the season, his was not the first out-and-out Clontarf success for this award. In 1948, Jacobson, Mahony, Caprani and Hill played against Yorkshire for the Gentlemen of Ireland, while Mahony, Jacobson, Hill, Hool and Filgas played against Scotland at Hamilton Crescent. Six Clontarf players took part in the Leinster-Munster interprovincial at Cork.

### Second Leinster Cup Success

Having occupied third place in the League table of 1949, the club went on to regain the Senior Cup in 1950, as well as being runners-up to Leinster in the League Competition. In the Cup, Clontarf defeated Merrion in the first round, Pembroke in the semi-final by 8 wickets, and Railway Union by 76 runs in the final. In defeating Merrion, Clontarf 1st XI topped 300 for the first time in its history, a notable landmark for a club traditionally weak in batting. Moreover, Bill Moynan amassed 122 against Leinster at Castle Avenue in the week following the Cup final. J.W. Hill deservedly captured the O'Grady Cup with 36 wickets at a cost of 11-55, while second in the averages was E.H. Bodell, who took 52 wickets at a cost of 13-38. Ernie Bodell was selected for the first time to play for Leinster against Munster, in which match Louis Jacobson recorded yet another of his representative centuries when he scored 118. In this season, Bodell had the distinction of claiming all nine Pembroke wickets that fell: this at a cost of 36 runs. A notable feature of this performance is that apart from one wicket which he caught off his own bowling the remainder were clean bowled.

In the year 1951, J.G. Oulton, the President of the club, was honoured by being elected President of the Irish Cricket Union. J.G. Oulton lived for cricket and in fact held the 3rd XI together in its uncertain early days. In this season Noel Mahony and Bertie Buttner played for Munster against Leinster, which

included the Clontarf players W.J. Moynan, E.H. Bodell and D.F. Fitzgerald.

### The New Playing Field

At the end of 1951 the Football Club found they were unable to space their pitches as they expected in the Lido Ground. After some months of discussion it was decided that the Cricket Club would relay this



*Opening of new ground 1958*


*Photograph of combined teams before the start of the game to mark the opening of the new ground. Included are D. C. S. "Denis" Compton and W. J. "Bill" Edrick*

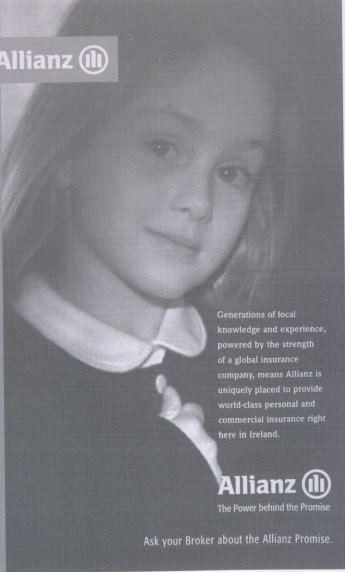
ground completely, the expenses of the various changes and ground levelling being borne by the Joint Committee. Extensive alterations and additions were made to the dressing rooms, showers, toilets, and other facilities in the pavilion.

### Another Marchant Cup


The 1952 season brought two severe blows to the club. Joe Caprani joined the Leinster Cricket Club and Ernie Bodell moved to London. P.D. Little took over the role of pace bowler from Bodell with much success. Clontarf reached the final of the Cup only to be defeated by Dublin University. It was some compensation that Noel Mahony was winner of the Marchant Cup, the third Clontarf man to have achieved this distinction.

In 1953 the Club recorded only three wins in the thirteen matches. Malahide, having been promoted to senior status, were drawn against Clontarf in their first-round Cup match, which turned out to be a real thriller. The match was played at Malahide and the home side batting first scored 135. This did not seem a particularly formidable total, but only Noel Mahony, who carried his bat through the innings for

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61 not out, and M. Wall, who hit a lusty 44, had any success in reply. Clontarf's last two wickets fell without addition to the score, and Malahide had, in their first Senior Cup match, come through by a mere four runs. It established a pattern: Malahide won the next six cup matches in a row against Clontarf. We had to wait until 1976 for our first Cup victory over the village club.

### Some Poor Seasons

In 1954 the weakness continued, but there was much promise in a strong 2nd XI. Another reason for optimism was that Ernie Bodell had returned from England, having in fact played a few matches late in the previous season. The 1st XI finished at the bottom of the League, but individual honours were to come. Ernie Bodell and Evans Dexter played for Leinster v. Munster at Park Avenue, with Bodell taking 5 for 11 in the first innings. A.W. Cooper gained his first Irish cap against Lancashire at Belfast. E.H. Bodell was capped for the Gentlemen of Ireland against the MCC at College Park. A season, therefore, that gave us little to enthuse about closed with the sight of two Clontarf men opening the bowling for their country.

The 1955 season did not prove to be any more successful. The club finished third from the bottom of the table, with only three wins to its credit, and Noel Mahony signified his intention of retiring from competitive cricket at the end of the season. On top of this, Louis Jacobson, dogged by his back injury, only played in half the matches, but new names appeared. Vinny Kelly returned from the country, V.F. Savino, who had joined the club from Cork, headed the bowling averages. Gerry Carroll began to show good form with the bat and Tommy Stanley also made his presence felt. Denis Green joined from Perthshire, while Dermot O'Sullivan, Dermot Sweeney and John Bell appeared from the previous year's League-winning 2nd XI. The 3rd XI reached the final of the Intermediate League. Coupled with the Senior II League success of the previous year it was an optimistic portent. It was during this season that Louis Jacobson, being brought on to bowl his off-breaks on the YMCA ground, was hit for a considerable number of runs in his one over. After being hit for his second six he innocently asked his skipper for a second short-leg. Evans Dexter's bellow of 'No!' was heard out on Claremont Road! As he put on his sweater at the end of that over, quite undaunted by three more lusty clouts, Louis remarked in his usual stage whisper, 'if the ground had been a bit bigger those would all have been catches.'

At the close of the season, and to mark the retirement of Noel Mahony, who had also represented and

captained his country, a match was played between his XI and the club. His side included some of the players who had played with him in Clontarf over the years - Joe Caprani, John Hill, Stan Keegan, Larry McMahon, Allen O'Donnell and Bob Smith. At the close of play the players on both sides lined up and applauded the skipper as he left the field.

In 1956, under the captaincy of Ernie Bodell, the club was faced with the problem of replacing not alone Noel Mahony but also Bill Moynan and Louis Jacobson. The latter played only two matches during the season, but new blood was forthcoming. Stan McMullen and I. Cox, both of whom had previously played for the Schools of Ireland, came into the side. The average age of the 1st XI was well under 30 and with Bodell in top form with the ball, Clontarf headed the League in mid-July.

But there was to be no Senior League success; as the season closed it was necessary to beat Pembroke and Phoenix in the final matches. Unfortunately both games were washed out. In a season in which no bowler took the 35 wickets required to qualify for the O'Grady Cup, Ernie Bodell was one of the least fortunate bowlers in the province, falling just two short. Incidentally, 1956 was the only year since the first award of the O'Grady Cup in 1937 in which no bowler from any club has qualified. In the Cup match we met the eventual winners, Leinster. Louis Jacobson, making one of his two appearances that season, scored a magnificent 73. In totalling 236 Clontarf looked set for victory, but Leinster chased the target in workmanlike fashion and won by 7 wickets. T.G. Stanley played for Munster while G.M. Carroll was included in the Leinster side.

The 1957 side, again under the captaincy of E.H. Bodell, played 17 matches and only lost three, but drew nine. This side scored the second highest number of runs in the province, only Leinster who scored 400 more runs in the season, being above them, but in the department of taking wickets only three sides were below them. This season marked the introduction of A.W.D. Spence, who in his first full season scored 469 runs, the highest individual aggregate, and A.E. Smith, a slow left-hander, who impressed with his accuracy. L.C. Jacobson was available more often, and in eight completed innings scored 446 runs, at an average of 63.71, he had 100 against Leinster in the Cup and was runner-up for the Marchant Cup.

The 4th XI, ably and enthusiastically led by Vincent Hughes, after a good 1956 season, won the Junior Cup in 1957, and Roy Buckley, Fergus Carroll and Podge Hughes of that team were soon to represent the 1st XI.

*Best wishes to  
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for the season*



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## Miracles?

Stan McMullen was one of the first players selected by the Irish Cricket Union for special coaching at Lord's. As he walked out to bat at College Park against Trinity, the wife of one of our players queried, 'Is that the chap who was away to improve his cricket in Lourdes?' He and Ernie Bodell played for Leinster against Munster and for the South v. North. Bodell was again capped for Ireland, and against Scotland produced a display of bowling on a wearing wicket that will long be remembered. Louis Jacobson and the former Clontarf player 'Sonny' Hool toured Israel with the British Maccabi team. Clontarf's 1957 1st XI must have been one of the strongest batting sides that has ever represented the club. Clontarf had never scored 300 runs in an innings prior to 1950; this '57 team did it twice, and in posting 366 runs in the Cup match against Railway Union recorded the highest total ever scored by a Clontarf senior team.

## New Ground and the Marchant Cup

Nineteen fifty-eight was a great year for the club. The new ground was opened with due pomp and ceremony and Eddie Ingram brought over a star-studded team to play at Castle Avenue. Those two great England cricketers Denis Compton and Bill Edrich were included. The two-day match was played throughout in a sort of haze (although the weather was fairly clear). The year was embellished only by the performance of a splendid 3rd team which won the Intermediate Cup and the Irish Junior Cup.

The following year can be regarded as Louis Jacobson's finest. He won the Marchant Cup and in so doing scored two centuries and a 91 not out in successive innings. He opened the innings for Ireland and was awarded the Oulton Cup. Otherwise it was a barren season and no other trophy was won by the club.

## The Fifties Reviewed

There was undoubtedly a great array of talent in the club during the decade, which started with a splendid Cup victory. Ernie Bodell, Joe Caprani, Alfie Cooper, John Hill, Louis Jacobson, Noel Mahony and Mike Stevenson all played for Ireland, and were backed up by such good uncapped players as Bob Purley, Bill Moyman, Paddy Burke and Evans Dexter. However, the unavailability of players on many occasions, either because they were playing representative cricket or on tour made for poor team spirit, and a policy of selecting good players home for holidays to the exclusion of promising youngsters did not help. Captaincy was not resourceful either, and players accumulated their runs without urgency, even when

chasing reasonable totals. Dull draws were the norm and the results mediocre. These attitudes reflected all through the club's cricket. Dressing-room poker was the more interesting pursuit. As the late John Bell so aptly remarked, 'There was more excitement watching the rhubarb grow.'

## 'The Swinging Sixties'

The decade came in with a bang! The 1st XI, captained by Louis Jacobson, played with more dash and reached the final of the Cup, which was a truly bizarre affair. It was played over eight days! The weather was appalling and Merrion, having batted first and badly, came to Clontarf for seven more nights before the home team surrendered, being all out for 108 runs! However, the 2nd XI won their League and the 3rd XI won the Intermediate Cup.

The next year was a tremendous year for the club and for the skipper, John Bell. Both 1st and 2nd XIs won their Leagues, the Senior League being won after a lapse of 35 years! What a joy to have Allen O'Donnell, in his third year as President of the Leinster Cricket Union, present the Senior League trophies to his own club captain.

Alas the great revival died a natural death. Nineteen sixty-two saw the new pavilion opened but the loss of Ernie Bodell, who was ill for the entire summer, and the departure of V.F. Savino abroad saw the attacks of the two senior teams weakened. The reverberations were felt all the way down. Nineteen sixty-three and '64 were no better though the signs were encouraging. In '63 the Schoolboys won their Vacation League and Paddy Monaghan took all ten wickets for the 5th XI in a Minor League match against Old Belvedere. S. Devitt for the Under 14s against Malahide in 1956 and Michael McTiernan for the 2nd XI against CYM in 1987, are the only other Clontarf players with this distinction. In 1964 Clontarf, with many of the previous year's successful schoolboys, won the Minor Cup for the first time. The great reputation of the wickets and ground were finally recognized when the first international was played there in September 1964. It was a fitting reward for that Prince of Groundsmen, Paddy Cody, and his advisor A.A. O'Donnell.

## First Alan Murray Cup

Mike Carroll, who had skippered a mediocre side in 1964, persisted in '65 and had a successful year. The Alan Murray Mid-Week Cup was won for the first time and the Senior II and Minor Cups were also on the scoreboard at the end of the season.

The next three years can be taken together as the pattern of the three years was similar and on the whole a successful Senior side was fashioned. In '66 the League was lost to Trinity by 7 runs in the last

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game of the season and the midweek final was lost by 1 run! The 5th XI continued their great run by doing the double, Cup and League. Nineteen sixty-seven saw the arrival of the phenomenal Robin Waters, whose aggressive batting helped Clontarf to challenge for the League. But once again the League was lost by a whisker on the run-in while key players were on duty for Ireland. In '68 came the Cup final against Leinster. Without Ernie Bodell, who was in England for almost the whole summer, a weakened Clontarf attack allowed Leinster to accumulate 309 on a perfect wicket, and Clontarf managed 261 in reply. J.B. Bunworth's 122 being one of the great innings in the club's history. 'J.B.' deservedly won the Marchant Cup, and the 3rd XI weighed in with the Intermediate Cup.

### 'E.J.'s Senior Cup and a Great Season

Nineteen sixty-nine was possibly the greatest all-round season the club has ever had or is likely to have. Under the captaincy of E.J. Carroll, the Senior Cup was won after a low-scoring final. The 3rd XI won the Intermediate Cup and the 5th XI won the Logan Cup. The 2nd and 4th XIs both won their Leagues and NO team was lower than 3rd in any League!

### 'The Sixties in Retro'

After a great start in 1960 and the continuance of the effort in 1961, under John Bell, which saw the Senior League won after 35 years, there was a real slump until Mike Carroll started a resurgence in 1965. The mid-sixties saw a new approach. All the classic cricketers had retired and the side was generally young and inexperienced. Fielding, which appeared to be a dreadful chore in previous seasons, now tightened up and became attacking and even menacing. There were now more 'plus' men in the field, and two young left-arm bowlers, Mick Delaney and Denis O'Kelly, made significant contributions. Gerry Kirwan, while never a hostile bowler, pegged an accurate length at medium pace. Gerry was to have a spectacular second coming in later years. Ernie Bodell went on taking wickets and duly removed his 600th victim. The three Carrolls, although never great technicians, were tremendous competitors and were individual match-winners.

New thinking at the top in Irish cricket circles saw the abandonment of the inter-provincial series and of the annual North v. South trial. Instead a new competition, the Guinness Cup, was introduced in the middle years of the decade. There was generous sponsorship and the competition, which had three Ulster, two Leinster and one Munster sides, meant that more players had a chance to play representative cricket and to try for international places.

The North Leinster side was very successful in this competition. Many Clontarf players took part in its victories. Podge Hughes, Ernie Bodell, Enda McDermott, Brian and Rossa Bunworth, Mick Delaney, Fergus Carroll, Noel Grier, Robin Waters, Gerry Kirwan, Deryck Vincent, Alan McClean and Michael Rea all made significant contributions at one time or another. Robin Waters and Podge Hughes represented a particularly successful Irish side, while McDermott, Kirwan, Vincent and Rea all went on to join Ernie Bodell as Irish internationals.

### 1970 – and a Great Start

In 1970 the 1st XI won the Alan Murray Cup, and with the 2nd XI winning their Cup and the 3rd winning the Irish Junior Cup it was a good season. The 5ths won the Minor Cup and the seventies looked like being the decade that would see the club on top for all time.

Nineteen seventy-one was still promising. The 1st XI won the all-Ireland 20-overs Cup and the 3rds won both Cup and League. It was all leading to the great year of 1972 which saw both Senior Leagues and the Alan Murray Cup won in convincing fashion.

The Senior team had now matured and in this year under the dynamic leadership of Enda McDermott they fought their way to a great and clear-cut League victory, and the added bonus of the Alan Murray Cup. The bowling, spearheaded by Podge Hughes with Rossa Bunworth and Paddy Murphy backing up, was incisive. The batsmen chased the totals and went for the opposition in cavalier style from the word go. It was heady stuff and always worth watching. The 2nd XI, under the shrewd captaincy of Louis Hogan, won the Senior II League in some style.

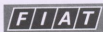
### Stability

In 1973 practically the same team had another good season. Under the captaincy of Podge Hughes they again won the Alan Murray Cup and tied the Beckett Cup. There was another good League performance, and the 2nd XI, still ably led by Louis Hogan, added the Senior II League and Cup without any trouble. West Indian acquisition Bill Dalton-Brown, Don Geraghty and Derek Wheeler, who were to represent the senior side with distinction many times subsequently, were the stars. The 3rd XI won the Middle Cup and made it a great season.

Nineteen seventy-four saw a decline in fortunes. Only the 2nd XI, who again won their League convincingly under Louis Hogan, were in the honours. J.B. Bunworth once again was in the headlines with the club's highest individual score to date when he made a magnificent 128 against Merrion. But after boom came slump: 1975 was by

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far the most dismal season for a long time. Team after team surrendered in Cup and League and the season ended with a bare sideboard and little to enthuse about. Happily, it has been the last season to date in which nothing at all was won by any side.

Centenary year – 1976 – brought a meagre haul. The 4th XI won the Intermediate League and the 5th XI the Junior Cup. But the 1st XI which had developed in the early '70s was now consolidating. This team maintained a remarkable stability of players for the next ten years. Enda McDermott, J.B. Bunworth and Noel Grier were the backbone of the batting; Podge Hughes and Rossa Bunworth were the opening bowlers; Fergus Carroll the wicketkeeper; Johnny Nolan and Brendan Bergin were tenacious batsmen. All made 240 or more senior appearances for the club.

In addition, two of Clontarf's very greatest players augmented them within a few years. In 1977, Gerry Kirwan returned from Australia. He resumed his career, which lasted until 1992. Bowling slow left arm, he never failed to take less than 50 wickets in a season – except in his last when he took 49. He won the O'Grady Cup in 1982 and 1983; in '82, he set a record for an amateur player by taking 82 wickets in the season. Only the Pembroke professional, Alan Stimpson – who took 91 wickets in a season – has ever bettered this tally. Gerry finished his career as the only bowler ever to take a thousand wickets for the club, the final haul being 1,033. Likewise, he is the only Clontarf player to have taken five wickets in an innings more than 50 times. He won two caps for Ireland in 1983 and the wonder is that he did not win more. There was not a better bowler in the country.

The other arrival on the scene was Deryck Vincent, who first played senior cricket in 1981. The most naturally gifted strokemaker of his generation, no one could destroy a bowling attack like him. He already holds the record for the most senior centuries for the club – 13 – and is about to join Enda McDermott as the only other player to aggregate 10,000 runs for Clontarf in senior cricket. But mere statistics don't tell you much about Vincent's batting. It was the way he made the runs; he was lethal in attack, shots cascading from his bat all around the wicket until the bowlers simply did not know where to bowl to him. At his best, he was the most destructive batsman around, the one most likely to completely demoralise the fielding side.

The individual talents available to the team were consolidated under the outstanding captaincy of Enda McDermott. From his first year in charge, 1971, to his last, 1992, he led the side in twelve seasons, including six out of seven in the period '78 to '84. It was his personality – clear-headed, aggressive and passionately knowledgeable about

cricket – that shaped the collective energy of the team.

The core of the side had come together in the mid '60s. By the early '80s, with the return of Kirwan and the emergence of Vincent, it had fully matured. It won the Wiggins Teape League in 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1986 and 1988, by which time the old guard were beginning to break up. But this fine side never won the Leinster Senior League. From the mid '70s to the early '90s, Clontarf was consistently the second best senior club in Leinster. First Phoenix and later YMCA produced two really outstanding sides. The talismanic figure for Phoenix was the astonishingly gifted Alf Masood, beyond question the finest batsman to play League cricket in Leinster (or Ireland) in living memory. Then, in the 1980s, YMCA suddenly produced an array of young talent of which Alan Lewis and Angus Dunlop – both of whom went on to captain Ireland – were the leading figures.

### The Fire

On 27 May 1982, the pavilion was partially destroyed by fire following a break-in. The bar and dressing rooms were gutted but the ballroom was spared, a mixed blessing. The premises was rebuilt mainly due to the sterling efforts of Brendan Tucker on behalf of the Football Club and Michael Delaney on behalf of the Cricket Club. Both were deservedly awarded honorary life membership. The rebuilt pavilion, including a new annex at the northern end containing the dressing rooms, showers and a winter bar for the club, opened in 1985.

The arrangements between the Cricket and Football clubs was placed on an improved footing under the terms of a new joint agreement negotiated in the three years following the fire. It established a less fraught working relationship between the clubs on the basis of each now being able to have full twelve-month access to its own pitch. The agreement was carried at general meetings of both clubs.

### The Coach

For most of the 1980s and '90s the club coach was the former Lancashire wicketkeeper, John Lyon. His contribution to the club was outstanding and is still being felt. In particular, his commitment to the various under-age sides brought rich rewards to Clontarf in later years. He was not just a very talented coach; he organised nets properly and efficiently; he insisted on high standards of behaviour from schoolboy sides, both on and off the pitch; and in general he was a central feature of the club's life.

Apart from a few games in his first couple of years, John did not play. He was a coach pure and simple.

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Professional players had been permitted in Leinster Senior Cricket in the late '70s and early '80s. Then the LCU banned them on the grounds that clubs' scarce resources were being frittered away on hired guns in a scramble for silverware when the money should more properly be spent on coaching youngsters. That was certainly the fixed view of Clontarf Cricket Club. But it proved impossible to enforce the ban. Various ruses were employed by clubs determined to circumvent it. Eventually the LCU bowed to the inevitable and re-admitted professionals.

One of the great initiatives of the 1980s was the establishment of the Friday evening coaching sessions for children aged between seven and eleven. This has been one of Clontarf's most successful initiatives and has been a model for other clubs to follow. It is particularly heartening to see the ground swarming with enthusiastic youngsters for two hours each Friday night from May to August. It not only attracts potential stars of the future to Castle Avenue, it also locates the club as part of the local community. The community base of Clontarf is one of the club's great strengths. No mention of these Friday night sessions can pass without noting the exceptional contribution made by Brian O'Sullivan as schoolboy co-ordinator for many years.

### Junior sides in the 1980s

The late '70s and early '80s saw a fine 1st XI supported by a particularly successful 2nd XI, usually under the captaincy of Keith Lewis. Clontarf won the Senior II League in 1978, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1984 and 1988, doing the double in the first of these years by landing the Senior II Cup as well.

The 3rd XI was captained from the middle years of the decade by the great A.W.D. (Dickie) Spence, a man much mourned and missed following his early and sudden death in 1996. Dickie Spence was one of the finest men ever to grace the club. He was captain in 1975 and President in 1994-5. He played senior cricket in four different decades without ever quite reaching the heights with the bat but he was a formidable operator in the lower ranks. A stylish opener with a full range of shots, he was always on the qui vive for short singles. His calling was so decisive that he caused few run out problems either for himself or his partners and he himself was seldom troubled in his running despite carrying a few pounds overweight in later years. A shrewd tactician on the field, his greatest quality as a captain was his willingness to encourage younger players. After many years of trying and failing, Dickie finally won his first cup medal when he led the 3rds to victory in the Middle Cup in 1985, retaining it the next year.

The 4th XI's best year was 1984 when they won the Intermediate League and the Whelan Cup and got to the semi-final of the Intermediate Cup. The 5ths put nothing on the sideboard during the 1980s but they provided a nursery for young players on the way up and a genial old folks home for elderly codgers on the way down.

The 6th XI was formed in 1977 and survived for twenty years until falling membership numbers in the club rendered the side non-viable. For most of the side's existence, the captaincy alternated between Donal O'Sullivan and Dermot Gunn. Because Castle Avenue can only accommodate five sides, the 6ths had to play their home matches in Mount Temple which meant that they were to a certain extent semi-detached. But they gave cricket to players who wanted it and would not otherwise have had it – at least not in Clontarf – and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves, which is what the whole thing is all about in the first place. Indeed, so great was the demand in the late '80s that the club could have fielded a seventh side in some seasons. The overall strength of junior cricket in Clontarf was probably at its peak in 1983, when the first five sides were each in the top five leagues. As for the 6ths, their reward came in 1990 when they not only won the Minor Cup but the Junior B League as well under the captaincy of Donal O'Sullivan.

### Trees and Flowers

In 1986, on the initiative of J.B. Bunworth and Fergal Tobin, the strip immediately in front of the boundary fence was cleared and planted with summer flowers. It is no exaggeration to say that Bill and Ben, as they were quickly dubbed, knew as much about gardening as they did about Sanskrit irregular verbs. But they drew on the help of Mary Forrest, sister of Dick and John and a professional horticulturalist, and also of the late Gordon Barbour. In time, Joe Preston took over this area and turned it into one of the most outstanding displays of colour on any ground in the country. In addition, Joe saw to the hanging baskets outside the pavilion until Paddy and Mary O'Reilly took them on in the mid '90s.

In March 1987, ten sycamores were planted just outside the boundary in front of the car park, partly enclosing the view at what had previously been the most open corner of the ground. The trees were chosen with some care, to ensure that minimal restriction would be caused to those who wished to watch cricket from the comfort of their cars. The trunks are thin and the trees are only in leaf above head height.

*126 Not out*

*Congratulations*

*from*

*Bill Tormey*



## A New Generation

The great team that first formed in the late 1960s began to break up in the late '80s. Podge Hughes, having taken exactly 600 wickets for the club, retired in 1987, followed by his opening partner Rossa Bunworth the following year. Noel Grier also retired in 1988, but not before playing an exquisite 84 not out to win an All-Ireland quarter-final in Merrion. Johnny Nolan and J.B. Bunworth likewise retired from senior cricket before the decade was out. However, there were worthy replacements at hand. Johnny Daly made his first appearance in 1984; Alan McClean in 1985; Brian McNeice and Jonathan Fitzpatrick in 1986. Then in 1989, Michael Rea spent the first of his six seasons in Clontarf.



*The two most prolific batsmen in the history of the club, E. A. McDermott (11,583 runs) and D. A. Vincent (9,376 runs) stride out to open the innings in the Wiggins Teape final of 1985*

Rea was a bone hard competitor, a technically superb opening batsman and on one reading the most consistent run getter in the history of the club. In 80 innings for Clontarf, he scored 32 fifties and one hundred. This is the best ratio of 50 or more to innings played in the history of the club. He also has the distinction of the highest international score (115 not out) and the best international batting average of any Clontarf player, a very respectable 30.52. He was captain of the club in his final season.

The promise of this newly-developing side was seen in 1990, when under Brendan Bergin Clontarf were runners-up in the All-Ireland Cup, the Leinster Senior League and the Leinster Senior Cup. The All-Ireland trophy was lost to Lurgan who had been 16

for 2 batting first. But it was the Leinster Cup final in Rathmines that brought the real highs and lows. YMCA posted a score of over 300 which realistically was never going to be caught. None the less, Deryck Vincent's 123 in reply – an innings played in what was virtually a lost cause – was among his very finest. It underlined not just his exceptional gifts as a strokemaker but also his psychological resilience. Huge first innings score or no, YM were never easy while Deryck remained at the wicket and his dismissal – following a drinks interval (good bowler, drinks) – was greeted by them as though they had just won the Cup. Which, in essence, they just had.

There was the consolation of once more winning the Wiggins Teape in Malahide in chilly September, however. Not that this looked particularly likely when Old Belvedere went into tea having posted a score of 204. It was a target that had never previously been chased in the 50-over competition and once again it seemed as if Brendan Bergin's side would have to settle for second place. Instead, Clontarf not only won: we won by ten wickets. Inevitably, it was Deryck Vincent who did the business. A memorable and almost chanceless century saw Clontarf home. Deryck and his fellow-opener, Peter Prendergast, set a record first-wicket partnership for the 1st XI that still stands.

In 1991, the long-awaited win in the Senior League finally arrived under the captaincy of Deryck Vincent and for good measure the Wiggins Teape was won yet again (although shared with YMCA). It was the ninth time since 1978 that the Wiggins had either been won outright or shared by Clontarf. But the League victory, bridging a gap of nineteen years, was especially sweet. It was a taste of things to come.

## Triumph

The next year, Enda McDermott's last as captain, saw Clontarf do the Cup and League double for the first time in the club's history, a magnificent achievement considering that it was done without the assistance of a professional player. The club has gone on to achieve two further doubles in the next decade, establishing Clontarf as the outstanding Leinster club side of the '90s.

The Cup final victory in 1992 was dominated by the finest innings from a Clontarf player in living memory, Deryck Vincent scored 161, a club record for senior cricket, in a demolition of YMCA in the Phoenix Park. After a fitful start, he found his true touch following a brief rain interruption. He played every shot in the book in an exhibition of beauty, grace and power that left YMCA – so often Clontarf's nemesis in previous seasons – floundering. This was an innings of consummate

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artistry and aggression: it has stayed fresh in the memory of all who saw it.

The fine summer of 1995 brought another double to Castle Avenue under the captaincy of Jonathan Fitzpatrick. The new batting star was the South African player-coach, Andre Botha, who had replaced the long-serving John Lyon the previous year. A tall, silkily elegant left-handed bat, he remained with the club until the end of the 2000 season. To date, he stands at the head of the all-time Clontarf batting averages with 50.10, just ahead of Michael Rea. For all of the 1990s, therefore, the club was fortunate to have the successive services of the two most prolific batsmen in its 125-year history. Botha was also a very useful seam bowler, as his haul of over 200 senior wickets in seven seasons testifies.

There was a blip in the 1st XI's fortunes in 1997 when a young side was relegated to Section B of the Senior League. In the preceding two years, it had lost two of its leading players: all-rounder Jonathan Fitzpatrick to emigration and Alan McClean to premature retirement. But they bounced back to Section A the next year and went on to win the League in 1999 before recording a third League-Cup double in 2000. The double-winning captain was Ronan O'Reilly.

#### Junior sides in the 1990s

Although the golden years of the 2nd XI passed with the 1980s, the side remained one of the more

formidable Senior II outfits in the next decade. Wins in the League 1992 and '93, in the Cup in 1993 and '96 and in the Tillain Cup in 1993, and '95 maintained their position but there was a definite falling away in standards in the latter years of the decade. The treble-winning side of 1993 was led by Mark Traynor and contained such fine cricketers as Rick Collins, Feargheal Woods, Paddy Lee and Johnny Barry.

The 3rd XI won a memorable Middle Cup final in Leinster against North County in 1990, with David Byrne taking four wickets for no runs when North County were within 11 runs of victory. They lost the final to Old Belvedere the following year but won the League. The Cup returned in 1994 and the YMCA Salver followed in '97. The 4ths won the Intermediate Cup in 1992 and '94 and the Whelan Cup in 1998. The 5ths finally landed a pot in 1997 when they clinched the Junior C League under Donal O'Sullivan. Sadly, the 6th XI folded in that same year. The balmy days when the club could have turned out seven teams suddenly seemed a long way distant, as we struggled to fill five.

#### International Ground

Castle Avenue had been an international cricket ground since the mid '60s. Among the touring sides

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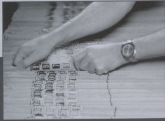
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that have graced our club were the 1967 Indians, the 1968 and 1993 Australians, and the 1980 and 1995 West Indians. Some of the greatest players in the history of cricket have played in Castle Avenue. No one who saw them will ever forget Malcolm Marshall bowling (down the hill in bad light at terrifying pace) or Allen Border bat.

The biggest crowd ever accommodated on the ground gathered on 21 May 1999 when Castle Avenue hosted the only World Cup match played in Ireland to date. In preparation for what was the biggest day in the history of the club, all available resources were deployed to ensure that the ground was ready and looking its very best. Everyone from the President, Fergus Carroll, down took a hand at some point or other. The organization of match day itself was overseen by an energetic committee under the direction of Keith Lewis and was a triumph. The one thing that could not be controlled was the weather. Happily, it was dry for the most part – although cold – and the match was finished within the day. For the record, West Indies easily disposed of Bangladesh. The ground looked wonderful on television; everything went off as planned; we all felt as proud as punch; and at the end of the day, there was the

designated by the ICC as the premier venue for international cricket in the Republic of Ireland.

## Umpires

Clontarf has made a contribution to umpiring in Leinster of which the club can be proud. The late Bob Smith was one of the founder members of the Leinster Cricket Umpires' Association and was its leading light in its early days. His brother Jeff was also a stalwart umpire as was the late Cecil Dixon. In more recent times, Louis Hogan was a very distinguished international umpire. Other Clontarf members who have donned the white coat include Alan Tuffery, Peter Thew, David Walsh and Tom Byrne. Dickie Spence had shown every sign of developing into one of the country's leading umpires prior to his untimely death.

## Off the field

Clontarf Cricket Club has also made its contribution to the game on the administrative side. Bobby Brophy, Tom Prior and Enda McDermott have been Presidents of the LCU. Enda McDermott also had the honour of being President of the ICU in 1998. But the outstanding administrative role has been played

by Evans Dexter who was President of the ICU in 1995, of Clontarf Cricket Club in 1971-2 and of the Football Club in 1991. This last double is unique: Evans is the only person to have been president of both Castle Avenue clubs. It only remains for him now to assume the one presidency that has so far eluded him: that of Ireland itself.

Likewise, Clontarf has been fortunate in its internal administration. There has been continuity and stability on the executive committee and an orderly

succession to the presidency on a two-year term basis. Most of all, the club has had the services of three fine honorary secretaries over the last twenty years: Robert Ellis, Keith Lewis and the incumbent Stella Downes. There is no more vital position in any club than that of honorary secretary and it has been Clontarf's good fortune to have had three persons of such outstanding ability at the helm over such a long period of time



21st May 1999

*West Indian legend Clive Lloyd wrapped-up to protect himself from the cold on the day of the World Cup match, West Indies v Bangladesh, at Castle Avenue.*

almost surreal sight of the great Vivian Richards – by then retired – sashaying up the Clontarf Cricket Club bar with that inimitable gunslinger walk of his.

That Castle Avenue ever saw the day was due more than anything else to four people: Paddy Cody; Bertie Shaw; Podge Hughes and Karl MacDermott. For almost half a century, these four groundsmen have laboured in succession to produce the wickets and the outfield that have made the ground officially

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## Clontarf Ladies' Cricket Club - Past and Present

It is with gratitude that we acknowledge the sterling work done by the ladies of the Club over the years. We know that we are very lucky to have a willing band of workers on hand to provide the catering, whatever the occasion. There never seems to be a fuss or delay in providing lunches or teas - however trying circumstances may be. The current 'team', ably led by Jill O'Neill do a superb job and maintain the high standards set by Gladys Smith, Frankie O'Carroll and Phyllis Vincent (to name but a few).

By the early 1940's the women had decided that they had watched enough cricket to give the game a go. The Leinster Ladies' Cricket League had been set up in 1941 and the first Clontarf Ladies' team was successful in that competition in 1942, captained by E. Feeney. The Ladies' team was given great support and encouragement in Clontarf but this was not the case in many other senior clubs. The Ladies' Club flourished for 20 years, but a waning of interest in the game saw the Club disbanded.

During the twenty years the Leinster League had teams from Dairry, Leinster, Civil Service, Trinity, Bellshire, Railway Union, Ling and Clontarf. There were also interprovincial matches against Ulster and games against visiting sides from the North and from Britain. There were also representative games between Irish and British teams and 'caps' were awarded. Clontarf had probably the best Irish lady cricketer of that era in Marie Coffey. In one season she scored 276 runs at an average of 30.6 while taking 48 wickets at an average of 2.3. She recorded two hat tricks in that one season.

Clontarf Ladies' Cricket Club re-formed towards the end of the 1975 season and has been going strong

ever since. The first trophies of the modern era were the Division 1 League and Senior Cup in 1977. From then until the mid 90's Clontarf were to dominate ladies' cricket in Leinster. In the 22 seasons from 1977 to 1998 Clontarf won 16 Senior League titles, the Senior Cup 14 times and the 40 Overs League 10 times. This is an incredible record and one that will be difficult to beat. For five years on the trot in the 1980's they swept the board winning the treble each year. The 2nd and 3rd XI's also played their part winning the Division 2 League three times, the Division 3 League twice and the Junior Cup five times. During this period Clontarf players also made up much of the Senior and Junior North Leinster interprovincial sides.

Over the years Clontarf has been well represented on the Ireland Team with players such as Anne Murray, Lily Owens, Stella Owens and Susan Bray as regular representatives on the National side. Anne was renowned for her stylish strokeplay and superb fielding, Lily and Stella were both all-rounders and the pace of Susan Bray's bowling struck fear into the hearts of many opponents! In recent years Grainne Leahy, Marguerite Burke and Tracey Skoyles have also joined the elite band of Clontarf players on the Irish team. A number of players have also represented Clontarf on Irish U19 sides.

In recent years women's cricket has become much more structured with leagues from U13 upwards. Clontarf is currently going through a 'rebuilding' phase where there is much emphasis on introducing as many young players as possible to the game. With a number of trained coaches in the Club and a lot of enthusiastic young talent, the future of the Ladies' Club looks bright. We look forward to seeing many more Clontarf names on Irish team sheets in the years to come!



*The Ladies Committee which helped to run the fund-raising carnival on the grounds. Many of these ladies went on to play cricket for Clontarf Ladies Cricket Club.*

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Name	M	I	NO	H	R	A	Innings		O	M	R	W	A	Ct
							batted	In						
J. G. Aston	6	11	1	53*	91	9.10	6	69	11	114	10	11.40	6	
E. H. Boddell	6	10	5	11*	25	5.00	10	175	40	489	11	44.45	1	
J. D. Caprani	6	11	—	44	121	11.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	
A. W. Cooper	2	4	—	31	66	16.50	3	26	3	108	3	36.00	1	
S. H. Crawford	1	1	—	11	11	11.00	2	16	2	60	6	10.00	—	
F. M. Fligas	1	2	—	3	3	1.50	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
W. E. Houghton	5	8	—	25	46	5.75	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
J. W. Hill	14	21	9	27*	138	11.50	23	296	77	709	32	22.15	1	
N. B. Hoel	13	21	10	27	171	15.54	21	282	60	801	27	29.66	4	
L. P. Hughes	13	21	6	35	159	10.60	21	257.3	67	763	15	50.86	11	
L. C. Jacobson	12	22	3	101	358	18.84	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
G. A. Kirwan	2	2	1	0*	0	0.00	3	29	11	91	2	45.50	—	
G. H. McCormack	1	1	—	6	6	6.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
E. A. McDermott†	10	15	—	80	378	25.20	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
N. C. Mahony	9	17	1	42	299	18.68	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
G. J. Morgan	1	1	—	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
W. C. Pemberton	4	7	3	31	55	13.75	5	111	26	263	5	52.60	1	
M. P. Rea	51	70	3	115	2045	30.52	1	0.4	—	8	1	8.00	6	
E. N. Seymour	3	5	—	3	9	1.08	6	45	9	147	4	36.75	1	
M. H. Stevenson	11	20	2	80	467	23.94	1	4	—	27	—	—	4	
D. A. Vincent	21	31	3	52*	534	19.27	1	4	2	11	—	—	8	
R. H. C. Waters	11	18	1	70	330	19.41	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	

†E. A. McDermott's figures include game against Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk's XI.

\*Not out.

## International Tie-Bit

In July 1948, four Clontarf players were in the (then named) Gentlemen of Ireland team which played the Gentlemen of Scotland team in Glasgow. The players were N. C. Mahony, L. C. Jacobson, G. W. Hill and N. C. Hoel. The G.O.I. won the match by 118 runs.

## FIXTURES AT CASTLE AVENUE IN 2002

### May

Sat 4	5th XI	Merrion
Sun 5	4th XI	Knockharley
Mon 6	3rd XI	Merrion
Sat 11	1st XI	Leinster
Sun 12	5th XI	Garda
Thu 16	Ladies 1st	Trinity
Fri 17	3rd XI	Dublin University
Wed 19	Ireland	Nottinghamshire
Sun 19	4th XI	The Hills
Sat 25	1st XI	Donemana (I. Sen. Cup)
Sun 26	3rd XI	Rush
Sun 26	U11(B)	The Hills
Wed 29	Ireland	Nottinghamshire
Thu 30	Ladies 1st	Y.M.C.A. (F)

### June

Sat 1	4th XI	Ballyeighan
Sat 1	U11(B)	Malahide
Sun 2	2nd XI	Phoenix (c)
Mon 3	5th XI	Leinster
Tue 4	2nd XI	North County (20 overs)
Thu 6	Ladies 1st	Leinster
Sat 8	U11(A)	North County (c)
Sun 9	4th XI	Phoenix
Sun 9	U13(A)	North County
Tue 11	1st XI	CYM (20 overs)
Sat 15	3rd XI	YMCA
Sun 16	U13(A)	Balbriggan (c)
Wed 19	2nd XI	Phoenix
Sat 22	4th XI	YMCA
Sat 22	U11(B)	North County
Sun 23	5th XI	Phoenix
Sun 23	U11(A)	Merrion
Wed 26	U15(A)	The Hills
Thu 27	Ladies 2nd	Leinster
Sat 29	1st XI	Phoenix
Sat 29	U11(A)	Railway Union
Sun 30	2nd XI	Malahide
Sun 30	U11(B)	Rush

### July

Mon 1	Ireland Ladies	New Zealand
Tue 2	U15(B)	Merrion
Wed 3	Girls U13	Merrion
Thu 4	U17	Leinster
Thu 4	Ladies 2nd	Merrion
Sat 6	4th XI	Knockharley or YMCA (c)
Sun 7	3rd XI	North Kildare
Sun 7	U11(B)	Old Belvedere
Mon 8	Ladies 1st	Rush
Wed 10	Girls U13	Malahide
Thu 11	Ladies 1st	Malahide
Sat 14		
and	Southern XI	Northern Cricket Union
Sun 15		

Mon 15	Ladies 1st	Merrion
Tue 16	U19	The Hills
Tue 16	Girls U13	Leinster
Wed 17	U15(A)	Leinster
Thu 18	U19	Phoenix
Thu 18	Ladies 2nd	Phoenix
Sat 20	4th XI	Leinster
Sat 20	U11(A)	Pembroke
Sun 21	1st XI	CYM
Sun 21	U13(A)	Malahide
Wed 24	U15(B)	Old Belvedere
Thu 25	Girls U13	Sandyford
Fri 26	European U13	Tournament Game
Sat 27	5th XI	North Kildare
Sat 27	U13(A)	Balbriggan
Sun 28	4th XI	Railway Union
Tue 30	U15(A)	YMCA

### August

Thu 1	U15(A)	Rush
Thu 1	Ladies 2nd	Pembroke
Sat 3	3rd XI	Leinster
Sun 4	2nd XI	Railway Union
Sun 4	U13(A)	CYM
Mon 5	1st XI	Malahide
Tue 6	U17	North County
Thu 8	U15(A)	CYM
Fri 9	Girls U13	Rush
Sat 10	2nd XI	North County
Sun 11	5th XI	Malahide
Mon 12	U15(A)	Malahide
Thu 13	U15(B)	Sandyford
Wed 14	3rd XI	Phoenix
Fri 16	Girls U13	The Hills
Sat 17	1st XI	Merrion
Sun 18	2nd XI	Leinster
Tue 20	1st XI	Watsonians (F)
Fri 23	5th XI	Mullingar
Fri 23	Royal Liver All-Ireland Cup Final**	
Sat 24	1st XI	Pembroke
Sun 25	5th XI	Aer Lingus
Sat 31	3rd XI	Sandyford

### September

Sun 1	4th XI	North County
Sat 7	2nd XI	Merrion
Thu 12	Ireland	Norfolk*
Sat 14	1st XI	North County
Sun 15	2nd XI	Pembroke

\*Provisional on Ireland defeating Berkshire in 1st Round

\*\*Provisional on one southern team being involved

**CHECK NOTICE BOARD FOR ANY ALTERATION TO THE FIXTURE LIST**



## Clontarf Interprovincial Players

Name	M	I	NO	HS	R	A	W	R	A	Ct	St
E. H. Bodell	6	4	2	7*	10	5.00	9	169	18.77	1	-
B. P. Bergin	1	1	-	0	0	0.00	-	-	-	-	-
J. B. Bunworth	27	25	6	103*	390	20.52	-	-	-	9	-
M. R. Bunworth	7	6	2	8	29	7.25	3	159	53.00	-	-
F. J. Carroll	17	9	2	20*	96	13.71	-	-	-	17	1
M. A. Carroll	3	3	-	16	27	9.00	-	-	-	-	-
C. G. Daly	5	5	3	12*	30	15.00	-	-	-	5	-
J. Daly	7	4	1	17*	31	10.33	-	-	-	7	1
M. J. Delaney	5	-	-	-	-	-0	6	107	17.83	-	-
J. Fitzpatrick	13	10	2	46	102	12.75	18	536	29.77	2	-
N. P. Grier	31	20	1	42	201	10.57	7	151	21.57	10	-
L. P. Hughes†	25	15	3	47	111	9.25	56	732	13.07	8	-
G. A. Kirwan	25	11	7	6*	22	5.50	40	887	22.17	2	-
P. Lee	2	2	-	4	4	2.00	-	-	-	-	-
A. McClean	26	25	5	73	606	30.30	-	4	-	14	-
E. A. McDermott	61	56	7	108	1328	27.10	-	-	-	19	-
S. B. McMullan	1	1	-	9	9	9.00	-	-	-	-	-
B. MacNeice	16	10	2	58	191	23.87	10	452	45.20	2	-
F. O'Mahony	4	3	1	35	45	22.50	1	63	63.00	1	-
P. O'Reilly	9	7	2	23*	70	14.00	-	-	-	5	1
R. Prendergast	6	6	-	15	49	8.16	-	-	-	1	-
M. P. Rea NL & UT	38	38	5	120	1365	41.36	-	7	-	8	-
K. Spelman	1	1	-	10	10	10.00	-	4	-	-	-
D. A. Vincent	36	35	2	145*	1361	41.24	-	25	-	9	-
R. H. C. Waters	16	14	1	104	368	28.30	-	-	-	5	-

NL = North Leinster

UT = Ulster Towns

†Also played Interprovincial while with Dublin University and Malahide but these figures are not included here

\*Not out.

FIXTURES AND THE AVENUE IN 2002



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## Clontarf Batting Averages

(Excluding All Ireland competition)

Name	Career	Matches	Innings	Not Out	Most	Runs	Average	100s	50s
A. C. Botha	1994-2000	142	136	27	133*	5461	50.10	7	38
M. P. Rea	1989-1994	83	80	9	114	3339	47.02	1	32
R. H. C. Waters	1967-1969	46	45	5	120*	1496	37.40	2	9
T. Fourie	2000-2001	38	35	3	129*	1191	37.21	3	8
D. A. Vincent	1981-2001	314	301	31	161	9508	35.21	13	49
A. McClean	1985-1996	177	162	32	121	4505	34.65	4	27
N. C. Mahony	1938-1963	195	197	21	110*	5904	33.54	4	41
L. C. Jacobson	1944-1960	149	147	11	103*	4023	29.58	4	17
R. O'Reilly	1992-2001	132	124	24	89	2874	28.74	-	16
W. J. Moynan	1945-1955	121	119	20	122	2745	27.72	3	12
J. B. Bunworth	1962-1989	299	289	39	128*	6745	26.98	7	33
E. A. McDermott	1963-1993	539	485	55	130*	11583	26.93	10	59
J. D. Caprani	1937-1951	141	144	23	119*	3027	25.01	1	20
B. MacNeice	1986-2001	225	166	37	81	3148	24.40	-	12
N. P. Grier	1966-1988	388	349	34	103*	7063	22.42	3	34
J. Fitzpatrick	1986-1995	129	100	18	77	1797	21.91	-	6
S. B. McMullan	1954-1971	190	182	14	98	3510	20.89	-	17
P. Prendegast	1981-1999	166	152	10	108	2887	20.33	1	14
B. P. Bergin	1975-1994	280	236	46	83	3825	20.13	-	14
M. A. Carroll	1953-1977	209	190	20	124	3342	19.65	2	10
J. Daly	1984-2000	176	127	9	110*	1914	19.53	1	6
C. G. Daly	1976-1993	108	89	16	62*	1384	18.95	-	4
G. J. Morgan	1930-1942	137	134	8	104*	2360	18.73	2	7
F. J. Carroll	1957-2001	462	354	90	109	4843	18.34	2	7
E. N. Seymour	1922-1931	79	75	3	80	1303	18.09	-	7
J. M. Nolan	1968-1987	259	226	63	67*	2948	18.08	-	5
E. d'H. Dexter	1944-1964	155	147	15	94	2372	17.96	-	11
A. W. D. Spence	1956-1989	247	217	23	74*	3323	17.12	-	10
P. Lee	1993-2001	85	73	8	93	1103	16.96	-	5
V. A. Kelly	1942-1962	88	78	13	82	1073	16.50	-	4
J. W. Hill	1935-1960	203	187	31	119	2481	15.90	2	3
L. P. Hughes	1959-1987	370	286	41	103	3890	15.87	1	9
D. A. Fleming	1981-1988	85	75	10	56	1003	15.43	-	2
G. M. Carroll	1950-1964	128	114	13	72*	1518	15.02	-	1
J. G. Aston	1920-1928	77	78	3	61*	1125	15.00	-	3
D. A. Sweeney	1954-1968	108	106	7	77*	1427	14.41	-	4
D. F. Fitzgerald	1933-1952	164	136	32	81*	1466	14.09	-	7
G. A. Tyndall	1923-1934	105	99	9	82	1181	13.12	-	3
J. J. Ledwidge	1920-1934	163	150	20	69	1699	13.06	-	3
P. J. Bourke	1936-1952	194	173	9	91	1954	11.91	-	1
T. J. Dume	1931-1944	115	108	14	68*	1019	10.80	-	3
V. F. Savino	1953-1969	182	133	28	50*	1127	10.73	-	1
A. R. White	1920-1943	215	197	31	87*	1709	10.29	-	2
E. H. Bodell	1944-1976	350	231	57	49	1720	9.88	-	2
C. P. Stuart	1921-1942	144	127	12	73	1112	9.66	-	1

\*Not out. Qualification: 1,000 runs in Senior League and Cup competitions since 1920.

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## Clontarf Bowling Averages

	Career	Matches	Wickets	Runs	Average	5 Wkts in innings
G. A. Tyndall	1923-1934	105	148	1488 <sup>2</sup>	10.05	8
E. N. Seymour	1922-1931	79	129	1333	10.33	8
S. A. Martin	1932-1935	38	108	1224	11.33	6
J. G. Aston	1920-1928	77	155	1795	11.58	8
W. C. Pemberton	1925-1950	94	264	3190	12.08	21
J. J. Ledwidge	1920-1934	163	211	2661	12.61	11
J. M. Sweeney	1925-1931	65	102	1340	13.13	5
G. A. Kirwan	1961-1992	391	1033	14295	13.83	55
J. W. Hill	1935-1960	203	609	8624	14.16	48
T. J. Dunne	1931-1944	115	191	2706	14.17	15
R. J. Furley	1936-1963	86	179	2561	14.30	11
A. R. White	1930-1943	215	108	1577	14.60	5
E. H. Bodell	1944-1976	350	786	11699	14.88	48
L. P. Hughes	1959-1987	370	600	9567	15.94	25
D. C. O'Kelly	1965-1979	76	121	1956	16.16	6
M. R. Bunworth	1968-1988	240	407	7215	17.72	18
D. F. Fitzgerald	1933-1952	164	214	3819	17.84	12
A. C. Botha	1994-2000	142	261	4295	16.45	6
V. F. Savino	1953-1969	182	217	4080	18.80	5
M. J. Delaney	1965-1990	223	345	6537	18.94	15
N. P. Grier	1966-1988	388	359	7021	19.55	16
P. M. Murphy	1968-1977	87	100	2101	21.01	3
K. Spelman	1996-2001	86	135	2852	21.12	1
D. A. Vincent	1981-2001	314	141	3012	21.36	1
L. B. McMahon	1931-1949	152	130	2948	22.67	4
J. Barry	1989-2001	142	136	3103	22.81	-
B. MacNeice	1986-2001	225	316	7392	23.39	9
J. Fitzpatrick	1986-1995	129	181	4324	23.88	3
F. O'Mahony	1987-1994	103	136	3376	24.82	5

Qualification: 100 wickets.

### Three Clontarf Bowling Greats



**E. H. Bodell**  
786 wickets at 14.88



**G. A. Kirwan**  
1033 wickets at 13.83



**J. W. Hill**  
609 wickets at 14.16

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## Wicketkeeping

	Career	Matches	Caught	Stumped	Total
F. J. Carroll	1957-2001	462	368	134	502
P. J. Bourke	1936-1952	194	73	82	155
A. Hancock	1994-2001	113	102	21	123
J. Daly	1984-2000	176	85	26	111
J. A. Bell	1953-1966	121	68	20	88
C. P. Stuart	1921-1942	144	51	22	73
L. C. Jacobson	1944-1960	149	47	11	58

## Catches

	Career	Matches	Catches
N. P. Grier	1966-1988	388	143
E. A. McDermott	1963-1993	539	141*
D. A. Vincent	1981-2001	314	112**
J. B. Bunworth	1962-1989	299	87
J. M. Nolan	1968-1987	259	85
B. P. Bergin	1975-1994	280	81
V. F. Savino	1953-1969	182	77
L. P. Hughes	1959-1987	370	75
M. A. Carroll	1953-1977	209	72
B. Mc Neice	1986-2001	225	65
A. McClean	1985-1996	177	64
A. C. Botha	1994-2000	142	62
J. D. Caprani	1937-1951	141	61
G. A. Kirwan	1961-1992	391	55
J. J. Ledwidge	1920-1934	163	53
G. J. Morgan	1930-1942	137	53
L. B. McMahon	1931-1949	152	53
A. R. White	1920-1943	215	52
E. H. Bodell	1944-1976	350	51

Qualification: 50

\*Includes 15 catches as wicketkeeper.

\*\*Includes 9 catches as wicketkeeper.

## 1000 Runs and 100 Wickets by Clontarf Players

	Runs	Wickets
J. G. Aston	1125	155
E. H. Bodell	1720	786
A. C. Botha	5461	261
T. J. Dunne	1016	191
D. F. Fitzgerald	1466	214
J. Fitzpatrick	1797	181
N. P. Grier	7063	359
J. W. Hill	2481	609
L. P. Hughes	3890	600
J. J. Ledwidge	1699	211
B. MacNeice	3148	316
V. F. Savino	1127	217
E. N. Seymour	1303	129
G. A. Tyndall	1181	148
D. A. Vincent	9508	141
A. R. White	1709	108

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## Best Recorded Clontarf Batting Partnerships

Wkt.	Year	Runs	Opponents	Batsmen
1st	1990	205 *	Old Belvedere	D. A. Vincent-P. Prendergast
2nd	1985	218 *	The Hills	D. A. Vincent-N. P. Grier
3rd	1995	198 *	Carlisle	A. C. Botha-D. A. Vincent
4th	1991	120	Carlisle	A. McClean-J. Daly
5th	1982	163 *	Dublin University	N. P. Grier-J. M. Nolan
6th	1995	95	Carlisle	R. O'Reilly-B. MacNeice
7th	1967	106	Merrion	J. B. Bunworth-F. J. Carroll
8th	1970	100	Y.M.C.A.	A. W. D. Spence-F. J. Carroll
9th	1970	80	Y.M.C.A.	F. J. Carroll-E. H. Bodell
10th	1960	88 *	Pembroke	V. F. Savino-J. A. Bell

\*Unfinished

## Centuries Scored by Clontarf Players up to 2001

D. A. Vincent	13
E. A. McDermott	10
A. C. Botha	7
J. B. Bunworth	7
L. C. Jacobson	4
N. C. Mahony	4
A. McClean	4
T. Fourie	3
N. P. Grier	3
W. J. Moynan	3
F. J. Carroll	2
M. A. Carroll	2
G. J. Morgan	2
R. H. C. Waters	2
H. R. Aston	1
J. D. Caprani	1
J. Daly	1
T. K. Gleeson	1
J. W. Hill	1
L. P. Hughes	1
P. Prendergast	1
M. P. Rea	1
R. T. Ruddock	1

Clontarf Results Against Other Clubs  
Leinster Senior League and Cup since 1920

From Year	Club	Played	Won	Tied	NR	Drew	Lost
1941	Carlisle	55	27	1	-	15	12
1981	CYM	39	26	-	-	5	8
1920	Dublin University	93	45	-	-	18	30
1920	Leinster	155	48	1	-	37	69
1953	Malahide	97	39	1	-	19	38
1926	Merrion	140	66	-	2	41	31
1990	Nth. County	13	10	-	-	1	2
1957	Old Belvedere	88	39	-	-	26	23
1920	Pembroke	170	60	1	-	40	69
1920	Phoenix	149	43	2	2	32	70
1920	Railway Union	128	82	-	-	17	29
1995	Rush	11	7	-	1	-	3
1983	The Hills	28	16	1	-	4	7
1934	Y.M.C.A.	134	56	1	1	33	43

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## CLONTARF PLAYERS WHO WERE LEADERS OF PROVINCIAL AVERAGES

### BATTING

*Marchant Cup first presented in 1921*

			Runs	Average
1930	E. N. Seymour	won Marchant Cup	337	37.44
1944*	N. C. Mahony		526	37.57
1945	W. J. Moynan	won Marchant Cup	400	40.00
1948	W. E. Haughton (also played with Dublin University)	won Marchant Cup	354	70.80
1952	N.C.Mahony	won Marchant Cup	534	59.33
1959	L. C. Jacobson	won Marchant Cup	492	49.20
1968	J. B. Bunworth	won Marchant Cup	676	61.45
1978	J. B. Bunworth	won Marchant Cup	784	56.00
1991	M. P. Rea	won Marchant Cup	687	57.25

\* Scores in knock-out cup ties were not included in the Marchant Cup until 1946. In 1944 P. J. Quinn (Phoenix) won the Cup on league only figures with N. C. Mahony second. With cup matches included the positions were reversed.

### BOWLING

*O'Grady Cup first presented in 1937*

			Wkts.	Runs	Average
1920	O. Smith (also played with Civil Service)		27	200	7.40
1926	E. N. Seymour		35	254	7.25
1927	E. N. Seymour		26	225	8.65
1928	E. N. Seymour		18	169	9.38
1948	N. B. Hood (also played with Dublin University)	won O'Grady Cup	41	453	11.04
1950	J. W. Hill	won O'Grady Cup	36	416	11.55
1982	G. A. Kirwan	won O'Grady Cup	82	890	10.85
1983	G. A. Kirwan	won O'Grady Cup	67	554	8.26

### ALL ROUNDERS

*Samuels Cup first awarded in 1963*

			Batting		Bowling			Catches
			Runs	Average	Wkts.	Runs	Average	
1927	E. N. Seymour		275	27.50	26	225	8.65	*
1930	G. A. Tyndall		170	24.28	18	99	5.50	*
1994	A. Botha	won Samuels Cup	733	48.86	42	666	15.85	*
2001	T. Fourie	won Samuels Cup	849	26.53	27	537	19.89	10

\* Catches were not taken into account for this category until after 1994

### WICKET KEEPING

		Caught	Stumped	
1926	F. E. Buxton	7	3	
1929	F. E. Buxton	3	4	
1933	C. P. Stuart	6	6	
1941	P. J. Bourke	12	18	
1948	P. J. Bourke	5	5	
1968	F. J. Carroll	15	9	
1971	F. J. Carroll	26	7	
1973	F. J. Carroll	22	6	
1983	F. J. Carroll	won Hopkins Cup	24	5
1991	J. Daly	won Hopkins Cup	21	11
1992	J. Daly	won Hopkins Cup	20	3

### CATCHES IN OUTFIELD

1930	E. W. Hall	8
1936	T. J. Dunne	10
	G. J. Morgan	10
1947	W. J. Moynan	7
1952	H. A. Buttimer	9

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## ALL-IRELAND CUP

This competition, which was inaugurated in 1982 involves clubs in the Leinster Cricket Union, Munster Cricket Union, Ulster Cricket Union and the North West Cricket Union.

Initially, matches which could not be completed due to weather, were decided on a bowl-out. Clontarf were involved in three such deciders, winning one and losing two, all in Castle Avenue. Currently, weather affected matches are re-fixed to the ground of the visiting team in the initial match.

To date, Clontarf have played 34 matches in this competition, winning 15 and losing 19. The final was reached in 1990 when we were defeated by Lurgan by 73 runs. In 1998 we lost the semi-final by 2 runs to Ballymena.

The principal statistics are:

## Batting

	M	Inn.	N.O.	H	T	Av.	100's	50's
B. Bergin	18	14	3	54	270	24.54	—	1
J. Daly	17	14	4	38*	215	21.50	—	—
J. Fitzpatrick	9	7	1	90	218	36.33	—	2
N. P. Grier	10	7	1	84*	234	39.00	—	1
B. MacNeice	23	18	3	67*	249	16.60	—	1
A. McClean	20	17	1	66	247	15.43	—	1
E. A. McDermott	24	19	2	40	289	17.00	—	—
P. Prendergast	13	12	—	88	271	22.58	—	2
M. P. Rea	11	11	1	70*	385	38.50	—	3
D. A. Vincent	31	28	1	101*	724	26.81	1	4
R. O'Reilly	9	9	1	100	316	39.50	1	1

## Bowling

	M	Wkts	Runs	Av.	5 wkts/Inns
J. Barry	18	16	485	30.31	1
J. Fitzpatrick	9	10	222	22.20	—
B. MacNeice	23	25	471	18.84	—
N. P. Grier	10	11	249	22.63	—
G. A. Kirwan	18	30	638	21.26	—
D. A. Vincent	31	22	584	26.54	1

Qualification: 200 runs or 10 wickets



*Only 9 even then!  
Ah yes! but the others are coming by bicycle!*

# Best Wishes to Clontarf Cricket Club

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## TROPHIES AND AWARDS

### HIGHS & LOWS

#### BEST BOWLING

- 10 S. Devitt (U 14) v Malahide, 1956  
 10 Paddy Monaghan (5ths) v Old Belvedere, 1963  
 10 Michael McTiernan (2nds) v CYM, 1987
- Others of note*
- 9 for 36 E. Bodell (1sts) v Pembroke, 1950  
 9 for 77 B. McNeice (1sts) v YMCA, 1990  
 Also 9 wickets G.A. Tyndall (2nds), R. Ferguson (3rds), M. Browne (3rds)
- E.N. Seymour took 7 for 1 in 7.3 overs (6 maidens) v Trinity, 1926

#### BEST BATTING

- 173 Paul Ryan (3rds) v Leinster 1998 (137Balls 3 Sixes & 27 Fours)  
 170 David McGeehan (3rds) v Leinster, 1994  
 161 D. Vincent (1sts) v YMCA, 1992

#### MOST WICKETKEEPING DISMISSALS

- In a season F.J. Carroll 1971 - 33 (Caught 26, Stumped 7)  
 In a game P.J. Bourke 1949 - 5 (Caught 1, Stumped 4) v Dublin University  
 F.J. Carroll 1988 - 5 (Caught 3, Stumped 2) v CYM

#### MOST WICKETS IN A SEASON

- 82 G.A. Kirwan (1sts) 1982 (record for non-professional in Leinster)
- Others of note*
- 54 P. McCready (2nds) 1992  
 53 M.J. Delaney (2nds) 1984

#### MOST RUNS IN A SEASON

- 951 D. Vincent (1sts) 1985  
 920 A. Botha (1sts) 1995
- Others of note*
- 538 A.W.D. Spence (3rds) 1984

#### FASTEST 100

- J. Boyd under 30 mins on 3/6/1911 v Co. Kildare (inc 4 x 6s and 16 x 4s)  
 H.R. Aston 100\* in 90 mins (inc 15 x 4s) v Leinster in 1924  
 D.A. Vincent 100\* in 65 mins (inc 2 x 6s, 15 x 4s) v Railway Union in 1998

#### LOWEST SCORES

- 4 Schoolboys v Leinster, 1927 ( 3 byes and 1 run from the bat)  
 12 1sts v Phoenix 1936

#### HIGHEST SCORES

- 379 3rds v Leinster 1998  
 366 1sts v Railway Union 1957  
 363 for 9 1sts v Merrion, Cup Final, 1995

#### MOST DUCKS IN A SEASON

- 8 Peter Duggan 1985

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## TROPHIES WON BY CLONTARF SENIOR TEAMS


Year	Teams	Trophy
1898	1st XI	Irish Junior Cup
1905	1st XI	Irish Junior Cup
1924	2nd XI	Intermediate Cup
1926	1st XI	Senior League
1928	2nd XI	Intermediate Cup
1941	3rd XI	Junior League
1943	1st XI	Senior Cup
1944	2nd XI 3rd XI	Intermediate Cup Junior Cup
1946	3rd XI	Junior Cup
1950	1st XI	Senior Cup
1954	2nd XI	Senior II League
1957	4th XI	Junior League
1958	3rd XI	Intermediate Cup Irish Junior Cup
1960	2nd XI 3rd XI	Senior II League Intermediate Cup
1961	1st XI 2nd XI	Senior League Senior II League
1964	5th XI	Minor Cup
1965	1st XI 2nd XI 5th XI	Alan Murray Cup Senior II Cup Minor Cup
1966	5th XI	Minor League Minor Cup
1968	3rd XI	Intermediate Cup
1969	1st XI 2nd XI 3rd XI 4th XI	Senior Cup Senior II League Intermediate Cup Junior League
1970	1st XI 2nd XI 3rd XI 5th XI	Alan Murray Cup Senior II Cup Irish Junior Cup Minor Cup
1971	1st XI 3rd XI	Beckett Cup Intermediate Cup Intermediate League

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## TROPHIES WON BY CLONTARF SENIOR TEAMS

Year	Teams	Trophy
1972	1st XI	Senior League Alan Murray Cup
	2nd XI	Senior II League
1973	1st XI	Alan Murray Cup Beckett Cup
	2nd XI	Senior II League Senior II Cup
	3rd XI	Intermediate Cup
1974	2nd XI	Senior II League
1976	4th XI	Intermediate League
	5th XI	Junior Cup
1977	1st XI	Wiggins Teape League (shared - Leinster, YMCA)
1978	1st XI	Wiggins Teape League
	2nd XI	Senior II Cup Senior II League
1979	1st XI	Wiggins Teape League
	2nd XI	Senior II League
	5th XI	Junior League
1980	1st XI	Wiggins Teape League (Shared - Leinster)
1981	2nd XI	Senior II League
1982	4th XI	Intermediate League
1983	2nd XI	Senior II League
1984	2nd XI	Senior II League
	4th XI	Whelan Cup
1985	3rd XI	Middle Cup
1986	1st XI	Wiggins Teape League
	3rd XI	Middle Cup
1987	1st XI	Wiggins Teape League (Shared - YMCA)
1988	1st XI	Wiggins Teape League
	2nd XI	Senior II Cup Tillain Cup
1989	1st XI	Alan Murray Cup
1990	1st XI	Wiggins Teape League
	3rd XI	Middle Cup
	6th XI	Minor Cup Junior B League

# Best Wishes

To Clontarf Cricket Club  
126 Not Out

*from*



## TROPHIES WON BY CLONTARF SENIOR TEAMS

Year	Teams	Trophy
1991	1st XI	Belvedere Bond League Wiggins Teape League (Shared - YMCA)
	3rd XI	Middle League
1992	1st XI	Senior Cup Belvedere Bond League
	2nd XI	Senior II League
	4th XI	Intermediate Cup
1993	2nd XI	Senior II Cup Senior II League Tillain Cup
1994	1st XI	Wiggins Teape League Alan Murray Cup
	3rd XI	Middle Cup
	4th XI	Intermediate Cup
1995	1st XI	Senior Cup Belvedere Bond League
	2nd XI	Tillain Cup
1996	1st XI	Senior League
	2nd XI	Senior II Cup
1997	3rd XI	YMCA Salver
	5th XI	Junior 'C' League
1998	1st XI	Senior League (Section B)
	4th XI	Whelan Cup
1999	1st XI	Senior League
2000	1st XI	Senior Cup Senior League
2001	5th XI	Minor Cup



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# Deryck Vincent

*"The Little Master"*



*Deryck on his way to a record 1st XI score of 161.  
Leinster Senior Cup final v YMCA at Phoenix C.C. 1st August 1992.*

Those lucky enough to have seen the "Little Master" in full cry with the bat, one-minute rapier, the next broadsword, have enjoyed a sight, which thankfully was not too rare. Those of us who played with him saw batting par excellence on many occasions. It is hard to describe in mere words how good a player Deryck was, but for the writer simply the best ever in Clontarf. It is equally hard to describe the sheer aesthetic pleasure of watching this man bat. So much time to play the ball, always the hallmark of class, and so many different shots. Often it seemed only his own exuberance or profligate use of his many strokes could get him out.

His records bear comparison with the best but his figures tell little of the sumptuous quality of his play. His highest score, a club 1st XI record, was 161 in the Leinster Senior Cup Final of 1992. Going in to bat in the 6th over of a 60 overs per side match, his early batting gave no hint of the magic that would follow. By his own standards he looked out of touch, but, Bradman-like, with hardly a shot played and little fluency he was suddenly 34 not out. Initial diffidence, discretion, lack of timing call it what you will but in any event an early struggle to get established had been interspersed with 6 bad balls all of which were sent to the boundary, unerringly placed.

Then the cricketing Gods smiled. Absolute fluency, grace and touch were in place together with a murderous and ruthless intent.

By the time of his dismissal in the 53rd over a strong YMCA attack had been put to the sword and plundered to the tune of 161 by the Clontarf maestro. To all intents and purposes the game was over but, to cap a great day, he then took 5 wickets when we bowled ourselves to a first Cup win in 23 years.

Was this Deryck's best ever knock? A Cup final 123 at Rathmines in a losing cause or his 145 for North Leinster at Derramore (when a young slow left-arm bowler in line for a cap was ruthlessly destroyed and sank back to oblivion—another Bradman-like trait) may have been better technically or aesthetically but for all Clontarf and no doubt Deryck the 161 in 1992, the Cup, the Man of the Match award, must surely be the best.

Suggested earlier, "was Deryck our best ever bat?" yes probably but views, like beauty, are in the eye of the beholder. Who cares? Certainly not Deryck. Just enjoy the memory of a Gower-like player with odd touches of a left-handed Viv Richards. Most pleasing thoughts for a winter evening beside the fire wine glass in hand recalling the glory of our own "Little Master".

## Deryck Vincent Statistics

	Batting								Bowling				
	M	I	no	H	R	A	100s	50s	W	R	A	5 WI	Cl
<b>Clontarf</b>													
1981-2001	314	301	31	161	9508	35.21	13	49	141	3012	21.36	1	112
<b>Ireland</b>													
1986-1991	21	31	3	52*	534	19.27	-	1	-	11	-	-	8
<b>Inter Pro.</b>													
1983-1991	36	35	2	145*	1361	41.24	3	8	-	25	-	-	9

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it's John Teeling because then the possibility of McDonalds adequately compensates any discomfort experienced.

**Carbosh Superior** (*pvf vb*); Similar to Carbosh (*q.v.*) except that the object of this game is to travel in John Teeling's car.

**Cherkrazy** (*n*); One of Johnny Barry's "looseners".

**Clabby** (*adj.*); A "clabby" conversation is one struck up by someone who has a wealth of dull cricket information to enable them to tell you exactly how many runs they scored centuries ago when wickets were uncovered and games went on for weeks. The opening gambit is designed to provoke the maximum confusion and consequently lead to the longest possible "clabby" conversation. It is vitally important to learn the correct use of "clixby" (*q.v.*), the response to a "clabby" gambit, and not to get trapped by a "dithering" (*q.v.*). For instance, if confronted by a "clabby" gambit such as, "I have never told you about the similarities between the 1969 cup final and the recent 3d XI game against Pembroke have I?" the "dithering" response is "No", whereas the "clixby" is "Good".

**Clixby** (*adj.*); Politely rude, briskly vague, firmly uninformative.

**Climpy** (*adj.*); Unable to decide whom to sit beside at tea, in the dressing room, in the bar or in a car.

**Cubango** (*n*); The stuff foreign players bring with them, examples include Lebeas, Kemmo and Thimas.

## D

**Derbent** (*adj.*); Resolutely determined not to get out (especially in a stumpet which includes full knocks and unlimited appeals).

**Dithering** (*n*); The sudden access of panic experienced by one who realises they are being drawn inexorably into a clabby (*q.v.*) conversation, i.e. one they have no hope of enjoying or understanding.

**Dizful** (*adj.*); Descriptive of a day spent at Cibra.

**Dolgelly** (*adj.*); Nervously indecisive as to how to deal with an airborne ball heading your way.

**Dunoon** (*adj.*); The wistful musings of someone fielding at third man or fine leg. It is a little known fact that in his formative years Pete Prendergast developed an extreme aversion to fielding while in such a state, oh and the plots of his stories.

**Duntish** (*adj.*); Incapable of playing cricket due to a severe hangover.

**Dunster** (*n*); A small child employed by a fielding side to distract the batsmen by either running across the sightcreens or screaming blue murder.

## E

**Edgbaston** (*n*); A batsman who gets the majority of their runs through third man.

**Epping** (*vb*); Of batsmen to "tap down" the pitch in the mistaken belief that it will benefit them in some way.

**Euphrates** (*n*); Jim Symon's response to the question as asked by any member of a barflush (*q.v.*), "how much change would I have from £1 if I bought a bag of crisps and a can of coke?".

## F

**Foix** (*n*); A cover drive that goes for four by beating the slips, third man and anything else in its way.

**Frutal** (*adj.*); Of fast bowlers to be rather too eager to bowl bouncers or beaters.

**Fulking** (*pvf vb*); Pretending to have something else to do when asked to play cricket.

## G

**Gawler** (*n*); Someone who won't pay ten money.

**Gozzo** (*adj.*); Complete lack of interest in the field, also descriptive of the facial expression of Spellers and Bomber who only look as if they have a complete lack of interest, but not to be confused with a similar countenance as seen on Stretch who quite likely is unaware that he's even fielding or playing cricket for that matter.

**Grindelwald** (*adj.*); Descriptive of the style of umpiring as employed by Liam Keegan.

**Groote** (*n*); The sulk a bowler goes into when he is told "thanks for now".

**Gussage** (*n*); The sort of conversation one engages Paddy O'Reilly in whilst admiring his hanging baskets.

## H

**Haltwhistle** (*vb*); Of Podger (and now Mackie) to call off a game at 4 a.m. the night before and ring everybody to tell them about it. Haltwhistles are largely responsible for the reluctance of anyone to Captain a Clontarf XI.

**Hoff** (*vb*); Of bowlers to remonstrate with their teammates because they feel there is a lack of application in the field when the real reason they are being carted is due to an inability to come to terms with the fundamentals of over arm bowling.

**Hickling** (*pvf vb*); The ritual of dancing/playing air shots and walking up and down the pitch a batsman performs when new at the crease. In some areas of the south seas the hickling as done by Mario is used by shamans in their magic spells.

**Hwang Ho** (*n*); The cry of alacrity which accompanies a cow shot for six.

## I

**Imber** (*vb*); To get some batting practice before going in by getting any available speogs to bowl at you.

**Ipplepen** (*n*); The writing instrument in every scorebook which only works when there is no match in progress.

## J

**Jalingo** (*n*); 1 The secret code known only to umpires and scorers; 2 Whatever the hell Mario is talking about.

**Jebel Shammer** (*n*); One of Redner's wobblers.

## K

**Kalami** (*n*); The ancient eastern (or masenic) art of being able to balance a scorebook.

**Kamloops** (*vb*); Of a spinner, to give the ball too much air.

**Kent** (*adj.*); Descriptive of a batsman's expression when he knows he will be in for a long time, i.e. smug.

**Kittybrewster** (*n*); In any given collection of tea ladies the most senior.

**Kettleless** (*adj.*); agriculturally minded while playing a stump test.

## L

**Lampeter** (*n*); The correct term for twelfth man.

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**Lob Nor** (adj.): Descriptive of the way Mackie bowls (or even bats).

**Lumbumbashi** (n): A lower order batsman sent in to have a wind. It is a well documented fact that the entire cricket community beyond the pale are lumbumbashis, hence to decide their batting order they draw lots or have a fight, the winners decide the batting order, the losers forfeit their bath plugs.

**Luppit** (n): Someone whose role is to ensure 11 players take the field of play.

## M

**Memus** (n): The small but incredibly complex mechanical device which is the "brain" of the scoreboard, and which enables it to make its own decisions. In Massachusetts in 1692 several matches had to be abandoned due to the influence of whatever the plural of memus is.

**Melsetter** (n): That thing Mackie uses to mark out the wicket.

**Mokpok** (n): A No. 11 who thinks they should be batting much higher but who contrary to their attestations has proven that they are probably batting too high anyway.

**Murraburrah** (vb) Any meeting of cricket players who speak a foreign tongue, i.e. South Africans, Indians, The Hills.

**Murzuch** (n): Someone who hogs the strike.

## N

**Nempnett Thruwell** (n): The feeling experienced when using a new bat for the first time.

**Nidgully** (n): A new fielding position somewhere between the slips and third man.

**Nipishish** (n): A bowler who looks fast until you go out and face them, consequently a new batsman might ask you "what's the bowler at this end like?" to which you would reply "He's nipishish".

**Noak Hoak** (n): A batsman who gives every impression that he is left handed but is in fact right handed or vice versa.

**Nokomis** (n, medical): A form of amnesia which affects players regarding meeting times or even what match they are playing in.

## O

**Offleyho** (adj.): Ridiculously over enthusiastic about going to play in North County or Bagenalstown.

**Ozark** (n): One of those complete tossers who wont umpire, score or assist in any way.

## P

**Pant-y-wacco** (adj.): The final state of mind of Jim Synnott on international or cup final day.

**Pei Ho** (n): Charlie Craig's final (and therefore most adamant) demand for subs to be settled, consequently Butsy and Stretch's most dreaded nightmare.

**Pingyang** (vb): To bounce a ball up and down on a bat. The current record is 19,309 held by Redser but there is debate regarding the authenticity of this claim as the only witness was Paddy Lee and it was 12 years ago.

**Puno** (n): The smallest object in any given collection of six that allow an umpire to count the deliveries in an over

## Q

**Quimper** (adj.): Descriptive of a lower order batsman's behaviour when facing Allan Donald, Courtney Walsh or an enraged Johnny Barry.

**Quoyness** (n): Distrust of "neutral" umpires.

## R

**Ranfurly** (adj.): The way in which a batsman who is not wearing a jockstrap runs between the wickets.

**Reculver** (n): The look bestowed upon an umpire who has given one of his teammates out.

**Rudge** (n): The "Get past that one" forward defensive. Rudge has been employed to almost no effect by amongst others, Iain Synnott, Paddy Lee, Bryan McDermott and the McCullaghs.

## S

**Sark** (vb): Of batsmen (and especially Brian Nolan) to attribute something other than their own limitations as the reason for their dismissal.

**Skagway** (n): The markings and tracks that indicate a bowler or herd of wild animals has recently passed by.

**Skrubburdout** (n): In any given collection of teenagers, the most obnoxious.

**Snoul** (vb): To bat for 40 overs and score 8.

**Smyrna** (n): The smugness felt by a bowler when he has a batsman in knots. This is sometimes accompanied by a frugal (q.v.) attitude.

**Spittal of Glenshee** (n): That which has to be cleaned off the floor of the ballroom the morning after international day or a vampire attack.

**Strassgang** (n): The gathering of drunks singing "Allan Donald had a farm" on international day, usually led by Paddy Lee or Paul Ryan. Strassgangs are the mortal enemies of Bolmen (q.v.).

**Swanibost** (adj.): Mentally shattered after a long day. 1 Having Stella explain to you how the Bill Findall scoring system works. 2 Umpiring a Junior Match. 3 Talking to Alan Cavanagh.

**Symond's Yat** (n, archaic): The lesser known (and much more odd) alternative to a Symond's bat. The exact purpose of the Symond's Yat has been lost in the mists of history though it is rumoured to be written somewhere in Doomsday Book (at the back under "S").

## T

**Tabley Superior** (n): The look directed at you in the rearroom by those who have easiest access to the apple tart.

**Throckmorton** (n): The ghost of a deceased madman now thought to occupy the brain of Robert McDermott.

**Tigharry** (n): The complete spanner who takes a most astounding catch despite falling over, being blind or running into someone.

**Toddlng** (vb): The correct term for "surgling".


**Tooting Bee** (vb): Of spectators, to keep the horn when someone they know hits a boundary, takes a wicket or simply passes by.

## U

**Ulan Bator** (n): A No. 11 who goes in with the score at 57-9 and leaves undefeated on 62 after the team has finally been bowled out for 160.



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**Umberleigh** (*adj.*): Descriptive of the way the covers move.

## V

**Vancover** (*n*): Any of the devices in Mackie's shed.

**Visby** (*n*): A gap in the field as spotted by a batsman who nevertheless manages to hit the ball sweetly to a fielder either side of said gap.

## W

**Waaga Waaga** (*adj.*): The behaviour of Keith Lewis (and particularly his index finger) when he wants reluctant members of the club to tidy up the place, bring glasses into the bar etc.

**Waakerstroom** (*n*): Anything that causes unease among cricketers or spectators, i.e. a loud appeal, a six heading towards the bar window, Johnny Nolan etc.

**Wantage** (*pl.n*): The assorted accumulation of things an empire acquires throughout a match, i.e. sweaters, hats, disgusted looks from the bowlers and batsmen, a headache.

**Warleggan** (*n.archaic*): Since the cutting of the Elm at Gisors every cricket club must employ a warleggan, that is to say a member who disapproves of everything. For an interesting project find out who the warleggan of each club is. Answers on a postcard to be left behind the bar. The first correct entry wins an evening of conversation with Hoppy.

**Wenden's Ambo** (*n*): The pointless search to find 11 players to play a match, hence also An expedition to find a shortcut to Ballyeighan.

**Whaplode Drove** (*n*): A homicidal cricket shot. This usually results in waakerstroom (*q.v.*), hwang ho (*q.v.*), and

an excited straggang (*q.v.*), but aggrieved Bolmen (*q.v.*).

**Wargret** (*n*): A poltergeist which specialises in stealing thumbtacks from the noticeboard.

**Wroot** (*n*): A grubber on a mat.

**Wooler** (*n*): 1 An appalling ball that gets a wicket. 2 An appalling bowler who gets a wicket.

## Y

**Yesnaby** (*n*): A "yes, maybe" which means "no". Yesnabys often result in run outs which usually end up as fights in the tearoom or dressing room.

**Yonder Bognie** (*n*): Any Cricket club which is 1st, 2nd or 3rd after Murtaghs Inn.

**Yozgat** (*n*): Someone who borrows other people's gear.

## Z

**Zeal Monachorum** (*adj*): Descriptive of Angus Hancock's attitude to playing cricket and now, after the friendly against Pembroke at the start of the season Conor D'arcy too.

**Zomba** (*n*): A bat which looks like a plank but is in fact made from the very willows grown by the freemasons of yore and is imbued with ethereal powers, i.e. it looks like a plank but is actually a superb bat.

**Zumbo** (*n*): A bat which appears to be made from Salix in excelsior but is, in fact, a plank. And, no, I'm not explaining that one!

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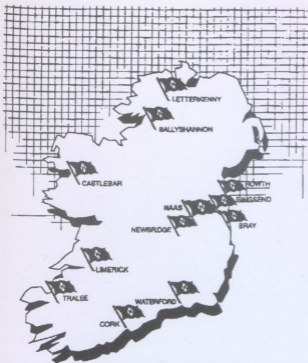
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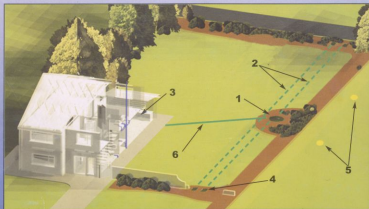


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