



And daughter: Enda and Aoibhinn Kenny

By Eamon Donoghue

THEY will have to do it all again – but if it's as good as yesterday, no one will mind.

Tipperary came with a whisker – or a HawkEye – of winning one of the greatest ever All-Ireland hurling finals yesterday, but technology deemed a last-ditch free had gone wide.

A pulsating encounter that brought the very best out of both the Premier County and arch rivals Kilkenny hinged on a final puck and the 82,179 fans stood, eyes fixed on the big screen, waiting for the verdict of the HawkEye ball-

High scoring and hard hitting

tracking system. 'Miss' was its decision and the Cats had got another life.

The replay is set for 5pm on Saturday, September 27, but it could have been so different if John 'Bubbles' O'Dwyer's last-second free had gone over the bar.

HawkEye, which has been in Croke Park since its first trial in 2011, deemed that the Tipperary man's 97-metre free was inches wide; meaning that having had its first draw since 1959 in 2012, the All-Ireland hurling final has remarkably finished level for the third year in a row.

And yesterday's clash – which finished Kilkenny 3-22 to Tipperary's 1-28 – was arguably the best in living memory, with many fans hailing a thrilling contest that was high-scoring, hard hitting, and poised on a knife edge from beginning to end.

Neither team registered a wide from the 44th minute – apart from

A Tipp top clash... but Cats get another life



Eye of the beholder: HawkEye's verdict on Tipperary's last-minute free

So close: John O'Dwyer just after taking that long-distance free

the final puck – and the high quality nature of the final, making its debut on Sky Sports, grabbed the attention of the social media world.

Former Premier league footballer Kevin Davies tweeted 'great sport nobody ever misses' and he later reflected on the game saying 'no extra time?! Boo, that was brilliant!!'

Other fans worldwide also reflected epic final with Alan Davies from Cardiff tweeting: 'Hurling on #Sky an incredible sport with pace, skill and

controlled aggression. Hugely talented and not professionals (ie not paid).#gaa.'

The plaudits were unsurprising though as four goals and 50 points were scored over the 71 minutes, the highest scoring final in 44 years.

The Taoiseach and his daughter Aoibhinn watched on as Tipperary led at half time, but thanks to second half Kilkenny goals by TJ Reid

and Richie Power and Tipperary's second missed penalty of the game, the Premier County trailed with ten minutes remaining.

Yet a heroic Tipperary comeback was almost topped off with John O'Dwyer's last-minute free, only for HawkEye to interfere. And so the ticket rush kicks off once more.

In truth it was one of those games that no side deserved to lose, which

magnificent individual performances on both teams. Fans seemed sanguine about the prospect of another day out, even if there were murmurs about the solitary minute of injury time played

The GAA were not available to comment last night on whether replay tickets will be reduced in price as they were 12 months ago.

For last year's Cork versus Clare replay stand tickets were reduced from €50 from €80.

reporter@daily@mail.ie

A DIFFERENT THREE IN A ROW

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House price 'sugar rush'

David McWilliams predicts prices will continue to soar for two years

By Niamh Lyons
Political Correspondent

ECONOMIST David McWilliams has predicted house prices will soar over the coming years as a 'herd' mentality grips home buyers again.

It comes as IBEC also predicted house prices will continue to rise due to a lack of housing supply.

Mr McWilliams said the Government could solve the problem but is not interested in quelling the growing boom. 'My feeling is that this is a sugar rush which will last for about two years,' he told RTE's Sunday with Miriam O'Callaghan yesterday.

'When the price of houses rise, people panic, they talk to each other and they are afraid of not being on the ladder.'

He said human nature would result in further hysteria as vendors and buyers sought the best price.

He said: 'We behave like a herd. It strikes me that house prices will continue to rise quite swiftly and the reason for that is some people are planning to buy and those who would have sold are holding off because they believe they will make more money next year.' However he

LONG-TERM RENTAL IS A FAIR SOLUTION

HOUSING is not just about the construction sector; shelter should be provided as a basic human right.

Seeing overnight queues for homes in North County Dublin tells us that we are too focused on one area of the market.

What if there was an option beyond buying or going on the housing list? I think the key to solving the current problem lies in this third choice – the option to rent on a long-term basis.

Many see renting as a short-term option while they save for a home. But across Europe families rent homes or apartments for their whole lives. We must start building a viable rental sector that offers security of tenure and gives people more choice.

COMMENTARY



by Catherine Murphy

KILDARE NORTH TD

Many people would prefer to rent a home on a long-term basis instead of buying, but they are too afraid as a landlord might decide to push up the rent or sell the property, leaving them with the hassle of moving and finding a new home.

We could have a secure rental sector where people sign leases that are fair and reasonable and give people the right to stay in a home or apartment for a fixed number of years.

We keep getting ourselves into the same problem by creating a fever pitch where people feel they have got to rush out and buy a home for fear they might be left behind.

We risk ending up in the same mess over and over again because we see housing as the preserve of the markets. There is no doubt there is a shortage of houses. While some people want to buy, there are many people holding-out on selling their homes as prices rise.

We need a real debate on what we should be doing and the mix of accommodation that should be provided.

● Catherine Murphy is on the Oireachtas Environment Committee

remained unconvinced of the political will to resolve the situation.

Mr McWilliams said: 'The State needs house price rises to generate confidence, they need to reduce neg-

ative equity and if they want to sell AIB they need the housing market to be buoyant.'

He said that with interest rates so low the Government should borrow

and build more social housing. Business group IBEC also warned that supply problems in the market would continue. Its consumer monitor noted that 'there seems to be

light at the end of the tunnel for the housing market' but stressed 'the situation may worsen... as the supply of real estate may prove sticky'.

niamh.lyons@daily@mail.ie