reverse emigration trends after the millennium, we had dwindling numbers and we forced to amalgamate our senior and junior teams and eventually got relegated down to the junior grade. We spent the last few years focusing on rebuilding a strong home base team as opposed to relying on the influx of students in the summertime. This has paid dividends and we finally made the eagerly awaiting breakthrough last year.

"We owe our very survival and current success in no small way to our many Tyrone-born sponsors and supporters over the not so successful years, Fay Devlin, Noel Woods, Finbar O'Neill, Patsy Clarke, Eilish Loghran, Emmett Woods, John Daly, Sal Donaghy, Pat Donaghy, Kieran Slevin, Noel McCaul and Dermot McGonnell to mention a few who have played their part and done more than their fair share in keeping the club in existence.

"This year is bound to be difficult but we'll be hoping to hold our own. We have a great bunch of lads, with a base team of around 25 as well as summer sanctions in the form of Gary Reilly, Packie McMullan, Seamus Skeffington, Eamon Lyons and Johnny Murtagh.

"Having tasted Junior success last year, Reilly, McMullan and Skeffington, all from Killeeshil in Co Tyrone, are back for the summer this year to add a New York Senior medal to their long list of achievements. The addition of Cork under-21 star Lyons and Crossmaglen's Johnny Murtagh gives the team considerable strength and depth.

"So far things are going well with convincing wins over Donegal, Cavan and the 2008 senior champions Kerry and that's not just testament to the efforts of the current bunch of lads but also to the solid foundations that Daly, Gillespie and Canavan laid prior to their departure a few months ago. Hopefully we can do them proud and add a sixth senior title to the club's list of honours."



The current Tyrone squad, front, I/r: Aldan Donnelly, Conor McNabb, Gareth McCrory, Peader Donnelly, Stevie Keating, Sean Coyle, Packie McMullan, Gary Reilly, Johnny Murtagh, Niall Bradley, Paul Mulhern, Seamus Skeffington, Gary Donnelly (chairman), Darren Doherty. Injured players missing Martin Hamill, Sean Hall, Paul Tierney, Cathal Skeffington, Chris Greene. Back, I/r: Brian Cullinane, Paul Hagan, Conor Downey, Aidan Powers, Patrick Maguire, Eunan Meyler, Joe Bell, Darren Petite, Conor Skeffington, John McGinley, Deion Gallagher, Eamon Lyons, Martin Hughes, Gerard McCullagh, Barry Lennon, Ruari Keenan (trainer), Barry McElduff



Tyrone versus a New York select with Guests of Honour Peter Canavan and Benny Tierney



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Every Success In The Future from
SHANE GALLAGHER & STAFF



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