

Mid-Tipperary Senior Hurling Final

Match Programme

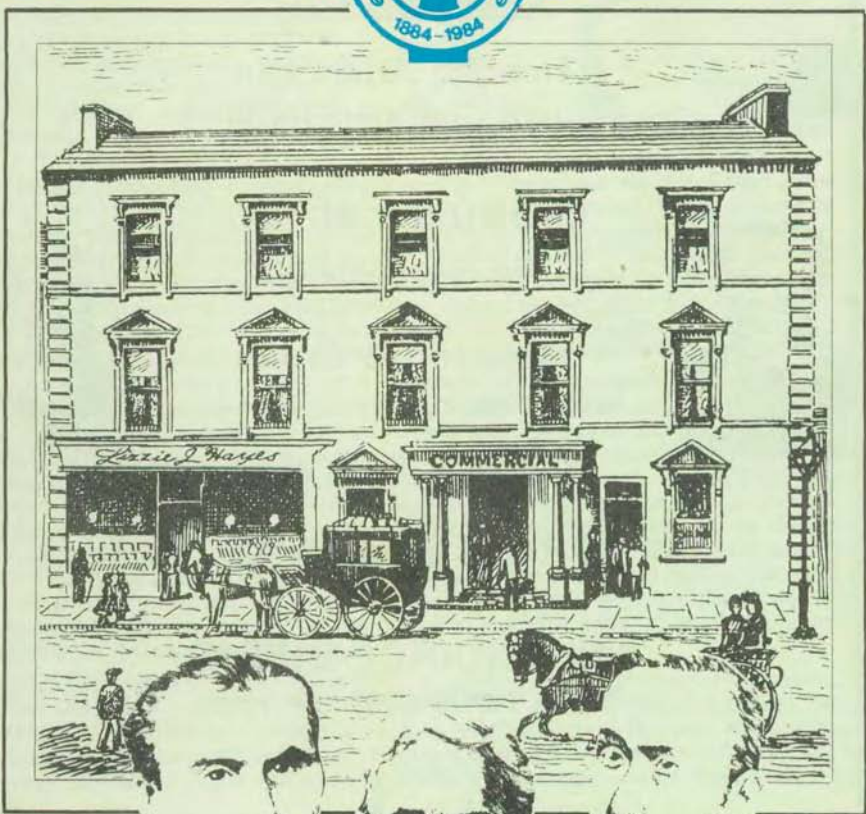
1984

# Tiobraid Árann Láir Cluichí Ceannais Iomána

SINSEAR  
agus  
MIONÚIR



STÁID SEMPLE  
DÚRLAS ÉILE  
LÚNASA 19, 1984



*Tomás Ó hEadhra  
Rúnaí*

Clár Onfigiúil  
Luach 50p



## CLÁR AN LAE

**Tiobraid Árann Láir  
Cluichí Ceannais Iomána**

**MIONÚIR 1-45 p.m.**

**Na Sáirséalaigh**

**v.**

**Mainistir na Croise**

Réiteoir: Martin O'Grady, Moyne/Templetuohy



Archbishop Croke



Maurice Davin

**SÍNSEAR 3.30 P.M.**

**DROM agus INSE**

**v**

**MA CHOIRCE-BUIRIS**

Réiteoir: Donal O'Gorman, Thurles Sarsfields



Michael Cusack

This Official Programme is produced by Mid-Tipperary G.A.A Board  
and edited by Liam O Donnchu



## TEACHTAIREACHT ON CATHAOIRLEACH

I mbliain comoradh an cheid ta se mar phribhleid agam ar son Cumann Luth Chleas Gael Thiobraid Arann Lair, fíor chaoín faillte a fearadh roimh gach duine ata annseo i Staid Semple inniu. Ta traidisiuin iontach iomana ag na hiomanaíthe O Magh Coirce agus Druim agus taimid uilig ag suil le cluiche ceannais sar maith, sportuil againn agus go mbainfidh gach einne, idir og is aosta taithneamh as an la—is cuma ce hiaid na buathoiri.



MICHEAL O LABHRAI  
Cathaoirleach

On behalf of the Mid Tipperary Board in this historic year for the Gaelic Athletic Association I extend a hearty cead míle faillte to one and all to our hurling showpiece in Semple Stadium. We look forward to our Senior finalists Moycarkey Borris and Drom and Inch to provide a sporting and manly game that will embrace all that is good in the game of hurling and make this "Our Centenary Final" one to remember. We welcome also the minor hurlers from Sarsfields and Holycross, two clubs that have given us many epic games at Senior level in former years, and to day we look to the minors from those two great strongholds, to set the pattern for what should be a great days hurling.

It is my privilege to be Chairman of the Board in this our Centenary Year and I would appeal to all our clubs to make every effort to ensure the preservation and promotion of our most native of games. To day we have a great variety of sporting organisations appealing for support and participation and the many changes in society pose a serious threat to the Associations most important source of support—the people of rural Ireland. We in the Association will not meet this new and growing challenge by negative thinking, or by showing frustration and disappointment if our youth do not show the same appreciation of our games and culture. We must make the effort therefore to attract our youth, and to do this our clubs must be run to the very highest standard of organisation. If we ignore the youth, we do so at our peril, they are the lifeblood of the Association and we depend on them to see that the game of hurling is carried successfully through the next century.

In conclusion, I extend a sincere thank you to all who took part in to days programme, to all the clubs in the division, our referees and their officials, field committees, ticket sellers, gate men, the local press and our ever loyal supporters. This year, the Board has endeavoured to show appreciation to them and especially the ten year ticket holders by playing most of the Senior games in the stadium, including the semi-finals and to days final.

Finally in relation to the frightening proportion of our young people who are unemployed. It is heartening to see that the Association is conscious of the problem and doing its bit, by promoting the "Buy Irish Campaign". We must instill in our members that the need to support our own industries was never greater. I appeal to all our clubs and members to support this campaign.

MICHEAL O LABHRAI, Cathaoirleach

Lea gach Dea Ghui

TO DAYS BAND  
SEAN TREACYS PIPE BAND  
MOYCARKEY BORRIS

*Play the Game.....*

*.....BUY IRISH*

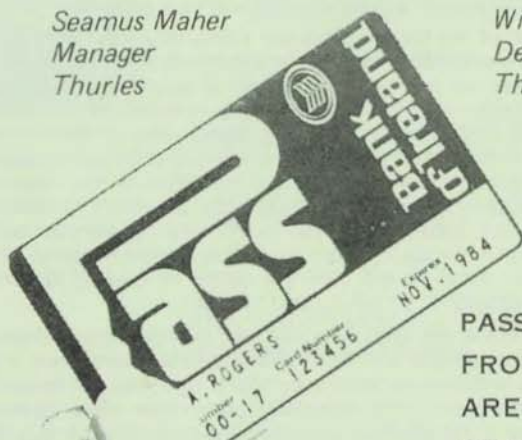
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# Na Réiteoirí

## MIONUIR



**Martin O'Grady**  
Moyne Templetuohy

## SINSEAR



**Donal O'Gorman**  
Thurles Sarsfields



### PADDY RYAN

#### A TRULY REMARKABLE GAELE

When Paddy Ryan of Inch, died in London, in 1978, at the early age of 47, The Irish Post, in a tribute said:- "He gave twenty hours of his free time every week for twenty years, working for the Gaelic Athletic Association".

Paddy came from a family steeped in Gaelic tradition. This was partly responsible for his dedication to the G.A.A.

He was for many years Chairman of the London County Board, during which time the G.A.A. in London flourished as never before. He was a member of the Central Council, a Vice-President of the Gaelic Athletic Association at different times. Incidentally, the only parishioner of Drom/Inch ever to hold those positions.



GORM IS BAN NA SAIRSEALAIGH, DURLAS EILE BLUE/WHITE

1  
C. O Cearuil  
Kieran Carroll

2  
S. O Meachair  
Seamus Maher

3  
G. O Duill  
Gerry Doyle

4  
S. O Baroid  
Shane Barrett

5  
L. O Mathuna  
Liam O Maloney

6  
S. O Se  
Seamus O Shea

7  
D. Puirseil  
Dara Purcell

8  
M. Mac Gabhrain  
Michael McGovern

9  
A. Rossiter  
Andy Rossiter

10  
S. Woodlock  
Jim Woodlock

11  
T. O Suilleabhain  
Tom Sullivan

12  
M. O Briain  
Michael O Brien

13  
T. O Dugain  
Theo Guggan

14  
G. O Leachtnain  
Garry Loughnane

15  
E. Breathneach  
Eamonn Walsh

FIR IONAIÐ: 16 Andy Ryan, 17 Ger Mockler, 18 Tony O'Meara, 19 George O Shaughnessy  
20 Noel Sheehan, 21 Paul Murphy

SELECTORS: M. Maher, C. Maher, P. Doyle, M. McElgann, J. Duggan

Na Sairsealaigh	Cuil	Cuilini	Seachai	65m	Saor-Pucanna
1u Leath					
2u Leath					
Iomlan					

See you after the match in

**THURLES SARSFIELDS  
SOCIAL CENTRE** BESIDE THE OLD STAND

GLAS IS BAN **MAINISTIR NA CROISE-Bealach Achaille**

GREEN &  
WHITE

1  
P. O Duibhir  
Pat O'Dwyer

2  
P. O Bannain  
P. J. Bannon

3  
S. O Briain  
J. O'Brien (Capt.)

4  
P. de Brun  
P. J. Brown

5  
T. O Duibhir  
Tom Dwyer

6  
M. Fleamonn  
Michael Fleming

7  
P. O Duill  
Frankie Doyle

8  
A. O Lanagain  
Tony Lanigan

9  
G. O Fionnghusa  
Jerry Fennessy

10  
L. O Dubhain  
Billy Dwan

11  
S. O Riain  
Jody Ryan

12  
P. O Slattartha  
Pat Slattery

13  
L O Sceachain  
Billy Skehan

14  
A. MacCraith  
Anthony McGrath

15  
D. O Cullaigh  
Donnacha Cullagh

FIR IONAIÐ: 16 Enda O'Dwyer, 17 Charlie Fennessy, 18 Tom Cullagh, 19 Philip Hayes,  
20 Eugene Fleming, 21 John Ryan, 22 Eamon Ryan, 23 Alan Quinlan,

SELECTORS: Jim Bourke, Bob Coughlan, Matt Quinlan, Mick Ryan, John Ryan.

Mainistir Na Croise	Cuil	Cuilini	Seachai	65m	Saor-Pucanna
1u Leath					
2u Leath					
Iomlan					

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**THE DROM AND INCH TEAM THAT DEFEATED HOLYCROSS  
BALLYCAHILL IN THE SEMI-FINAL BY 3-13 TO 0-9**



**ANXIOUS FACES ON SOME DROM MENTORS AT HALFTIME  
IN THE SEMI FINAL GAME**

## DROM-INCH.....DARK HORSES OF 1984

John Guiton, Tipperary Star

While the return of the men from the Ragg to the Mid Final arena after a lapse of four years, will hardly be looked upon with absolute wonderment, given that they have always been a force in the division, nonetheless, their elevation to a higher plain in this year's championship has proved many a shrewd hurler observer wrong, and has their critics eating humble pie. They still have to pass the ultimate test and naturally enough, only at five o'clock this evening will their potential be fully realised, if they can capture the Leahy Cup. But while there are still many Gaels who doubt their real merit, nobody can dispute that they have been the "Dark Horses" of 1984, and as already indicated those who had written off their chances of even advancing to the closing stages of the Championship had to re-think again.

They have made a remarkable emergence from losers group to contest the top honours, but this magnificent achievement has come about, however dramatically, by virtue of sheer determination and distinct courage in the face of adversity—qualities that have characterised Drom performances over the years. Given these qualities it is difficult to comprehend however that they have only one divisional Senior title to their credit—attained by defeating Thurles Sarsfields in 1974. A decade later, five of that side, three Butler brothers, Paudie, Tommy and Martin, Larry Doherty and Johnny Harkin will again wear the green and white in an attempt to bring the prestigious prize to an area that has been steeped in the lore of Gaelic Games since the foundation of the G.A.A. in 1884. But adding greater spice to the Drom Challenge today is the fact that in their first ever Mid final appearance in 1967 they lost to todays opponents Moycarkey-Borris so no effort will be spared on their part to avenge that defeat.

With that year, two of todays most experienced campaigners, John Flanagan and Johnny Harkins form links—Flanagan was a member of the victorious side while Harkins was a substitute on the Drom-Inch team of that year. It is a firm indication of how much both men have contributed to the game in the past, and their committment now in the twilight of their careers.

Having enjoyed a moderate level of success in Junior grades over the decades, it was in the early sixties that both Drom and Inch when amalgamated at Senior level began to make an impact in the Mid and County scene. The success of the No. 2 Junior side in taking a Mid title in 1964, and the U/21 Team A title in 1966, began to reflect with the emergence of a stronger Senior side, but after losing to Moycarkey-Borris in 1967 and subsequently losing the 1973 final it all came good in 1974 when they defeated Sarsfields to take the crown. Drom-Inch reached the final again in 1980, but this time Sarsfields had their revenge, and while the boys in Green and White have been close to significant success in the past three years, how highly appropriate for them if they were to make a triumphant return to the scene in Centenary Year.

The old adage, "that fortune favours the brave", could well be applied in the case of Drom-Inch in the 1984 championship. After a dismal Cahill Cup campaign in which, interestingly enough, they lost heavily to todays opponents, and a subsequent defeat by Thurles Sarsfields in the first round of the championship, they re-grouped their forces and acquitted themselves well in the losers group with a ten points victory over JK Brackens and a victory over Boherlahan-Dualla which qualified them for the semi-final spot. Drom had not produced anything extraordinary but at the same time an improvement in their approach was evident and confidence was instilled in the side by the backroom boys and trainer and great motivator Br. Fitzgerald of Thurles C.B.S. So to the semi-final and Holycross-Ballycahill, who had beaten Moycarkey-Borris in the Cahill Cup competition, were the potential Mid champions in many minds. But a better performance than ever before from Drom-Inch left a shocking 3-13 to 0-9 final tally on the Semple Stadium scoreboard, on Sunday July 29th, and a unit of youth and experience had booked its spot in the annual showpiece.

So, can Drom do it? Certainly they have a talented side and established players such as former All-Star and Inter-County player Tommy Butler, his brother Paudie and Martin, Pat Looby, the Hassetts, Johnny Harkins, to mention just a few, have been playing particularly well this year, and with a hunger for victory in this special year, perhaps at the end of this evening the bonfires will be blazing in the Ragg!





**THE MOYCARKEY BORRIS TEAM AND SUBSTITUTES THAT DEFEATED  
LOUGHMORE CASTLEINEY IN THE SEMI FINAL**



**A FAMLIAR FACE AT  
SEMPLE STADIUM  
"THE GUARDIAN OF THE GATE"  
LARRY KAVANAGH**



**Martin Treacy, Tom O'Hara  
and Michael Ryan  
at the Semi-Finals**

## THE "4" CONNECTION & MOYCARKEY-BORRIS

Today's Centenary Mid Tipperary Hurling Final is something special for both participants, but for Moycarkey-Borris it conjures up memories of another jubilee, the golden one of 1934. This era was one of the brightest in our club's hurling firmament and that golden jubilee year saw Moycarkey complete five Mid championships and three County triumphs in-a-row. Our hurlers in this Mid final will be hopeful that they can complete one hundred years of activity with a win, as their predecessors did just fifty years ago. What a proud achievement that would be!

In 1934 Moycarkey-Borris were undoubtedly the top team in Tipperary hurling circles. In the first round of the divisional title race they defeated Borrisoleigh and came through after a thrilling final against Thurles Sarsfields winning 4-4 to 4-2. The Phil Purcell led side later went on to defeat Cashel and Kildangan to become the proud possessors of the specially struck County medals bearing the busts of Croke, Cusack and Davin. Let us now see how we fared in the other decades ending with "4".

That year of 1934 also saw the birth of the Sean Treacy Pipe Band, Moycarkey-Borris, so much part and parcel of Mid Tipperary Gaeldom and who will lead today's parade.

In 1914, seven years after the formation of Mid Board, hurling strength in the parish was undoubtedly strong, with two teams affiliated. One team captained by Dan Hayes failed to Thurles by 4-1 to nil. The other team, led by Jim Bourke, of Cuffe Shield fame, accounted for Emly by 8-2 to 3-1 but came a cropper in the final to the upward march of the Boherlahan stalwarts.

Ten years later, Moycarkey-Borris ended three Mid titles on the trot with a bloodless victory. Three teams entered for that spectacular championship—Moycarkey, Moyne and Thurles. After the latter pair were disqualified by the Board, Moycarkey were declared champions. They later went on to make up the bulwark of the Mid selection which defeated the Toomevara powered North side by 2-3 to 2-1, but failed in the final to Johnny Leahy and his Boherlahan—South—selection by the lopsided scoreline of 8-3 to 1-0. John Joe Hayes was the 1924 captain.

In 1944, Moycarkey-Borris hurlers were still reeling from the previous year's sensational County final defeat at the hands of Eire Og, Anacarty. But with Johnny Ryan leading the crew they gave much promise in the first round defeating Boherlahan by 8-7 to 1-2.

Almost 5,000 crammed into the old field at Gaile for the decider with Sarsfields providing the opposition, having come out on the wrong end of a seven point defeat in the previous year's final. On that day forty years ago, the Thurlesmen regained the title with a 5-2 to 3-4 victory with Paddy Ryan (Sweeper) giving a tremendous display. Sarsfields later went on to win the County final and the commencement of their three titles on the trot.

While in 1944 we were a match for the great "Blues", ten years later fortunes had certainly changed and many an eyebrow was raised when Moycarkey withdrew from the Senior championship after indifferent form in the early season tournament games. But there was consolation when the regraded Seniors came through with a Mid and County No. 1 Junior double.

1964 was a year of much hope, but alas Holycross, after three rousing games, eventually ended our ambitions for that particular year. But the promise shown when going under narrowly to Sarsfields in the 1962 County final eventually came to fruition in 1965 and 1967 with Mid titles.

For our immediate opponents today, Drom and Inch, 1974 was a memorable year for them, as they won their only divisional Senior Hurling title, it was not too kind to our hurlers. Boherlahan beat us by a goal in the first round and we later defeated Gortnahoe (replay) and snatched a dramatic win over Moyne-Templetuohy to reach the Mid semi-final.

In that contest we put up a brave fight against Thurles Sarsfields, with their two "D's" thwarting us—Jimmy Doyle scoring a vital goal and Jimmy Duggan making a match winning save from a John Flanagan rasper. Others of this year's panel engaged with Flanagan that year were:- Tom Doran, Jack Bergin, Willie Ryan, Matty Bourke, Jim Flanagan and Dick Quigley.

So that is the story of how Moycarkey-Borris Senior teams have fared in years ending in "4". Today that mixed bag of fortunes bridging 77 years of Mid Tipperary activity can be improved upon as Jack Bergin and his colleague in the red and yellow seek another slice of hurling glory in this historic year of 1984, and a twentieth title.

Jimmy Fogarty, P.R.O., Moycarkey-Borris.

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GLAS AGUS BAN **DROM AGUS INCH**  
GREEN AND WHITE



1  
P. O hEarcain  
P. Harkin

2  
P. O Coistealla  
F. Costello

3  
L. O Docheartaigh  
L. Doherty

4  
S. O Fathaigh  
S. Fahy

5  
M. O Fathaigh  
M. Fahy

6  
P. de Buitleir  
P. Butler

7  
S. hAsoith  
J. Hassett

8  
S. O hEarcain  
J. Harkin

9  
M. de Buitleir  
M. Butler

10  
M. Eibhearard  
M. Everard

11  
T. de Buitleir  
T. Butler

12  
S. O Caithill  
J. Cahill

13  
S. O hAsoith  
S. Hassett

14  
S. O Cinneide  
J. Kennedy

15  
P. O Lubaigh  
P. Looby

Fir Ionaid: 16 D. Looby, 17 John Harkin, 18 E. Long, 19 J. Ryan, 20 S. Hayes,  
21 M. Jordan, 22 Phil Halloran, 23 Pat Halloran, 24 J. O'Rourke

Selectors: S. Butler, D. Bourke, M. Kenny

Trainer: Bro. Fitzgerald (Thurles C.B.S.)

Drom	Cuil	Cuilini	Seachai	65m	Saor-Pucanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
lomlan					

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SEAR



## MA CHOIRCE-BUIRIOS

RED AND  
YELLOW  
DEARG IS BUI

1  
T. O Dorain  
T. Doran

2  
R. O hAodha  
R. Hayes

3  
L. O Riain  
W. Ryan

4  
T. O Maolain  
T Mullins

5  
E. O Diarmada  
E. Darmody

6  
S. O Beirgin  
J. Bergin (Capt.)

7  
S. O Laocha  
J. Leahy

8  
L. O Beirgin  
L. Bergin

9  
S. O Flanagain  
Jim Flanagan

10  
T. O Coigligh  
T. Quigley

11  
T. O Cullaigh  
T. Cullagh

12  
D. O Fogartaigh  
D. Fogarty

13  
S. MacCormaic  
J. McCormack

14  
D. O Coigligh  
D. Quigley

15  
S. O Flanagain  
John Flanagan

Fir Ionaid: M. Clohessy Goal, 17 M. Bourke, 18 T. Noonan, 19 N. Slattery,  
20 J. Hackett, 21 Jas Bergin, 22 E. Darmody, 23 L Hackett, 24 M. Fanning,  
25 D. Kirwan, 26 P. Maher, 27 W. Fogarty.

Selectors: C. Kennedy, H. Ryan, S. Barry

Trainer: P. Doyle, Sarsfields

Moycarkey	Cuil	Cuilini	65m	Seachai	Saor Pucanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
Iomlan					

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*Best Wishes to Drom-Inch Hurler s in today's final*

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# SARSFIELDS & HOLYCROSS

## ...A Great Minor Hurling Tradition

by Michael Dundon, Tipperary Star.



While the pairing for the Mid division's Centenary Senior Hurling Final is unique, the Minor Hurling Final features a meeting between clubs which have been an integral part of the division for many a year, during which time they have established a rivalry which is the oil that keeps the G.A.A. machine ticking over.

Being in a final is nothing new to either Thurles Sarsfields or Holycross-Ballycahill, yet each decider has its own importance and these two great clubs will be as anxious for success as if they were chasing a first championship.

While in most people's minds, the Minor game is simply the appetiser for the main course to follow, it is no harm to reflect on the fact that in the years gone by, some of the County's most illustrious caman-weilders probably found themselves in a similar role, and as we watch today's game we may well speculate as to the future of these teenagers—will they wear a County jersey—will they ever wear a club Senior jersey?

Sarsfields are themselves celebrating their Centenary this year, and in the course of their history, the club has produced some of the game's greatest players, men who first showed their prowess at the same age as the lads who so proudly wear their club's colours today. The Thurles outfit has won more titles than any other club in the County—a run of success which has earned it a special place in the story of Gaelic games in Tipperary.

Immediately springing to mind are the names of such great players as Tony Wall, Jimmy Doyle, Michael Murphy, John Maher, Jim Lanigan, Joby Callinan, Tom Semple, Jim Stapleton—all captains of All-Ireland winning teams.

Equally famed, though they never brought the McCarthy Cup to Tipperary are Tommy Doyle, Mickey Byrne, Ger Connolly and a host of others with one thing in common, their pride in Thurles Sarsfields—a pride nurtured from their early days hurling at the outside field in what is now Semple Stadium.

But such pride is not peculiar to Sarsfields—Holycross/Ballycahill have written their own chapters in this regard and the promise first shown in their teens by such household names as Phil Cahill, Dinny Gorman, Pat Stakelum, John Doyle, Michael Maher and others, came to fruition some years later to benefit the parish and Tipperary handsomely.

Indeed, Holycross/Ballycahill really came to fame in the late forties, when great Minors like Pat Stakelum, John Doyle and Michael Maher joined the established men such as the Gorman's, Dwans, Bob Stakelum and others to form a club side that was a force to be reckoned with in that period and the early fifties.

These were the halycon days of Mid Tipperary hurling, when thousands thronged to Templemore and Thurles to see the Clashes between Holycross, Sarsfields, Moycarkey, Boherlahan, Moyne and Borrisoleigh for a time. Significantly they were great days for Tipperary hurling, when some of the finest games were played and Tipperary were on the crest of the wave. So, as we watch today's youngsters give their all for their clubs, we may well be viewing further steps in the revival of Tipperary hurling and the restoration of the County to the uppermost Rung of the hurling ladder.

**A CENTENARY OF GAELIC GAMES IN MID TIPP  
AN IDEAL SOUVENIR OF CENTENARY YEAR**

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## JIM THROWS IN THE BALL

Jim Lanigan, oldest surviving Tipperary Senior Hurling Captain, will throw in the ball to start to-days Centenary Year Mid Final.

Jim Lanigan won his first Senior County medal with sarsfields in 1929 and again in 1935, 1936, 1938, 1939.

He played at centrefield for the County team in their victory over Dublin in 1930. From then until 1938 he was a regular on the County team and usually featured among the backs.

His best year was 1937, playing at left corner back, he led Tipperary to All-Ireland victory over Kilkenny at Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney. Croke Park was closed due to the erection of the Cusack Stand. In 1938 he captained Munster to a Railway Cup victory.

When his playing days were over he acted as selector for club and County teams for some years.

We are delighted that Jim is with us today, and we wish him the best for the future.

Ná Laga Dia thú.

---

## Holycross Minor Team



*Back Row l/r.: P.J. Brown, Alan Quinlan, Michael Fleming, Pat Slattery, Frankie Doyle*

*P.J. Bannon, Tom Dwyer, Eugene Fleming, Anthony McGrath*

*Front l/r.: Donncha Cullagh, John Ryan, Eamon Ryan, Tom Cullagh, Pat Dwyer*

*John O'Brien, Jody Ryan, Enda O'Dwyer, Billy Skehan.*

*Missing: Billy Dwan, Tom Long, Jerry Fennessy, Charlie Fennessy, Phil Hayes.*

## MEMORIES FROM THE PAST by Tom O'Hara

For long decades up to 1947, Sarsfields had mostly been meeting Boherlahan or Moycarkey-Borris in divisional finals that very often spelled a passport to County honours. In that year, however, a fresh and new challenge stepped up in the green jerseys of Holycross/Ballycahill. A crop of young hurlers, mostly bred on the early period of Juvenile organisation; the Rural Schools, and on what they learned at Thurles C.B.S. they had a lot of grit and tremendous evenness through the field.



Tom O'Hara  
Mid G.A.A. Secretary

The youngsters were backboned by a group of older hurlers, typified by the Gormans, Ned at full forward and Danny at centre back. The full flowering of Pat Stakelum and John Doyle had still to come, but even in their apprentice years they were a considerable force.

Against them came out a team in blue that had the prestige of three successive County titles to put the pressure on any challengers. Practically all of them, excepting the fleet winger Tommy Ryan, were veterans of many a season at Senior level and would not yield the chance of another title without a proper battle. Nor did they.

Sarsfields compiled nine scores against six, but youth carried the day on the strength of Ned Gorman's personal bag of three goals against the vastly experienced Ger Connolly. By the three quarter mark the scores stood at 4-2 to 2-7 and by the end not another flag had been raised.

"Pulsating" was the key word of the "Star" report and such indeed it was as the minutes ebbed and the Sportsfield air was charged with history in the making. At the end, the delirious winners' followers carried many players from the field, especially the skilful goalie, Jack Gleeson, John Doyle for his marking of Tommy Ryan, and of course prime scorer, Ned Gorman. For Sarsfields it proved to be a temporary loss of supremacy, an honourable abdication until the next decade brought in a group to set new records for the famous club.

Holycross were not destined to carry their 1947 Mid triumph all the way to County success, failing to Carrick Swans at Cashel, but they came even more strongly in 1948 to raise Tipperary morale and set the County on one of her greatest spells of achievement.

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Moycarkey and Drom previously met in the 1967 Mid final played at Thurles, on Sunday, 20th August. Much was expected from this final as Drom had lowered the colours of Holycross/Ballycahill, who were champions the previous year. The final however, failed to reach the expected heights and after a rather disappointing game Moycarkey were worthy champions on a 4-8 to 0-9 scoreline. It is interesting to note that John Flanagan who plays in today's final and was top scorer for his club in this year's semi-final was also the top scorer in that final of seventeen years ago, with a tally of 2-5.



## CAPTAIN JOHNNY LEAHY

The trophy for today's game— The Leahy Cup, was presented by the Leahy family to the Mid Board in 1955, in memory of the inimitable Captain Johnny Leahy who died in 1949. One who knew Johnny well was the late John D. Hickey and in 1956 he wrote:

As I cast my mind down the years and recall my close friendship with Johnny my emotions are both pleasurable and sad, happy that I had the privilege of knowing him so well and regretful that the man of big heart and mind, the man of soundest national fibre, the prince of Gaels and the hurler of admirably defiant spirit is no longer with us.

How he charmed us with his hurling, inspired us with his leadership and regaled us with hurling stories that seemed to lose all their spell when told by anyone else.

But if what is mortal of the "Captain" has passed from the scene, he is not dead to us as are other men. As long as ash grows by the Suir and Tipperarymen hurl— and hurl they will to the end of time— memories of him will stir Irishmen to champion every national and Gaelic cause.

I cannot now recall his name but well I remember in my young boyhood being mystified by a statement of one of nature's philosophers that "all great men are simple as children." Then some years later as a cub reporter on the "Tipperary Star" I was to learn the true depth of that pronouncement as I got to know the Johnny Leahy that I used to reverently salute as I saw him cycle to Thurles through hail, rain, wind and snow on some G.A.A. mission.

And although every day was too short for Johnny as he planned and laboured for the Tipperary that he loved with a

passion almost passing comprehension, he found time to lead my steps on the paths of truth, fearless criticism when it was called for and devotion to the G.A.A. and its ideals.

"It was no trouble at all, at all" when I often button-holed him in the small hours of the morning after a lengthy County Board meeting to explain to me some matter or another that I had not adequately grasped. As regards the merits of hurlers and matches, he was also my teacher and there is no Tipperaryman who owes the "Captain" more.

For all that some knew of the "Captain" they cannot decide in what sphere he was greatest. Some will say that his hurling excelled all his rich gifts, others will say that his leadership was his outstanding attribute and still others will claim that his stature was greatest as an administrator.

Neither can I quite make up my mind on the score of deciding an order of merit but I content myself by saying that I would have considered him a man apart were it for even only one of his great qualities.

The hurling honours he won in Ireland and beyond the seas are too numerous to be tabulated here. Worthy of mention are these: he captained Tipperary in winning the All-Ireland championships of 1916 and 1925, and he played a leading part in the nine Tipperary championships won by Boherlahan in the period 1915 to 1928.

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Recipient of Mid Tipperary Board Hall of Fame Award

"A powerful, courageous hurler who would put in his head where another would not put his hurley", so said Jim Lanigan, captain of the 1937 All-Ireland winning Tipperary team, of the great Tommy Treacy. Tommy from Killea, in the shadow of the Devils Bit was to become a household name wherever hurling and hurling men are talked of.

In 1930 Tipperary won the Treble Crown senior, junior and minor All-Irelands. Tommy Treacy gave a superb display for the senior team. Heavily bandaged his skill and courage did much to bring victory to Kickham's county that day. Team mates included Martin Kennedy Phil Cahill, Phil Purcell, John Maher, Mick Cronin and Paul McKenna. In 1937 Tipperary easily defeated Kilkenny 3-11 to 3 pts in the All-Ireland final. Bill O'Donnell, "Sweeper" and Johnny Ryan, Willie Wall, Tommy Butler and Tommy Doyle were part of that winning side.

In 1931 and 1934 Tommy Treacy collected Interprovincial medals with Munster. Living in Dublin he threw in his lot with Young Irelands. His duals with Galways Mick Gill, playing for the Garda team were an attraction in themselves. No matter what game he played in Tommy Treacy gave of his best. He was an inspiration to his younger colleagues. He also played for Dublin. His playing days over, he was a shrewd selector and mentor for Young Ireland. He rarely missed a match when Tipperary played.

This year Mid Tipperary Board initiated a Hall of Fame Award and fittingly the first recipient was Tommy Treacy from Killea. Michael Lowry (Chairman), Tom O'Hara (Sec.), Pat Stakelum and John Doyle travelled to Dublin to present Tommy with a beautifully inscribed tray and a specially designed medalion. Making the presentation, Michael Lowry said "In a great career he was an outstanding performer, skilful, determined, courageous, as fine a wearer of the blue and gold as Tipperary ever produced. He enjoyed the respect of both colleagues and opponents, and is among the elite of whom it can be said "he is a legend in his lifetime".

He's honoured indeed and not honoured in vain  
He'll lead us to victory again and again  
He marshalled his team like a veteran bold  
And showed us the style of Tipperary old."

Liz Howard, P.R.O. Co. Board  
Tiobraid Arann



"We may have good men, but we'll never have better." From left : John Doyle, Tommy Treacy, Pat Stakelum.

—Photo Robert Allen.

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## PATHS TO THE FINALS

MINOR HURLING PLAYED ON LEAGUE SYSTEM, TOP TWO MEET IN FINAL

Holycross	2-9	2-5	Boherlahan
Sarsfields	4-8	3-4	Moycarkey
Holycross	3-11	3-4	Clonmore
Sarsfields	6-10	0-2	Clonmore
Moycarkey	0-11	0-7	Holycross
Sarsfields	4-7	2-3	Boherlahan
Boherlahan	1-8	1-7	Moycarkey
Sarsfields	3-6	2-6	Holycross

Playoff for Second Finalist

Holycross	6-9	2-3	Boherlahan
Holycross	4-4	0-9	Moycarkey



## SENIOR HURLING KNOCK OUT — LOSERS GROUP

Moycarkey	0-14	0-9	Boherlahan
Moycarkey	2-12	0-5	Moyne
Sarsfields	2-11	1-7	Drom
Losers Group			
Drom	2-21	4-5	J.K. Brackens
Drom	3-9	1-9	Boherlahan

Semi-Finals

Drom	3-13	0-9	Holycross
Moycarkey	3-13	3-6	Loughmore



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