

Mid-Tipperary Senior Hurling Final  
Match Programme  
1992

# THE ROADSTONE PROVINCES MID-TIPPERARY SENIOR HURLING FINAL



on **Sunday 9th. August, 1992**

**LUACH MAIGH – CAISLEAN AOIBHNE**

**V**

**NA SÁIRSEALAIGH**

**at 7.15 p.m.**



**Referee:- Kevin Darmody (Holycross-Ballycahill)**

*Marcus O'Connell*  
Rúnaí

**Clár Oifigiúil  
Luach 50p**



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# Fáilte on gCathaoirleach



I extend a Cead Mile Failte to you all for this evening's senior hurling final. This year we have the pairing of Loughmore-Castleiney and Thurles

Sarsfields. Our championship so far has produced some excellent fare and I know that this 1992 final between such keen rivals will equal some of the great Mid finals of the past. I wish both teams the best of luck to-night and later in their quest for county honours.

Finally my sincere thanks to all our patrons, spectators, clubs, players, officials and all associated with Cumann Luthchleas Gael in Mid Tipperary.

*Seán O Fógartaigh.*

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## Paddy Ryan (Sweeper)

When the Mid Board decided to appoint a President it was only right that Paddy Ryan (Sweeper) should have been the first to hold the position. For more than fifty years he was involved in the G.A.A. as a player, official and selector.

On the hurling field he won an All Ireland minor medal in 1930, was a member of the 1933 junior All Ireland winning panel and crowned his career by winning senior All Ireland medals in 1937 and 1945. During Moycarkey's years of glory he helped the club to win county senior titles in 1932, '33, '34, '37 and '40. He made his final appearance for the club when he lined out in goal against Sarsfields in 1949.

The Ryans were a great hurling family, Paddy, Johnny and Mutt won All Ireland senior medals and on many occasions were joined by their brothers Timmy and Larry on the Moycarkey team. The younger brother Billy also gave good service to Moycarkey.

In 1948 Paddy became Mid Secretary to replace Phil Purcell who had been appointed Co. Secretary. He held the position with distinction until he retired in 1966. Paddy was a born diplomat and it is a tribute to him that he retained the confidence of all the clubs in the division.

During the period 1949 to 1959 when Tipperary won seven All Ireland minor titles he was an ever present member of the selection committee. In the late sixties he gave a term as a county senior selector.

Sweeper has gone but we miss him. We are glad to have known him and proud to have been his friends. We offer our sincere sympathy to his wife and family. Their loss is great but, sure, the memories are good.



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**The Loughmore-Castleiney team which played Moycarkey in the 1992 Cahill Cup**  
**Back row (left to right):** John Treacy, Pat Cormack, Ken Doyle, John Cormack, Tim Cullen, Philip Kennedy, Jim Maher, Frankie McGrath. **Front row (left to right):** Pat McGrath, Eamon Brennan, John Kennedy, Ned Ryan, Michael McGrath, Paddy Hennessy, Seamus Bohan.



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## LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY G.A.A. CLUB

President: Canon Bergin.

Chairman: Sean Mockler.

Secretary: John Treacy.

Asst. Secretary / P.R.O. Pat Healy.

Treasurer: Eddie Webster.

G.A.A clubs were formed in Loughmore and Castleiney in 1885. The parish down the years has been steeped in football tradition with county titles coming through in all grades. The game of hurling was of course played but without the success of the big ball game.

During the early seventies, Fr. John O'Rourke then a curate in Castleiney, along with a loyal band of assistants took charge of a bunch of willing young boys that were to go on to take every honour in the county with the exception of an U/21 hurling county title. The great break on the hurling scene came in 1980 with the winning of a county intermediate hurling final, thus gaining senior status in 1981.

Having contested the Mid finals of 1981 and '82 losing out to Moycarkey it was in Templemore on Sunday

14/8/1983 that hurling followers realised that a team of the future had arrived as they reversed the earlier defeats by Moycarkey to take their first Mid title on a score of Loughmore-Castleiney 0-15 to Moycarkey's 0-11. The team on that occasion was Frankie McGrath; Richard Stapleton (capt), Peter Brennan, Dinny Kiely; Pat Cormack, Jim Maher, Eamonn Sweeney; Pat McGrath, Eamonn Brennan; Tom McGrath, Pat Treacy, Liam Cormack; Michael McGrath, John Treacy John Cormack. Since then the lifting of the Dan Breen Cup by Eamonn Sweeney at Semple Stadium in 1988 remains the club's proudest moment.

Prior to our quarter-final game against Moycarkey the players received a tremendous uplift with the visit of Offaly and Leinster hurler Joachim Kelly. With his experience at county and provincial levels, Joachim has left no stone unturned with the lads, but feels that past honours or games is history and it will all hinge on the play of sixty minutes that will determine the destination of the title.

# Luach Magh-Caisleán Aoibhne (Loughmore-Castleiney)

*Dathanna: Uaithne is Dearg (Green and Red)*

(1)  
EAMONN SWEENEY

(2)  
PAT CORMACK

(3)  
PAT TREACY

(4)  
EAMONN BRENNAN

(5)  
PAT McGRATH

(6)  
JIM MAHER

(7)  
JOHN KENNEDY

(8)  
NED RYAN

(9)  
TOM McGRATH

(10)  
MICHAEL McGRATH

(11)  
PHILIP KENNEDY

(12)  
SEAMUS BOHAN

(13)  
LIAM CORMACK

(14)  
JOHN CORMACK

(15)  
FRANKIE McGRATH

(CAPT)

FIR IONAD: (16) Tim Cullen (sub goalie), (17) John Treacy. (18) Pat Lynch (19) Noel Kennedy (20) Richard Stapleton (21) Tom Larkin.

SELECTORS: Pat Cullen, Mick McGrath, Mick Walsh,  
Joe Grady, Pat Gleeson.



*Wishing Every Success to the  
Loughmore-Castleiney team  
from*

*Kevin Allen's Lounge  
Templemore*

# Na Sairséalaigh

## (Thurles Sarsfields)

*Dathanna: Gorm is Bán (Blue and White)*

(1)  
PAT McCORMACK

(2)  
MICHAEL MAHER

(3)  
TOMMY MAHER

(4)  
MICHAEL SPARROW

(5)  
JIM MOLONEY

(6)  
SEAMUS O'SHEA

(7)  
SEAMUS MAHER

(8)  
JOHN DORNEY

(9)  
BRENDAN CARROLL

(10)  
EAMON WALSH  
(CAPT)

(11)  
CONNIE MAHER

(12)  
MAURICE McCORMACK

(13)  
GRAHAM O'CONNOR

(14)  
PADDY MAHER

(15)  
ANDY ROSSITER

FIR IONAD: Ciaran Carroll (sub goalie), (16) Liam Duggan (17) Lar Barrett (18) Seamus Quinn (19) Tony Coman (20) John Kennedy (21) Tony O'Meara (22) Ger Collins (23) Michael Hanrahan (24) Clive Hanrahan (25) P.J. Kavanagh.  
SELECTORS: Tom Barry (Manager), Dinny Maher, Liam O'Donoghue

**SARSFIELDS CLUB OFFICERS:** Chairman: Liam O'Donoghue;  
Hon. Sec. Ger Corbett; Club Treasurer: John McCormack; Bar  
Treasurer: Seamus Maher; Catering: Fr. O'Gorman.  
P.R.O. Michael Dundon.

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*Best Wishes to Mid Board for Today's Hurling Final*

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LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY & THURLES SARSFIELDS.

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# THURLES SARSFIELDS

Thurles Sarsfields is almost as old as the association itself. Hurling was played in the locality before the G.A.A. was formed, and when the association was formed, Thurles was among its first clubs, with Hugh Ryan, James Butler and Denis Maher the Club's first President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Since those far off days of the Club's contribution to the association has been enormous, and in Mid Tipperary terms it enjoys the distinction of having won the first three senior hurling championships following the formation of the division, 1907 to 09, a team led by the legendary Tom Semple.

Thirty four divisional senior hurling titles have come the club's way since then, an achievement which places them well ahead in the division's honours list. Further distinctions to be claimed by the club are the winning of the first Tipperary senior hurling championship, and then, representing Tipperary and led by Jim Stapleton, the winning of the first All-Ireland in 1887.

Sarsfields have given more All-Ireland winning captains to Tipperary than any other club — Jim Stapleton (1887); Tom Semple (06/08); John Joe Callanan ('30); Jim Lanigan ('37); John Maher ('45); Tony Wall ('58); Jimmy Doyle ('62 & '65) and Michael Murphy ('64).

While the club has boasted many great players and great teams, the group which represented it in the '55 to '65 period, winning ten out of eleven county senior hurling titles is worthy of special mention and it can safely be said that their achievement will never be equalled in Tipperary. They set a standard for all other clubs and for Sarsfields which will be very difficult to attain.

Such was the standard of hurling in the club at this time that in addition to the county senior championships, four county minor and three county junior titles also came our way.

And what about this for a record — Jimmy Doyle, winner of six senior All-Ireland medals with Tipperary won four championship medals in the space of one week in 1956 — Sunday, Sept. 23rd, All-Ireland minor medal; Wed, Sept. 26th, Mid minor medal; Sunday Sept. 30th, county senior and minor medals.

A further record held by a club member is the achievement of Mickey Byrne, winner of five senior All-Ireland medals, who in a playing career with Sarsfields that spanned twenty three years, holds a record number of county senior hurling championship medals — fourteen.

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*Thanks.*

*Sincere thanks to the Knights of Malta for their attendance here and at our games throughout the year.*

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The Thurles Sarsfields team which defeated Holycross-Ballycahill in semi-final

Back row (left to right): Connie Maher, Michael Sparrow, Seamus Maher, Jim Moloney  
 Seamus O'Shea, Paddy Maher, Maurice McCormack, Front row (left to right): Michael  
 Maher, Thomas Maher, Andy Rossiter, Graham O'Connor, John Dorney, Pat McCormack,  
 Brendan Carroll, Eamon Walsh.



## JOHN CORMACK

*(Loughmore-Castleiney Captain)*

If John Cormack raises the Leahy Cup this evening, he will be doing so for the second occasion, for as vice-captain to the injured John Treacy in 1987 he led his side to victory over to-day's opposition.

A most versatile player John has won a minor All Ireland medal in 1982, U/21 in 1985 and senior in 1989, along with a county hurling final in 1988, four Mid hurling finals and two county senior football medals plus many other honours.

Aged 28 years, John is an insurance inspector with Norwich Union, based in Limerick and along with brothers Pat and Liam feels that the team are now regaining the confidence that led them to county honours in 1988. However he states that tradition and their semi-final victory over champions, Holycross will make Sarsfields a difficult side to overcome and achieve his ambitions of victory.

## EAMON WALSH

*(Thurles Sarsfields Captain)*

The 25 year-old- Sarsfields captain had to overcome a serious knee injury in recent times to attain full fitness again as he bids to lead "The Blues" to a long awaited Mid title. Employed as an insurance representative with Irish Life, Eamon has graduated through the ranks of Durlas Og., with whom he has won many titles at U/12 & U/14 levels. He captained Thurles V.E.C. team to centenary honours in 1984 and won an All Ireland colleges medal with Waterford R.T.C. With Sarsfields he won a Mid intermediate medal in 1989 and Cahill Cup awards in 1991 and 1992. He has also won many trophies in skills competitions. Eamon respects to-night's opposition greatly but is confident that after a hard struggle that he will hold the Leahy Cup aloft for 1992.



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# An Reiteoir

## KEVIN DARMODY (HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL)

*To-day Kevin is refereeing his first Mid senior hurling final but has gained vast experience with the whistle since he took up refereeing four years ago. A member of the Holycross-Ballycahill club, he now resides in Two-Mile-Borris where he runs a Heating & Plumbing Wholesale business.*

*Kevin has won county honours with his club at U/16 and U/21 hurling levels, a Mid senior hurling medal and a county intermediate medal in football. He is looking forward to an open, sporting game to-day. He is wished well in his first senior final.*

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\*\*\*\*\*  
*Music this evening by the Sean Treacy Pipe Band,  
Moycarkey-Borris.*

*Amplification by Paddy Prior & Pat Houlihan.*

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\*\*\*\*\*  
*This evening's programme was compiled by Bob Stakelum  
(Holycross-Ballycahill), John McCormack  
(Thurles Sarsfields), Pat Healy (Loughmore-Castleiney) &  
Jimmy Fogarty (Moycarkey-Borris).  
Photos supplied by Brendan O'Connor (Thurles).*

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# A Great Year in the Mid

With the Mid division moving closer towards recapturing its former glory days in Tipperary hurling circles following the successes of Holycross and Loughmore in recent years, the Mid senior hurling final between Loughmore-Castleiney and Thurles Sarsfields this evening has an added significance. Victory in the Mid decider could be the stepping stone to county honours and it is also most interesting to note that Tipperary's two latest successes at All Ireland level came under the leadership of county champions from the Mid division Loughmore and Holycross.

It is hard to believe that Thurles Sarsfields, who hold far more championships than any other club, have not won the Mid title since 1980. Those twelve barren years have made the club all the more keen to get back into the winning groove, and have disposed of the champions for the past three years, Holycross-Ballycahill in their semi-final, the mood appears to be right in the Thurles camp for a re-emergence into the limelight.

Loughmore-Castleiney too have had to take the backseat for the past three years after winning four titles during the eighties. Their form this year, particularly in their win over Moycarkey-Borris in the quarter-final emphatically contradicted those who suggested that this team was past its best.

This then sets the scene for what should be a game in keeping with the great tradition of Mid senior hurling finals. The credentials of both sides are excellent. Their hunger for success has been apparent in their games; and both clearly have the players to do well, not alone at divisional level, but also in the concluding stages of the county championship.

There is little doubt either but that this has been one of the best Mid senior hurling championships for years with several games of high quality. The clash of Boherlahan-Dualla and Moyne-Templetuohy in the loser's group final was an excellent affair; the Loughmore-Castleiney v Moycarkey-Borris encounter

produced hurling of a very high standard from Loughmore-Castleiney, and the Sarsfields v Holycross-Ballycahill semi-final was also an excellent advertisement for the game in the division.

All of this contributes to making this year's championship that bit extra for the victors. We have no doubt that the contestants will not lack motivation or endeavour as they pursue their goal and we look forward to a top class evening's entertainment.

Michael Dundon (Tipperary Star)

## From the Past

When Sarsfields defeated Holycross-Ballycahill in the first round of the Mid championship in 1956 The 'Star' report expressed disappointment at the small attendance - 7,500. It was a big drop from the 1949 Mid final when 20,000 spectators watched Borrisoleigh defeat Boherlahan. At least 8,000 people crammed Gaile for the 1955 final to see Sarsfields defeat Holycross.

For the Sarsfields-Holycross final of 1958 the attendance was down to 3,000 but by 1962 when the clubs met in Templemore only 1,000 spectators attended.

For many years referees for the senior championship have come from within the division. In the 1940's and '50's most finals were handled by referees from outside the division :- Bill O'Donnell (1947), J. Carroll, Laois (1948), Timmy Hammersley, Clonoulty (1949), Bill O'Donoghue, Limerick (1950), Rody Nealon and Hubie Hogan (1951) and Paddy Connell, Offaly (1955).

Seyen parishes have provided captains for All Ireland senior hurling victories:- Thurles - 10; Boherlahan- 5, Borrisoleigh - 3, Moycarkey- 2, Holycross- 2, Toomevara- 1 and Roscrea - 1.

There have been nineteen individual captains.



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