

Mid-Tipperary Senior Hurling Final

Match Programme

2012

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Tiobraid Árann

# MacLochlainn Roadmarkings Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Final 2012



*Roadstone Provinces  
Mid-Tipperary  
Intermediate Hurling  
Championship 2012  
[Round 5]*



*Páirc Shileáin,  
Teampall Mór  
Dé Domhnaigh,  
29ú Iúil 2012*

Clár  
Oifigiúil

*Seán P. Cúileáin*  
Runai

Luach:  
**€3**



# Clár an Lae



5.00pm

**Roadstone Provinces Mid Tipperary Intermediate Hurling Championship – Round 5**

**CLONAKENNY v. DROM & INCH**

Referee: Tom McGrath (Loughmore-Castleiney)

6.20-6.35 pm Musical Entertainment

6.37 pm Arrival of Loughmore-Castleiney team on to field

6.40 pm Arrival of Thurles Sarsfields team on to field

6.55 pm Parade of teams led by Sean Treacy Pipe Band

6.59 pm Amhran na bhFiann

7.00 pm **Throw-in for MacLochlainn Roadmarkings Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Final**

**LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY v THURLES SARSFIELDS**

Referee: Martin Ryan (Moyne-Templetuohy)

7.33 pm Coaching and Games Development Mini Games

7.45 pm Second half of Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Final commences

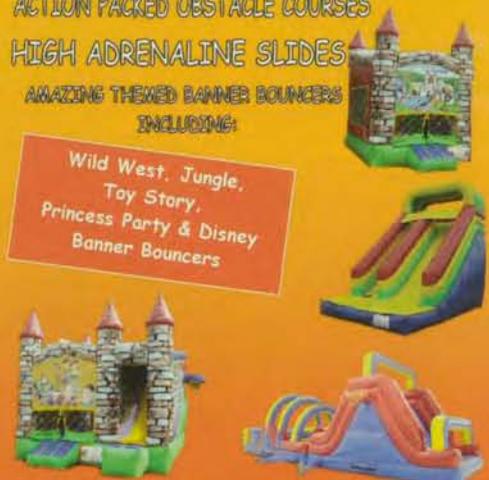
8.15 pm End of Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Final

8.20 pm Presentation of Johnny Leahy Cup to winning Captain followed by presentation of the Tom O'Hara Perpetual Trophy 'Man of the Match' Award

**PREMIERBOUNCE**.ie  
INFLATABLE FUN FOR ALL!

ACTION PACKED OBSTACLE COURSES  
HIGH ADRENALINE SLIDES  
AMAZING THEMED BANNER BOUNCERS  
INCLUDING:

Wild West, Jungle, Toy Story, Princess Party & Disney Banner Bouncers



Unbelievable Value - Unbeatable Fun

Contact: Jonathan Cullen on 086-229312  
Email: office@premierbounce.ie

Probably The best Inflatable Hire Company In The World!

Best of luck to  
**Loughmore Castleiney**  
from

**NOLAN'S BAR**  
**CASTLEINEY**



Proprietors:  
**JIM & MARY NOLAN**  
Tel: 0504-31058

# Fáilte ón Cathaoirleach



*Fáilte rómhaibh go léir go dtí Cluiche Ceannais Iomána na bliana 2012 í bPáirc Shileáin, Teampall Mór, agus tá suil agam go mbeidh sár cluiche spóirtí la againn.*

*Today we welcome everyone to the 2012 Mid Tipperary Senior hurling final. The two finalists have been among the outstanding teams in the division and county in recent years and I'm sure today's final will bring out the best in both teams. We also have the Mid Intermediate championship between Drom-Inch and Clonakenny.*

*Thurles Sarsfields, the kingpins in the division since its foundation are back once again bidding to add to their record 41 titles, and current champions, Loughmore-Castleiney, are bidding for a twelfth title in just over thirty years. Both clubs have a good spread of youth and experience and are well represented by wearers of Tipperary's Blue and Gold.*

*These are very exciting times for Tipperary GAA with both hurling and football teams enjoying much success. This success puts enormous strain on our fixture programme and as Chairman, I am grateful for the co-operation of the players, clubs and you, our patrons in getting our games played when possible. A glance at the article on the first Mid championship will show that difficulties between club and county games are nothing new!*

*We wish referee, Martin Ryan and his officials every success today in his first final and also to Tom McGrath and his officials in the Intermediate game. A special thanks to MacLochlainn Road Markings for their continued sponsorship of our championship in these difficult times and to JK Brackens club for hosting the final and for their excellent facilities.*

*I would like to thank our supporters for their continued support and hope you enjoy our games.*

**SEÁN Ó DUBHÁIN,**  
Cathaoirleach  
Tiobraid Árann Méanach GAA



**Buiochas**

SINCERE THANKS to all those who contributed to today's programme. A special thanks to John Moloughney for the use of his photographs. Thanks also to Tomás Callanan, Thurles Sarsfields and John Treacy, Loughmore-Castleiney for supplying information on both clubs. Thanks also to Tom McGrath and Sinéad Kelly for their help which was above and beyond the call of duty. Finally, a very special word of thanks to Mid assistant secretary Aoife Percy who contributed in a big way with articles and information along with some very helpful advice when deadlines were getting close! I hope you all enjoy the games and go home with pleasant memories of a good Mid final.

JONATHAN CULLEN, *Mid Secretary & Programme Editor*

*Senior Hurling  
Final Referee:***MARTIN RYAN**  
(MOYNE-TEMPLETUOHY)By: *BRIAN McDONNELL*

**P**OPULAR referee **MARTIN RYAN** takes charge of this afternoon's Mid Tipperary senior hurling final. The Moyne-Templetuohy man is taking responsibility for his very first Mid Tipperary senior hurling final and is more than delighted to do so.

"I was disappointed not to get the final last year, but to get this one is a big achievement for myself and for my family," Martin Ryan said in the build-up to today's game.

Martin, who will celebrate his 41st birthday in September, was encouraged to consider a career in refereeing by Hugh Coghlan in 2006. Martin has taken responsibility for several juvenile finals prior to this afternoon's senior decider, an occasion he describes as his "biggest game yet".

As a player Martin Ryan won honours at each and every level for his beloved



*Referee Martin Ryan (centre) with his umpires (l.-r.): Eamon Fogarty, Eddie Kelly, Martin Kelly and Hugh Coughlan.*

Moyne-Templetuohy. And, while he cherishes the medals won at under-12, under-14 and under-16 level, a minor B county title in 1987 sticks in his memory as do three junior A county titles which Moyne-Templetuohy won in 1990, 2000 and 2008, along with a Mid senior football title in 2001. Martin is also proud to say that he played in the Dr Harty Cup alongside outstanding hurling men like Tommy Dunne for Our Lady's

Templemore.

Martin Ryan would like to thank Johnny Ryan (Boherlahan-Dualla), Willie Clohessy (Drom & Inch) and Tom McGrath (Loughmore-Castleiney) for playing such a key role in his development as a top class referee. Martin's team for today's final will feature Eamonn Fogarty, Hugh Coghlan, Eddie Kelly and Martin Kelly – all four proud Moyne-Templetuohy men will act as umpires.

*Intermediate Hurling Referee:***TOM McGRATH** (LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY)

**T**HE REFEREE for today's intermediate hurling game between Clonakenny and Drom & Inch is **TOM McGRATH** from the Loughmore-Castleiney club. Tom is a member of that well known Loughmore dynasty of McGraths. He is father to Liam McGrath, who captained the Tipperary minor footballers to Munster and All-Ireland success in 2011. Tom first took to the field as a referee in 1978, when he refereed mainly at juvenile level. However, his commitment to his club, where he played both hurling and football, meant that Tom could not devote the time necessary to referee on a continuous basis. Since returning to refereeing a number of years ago, Tom has officiated in a number of finals in this and other divisions in both hurling and football and in 2010 Tom refereed the Mid senior hurling final between Thurles Sarsfields and Drom & Inch. We wish Tom and all his officials the best of luck in today's game.



# This could be a CRACKING FINAL

By: NOEL DUNDON



Loughmore Castleiney and Thurles Sarsfields have plenty of form when it comes to meeting in divisional finals and the 2012 MacLochlainn Roadmarkings Mid senior hurling decider at Templemore will only add to the very keen rivalry between the two great clubs.

Yes, most Gaels in mid Tipperary would have predicted that at least one half of the final pairing would have made it to the divisional showcase, with perhaps Drom & Inch also being in the shake-up. But, you can only have two horses in a two horse race, and as it happens the two battling it out for silverware also pitted their wits against each other in the first round of the championship, with Sarsfields marginally coming out on top.

A lot of hurling has been played since then though and given the kind of form shown by both teams since, patrons could be in for a real treat in the final.

Loughmore Castleiney will probably just about get the favourites nod, on the basis that they defeated the County champions so comprehensively in the semi-final. What a performance that was last weekend. They showed tremendous attacking acumen with scores coming from a whole variety of sectors – nine scorers in all on an evening when they bagged 3-23 and conceded just 0-16.

With so much pace and hurling in their attack, Loughmore Castleiney will threaten any side and the fact that David Kennedy is playing such a key role in the forward division is also a major plus. In fact Kennedy is central to the operation of the attack as he breaks up play and helps create scores, rather than taking them.

Defensively, Loughmore Castleiney are very sound with Eddie Connolly and Derek Bourke

manning the central positions in front of 'keeper John Scully. Tom King and Aidan McGrath form a strong half back line, while Tomás McGrath and Willie Eviston are tight marking, skilful corner backs. Of course mid-field is also very strong with any number of players set to partner the energetic Liam Treacy. It could be Ciaran McGrath who did so much in the drawn game against Drom & Inch; it could be Noel McGrath; it could even be John McGrath; or it might be none of the above.

Loughmore Castleiney have so many options in so many positions that it's hard to know who will start where. Apart from the McGraths, Evan Sweeney is finding a rich vein of form at the present time, while Cian Hennessy is a great man to nip in with scores.

While Loughmore Castleiney will be hell bent on retaining their title, Thurles Sarsfields would love nothing more than to dethrone them. And, the Blues have the wherewithall to do just that .... if they perform.

There are few club teams to match Sarsfields rich array of talents if all of the players are singing off the same hymn sheet. However, that's a big if and Sarsfields have, in the past, been rather unpredictable. But, they are showing real form this season and are racking up big scores, while keeping the flags down at the other end – they managed 3-24 against Brackens in the semi-final.

Any team with players of the calibre of Padraic Maher, Michael Cahill, Lar Corbett and Pa Bourke in their ranks can be considered extremely strong. But, throw in other county representatives such as Stephen Maher, Kevin O'Gorman, Aidan McCormack, Stephen Lillis, Michael Gleeson, Denis Maher and Richie Ruth, as well as players of the experience of Patrick McCormack, Johnny Enright, Jim Corbett, Ger O'Grady and the Kennedy brothers – Sarsfields have more than enough to turn it on, on any given evening.

One of the big go-to men for Sarsfields this season has been former county minor Michael O'Brien – his pace and finishing has troubled many a defence and he could also be a big player in the final.

There have been many great finals between the clubs over the years and there is a huge level of respect for each other as a result. Templemore will provide the perfect backdrop for what could be a very open, high scoring game of hurling. One thing is certain – the cream of Tipperary's hurling crop will be on view and that will surely draw a large attendance.

# Tom COLLUM

- PRO – JK Brackens GAA Club;
- Schools Liaison Officer
- County Board Draw Co-Ordinator
- Munster Post-Primary Schools Games Servicing Officer.

By: AOIFE PERCY



Today is also a big day for host club JK Brackens who are delighted to host the Mid Senior Hurling showpiece here at Páirc Shileáin. Here club stalwart **TOM COLLUM** shares his memories and thoughts on various aspects of the GAA. A native of Co. Limerick, Tom moved to Templemore 48 years ago through his work as a member of an Garda Síochána and has been to the forefront of GAA administration in the town ever since. Tom served as secretary of JK Brackens GAA Club for six years and is currently the club PRO, Schools Liaison Officer and County Board Draw Co-Ordinator. He also works as Munster Post-Primary Schools Games Servicing Officer.

### *What was your earliest involvement in the GAA?*

Playing in Primary School Leagues at 8 years of age and collecting 1 shilling per week for a non-stop draw in aid of my home club.

### *Playing Career:*

I played hurling with Feohanagh and football with Castlemahon from 1953 to 1972. I played mainly at midfield in hurling and centre forward in football. I won a few underage and adult championships, leagues and cups. I won a Munster Minor Football medal with Limerick in 1956.

### *Who were your childhood sporting heroes?*

I admired twin brothers Jack and Jim Quaid and Pat Stakelum and on the football front my heroes were Mick O'Connell and Seán Purcell.

### *How did you become involved with the GAA in Templemore?*

Fr. Louis Gleeson RIP asked me to train U14

and U16 football teams and Paddy McLoughlin and Benny Keating encouraged me to get involved in the adult club.

### *What does your work as Munster Post-Primary School Games Servicing Officer entail?*

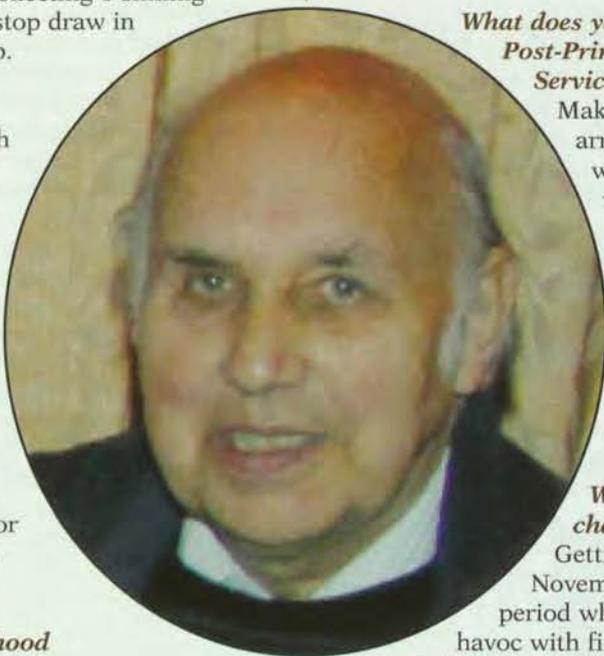
Making all the arrangements associated with fixtures – dates, venues, referees etc. Also PR work with local and national media, arranging in conjunction with boards and clubs the stewarding of some of the games and the collection of gates.

### *What is the biggest challenge in this job?*

Getting venues in the November to February period when the weather plays havoc with fixtures. Also dealing with fixture clashes between club and school games and organising the fixtures schedule to ensure minimum interference with special academic happenings in schools.

### *What is your best GAA memory?*

There are many but it has to be seeing Limerick beat Kilkenny to win the 1973



All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final after a gap of 33 years. That evening my wife, a Kilkenny woman, told me that Our Lord would have to come on earth before we would win another one!

***In your opinion who is the best hurler you have seen over the last 30 years? Why?***

Henry Shefflin – He has fantastic skill, he is very disciplined and has a great attitude. He's a very courageous player with great vision and a very accurate striker. He is always prepared to go the extra mile for his team.

***What current players do you admire?***

Along with Shefflin, Bonner Maher, Pádraig Maher, Eamon Corcoran, Shane Bourke, Eoin Kelly, Kevin Moran, Tom Condon, Tommy Walsh and Joe Canning. In football Colm 'Gooch' Cooper, the Brogan brothers, Colm O'Neill, Paul Kerrigan, Gary Brennan, Brian Fox, Ciarán McDonald and Paddy Codd are the ones that stand out for me. Declan Browne was also a very special player and our Colin O'Riordan is a fantastic talent and one to watch for the future.

***What is the biggest change that you have experienced in the GAA over the last 30 years?***

In general, many more games and training sessions for both club and county players. All players are much fitter now. Facilities have improved beyond recognition. The game of hurling is being played at a much faster pace. I'm sorry to say though that

football has lost too many of its skills, e.g. high fielding and long, accurate kicking from the hand or off the ground. There is too much hand passing and no shape or make to the way teams play. Players are running around all over the place and not letting the ball do the work.

***In your opinion what is the greatest challenge facing the GAA over the next 10 years?***

Trying to keep players from emigrating and helping them to get work. Getting committed, competent volunteers to run clubs and train and coach teams. Raising the necessary finances to run clubs. Scheduling games to have a happy medium between club and county fixtures.

***If you could change or add one rule to An Treoir Oifigiúil, what would it be?***

In football I'd introduce a rule to limit the handpass and all frees would have to be kicked from the ground. I would introduce the advantage rule in both codes. In relation to the scheduling of qualifier games, I would ensure sufficient time for club fixtures and have a fixed minimum period between club and county games in all grades.

***What motivates you to continue to be involved in the GAA?***

Love of the games, meeting GAA friends and discussing the games with them, watching young players develop, helping my club in any way that I can.

## "It's All Go"

By: ANDY RYAN (Mid Tipperary GDA)



**T**HIS EVENING'S half time exhibition "Go Games" sees children from Schools and Clubs from Loughmore-Castleiney, Thurles and Templemore areas taking part. These exhibition games are small sided in line with the GAA policy on a balanced approach to competition at this age level. The benefits of these small sided games include greater participation by all players, improved fitness levels and games suitable to children of this age bracket.

In Tipperary, all clubs get to play a County blitz once a month with under-10s on the first Saturday of the month and under-8s on the last Saturday of the month. These blitzes are usually held in Dr Morris Park in Thurles with over 450 children taking part in every blitz session. In Mid Tipperary all clubs are taking part in these blitzes at all ages. Over the next few weeks in the division it will be the turn of our under-6s, where blitzes will be taking place in different venues around the division.

The players this evening are from the following clubs Loughmore-Castleiney, Dúrlas Óg, Thurles Gaels and JK Brackens. So sit back at half-time and see the stars of the future.

**EDDIE CONNOLLY***(Loughmore-Castleiney)*

**E**DDIE HAS been a prominent dual player with the Club, winning various titles over the years, including Minor A Hurling and Football titles Mid and County in 2002. Won County Senior Hurling title in 2007, going on to win a memorable Munster Club Senior Hurling title 2007.

Eddie has won many Mid Senior Hurling and Football titles. He is a play anywhere type of player and figured prominently in the forward division during that 2007 campaign. He is also the Captain of the Tipperary Intermediate Hurling team that contest this year's Munster Final v Clare. Eddie hopes to lift the Leahy Cup this evening and become the eleventh man from the Club to do so and capture a 12th title in all since gaining senior status in 1981.

**PADRAIC MAHER***(Thurles Sarsfields)*

**P**ADRAIC MAHER is a man with a lot of hurling experience, having been through the mill with Dúrlas Óg and Thurles Sarsfields. Padraic has won almost every honour the game of hurling has to offer. He is marked out by his continuous appetite for success. A multiple medal winner with Dúrlas Óg in his juvenile days, Padraic is a powerful defender who is renowned for his relieving clearances and crucial scores in important clashes. His class comes to the fore time and again and he was delighted to have helped Sarsfields to the successive county senior hurling titles in 2009 and 2010, as well as numerous underage county titles in both codes. Padraic has had a very successful inter-county career with Tipperary at minor, U21 and senior level. In 2010 he won an All-Ireland Senior title and seven days later captained Tipperary to All-Ireland U21 success. He captured two successive All-Ireland Minor titles in 2006 and 2007. Padraic has won two All-Star awards in 2009 and 2011.

Padraic is honoured to be captain of Thurles Sarsfields in 2012 and would love to lift the Leahy Cup for his native parish.

**Mid Final Facts**

By: JONATHAN CULLEN



- Loughmore-Castleiney played in their first Mid senior hurling final in 1981. Since then they have contested 23 finals, of which they won 11, lost 9 and drew 3.
- 1997 was the last time that neither Loughmore-Castleiney, Thurles Sarsfields nor Drom & Inch played in the final. There were only six other years during that period when two of the big three did not play each other in the final.
- Since 1980 there has only been one final where no goal was scored. That was the 1983 final when Loughmore-Castleiney won their first title, defeating Moycarkey-Borris 0-15 to 0-11. The highest scoring final of that period was this year's semi final replay when Loughmore-Castleiney defeated Drom & Inch 3-23 to 0-16, a total of 48 points.
- Since 2002, Templemore has hosted the final on four occasions. Loughmore-Castleiney winning two, while Thurles Sarsfields and Drom & Inch have one each.
- Thurles Sarsfields have played in four finals in Semple Stadium since 1980, winning all four. The years in question were 1980, 2000, 2001 and 2007.
- Drom & Inch have contested seven of the last eight finals – winning three, losing three and drawing one and scoring a total of 13 goals and 95 points. The club was represented in the eighth final as Willie Clohessy refereed the game.
- After gaining senior status in 1980, Loughmore-Castleiney contested the next three finals, all against Moycarkey-Borris. They scored a total of 15 points in each game.
- Since 1980, the following venues have hosted Mid senior hurling finals: Semple Stadium (16), Holycross (8), Templemore (7), Boherlahan (2), The Ragg (2), Littleton (1) and Templetuohy (1).

# Ciaran McGRATH

Loughmore-  
Castleiney



PLAYER  
PROFILE

**Club Honours: Hurling:** U12 B Mid and County, U16 A Mid, minor A Mid and County, U21 A Mid, 2 Mid senior, County senior, Munster senior.

**Football:** 2 Mid minor A, County minor A, 3 U21 A Mid and County, 5 Mid senior, County senior.

**Inter-County Honours (if any):** U21 Munster hurling.

**When and where did you first play hurling & who was your coach?** Around home and then in Castleiney with Eamon and Jimmy Sweeney.

**Who has been the biggest influence on your career?** Family, Eamon and Jimmy Sweeney.

**What has been your greatest moment in sport?** Winning the Munster club.

**What player do you admire and why?** Tom King, because he's really old and still making the senior team!

**Favourite sport other than Hurling:** Football and rugby.

**Best book read and film watched:** Fifty Shades of Grey... Braveheart.

**Best concert or gig you have ever attended:** Any time Puddy sings Two Little

Boys is a good gig!

**When I was a child I wanted to be ....** Like Declan Laffen, Noel Morris, Pat McGrath and Ned Ryan.

**What is the toughest part of your sporting life:** Travelling from Dublin for training and waiting all weekend for a match on a Sunday evening.

**Best hurling memory outside of playing:** Being on the terrace in Cork for Munster Championship games when it was knockout.

**How do you relax away from sport?** I used to go on Facebook and Twitter but Declan doesn't let us anymore.

**You may not know it, but I am good at ....** Baking white chocolate cheesecake.

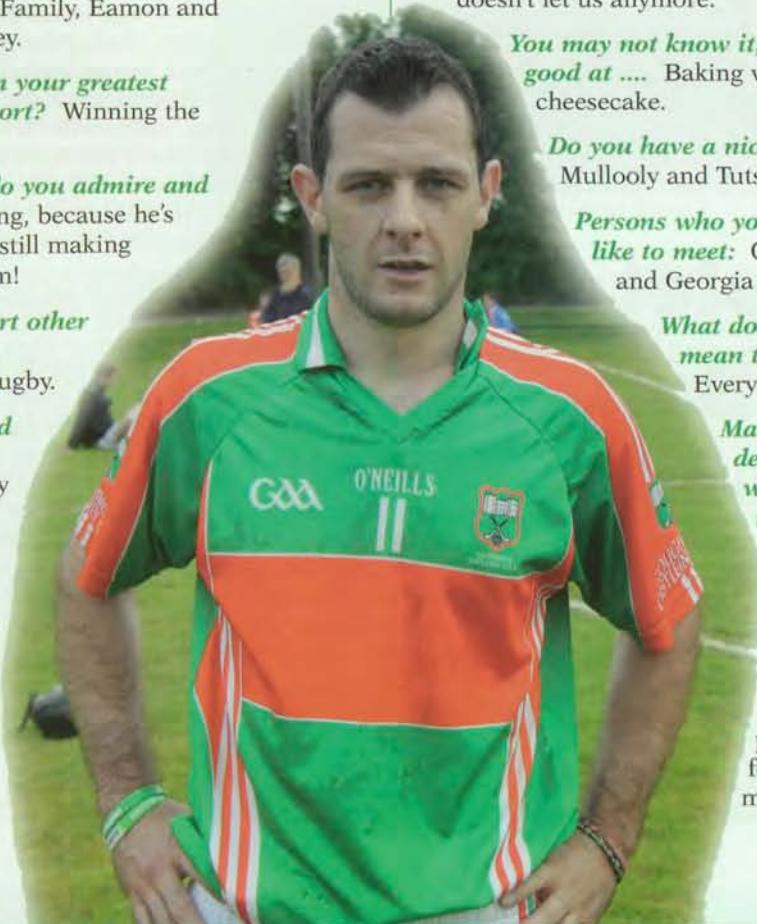
**Do you have a nickname?** Mullooly and Tuts.

**Persons who you would most like to meet:** Oisín McConville and Georgia Salpa.

**What does your club mean to you:** Everything.

**Marooned on a desert island what could you not be without:** A telly to watch Home and Away.

**In ten years time I hope to be ....** Still playing with a few more county medals won.



## PLAYER OF THE PAST

Seamus

## BOHAN

By: JACKIE CAHILL



**H**E'S 43 now, **SEAMUS BOHAN**, but still hurling away at junior level for Loughmore-Castleiney. And he's here in Templemore this evening for what promises to be a cracking MacLochlainn Road Markings Mid Tipperary senior hurling championship final.

Down through the years, Bohan was involved in plenty of great battles in the red and green jersey. The undoubted highlights were those two county senior hurling titles in 1988 and 2007 – and he also had the honour of captaining the football team to county senior glory in 1992 against Fethard. "I didn't get too many injuries all along," Bohan smiles. "And I found that all the players I played with gave everything for the club. It was an enjoyment to play with them and there's a great community spirit about the club."

In Bohan's eyes, Pat McGrath was the most



Sean Mockler, Chairman of Mid Tipperary GAA Board (left) presents the Cahill Cup to captain of the Loughmore-Castleiney team which defeated Holycross-Ballycahill in the 1996 Final (replay) at Holycross.

stylish hurler that he ever played alongside. But there's a new generation ready to write fresh history for Loughmore-Castleiney – spearheaded by Noel McGrath. "It's hard to single out anybody," Bohan admits. "Anybody that put on the red and green jersey always put it on to win. But Pat McGrath was as good a stickman as I ever saw. And where do you go with the McGraths?" Bohan grins. "There's Noel, the brother John and cousin Liam. And John Meagher from Castleiney is back in the fray after his illness. There's a good blend of youth and experience on the team. And there will be nothing in it between Loughmore, Drom & Inch and Sarsfields as contenders for the county title, along with Clonoulty," Bohan predicts. Before all that, there's a divisional title up for grabs as defending champions Loughmore-Castleiney put their crown on the line against a star-studded Thurles Sarsfields.

After this evening, thoughts will then turn towards a possible tilt at another county title. And Bohan recalls: "The 1987 final against Cappawhite was a match that we shouldn't have lost but in '88, we showed real battling qualities. Borrisoleigh maybe had the better hurlers, a more stylish player, but our battling qualities won it.

"In 2007, we came into the final with older hurlers and a bit of youth. "Noel was there and made a big difference to the team. He was only starting out at the time. But between '88 and '07, we should have won more. Toomevara were the team that took us out all the time and we put them on the road in '92, a game we should have won."

Best of luck to

**Loughmore Castleiney players, management and backroom team** for the Mid Final from:

**Stapleton's  
Bar**

**LOUGHMORE**



**All parties catered for**

Tel: 0504-31444



# Loughmore-Castleiney

## Loughmore-Castleiney Path To Final

April 8th Round 1 in Templemore:

Loughmore-Castleiney 2-12, Thurles Sarsfields 2-18

April 28th Round 2 in The Ragg:

Loughmore-Castleiney 1-20, Moycarkey-Borris 0-09

May 13th Round 3 in Templetuohy:

Loughmore-Castleiney 1-20, Drom & Inch 1-21

June 9th Quarter-Final in Holycross:

Loughmore-Castleiney 2-22, Upperchurch-Drombane 0-19

July 1st Semi-Final in Templetuohy:

Loughmore-Castleiney 2-21, Drom & Inch 2-21

July 21st Semi-Final Replay in Templetuohy:

Loughmore-Castleiney 3-23, Drom & Inch 0-16

## Loughmore-Castleiney scorers in 2012 Mid Championship

Liam McGrath.....	3-39
Noel McGrath.....	1-21
Cian Hennessy.....	3-05
John McGrath.....	0-08
Evan Sweeney.....	1-04
Ciaran McGrath.....	0-06
Liam Treacy.....	0-05
Aidan McGrath.....	0-05
John Ryan.....	1-00
David Kennedy.....	1-00
Tom King.....	0-02
Lorcan Egan.....	0-01
Johnny Campion.....	0-01

## The Management Team

Loughmore-Castleiney's senior teams have been successfully managed for the last two years by Declan Laffan, Noel Morris and Ned Ryan, winning two senior Mid titles – one football and one hurling. This year they are joined by Pat McGrath. It would certainly be difficult to pick a quartet from any period of the club's history that has graced the playing fields in our green and red colours with such distinction.

Pat, who is around the longest, won the first of six county senior titles – 5 football and 1 hurling – in 1979 while still a minor. He had won Harty and All-Ireland Colleges medals with Templemore CBS the previous year. He has won county titles in all grades of juvenile and adult hurling and football except U-21 hurling. He represented Tipperary in minor, U-21, senior and master's hurling and football, winning Munster and All-Ireland Medals in U-21, senior and master's hurling.

Ned won his first of four county senior titles – 3 football and 1 hurling – in 1987. He has



Loughmore-Castleiney Management Team (from left): Pat McGrath, Noel Morris Declan Laffan, Ned Ryan.

18 Mid senior football and 9 Mid senior hurling medals. He played senior hurling with Tipperary, winning 2 Munster, 1 All-Ireland, 1 League and 1 Oireachtas medals. He also represented Tipperary in football at U-21 and senior grades, winning two McGrath Cup medals.

Declan burst onto the scene in 1992 when he became our youngest player ever to win a county senior title, while still only 16 years old. He added another senior football county title to this on the last occasion we won it in 2004. He also has 5 Mid senior hurling and 12 Mid senior football medals.

Noel has won 5 Mid senior hurling medals – two of which he captained. He also has 7 Mid senior football medals. He represented Tipperary in minor, U-21 and senior hurling, winning Munster medals in all three grades and All-Ireland medals in U-21 and senior. He also holds a National Hurling League medal. Noel is currently a selector with the Tipperary minor hurlers.

Surely some of this wealth of experience gained by our management team over the most successful years in our club's history has to rub off on our players.

# Player Profiles

# LOUGHMORE CASTLEINEY



## WILLIE EVISTON

Age: 20

Occupation: Student

Club honours won: Mind Final 2011; County U21 Final Hurling 2011, County U21 Football Final 2012; Minor County Hurling 2009. 3rd Place in Loughmore G.A.A. Camp U14 skills 2004.



## JOSEPH HENNESSY

Age: 18

Occupation: Student

Club honours won: Won various Juvenile titles in Hurling & Football as well as school level.

County honours won: U12 Hurling & Football, U14 Hurling, U16 Hurling & Football, Minor Hurling, U21 Hurling & Football.



## LORCAN EGAN

Age: 17

Occupation: Student

Club honours won: 2 Mid MH, Mid JH, County MH, Mid JF, Mid SH, Mid U21 hurling, Mid U21 Football, County U21 hurling, County U21 football. Numerous juvenile honours. (7 Mid titles in 2011, Minor, U21 JH & F and SH).

County honours won: Munster MH 2012, Munster MF 2012, U16 All Ireland hurling 2010.



## HENRY MAHER

Age: 21

Occupation: Munster Region Manager SISK

Club honours won: U11 Indoor Ground Hurling Championship

County honours won: U21 County Football & Hurling Final, Minor Hurling County Final, Numerous Mid titles in Hurling & Football, U21 County Football & Hurling 2002.



## CIAN HENNESSY

Age: 22

Occupation: Student

Club honours won: U21A Hurling Mid/County 2011; Munster Club Hurling 2007; U12A Double Mid and County 2002; 4 Senior Mid Football; Senior Hurling 2011.



## AIDAN McGRATH

Age: 21

Occupation: Student

Club honours won: Hurling: Mid Minor A, U21A, Senior, County Minor A, U21A Football: 2 Mid Minor A, 5 U21A, 3 Senior, 2 County U21A.



## CIARAN McGRATH

Age: 24

Occupation: Civil Servant

Club honours won: Hurling: Mid U12B, U16A, Minor A, U21A, 2 Senior, U12B County, Minor A County, Senior 2007, Munster Club 2007.

Football: 2 Mid Minor A, 3 U21A, 6 Mid Senior, Minor A County, Senior

County honours won: U21 Muster Hurling.



## NOEL McGRATH

Age: 21

Occupation: Postman

Club honours won: Hurling U12, U21, Senior County Final, Munster Hurling Final. Football: U12 County Final, 4 Mid Senior, 3 U21

County honours won: 1 All Ireland, 3 Munster Senior titles, 1 U21 All Ireland, 2 Minor All Ireland, 1 Munster U21, 1 Munster Minor.



## SHANE HENNESSY

Age: 23

Occupation: Teacher

Club honours won: Won many under age titles with Clubs & Schools. Holds mid Senior Hurling & Football medals.

County honours won: County U21 Football & Mid titles.



## JOHN McGRATH

Age: 17

Occupation: Student

Club honours won: U12A, U14A, U16A, Minor A, U 21A Hurling & Football County & Mid Finals, Mid SH title

County honours won: 1 Munster MH title, 2 Munster MF titles, 1 All Ireland MF title, 1 U16 All Ireland hurling title.



## EVAN SWEENEY

Age: 27

Occupation: Civil Servant

Club honours won: 1 County Minor Hurling & Football, 2 U21 County Football, 4 SH Mid Finals, 1 County SH & F, Numerous Football Mid Finals.

County honours won: Munster Minor & U21 Hurling.



## TOMMY LONG

Age: 30

Occupation: Intel Employee

Club honours won: Many Juvenile honours were achieved. County SH & F titles. 1 Munster Club Hurling 2007, numerous Mid SH & F titles along with Mid Minor B Hurling & Football titles. Mid & County. Captained last year's team to Mid SH honours.



**DAVID KENNEDY**

Age: 36  
 Occupation: Garda  
 Club honours won: County Hurling, Munster Club, 7 Mid Senior Hurling, County Minor B, 1 County U21 B, 1 County Senior Football, 15 Mid Senior Football, 1 county U21 A & B Final.  
 County honours won: 1 All Ireland Hurling, 1 Munster Final, 2 National Hurling League Titles.



**JOHNNY CAMPION**

Age: 24  
 Occupation: Insurance Broker  
 Club honours won: 1 Mid Minor B, 3 Mid U21, 2 County U21 A, 1 Mid Junior A Football, 1 Mid Senior, 1 County Senior, 1 Munster Senior Hurling.



**PADDY MOYNIHAN**

Age: 22  
 Occupation: Student  
 Club honours won: 1 Mid Minor B, 3 Mid U21 A, 1 County U21A, 2 Mid Senior Football, 1 Mid U21 A Hurling, 1 County U21 A, 1 Mid Junior A, 1 Mid Senior Hurling.



**JOHN RYAN**

Age: 21  
 Occupation: Farmer  
 Club honours won: Won Juvenile & Minor titles with Borrisoleigh along with school honours, transferred to club 2012 and has won Minor County U21A Football titles.



**CRAIG CLEARY**

Age: 19  
 Occupation: Student  
 Club honours won: Primary & CBS school honours. Various Juvenile honours with Club. Mid & County Minor Hurling honours. U21 Hurling & Football Mid & County titles.



**PAUL BRENNAN**

Age: 28  
 Occupation: Engineer  
 Club honours won: Various titles at primary school level. Rice, Cusack & White Cup Medals and Harty Cup Runners Up Medals. Minor A Football & Hurling medals 2007. 1 Senior Hurling Medal in 2007, Munster Club medal. County Senior Football 2004, numerous Mid Senior Hurling & Football titles.  
 County honours won: Played Minor U21 & Senior Football



**JOHN SCULLY**

Age: 27  
 Occupation: Garda  
 Club honours won: Various Juvenile & school titles. Minor hurling & Football, County & Mid 2002, Mid Senior Hurling 2011, Mid Senior Football Title.



**DEREK BOURKE**

Age: 28  
 Occupation: Carey Glass, Nenagh  
 Club honours won: Primary School honours, Rice, White & Cusack Cups, Harty Cup Runners Up, Minor H & F 2002. County SH 2007. Munster Club Final 2007. County SF Final 2004, 6 Mid SF titles  
 County honours won: 1 Munster Final & All Ireland Runners Up Medal 2002.



**EDDIE CONNOLLY**

Age: 26. Occupation: Banker  
 Club honours won: 1 County Minor A H & F, 3 County U21 A Football, 1 County SF, 1 County SF, 1 County SH, 1 Munster Club SH.



**TOMÁS McGRATH**

Age: 20. Occupation: Student  
 Club honours won: Mid & County U12A H & F, U16A Hurling & Football, Minor A Hurling, U21A H & F, Mid Junior A Hurling, Mid SH & F  
 County honours won: Ryan Cup All Ireland Medal.



**LIAM McGRATH**

Age: 19  
 Occupation: Financial Accountant Stump Ltd.  
 Club honours won: Mid & County U12A H & F U14A Hurling, U16A H & F, Minor A Hurling, U21A H & F, Mid SH & F  
 County honours won: Munster & All Ireland MF 2011, All Ireland U16 Hurling 2009.



**JOHN MEAGHER**

Age: 19. Occupation: Student  
 Club honours won: Won many school honours. Played full back on County MH & F teams last year winning Munster & All Ireland titles in MF. Harty & All Ireland Medals with Thurles CBS in 2011. Mid SH Medal 2011. Mid & County Minor Hurling title.



**TOM KING**

Age: 31. Occupation: Civil Servant  
 Club honours won: 10 Senior Mid Football, 5 Senior Mid Hurling, County Football 2004, County & Munster Final 2007.  
 County honours won: Munster MH Final 1999.



**MARTIN GLEESON**

Age: 30. Occupation: Electrician  
 Club honours won: 6 Senior Mid Football, 3 Mid SH, County Final 2004, County & Munster Final 2007.



**LIAM TREACY**

Age: 19. Occupation: Student  
 Club honours won: Mid U16, Minor U21, Senior Hurling & Football, U16 & U21 Hurling & Football, Minor Hurling.



# Clonakenny

Dathanna: Dubh agus Ómra

INTERMEDIATE



S. Ó Ruiséil  
**Stephen Russell**



	1Aim LEATH	2Aim LEATH	HOULÁN
CÚIL			
CÓILÍNÍ			
SEACHAÍ			
OSa			
SADH POCANNA			



T. Ó Cearúill  
**Tom Carroll**



M. S. Ó Muirí  
**Martin Joe Murray**



D. Greed  
**Donal Greed**



L. Ó Riain  
**Willie Ryan**



G. Ó Broin  
**Ger Byrne**



S. Mac Oistigín  
**John Costigan**



P. Ó Riain (Capt.)  
**Pa Ryan**



M. S. Ó Cearúill  
**Michael John Carroll**



C. Ó Riain  
**Conor Ryan**



B. Ó Beirgin  
**Bobby Bergin**



N. Ó Riain  
**Nicky Ryan**



S. S. Ó Riain  
**John Joe Ryan**



E. Ó Riain  
**Eoin Ryan**



D. Crampton  
**David Crampton**

- 16 A. Abóid  
**ALAN ABBOTT**
- 17 P. Mac Mathúna  
**PRIONSÍAS MATTHEWS**
- 18 N. Mac Mathúna  
**NIALL MATTHEWS**
- 19 L. Mac Oistigín  
**WILLIE COSTIGAN**

- 20 S. Mac Oistigín  
**JIM COSTIGAN**
- 21 S. Ó Sealbhaigh  
**JOE SHELLY**
- 22 D. Mac Oda  
**DAVID CODY**
- 23 M. Ó Riain  
**MARK RYAN**

- 24 D. Ó Muirí  
**DONNACHA MURRAY**
- 25 W. Ó Broin  
**WALTER BYRNE**
- 26 M. Mac Oistigín  
**MICHAEL COSTIGAN**

**MANAGER:** Gerry O'Hara. **SELECTORS:** Maxi Crampton, Francis Casey.  
**TRAINER:** Jimmy Sweeney.

# Drom & Inch

Dathanna: Glas agus Bán

INTERMEDIATE

	10m	20m	30m
CUIL			
CUILÍNÍ			
SEACHAÍ			
IS			
SADH			
POCAIRNA			



1. C. Ó Riain  
**Cathal Ryan**

2. M. Mac Craith  
**Matthew McGrath**

3. E. Ó Coisteala (Capt.)  
**Eddie Costello**

4. N. Ó Riain  
**Nicky Ryan**

5. M. Caimpion  
**Michael Campion**

6. P. Ó Lubaigh  
**Philip Looby**

7. M. Ó Puirseíl  
**Michael Purcell**

8. M. Mac Craith  
**Martin McGrath**

9. P. de Buitléir  
**Padraig Butler**

10. D. Ó Riain  
**Jerome Ryan**

11. S. Laighléis  
**John Lillis**

12. S. Mac Aogáin  
**Joe Egan**

13. S. Ó Cinnéide  
**John Kennedy**

14. P. Ó Cinnéide  
**Paddy Kennedy**

15. O. Mac Shiúrtáin  
**Oisín Jordan**

17 E. Uadlóg  
**ERIC WOODLOCK**

19 P. Mac an Ghaill  
**PADRAIG STAPLETON**

21 M. Eibhearard  
**MICHAEL EVERARD**

18 D. Ó Riain  
**DECLAN RYAN**

20 M. Ó Dúlaich  
**MARTIN DOOLEY**

22 L. Ó Cinnéide  
**LIAM KENNEDY**

**MANAGER:** Kevin Bourke. **SELECTORS:** Liam McLoughlin, Seamus Fahey.  
**COACH:** Sean Prendergast. **PHYSIO & FIRST AID:** Helen Ryan, Carina Daly.

# Loughmore-Castleiney

Dathanna: Glas agus Dearg

SENIOR



	TAM LEATH	2am LEATH	NOBLÁN
CUIL			
CUILIN			
SEACHAI			
85m			
SADR POCANNA			



S. Ó Scolaí  
**John Scully**



T. Mac Craith  
**Tomás McGrath**



D. de Búrca  
**Derek Bourke**



L. Eviston  
**Willie Eviston**



A. Mac Craith  
**Aidan McGrath**



E. Ó Conghaile (Capt.)  
**Eddie Connolly**



T. Ó Cionga  
**Tom King**



N. Mac Craith  
**Noel McGrath**



L. Ó Treasaigh  
**Liam Treacy**



E. Mac Suibhne  
**Evan Sweeney**



C. Mac Craith  
**Ciaran McGrath**



S. Mac Craith  
**John McGrath**



L. Mac Craith  
**Liam McGrath**



D. Ó Cinnéide  
**David Kennedy**



C. Ó hAonasa  
**Cian Hennessy**

16 C. Ó Cléirigh  
**CRAIG CLEARY**

17 P. Ó Braonáin  
**PAUL BRENNAN**

18 S. Caimpion  
**JOHNNY CAMPION**

19 L. Ó hAogáin  
**LORCAN EGAN**

20 M. Ó Gliasáin  
**MARTIN GLEESON**

21 S. Ó hAonasa  
**JOSEPH HENNESSY**

22 S. Ó hAonasa  
**SHANE HENNESSY**

23 T. Ó Longáin  
**TOMMY LONG**

24 A. Ó Meachair  
**HENRY MAHER**

25 S. Ó Meachair  
**JOHN MEAGHER**

26 P. Ó Muíneacháin  
**PADDY MOYNIHAN**

27 S. Ó Riain  
**JOHN RYAN**

**MANAGEMENT TEAM:** Declan Laffan, Noel Morris, Ned Ryan, Pat McGrath.

*Team Physio:* Cathy Doran.

# Thurles Sarsfields

Dathanna: Gorm agus Bán

SENIOR



P. Mac Cormaic  
**Patrick McCormack**



S. Ó Meachair  
**Stephen Maher**



C. Ó Gormáin  
**Kevin O'Gorman**



D. Ó Meachair  
**David Maher**



D. Ó Cinnéide  
**David Kennedy**



P. Ó Meachair (Capt.)  
**Padraic Maher**



C. Ó Cathaill  
**Michael Cahill**



M. Ó Gliasain  
**Michael Gleeson**



S. Ó Laighléis  
**Stephen Lillis**



D. Ó Meachair  
**Denis Maher**



S. Ó Coirbín  
**Jim Corbett**



P. de Búrca  
**Pa Bourke**



M. Ó Briain  
**Michael O'Brien**



G. Ó Gráda  
**Ger O'Grady**



A. Mac Cormaic  
**Aidan McCormack**

16 C. Mac Gabhann  
**KEVIN SMITH**

20 S. S. de Búrca  
**JOHN JOE BOURKE**

24 B. Ó Dubhuir  
**BARRY O'DWYER**

28 E. Ó Ruiséil  
**EOIN RUSSELL**

17 S. Mac Ionnrachtaigh  
**JOHNNY ENRIGHT**

21 S. Ó Leathlobhair  
**JOHN LAWLOR**

25 A. Ó Cinnéide  
**ALAN KENNEDY**

29 T. Ó Dúghaill  
**TOMMY DOYLE**

18 L. Ó Coirbín  
**LAR CORBETT**

22 S. Ó Meachair  
**JOHN MAHER**

26 R. Ó Sé  
**RORY O'SHEA**

30 M. Ó Colleáin  
**MICHAEL COLLINS**

19 R. Rúit  
**RICHIE RUTH**

23 T. Ó Clonga  
**TOM KING**

27 C. Ó Treasaigh  
**CIAN TREACY**

**MANAGEMENT TEAM:** Seamus Quinn (Manager), Garry Mernagh (Coach), Noel Fogarty, Brendan Carroll.  
Equipment Manager: John Moroney.

# Player Profiles

# THURLES SRSFIELDS



## PATRICK McCORMACK

Age: 28

Occupation: Secondary School Teacher

Honours to date:

1 Munster U21 HC, 2 Munster MHC,  
3 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp U21 HC,  
3 Tipp Minor HC, 5 Mid SHC, 2 Mid U21 HC,  
3 Mid MHC.



## STEPHEN MAHER

Age: 20

Occupation: Student in UCC

Honours to date:

1 Tipperary SHC, 2 Tipp U21 HC, 1 Tipp  
MAHC, 1 Mid SHC, 3 Mid U21 HC,  
1 Mid MHC,  
1 Fitzgibbon Cup.



## KEVIN O'GORMAN

Age: 22

Occupation: Primary School Teacher Student

Honours to date:

1 All Ireland U21HC, 1 Munster U21 HC,  
1 All Ireland MHC, 1 Munster MHC  
2 Tipperary SHC, 2 Tipp U21 HC, 2 Tipp MAHC,  
1 Tipp MAFC, 2 Mid SHC, 3 Mid U21 HC,  
2 Mid MHC, 1 Mid MFC.



## DAVID MAHER

Age: 21

Occupation: Student in UCC

Honours to date:

1 Tipperary SHC, 2 Tipp U21 HC, 1 Tipp  
MAHC, 1 Mid SHC, 3 Mid U21 HC,  
1 Mid MHC.



## DAVID KENNEDY

Age: 28

Occupation: Accountant

Honours to date:

1 Munster U21 HC, 2 Munster MHC,  
2 Tipperary SHC, 1 Mid SHC.



## PADRAIC MAHER (Capt)

Age: 23

Occupation: Hurley Maker

Honours to date:

1 All Ireland SHC, 3 Munster SHC,  
1 All Ireland U21HC, 2 Munster U21 HC,  
2 All Ireland MHC, 1 Munster MHC,  
2 All Stars, 2 Tipperary SHC, 2 Tipp U21 HC,  
2 Tipp MAHC, 2Tipp MAFC, 2 Mid SHC, 3 Mid U21 HC,  
2Mid MHC, 2 Mid MFC.



## MICHAEL CAHILL

Age: 23

Occupation: Secondary School Teacher

Honours to date:

1 All Ireland SHC, 3 Munster SHC, 1 All Ireland  
U21HC, 2 Munster U21 HC,  
2 All Ireland MHC, 1 Munster MHC  
1 All Star, 1 Fitzgibbon Cup  
2 Tipperary SHC, 2 Tipp U21 HC, 2 Tipp MAHC,  
2 Tipp MAFC, 2 Mid SHC, 3 Mid U21 HC,  
2 Mid MHC, 2 Mid MFC.



## MICHAEL GLEESON

Age: 24

Occupation: Accountant

Honours to date:

1 All Ireland MHC, 1 Munster SHC, 1 Munster  
U21 HC,  
2 Tipperary SHC, 2 Tipp U21 HC, 1 Tipp MAHC,  
2 Tipp MAFC, 2 Mid SHC, 2 Mid U21 HC, 1 Mid MHC.



## STEPHEN LILLIS

Age: 26

Occupation: Barman

Honours to date:

1 Munster SHC, 1 Munster U21 HC, 1  
Fitzgibbon Cup,  
3 Tipperary SHC, 3 Mid SHC.



## DENIS MAHER

Age: 21

Occupation: Barman

Honours to date:

1 All Ireland U21HC, 1 Munster U21 HC,  
2 Tipperary SHC, 2 Tipp U21 HC, 2 Tipp  
MAHC,  
1 Mid SHC, 3 Mid U21 HC, 2 Mid MHC.



## JIM CORBETT

Age: 40

Occupation: Restraunteur

Honours to date:

3 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipperary Junior B HC, 2  
Mid SHC.



## PA BOURKE

Age: 24

Occupation: Employee of Semple Stadium

Honours to date:

1 All Ireland SHC, 1 All Ireland MHC, 1  
National HL,  
4 Munster SHC, 1 Munster U21 HC,  
3 Tipperary SHC, 2 Tipp U21 HC, 1 Tipp MAHC,  
2 Tipp MAFC, 3 Mid SHC, 2 Mid U21 HC, 1 Mid MHC.



**MICHAEL O'BRIEN**

Age: 19  
 Occupation: Student  
 Honours to date:  
 1 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp MAHC,  
 1 Mid SHC, 1 Mid U21 HC, 1 Mid MHC.



**GER O'GRADY**

Age: 33  
 Occupation: Owns Power-washing Business  
 Honours to date:  
 1 Munster U21 HC, 1 Munster MHC, 3  
 Tipperary SHC, 5 Mid SHC.



**AIDAN McCORMACK**

Age: 19  
 Occupation: Student  
 Honours to date: 1 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp U21  
 HC, 2 Tipp MAHC, 1 Mid SHC, 2 Mid U21 HC,  
 2 Mid MHC.



**KEVIN SMITH**

Age: 19  
 Occupation: Student  
 Honours to date:  
 1 Tipp MAHC, 1 Mid U21 HC, 1 Mid MHC.



**JOHNNY ENRIGHT**

Age: 35  
 Occupation: Business Consultant  
 Honours to date:  
 3 Tipperary SHC, 1 Munster MHC, 3 Fitzgibbon  
 Cups, 6 Mid SHC, 2 Mid U21 HC, 3 Mid MHC.



**LAR CORBETT**

Age: 31  
 Occupation: Publican  
 Honours to date: 2 All Ireland SHC, 5 Munster  
 SHC, 1 Railway Cup, 1 Hurler of the Year,  
 3 All Stars, 3 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp U21 HC,  
 1 Tipp Minor HC, 5 Mid SHC, 1 Mid U21 HC, 1 Tipp MAHC.



**RICHARD RUTH**

Age: 26  
 Occupation: Woodwork Teacher  
 Honours to date:  
 1 Munster U21 HC, 1 Munster MHC,  
 3 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp U21 HC,  
 1 Tipp Minor HC, 3 Mid SHC.



**JOHN JOE BOURKE**

Age: 23  
 Occupation: Plasterer  
 Honours to date: 1 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp U21  
 HC, 2 Tipp MAHC, 1 Tipp MAFC, 1 Mid SHC,  
 2 Mid U21 HC, 2 Mid MHC, 1 Mid MFC.



**JOHN LAWLOR**

Age: 31  
 Occupation: Publican  
 Honours to date:  
 3 Tipperary SHC, 4 Mid SHC.



**JOHN MAHER**

Age: 25  
 Occupation: Student  
 Honours to date:  
 2 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp U21 HC, 1 Tipp  
 MAFC, 2 Mid SHC, 1 Mid U21 HC, 1 Mid  
 MAFC.



**TOM KING**

Age: 26  
 Occupation: Secondary School Teacher  
 Honours to date:  
 1 Munster MHC, 1 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp U21  
 HC, 2 Mid SHC.



**BARRY O'DWYER**

Age: 29  
 Occupation: Medical Representative  
 Honours to date:  
 3 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp U21 HC,  
 2 Tipp Minor HC, 4 Mid SHC, 2 Mid U21 HC, 2  
 Mid MHC.



**ALAN KENNEDY**

Age: 31  
 Occupation: PE Teacher  
 Honours to date:  
 3 Tipperary SHC, 1 Tipp MAHC, 1 Mid SHC.



**RORY O'SHEA**

Age: 21  
 Occupation: Student in UL  
 Honours to date:  
 1 Tipperary SHC, 2 Tipp U21 HC,  
 1 Mid SHC, 3 Mid U21 HC.



**CIAN TREACY**

Age: 20  
 Occupation: Primary School Teacher Student  
 Honours to date:  
 2 Tipp U21 HC, 3 Mid U21 HC.



**EOIN RUSSELL**

Age: 26  
 Occupation: Insurance Assessor  
 Honours to date:  
 3 Tipperary SHC, 3 Mid SHC.



**TOMMY DOYLE**

Age: 21  
 Occupation: Student  
 Honours to date:  
 2 Tipp U21 HC, 3 Mid U21 HC.



**MICHAEL COLLINS**

Age: 26  
 Occupation: Woodwork Teacher  
 Honours to date:  
 3 Tipperary SHC, 3 Mid SHC.





# Thurles Sarsfields

## Thurles Sarsfields scorers in 2012 Mid Championship

### Thurles Sarsfields Path To Final

April 8th Round 1 in Templemore:  
Thurles Sarsfields 2-18, Loughmore-Castleiney 2-12

April 29th Round 2 in Holycross:  
Thurles Sarsfields 1-08, Drom & Inch 1-12

May 13th Round 3 in Holycross:  
Thurles Sarsfields 2-19, Moycarkey-Borris 1-18

June 9th Quarter Final in Holycross:  
Thurles Sarsfields 3-17, Boherlahan-Dualla 1-09

July 4th Semi Final in The Ragg:  
Thurles Sarsfields 3-24, JK Brackens 0-14

Pa Bourke .....	0-22
Michael O'Brien .....	4-05
Aidan McCormack .....	1-06
Denis Maher .....	1-05
Stephen Lillis .....	0-07
Ger O'Grady .....	1-03
Richie Ruth .....	0-05
Lar Corbett .....	1-00
Padraig Maher .....	0-01
Michael Russell.....	0-01
Jim Corbett.....	0-01
Johnny Enright.....	0-01
Michael Gleeson.....	0-01
Michael Cahill.....	0-01

## The Management Team

**T**HE Thurles Sarsfields Senior Hurling Management comprises of Seamus Quinn who is the manager, Garry Mernagh the coach and Brendan Carroll and Noelle Fogarty who are selectors. All members of the management team have been involved in managing or training teams at various levels within Thurles Sarsfields down through the years.

Seamus Quinn is a former player and managed our minor hurlers to Co Championship success in 2010. He was also involved in the management team who won back to back County Under 21 hurling Championships in 2008 and 2009.

Garry Mernagh was full back when Thurles Sarsfields won the Dan Breen in 2005 after a 31 year wait. Garry trained and managed at minor and Under-21 levels, enjoying great success. Co



Thurles Sarsfields Management Team (l.-r.): Garry Mernagh (Coach), Noel Fogarty, Seamus Quinn (Manager) and Brendan Carroll.

Titles were won at minor level in both hurling and football. Garry was manager of the Under 21 team that won back-to-back Co Hurling titles in 2008 and 2009.

Brendan Carroll played for many years at senior level and was centre back on the senior championship winning team of 2005. Brendan has been involved with many underage teams in Sarsfields down through the years.

Noel Fogarty, a native of Templemore who now resides in Thurles, has managed Our

Ladies Templemore at Harty Cup levels at different stages down through the years. He became involved with Thurles Sarsfields in recent years and was a selector with our minor hurling team who won county honours in 2010. Currently Noel is also a selector with our minor hurling team.



John Moroney  
(Equipment  
Manager).

# Denis MAHER

Thurles  
Sarsfields



PLAYER  
PROFILE

**Club Honours:** 2 County Senior Titles, 2 County U21 Titles, 2 Minor County Titles.

**Inter-County Honours:** Munster and All-Ireland U21 title.

**When and where did you first play hurling and who was your coach?** Back garden with my father, aged four.

**Who has been the biggest influence on your career?** My parents.

**What has been your greatest moment in sport?** County Senior Final 2010.

**What player do you admire and why?** Tommy Walsh and Padraic Crone. Real sticks men.

**Favourite sport other than hurling:** Rugby.

**Best book read and film watched:** Friday Night Lights. We'll skip the book.

**Best concert or gig you have ever attended:** Smash Hits. Quality!!

**When I was a child I wanted to be ....** A musician.

**What is the toughest part of your sporting life?** Keeping a good diet. It's impossible.

**Best hurling memory outside of playing:** Watching Tipp win the All Ireland in 2010.

**How do you relax away from sport?** Listening to the iPod, or watch a DVD.

**You may not know it, but I am good at ....** Golf. Ask Cian Treacy.

**Do you have a nickname?** No, D'ya Know!!

**Person who you would most like to meet:** Johnny Wilkinson.

**What does your club mean to you?** Everything.

**Marooned on a desert island what could you not be without?** My iPhone with Temple Run. Addiction!

**In ten years time I hope to be ....** Alive and well.



## PLAYER OF THE PAST

Eamon

WALSH

By: MICHAEL DUNDON



**I**N A PLAYING career now into its third decade, **EAMON WALSH** of Thurles Sarsfields and in more recent times, Killea, has given outstanding service. Despite a career threatening cruciate knee ligament injury at twenty years of age, the determination and courage Eamon showed as a player, enabled him to overcome that setback and go on to win county senior hurling honours with Sarsfields in 2005, having come into the senior team in 1984.

By comparison with previous eras in the club's honours-strewn history, those were lean times in terms of county championships won. Yet Eamon collected five Mid senior hurling medals, a number of Cahill Cup medals and one of his proudest moments was when he captained Sarsfields in the 1992 county final against Toomevara.

The climax of his career was in 2005 when he helped Sarsfields to win the Dan Breen Cup, beating Drom-Inch in the county final, the club's first success at this level in an incredible thirty one years. Cork's Newtownshandrum foiled



*Thurles Sarsfields captain Eamon Walsh accepts the 1992 Cahill Cup from Mid Chairman Seán Fogarty.*

The Blues' bid for a Munster club title in a controversial final.

Eamon was also an accomplished footballer, featuring regularly on Sarsfields' sides at a number of levels, and as always, never giving less than one hundred per cent, no matter the grade or the occasion.

At a stage in his career when most would have contemplated hanging up the boots, having achieved the ultimate accolade, Eamon, now living in Killea, threw in his lot with the local club and was thrilled to

win Mid junior honours with them in 2007, being narrowly beaten by Ballingarry in the county final. He is still lining out for Killea, while assisting JK Brackens in coaching the club's juveniles, with whom his son, Ned plays.

Player of the Past – Eamon is very much a man of “the present”, his robust, yet skilful forward play, and score-getting ability, the hallmark of his game, is still admired by all who join with us in wishing this exemplar sportsman more years and success at the game he loves.

# Loughmore-Castleiney



*Padraig Maher (Thurles Sarsfields) bursts out of defence despite the attention of Evan Sweeney (Loughmore-Castleiney) in the MacLochlainn Road Markings Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Round 1 Group 1 in Templemore.*



*Pa Burke (Thurles Sarsfields) with ball in hand as Denis McGrath and Tommy Long (Loughmore-Castleiney) come in to tackle in the MacLochlainn Road Markings Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Round 1 Group 1 in Templemore.*



# Thurles Sarsfields



# Bórd na nÓg HAPPENINGS

By: JOE BRACKEN



**W**ITH Chairman, Joe O'Sullivan from Moycarkey-Borris at the helm and Secretary, Sally Young from Drom & Inch as first mate, the vessel that is Thiobraid Árann Méanach Bórd na nÓg, continues on the strong voyage laid down by past officers in consistently charting new waters as it continues to go from strength to strength in overseeing juvenile games in the Mid division.

This journey could not happen without the co-operation of the twelve clubs of the division in nurturing and developing our games at under age level. The rewards of current and past labours by the dedicated coaches in each club on Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings for example is shown here today by the skill level and competitiveness that we will witness at our Senior Mid Final. Further proof, if one was needed of the amount of work being done at under age level, is the strong representation of Mid players across all Tipperary County teams from underage up,

in both hurling and football.

Many clubs now cater for nursery age groups and in conjunction with Andy Ryan, Games Development Administrator, blitzes and up to the minute coaching courses ensure best practice is being applied throughout the division.

Success like this didn't happen overnight and the officers of Bórd na nÓg are grateful to acknowledge the unselfish dedicated work of so many since Bórd na nÓg first set sail. The current and previous Senior Bórd have been unfailing with their help and support and as you may already notice, direct programme revenue from senior matches towards the running of Bórd na nÓg and it is very much appreciated.

On the fields of play, 263 underage games will have been played by July 24th, which requires a lot of management and organisation. The willingness of delegates to collaborate at divisional meetings in meeting fixture deadlines eases the burden when it comes to the

business end of the championships.

The Premier U12 Mini Leagues which were introduced last year, and though feared by many, have proven to be a milestone in ensuring each player that turns up for a game gets at least half a match game time every time, which can only be good for our games overall.

This year's football end games held in Boherlahan in May were an enormous success, with victory in Group 1 going to the host club, Group 2 winners were Moyne-Templetuohy and Groups 3 and 4 saw Moycarkey-Borris victorious, with the Group 3 team going onto success in the county final.

At U14 level JK Brackens proved dominant in securing the Peil title at both Mid and county level. They put in trojan performances at the Peil national finals though sadly came home empty handed without losing a match. They also followed up by securing the U14A Mid football title and went on to contest the county final. Loughmore-



Officers and guests at the Mid Tipperary Bórd na nÓg Convention in Hayes Hotel. Back row (L-r): Joe Bracken, PRO; Willie Clohessy, Vice-Chairman; Mattie Ryan, Mid Senior Board Chairman; Jonathan Cullen, Mid Senior Board Secretary. Front row (L-r): Joe Kennedy, Outgoing Chairman; Sally Young, Secretary; Joe O'Sullivan, Chairman; Tim Shanahan, Treasurer; Andy O'Gorman, President.

Castleiney won the U14B football crown and likewise also contested the county final. Thurles Gaels added a third U14C football title for the club and were most unfortunate not to have contested their first county final in this grade.

The only hurling honour so far this season was the Féile na nGael crown which was reclaimed by Dúrlas Óg after an absorbing contest with Holycross-Ballycahill back in early April. A terrific performance in the county semi-final saw them reach the county decider where they matched their intensity but still had to settle for second best.

The U16 football championships proved competitive and saw a new name on the roll of honour as Drom & Inch claimed their first U16A crown to tremendous scenes of jubilation. Holycross-Ballycahill secured the U16B crown, while the U16C title went to Dúrlas Óg.

The three teams also went on to contest county finals.

Féile Skills and Poc Fada success at county level all went to Mid players with Brian McGrath, Loughmore-Castleiney securing the skills title, Bill Darcy, Dúrlas Óg the U14 poc fada and Gavin Ryan, Upperchurch-Drombane the U16 poc fada. Indeed Gavin was most impressive in coming third in the Munster final of the competition.

At divisional football level, the U15 panel retained the title while the U16 panel shared the title with the South after extra time failed to separate them.

In divisional hurling, the Peadar Cummins trophy made a welcome return to the Mid after being last here in 2008. A unique double here in that John McGrath, Loughmore-Castleiney was captain of Mid in 2008 with younger brother Brian captain in 2012. Mid also claimed the Roger Ryan U15 trophy in Toomevara

for the first time this year while the U16 panel reached the final of the Garda Cup.

So as we draw near semi-final and final stages in the hurling championships, many more exciting twists and turns have yet to be played out to see who will come out on top on the hurling front.

The festival of hurling in the Premier U12 Mini League end games take place in the Ragg on August 18th, and the date is certainly one for the diary. With shield competitions following on after the championships, it will still be a busy few months 'till the end of September.

Each and every year is a busy one for Bórd na nÓg, but with the support of so many from the clubs, Senior Bórd, referees and their officials, to you the parents and patrons, we are hugely indebted and ensure that this vessel is not prepared to dock any time soon.



## Loughmore-Castleiney GAA Club Officers 2012

*Hon President:* Rev Pdraig Corbett  
*Vice-Presidents:* Rev John J O'Rourke (Life), Rev Maurice Dooley, Pat Cullen, John Fitzpatrick, Richard McGrath  
*Chairman:* Dick Egan  
*Vice-Chairmen:* Tom McGrath & Tom McGrath  
*Secretary:* John Treacy  
*Assistant Secretary:* Pat Healy, Pat O'Connell (juvenile)  
*Treasurer:* Jim Nolan  
*PRO:* Pat Healy  
*Children's Officer:* Geraldine Egan  
*ASAP Officer:* Jimmy Hennessy  
*Cultural Officer:* Marie Maher  
*County Board Draw Coordinator:* Tom McGrath  
*Registrar:* Ailbe Egan



## Thurles Sarsfields GAA Club Officers 2012

*Patron:* Fr Martin Hayes  
*President:* Mickey Byrne  
*Vice-Presidents:* Martin Maher, Paddy Barry, Paddy Doyle, Jimmy Doyle, Liam Ó Donnchú, Ger Corbett, John Enright Snr,  
 Tom Barry & Dick Maher  
*Chairman:* Michael Maher,  
*Vice-Chairmen:* Jim Max, Peter Lanigan,  
*Secretary:* Thomas Callanan,  
*Asst Secretary:* Trevor Cooke, John Maher  
*Treasurer:* Philip Leahy,  
*Assistant Treasurer:* Brian Burke.  
*PRO:* Ger Corbett  
*Registrar:* Ger Donnelly

DOWN  
MEMORY  
LANELoughmore-Castleiney ruled  
supreme in 1987

By: JOHN GUITON



**I**N THE 1980's Loughmore-Castleiney had been firmly established as one of the most successful dual clubs in the country. In 1987 it took the mid division by storm, retaining its divisional senior football and hurling titles. In the month of September twenty five years ago, the club's hurlers edged out Thurles Sarsfields by a one point margin in one of the best finals for years. The champions drew on their great resilience and refused to succumb to massive late pressure to record a memorable victory (2-11 to 2-10). A few weeks before they had taken the mid senior football title by defeating neighbours Templeuohy-Moyne (1-9 to 0-6).

The razor-sharp healthy local rivalry between Loughmore and Sars had built up a head of steam by the time the sides had reached the '87 decider. It took all in Loughmore's courage and experience to emerge on top. Sarsfields, improving with every outing in the run-up to the final, looked at the three quarter stage to have their first championship since 1980 within their grasp. Few would have begrudged Sarsfields a draw, but chances of snatching the equalising point in the dying minutes were missed, and so Loughmore recorded their third championship title at this level.

The first half of this encounter was tame, but it really burst to life after the restart. It turned into a cracking affair after Sars fired home two goals in as many minutes at the end of the third quarter. The scores put the Blues a point in front for the first time in the game, and with the breeze in their favour, they looked good for victory. However, Loughmore's battling qualities shone out. They never lost their composure and defied the best efforts of Sars to hold out. A point from a 45 metre free by inter-county player Pat McGrath two minutes from the end proved decisive to the outcome.

The champions got off to a rivetting start when Tom McGrath netted from a free in the 3rd minute, but despite a territorial advantage, they found a very resolute Thurles rearguard hard to crack. The titleholders shot some awful wides, and Sars shook off early lethargy to mount a very serious challenge. A gripping second-half was in prospect when the sides headed for the dressing-rooms at the interval on a scoreline of Loughmore-Castleiney 1-6, Thurles Sarsfields 0-5.

In the opening six minutes of a frenetic second-half Sars outscored their rivals 0-3 to 0-1. However, Loughmore then got a vital break when a low delivery from Tom McGrath broke between Pat Stakelum and Michael McGrath, and Liam Cormack slipped in to score a fine goal in 8th minute. Sarsfields needed to show their mettle now, and they threw the cat among the pigeons with two quick goals. John Kennedy netted for them in 11th minute after a Ciaran Carroll shot was deflected, and a minute later the Blues were



**Loughmore-Castleiney - Mid Senior Hurling Champions 1987**

Back row (l-r): Ned Ryan, Jim Maher, Dick Egan, John Cormack, Peter Brennan, Pat Cormack, Pat McGrath, Tom McGrath. Front row (l-r): Michael McGrath, Eamon Brennan, Dinny Kiely, Eamon Sweeney, Seamus Bohan, Frankie McGrath, Liam Cormack.

flying when Jim Moloney's long range shot ended in the Loughmore net. Typical of Loughmore, however, they remained unperturbed by the sudden onslaught and Pat McGrath steadied the ship when he brought them back to level pegging in 16th minute from a well-taken free. Liam McCormack quickly followed up with a good score. In the tit-for-tat closing stages, Eamon Walshe brought the challengers back on parity again with a nice point. They looked well capable of lowering the champions colours after Liam Duggan blazed the ball over the bar to push them ahead by the minimum margin, but Liam Cormack responded with five minutes left on the clock to leave the sides deadlocked yet again. Those closing minutes were nerve-tingling and Pat McGrath's pointed free four minutes from time was the crucial score. Sars forwards drove at the Loughmore rearguard with incessant pressure in the dying minutes, but they were heartbroken to have squandered at least three scoreable chances of the equaliser.

The final that witnessed a star performance from Loughmore-Castleiney's corner-back Jim Maher, was the fourth meeting of the sides in 1987, twice in the Cahill Cup and twice in the championship. The score read 3-1 in Loughmore's favour. All games were played in a tough but sporting spirit and were a great advertisement for hurling in the division.

After the 1987 decider, the great stalwart of Tipperary GAA, Mr Pat Cullen, who was Mid Board Chairman at the time, had the added honour of presenting the trophy to his clubmate and victorious captain John Cormack.

Match records show the following teams and scorers:

**Loughmore-Castleiney:** P. McGrath 0-5; T. McGrath, L. Cormack 1-1 each; M. McGrath 0-2; F. McGrath and N. Ryan 0-1 each. **Thurles Sarsfields:** J. Kennedy 1-1; C. Maher, E. Walshe 0-3 each; J. Moloney 1-0; L. Duggan 0-2; P. Maher (0-1).

**Loughmore-Castleiney** - D. Kiely; R. Egan, P. Brennan, J. Maher; P. Cormack, J. Cormack, E. Sweeney; F. McGrath, E. Brennan; T. McGrath, N. Ryan, P. McGrath; L. Cormack, M. McGrath, S. Bohan. **Subs:** P. Treacy for F. McGrath, T. Larkin for S. Bohan.

**Thurles Sarsfields** - J. Duggan; S. O'Shea, P. Stakelum, P. Leahy; J. Moloney, T. Barry, P.J. Kavanagh; M. Maher, F. Murphy; E. Walshe, P. Maher, C. Maher; J. Kennedy, L. Duggan, C. Carroll. **Subs:** S. Maher for C. Carroll, A. Ryan for M. Maher.

**Referee:** P. Lowry (Holycross-Ballycahill).

**L**OCAL CLUB rivalry remains the bedrock of the GAA. A divisional senior final epitomises that rivalry, particularly in Mid Tipperary where the geographic closeness of the clubs adds to the interest, intensity and passion of the occasion.

This evening's encounter between Thurles Sarsfields and defending champions, Loughmore Castleiney in some respects should be an occasion of no great consequence. The losing team remains in the county championship. The Division has provided four of the last five county senior hurling champions and is expected by most to do so again this year. Interestingly only in one of those years, 2010, were the County champions also Mid champions. Is the break for the champions too long? An incentive to lose this evening perhaps? Logically yes but the reality is both Sarsfields and Loughmore will want to win and will treat this final every bit as seriously as they would a knockout game.

So logic goes out the window – there's a game to be played; pride, prestige, honour are at stake; and there's a Mid senior hurling title to be won. A man said to me recently (a Mid man of course!) "a Mid title is the second most important hurling club title in the county". Impertinence? Arrogance? Presumption? No, simply a genuine belief that here in the Division where the GAA was founded, the senior hurling championship is something special because of the history, the tradition, the quality, the players and the strong evidence that at present it is the pre-eminent divisional senior hurling championship.

They say there is nothing

## *The Mid SH Final:* - An outside view!

By  
**GER RYAN**  
PRO,  
Tipperary  
County  
Board



like the zeal of a convert but as a "blow-in" to the Mid from the North, I have in a few short years come to appreciate that the rivalries in the Mid have their own unique characteristics. The geography is small, the rivalry is great, the history and tradition lie in Thurles, Moycarkey, Holycross and Boherlahan, the barbarians threatening the traditional civilisation have mainly come from "football country" in Loughmore Castleiney and from a club guarding the border with the North – Drom and Inch. Even the upstarts from Upperchurch Drombane challenged traditional supremacists in recent years and reached new heights before the ravages of emigration took their toll on a fine emerging team and in the last few seasons JK Brackens have been progressing well and threatening a breakthrough. So Mid Tipperary hurling retains the prominence it has always seen as a birthright and continues to be to the forefront of the ancient game in these most

modern of times. And what about its supply to county teams – impressive to say the least. And this evening's participants are both prominent in that regard, contributing players to county teams at multiple grades and codes and a couple of selectors as well.

Who'll win tonight? Logic says Sarsfields but we already know logic goes out the window for Mid Finals! Don't rule out a surprise. Do rule in a good game. There are too many good players on both sides for us not to see some hurling wizardry and no doubt some of it will come from unexpected sources – it's a great stage to display talent but also to find it. The 'county' men are always expected to do the superhuman but they are usually the targets of opposition containment plans and this is where the opportunity arises for the emerging star or less well known player.

A few predictions so – Sarsfields to win, the man of the match not to be a member of the Tipp senior hurling panel, the referee to have a good game, the event to be well organised as usual and let's get brave – the weather to be good! And two glimpses of the future – we'll see why Dan Breen won't have to travel too far in October on county final night (my friends in Clonoulty will tell me they are very close to Thurles, as will my friends in Borris-Ileigh) so to be clear, Dan won't travel far and will stay in the Mid! Loads of clubs will take hope from those predictions and will be delighted not be mentioned for the winner's enclosure. Enjoy the Mid final and don't be surprised if you get the opportunity to see it again in October in Semple Stadium.

# *The formation of the* **Mid Board 1907**

*(Excerpt from the forthcoming Mid History Book)*

A MEETING was convened at Walsh's Hotel, Thurles on Sunday, 9th June 1907 for the purpose of electing the Mid divisional committee. The delegates present at the first Mid Board meeting included Andy Mason, Drombane; Andrew Walsh and John McGrath, Racecourse; J. Hynes and M. Fogarty, Templetuohy; Michael Feehan, Holycross; Philip Murphy, Rossmore; Michael Gleeson and Denis O'Keeffe, Thurles; Ned Hayes, Two-Mile-Borris; Ned Coady, Horse-and-Jockey.

The first business proceeded with was the appointment of a chairman. Andy Mason proposed the election of John Cahill (Cashel) which was seconded by Mr. Murphy and carried unanimously. On the motion of Martin Brennan, Andy Mason, Drombane, was elected divisional secretary. Mikey Maher, Tubberadora, was elected treasurer.

The following draws for the 1907 hurling championship were made: Cashel No. 2 v Jockey, Drombane v Two-Mile-Borris, Templetuohy No. 2 v Racecourse, Thurles No. 1 v Gurteen, Cappawhite v Holycross, Knockeraoola v Templetuohy No. 1, Cashel No. 1 v Rossmore, and Thurles No. 2 a bye.

The first three games were fixed for 21st July 1907 at Holycross with Mikey Maher as referee but they were later cancelled as the 1906 Munster semi-final between Tipperary and Clare was played at Limerick on that date.

The second meeting of the Mid-Tipperary division was



Tom Semple

held at Walsh's Hotel, Thurles, on 7th July and the following fixtures were made: Knockeraoola v Templetuohy No. 1 at Two-Mile-Borris on 4 August, referee Ned Hayes; Thurles No. 1 v Gurteen at Templetuohy on 18 August, referee Elias O'Keeffe; Cappawhite v Holycross at Cashel on 18 August, referee John Cahill. The game at Two-Mile-Borris was not played and the games fixed for 18th August were postponed as the 1906 Munster final between Tipperary and Cork was played on that date.

At the third meeting of the Mid-Tipperary Divisional Committee at Walsh's Hotel, Thurles, on Sunday, 11th August the secretary Andy Mason announced that all the fixtures arranged for the 1907 championship had fallen through. This he considered

was alone due to the action of the co-representatives on the Munster Council, who never seemed to remember the fixtures made for their own county when inter-county matches were being arranged.

On 6th October at Drombane in a game refereed by Tom Semple, Cashel defeated Rossmore by 1-14 to 3-7 in the first round of the 1907 Mid championship. Thurles and Gurteen eventually played their first round game on 14th November at the Agricultural Grounds, Thurles. The weather was favourable but the attendance was the smallest ever seen in Thurles. Gurteen were outclassed and Thurles scored freely to win by 5-20 to 1-5. That night the Mid Board met at Walsh's Hotel, Thurles. The Secretary, Andy Mason, suggested that in order to bring the championship matches up-to-date, it would be advisable to drop the 1907 championship, and proceed in January or February with the 1908 championship.

The 1907 Mid championship was not finished and Thurles represented the Division in the county final at Cashel against Lahorna De Wets on 16th February 1908. The game refereed by Mikey Maher, ended in a 3-13 to 1-6 victory for Thurles. The winning team was: Tom Semple (captain), Jer Hayes (vice-captain), Tom Kerwick, Paddy Burke, Jack Mockler, Hugh Shelly, Michael Gleeson, Mick Flynn, Jack Cahill, Paddy Brolan, Jack Mooney, Joe Moloughney, James O'Brien, Martin O'Brien, Tom Kenna, Mick Ryan, Paddy Stapleton.



# Youth View



**Name: NIAMH TREACY**

**Age:** 14

**School:** Our Lady's Secondary School

**Class:** 3rd Year

**Club:** Loughmore-Castleiney Drom & Inch Camogie Club



**Favourite Playing Position:** Half forward

**Favourite Player:** Noel McGrath

**Best GAA Memory:** Winning this year's Munster U16 Camogie Final with Tipperary.

**Who will win the Mid Senior Hurling Final?**

Loughmore-Castleiney because they are a good team and they are overdue a win against Thurles Sarsfields in Senior Hurling!



**Name: MARK BUTLER**

**Age:** 15

**School:** Our Lady's Secondary School

**Class:** Transition Year

**Club:** Loughmore-Castleiney

**Favourite Playing Position:** Wing Forward

**Favourite Player:** Bonner Maher (hurling) and Johnny Doyle (football)

**Best GAA Memory:** Tipperary winning the 2011 All-Ireland Minor Football Final.

**Who will win the Mid Senior Hurling Final?** I think Loughmore-Castleiney will win because we have a great panel of young, talented players.



**Name: JACK RYAN**

**Age:** 13

**School:** Our Lady's Secondary School

**Class:** 1st year

**Club:** Loughmore-Castleiney

**Favourite Playing Position:** Full Back



**Favourite Player:** Noel McGrath

**Best GAA Memory:** Trip to Croke Park with Loughmore-Castleiney Juvenile Club.

**Who will win the Mid Senior Hurling Final?**

Loughmore-Castleiney because they have a strong team with good players in all the positions around the field and they are very skilful.

**Name: ADAM DERBY**

**Age:** 12

**School:** Scoil Ailbhe, Thurles

**Class:** 6th Class

**Club:** Dúrlas Óg

**Favourite Playing Position:** Centre Back

**Favourite Player:** Pádraig Maher

**Best GAA Memory:** Winning the Cumann na mBunscol U13 Hurling Final with my school in 2012.

**Who will win the Mid Senior Hurling Final?** I think it'll be a very close game but Thurles Sarsfields will win because they are stronger in the key positions.



**Name: JACK LANIGAN**

**Age:** 11

**School:** Scoil Ailbhe, Thurles

**Class:** 6th class

**Club:** Dúrlas Óg

**Favourite Playing Position:** Full Forward

**Favourite Player:** Pádraig Maher

**Best GAA Memory:** Tipp beating Kilkenny in the 2010 All-Ireland Final.

**Who will win the Mid Senior Hurling Final?** Thurles Sarsfields will win because they have the best forward line in Tipperary.



**Name: JENNIFER O'MEARA**

**Age:** 11

**School:** Presentation Primary School

**Class:** 6th Class

**Club:** Thurles Sarsfields Camogie Club

**Favourite Playing Position:** Corner back

**Favourite Player:** Pádraig Maher

**Best GAA Memory:** Tipp winning the 2010 All Ireland Final and playing in Semple Stadium in the schools county final.

**Who will win the Mid Senior Hurling Final?** Thurles Sarsfields will win because they are the best and have all the class players.



# First Mid Final 1908

(Excerpt from the forthcoming Mid History Book)



## THURLES SARSFIELDS – Mid Senior Hurling Champions 1908

Back row (l.-r.): Mick Mulcaire (Thurles), Michael Ryan (Thurles), Hawk O'Brien (Thurles), Mick O'Dwyer (Holycross), Paddy Burke (Thurles), Tim Gleeson (Holycross), Martin O'Brien (Thurles), Tom Kerwick (Thurles), Jimmy Burke (Two Mile Borris), James M. Kennedy (Thurles). Middle row (l.-r.): Jer Hayes (Thurles), Joe Kavanagh (Thurles), Pat Fitzgerald (Glengoole), Jack Mockler (Thurles), Tom Semple (Thurles) (Captain), Rev. M.K. Ryan, John Fitzgerald (Glengoole), Tom Kenna (Thurles) (Gaffer), Mikey Maher (Tubberadora). Front row (l.-r.): Denis O'Keefe (Thurles), Paddy Brolan (Thurles), Jack Mooney (Thurles), Hugh Shelley (Thurles), Joe McLoughney (Thurles), Anthony Carew (Thurles).

**T**HE DRAW for the 1908 Mid senior hurling championship was: Thurles v Gurteen, Holycross v Rossmore, Horse and Jockey v Cashel, Cranagh v Racecourse, Two-Mile-Borris v Cappawhite.

The championship began with two games at Holycross on 29th March, both refereed by Mikey Maher. The first match between Rossmore and Holycross (who had the assistance of Drombane) was rough and wisely the referee stopped the game and gave the match to Holycross.

In the second game, the Jockey led at the interval but Cashel surprised many with their performance in the second half and won by one point in a high scoring game, 4-11 to 4-10.

The Mid Board decided to give Cappawhite 30 shillings expenses to travel to the Horse and Jockey for their first round game against Two-Mile-Borris. Cappawhite only scored one point and lost by 5-6 to 0-1.

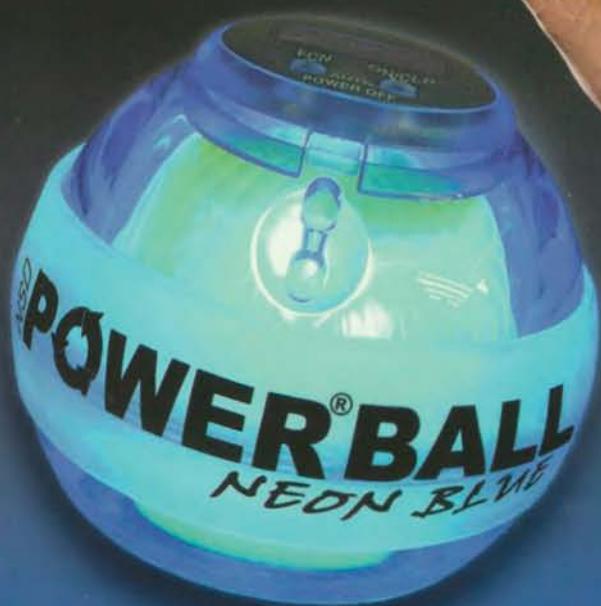
In the semi-finals, Thurles defeated Two-Mile-Borris by 6-8 to 2-10 and Holycross had

an easy victory over Cashel by 6-6 to 1-8. Cashel objected to the legality of two members of the Holycross team and won their case.

The 1908 Mid final – the first to be played – was played at Rossmore on 16th May 1909. Thurles defeated Cashel by 2-12 to 0-3. Tim Condon had an easy job as referee. A large number of police, fully armed, were conspicuous at the match. They occupied a position of advantage on a grandstand of their own – a neighbouring ditch across the road.

# If you play *Hurling*..

Or Golf. Or Tennis. Or Hockey. Or Basketball.  
If you cycle, strum a guitar, use a computer or  
play video games - then spin up a Powerball®  
It weighs just 9oz but will pulverize your hands,  
wrists and arms with over 40lbs of pure  
gyroscopic resistance and  
build strength like you  
just won't believe.



Play it better. With Powerball®

# POWERBALL®

Available in all good retail stores including

[amazon.co.uk](http://amazon.co.uk)

[Argos](http://Argos)

[PLAY.COM](http://PLAY.COM)  
MOVIES MUSIC GAMES

[Powerballs.com](http://Powerballs.com)

# MacLochlainn (Roadmarkings) Limited

Road Maintenance Contractors



## SPECIALISTS IN

Road Markings  
Car Park Markings  
Lettering  
Arrows  
Numerals  
Road Marking Removal

Approved Agents  
Of Permastud  
"Cats Eyes"  
Road Housings  
Bimagrip Anti-Skid  
Surfaces



**AVAILABLE FOR HIRE**  
long or short term



Changeable  
message  
displays



Parnell St., Thurles, Co. Tipperary  
Telephone: 0504-23355 Fax: 0504-23587

21 Prospect Road, Dublin 9  
Telephone 01-830 9107/830 9833 Fax 01-830 9526