

Mid-Tipperary Senior Hurling Final  
Match Programme  
2015

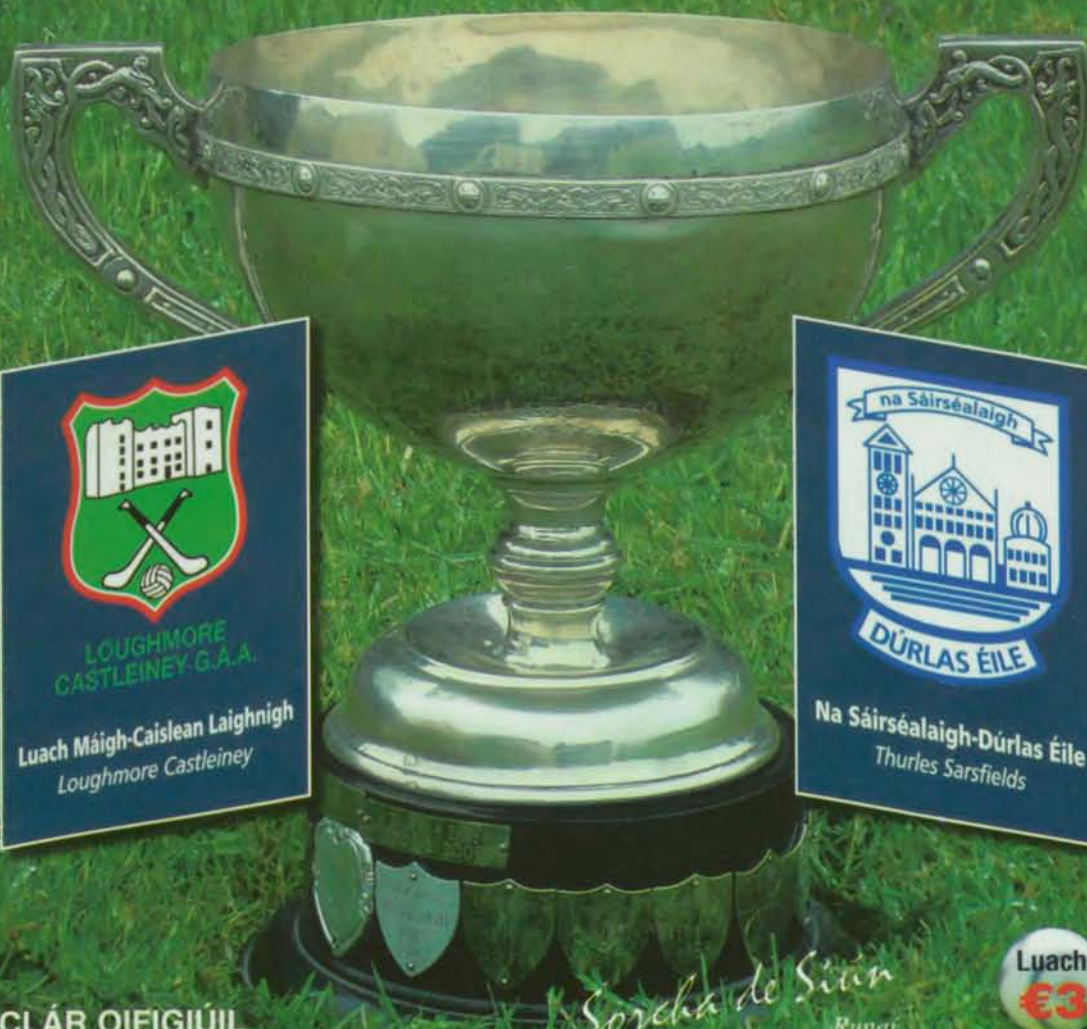


Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Thiobraid Árann



# ***Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Final 2015***

**Drombane – 23ú Lunasa 2015**



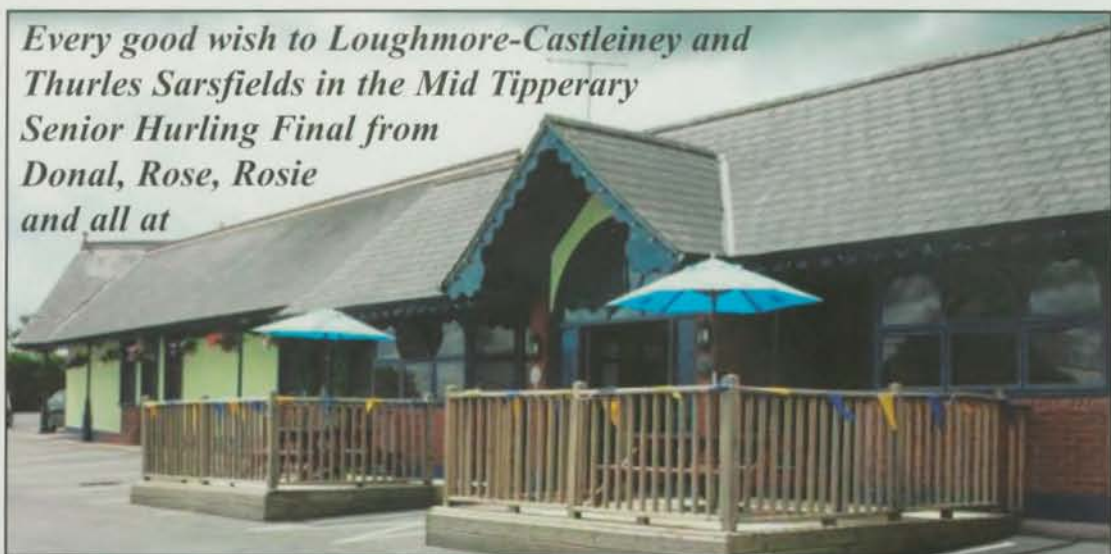
**CLÁR OIFIGIÚIL**

*Sorcha de Siún*  
Runar

**Luach:**



*Every good wish to Loughmore-Castleiney and  
Thurles Sarsfields in the Mid Tipperary  
Senior Hurling Final from  
Donal, Rose, Rosie  
and all at*



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# Centenary Agri Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Final:

6.00pm

## LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY v. THURLES SARSFIELDS

Referee: **SEAN EVERARD** (Moyne-Templetuohy)

### *Amhrán na bhFiann*

#### ELLA MARIE STAPLETON

*Amhrán na bhfiann* will be sung by **Ella Marie Stapleton** (right) from the Upperchurch-Drombane GAA club. Ella is no stranger to performing our national anthem before big games and venues such as Semple Stadium which she is already familiar with on County final days. She is steeped in Gaelic games and currently plays ladies football with Upperchurch-Holycross with both her brothers involved with the local senior hurling team. Her talents have not gone unrewarded as she was successful in securing a Munster title in the solo song competition in Scór Sinsear earlier this year and was unlucky to miss out on an All-Ireland title following her provincial success.

Bain taitneamh as guth álainn an cailín seo.



Sinne Fianna Fáil  
A tá fé gheall ag Éirinn,  
buion dár slua  
Thar toinn dó ráinig dhugainn,  
Fé mhóid bheith saor,  
Sean tír ár sinsir feasta  
Ní fhagfar fé'n tiorán ná fé'n tráil  
Anocht a théam sa bhearna bhaoil,  
Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil  
Le guna screach fé lámhach na bpiléar  
Seo libh canaidh Amhrán na bhFiann.





Photographed at the launch (l.-r.): Tom King, Loughmore-Castleiney Captain; Joe Kerrigan, CEO Centenary Agri; John Maher, Thurles Sarsfields.

## Centenary Agri Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Final launch night



Photographed at the launch (l.-r.): Pat McGrath, Selector Loughmore-Castleiney; Sally Young, Secretary, Mid Tipperary Board; Joe Kerrigan, CEO Centenary Agri; Joe Kennedy, Chairman Mid Tipperary Board; Paddy McCormack, Manager Thurles Sarsfields.

# Fáilte ón gCathaoirleach



**F**ÁILTE ROIMHAIBH go léir go dtí Cluiche Ceannais Iomaint Sinsear Tiobraid Árann Meánach. Tá súil againn go mbeidh cluiche brea sportúil againn inniu.

*Tonight is a historic occasion as it's the first time a Mid Senior final will be played in Drombane. It is a fitting way to mark the major development that Upperchurch IDrombane GAA club have completed this year. I wish to compliment the club and its officers for their foresight and endeavour to make this development possible and I know they have left no stone unturned in preparation for this evenings final.*

*This evening's final sees the 2013 and 2014 county champions lock horns once again which should result in very entertaining final. Both teams came through very keenly contested semi-finals which should serve as ideal preparation for today's final. Sarsfields have been impressive all year which probably makes them slight favourites but Loughmore will have a full squad to pick from which will ensure that the result cannot be taken for granted.*

*Best wishes to today's referee Sean Everard and his officials and we would like to thank him and all the referees who give great service to our division.*

*A special thanks to our sponsors Centenary Agri for their continued support.*

*Finally, many thanks to you, our supporters for your attendance today and throughout the year and we hope you have an enjoyable game this evening.*

**JOE KENNEDY**

Cathaoirleach, Tiobraid Árann Méanach GAA

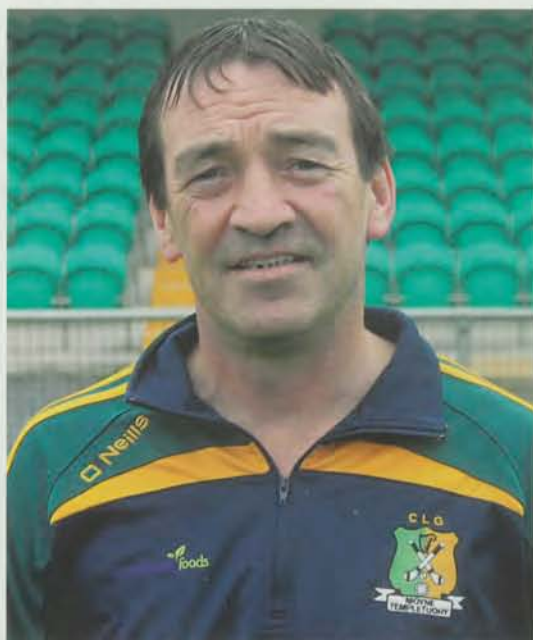
*Today's Referee***Sean  
EVERARD**

(Moyne-Templetuohy)

**T**HE MAN in charge of today's Centenary Agri Mid Senior Hurling Final will be **SEAN EVERARD** from the Moyne-Templetuohy club.

This will be Sean's first Mid Senior hurling final. Sean's father Johnnie was also a referee and was a member of the Tipperary Senior hurling team which won the All-Ireland in 1949.

Following on from a successful playing career in both hurling and football with his club and with plenty of encouragement from Hugh Coughlan and P.J. Leahy, Sean completed his Referees' course and embarked on a career refereeing at all levels. The pinnacle is today's Mid Senior Hurling final.



Sean's umpires today are Pat O'Connor, Mark Kelly, Paul Kelly and Tom Phelan.

We wish Sean and his officials an enjoyable and memorable game.

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# Welcome from Upperchurch-Drombane



**O**N BEHALF of all in Upperchurch Drombane GAA Club, I extend a big welcome to those attending this year's Mid Senior hurling final. This is undoubtedly the main event in the division's hurling calendar and it is an honour for our club to play host for the very first time in our long history.

Like all clubs, our principal aim at the start of each year is to contest games such as this. However, we do recognise the duty of all clubs to provide proper facilities and venues that not alone serve their own members, but also the wider GAA community. With that in mind and with our new clubhouse now complete it is with a great sense of pride that we welcome all Mid Tipperary Gaels to our home.

These new facilities are the culmination of a number of years work on the part of many local GAA stalwarts and would not have been possible without the extraordinary support received from this parish and its people.

The divisional structure has come in for criticism from some quarters in recent years but I believe it still retains a critical role in the promotion of Gaelic games at all ages and grades within the county.

Loughmore-Castleiney and Thurles Sarsfields both feature prominently in the Mid division's roll of honour and carry with them proud traditions of success on the playing fields of Tipperary and beyond. We wish both teams well in today's encounter and no doubt they'll produce a hurling match worthy of the event.

## CONOR O'DWYER

Chairman,  
Upperchurch Drombane GAA Club.



## BUÍOCHAS

I WOULD LIKE to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to the production of today's programme. I would like to thank my fellow officers who have helped me with the production of this programme. Thanks to the clubs who have provided information and to all those who have contributed articles or photographs. Thanks also to the Upperchurch-Drombane club and their officials who have made their facilities available to stage today's game. Finally I would like to wish both teams the best of luck in today's game.

**TREVOR HASSETT** – Programme editor and Mid Tipperary PRO

# There will be a real edge

By: NOEL DUNDON  
(Tipperary Star)



**A**NY TIME Thurles Sarsfields and Loughmore-Castleiney clash on the playing fields, there is always the possibility of a great game on the cards. But, when they clash in the Centenary Agri Mid senior hurling final, patrons can be virtually certain of a brilliant spectacle and a fine culmination of the divisional fare.

The fact that high flying Sarsfields have a safety net won't in any way diminish

their aspirations of claiming the divisional silverware. They have already booked their place in the concluding stages of the county championship, but they will want to continue their forward momentum with a title behind them and will therefore be going all out to win this one.

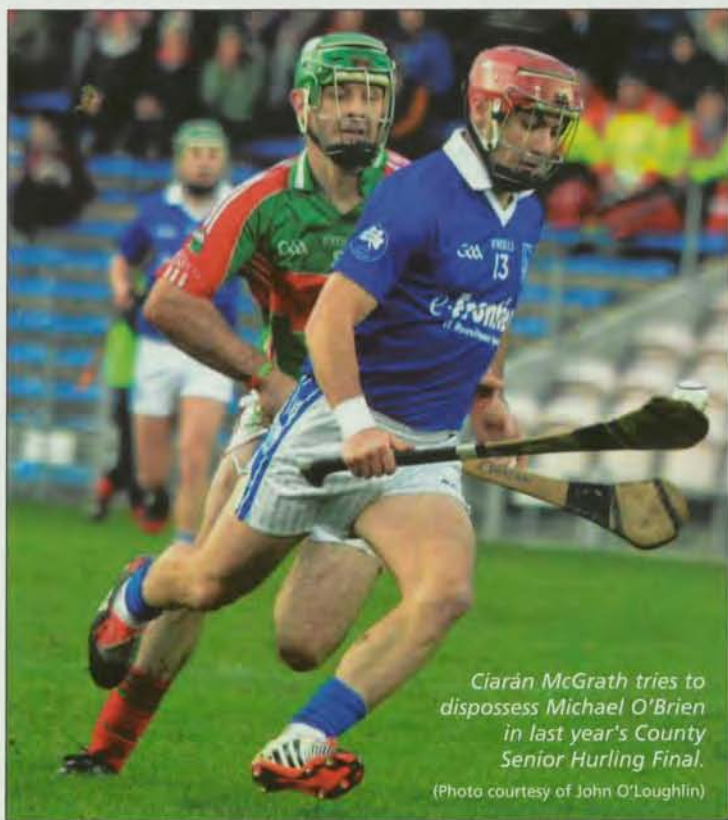
Loughmore-Castleiney don't have any such safety net and a slip-up today will be fatal and will consign the hurleys to the attic for the rest of the season. Perhaps this gives them an extra incentive to perform this afternoon – not that they

ever needed anything extra when it came to the sight of the blue jersey.

Sarsfields have had the edge over Loughmore-Castleiney in recent times when key games come round and will be favourites again to continue their winning ways. Even without the services of the injured Padraic Maher, they ousted a fancied Drom & Inch side in the semi-final and have set themselves up nicely for the county championship. To put Loughmore-Castleiney out would be an added fillip – nobody would fancy meeting the current county senior football championship holders later on in the hurling campaign.

The Thurles lads have added a few new players to their set-up and though still backboned by the county representatives, Padraic Maher, Denis Maher, Ronan Maher, Michael Cahill and Lar Corbett, they still have the likes of Pa Bourke, Michael Gleeson, Patrick McCormack, Aidan McCormack and Kevin O'Gorman amongst their ranks. Throw in Stephen Maher, John Maher, Richie Ruth, Stephen Cahill, Conor Lanigan, Billy McCarthy and David Kennedy – it's a pretty potent side with a great blend of youth and experience.

Still though, Loughmore-Castleiney will cause Sarsfields problems, and a lot of them. The kind of spirit



*Ciarán McGrath tries to dispossess Michael O'Brien in last year's County Senior Hurling Final.*

(Photo courtesy of John O'Loughlin)

# to this afternoon's final



*Cian Hennessy evades  
Thurles Sarsfields best  
efforts through Michael  
Gleeson and Denis Maher.*

(Photo courtesy of John O'Loughlin)

which prevails in the club transcends the generations and seems to be in-bred in each player who dons the famous green and red jersey. They just don't do giving up and they will tackle each task with equal gusto.

While we all acknowledge and appreciate the huge contribution of the McGraths – Noel, John, Brian, Liam, Aidan, Ciaran and Tomás – spectators will also point to the influence of veteran David Kennedy, the experienced Derek Bourke, Tom King, and Evan Sweeney, and the likes of Joseph Nyland, Willie Eviston, Shane

Nolan, Lorcan Egan, John Ryan Joseph Hennessy and Cian Hennessy as being crucial to them.

Loughmore-Castleiney are masters at making the most of the resources at their disposal and of getting every last ounce out their charges. They will need to get everything right if they are to emerge here in Drombane this afternoon and win the silverware, as well as maintaining their interest in the county campaign.

It will be an interesting clash, no doubt, in a fine setting – where better to host the final than Drombane

where parochial spirit is alive and well. What bravery Upperchurch Drombane GAA club has shown in demolishing their premises and starting from the ground up again; and, what faith they have shown in their future generations to avail of, maintain and enhance those facilities.

Prediction for the game? It's always hard to look past Loughmore-Castleiney, but on this occasion Sarsfields should have the firepower to gun them down. Time will tell.

Enjoy the game.

# Thurles Sarsfields remembers

In 2015 Thurles Sarsfields lost a number of its greatest servants – **JIMMY DOYLE**, the greatest hurler the club has ever produced, passed to his eternal reward two months ago, a shock to us all; **FR RAY REIDY**, a team mate of Jimmy's in the golden era of

Thurles Sarsfields; **TOMMY BARRETT**, a great player in his own right, but best remembered for his administration, firstly with Thurles Sarsfields and subsequently with the County Board and Semple Stadium; **ANDY ROSSITER** was a loyal clubman who gave great service to the club over the past 30 years in many roles. We have had many more losses to the club this year who we also wish to acknowledge but who maybe didn't have as prominent a role within the club as the four we profile below. Solas na bhflaithis da n-anam agus do anamacha ar ndaoine go léir a chuaigh ar shlí na firinne i rith na bliana.

## FR RAY REIDY

**F**R RAY REIDY was born in 1937 in Thurles and played centre back on Tipperary Minor hurling teams for three years, being captain the third year in 1955 when they won the All-Ireland title. He played



on Tipperary Senior Hurling teams from 1956 to 1960 and won an All-Ireland Senior medal with the team of '58. In 1963.

Fr Ray Reidy S.P.S. Kiltegan and Mill Road, Thurles, was ordained to the priesthood and went on the missions to Nigeria that year. Despite his commitment to his priestly studies, which curtailed his availability, Ray's contribution to that golden era for Thurles Sarsfields club was immense in the late '50's and early '60's.

Simply, but aptly described by a contemporary as "a class player" and a stylish wing-back, Ray's reading of the game, and the quality of his striking, were of the highest order. He played with an elegance that was a delight to watch and was widely admired, but when the going got tough he was never found wanting. Had he not answered a higher calling, Ray would undoubtedly have amassed much more honours at both club and county level.

## TOMMY BARRETT Snr

**M**R. BARRETT, a former Tipperary and Thurles Sarsfields hurler, was the longest serving secretary of the Tipperary GAA Board and will be remembered for playing an influential role in the development of Semple Stadium and putting in place the countywide GAA structures that exist today in the county.



Tommy served as Secretary of Thurles Sarsfields for 12 years between 1951 and 1963 before his appointment to his county role. This was probably Thurles Sarsfields most successful period where they won one Senior county football final and eight Senior, four Minor and three Junior County Hurling Titles, an achievement he was very proud of. He had been involved as secretary in the great era of the sixties.

He also lived through the long famine and he took particular pleasure in the '87 Munster breakthrough and subsequent All-Ireland victories in '89 and 91. He was a former recipient of the Tipperary Association Dublin 'Hall of Fame'.

# some of its greatest servants

## JIMMY DOYLE

**J**IMMY was born in Bohernanave, Thurles, scarcely a long puck from Semple Stadium and it was in the 'Outside Field' of this stadium that he honed and perfected his hurling artistry that was to delight hurling lovers through the 1950s, 60s and early seventies.



Jimmy Doyle blossomed into a bright hurling star with Thurles CBS and Thurles Sarsfields, lining out with Tipperary in four minor All-Ireland finals, winning three. Jimmy, 'The Boy Wonder of Hurling', delivered handsomely on the promise of his youth, appearing in nine All-Ireland senior finals with Tipperary, winning six and captaining the team to victory in 1962 and '65 and also winning eleven senior county championships with Thurles Sarsfields.

Jimmy was hurling's supreme artist, with all the skills, temperament, courage and the determination necessary for success. Acknowledged throughout the hurling world as a rare and unique talent, he was selected on the Team of the Century, Team of the Millennium, Munster team of the Millennium and was the top scorer in seven All-Ireland hurling championships. It is right that we remember Jimmy Doyle, whose skill, manliness and sportsmanship adorned our ancient craft of hurling.

Tá ár laoch ar lár. We extend our sympathy to the bereaved agus Guímid Solas na bhFlaitheas ar anam an sár-iománaí - Jimmy Doyle.

- L.Ó D.

## ANDY ROSSITER

**G**IVEN the many honours amassed by the legendary figure that was Jimmy Doyle, if he were here today Andy Rossiter would probably wince at even being

mentioned in the same breath as one of the greatest ever hurlers.

Indeed Jimmy was one of Andy's great idols and many in and around Collins Park, Bohernanave and Thurles thought, at one stage, that perhaps The Cathedral Town had another Jimmy on their



hands in the form of Andy. Their styles might have been very different, their approach certainly so, but nobody could doubt the ability of Andy Rossiter as he came through the ranks in secondary school, Dúrlas Óg and eventually the Sarsfields minors.

He was strong, aggressive, a great man to read the game and able to score freely. All of these elements meant that he was county material and his role with the Tipperary minors elevated him to the bigger stage where more and more spectators got to marvel at his range of skills and his potential.

His hurling career was to be disrupted by the curse of emigration but when Andy returned a few years later, he was to once again feature in the Sarsfields senior set-up in attack for a few seasons, before seeing out his career with the intermediates and then the juniors. Andy always longed for those lost years and perhaps it was for this reason that he continued playing for so long - one of his most cherished medals was the County Junior B title won in 2002 and he continued to tog out for a good few seasons afterwards as well - the banter of the dressing room and the camaraderie within was intoxicating for him and was to play such a major role in his all too short life.

A unique character alright was Andy. Any visitor to Arus na Sairsealaigh was likely to bump into Andy Rossiter at some stage. If they did, they remembered him.



Photographed at the launch of the Centenary Agri Mid Tipperary Senior Hurling Final (l-r): Tom King, Loughmore-Castleiney Captain, Sean Everard, Moyne-Templetuohy, referee for today's final; Joe Kerrigan, Centenary Agri; John Maher, Thurles Sarsfields.

## *Loughmore-Castleiney remembers*

OVER THE years the Club has lost many former players. Perhaps up until a few years ago the 1955 side had a strong list of survivors, but sadly this year in a short space of time the list has diminished by three.

The passing of **MICK O'CONNELL**, Clonmogue on 25th March was followed on May 16th by **DICK McGRATH**, Kylemore, Castleiney and the recent passing on August 8th of **PHIL McGRATH**, Castlequarter, Loughmore.

All of these past players watched their sons don the Club colours over the years and now their grandchildren are to the fore on today's teams – something they were all very proud of up to their call from this life.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a nAmanacha.

# LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY

## Player Profile

# Tom KING

### Captain Loughmore-Castleiney

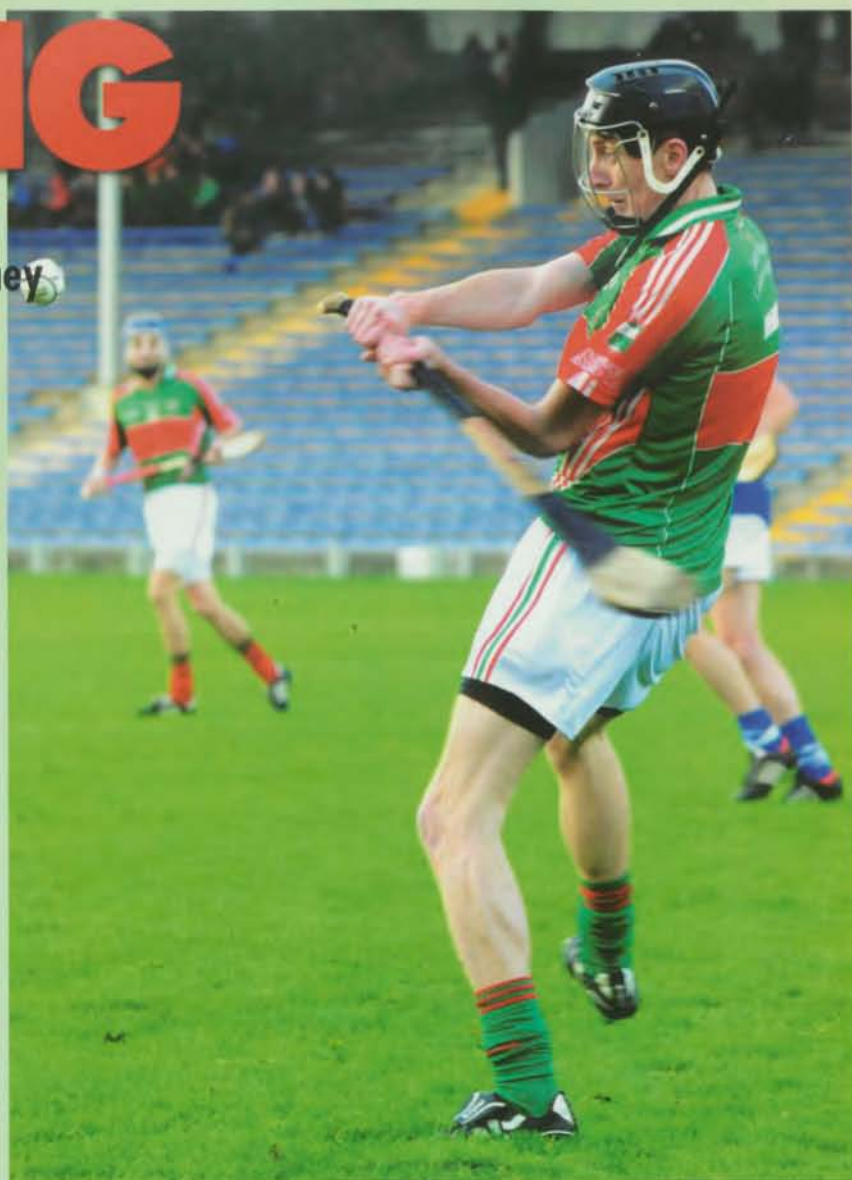
Age: 34

Occupation: Civil  
Servant

**O**UTSIDE of David Kennedy, Tom is the longest serving member of the team.

He holds a Munster final Minor hurling medal and an All Ireland runners-up medal with Tipperary in 1999.

Tom has been an outstanding dual player with the club and has won numerous Mid and County medals in both codes, including Munster senior hurling club medal in 2007, three County senior football final medals, two County senior hurling, 11 Mid senior football and five Mid senior hurling medals along with many underage titles Mid and County.



Tom is no stranger to captaincy with the club as he has led underage teams and senior football teams to victory over the years.

Today, he will be hoping to lift the Leahy Cup and bring a 12th Mid title to the club.

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*Best wishes  
to both teams  
in today's  
final*



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# LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY



LOUGHMORE  
CASTLEINEY G.A.A.

## PATH TO THE FINAL + SCORERS

**LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY** ..... 1-15

**HOLYCROSS-BALLYCAHILL** ..... 0-10

SCORERS: Cian Hennessy 1-4, John McGrath 0-4,  
Liam McGrath 0-3, James Egan 0-2,  
Tomás McGrath 0-1, Joseph Nyland 0-1

**LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY** ..... 1-15

**UPPERCHURCH-DROMBANE** ..... 1-14

SCORERS: John McGrath 0-8, Liam Treacy 1-1,  
James Egan 0-2, Willie Eviston 0-1, Aidan McGrath  
0-1, Liam McGrath 0-1, Cian Hennessy 0-1

**LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY** ..... 2-26

**J.K. BRACKENS** ..... 1-24

SCORERS: John McGrath 1-9, Liam Treacy 1-3,  
Cian Hennessy 0-5, Evan Sweeney 0-5,  
Noel McGrath 0-3, Aidan McGrath 0-1

**Total For** ..... 4-56

**Total Conceded** ..... 2-28

## Total Scorers so far in Championship

|                |      |
|----------------|------|
| John McGrath   | 1-21 |
| Cian Hennessy  | 1-10 |
| Liam Treacy    | 2-4  |
| James Egan     | 0-4  |
| Evan Sweeney   | 0-5  |
| Liam McGrath   | 0-4  |
| Aidan McGrath  | 0-2  |
| Willie Eviston | 0-1  |
| Joseph Nyland  | 0-1  |
| Tomás McGrath  | 0-1  |



Loughmore-Castleiney Management Team (l-r): Seamus Bohan, Declan Laffan and Pat McGrath.

# Loughmore-Castleiney

Dathanna: Glas agus Dearg



|               | 1st LEATH | 2nd LEATH | 3rd LEATH |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| CÚIL          |           |           |           |
| CUILÍNÍ       |           |           |           |
| SEACHAI       |           |           |           |
| BSM           |           |           |           |
| SADR PÓCAINNA |           |           |           |



17 C. Mac Craith  
**CIARAN McGRATH**

20 D. Ó Cinnéide  
**DAVID KENNEDY**

23 D. Ó Braonáin  
**DIARMUID BRENNAN**

26 D. Bréartún  
**DINNY BRERETON**

18 T. Mac Craith  
**TOMÁS McGRATH**

21 S. Ó Nialláin  
**JOSEPH NYLAND**

24 T. Ó Longáin  
**TOMMY LONG**

27 A. Ó Riain  
**ANTHONY RYAN**

19 L. Mac Craith  
**LIAM McGRATH**

22 T. Ó Meachair  
**TOMMY MAHER**

25 P. Ó Muineacháin  
**PADDY MOYNIHAN**

28 P. Ó Nialláin  
**PETER NYLAND**

Selectors: Declan Laffan, Seamus Bohan, Pat McGrath

Physio: Cathy Doran

Equipment: Kieran Kiely, Kevin Stapleton

# Thurles Sarsfields

Dathanna: Gorm agus Bán

|         | 10m | 20m | 30m |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|
| COIL    |     |     |     |
| COILÍN  |     |     |     |
| SEACHAI |     |     |     |
| GOAL    |     |     |     |
| SÁOR    |     |     |     |
| POCANNA |     |     |     |



16 C. Mac Gabhann  
**KEVIN SMITH**

20 L. Ó Coirbín  
**LAR CORBETT**

24 R. Ó Duáin  
**RORY DWAN**

28 D. Ó Coirbín  
**DAVID CORBETT**

17 T. Ó Dúghaill  
**TOMMY DOYLE**

21 C. Ó Treasaigh  
**CIAN TREACY**

25 P. Ó Doinn  
**PA DUNNE**

29 P. Ó Faoláin  
**PA PHELAN**

18 C. Ó Gormáin  
**KEVIN O'GORMAN**

22 M. Ó Ruiséil  
**MICHAEL RUSSELL**

26 P. Ó Meachair  
**PAUL MAHER**

30 T. Ó Clonga  
**TOM KING**

19 M. Ó Glíasáin  
**MICHAEL GLEESON**

23 B. Ó Dubhuir  
**BARRY O'DWYER**

27 C. Ó Doinn  
**KEVIN DUNNE**

Management: Tommy Maher, Paddy McCormack, Connie Maher, Jack Griffin

Logistics: Eamon and Brian Stakelum

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# THURLES SARSFIELDS

## PATH TO THE FINAL + SCORERS

### Round 1:

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| THURLES SARSFIELDS ..... | 0-18 |
| DROM & INCH .....        | 0-18 |

### Round 2:

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| THURLES SARSFIELDS ..... | 1-15 |
| MOYNE-TEMPLETUOHY .....  | 0-10 |

### Mid Semi-final:

|                          |      |
|--------------------------|------|
| THURLES SARSFIELDS ..... | 3-17 |
| DROM & INCH .....        | 1-18 |

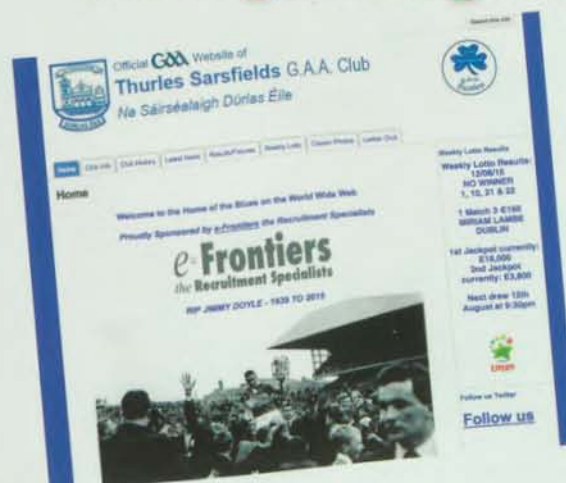
|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Total for .....      | 4-50 |
| Total conceded ..... | 1-46 |

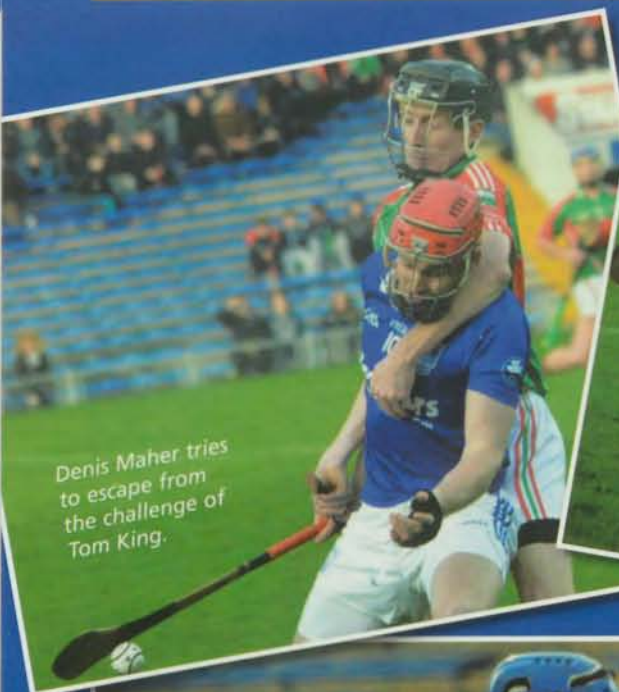


For up-to-date news from both Clubs check out their websites at

[www.thurlessarsfields.gaa.ie](http://www.thurlessarsfields.gaa.ie)

[www.gaa.loughmorecastleiney.com](http://www.gaa.loughmorecastleiney.com)

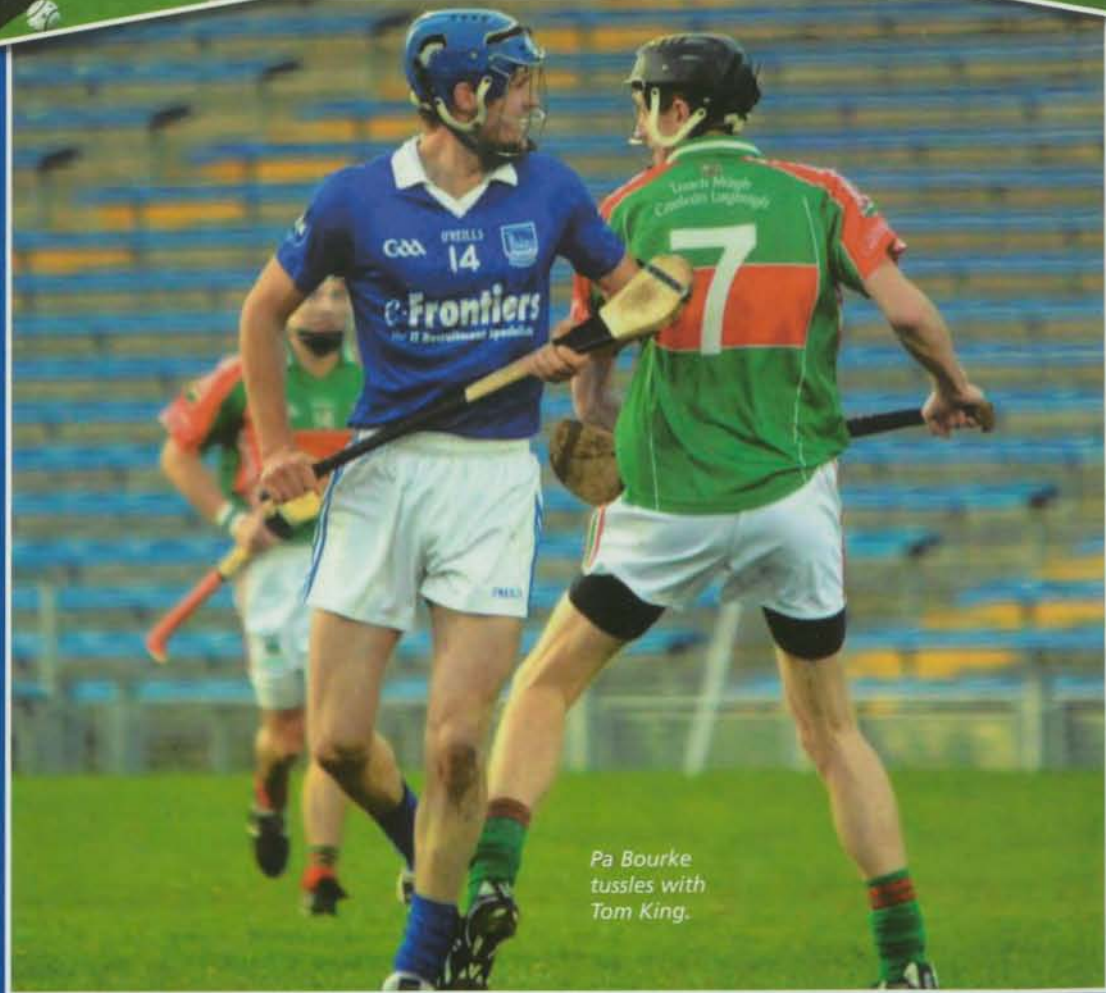




Denis Maher tries to escape from the challenge of Tom King.



Lorcan Egan tries to hook Richie Ruth in last year's County decider.



Pa Bourke tussles with Tom King.

# THURLES SARSFIELDS *Player Profile*

## *Pádraic* **MAHER**

**[Captain Thurles Sarsfields  
Senior Team 2015]**

**Date of Birth:** 09/02/1989.

**Achievements with club to date:**

2 Minor County Hurling Championships,  
2 Minor Football County Championships,

2 U21 County Hurling Championships,  
4 County Senior Hurling, 1 Munster Club  
Hurling.

**When and where did you first start  
playing hurling?** Dúrlas Óg.

**Biggest influence on your hurling  
career:** Eamon O'Shea.

**What sporting event would you most  
like to attend?** Rugby World Cup.

**To date what is your favourite  
moment in sport?** Munster Club Hurling  
Final 2012.

**Favourite Venue:** Croke Park.

**Favourite G.A.A. player:** Ken McGrath.

**What do you think is the most  
important skill in hurling?** Striking

**What sports person would you most  
like to meet?** Paul O'Connell/Richie  
McCaw.

**If you won the lotto what would  
be the first thing you would buy?**  
Villa in the South of France.

**Favourite holiday destination:**  
New York.

**Favourite Food:** Spaghetti Bolognese.

**Favourite Music:** Kodaline/Oasis/U2.

**Favourite Film:** American Gangster.

**Sporting ambition for the future?**  
To win as much as possible with the club  
and Tipperary.

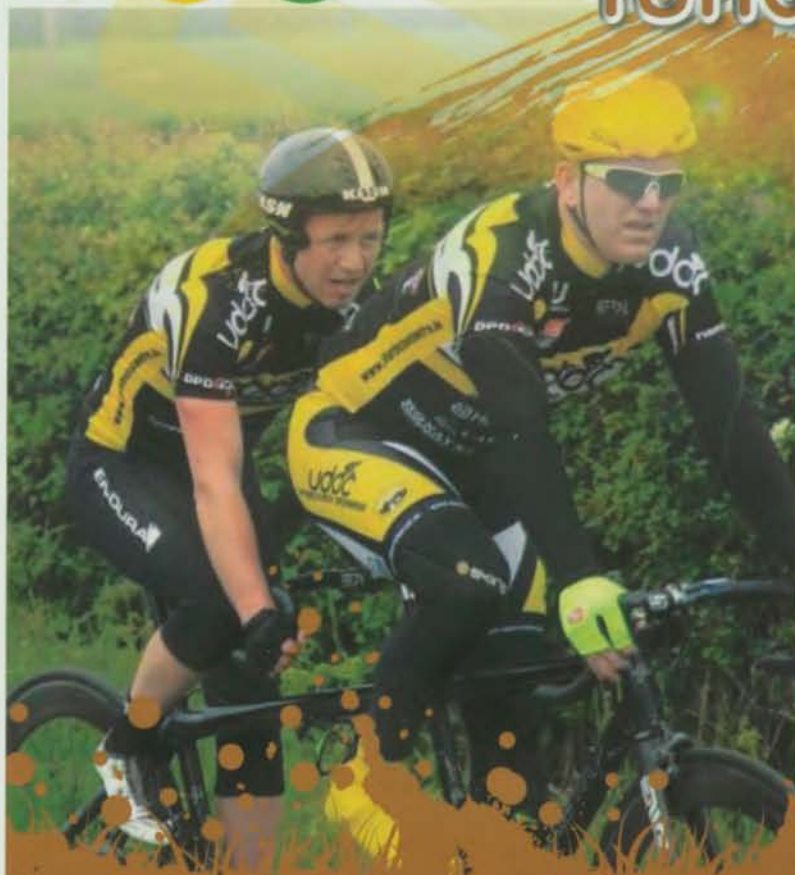


**udcc**  
UPPERCHURCH DROMBANE  
**ANNUAL CYCLE**



**Sunday 30th  
August 2015**

**Ryan for Rio  
fundraiser**



**100km Cycle**

commences at 10.00am

ENTRY €25 or €20 with CI Licence

**50km Cycle**

commences at 11.00am

ENTRY €25 or €20 with CI Licence

**25km Cycle**

commences at 12.00 noon

ENTRY €10 or €20 per Family

**Entry on the day**

**Contact**

**Paddy** 087 259 7801

**Mike** 087 813 6549

**Hosted by  
Upperchurch Drombane  
Cycling Club**

**All entrants  
must wear  
helmets**

**Refreshments in  
Community Centre  
after cycles**

**Email: [UDCycling12@gmail.com](mailto:UDCycling12@gmail.com)**



## ***“Take each day as it comes and don’t sweat the little things!”***

**F**OR SOME, today’s Mid final will be the one thing on their minds and everything outside of it will be of little consequence or interest. However every now and then, things are put into perspective when it comes to a serious health issue especially when it happens to a fit, healthy and young individual.

Take Noel McGrath for example. Today he lines out for his club in a Mid Senior hurling final but the last six months have been anything but straight forward. McGrath was diagnosed with testicular cancer earlier this year and was expected to miss the remainder of the season following surgery in April. However Noel and indeed all from the Loughmore-

Castleiney club are known for their battling qualities when their backs are against the wall and in this case it proved to be no different. Noel underwent surgery and had treatment whilst always keeping a positive outlook and frame of mind.

On Tuesday the 7th of July in Holycross, Noel made his reappearance on the hurling pitch when lining out for Loughmore-Castleiney in a Cahill Cup quarter-final against Holycross-Ballycahill. And the comeback was complete on Sunday last when Noel returned to the hallowed turf of Croke Park in Tipperary’s All-Ireland semi-final heart-breaking defeat to Galway. This just goes to show



Photographed (l.-r.): Julie Hassett, Carol Hassett, Caroline O'Donoghue, Emma Maher, Prof R.K Gupta, Naomi Scully and Mary O'Donoghue.

that some battles in life are much more important than those on the field of play.

Noel's clubmate Eddie Connolly, who captained Tipperary to an All-Ireland Intermediate title in 2012, is also still battling this scourge of a disease and has recently started an alternative type of treatment in Spain. Eddie has been over and back to Spain twice already in the past month and is scheduled to go again in the coming months. As with all these treatments they are extremely expensive and the club have set up a trust fund to raise funds to help Eddie continue his treatments. They are holding a race night in Thurles Greyhound Stadium on Friday 18th September.

There are fantastic fundraising events ongoing nationwide to help raise cancer

awareness and also to help improve facilities and research in the fight against Cancer.

On June 1st 2015, a local group of 30 ladies from Drom, The Ragg, Templemore and surrounding areas completed the Flora Dublin Women's Mini Marathon with the proceeds going towards the Mid Western Cancer Foundation which is based in Limerick Regional Hospital. They were doing the marathon for their friend Carol Hassett from the Drom & Inch parish who is receiving ongoing treatment for Hodgkins Lymphoma and is on the road to recovery. They are pictured (see page 23 of this programme) making the presentation of €16,000 to Prof R.K Gupta, founder of the Mid Western Cancer Foundation.



*Lar Corbett controls the ball under the watch of Lorcan Egan.*

# Mid Tipperary Coaching and Games Info

By: ANDY RYAN, Mid Tipperary GDA



*Being another busy year for all involved with Coaching and Games in our division, here is a brief report of some of the activities that took place throughout the year. Thanks to everybody who helped out in anyway.*

## PRIMARY SCHOOLS

- 32 Primary Schools in Mid Tipperary are involved in the Club School Link coaching scheme.
- Between 1,800-2,000 students involved in the scheme with over 80/90 hours of coaching taking place in the schools across the division on a weekly basis.
- All schools took part in Cumann na mBunscoil competitions, blitz programmes run by Coaching and Games or both.
- Schools took part in more than 300 blitzes during the year with approximately 1600 boys and girls involved.

A big thank you to the teachers and school coaches for all their help during 2014 and also to the clubs and schools that made their facilities available for our games.

## POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS

- All Post Primary Schools are taking part in school competitions run by Tipperary

Post Primary School Committee and Munster Council.

- All schools took part in Blitz programmes run by Tipperary Coaching and Games.
- All schools involved in GAA Youth Forum held in The Dome in 2014.
- Transition Year courses were held in the following schools Thurles CBS, Scoil Mhuire Dúrlas, Our Lady's Templemore.

## CLUB ACTIVITY

- Our Under-8, and 10 Go Games Hurling and Football blitz programmes are going well this year. All clubs are taking part in these programmes. A number of clubs organised their own blitz days as well.
- A number of clubs took part in a Supertouch blitz programme (Under-13 upwards). Holycross-Ballycahill and Coaching and Games ran a very successful Under-16 7-a-side tournament again this year. I would urge more clubs to get involved in this venture as it is an ideal way of giving games to non exam students during the summer.
- Coaching courses were run throughout the year with Foundation and Award 1 child and youth courses on going. If any coaches are looking to attend any courses please get in touch with me.
- Some Mid clubs took part in part in the Munster Activity Days throughout the year. These gave our under-12 players a chance to play in Croke Park, Fitzgerald Stadium Killarney, Gaelic Grounds Limerick, and Semple Stadium. These are great days for our young players and hopefully in 2016 we will see more players get the chance of playing in these stadiums.

## GAA CAMPS

- Ten clubs in the division were involved in Kelloggs Cúl Camps during the summer, 1,110 children (726 boys and 374 girls) took part in the camps. Over 100 coaches many from Mid Tipperary were employed across the county over the summer months by Tipperary Coaching and Games to work with the Kelloggs Cúl Camps.

Continued on page 26 ►

- Eight clubs in the division were involved in Easter Camps which were very successful. These were a 3-day camp over the Easter Holidays where the child got 3 day camp football and sliotar for €20.

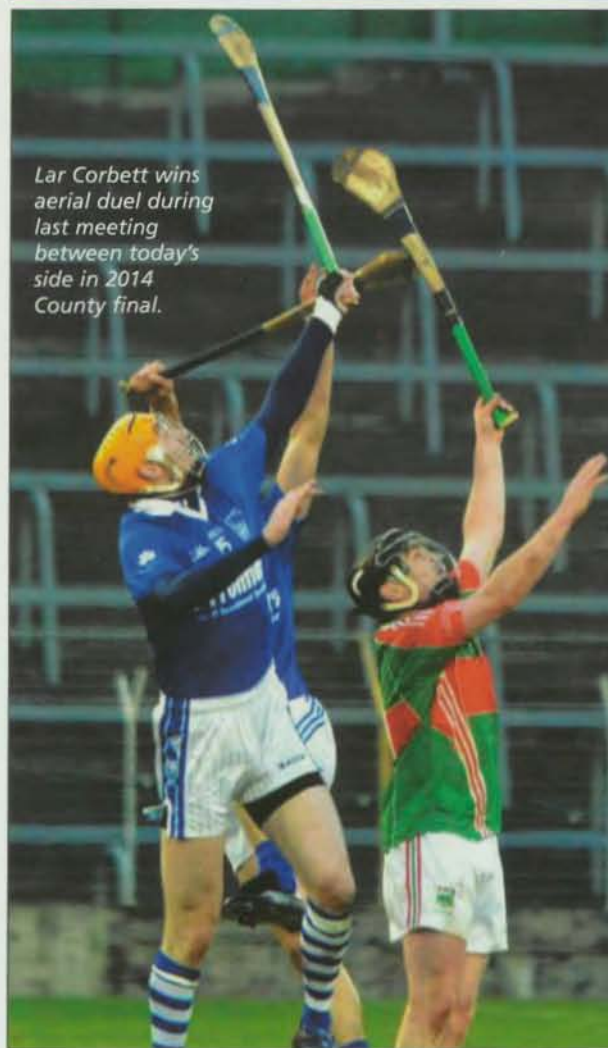
## DEVELOPMENT SQUADS

- Under-14, 15 and 16s took part in Inter-Divisional Hurling and Football.
- Under-14s won both hurling and football Inter-Divisional competitions and Under-16s won the hurling.
- Thank to all Divisional selectors for their help in 2014. The following were the selectors in 2014 – Under-14 P.J. Bowden (Dúrlas Óg), Johnny Butler (Upperchurch-Drombane) and Dermot Maher

(Moycarkey Borris). Under-15 Paddy Kenny (Dúrlas Óg), Trevor Hassett (Drom & Inch), Donal Hayes (Upperchurch-Drombane) and Shane Ryan (Thurles Gaels). Under-16 Willie Clohessy (Drom & Inch), Joe Bracken (Moycarkey-Borris), Johnny Nevin (JK Brackens) Matthew McGrath (Drom & Inch) and Andy Ryan (GDA).

- In September and October we ran training sessions for players aged 14 and 15, these sessions included training sessions, wall sessions and matches. These were a great success with an average of 70-80 players turning up for each session.

*Lar Corbett wins aerial duel during last meeting between today's side in 2014 County final.*



*Aidan McCormack lines up his shot on goal.*

# Competition Round-Up 2015

## • HURLING

### SENIOR

Loughmore-Castleiney v Thurles Sarsfields face off in this year's decider

### INTERMEDIATE

Drom v Thurles Sarsfields will have contested the Mid Intermediate final yesterday evening.

### JUNIOR A

As things stand at the moment, Thurles Sarsfields have 7 points from five games and top the group while their opponents today Loughmore-Castleiney have 7 points from four games with one game to play. Thurles Gaels have 6 points with all their games played. Moyne-Templetuohy are next with 3 points from four games while Drom & Inch have 2 points and JK Brackens have 1 point both with just one game left to play with the top four teams making the semi-finals where first will play fourth and second will play third.

### JUNIOR B

In Group 1 Moycarkey-Borris and Gortnahoe-Glengoole top the group with the latter having played all four group games while Clonakenny have one game left in which they must achieve maximum points to join the aforementioned teams on 6 points.

While in Group 2, Boherlahan-Dualla are top on 6 points and Upperchurch-Drombane are second on 4 points while Killea are on 2 points.

### UNDER-21 A & B

No fixtures have been played in this grade yet

### MINOR A

After 3 rounds of the Minor hurling group stage, Drom & Inch remain unbeaten with a 100% record and top the group. Thurles Sarsfields, Holycross-Ballycahill and JK Brackens all have two wins from three games while Moycarkey-Borris and Boherlahan-Dualla have yet to register a victory.

### MINOR B

Following the withdrawal of Thurles Gaels from the championship it meant that all four teams will qualify for the semi-finals. The semi-final pairings will see Upperchurch-Drombane top the group based on their head to head result with Loughmore-Castleiney and will meet Gortnahoe-Glengoole while Loughmore-Castleiney will play Moyne-Templetuohy in the other semi-final.

## • FOOTBALL

### SENIOR

Loughmore-Castleiney await the winners of the second semi-final between JK Brackens and Drom & Inch which will have been played last Wednesday evening in Templetuohy.

### INTERMEDIATE

Following on from Drom & Inch's county final victory last year there are just the two teams in the Intermediate grade this year and Holycross-Ballycahill and Upperchurch-Drombane will play a straight Mid final.

### JUNIOR A

No fixtures have been played in this grade yet.

### JUNIOR B

No fixtures have been played in this grade yet.

### UNDER-21 A

Mid champions Loughmore-Castleiney face Clonmel Commercials in the county U21 final.

### UNDER-21 B

Upperchurch-Drombane won the Mid division and are awaiting to play Ardfinnan in the County final.

### MINOR A

Drom & Inch meet JK Brackens in the Mid final following semi-final victories over Moycarkey-Borris and Na Sairsealaigh Óg respectively.

### MINOR B

Loughmore-Castleiney play Upperchurch-Drombane in the Mid final.

# TEMPLEMORE LADIES GAELIC FOOTBALL CLUB

## Tipperary – Ladies Football Minor 'B' All-Ireland Champions

**T**HE MINOR ladies of Tipperary retained the All-Ireland Minor 'B' title after a thrilling game in which they defeated Armagh by 3-12 to 3-8.

Five players represented Templemore Ladies Football Club including Captain Elaine Fitzpatrick. These girls contributed in no small way to bringing the title back to the Premier county for the second successive year.

In accepting the cup, captain Elaine thanked her team for their work and commitment all season.

The team arrived in Templemore around 8.30 where they were greeted by well wishers and paraded through the town. A big congrats to Elaine Fitzpatrick, Niamh Treacy, Miriam Campion, Louise Cadell,



Niamh Treacy, Louise Cadell, Maria Curley, Elaine Fitzpatrick and Miriam Campion – members of the victorious Tipperary Ladies Football team who were crowned Minor 'B' All-Ireland Champions after defeating Armagh 3-12 to 3-8.

Maria Curley and all the team together with their

management on their great achievement.



Templemore Ladies Gaelic Football Under-12 'C' County Champions. They defeated Sliabh na mBan in the County final which took place the end of June in Bansha. Well done to all the players and management for their hard work and dedication.

# 'Man of the Match' Roll of Honour

## TOM O'HARA PERPETUAL SHIELD

|      |                        |                       |      |                        |                      |
|------|------------------------|-----------------------|------|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1991 | <b>Ruairi Dwan</b>     | Holycross-Ballycahill | 2004 | <b>Evan Sweeney</b>    | Loughmore-Castleiney |
| 1992 | <b>Eamon Sweeney</b>   | Loughmore-Castleiney  | 2005 | <b>James Woodlock</b>  | Drom & Inch          |
| 1993 | <b>Connie Maher</b>    | Thurles Sarsfields    | 2006 | <b>Seamus Butler</b>   | Drom & Inch          |
| 1994 | <b>John Kennedy</b>    | Loughmore-Castleiney  | 2007 | <b>Ger O'Grady</b>     | Thurles Sarsfields   |
| 1995 | <b>Philip O'Dwyer</b>  | Boherlahan-Dualla     | 2008 | <b>Seamus Callanan</b> | Drom & Inch          |
| 1996 | <b>Brendan Carroll</b> | Thurles Sarsfields    | 2009 | <b>James Woodlock</b>  | Drom & Inch          |
| 1997 | <b>Timmy Gleeson</b>   | Holycross-Ballycahill | 2010 | <b>Michael Gleeson</b> | Thurles Sarsfields   |
| 1998 | <b>Paul Ormond</b>     | Loughmore-Castleiney  | 2011 | <b>Michael Webster</b> | Loughmore-Castleiney |
| 1999 | <b>Timmy Gleeson</b>   | Holycross-Ballycahill | 2012 | <b>Pa Bourke</b>       | Thurles Sarsfields   |
| 2000 | <b>Ger O'Grady</b>     | Thurles Sarsfields    | 2013 | <b>Seamus Callanan</b> | Drom & Inch          |
| 2001 | <b>Lar Corbett</b>     | Thurles Sarsfields    | 2014 | <b>Damien Young</b>    | Drom & Inch          |
| 2002 | <b>Ned Ryan</b>        | Loughmore-Castleiney  | 2015 |                        |                      |
| 2003 | <b>David Kennedy</b>   | Loughmore-Castleiney  |      |                        |                      |

## Mid Tipperary Club Roll of Honour 1965-2015

|         |                       |         |                       |         |                      |
|---------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|----------------------|
| 1965    | Moycarkey-Borris      | 1985    | Holycross-Ballycahill | 2002-04 | Loughmore-Castleiney |
| 1968-69 | Thurles Sarsfields    | 1986-88 | Loughmore-Castleiney  | 2005    | Thurles Sarsfields   |
| 1970    | Moyne                 | 1989-91 | Holycross-Ballycahill | 2006    | Drom & Inch          |
| 1971    | Moycarkey             | 1992    | Loughmore-Castleiney  | 2007    | Thurles Sarsfields   |
| 1972    | Moyne                 | 1993    | Thurles Sarsfields    | 2008    | Drom & Inch          |
| 1973    | Thurles Sarsfields    | 1994    | Loughmore-Castleiney  | 2009    | Drom & Inch          |
| 1974    | Drom & Inch           | 1995    | Boherlahan-Dualla     | 2010    | Thurles Sarsfields   |
| 1975    | Thurles Sarsfields    | 1996    | Thurles Sarsfields    | 2011    | Loughmore-Castleiney |
| 1976-77 | Moyne                 | 1997    | Holycross-Ballycahill | 2012    | Thurles Sarsfields   |
| 1978    | Holycross-Ballycahill | 1998    | Loughmore-Castleiney  | 2013    | Drom & Inch          |
| 1979-80 | Thurles Sarsfields    | 1999    | Holycross-Ballycahill | 2014    | Drom & Inch          |
| 1981-82 | Moycarkey             | 2000-01 | Thurles Sarsfields    | 2015    |                      |
| 1983    | Loughmore-Castleiney  |         |                       |         |                      |
| 1984    | Drom & Inch           |         |                       |         |                      |

# MID TIPPERARY GAA BOARD

## CHAIRMEN 1907 - 2015

|      |                       |                 |      |                        |                        |
|------|-----------------------|-----------------|------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1907 | John Cahill           | (Cashel)        | 1908 | Tim Condon             | (Moycarkey)            |
| 1912 | Tom Semple            | (Thurles)       | 1916 | E.D.Ryan               | (Cashel)               |
| 1919 | Tom Kerwick           | (Thurles)       | 1924 | Tim Gleeson            | (Drombane)             |
| 1927 | Rev John Meagher C.C. | (Thurles)       | 1929 | Rev Phill Fogarty C.C. | (Moycarkey)            |
| 1948 | Rev Patrick Lee C.C.  | (Templemore)    | 1956 | Rev Mick Russell       | (St Patrick's Thurles) |
| 1961 | Rev D. O'Meara C.C.   | (Moycarkey)     | 1969 | Tom O'Hara             | (Gortnahoe)            |
| 1973 | Michael Small         | (Thurles/S)     | 1976 | Tom O'Hara             | (Gortnahoe/G)          |
| 1979 | Tim Maher             | (Boherlahan/D)  | 1982 | Michael Lowry          | (Holycross/B)          |
| 1985 | Pat Cullen            | (Loughmore/C)   | 1988 | Liam Hennessy          | (Moycarkey/B)          |
| 1991 | Sean Fogarty          | (Moyne/T)       | 1994 | Sean Mockler           | (Loughmore/C)          |
| 1997 | Harry Ryan            | (Moycarkey/B)   | 2000 | Michael Bourke         | (Upperchurch/D)        |
| 2003 | Johnny Doyle          | (Holycross/B)   | 2006 | P.J.Maher              | (Boherlahan/D)         |
| 2009 | Mattie Ryan           | (Drom-Inch)     | 2012 | John Devane            | (Boherlahan/D)         |
| 2015 | Joe Kennedy           | (Moyne-T'uoohy) |      |                        |                        |

## SECRETARIES 1907 - 2015

|      |              |               |      |                 |                |
|------|--------------|---------------|------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1907 | Andy Mason   | (Drombane)    | 1930 | Phil Cahill     | (Holycross/B)  |
| 1937 | Phil Purcell | (Moycarkey/B) | 1948 | Paddy Ryan      | (Moycarkey/B)  |
| 1966 | Sean Ryan    | (Loughmore/C) | 1974 | Liam Ryan       | (Holycross/B)  |
| 1979 | Tom O'Hara   | (Gortnahoe/G) | 1991 | Matty Connolly  | (Boherlahan/D) |
| 2005 | Tom Maher    | (Moyne/T)     | 2010 | Jonathan Cullen | (Loughmore/C)  |
| 2015 | Sally Young  | (Drom & Inch) |      |                 |                |

## TREASURERS 1907 - 2015

|      |                 |                |      |                 |                 |
|------|-----------------|----------------|------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1907 | Mikey Maher     | (Boherlahan)   | 1912 | Andy Mason      | (Drombane)      |
| 1917 | E D Ryan        | (Cashel)       | 1930 | J O'Brien       | (Moycarkey)     |
| 1931 | William O'Brien | (Moycarkey)    | 1935 | William O'Brien | (Moycarkey)     |
| 1936 | J.J. Hayes      | (Moycarkey)    | 1969 | Liam Ryan       | (Holycross/B)   |
| 1970 | J.J. Hayes      | (Moycarkey/B)  | 1971 | Michael Ryan    | (Holycross/B)   |
| 1977 | Tim Maher       | (Boherlahan/D) | 1979 | Billy Sweeney   | (Moyne/T)       |
| 1982 | Gus Ryan        | (Moycarkey/B)  | 1985 | Gerry McEntee   | (Thurles/S)     |
| 1986 | Timmy Grace     | (Thurles/S)    | 1989 | Noel Murphy     | (Thurles/S)     |
| 1992 | Dick Maher      | (Thurles/S)    | 1995 | John O'Donovan  | (Rahealty)      |
| 2001 | Tom Maher       | (Moyne/T)      | 2005 | John O'Donovan  | (Thurles K-R-F) |
| 2011 | Jim Max         | (Thurles Sars) | 2013 | Liz Flanagan    | (Holycross/B)   |

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