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Danske Bank
ULSTER SCHOOLS GAA

ST LOUIS GRAMMAR SCHOOL BALLYMENA V ST KILLIAN'S COLLEGE GARRON TOWER

DANSKE BANK MAGEEAN CUP FINAL 2022



FRIDAY 9 DECEMBER 2022 AT 7:30PM

Arena Pitch Queen's University, Belfast (Malone Playing Fields)

Referee: Tarlach Conway (Doire) | **Linesman/Standby Referee:** Kevin Parke (Aontroim)

Linesman: Brendan Toland (Aontroim) | **Sideline Official:** Paddy Tumelty (Aontroim)



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CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

On behalf of Ulster Schools' GAA, I am delighted to welcome you all to our 2022-23 Danske Bank Mageean Cup Final. I warmly welcome our finalists tonight and all those who have come along to support them at this excellent venue at the Dub.

All involved in the promotion of hurling in Ulster pencil this night into their calendar, as we are always assured of a marvellous spectacle. Once again we are grateful for the support and confidence of our partners, Danske Bank, whose generosity enables us to provide no less than 70 competitions across both codes for our students.

This is the 59th year of the Mageean Cup and we are in for a treat as we welcome St. Louis, Ballymena and St. Killian's, Garron Tower meeting in the final for the first time. It is also the first time that the final does not contain one of the 'big three' who have dominated the final over the years, namely St. Patrick's, Maghera, St. Mary's C.B.S. Belfast and Cross and Passion, Ballycastle. Demonstrating the strength of the schools involved is the fact that there have been six different winners in the past six finals. St. Louis are attempting to collect their third title from their five final appearances, while St. Killian's are appearing in their second final since 2016, after the school was amalgamated in 2010.

I wish to commend and thank the coaches and players from all the teams who have participated, not only in the Mageean Cup, but also those involved in our other 17 hurling competitions during this school year at 'B', 'C', and 'D' levels. The participating schools include schools from all across the province. This geographical spread means that our 18 hurling

competitions embrace every corner of the province, and provide over 500 games of hurling in each school year for our 40 dual schools. I would like, in particular, to pay a special word of thanks to all our co-ordinators who drive our competitions each year with such efficiency.

Once again the final of the Mageean Cup will be streamed live via our social media channels. The commentary for tonight's game will once again be provided by Séamas McAleenan, whose contribution to, and knowledge of our schools, and especially of our hurling competitions, is second to none.

On a personal note, I would like to thank our committee for their tireless work in promoting and organising our games, and to Aidan O'Rourke and his staff at Queen's University for the use of these marvellous facilities this evening. I would also wish to place on record our thanks to all our clubs who make their facilities available to us, and to all the referees who officiate at our games.

Finally, I extend my best wishes to all our schools who will contest all our other competitions and finals in both codes throughout the remainder of this school year, and I exhort you all to keep in touch with our games and competitions throughout the year on our website www.ulsterschoolsgaa.com and join our many Friends on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Seamus MacGabhann
Chairman Ulster Schools



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Thanks are extended to the following for their assistance with the production of this Programme: Seamus Woods, Sean McGourty, Jimmy Smyth, Niall Muldoon, Sarah Geoghegan, Arron Graffin (GPD-Graffin Player Development), John 'Curly' McIlwaine, Paul Hughes, Séamus McAleenan, Alastair McGilligan, Damien Mc Anespie, Pádraig

McIlwaine, Conor Gillan, Sean McCrystal (www.facebook.com/sdesign.belfast).

PICTURE CREDITS: John McIlwaine, Paddy McIlwaine, Dylan McIlwaine (McIlwaine Media), Picture Desk (Irish News), Sarah Geoghegan.

WELCOME FROM DANSKE BANK

Welcome to the 2022 Danske Bank Mageean Cup Final.

This evening's final is one of the highlights in our local sporting calendar, and we are extremely proud to be involved in this year's competition. This is the tenth year of our partnership with Ulster Schools GAA, and it has been a privilege to see the competition continue to go from strength to strength.

As the leading, local bank, we have an important role in society. We are committed to investing in young people and helping them to thrive. There is natural fit between us and the GAA, a grassroots organisation at the heart of communities across Northern Ireland. It is great to see the opportunities for young people to get involved in GAA sports increase each year.

In addition to our partnership with Ulster Schools' GAA, we are also proud to support the Danske Bank Ulster Schools' Cup and the Northern Ireland Schools' Football Association. The incredible talent displayed across each sport continues to be very impressive.

Coaches, organisers, teachers, friends and family, and clubs have all played their part in helping the remarkable hurlers who will take to the field in tonight's final develop. Without these people - and all of the players who have provided a season of high-quality hurling - dedicating their time, the competitions simply would not happen.

I would also like to acknowledge the professionalism of the Ulster Schools' committee and volunteers, who give up their time on a voluntary basis to ensure that a fantastic hurling season culminates in the special occasion that awaits us this evening.

We have followed the thrilling lead-up to the final over the past few months, and it is with great excitement that we look forward to tonight's Mageean Cup final.

The finalists, St. Louis, Ballymena and St. Killian's, Garron Tower have demonstrated tremendous skill and hard work to get to this point. On behalf of everyone at Danske Bank, I wish you the very best of luck.

Vicky Davies

CEO, Danske Bank



HISTORY OF THE MAGEEAN CUP

The Mageean Cup is awarded annually to the winners of the Ulster Schools' Senior Hurling Championship. The original trophy was presented to Ulster Colleges in 1963 by the staff and students of Dromantine College, Newry in memory of Most Reverend Daniel Mageean, Bishop of Down and Connor (1929 - 1962).

Dromantine College was an SMA seminary (Society of African Missions), and is now a well known Retreat Centre. The Dromantine seminarians actually played an Ulster Colleges' hurling select in a challenge game in 1963, probably to mark the presentation of the new trophy to the Ulster Colleges Council.

From its formation in 1928, it is apparent that the activities of the Ulster Colleges Council (now Ulster Schools) reflected the fact that football had an appeal throughout the province of Ulster while interest in hurling had a narrower geographical focus. The diocesan colleges were boarding schools which drew their students in the main from their own dioceses, so those colleges were consequently football orientated and were focused on the MacRory Cup. St Malachy's College, Belfast was the only one with a strong interest in hurling.

On the other hand, the day schools were run by the Christian Brothers, many of whom came from strong hurling counties and backgrounds in the South. In the 1930s Abbey CBS

represented Down in inter-county hurling at minor level, winning a couple of provincial titles and appearing in All-Ireland semi-finals. St. Mary's CBS, Belfast had both encouragement from the Brothers and an intake that was from local clubs which played hurling, while there was occasionally strong hurling involvement from Omagh CBS, Armagh CBS and St Patrick's Downpatrick.

After the war, the establishment of a second boarding school in Down and Connor at Garron Tower (St. MacNissi's College) in 1951 illustrated the dilemma facing the development of hurling. Hurling was mainly played by the day pupils, while football was the sport for the boarders. St MacNissi's won the inaugural Mageean Cup in 1963-1964, a competition which included St Mary's CBS, St Malachy's College and St Michael's College, Omeath. Ballycastle's Eddie Donnelly was a key member of that team.

Thereafter, St. Mary's CBS monopolised the competition for the next couple of decades, during which both St Malachy's and St Michael's

faded from the scene. Cross and Passion Convent, Ballycastle became co-educational in the 1970's and entered Colleges' hurling competitions at all levels. However, a lack of boys in Sixth Form restricted them to a single Mageean Cup title (1978-79) - a team which featured Olcan McFetridge and Brian Donnelly. Cross and Passion now hold nine titles in total

Armagh CBS were a constant presence during the 1970s and they won their first and so far, only title in 1982/3. Paul Doyle was their star, and most of that team went on to represent Armagh at county level.

St Patrick's Maghera emerged as a force at under-age level during the early 1980s and took the first of their 12 titles in 1983/4. That inaugural victory was fashioned by the McGurk and Downey brothers, who would also drive Queen's University to their last appearance in a Fitzgibbon final in 1987. Maghera also won the Mageean - MacRory Cup double on three occasions during the 1980s, a quite exceptional feat given that many players featured on both teams. This double had previously been accomplished by St Mary's CBS in 1971; in fact, St Mary's went on to win the All-Ireland double (the Hogan and O'Keefe Cups) in that year. St Louis Ballymena completed a decade of change in Mageean Cup hurling by winning their first title in 1988-89, under coach Alex

Connolly and featuring future Antrim goalie Shane Elliott.

St. Mary's CBS however has remained the dominant force, adding a further 13 titles during the past 31 years, bringing their total to 30. De La Salle College, Belfast reached the Mageean Cup final in 1993-1994 and again in 1999-2000, but has so far failed to collect the trophy. An innovation in 2011/2012, was the entry of an amalgamated team representing 'An Dún', and this was followed in 2012-2013 by the emergence of another two amalgamated teams viz 'Divis' which is a combination of North and West Belfast schools (excluding St Mary's CBS) and East Tyrone a combination of schools/colleges in the Dungannon area

The Mageean Cup champions go on to represent Ulster each Spring in the All Ireland 'B'

Championship (the O'Keefe Cup), and the Ulster champions have created a remarkable record in the past 5 years. St Mary's CBS won the O'Keefe Cup in 1971 and 1973, but there was no further Ulster success in the next 30 years until St Patrick's Maghera ended the drought in 2007. In 2009 Cross & Passion Ballycastle initiated a remarkable run of 4 consecutive O'Keefe Cups for Ulster. They retained their title in 2010, Maghera collected their second in 2011, and St Mary's CBS took their total to 3 in March 2012. In recent years Antrim teams have dominated the Mageean , with





St. Mary's CBS, Belfast winning in 2012, followed by two in a row from Cross and Passion College, Ballycastle, and in 2015, St. Louis, Ballymena added their second Mageean Cup title, with St. Mary's again taking the honours in 2016.

In the 2017 Mageean Cup, St. Patrick's College, Maghera ended the Antrim dominance when they defeated the An Dún amalgamation team in a thriller at QUB, Belfast. In 2018, An Dún turned the tide and created Mageean Cup history by becoming the first team from the county to lift the famous trophy in its 57-year history with a comfortable 5-13 to 1-10 win over holders St. Patrick's College, Maghera in the showpiece decider at The Dub

In 2019, Cross and Passion College, Ballycastle added to their Mageean Cup

title tally with a comfortable win of St. Mary's CBS, Belfast. As a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the associated restrictions, the 2020 Mageean Cup was not played. Following the return of Ulster Schools' competitions, history was made in 2021, when St. Patrick's, Downpatrick clinched their first ever Mageean Cup title.

County hurling teams at various levels in Ulster look and travel southwards with apprehension and even trepidation, but the standard bearers in Ulster Schools' have progressed in skill and attitude to the extent that they now expect, not only to be competitive, but to prevail over their equivalents in the other provinces.



Red High hold on for Historic Victory



DANSKE BANK MAGEEAN CUP FINAL

17 December 2021, QUB Arena Belfast

St. Patrick's GS, Downpatrick: **2-13** St. Patrick's College, Maghera: **1-14**



History was made before Christmas as St. Patrick's Grammar School, Downpatrick clinched a first ever Mageean Cup title in a magical occasion under lights at The Dub.



It comes three years after An Dún won the title and marks tremendous progress for a Red High side that only moved to Grade 'A' after winning the McGreevy Cup five seasons ago.

It took two late frees from Tom McGrattan to edge out a game that had extra-time written all over it.

The Red High dominated the early stages, but registered five wides in the first 17 minutes. There was also close-range Tom McGrattan free – in the fourth minute - when he went for goal, but had it saved on the line. Maghera punished them seconds later with a

Shea O'Neill point.

The Derry side were struggling with their shots as well, but bagged a goal in the 13th minute. A Connor Shiels free dropped

short, but was well won by Callum O'Kane who picked out Cormac Mullan with a hand pass. His shot was saved by goalkeeper Smyth before Conor Murtagh finished the rebound to the net.

O'Neill tagged on a point and Maghera captain James Friel drilled over a free after the water break for a 1-3 to 0-0 lead.

Then, Downpatrick got their first score. An Oisín Coulter pass was picked up behind the



Maghera defence by Sean McCarthy who fired an unstoppable shot to the net in the 19th minute.

Maghera responded with points from Thomas McKeagney and Callum O’Kane, as they pushed into a six-point lead, with a Peter McCullagh point in the 31st minute.

Red High then had a purple patch with an excellent Finn Turpin score from long-range, followed by three Tom McGrattan points to get them back in contention, 1-8 to 1-6, at half-time.

The game took another turn three minutes into the second half when a Tiernán Connolly shot went all the way to the back of the Maghera net.

James Friel came back with the perfect response with a free to level the game, but Maghera were never able to get in front, despite the excellent Peter McCullagh landing three second-half points.

Downpatrick almost had a third goal,

but a combination of goalkeeper Odhrán McElhinney and Connor Shiels cleared the danger.

Peter McCullagh and Michael Dorrian exchanged points, but it was the Red High that went in a point ahead at the second water break.

With Deaglán Mallon strong in defence, the Red High never looked like conceding a goal.

Two further McCullagh points in as many minutes levelled the game, with Callum O’Kane later equalising for Maghera.

Tom McGrattan put the winners into the lead, as the game ticked into the four minutes of stoppage time.

The Derry side had a chance to take the game to extra time, but Peter McCullagh’s shot dropped short before Tom McGrattan’s ninth score sealed the deal.

Downpatrick will play the Munster ‘B’ champions in the All-Ireland ‘B’ semi-final in March 2022.

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ACTION



FROM THE SEMI FINALS

ST LOUIS BALLYMENA 1-22 ST PATRICK'S MAGHERA 2-10

ST KILLIAN'S GARRON TOWER 1-10 CROSS & PASSION BALLYCASTLE 1-7

Photos courtesy of John 'Curly' McIlwaine www.thesaffrongael.com





Goal
John McIlwaine



John McIlwaine
John McIlwaine



John McIlwaine
Pic by John McIlwaine



John McIlwaine
Pic by John McIlwaine



John McIlwaine
Pic by John McIlwaine



PLAYER PROFILES

ST. LOUIS GRAMMAR SCHOOL BALLYMENA

RYAN O'BOYLE Club: Loughgiel Shamrocks
Position: Forward **Weight:** 10st 10 **Height:** 5'11"
Age: 15 **Honours:** Darragh Cup, Minor C'ship, U14 Féile, McMullan Cup.

SEAN ÓG BLANEY Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Forward **Weight:** 13st 2 **Height:** 6'1"
Age: 16 **Honours:** U12 Hurling C'ship, U15 Football league, U14 Football Féile, U15 Football C'ship, U17 Football League, U-15 Hurling Féile.

NOAH FRIEL Club: Clooney Gaels **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 12st 4 **Height:** 5'11" **Age:** 17
Honours: U14 All-Ireland Football Féile, U20 'B' Hurling C'ship.

CATHAÍR GORMLEY Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Midfield **Weight:** 10st 6 **Height:** 6'0"
Age: 17 **Honours:** U14 Football Féile, U17 'B' Football League.

FRANCIS MCMULLAN Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Defender **Weight:** 13st 5 **Height:** 6'2"
Age: 17 **Honours:** U14 'B' Football Féile, U17 Football League.

CIARAN MCQUILLAN Club: All Saints Ballymena
Position: Goalkeeper **Weight:** 11st 3 **Height:** 5'10"
Age: 17 **Honours:** 2 x North Antrim 'B' Hurling Féile, All County 'B' Hurling Féile, U12 Hurling C'ship, Thompson Cup, Leonard Cup, U16 North Antrim Hurling C'ship.

AODHÁN MCGARRY Club: All Saints Ballymena
Position: Forward **Weight:** 12st 6 **Height:** 5'11"
Age: 17 **Honours:** 2 x North Antrim 'B' Hurling Féile, All County 'B' Hurling Féile, U16 'B' North Antrim Hurling C'ship, U17 'B' Hurling League, 4th in All-Ireland Féile skills, All-County Féile skills, South West Antrim Féile skills, Leonard Cup, Thompson Cup, Leinster 'B' All-Ireland Hurling C'ship, Ulster Intermediate Irish Dancing Feis.

PAUDIE MARTIN Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Forward **Weight:** 9st 4 **Height:** 5'11"
Age: 16 **Honours:** U12 Hurling C'ship, U15 Football League, U14 'B' Football Féile, U15 Football C'ship, U17 Football League, U15 Hurling Féile.

LUKE MCFERRAN Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Defender **Weight:** 12st **Height:** 6'0" **Age:** 16
Honours: U12 Hurling C'ship, U15 Football league, U14 'B' Football Féile, U15 Football C'ship, U17 Football League.

CONOR MCKENNA Club: Tir na nÓg **Position:** Defender **Weight:** 12st 7 **Height:** 6'2" **Age:** 18
Honours: U14 'B' Football C'ship, U14 Football League.

JOE MCCORMICK Club: Tir na nÓg **Position:** Midfield **Weight:** 11st **Height:** 5'10" **Age:** 17
Honours: U14 'B' Football C'ship, U14 'B' Football League.

PEARSE MARTIN Club: All Saints Ballymena
Position: Midfield **Weight:** 10st **Height:** 6'1" **Age:**

16 **Honours:** 2 x North Antrim Hurling Féile, U16 'B' North Antrim Hurling C'ship.

MICHAEL TRAYNOR Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Defender **Weight:** 11st 12 **Height:** 5'11"
Age: 18 **Honours:** U14 'B' Football Féile, Thompson Cup, Leonard Cup.

BARRY MCCLOSKEY Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Forward **Weight:** 10st 6 **Height:** 6'1"
Age: 18 **Honours:** U14 'B' Football Féile, Antrim Intermediate Football C'ship.

RYAN MCCLEMENTS Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Defender **Weight:** 9st 5 **Height:** 5'7"
Age: 15 **Honours:** U15 'B' Football C'ship, U15 'B' Football Féile, U15 Hurling Féile.

ARCHIE MCGREEVEY Club: All Saints Ballymena
Position: Defender **Weight:** 11st **Height:** 5'10"
Age: 17 **Honours:** 2 x North Antrim 'B' Féile, All County 'B' Féile, U-17 'B' All County League.

FERGUS DONAGHY Club: Glenravel **Position:** Defender **Weight:** 10st **Height:** 5'10" **Age:** 17
Honours: Minor 'B' Football C'ship, U16 Breslin Shield, U16 'B' Hurling C'ship, U-14 'B' C'ship, 2 x U12 'B' Hurling C'ship.

KEVIN O'BOYLE Club: All Saints Ballymena
Position: Defender **Weight:** 11st 8 **Height:** 6'1"
Age: 17 **Honours:** 2 x North Antrim Hurling Féile, All County Hurling Féile, U16 'B' North Antrim Hurling C'ship, U17 'B' Hurling League.

JACK MCKEEVER Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Defender **Weight:** 9st 4 **Height:** 5'11"
Age: 16 **Honours:** U12 Hurling C'ship, U15 Football League, U15 Football Féile, U15 Football C'ship, U17 Football League, U15 Hurling Féile.

FINTAN BRADY Club: All Saints Ballymena
Position: Defender **Weight:** 12st 7 **Height:** 5'11"
Age: 17 **Honours:** 2 x North Antrim 'B' Hurling Féile, All County Hurling Féile, U16 'B' North Antrim C'ship, U17 'B' Football All County League.

SEAN DOUTHART Club: Loughgiel Shamrocks
Position: Goalkeeper **Weight:** 14st 2 **Height:** 6'4"
Age: 15 **Honours:** U17 Hurling C'ship, McMullan Cup, Team GB Youth 100m freestyle swimmer.

RÓNÁN MCCOLLUM Club: Loughgiel Shamrocks
Position: Corner Forward **Weight:** 11st **Height:** 5'10" **Age:** 18 **Honours:** All County Hurling Féile, North Antrim Hurling Féile, North Antrim Hurling Féile Skills, All Ireland U15 'B' Hurling, 2 x U-16 Hurling C'ship, Darragh Cup, 3 x Minor Hurling C'ship, Ulster Minor Hurling C'ship, 2 x U20 Hurling C'ship, Senior Reserve Hurling C'ship, Leonard Cup, Thompson Cup, Danske Bank Special Merit Award.

OISÍN MCCAMPBILL Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Forward **Weight:** 11st 4 **Height:** 5'10"
Age: 16 **Honours:** U10 Antrim Festival of Hurling, U12 Hurling C'ship, U12 'B' Football C'ship, U15 'B' Football League, U15 'B' Football Féile, U15 'B' Football C'ship, U17 Football League.

TOM MCFERRAN Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Midfield **Weight:** 10st 9 **Height:** 5'10"
Age: 18 **Honours:** U14 Football Féile, Antrim Intermediate Football C'ship, Thompson Cup, Leonard Cup.

CONAN MCMULLAN Club: All Saints Ballymena (Hurling), St Mary's, Rasharkin (Football) **Position:** Midfield **Weight:** 11st **Height:** 5'11" **Age:** 17
Honours: U14 'B' Hurling League, U14 Hurling C'ship, North Antrim 'B' Hurling Féile, All County 'B' Hurling Féile, U16 'B' North Antrim Hurling C'ship, U17 'B' Hurling League, U17 'C' Football C'ship, Leonard Cup, Thompson Cup.

CONOR DUFFIN Club: Glenravel **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 11st 5 **Height:** 6'0" **Age:** 17
Honours: U14 'B' Hurling C'ship, U16 'B' Hurling C'ship, Minor 'B' Football C'ship, Leonard Cup, Thompson Cup.

NIAL MCILHATTON Club: Dunloy Cuchullains
Position: Defender **Weight:** 12st 9 **Height:** 6'2"
Age: 17 **Honours:** U14 'B' Football League, U17 'B' Football League, Thompson Cup, Leonard Cup.

DARACH BRADLEY Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 10st 2 **Height:** 5'11"
Age: 17 **Honours:** U14 'C' Hurling Féile, All Ireland 'C' Hurling Féile.

CONNOR HIGGINS Club: St. Mary's, Rasharkin
Position: Defender **Weight:** 10st 2 **Height:** 6'2"
Age: 18 **Honours:** U17 'C' Football C'ship, U14 'B' Football Féile

JACK MCCLOSKEY Club: Loughgiel Shamrocks
Position: Forward **Weight:** 13st 3 **Height:** 5'10"
Age: 17 **Honours:** 2 x North Antrim Hurling Féile, 2 x All County Hurling Féile, 3 x Minor Hurling C'ship, 2 x U20 Hurling C'ship, Leonard Cup, Leinster 'B' Hurling C'ship, Minor Hurling League, 2 x Darragh Cup.

DARRAGH PATTERSON Club: Loughgiel Shamrocks
Position: Midfield/Goalkeeper **Weight:** 11st **Height:** 6'0" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** U20 Jiu-Jitsu World Champion, 2 x North Antrim Hurling Féile, 2 x All County Hurling Féile, 3 x Minor Hurling C'ship, 2 x U20 Hurling C'ship, Leonard Cup, Thompson Cup, Leinster 'B' Hurling C'ship, Minor Hurling League, 2 x Darragh Cup.

PEARSE PATTERSON Club: Loughgiel Shamrocks
Position: Defender **Weight:** 13st 8 **Height:** 5'3" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** Club Player of the Year 2019, 2 x North Antrim Hurling Féile, 2 x All County Hurling Féile, 3 x Minor Hurling C'ship, 2 x U20 Hurling C'ship, Leonard Cup, Thompson Cup, Leinster 'B' Hurling C'ship, Minor Hurling League, 2 x Darragh Cup.

DARA MARTIN Club: Tir na nÓg **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 9st 6 **Height:** 5'8" **Age:** 18
Honours: U14 'B' Football C'ship, U14 Football League, Leonard Cup, Thompson Cup.



PLAYER PROFILES

ST. KILLIAN'S COLLEGE GARRON TOWER



JOHN V MORGAN Club: Robert Emmet's, Cushendun **Position:** Goalkeeper **Weight:** 12st **Height:** 5'0" **Age:** 18 **Honours:** McNamee Cup 2016, Darragh Cup 2020, U12 Naomh Pádraig Most Improved Player.

AIDAN MCSPARRAN Club: Robert Emmet's, Cushendun **Position:** Corner back **Weight:** 11st 7 **Height:** 5'0" **Age:** 18 **Honours:** McNamee Cup, U14 North Antrim C'ship, 2 x McMullan Cup, U16 All-County C'ship, Darragh Cup, 2 x Ulster Rugby Cups.

MARK MCSPARRAN Club: Robert Emmet's, Cushendun **Position:** Full back **Weight:** 11st 7 **Height:** 5'0" **Age:** 18 **Honours:** McNamee Cup, U14 North Antrim C'ship, 2 x McMullan Cup, U16 All County C'ship, Darragh Cup, 2 x Ulster Rugby Cups.

CALLAGH MOONEY Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Defender **Weight:** 9st 12 **Height:** 5'8" **Age:** 15 **Honours:** U-10 North Antrim Hurling C'ship, U12 North Antrim Hurling C'ship, U15 Antrim League, U15 Antrim Hurling C'ship, U15 Antrim Féile na nGael, U15 Div. 2 All-Ireland Féile na nGael, U12 South West Antrim Gaelic C'ship, Thompson Cup, McNamee Cup, Foresters' Cup, Danske Bank Ulster Schools' Hurling Player of Month (January 2022), Captain of Antrim U15 Hurling team, Stephen Doorring Cup 2022.

COLLA WARD Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Defender **Weight:** 10st **Height:** 5'9" **Age:** 15 **Honours:** Minor League, Darragh Cup, Antrim and All-Ireland Féile na nGael, 6x Juvenile Hurling and 2 x Juvenile Football C'ships, 2 x McMullan Cups, Foresters' Cup, McNamee Cup, Thompson Cup, Nagle Cup, 5 x Ulster Judo C'ships.

NIALL MAGEE Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Centre half back **Weight:** 11st 3 **Height:** 6'0" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** All-Ireland Féile na nGael, U15 C'ship and League, McMullan Cup, Darragh Cup, Foresters' Cup, McNamee Cup, QUB Future Star 2022.

CALIN DEVLIN Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Half back **Weight:** 11st 2 **Height:** 6'1" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** Darragh Cup, 2 x McMullan Cups, Foresters' Cup, QUB Future Star 2022.

PATRICK MCILWAINE Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Midfield **Weight:** 10st 7 **Height:** 5'9" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** Antrim Minor League, 1 x Darragh Cup, U17 Celtic Challenge, 2 x U16 C'ship, 2 x McMullan Cup, 2 x U14 C'ship, Danske Bank McNamee Cup.

AUSTIN BIRT Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Midfield **Weight:** 11st 7 **Height:** 6'3" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** Foresters' Cup, 2 x McNamee Cups, U14 North Antrim C'ship, All-Ireland Féile na nGael.

ORRIN O'CONNOR Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 10st 9 **Height:** 5'9" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** All-Ireland Féile na nGael, U15 C'ship and League, 3 x McMullan Cups, Darragh Cup, Foresters' Cup, McNamee Cup, QUB Future Star 2022

JOSEPH MCLAUGHLIN Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Half forward **Weight:** 11st 9 **Height:** 6'0" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** QUB Future Star 2022, Foresters' Cup, 2 x McNamee Cups, McMullan cup, U14 C'ship, All Ireland Féile na nGael

CORMAC MCKEOWN Club: Con Magee's, Glenravel **Position:** Half forward **Weight:** 10st 7 **Height:** 5'9" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** QUB Future Star 2022, 2 x McNamee Cup, Foresters' Cup, U14 'B' C'ship, Minor 'B' C'ship, Breslin Shield, Peadar Ó Lachlainn Cup, Selected for Northern Ireland Athletic squad 2019, Antrim Minor 2022.

NIALL HYNDS Club: Con Magee's, Glenravel **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 13st 6 **Height:** 6'2" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** 2 x McNamee Cups, Foresters' Cup, U14 'B' C'ship, Minor 'B' C'ship, Antrim Minor 2022.

BROGAN O'CONNOR Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 10st 9 **Height:** 5'9" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** McNamee Cup, U16 North Antrim C'ship, 2 x U16 McMullan Cup, Darragh Cup, U17 Antrim League.

CALUM MCILWAINE Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 9st 7 **Height:** 5'8" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** Minor League, Darragh Cup, All-Ireland Féile na nGael, Antrim Féile na nGael, 8 x Juvenile North Antrim C'ship, 2 x McMullan Cups, Foresters' Cup, McNamee Cup, Thompson Cup, Nagle Cup, Ulster Schools' Player of the Year 2020.

CATHAN GRAHAM Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Defender **Weight:** 10st 4 **Height:** 6'3" **Age:** 18 **Honours:** Darragh Cup, 2 x McMullan Cups, Foresters' Cup, McNamee Cup, Minor league, U16 C'ship.

PEADAR MCDONNELL Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 11st 4 **Height:** 6'0" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** U14 C'ship, U15 C'ship, U16 C'ship, Antrim Féile na nGael, Darragh Cup, Foresters' Cup and McNamee Cup

ÉAMONN WARD Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 11st 3 **Height:** 5'11" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** Foresters' Cup, McNamee Cup, All-Ireland Féile na nGael, U15 C'ship, McMullan Cup, Darragh Cup, U16 C'ship.

PHELIM WARD Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 11st 3 **Height:** 5'11" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** Foresters' Cup, McNamee Cup, All-Ireland Féile na nGael, U15 C'ship, McMullan Cup, Darragh Cup, U16 C'ship, QUB Future Star 2022

MICHAEL FUREY Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 14st **Height:** 6'1" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** U14 C'ship, U15 C'ship, U15 League, U17 League, McMullan Cup, U15 Antrim, All-Ireland Féile na nGael, 3 x Ulster Schools' medals.

JOHN SCULLION Club: Shane Uí Néill, Glenam **Position:** Full back **Weight:** 11st 1 **Height:** 6'1" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** Antrim and All-Ireland Féile na nGael, 4 x C'ship, 2 x McMullan Cups, Darragh Cup, 2 x Antrim League titles, 4 Ulster Schools' medals, Mid Antrim soccer title.

CHARLIE MCAULEY Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Full back **Weight:** 10st 9lbs **Height:** 6'1" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** McNamee Cup, Foresters' Cup, U14 Antrim and All-Ireland Féile na nGael.

JOHN MITCHELL Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Defender **Weight:** 10st 6 **Height:** 5'8" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** McNamee Cup, All-Ireland Féile na nGael

AODHÁN CAMPBELL Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Wing Half Back **Weight:** 9st 10 **Height:** 5'10" **Age:** 15 **Honours:** 2 x All-Ireland Féile na nGael, Antrim Division 2 All-Ireland, U15 C'ship, U15 League, Antrim Féile na nGael, Thompson Cup.

JAMES MCKEEGAN Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Full forward **Weight:** 14st **Height:** 6'2" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** Antrim Féile na nGael, All-Ireland Féile na nGael

FINTAN MCKILLOP Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Midfield **Weight:** 9st 10 **Height:** 5'9" **Age:** 15 **Honours:** 2 x All-Ireland Féile na nGael, Antrim Division 2 All-Ireland, U15 C'ship, U15 League, Antrim Féile na nGael, Thompson Cup.

JOHN BIRT Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Corner forward **Weight:** 9st 10 **Height:** 6'1" **Age:** 18 **Honours:** McNamee Cup, U14 North Antrim Féile na nGael, U14 C'ship, McMullan Cup.

ALEX MCCAMBRIDGE Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Wing half back **Weight:** 10st 2 **Height:** 5'9" **Age:** 15 **Honours:** 2 x All-Ireland Féile na nGael, Antrim Division 2 All-Ireland, U15 C'ship, U15 League, Thompson Cup.

DAIRE HIGGINS Club: Con Magee's, Glenravel **Position:** Midfield **Weight:** 11st 6 **Height:** 6'1" **Age:** 15 **Honours:** Antrim and All-Ireland Féile na nGael, U15 League, U15 C'ship.

THOMAS MCLAUGHLIN Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Full forward **Weight:** 11st **Height:** 6'1" **Age:** 15 **Honours:** 2 x All-Ireland Féile na nGael, Antrim Féile na nGael, Antrim Division 2 All-Ireland, U15 C'ship, U15 League.

JOSEPH MCKAY Club: Con Magee's, Glenravel **Position:** Wing half forward **Weight:** 9st 10 **Height:** 5'8" **Age:** 15 **Honours:** U14 'B' C'ship, U16 'B' C'ship, Thompson Cup, Foresters' Cup, U15 All-Ireland.

RÓNÁN LEECH Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 11st 6 **Height:** 5'11" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** Antrim Minor League, Darragh Cup, U17 Celtic Challenge, 2 x U16 C'ship, 2 x McMullan Cup, 2 x U14 C'ship, McNamee Cup.

ORAN MCCAMBRIDGE Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** 11st **Height:** 6'1" **Age:** 15 **Honours:** 2 x All-Ireland Féile na nGael, Antrim Division 2 All-Ireland, U15 C'ship, U15 League, Antrim Féile na nGael, Thompson Cup.

KILLIAN MCNAUGHTON Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Defender **Weight:** 11st 8 **Height:** 5'9" **Age:** 17 **Honours:** Antrim and All-Ireland Féile na nGael, McMullan Cup.

OISÍN MORT Club: Oisín's, Glenariffe **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 12st 4 **Height:** 5'11" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** All-Ireland Féile na nGael, U14 C'ship, U15 League, U17 League, McMullan Cup, Darragh Cup, Foresters' Cup, McNamee Cup.

OISÍN WOODHOUSE Club: Ruairí Óg, Cushendall **Position:** Forward **Weight:** 10st **Height:** 5'10" **Age:** 16 **Honours:** McNamee Cup, Foresters' Cup, U14 Antrim and All-Ireland Féile na nGael.

DANSKE BANK MAGEEAN CUP FINAL 2022



ST. LOUIS GRAMMAR SCHOOL BALLYMENA

1 **Caolán McFerran**
Caolán Mac Fearáin

2 **Senan O'Boyle**
Séanán Ó Baoill

3 **Pearce Patterson**
Piaras Mac Pháidín

4 **Luke McFerran**
Lúcas Mac Fearáin

5 **Kevin O'Boyle**
Caoimhín Ó Baoill

6 **Darragh Patterson**
Daragh Mac Pháidín

7 **Francis McMullan**
Proinsias Mac Maoláin

8 **Tom McFerran**
Tomás Mac Fearáin

9 **Joe McCormick**
Seosamh Mac Cormaic

10 **Jack McCloskey**
Seaic Mac Bhloscaidh

11 **Aodhán McGarry (Joint Capt)**
Aodhán Mag Fhearraigh

12 **Paudie Martin**
Pádraig Ó Máirtín

13 **Dara Martin**
Dara Ó Máirtín

14 **Sean Óg Blaney**
Seán óg de Bléine

15 **Ronan McCollum (Joint Capt)**
Rónán Mac Coilm



LONADAITHE:

16 Ciaran McQuillan
17 Fintan Brady
18 Darach Bradley
19 Fergus Donaghy
20 Conor Duffin
21 Noah Friel
22 Cathaoir Gormley
23 Connor Higgins
24 Pearse Martin
25 Ryan McClements
26 Barry McCloskey
27 Archie McGreevy

Ciarán Mac Uilliam
Fionntán Mac Brádaigh
Darach Ó Brolcháin
Fearghas Mac Donnchaidh
Conor Ó Duifín
Nollaig Ó Fríghíl
Cathaoir Ó Gormlaoich
Conor Ó hUiginn
Piaras Ó Máirtín
Rian Mac Laghmainn
Barra Mac Bhloscaidh
Art Mac Riabhaigh

28 Jack McKeever
29 Conor McKenna
30 Niall McIlhatton
31 Conan McMullan
32 Ryan O'Boyle
33 Michael Traynor
34 Oisín McCamphill
35 Sean Douthart

Seaic Mac Íomhair
Conor Mac Cionnaith
Niall Mac Giolla Chatháin
Conán Mac Maoláin
Rian Ó Baoill
Mícheál Mac an Tréinfhíor
Oisín Mac Cathmhaoil
Seán Ó Dúchair

St. Louis Management

Conor Gillan, Colm Morgan (Joint Managers)
Paul Boyle (Selector)



ST. KILLIAN'S COLLEGE GARRON TOWER

1 John V. Morgan
Seán U Ó Muireagáin

2 Aidan McSparran
Aodhán Mac an Sparráin

3 Mark McSparran (Capt)
Marcus Mac an Sparráin

4 Callagh Mooney
Callagh Ó Maonaigh

5 Colla Ward
Colla Mac Na Bhaird

6 Niall Magee
Niall Mag Aoidh

7 Cailín Devlin
Cailín Ó Doibhlin

8 Patrick McIlwaine
Pádraig Mac Giolla Bháin

9 Austin Birt
Aibhstín de Beart

10 Orrin O'Connor
Odhrán Ó Conchúir

11 Joseph McLaughlin
Seosamh Mac Lochlainn

12 Cormac McKeown
Cormac Mac Eoghain

13 Niall Hynds
Niall ÓhEidheann

14 Brogan O'Connor
Brógan Ó Conchúir

15 Calum McIlwaine
Calum Mac Giolla Bháin



LONADAITHE:

16
 17 Peadar McDonnell Peadar Mac Dónaill
 18 Oisín Woodhouse Oisín Mac an Tí Adhmaid
 19 Rónán Leech Rónán Mac an Lia
 20 Cathán Graham Cathán Ó Gréachán
 21 Phelim Ward Feidhlimidh Mac an Bhaird
 22 Éamonn Ward Éamonn Mac an Bhaird
 23 Killian McNaughton Cillian Mac Neachtáin
 24 Charlie McAuley Cathal Mac Amhlaidh
 25 Michael Furey Mícheál Ó Fuaridh
 26 Oisín Mort Oisín de Mort
 27 John Scullion Seán Ó Scolláin
 28 John Mitchell Seán Ó Mistéil

29. Alex McCambridge Alec Mac Ambróis
 30. Aodhán Campbell Aodhán Mac Cathmhaoil
 31. Joseph McKay Seosamh Mac Aoidh
 32. Daire Higgins Daire Higgins
 33. Fintan McKillop Fionntán Mac Philip
 34 John Birt Seán de Beart
 35 James McKeegan Séamas Mac Aogáin
 36 Thomas McLaughlin Tomás Mac Lochlainn
 37 Oran McCambridge Odhrán Mac Ambrois

St. Killian's Management

Pádraig McIlwaine, Michael McAllister, Declan McKernan, Paul McDonnell



Arron Graffin

My name is Arron Graffin and I grew up in the small village of Cushendall, which is situated on the picturesque North Antrim coastline within the Green Glens.

I first picked up a hurley stick and started playing when I was 10 years old in P.7 at St. Mary's Primary School. I was asked to play in a primary school hurling blitz and have never looked back since. I progressed to join my local club team Cushendall Ruairi Óg, where I loved playing and learning new ways how to develop my hurling skills and abilities. After primary school, I continued my secondary education at St. Mac Nissi's College, Garron Tower, now known as St. Killian's, which is only a short bus journey, approximately seven miles around the coast. Garron Tower is best known for its natural isolated setting in rugged grounds situated at Garron Point, overlooking the North Channel out towards the Mull of Kintyre in Scotland. Historically, it is a cliff-top Victorian black basalt castle, which has a rich history in a previous life as a luxury hotel and a stately homestead.

During my first year at school, I immediately joined the hurling panel. Our strip colours were the traditional purple and gold, similar to Wexford, and it provided me with the opportunity to play on the same team with some of the best young hurlers at my age group from the surrounding catchment





I feel very lucky and privileged to have played hurling for Garron Tower

area. Playing Schools' hurling encouraged me to form relationships, develop trusting bonds, and cultivate friendships with new teammates and people from various clubs including; Oisíns, Glenariffe, Con Magee's, Glenravel, Robert Emmet's, Cushendun, McQuillan's, Ballycastle, Shane O' Neill's, Glenarm and Latharna Óg. Playing hurling with the school also gave me the opportunity to travel throughout the province of Ulster to play and compete against some of the finest hurlers from other schools and counties. Being able to challenge myself to be better and compete against the best was something I always relished and really enjoyed. Ulster Schools' hurling also helped prepare me for the challenge of third level Colleges' hurling with Ulster University Jordanstown (UUJ), as our team panel included many players from a variety of different counties.

During my time playing hurling at school, I had little success in terms of winning trophies, however, it helped me to develop into a stronger, mentally tougher, and more confident player. In my 3rd year I was proud to be named captain of the school's Gallagher Cup team and we progressed to the final, however, we were closely beaten by a strong Cross and Passion outfit. Also, during my final year at school, in Upper 6th, our hurling team progressed to a Mageean Cup final which was the 2005-2006 year. We had a very strong panel, with the likes of Neil McManus, Paddy McGill and Darren Hamill, however, we came



up short against a powerful St. Pat's Maghera team which stormed on to win the All-Ireland 'B' O'Keefe Cup, which is now known as the Paddy Buggy Cup. These losses and defeats helped develop my resilience and positive mental attitude towards failure and setbacks, which I have continued to bring into my adult hurling career with both club and county.

I feel very lucky and privileged to have played hurling for Garron Tower and went on to represent my club, university, county, province, and country at all levels, while having the fortunate opportunity to play with and against some very talented top-class hurlers.



O'Hara the hero as St Pat's win McNamee Cup

DANSKE BANK MCNAMEE CUP FINAL

Wed 30th November, Ahoghill

St. Patrick's College, Maghera: **9-10** Cross & Passion, Ballycastle: **1-8**



Towering full forward Sean O'Hara was in unstoppable form as he led St Pat's, Maghera to victory over Cross and Passion College, Ballycastle in the final of the McNamee Cup.

The Creggan teenager scored an amazing five goals and three points as the Derry college scored a runaway 9-10 to 1-8 win over the their north Antrim rivals.

Cross and Passion had started well and after an early goal by Sean O'Hara, the Ballycastle boys played their way into the game with a goal from Paudie O'Kane and some great

points from Charlie McAuley put them ahead by 1-4 to 1-2 after 15 minutes.

St. Pat's hit back with a Joe Conway goal before half-time and when Sean O'Hara kicked a rebound to the net, the Maghera school were 3-3 to 1-5 in front by the time Paddy Tumelty blew the half time whistle.

After the change of ends St. Pat's took control and with O'Hara causing no end of problems for the Ballycastle College, the scores came thick and fast, 4-2 of them from O'Hara, while Joe Conway and Ronan McLoughlin also grabbed goals.





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we listen
we act**

Danske Bank

ULSTER SCHOOLS GAA

PROUD TO
PUT OUR
NAME
TO THE
GAME



ST PATRICK'S DOWNPATRICK

MAGEEAN CUP WINNERS 2021