



Est. 1949

**Laois Association  
Dublin**

**Cumann na Laoiseach  
Baile Átha Cliath**

[www.laoisindublin.com](http://www.laoisindublin.com)

## 60<sup>th</sup> Year Celebrations

# ‘The Grand Finale’

**Gala Celebration Lunch  
Croke Park  
20<sup>th</sup> November 2009**



2009

60<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary

Year



As the Laois Association-Dublin was originally founded to support the Laois Team in the 1949 Hurling Final, what better place to mark the culmination of the Association’s celebrations of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary than in Croke Park.

What was planned was to be one of the most ambitious projects ever undertaken by the Association. There was risk involved e.g. to make the event financially viable, the projected attendance at a gala event would need to be 100 minimum.

As part of a gala event, it was also decided to launch a commemorative history, which would require a lot of research; writing and production effort & cost.

Nearly a year of planning went into the project, night upon night of committee meetings, day upon day of activity to bring it to fruition.

What transpired was one of the most successful achievements in the history of the Association, with nearly 200 attendees at what was a memorable and hugely enjoyable event.

The event began with morning coffee, then the Museum Tour, and continued with lunch in the Cusack Suite. Guests in attendance included two of the four 1949 surviving team members, one of whom, Mr. Paddy Lalor, former MEP was our principal Guest Speaker. A DVD of the 1949 Final was also shown.

Other speakers included the President of Laois Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Andrew Cremins, and Laois County Manager, Mr. Peter Carey who also formally launched the Commemorative History of the Association.

The Entertainment Programme included a 60 Year News and Sports bulletins delivered by Laois natives, Claire Byrne (Newstalk fm) and Justin Treacy (RTE TV Sports). The event culminated in the traditional Laois Association sing-song organised by Colm Healion, and led by Michael Creagh and Ann Conroy from Rathdowney.

***'A TRULY MEMORABLE, EMOTIONAL AND PROUD DAY  
FOR THE ASSOCIATION'***

**CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - 20<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

## **PHOTO GALLERY**

2009

60<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary

Year





## CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - PHOTO GALLERY

2009  
**60<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary  
Year





**CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - PHOTO GALLERY**

2009  
**60<sup>th</sup>**  
 Anniversary  
 Year



**Association President, Sandy Metcalfe opening proceedings**



**Our Secretary, Michael Butler introducing our Special Guest**

**CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - PHOTO GALLERY**

2009  
**60<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary  
Year



**Special Guest, Paddy Lalor, former MEP, and member of the 1949 Senior Hurling Team**



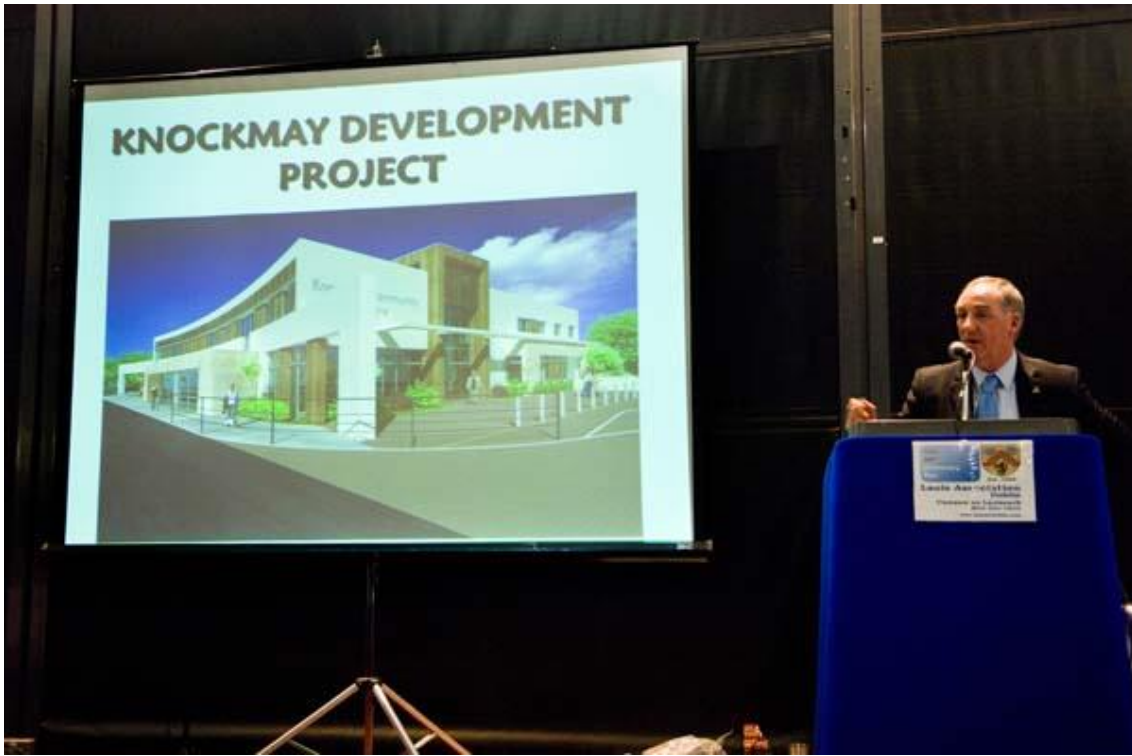
**Paddy Lalor with 1949 team photo in background**

**CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - PHOTO GALLERY**

2009  
**60<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Peter Carey, Manager, Laois County Council**



... giving a comprehensive update on the activities of Laois Co. Council

**CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - PHOTO GALLERY**

2009  
60<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
Year



***Presentations to honour the 1949 Laois hurling team.  
Our Chairman, Mary Doyle, Willie White (son of team member Liam),  
Paddy McCormack, Paddy Lalor, Christy O'Brien (brother of Paddy O'Brien),  
Jimmy Fitzpatrick (son of Timmy)***



*Launching the Commemorative History of the Association.*

**Marty Rohan, (Former Cathaoirleach, Laois Co. Council); Andrew Cremins, President, Laois Chamber of Commerce, Louis Brennan, (Retired, Laois Co. Co.); Peter Carey, Laois County Manager, and our President, Sandy Metcalfe**

**CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - PHOTO GALLERY**

2009  
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**Laois County Manager, Peter Carey making a presentation to the Association's Chairman, Mary Doyle to mark the occasion.**





**Presentation by Andrew Cremins,  
President Laois Chamber of Commerce**

**CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - PHOTO GALLERY**

2009  
60<sup>th</sup>  
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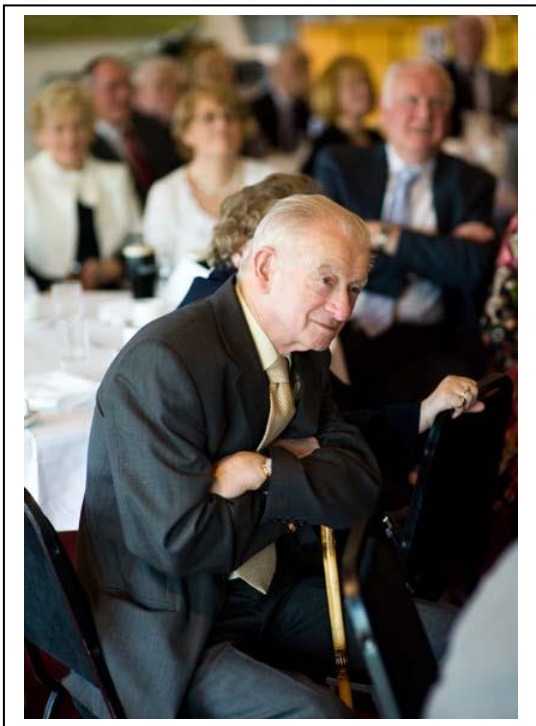
**'The Laois Association – Dublin  
60 Years News & Sports Bulletins'**

*‘With Clare Byrne (Newstalkfm) and Justin Treacy (RTE Sports)’*



**CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - PHOTO GALLERY**

2009  
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**Engrossed, Joe O'Sullivan**



**Long serving member, Tess Hourihane**



**Andrew Cremins, President, Laois Chamber of Commerce, Liam Duggan (from Laois) Broker Manager, Zurich Insurance (a sponsor of the event and the Commemorative History), with Jamie O'Hanlon, Laois Chamber of Commerce.**

**CROKE PARK GALA LUNCH - PHOTO GALLERY**

2009  
60<sup>th</sup>  
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**Fintan Walsh with Special Guest, from the 1949 Team, Paddy McCormack**