

Sean Hurley from Maulagow Drinagh Co Cork

Sean Hurley was born in 1887 in the townland of Maulagow near Drinagh.
His Father was John Daniel Hurley and his mother was Catherine Walsh of Maultrahane.
Sean went to school in Drinagh from 1893/1901.

He later went to Clonakilty Boys School .
While in Clonakilty he met Michael Collins and Con O Donovan.
After a year of study Sean passed the Civil Service exam and travelled to London where he got a job in the accounts department of Harrords store .
While in London he was involved in the GAA and played a long side Collins in the Geraldines club.
Around this time he also met Sam Maguire from Dunmanway and was introduced into the I.R.B.
The Irish Republican Brotherhood (I.R.B.)
He was also involved in the Gaelic League.
.In the Summer of 1915 the military council of the I.R.B. made plans for a rising and many of the volunteers in London began to return to Ireland.
Sean left his job in Harrords in January 1916 and returned to Dublin. He joined a local unit of volunteers known as F company.
When the fighting of Easter week began Hurley and his comrades defended the Church Street area in Dublin.
This area was the scene of the most intense fighting of the Rising.

Shortly before Padraig Pearse's surrender on the 24th of April Sean was wounded by a gun shot to the head.
He was taken to father Mathew Hall and Father Augustin prayed for him as he was dying.
His final words were "tell my mother I died for Ireland"
Sean was buried in Saint Pauls cemetery by Glasnevin.
Sean Hurley was the only Cork man to die in Dublin while taking part in the 1916 Rising

How am I connected to this part of history?

My name is Ben Perez.
My grannie Deirdre Sheehan is married to Kieran O Donoghue from Glandore .
Kierans grannie was Mary Hurley from Drinagh. (married to Timothy O Donoghue)
Mary Hurley was a first cousin of Sean Hurley.

Attached Photographs

1 Photograph of original monument erected in Saint Pauls cemetery in 1929.
Note Sean Hurleys name on top left .
This monument has been replaced by a new and larger monument in 2016.

2 Picture of Geraldines GAA players .
Sean Hurley is third from left in middle row.
Michael Collins is in the middle of the centre row .



Sean Hurley →

SEAN
HURLEY →



THE GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

ABOVE: The Geraldines GAA Hurling Club with Michael, middle row, centre in dark jersey. Michael joined the Geraldines in 1908, usually playing mid field or back. By 1909 he was elected to the London County Board of the GAA and in 1910 became their secretary, a post he was to hold until 1916. He was also a member of the GAA London football team, playing alongside fellow West Corkman, Sam Maguire, who was captain of the Hibernian footballers. Michael also excelled in sprinting and the long jump.