



From club to championship, from Con Keating Park in Cahirciveen to Croke Park in Dublin, and innumerable sportsfields inbetween, Kathleen O'Sullivan has travelled the length and breadth of Ireland to support her club and county teams. Along the way, her love of both football and hurling has established her - officially - as Kerry's Greatest Supporter and unofficially as one of the most recognisable supporters of Gaelic games in the country. While Kathleen has attended 78 football and hurling All-Irelands since her first visit to Croke Park on final day in 1971, St Mary's GAA Club in Cahirciveen and the Kerry county teams are where her first loyalties lie.

But Kathleen's love of the codes stretches beyond the county boundaries and she knows players and teams from all over Ireland, most of whom she has come to admire and cheer on - when they are not up against a Kerry side. Her heroes are many - from those who get to raise the Cups to those that work behind the limelight to ensure the teams are match-ready - and Kathleen has had the honour of meeting many of these men and women, both in their own homes and clubs and when they have come to visit her in the Upper Deck in Cahirciveen. She honours the title of Kerry's Greatest Supporter by working hard for her local club and by braving all conditions and obstacles to get to the matches and give her support to the teams.

The Height of Madness charts Kathleen's life, from her earliest days growing up in the countryside in South Kerry, to her embracing a lifetime as a GAA sports fan and discovering along the way that it isn't just about sport; it's about community, loyalty, hard work, joys and disappointments and, most of all, it's about love - of people, of what GAA sport represents and offers to the smallest clubs and the most celebrated teams, and the lifelong bonds that grow from this shared love at community, national and international level.

The GAA family is everywhere but, for Kathleen, its roots remain in Cahirciveen with the club and the young sportsmen and women coming into the games and learning from the generations that went before them, the torch being passed on. *The Height of Madness* celebrates the richness that the GAA codes and family have brought into the life of one devoted supporter.

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