



# The Boys of Ballyduff

*This song was written by P.J. Sheehy on the occasion of the Ballyduff/Crossabeg All-Ireland Hurling final in 1891. Patrick Sheehy was grandfather of Sean Sheehy who won championship medals with Ballyduff in 1972 and 1973, and great-grandfather of Tomas O'Sullivan who won championship medals with Ballyduff in 1988 and 1989.*




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Just a mile or thereabouts, from the lordly Shannon mouth  
There's a spot to which none other I'd compare,  
It's a village, not a town, tho' her sons have gained renown,  
For the Boys of Ballyduff are always there.



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For courage, beauty, grace, they need not hide their face,  
At a wedding, a pattern or a fair,  
And should you want a friend, there is always one to lend,  
For the Boys of Ballyduff are always there.




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In Clonturk Park they fought, when the Boys of Wexford thought,  
With their camans to their credit they could spare,  
But they found out to their cost, when they fought the fight and lost,  
That the Boys from Ballyduff could beat them there.



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**(Chorus)**




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I'd not like to have the cheek, of their daughters pure to speak,  
But I tell all the other young fellows beware  
That when cupid's arrow fly, 'neath a bright and sparkling eye,  
I'd not like to be the target, I declare.



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**(Chorus)**




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When they leave their native soil, in a foreign land to toil,  
And to earn a decent living everywhere,  
They're the chosen few, they're the honest men and true,  
For the Boys of Ballyduff are always there.



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**(Chorus)**



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And should you want a drop, call into McDonnell's shop,  
When the shadows of the night have ended care,

There you'll find some jolly tar, to attend behind the bar,  
To the social Ballyduff Boys there.



For courage, beauty, grace, they need not hide their face,  
At a wedding, a pattern or a fair,  
And should you need a friend, there is always one to lend,  
For the Boys from Ballyduff were always there.

