

Allianz Football League

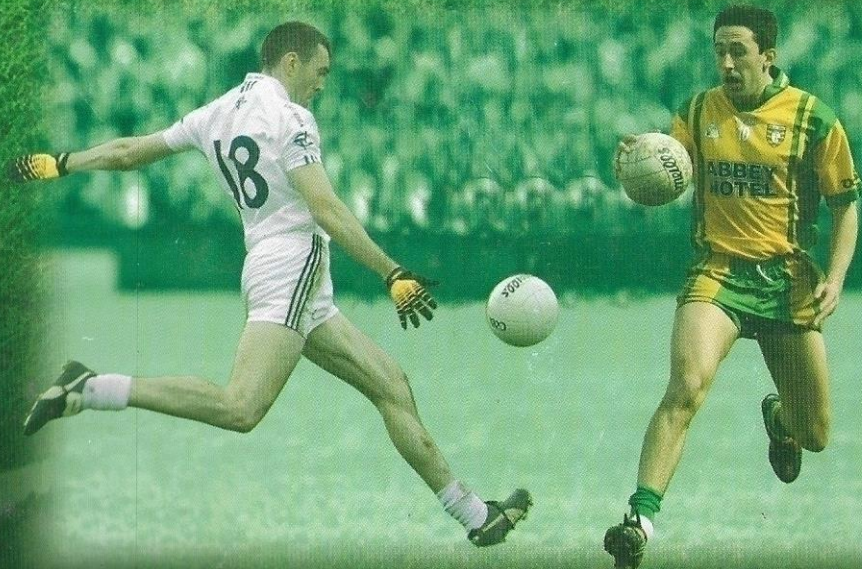


Dún na nGall

v

Cill Dara

DÚN NA NGALL



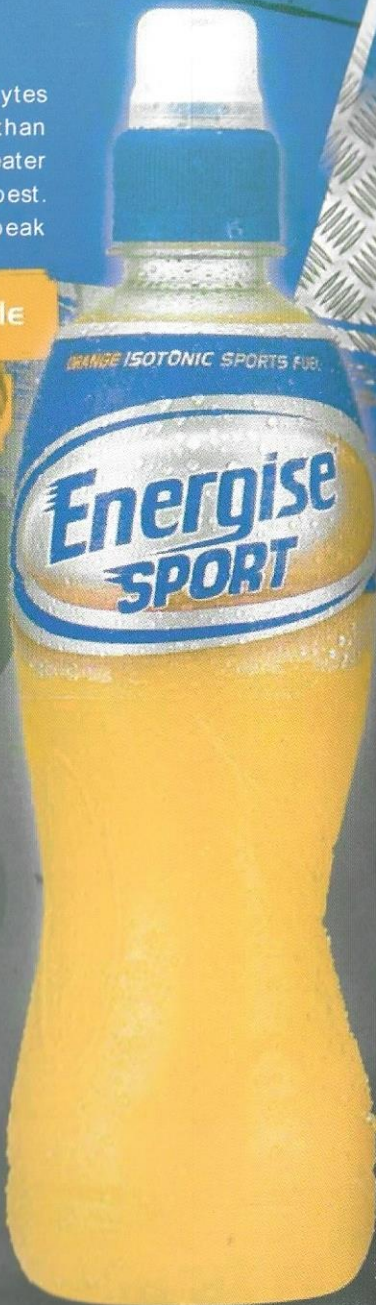
Sunday 27th February 2011
O'Donnell Park, Letterkenny

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Source: tns mrbi, Dec '08



CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS



Cuiríúm Fáilte roimh Foireann agus Muintir Cill Dara go Contae Dhun na nGall agus go Pairc Úi Domhnaill Leitir Ceannain inniú fá Choinne an triú babhta den Sraith Allianz Naisiúnta. Ta súil agam go bháin sibh Pleisiúr as an cuairt.

Last year Donegal received a very nice welcome in Newbridge for this corresponding Allianz league fixture before suffering a very heavy defeat to Kildare in a one-sided match. We are hoping to reverse that result today in O'Donnell Park and with only three home National League games this year it is very important that Donegal secures a victory today.

This is a very competitive division of the Allianz league this year with every game being extremely difficult and it is quite impossible to see any easy match. The Donegal team are fairly new to this level of football and even though we have some experienced players in our team many are relatively new to senior Football and it is a step up from under 21.

It will take time to establish stability and structure in the squad and the team, but young players are all the time learning and we will have to make mistakes in order to learn from them. Kildare are one of the foremost teams in the Country and had a successful championship campaign in 2010. They will be looking for a good league campaign to follow last year and will have their sights firmly set on promotion to division 1. It will be a good yardstick for Donegal in our development and a win would be a great thing for our team.

P. J. Mac Gabhainn

P.J. Mac Gabhainn
Cathaoirleach Bord na Chondae





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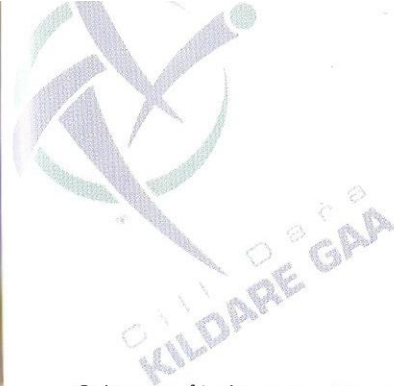
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Cuireann fó-chumann Naomh Adhamhnáin agus muintir Leitir Ceanainn fáilte mhór romhaibh inniu go Páirc Uí Dhónaill.

Tá fáilte speisialta go Tír Chonaill do fhoireann Chill Dara, a n-oifigigh agus a lucht leanúna uilig.

Tá lúcháir orainn go bhfuil foireann sinsear peile Dhún na nGall agus Chill Dara ag imirt an cluiche sraithe anseo inniu. Tá bród mór orainn i gclub Naomh Adhamhnáin go bhfuil muid ábalta cluiche mór mar seo a bheith againn i Leitir Ceanainn.

Tá buíochas mór tuille ag oifigigh Bhord na Contae a thugann tacaíocht iomlán dúinn le cluichí mar seo a bheith againn. Tugaim buíochas do bhaill an chlub atá ag obair anseo inniu le déanamh cinnte go bhfuil gach rud i gceart. Buíochas speisialta do Paul Mc Govern agus gach duine a chuidigh leis an clár seo a chur le chéile.

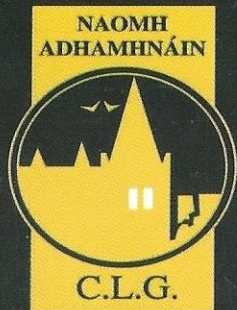
Cathal Mac Grianna
Cathaoirleach, CLG Naomh Adhamhnáin

Amhrán na bhFiann will be sung by Catriona McIntyre. Catriona is a member of our successful Scór Ballad Group.

Buíochas:

I would like to thank the following for their contributions to this match day programme: Fr Séan Ó Gallachóir; Peter Campbell, Tom Comack, Alan Foley and Ciaran O'Donnell (All Donegal Democrat / People's Press), Declan Doherty (Donegal News), Daragh Ó Conchúir (Cill Dara) and Mary Donnelly (PRO, Cill Dara). I would also like to thank my own Clubmates that have contributed: Micheál Ó Giobúin, Sean Boyle and Chairman, Cathal Greene. My thanks to Patrick Curran, Yvonne and the staff at Donegal Printing for their excellent work once again. Thank you to all our Advertisers for their support.

Editor: Paul McGovern PRO Naomh Adhamhnáin



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*Page Sponsored by Cllr. **DESSIE LARKIN**
PROUD TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH ST. EUNAN'S GAA CLUB
& Good Luck to Donegal on Sunday.*

GAA Social Initiative



The GAA Social Initiative has, since its establishment in August 2010, taken root within the clubs involved. The Initiative arose from an invitation by President Mary McAleese to the GAA to implement a scheme for men in the community, many of whom were finding it more difficult in recent years to engage fully in community life and identify suitable social outlets.

To date, 93 clubs have volunteered to participate in the Pilot Phase and have already organised interesting and worthwhile social events for the men in their communities. The clubs' efforts have been greatly appreciated by those involved and have invariably led to more active participation by the men themselves and an interest in expanding the range of activities being organised. Examples of club activities can be seen in the Social Initiative Newsletters on the website: www.gaa.ie/socialinitiative

The objective for 2011 is to increase the number of clubs involved to 150 by August and we are therefore appealing to all GAA clubs to seriously consider participating in the Initiative in the coming year. All that is expected of clubs in the Initiative is to organise a minimum of five social events/activities during the year - mainly during the winter period.

If your club is interested in participating in the GAA Social Initiative please contact Seán Kilbride at 01 8658617 or Joan Cooney at 01 8658680

BEST WISHES TO DONEGAL FROM HUGH AND ALL THE STAFF

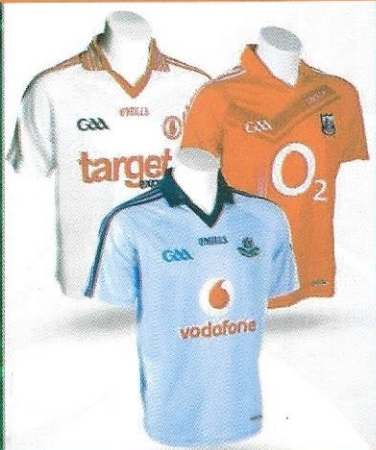


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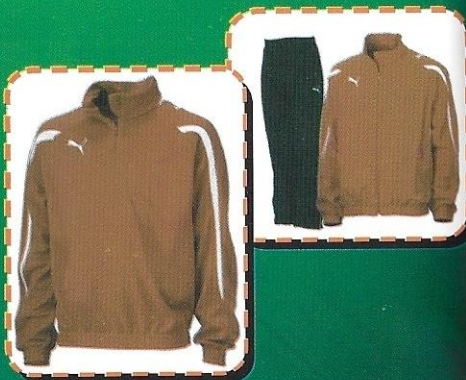


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By Sean Boyle & Paul McGovern

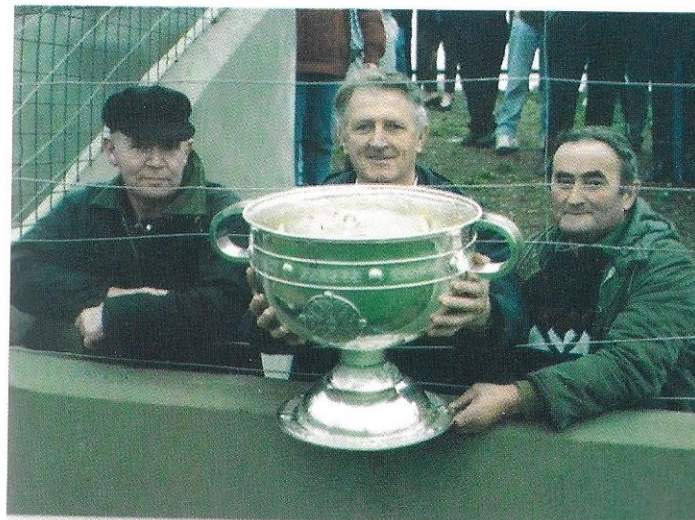


Earlier this month in the Mt. Errigal Hotel, St. Eunan's GAA Club bestowed its first ever Lifetime Achievement Award on possibly the greatest servant our club has ever had, Barney McMonagle.

Born in the heart of the town, the Main St. in 1937 who was to know then the service and unstinting lifelong commitment Barney was going to dedicate to our club. Barney was the Caretaker of the Tech (now known as Errigal College) for over 35 years and he was and is certainly a caretaker here at O'Donnell Park for even longer. Never one to look for glory, Barney quietly finds out what needs to be done and does it. He has served our club in virtually every capacity from Lining Pitches and Putting out the Flags, Umpiring, Linesman, Gate and Handyman to Treasurer, Senior Team Selector, Club President (3 times!) and Committee Member. He was Club Person of the Year on no less than 3 occasions and has received too many Merit and Appreciation Awards to count. He has witnessed every one of our Senior Championship victories dating back to 1948.

It is fitting that our First Lifetime Achievement Award Winner was proposed for club membership back in 1953 by the our first ever Hall of Fame Award Winner, the late, great Sean Curran.

So began Barney's lifelong commitment to the Black & Amber, a commitment that is only eclipsed by his devotion to his wife, Rosemary, their five children and six grandchildren. Barney and Rosemary married in Murlog Church, Lifford in 1966 and still reside in Hawthorn Heights where they raised their family. Barney's grandchildren are now gracing the playing fields here at the Park at our Sunday Morning Football Academy, much to Barney's delight.



From left: Benny Daly(RIP), Barney McMonagle and Bobby Murray with Sam.

Also a committed Donegal follower, Barney cites the All-Ireland Senior Football win of 1992 as the highlight of his years supporting the GAA but you have to go back a few years to find his favourite players, Paddy McGeehin and

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John Hannigan. Barney has travelled the length and breadth of Ireland supporting Donegal with his great friend, Bobby Murray and they became known as "The Twins in the Mini" (a reference to Bobby's car).

He includes our first Senior Football Championship victory of 1948 amongst his earliest and happiest memories along with Ceilís in O'Donnell Park, the Gold Watch Tournaments, the Easter 7's, The St. Patrick's Day Parades and the titanic battles with Gaoth Dobhair, MacCumhaill's and Dungloe.

So it was in February, 2011 after 15 years, we took a break from rewarding our supremely talented past players who had delivered championships and Railway cups and instead rewarded one of the most loyal clubmen in the 32 counties, Bernard (Barney) McMonagle. Yes folks, every club should have a Barney. Thankfully, we've got ours.



A Man's work is never done!



Barney on Gate Duty with Bobby Murray and Seamus De Faoite (RIP)

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Thirteenth League Meeting

Fr. Seán

It seems that to-day's game is the thirteenth League meeting of Dún na nGall and Cill Dara. Cill Dara have won seven of the previous twelve meetings, Dún na nGall have won four, with one draw in Ballyshannon in 1996 when Tony Boyle scored 1-5 of Dún na nGall's 1-8.

1...	2 Nov 1986	Cill Dara	2-11	Dún na nGall	1-10...	An Droichead Nua
2...	8 Nov 1987	Dún na nGall	1-10	Cill Dara	1-3	Bealach Féich
3...	21 Apr 1991	Cill Dara	0-14	Dún na nGall	1-10	Páirc an Chrócaigh
4...	19 Oct 1992	Dún na nGall	1-9	Cill Dara	0-6	Bealach Féich
5...	21 Nov 1993	Cill Dara	1-10	Dún na nGall	0-7	An Droichead Nua
6...	27 Nov 1994	Cill Dara	1-11	Dún na nGall	1-8	Bealach Féich
7...	2 Apr 1995	Dún na nGall	1-16	Cill Dara	0-11	Cluain Eois
8...	25 Feb 1996	Dún na nGall	1-8	Cill Dara	0-11	Béal Átha Seanaidh
9...	2 Mar 1997	Cill Dara	1-14	Dún na nGall	1-7	An Droichead Nua
10...	15 Apr 2007	Dún na nGall	1-13	Cill Dara	1-11	Páirc an Chrócaigh
11...	2 Mar 2008	Cill Dara	0-12	Dún na nGall	0-11	An Droichead Nua
12...	7 Mar 2010	Cill Dara	1-17	Dún na nGall	1-9	An Droichead Nua

- Dún na nGall and Cill Dara have met twice in the National Football League semi-final. In 1991 Cill Dara won but lost to Baile Átha Cliath in the final 1-9/0-10. In 2007 Dún na nGall won and beat Maigh Eo 0-13/0-10 in the final.
- Cill Dara were Dún na nGall's first competitive opponents after the winning of Sam in 1992.
- Jim McGuinness came on as a sub in the 1994 match in Bealach Féich.
- Dún na nGall and Cill Dara have met once in the Senior Football Championship. Cill Dara beat Dún na nGall 1-17/1-16 in An Droichead Nua on June 30, 2001, in the second round of the qualifiers. Michael Hegarty wore the number 11 jersey that day – Jim McGuinness missed the match through suspension!

1966

The first competitive Dún na nGall – Cill Dara match was in 1966. The 'Gaelic Weekly Cup' for beaten provincial finalists seemed to have had official recognition that year. Cill Dara had lost to An Mhí 1-9/1-8 in the Leinster final; Dún na nGall lost to An Dún 1-7/0-8 in the Ulster final.

Dún na nGall were unhappy that the match was moved from Béal Átha Seanaidh to An Droichead Nua where it was played on October 23, 1966.

This star-studded Dún na nGall team of 1966 should have been the first Dún na nGall team to bring the Anglo-Celt Cup to the County. They won the Dr. Lagan Cup in 1965, 1966, 1967. They won the Dr. McKenna Cup 1963, 1965, 1967. P.J. Flood, Seán Ferriter and Frankie McFeely were on Ulster's Railway Cup-winning team of 1963: Séamus Hoare, Bernard Brady and Seán Ferriter on the winning Ulster team of 1964: Hoare, Brady, Ferriter and Paul Kelly on the 1965 winning team; Hoare, Kelly and Flood on the victorious 1966 team; Hoare, Brady, Neilly Gallagher and Declan O'Carroll (on as sub) on the Ulster team that won in 1968. And six of the Dún na nGall men played on the losing Ulster team in the 1967 final – Hoare, Brady, Flood, Micky McLoone, Micky Griffin and Ferriter (on as sub). Seán O'Donnell and Brian McEniff

played for Ulster too (did John Hannigan?). A teamful of Railway Cup men when it was a most serious competition!!

Anyway, Dún na nGall were short six of their Ulster final team (Fionn Gallagher, Paul Kelly, P.J. Flood, Michael McLoone, Des Houlihan and Pauric McShea) when they travelled to An Droichead Nua and played well but lost 3-7/0-12.

Cill Dara:

S. Cash	A. Kane:	
Jimmy Cummins	L. Molloy	Joe McTeague:
	Mick Carolan	Joe Doyle:
	Pat Mangan and Jack Donnelly:	
B. Judge	Pat Nally	Liam Gleeson:
Tom Keogh	Leo Long	Kevin Kelly

Subs: P. Buckley T. Walsh M.O'Connor.

Dún na nGall:

Brendan Dowling	Séamus Hoare:	
Seán O'Donnell	Bernard Brady	Hughie Brennan:
	John Hannigan	Antoin Carroll:
	Seán Ferriter and Micky Griffin:	
Declan O'Carroll	Frankie McFeely	Neilly Gallagher:
Séamie Granaghan	John Bonner	Tony McDevitt.

Subs: Brian McEniff and Dónal Scannell.

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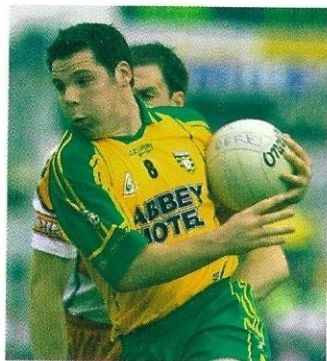
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O'Donnell Park - In a League of its Own

By Ciaran O'Donnell, Donegal Democrat

Four years ago, O'Donnell Park hosted its first competitive inter-county game for 30 years when Donegal defeated Kerry by 1-15 to 0-13 in the Allianz Football League.



St Eunan's GAA Club Chairman, Cathal Greene, pictured at O'Donnell Park in March 2007, when Donegal played Kerry. The fixture marked the return of senior inter-county football after a 30 year gap.

Every year since, the Letterkenny venue has staged league games, with Derry, Mayo and Armagh providing Donegal with stiff opposition.

Thanks to the huge effort of the St Eunan's GAA Club, a ground that was once the regular home for the county teams has been transformed and is regarded by many teams and supporters as the number one venue when it comes to both playing and spectating.

Having the facilities is one thing. But as St Eunan's Chairman, Cathal Greene, explains, it's the efforts of a large number of club members that makes hosting big games like today's possible.

"This game against Kildare is our fifth season to host a big game after a gap of three decades and it is one of the biggest days in the club's calendar. We host a lot of the hurling games and hopefully, Eamon O'Boyle's Donegal ladies team will play a few games at O'Donnell Park later this year," he says.

"Securing the Kerry fixture in 2007 was a great achievement and things couldn't have gone any better that day. The weather was great, the crowd was huge, Donegal won the match and the club members, both men and women really answered the call that day. Paddy Mullen was the real driving force and when you have the likes of Barney McMonagle doing the work around the grounds, and Connie Maguire and Vincent McGlynn looking after the pitches, you always know that things are going to be done extremely well," Cathal adds.

"Our aim at St Eunan's on big match days is to make sure everyone involved in the game - from the supporters, officials, players and members of the media - feel welcome, are well looked after and have a positive experience. Our stand can seat 2,500 people and the view from the stand is tremendous.

"Around 80 members will be involved in the stewarding of the game and when it comes to big match days, the club is never found wanting in terms of help, support and know-how. Big games at O'Donnell Park also give the local economy a much needed boost. I know that a large number of Kildare supporters have planned to make a weekend of it and this is good news for the local hotels, restaurants and pubs. Everyone wins on days like today. Hopefully, Donegal will be among them and will have two more points in the bag on Sunday evening," the St Eunan's chairman says.

Respect Initiative Launch

The Donegal Coaching Committee launched the **G.A.A. Respect Initiative** in Mac Cumhail Park on Saturday 5 th. February at half time during the Donegal V Sligo N.F.L. game when Under 12 boys and girls from The Convoy and Mc Cumhails clubs played 2 11-a-side exhibition Go Games and at the conclusion players and mentors from both teams lined up to shake hands with the referee, opposing players and mentors. During the games mentors from both teams wore specific bibs that carried the "**GIVE RESPECT - GET RESPECT**" logo which have been supplied by Croke Park for all mentors looking after U.8, U.10 & U. 12 teams this year. This launch also coincided with the national referees having this **Respect** logo displayed on their new look jerseys for this year's league and championship.

The aims of the G.A.A. Respect Initiative are to promote positive behaviour and to ensure an enriching environment exists for the promotion and development of our games. This includes respect **for** and **from** all participants on and around our fields, including players, referees, mentors, parents, club officers, supporters and anyone associated with the playing of our games.

Further launches will take place during half time in our remaining home N.F.L. games in Letterkenny (V Kildare) on Sunday 27 th. February and Ballyshannon (V Antrim) on Sunday 3 rd. April. Launches will also take place in the 3 divisional board areas during late April. Croke Park envisage that this exercise will take place before and after every game at U.8, U.10 & U.12 level during 2011.



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Donegal Dún na nGall

Manager: Jim McGuinness



FIR IONAD
 16. Peadar Ó Baoill, **PETER BOYLE**, Aodh Rua 17. Conchúr Ó Classáin, **CONOR CLASSON**, Ard an Ratha 18. Stíofán Ó Gríofa, **STEPHEN GRIFFIN**, Naomh Náile 19. Éamonn Ó Ceallaigh, **EDDIE KELLY**, Iorras 20. Máirtín Ó Baoill, **MARTY BOYLE**, Naomh Conaill 21. Daithí Breathnach, **DAVID WALSH**, Naomh Bríd 22. Antoin Mac Pháidín, **ANTOIN McFADDEN**, Naomh Micheál 23. Adrian Ó hAnluain, **ADRIAN HANLON**, An Clochán Liath 24. Proinsias Mac Fhloinn, **FRANK McGLYNN**, Gleann Fhinne 25. Caoimhín Ó Maoilchiaráin, **KEVIN MULHERN**, Cloich Cheann Fhaola 26. Micheál Ó hEigeartaigh, **Michael Hegarty**, Cill Chartha

OIFIGH Foirne
 Bainisteoir: **JIM MCGUINNESS** Roghnóirí: **RUAIRÍ Ó GALLACHÓIR** Medical (I) **DR.CHARLIE McMANUS** Rúnaí/Nominated Person: **AODH M Ó FEARRAIGH** Maor Foirne: **MARCAS Ó CURRÁIN** Maor Uisce (I) **LAURENCE McMULLAN** Maor Uisce (II) **Paul Fisher**

Dathanna: Glas agus Oir

Kildare Cill Dara

Manager: Kieran Mc Geeney



Letterkenny 2.30pm Dún na nGall v Cill Dara

Referee:

Michael Duffy (Sligeach)

Stand By:

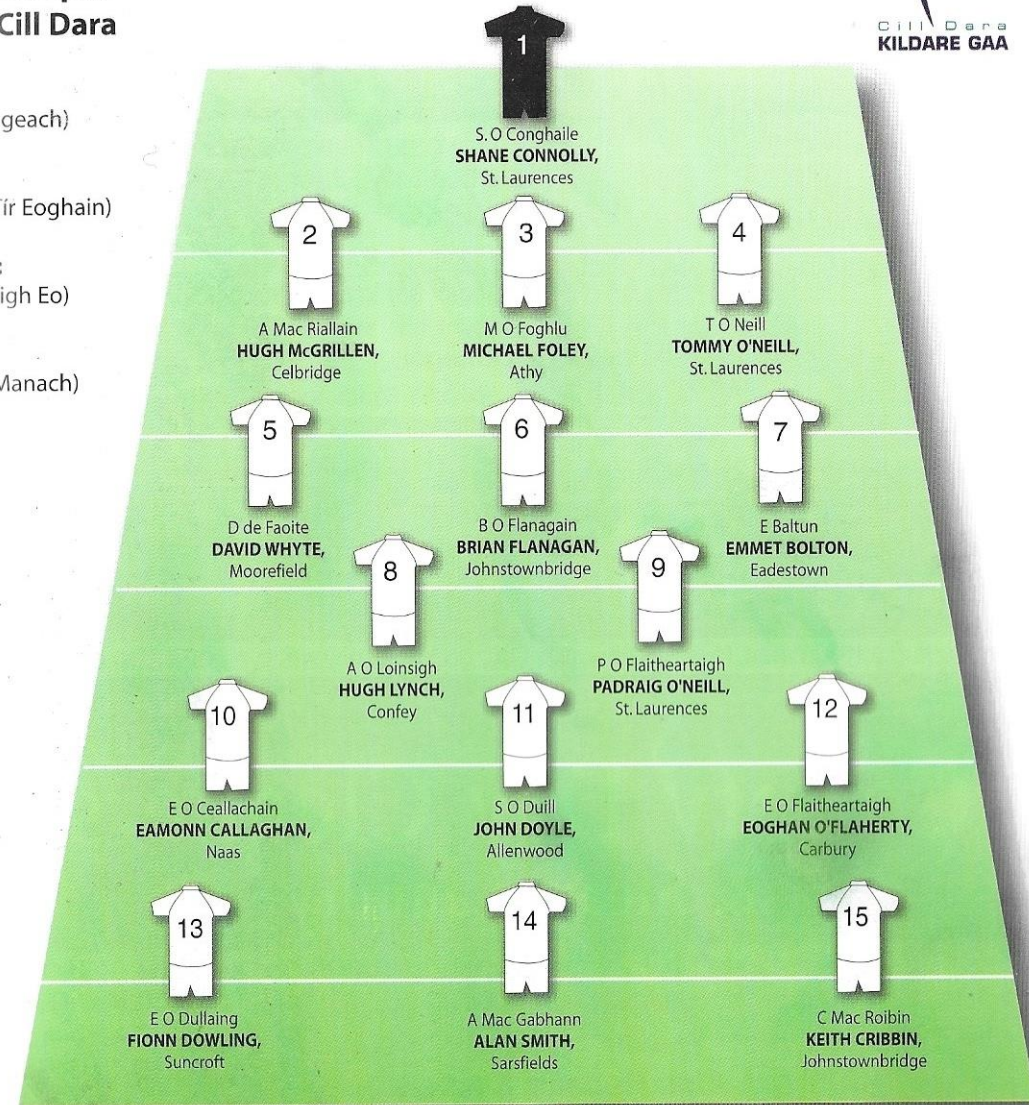
Stephen McNamee (Tír Eoghain)

Linesman:

Michael Daly (Maigh Eo)

Sideline:

Niall Cullen (Fear Manach)



SUBSTITUTES:

16. S Mac Cormaic, **SHANE MCCORMACK**, Allenwood 17. S Mac Suibhne, **RONAN SWEENEY**, Moorefield 18. L O Hlfearnain, **WILLIAM HEFFERNAN**, Nurney 19. T Moolick, **TOMMY MOOLICK**, Leixlip 20. Andriu Mac Lochlainn, **ANDRIU MacLOCHLAINN**, Ellistown 21. **CONOR BROPHY**, Celbridge 22. **OLLIE LYONS**, Celbridge 23. D O Hendi, **DAMIEN HENDY**, Castledermot 24. S O Caomanach, **JAMES KAVANAGH**, Ballymore 25. M O Suilleabhain, **MARK O'SULLIVAN**, Celbridge 26. S de Brun, **JOHN BROWNE**, Suncroft

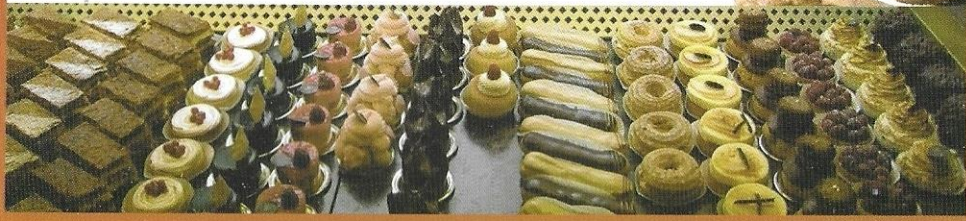
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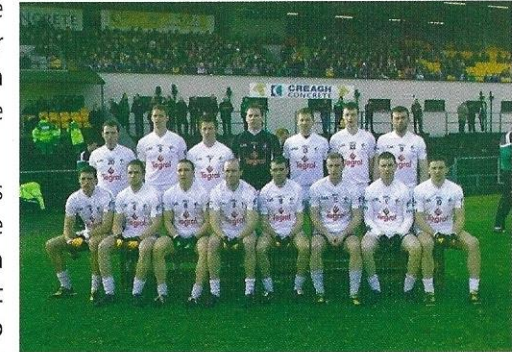
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The View from Kildare

By Daragh Ó Conchúir (www.daraghoconchuir.ie)

Opinions vary wildly about the importance of the Allianz Football League in the major scheme of things; as a competition in its own right or as preparation for Big Daddy, the championship.

There are plenty who argue that the teams who reach the knockout stages of the league tend to do well in the summer and much evidence to support it. But look at it forensically and there are more who do absolutely nothing, often crashing at the first championship hurdle.



My own view is that league standing bears little correlation to finishing positions in the championship.

Limerick should have been Munster champions two years ago when they blew it against Cork in the final. They then brought the Rebels to extra time in the final round of Qualifiers when they were Division 4 champions and Cork had claimed Division 1 honours. The gulf wasn't three divisions worth, that's for sure and six weeks later, Cork were kings of all they surveyed.

Wexford, Sligo, Louth and Roscommon are just some of the teams that have done damage while in Division 3 and 4 in the past decade, with Sligo and Roscommon winning Connacht titles, Louth being robbed of a Leinster title and Wexford reaching an All-Ireland semi-final.

Sure, the All-Ireland champions tend to come from Division 1 but the top teams are in Division 1 and the best team wins the All-Ireland. I don't feel there's a very big difference between Divisions 2 and 1 except that maybe there is just a little less depth in the second tier.

Only 20 of the 78 league winners have gone on to win the All-Ireland. That's 26%. Five of those have come since 2003 but I have no problem attributing that to the fact that Tyrone and Kerry were head and shoulders above everyone else and their rivalry was such that they drove each other on all year round.

Winning a first ever league title certainly wasn't a portent of good things to come for Donegal in 2007. They actually beat Kildare in the semi-final and confidence was high in the Short Grass as a result of reaching the last four. The record will show that the Lilies were brutal when going down in the first round in Leinster to Meath in their next game before being embarrassed by Louth in Newbridge.

On the other hand, Kildare were one loss away from relegation to Division 3 last year and were a dreadful umpiring decision away from reaching an All-Ireland. Their conquerors Down were a point away from winning the whole turkey shoot, also from Division 2. Armagh beat

Down in the Division 2 final and made no impact on the championship. Being in Division 1 hasn't helped Dublin win an All-Ireland. And on and on.

Different counties are looking for different things. I read somewhere during the week that the league is no longer about trying players. Codswollop. (I'm conscious that there might be children reading). If the championship were starting on February 1, do you think Fionn Dowling would have been in the first 15 for Kildare? He may well be come May 22 though.

Many managers – Kieran McGeeney would fall into this category I'd say – are trying to balance unearthing a diamond or two that can fit into an existing system and style of play, with preparing for the championship and tailoring training to that end.

Others, like Jim McGuinness are new and are looking to inculcate a new ethos, style of play and general regimen, while familiarising themselves with the scene and the players. He wants guys to feel good about playing for Donegal again. And try out new players.

Then you have lower tier counties who concentrate on being very fit so that they can win a few games to build momentum, boost confidence and instil belief. An All-Ireland or even provincial title isn't a practical goal for many counties. Maybe winning a Division 3 or 4 title is and thus there are counties for whom the league is the priority.

But then I did mention already that Roscommon are in Division 4 and they're Connacht champions, didn't I? What we've seen is teams that have come from the lower divisions going on a run and then upsetting a few reputations in the championship, usually in the Qualifiers and usually against counties who had designs on winning a provincial championship but none on an All-Ireland and haven't the stomach for the fight.

In short, you can't take a whole lot from the league except what you want to take from it, which is anything positive at all. How can what happens in February and March be taken as the defining moment in an All-Ireland winners' season?

So much can change within the league, from February to April. So much can change between league and championship. Kildare have proven that so much can change within the championship itself, after their astonishing recovery from a dreadful effort against Louth in Navan that saw them exit the race for Leinster honours in the first round.

For me, the Qualifiers have made the league even less relevant now because there are so many games being played at a higher intensity, on better sods (the ridiculously unpredictable climate notwithstanding) and on days when it just means a whole lot more.

For what it's worth, and at the risk of a ticking off from McGeeney, I think this game means more to Donegal. Of course both teams will be trying to win. I can't imagine any team going out onto the field not doing so.

It should be good but just remember when you're going home and you're either ecstatic or in foul humour... it's February. Unless your priority for the year is to win the Division 2 league title or gain promotion to the top tier; or God forbid, your star player has experienced a season-threatening injury, it won't mean your county is any more likely or less likely to be successful in the summer than it was a couple of hours earlier.

20 GAA questions

by Peter Campbell, Sports Editor, Donegal Democrat

1. What is the name of Kildare's home ground in Newbridge?
2. Donegal defeated Kildare to reach the league final in 2007 but lost out to Kildare in Croke Park in the National Football League semi-final in what year?
3. Who was Kildare's first football All-Star?
4. How many Sigerson Cup medals does Donegal manager Jim McGuinness hold?
5. Kildare manager, Kieran McGeeney, began his career with what Armagh club?
6. How many times have Donegal and Kildare met in championship football?
7. How many All-Ireland senior championship titles have Kildare won?
8. Donegal had one player named as an All-Star in 1993. Name him?
9. Kildare were the first county to receive the Sam Maguire when Bill 'Squires' Gannon was presented with the trophy. In what year?
10. What Donegal man was top scorer in the Ulster senior championship when they won their first Ulster title in 1972?
11. Who was top scorer in the All-Ireland football championship in 2010?
12. What famous hurler, who won eight All-Ireland medals, 11 National Leagues and eight Railway Cups, died at the end of 2010?
13. Born in Naas in 1963, he played his club football with Eadestown and Castlehaven and won two All-Ireland senior championship medals (one as captain). Name him?
14. What Derry player has the most 'international caps' for Ireland in the International Series against Australia?
15. In what year did Kildare last win a Leinster senior championship title?
16. How many goals did Peter Boyle concede for Donegal in the All-Ireland U-21 campaign in 2010?
17. How many All-Stars did Kildare receive in 2010?
18. How many Donegal players have received All-Stars since its inception?
19. Six father and sons have won All-Stars in football. Can you name them?
20. When was the last year Donegal won an All-Ireland Vocational Schools title?

Answers on page 32



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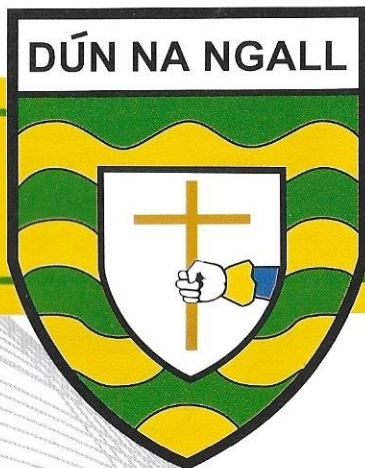


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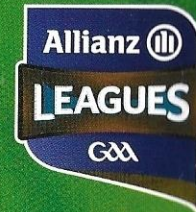
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3	Donegal	2	1	0	1	30	23	3
4	Kildare	2	1	1	0	31	24	2
5	Meath	2	1	1	0	29	25	2
6	Sligo	2	0	1	1	25	32	1
7	Tyrone	2	0	2	0	19	27	0
8	Antrim	2	0	2	0	21	35	0



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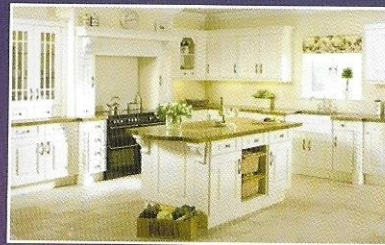
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Tá bláthú tagtha ar litríocht agus ar chineálacha eile ealaíon trí mheán na Gaeilge le céad bliain anuas, sa chaoi is gur teanga iomlán nua- aimseartha Eorpach í an Ghaeilge anois.

As a spoken community language, Irish is unique to this country and is, therefore, of crucial importance to the identity of the Irish people and to world heritage. We should be proud of it and not be ashamed to use it at every opportunity.

Cumann Luathchleas Gael strives to promote the use of the Irish language through Scór. However, few clubs participate and it must be very disappointing for people like Alan Ó Baoid and Con O Donnell who work tirelessly. It is important that senior club officers lead by example and not just offer lip service.

Unlike football and hurling, Scór is not divided into different divisions. All clubs are equal and the smallest club is more than capable of competing with the bigger clubs. Every club has the potential to win a county, provincial or even All-Ireland Scór title. All it takes are a few dedicated people who are willing to put in the work. The benefits of participation are immense not only to our culture but also to the social fabric of the club itself.

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Seamus Hoare – A True Legend and Great Goalkeeper

By Tom Comack, Donegal Democrat/ Highland Radio

Donegal has produced many great players down the years, players that easily fit into the 'great players never to win an All-Ireland' category.

The list is endless. But one name more than most that trips off the lips of Donegal footballing aficionados, is that of former St. Eunan's, Donegal and Ulster goalkeeper Seamus Hoare.

Regarded as a prince among net-minders in the 1950s and '60s, Seamus holds the record as Donegal's longest serving goalkeeper in a glorious career that spanned a decade and a half.

He joined the Donegal squad in 1954, taking over between the posts from the late Charlie Campbell – the county's second longest serving keeper - in the summer of 1955.

And he called time on his illustrious county playing days following the Ulster championship defeat to Antrim in June of 1969, after promotion in his job took him to Dublin.

Ironically – given this afternoon's opposition – the move saw him take up residence in Leixlip in Kildare, where he has lived for the last three decades, and where he played football with St. Mary's in Leixlip, and rugby with Barnhall and Greystones.

Ulster Championship and national honours eluded Seamus in his years in the green and gold of his native county.

Yet despite this, his talent did not go unnoticed and he enjoyed great success with Ulster with whom he won four Railway Cup medals including a three-in-a-row – 1963, '64, '65.

The other success came in 1968 and it saw Seamus set a record as the first Ulster goalkeeper to win four Inter-provincials in what was a golden era for Ulster in the old Railway Cup series. It's a record he now shares with former Armagh custodian Brian McAlinden. The Armagh man equalled Seamus' record when he won his fourth Inter-provincial in 1984 having won the previous three in 1979, '80 and '83. Martin McHugh with five – 1983, '84, '89, '92 & '93 holds the overall record for Donegal Railway Cup winners medals.

In his Donegal years, Seamus came tantalisingly close on two occasions to winning the county's first Ulster senior crown. In 1963, after overcoming Fermanagh and the then aristocrats of the province Cavan, Donegal fell at the final hurdle when beaten by Down. The Mourne County selection was made up of many of the county's 1960 and '61 double All-Ireland winning team.

And there was provincial decider disappointment again in 1966, when Down again proved too strong for Seamus and Donegal in Casement Park, in Belfast. It was a game that will go down in history as the first televised live provincial final.

But it was not all 1960's heartbreak and disappointment for Seamus and Donegal. The Letterkenny man was in goals as Donegal swept all before them in Ulster to claim three Dr. Lagan Cup titles in a row – 1965, '66 and '67. In those finals Donegal defeated Derry in '65 and '67 and Down in '66.

Seamus is also the proud holder of four Donegal Senior Championship medals, three as a member of the St. Eunan's team – 1960, '67 and '69. The other was won as sub in 1956 when he was sidelined by injury.

A couple of Kildare junior championship winners medals won with his adopted St. Mary's also adorn his trophy cabinet. They are among his treasure trove of memories from a glistening career that marks Seamus Hoare as one of the true legends of the GAA and a definite member of the 'Greatest players never to win an All-Ireland' club.

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Devenney & Rainbow – Compromise Memories

Alan Foley - Donegal Democrat

The face of Gaelic football is constantly changing and in the last few months it lost two men who had been its bloodlines in the respective counties of Donegal and Kildare.

Having been the mainstream of the Donegal forward line for the best part of a decade, Brendan Devenney's persistent injuries finally caught up with him and he was forced to pull the pin only last week. His good friend Anthony Rainbow, a constant in Kildare's team since making his debut in 1992 when barely 10 stone weight; pulled the curtain shut last year.

Seeing two men like Devenney and Rainbow hang up their boots makes everyone feel that little bit older and although they're certainly nowhere near the pipe and slippers vintage just yet, both even now fondly reminisce on the bond that built on the panel Brian McEniff took to Australia in 2001 for the International Rules Series. At a stage when the Series was catapulted into doubt after some of the farcical scenes in Dublin a year beforehand; 2001 was like a new beginning.

Whilst Rainbow had won a couple of Leinster championships with Kildare and was named an All-Star in 1998 after his side's run to the All-Ireland final where they lost to Galway, Devenney's inclusion was questioned in wider circles, with the cynics claiming McEniff had scuttled a space for a county companion. Such notions were, though, unfair. Devenney had shown up well in the trials and was not the novice many believed him to be having been capped under Colm O'Rourke three years beforehand.

"Before the first Test at the MCG in Melbourne, the lights went down as we were warming up and there was a real party atmosphere with Irish dancers," Devenney said recently. "We joined in the jig, which was a bit of craic, although nobody could see us in the dark! I was happy enough not starting as there are so many interchanges and when McEniff sent me on, within five seconds I kicked an over which was a real lift. We won that Test 59-53 (with Devenney kicking 14 points in all), but the aggregate score in a two-Test Series means it's still wide open.

"We celebrated a bit, which was stupid, because had the Aussies kicked two overs at the start of the second Test it would've been all square again. The second Test was played at Football Park in Adelaide, but the small advantage we had meant we treated it like a game on its own right and one we had to win but we ran out comfortable winners, 71-52. It was a great tour and one I will never forget. It's not often you get the opportunity to go to Australia, let alone in a sporting capacity to represent your country."

That collection of players remain so close-knit, they still regularly knock around together; most recently in November when Kildare took on a Rest of Ireland XV last year in a charitable farewell game for Rainbow at St Conleth's Park in Newbridge with local charities the beneficiaries. It was more akin to a who's who of Gaelic football with Seamus Moynihan, Darragh O'Se, Peter Canavan, Graham Geraghty, Kieran McGeeney and Stevie McDonnell all lining out on a laidback afternoon where there were no losers. An All-Star cast was a testament of the level of respect toward Rainbow.

"That 2001 Series had a nice balance of amateur and professional," Devenney recalled. "It was a really good group and we still keep in touch. When Anthony retired and had a farewell charity game in Newbridge for the GAA player fund, St John of Gods and St Brigid's Hospice I was more than glad to attend and see him and the rest of the lads again."

Rainbow will not be present at O'Donnell Park this afternoon as Kildare try and pick up the pieces following last weekend's loss at Derry hands. By his own admission, he's busier now than he was when a Lilywhite and yesterday in his role as selector for Alan Barry's county U-21 team was in Leitrim for a challenge against none other than Jim McGuinness's Donegal. As well as that the bread and butter continues with his club Suncroft.

"I first got to know Brendan during that 2001 Tour," Rainbow said this week. "Right away we formed a good group and got on well together. We had the likes of Ja Fallon, Padraig Joyce, Michael Donnellan, Kieran McGeeney, Darragh O'Shea, Ciaran Whelan and Graham Canty. Winning the tour strengthened the bond.

"I was sorry to hear that Brendan had to quit but was glad to see him in Newbridge in November with a lot of the players from the 2001 panel. I was so grateful for the lads for making an effort whether they came from Galway, Kerry, Donegal or wherever and there was a great crowd of about 6,000 there.

"Brendan can certainly be proud of his efforts in 2001 and we still keep in touch over the phone and with the odd text flying here and there. He was just fantastic over there, popping over scores from 40 or 50 yards out and picking up a lot of dirty ball. I suppose in many ways you could say that he came into that Series under the radar to a degree, but for me Brendan was the player of the Series."



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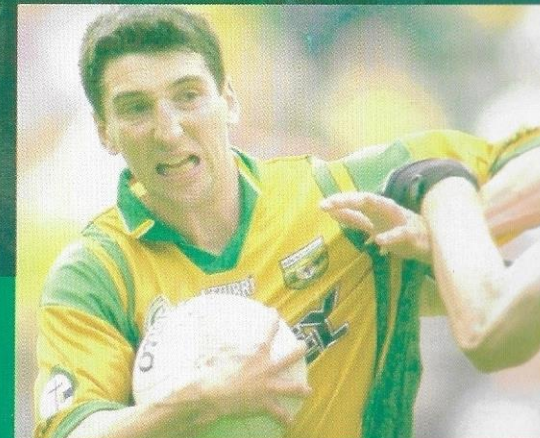
ANSWERS: 1, St. Conleth's Park; 2, 1991; 3, Ollie Crinnigan; 4, Three; 5, Mullaghbawn; 6, Once (2001 in Newbridge in qualifiers with Kildare winning 1-17 to 1-16); 7, Four; 8, John Joe Doherty; 9, 1928; 10, Joe Winston, St. Eunan's; 11, John Doyle of Kildare with 1.49; 12, John Doyle; 13, Larry Tompkins; 14, Sean Marty Lockhart; 15, 2000 (defeated Dublin in replay); 16, One (in final v Dublin); 17, Two (Peter Kelly and Johnny Doyle); 18, Fourteen; 19, Pat Reynolds and Paddy Reynolds of Meath; Dermot Earley and Dermot Earley, Jr of Roscommon and Kildare; Liam O'Neill and Kevin O'Neill of Mayo and Galway; Frank McGuigan and Brian McGuigan of Tyrone; Bernard Brogan Snr and Alan Brogan & Bernard Brogan Jnr of Dublin; Tim Kennelly and Tadhg Kennelly of Kerry; 20, 2002

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