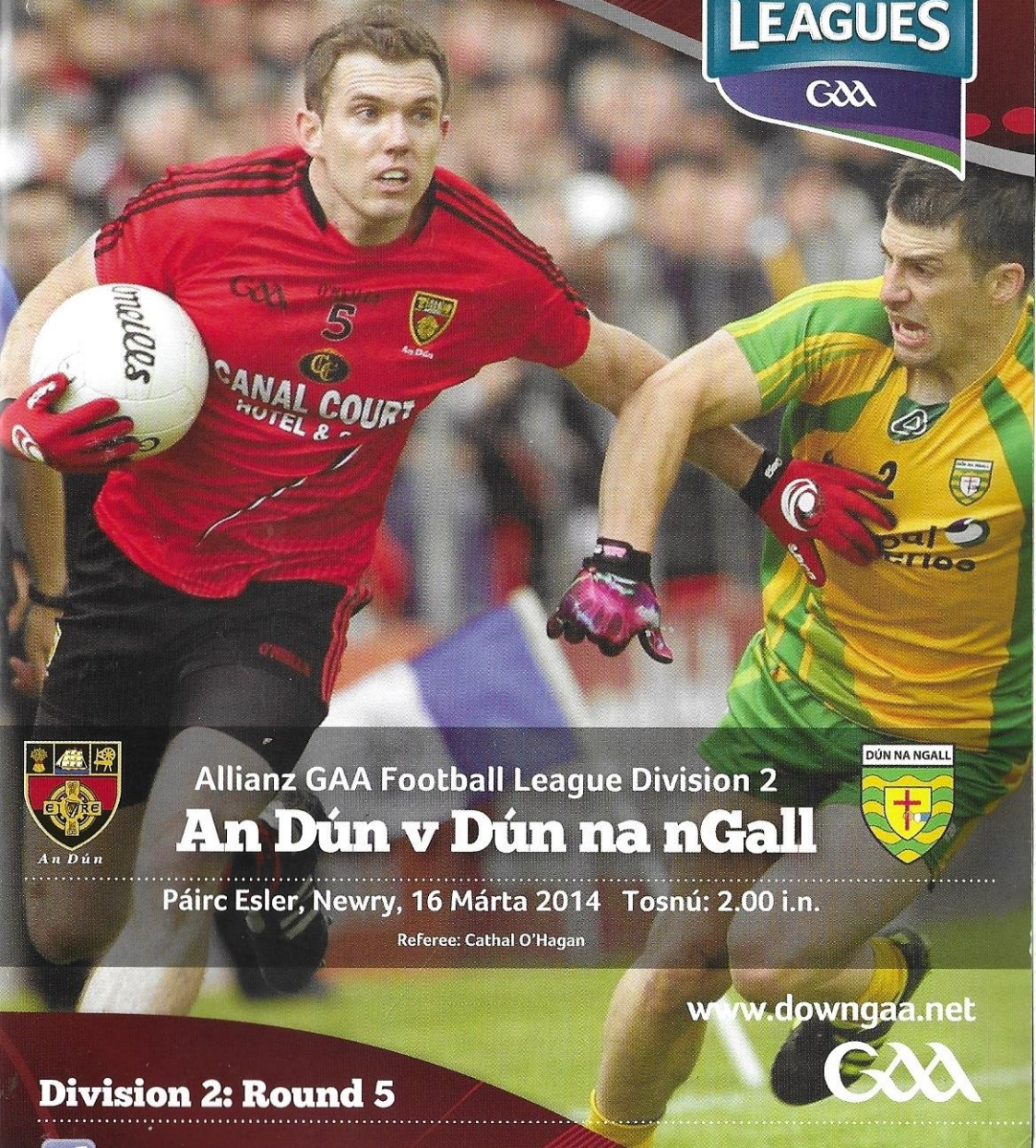
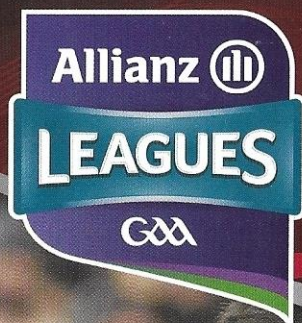


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Allianz GAA Football League Division 2 **An Dún v Dún na nGall**



Páirc Esler, Newry, 16 Márta 2014 Tosnú: 2.00 i.n.

Referee: Cathal O'Hagan

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Division 2: Round 5



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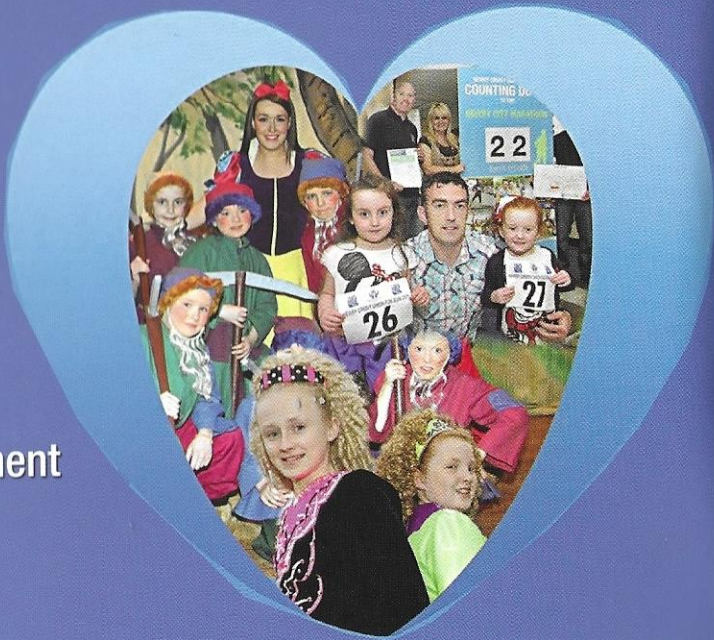


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Chairman's Address



Dia daoibh a chairde agus fáilte go Páirc Esler inniú don cluiche seo idir An Dúin agus Dun Na nGall

the club, school and wider community. On behalf of the gaels of Down I extend warmest congratulations to Anne.

I extend a warm County Down welcome to everyone attending today's Allianz Football League Division 2 encounter between Down and table toppers Donegal. In particular I welcome our fellow Ulstermen from the county of Donegal and I hope and trust that seventy minutes of exciting football lies in store.

Scor is an important aspect of GAA life and I congratulate the Carryduff Cille Dancers on qualifying for next weekend's Ulster Scor Sinsear final in Downpatrick and I wish them well. The Question time is under a new format this year and Bredagh have qualified to represent down in the All-Ireland final in castlebar next month. They came very close to winning the All-Ireland title three years ago and they carry the best wishes of the county as they hope to go one step better this time out.

I also welcome to our match referee Cathal O'Hagan from Co. Tyrone and I wish him and his team of officials every best wish for this afternoon's encounter.

This being our final home football league game of the season, I wish to pay a special thanks to the ground staff at Pairc Esler for their ongoing efforts in having the playing surface in such good condition over the past few months when the weather has been anything but kind. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Editorial Team

Paul Rooney (PRO)
Andrea McClean
Seamus McClean
Brian McAvoy

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Apex Design

Photography

Louis Mc Nally
Pat O'Hare
John Paul O'Hare
Brendan Monaghan
Paul Rooney
Philip Walsh

Match Officials

Referee: Cathal O'Hagan

Both counties made impressive starts to their respective league campaign but 'slipped up' last Sunday with Down losing in Galway and Donegal salvaging a draw from a Michael Murphy point with the last kick off the ball while playing at home to Meath.

Down have two difficult away assignments in their final league games, so a win today is essential if they are to harbour any hopes of a return to Division One. It was Donegal who were relegated alongside Down last year and Jim McGuinness no doubt believes that he has the talent in his side to bounce back again.

I also thank the team of stewards officials who turn out time and time again to ensure that the match day experience is as comfortable as it possibly can be for our patrons. I hope your presence will be required at at inter-county games over the summer months, though we know that we must first secure a win in Omagh to earn a home tie in the Ulster Championship quarter-final – no mean task there!!

The last encounter between the sides was in the Ulster championship semi-final in a wet Breffni Park. Donegal were defending their Ulster and All-Ireland titles that day but Down put up a strong performance and were unlucky to lose. James McCartan will be looking for more of the same from his charges today.

I thank our PR Committee for the standard of match programmes they have produced this year and for their ongoing efforts in promoting Gaelic games in the county.

Success came to Down on Friday evening when Ann Cassidy was the recipient of a President's Award at Croke Park. Ann has been a faithful servant of the Burren club over many years and her award from GAA president Liam O'Neill is a fitting testament to her great work in furthering the aims of Cumann Luthchleas Gael within

Finally, as the club season in Down is about to commence, I extend best wishes to all our clubs and hope that at least some of the goals that you have set for 2014 will be realised.

Rath Dé ar an obair.
Seamas Breatnach
Cathaoirleach Coiste chontae An Dúin



SCAN ME
Down GAA QR Code





On behalf of the Down supporters club I would like to welcome the Donegal management team, players and supporters to Pairc Esler which is the fifth league game of the season. The club ran a very successful one night overstay last weekend to Galway and more than 100 supporters travelled down on Eamonn Rooney's two coaches.

They all enjoyed the overnight stay with good food, music and craic. The supporters were full of praise for the way they were looked after by the hotel and bus drivers Dan and Ray as well as

Paul on the day bus. We stopped off in Enniskillen on the way up the road for one hour before finishing the journey home. A lot of hard work in the months leading up to overnight goes on behind the scenes and we have the expertise on the supporters club committee to run these trips.

The committee also worked very hard in the programme advertising department and selling programmes at the league games and the recent All-Ireland club semi-finals. I would like to thank Michael McLoughlin, Mairead Sheppard, Marie Greenan, Desi Kennedy, Patsy Russell, Martin Murphy, Brian Greenan (Transport Manager), John Cookson, Susie Flynn, John Kennedy, Liam Mulholland and Rose Russell. A word of thanks also goes to Eddie Flynn, Joe Leonard, Brian McAvooy and Andrea McClean for their help along with all in the photographic department. Once

again I would like to thank our County Board PRO Paul Rooney along with Noel from Apex Design for our high quality programmes - a lot of time and effort goes into them. Supporters frequently tell us that the Down programme is one of the best in Ireland which is very encouraging. I would also like to thank the Down County Board for their help and co-operation.

Despite defeat last week we are still very much in the promotion race and at the same time we are looking over our shoulder at the relegation. Remember back in 1999 in Division 1B, Down finished with seven points and only stayed up on score difference. Monaghan were relegated with seven points and Laois with one point. I would ask our supporters to get behind the team and make your presence felt.

Seamus McClean



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New Mobile Ticket Unit

On your way into the ground this evening you hopefully will have purchased a ticket from the new Down GAA Mobile Ticket Unit. Going forward this will be the means of gaining entry to GAA games under the control of the Down County Committee. Cash will no longer be payable at Turnstiles every person going into a ground will enter by means of presenting a ticket at the turnstiles. The Mobile Unit will be in position at Pairc Esler for

Allianz League Games and for Club Championship Games. The Unit will then take to the road for Allianz League Games at Ballycran and then for Down Club Championship games at other host venues. The new Unit we hope will ensure a smooth entry to our ground for patrons, we appreciate there will be teething problems but we hope you will work with us as we try to ensure best practice on entry to our grounds.

Supporters' Club buses to Monaghan Meath and Laois

The Down supporters club are running buses to Monaghan, Meath and Laois in the next few weeks. The first bus is going to Inniskeen for the Ulster U-21 football championship on Wednesday 19th March leaving Castlewellan at 5.45pm and Newry at 6.30 pm. The fare is; Adults £8; U-16s £5.

There will be buses going to Navan for the Allianz League between Down and Meath on 29th March leaving Castlewellan at 2pm and Newry at 2.45 pm. The fare is; Adults £1; U-16s £8.

Supporters going on the overnight bus/evening meal to Laois for the Allianz league game are reminded that all fees must be in this weekend. At the time of going to press there was only two seats left. The overnight bus leaves Castlewellan on Saturday 5th April at 9.15am and Newry at 10am.

The day buses to Laois on 6th April will leave Castlewellan at 9.15am and Newry at 10am. The fare is; Adults £15; U-16s £10. (To book seats on these day buses to Laois ring Seamus McClean only.)

To book seats on all the other buses phone Mairead Sheppard on 07871053019 or Seamus McClean on 07873761804.

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Saval Gaelic4Mothers & Others Team Recognised

The Canal Court Hotel Newry was the setting for the recent Newry and Mourne Sports Awards, an event which is now one of the premier sports awards in the North of Ireland.

The Saval Gaelic4Mothers&Others football team were in attendance to receive a Special Achievement Award in recognition of its contribution to women's sport. This was a unique experience for the team as they rubbed shoulders with the great and good of national and international sports people.

It was a proud moment when guest speaker, Armagh legend Benny Tierney read out the nomination and remarked that:

"Saval Gaelic4Mothers& Others are a team of ladies who enjoy their time training and playing games. One of the key elements of G4M&O is the community support network that it creates for women and the positive physical and mental impact it has on the day to day lives of the participants. Saval have the strongest G4M&O team in the area and to their

credit the club have supported the initiative and have a thriving older women's group still active in sport."

Mayor Michael Ruane presented the team with the award before posing for photographs with the team.

This is a first for the G4M&O initiative and it is great that the ladies have received the deserved acknowledgement for all their hard work and commitment. Hopefully will raise the profile of the initiative around the country and inspire others to give it a go! For more information on the Gaelic4Mothers&Others programme contact Ladies Football Development Officer Sheena Kelly on sheena.kelly.ulster@gaa.ie

Pictured at the event is some of the Gaelic4Mothers&Others players along with their trainer Anthnoy and Mayor Michael Ruane.



Murphy and McFadden star as Donegal beat Down to reach Ulster Final

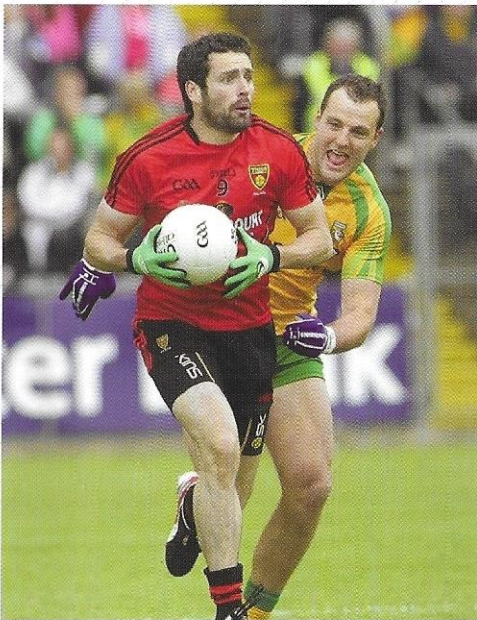
Donegal 0-12 Down 0-9

ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS Donegal reached the Ulster SFC Final as they beat Down by three points at Kingspan Breffni Park.

Michael Murphy and Colm McFadden shared 10 points for Jim McGuinness' men in their 0-12 to 0-9 victory. Down were indebted to young Donal O'Hare for the bulk of their scoring but will ultimately rue their inability to score from play — relying on six frees to stay in touch.

Down's team, mixed with fallow youth an experienced veterans such as Benny Coulter, have paid for their ponderous build-up play and have not taken advantage of a stiff breeze at their back.

Michael Murphy opened Donegal's account with an early free and added a second from play after deftly stepping inside Peter Turley and calmly slotting over.



Colm McFadden made amends for an early missed free when he adjusted for the swirling wind to make it 0-3 to 0-0 after 12 minutes.

McFadden stretched the lead with a nice effort from play before Down's 22-year-old free-taker Donal O'Hare tagged a point back with a free from 30 yards out. He added a second from long distance on 18 minutes.

Donegal upped the tempo mid-way through the half and profited with a point from play from Murphy. David Walsh then intercepted Down ball as they looked to play out of defence. He found Patrick McBreaty, who launched a steepling effort that earned him a point.

O'Hare got his third free of the half and Declan Rooney tried to point from play but his effort drifted left and wide. James McCartan was able to celebrate his side's first point from play as Mark Poland took a pass from Coulter and curled a shot over the bar.

Rory Kavanagh eased the scoring burden on Murphy and McFadden early in the second half when he popped over a fine score a minute after the restart. Coulter was not giving up the fight and he earned a free for Down after two yellow jerseys knocked him to the turf. O'Hare made no mistake with the free.

There was an interesting piece of officialdom as referee Eddie Kinsella moved a Murphy free forward 10 yards after the Down players encroached on his position to distract him. Murphy's effort from closer in sailed over. O'Hare added his fifth free on 48 minutes to make it 0-8 to 0-6.

Coulter then squandered a scoring chance when he opted no to shoot for a point when unmarked. He opted to pass for Poland but the ball skipped away on a greasy surface. McFadden added to Down woes when he took advantage of a defensive lapse to point.

O'Hare got a score from open play almost immediately after but the clinical McFadden made it a three-point game on 53 minutes after good work in the build up by McBreaty. McCartan threw on Je-

rome Johnston for Coulter and the young sub scored a point within 60 seconds of his introduction before McFadden knocked over a free to make it 0-11 to 0-8 with eight minutes to play.

Down, who had hit the post twice in the second half, squandered another decent scoring chance before sub Danny Savage scored from a free on 65 minutes. Murphy and his attacking colleagues dropped back to assist in some blanket defence as Donegal closed out the tie and marched on to the Ulster Final.

The final act of the contest came from Murphy as he curled over a fine free to confirm a three-point win.

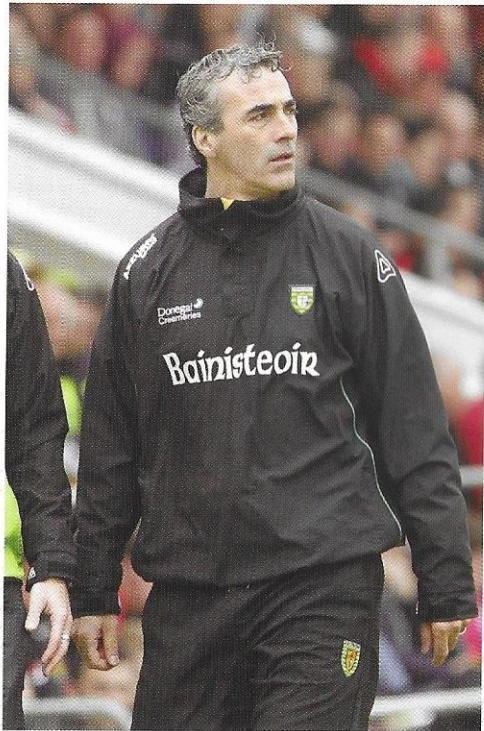
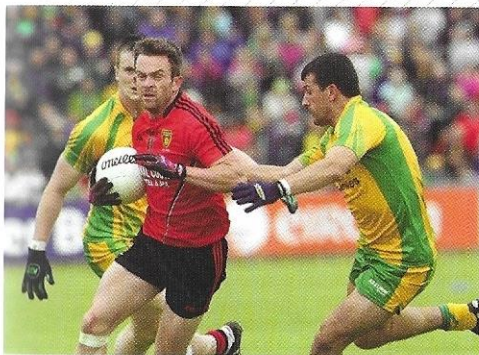
Scorers for Donegal: Michael Murphy 0-5(4fs), Colm McFadden 0-5(2fs), Paddy McBreaty 0-1, Rory Kavanagh 0-1.

Scorers for Down: Donal O'Hare 0-6(5fs), Mark Poland 0-1, Jerome Johnston 0-1, Danny Savage 0-1.

Donegal (SFC v Down): Paul Durcan; Paddy McGrath, Neil McGee, Éamonn McGee; Declan Walsh (Martin O'Reilly '34), Frank McGlynn (Rory McHugh '35), Anthony Thompson; Ryan Bradley (Martin McElhinney '34), Rory Kavanagh; David Walsh, Leo McLoone, Mark McHugh; Patrick McBreaty (Dermot Molloy '65), Michael Murphy, Colm McFadden.

Down SFC: Brendan McVeigh; Daniel McCartan, Brendan McArdle, Keith Quinn (Rory Mallow '48); Declan Rooney, Peter Turley, Ryan Boyle; Kalum King, Kevin McKernan; Ambrose Rogers, Mark Poland, Niall Madine (Danny Savage '62); Conor Lavery, Benny Coulter (Jerome Johnston '56), Donal O'Hare, Kalum King.

Referee: Eddie Kinsella (Laois)



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- Which GAA county could say that their flag flies over the Vatican?
- Which GAA county team has only one colour in their flag?
- Which two GAA county teams have three colours in their flag?
- In which one of the six All-Ireland senior football finals that Down have played in, was there a 16th person marching in the parade behind the Artane band.
- If the Artane band was playing the songs listed below in the parade during the hurling and football championship which counties would be involved?
(A) Slievenamon
(B) Molly Malone
(C) The Rose Of Mooncoin
(D) The Star Of The County Down
(E) The Banks Of My Own Lovely Lee
(F) Boolavogue
- In which Ulster senior football final between Down and Donegal was the new Anglo Celt cup handed over?
- Name the hymn that was played before the 1960 All-Ireland senior final?
- Between 2005 and 2013 Dublin only lost one Leinster senior football championship game. But to which county?
- Name the five counties that Donegal defeated to win the 1992 All-Ireland senior football title?
- Name the seven different managers who led their counties to Sam Maguire victory in the last years?

Answers to half-time quiz on page 50

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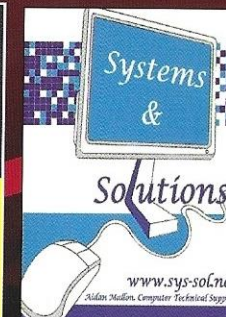


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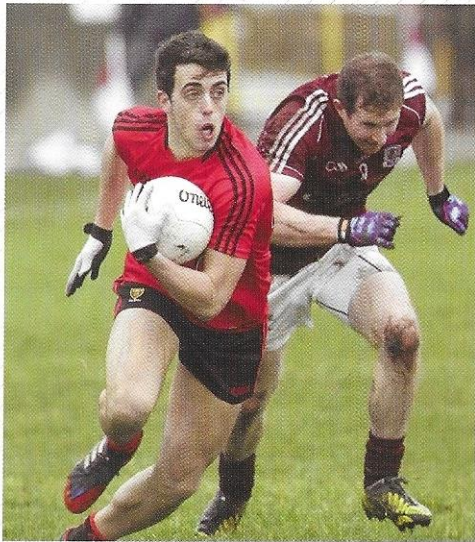
Best Wishes to Down GAA

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Down pay price for poor finishing Galway 1-12 Down 0-8

By Francis Farragher
Newry Reporter

Down ticked all the right boxes for endeavour and commitment in this highly entertaining Division 2 National Football League clash at Tuam Stadium on Sunday but in the end a series of missed second half chances cost them dearly. Galway will be the first to admit that this wasn't a seven point game, with barely a kick of the ball separating the sides for most of the match, but Down just couldn't land the pressure scores when they dominated possession during a key segment of the second half. It was a small move towards rehabilitation for Galway but an important one nonetheless as they uncovered some of the old basic values of courage and spirit to grind out a hard earned victory against one of their traditional rivals from the North. Close on 2,500 people turned out at the old stadium for this tie and the home crowd too played their part

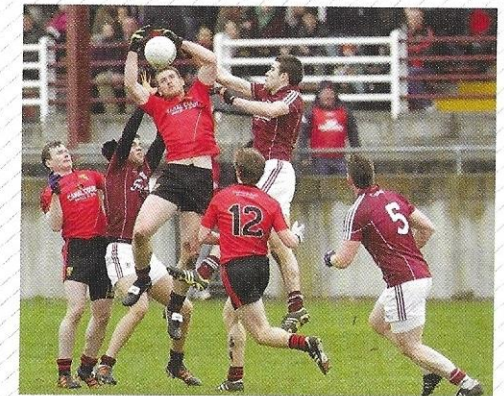


in the success, warming to the early efforts of a Galway side desperately seeking to erase the memory of the 15 point drubbing at the hands of Laois the previous weekend. The 1-12 to 0-8 final scoreline did not reflect the tightness of the match with the Galway success embellished by a late-late breakaway goal finished by substitute Danny Cummins, just as Down were pressing hard to bridge a three point deficit. Galway though battled for every ball from the throw-in right to the final whistle and it was this simple earthiness that won the crowd over right from the start – the brittleness that characterised the collapse against Laois had been replaced by a liberal measure of old fashioned fighting spirit. Most of the first half was a one point game with Michael Martin, Gary Sice, Paul Varley, Eddie Hoare (2) and James Kavanagh helping Galway to a 0-6 to 0-5 interval lead with all of Down's total coming from the boot of Donal O'Hare, four of them from frees. The only clear-cut goal chance came in the eighth minute when Jerome Johnston was denied a major score by the combined efforts of Finian Hanley and 'keeper Tom Healy. Against Laois the previous week, Galway had made an horrendous start to the second half conceding two early points, but the signs were good this time around for Alan Mulholland's side, with the game restarted for less than a minute, when Eddie Hoare busted through for another inspirational point. Down though fought back strongly and with Galway defenders foraying upfield and then losing possession, the door was at last opened for James McCartan's side to re-establish a foothold in this match. Donal O'Hare pointed neatly from play before a Kevin McKernan point levelled the game at 0-7 apiece with 25 minutes to go. Shortly after, Down paid a high price for dissent as Michael Martin pointed a 'moved in' free before McKernan levelled the game again, after another possession giveaway



by the Galway defence. Galway though were showing doggedness and tenacity during the mid-section of the second half and were rewarded with two well-taken points from Michael Martin and James Kavanagh. The alarm bells were now ringing on the Down sideline with Declan Rooney, Benny Coulter and Ryan Johnston thrown into the fray as James McCartan sensed that the match was slipping away from them. In terms of possession and chance creation, the changes worked well for Down but they failed to complement that territorial advantage with good finishing as chance after chance went abegging. Ryan Johnston was probably the biggest culprit although he was unlucky to see his goal effort shave the paint of Tom Healy's left hand post in the 62nd minute, while the normally reliable Donal O'Hare and Benny Coulter also missed the target from good positions. Less than four minutes from the end, the siege of the Galway goal was lifted in quite spectacular style. The winners broke from defence into an open half of the pitch with Gary Sice supplying the final pass to sub Danny Cummins who rattled the net in the town goal with a venomous strike. The crackle of enthusiasm that greeted that score hadn't been heard for a long time in the old stadium. It was one of those poignant moments in sport and one that didn't go unnoticed with some of the travelling and spirited Down supporters. As fate would have it, the strike that settled the match was delivered by the grandson of one of the greats of Down football from the 1950s and 1960s, the late Patsy O'Hagan. Before that goal strike, midfielder Tom Flynn had lacked on a point, while in the dying seconds, Sean Armstrong delivered the final score of the match, to

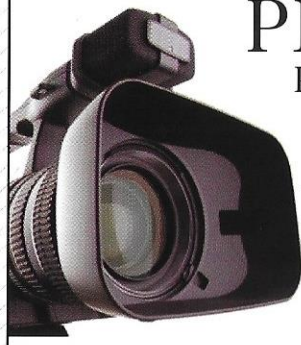
the delight of the home crowd that were now in full voice. They had seen a little miracle happen right before their eyes. The biggest dollop of encouragement for Galway came from the overall level of team commitment – there were no 'slackers' on the day – but Gary O'Donnell, Fiontán Ó Curraoin, Eddie Hoare, Sean Armstrong and James Kavanagh delivered big displays. Down too made a huge contribution to a full blooded but very even tempered joust with Tipperary referee, Derek O'Mahony, allowing the play to flow whenever the opportunity arose, although on more than one occasion in the second half he did raise the ire of the travelling supporters with some of his decisions. Brendan McArdle, Owen Costello, Aidan Carr, Kevin McKernan, Mark Poland, Donal O'Hare and Niall Madine, all tried hard for a Down side, that overall, played well but finished poorly during a crucial 15 minute second half spell. A rousing day in the old stadium of Tuam that might be in need of a few million euro to revamp it, but the place does have atmosphere and feeling. Everything doesn't always work there, including the national anthem CD, but the Soldiers Song was instead sung lustily by the crowd under the old galvanise... with the Down contingent leading the way. It was that kind of day and near the end when Patsy O'Hagan's grandson kicked the winning goal, one felt that the Gods were looking on with interest.



- ❑ Down's last home game against Donegal was on the 4th February 2012 and Down won by 1-10 to 1-09. Down were leading by 0-03 to 0-01 when Liam Doyle took a great pass and burst through the tackles to shoot to the top corner of the net to gave Down a half-time lead 1-05 to 0-06. Donegal hit back with a goal through sub Martin McElhiney to go two points up then Down scored three in a row and held out to win by one point.
- ❑ Down's last away game against Donegal was in February 2013 and Donegal won 0-12 to 0-07. Down started off well and led by 0-05 to 0-02 after 32 minutes then the All-Ireland champions scored nine points in a row to go into the driving seat and finished five point winners. Donal O' Hare scored five of the Down points.
- ❑ This is the third year in a row that Down and Donegal have met in the Allianz football league, they were both relegated from division one last year - Donegal had five points and Down had four points.
- ❑ Down and Donegal have met on 18 occasions in the Allianz league and at present Down lead 9 - 8 with one drawn game which was in Newry in October 1990 and it was Peter Withnell who got the equaliser in the last minute. The first occasion they met on the league was in April 1931 in Ballybofey and Donegal won by 4-07 to 0-02.
- ❑ Down and Donegal met in the 2004 division two semi-final and Down won by 2-05 to 0-10. The Down goals were scored by Ronan Sexton and Danny Hughes while Adrian Scullion was man of the match.
- ❑ Under Brian McIver, Donegal won the league title in 2007 when they defeated Mayo by 0-13 to 0-10. In the 1990s they lost three league finals, to Dublin 1993 as well as to Derry in 1995 and 1996.
- ❑ Jim McGuinness is in his fourth year as the Donegal manager in which previously he has lead them to a division two title, two Ulster titles and an All-Ireland title.
- ❑ James McCartan is in his fifth year as the Down manager and he took them into division one where they finished 4th in 2011; 3rd in 2012; and 8th in 2013.



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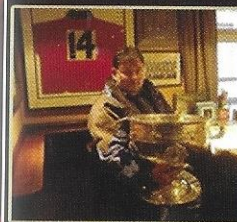
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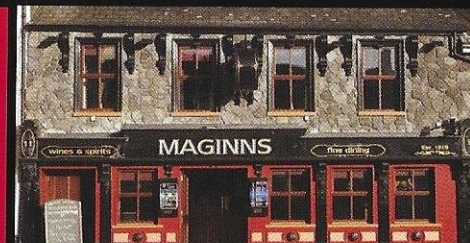
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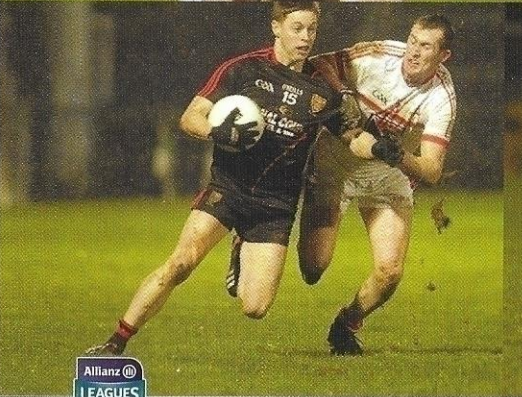
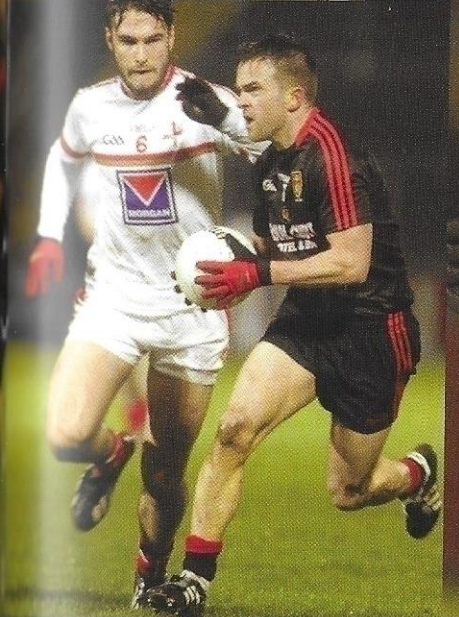
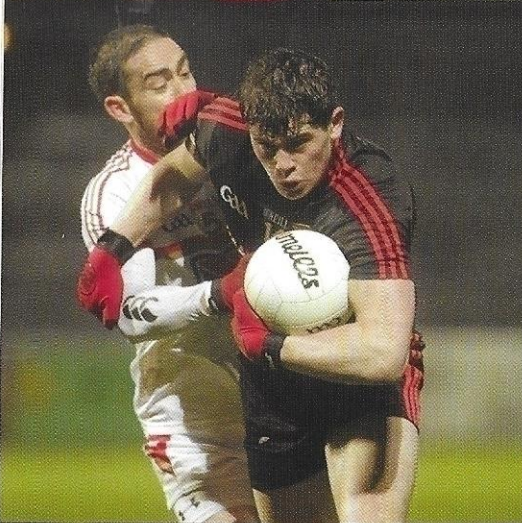
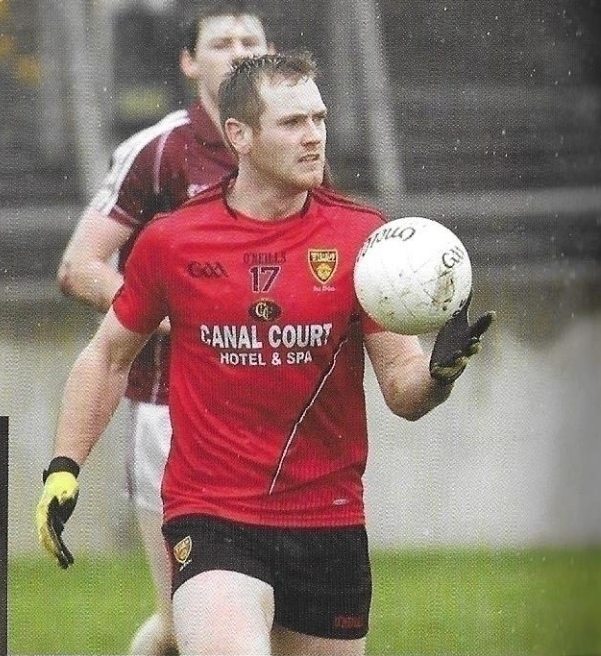
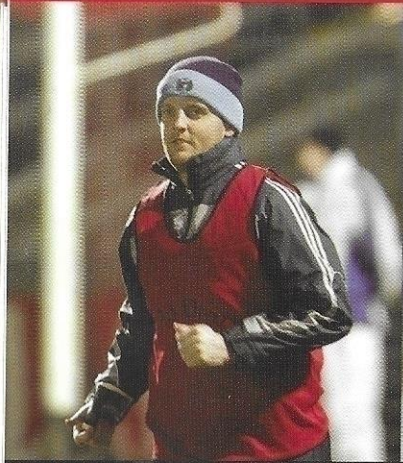
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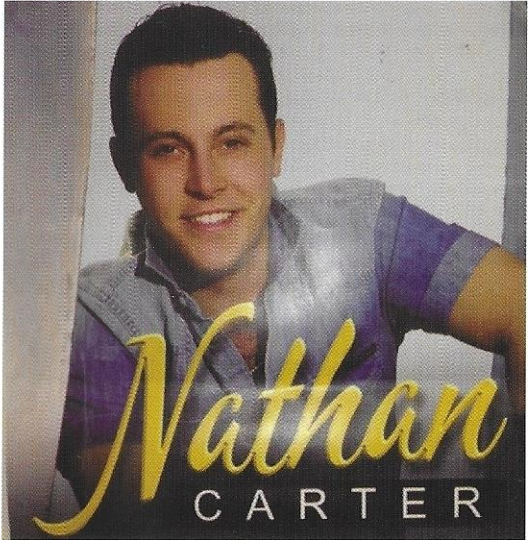


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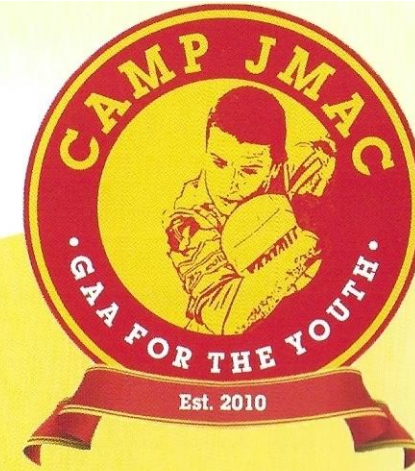
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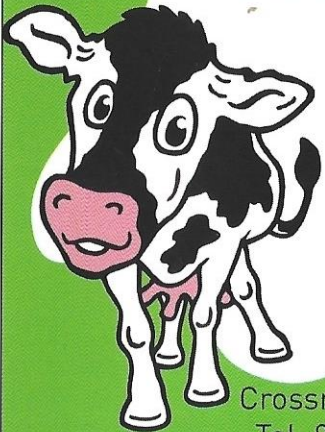
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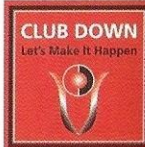
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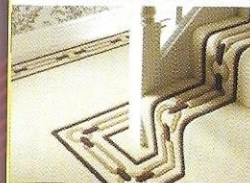
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- The instructions of the stewards must be obeyed at all times.

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- Any unauthorised contact with the boundary wall surrounding the pitch or incursion on the pitch.
- Any such unauthorised contact or incursion constitutes a trespass to property.
- Unauthorised (unofficial) entry to team dugouts or through (pitch) perimeter barriers.
- The climbing of floodlights or other pylons, stands, or other buildings. Such behaviour constitutes a trespass to property.
- Throwing any object onto the pitch.
- Remaining or loitering in any gangway or aisle.
- Behaving in an offensive or indecent manner.
- Bringing of alcohol into the ground.
- Bring into the ground fireworks, smoke canisters, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles, distress signals, laser pointers and other similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon.
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Down 0 – 17 Mayo 0 – 13

A strange performance by Down which saw them promise much in the opening minutes of both halves but then lapse into periods where they lacked focus and concentration. The first ten minutes of the game saw Down quickly out of the blocks with their forward line running strongly and intelligently but having moved ahead by 4 points to 1 much of the fluency disappeared and Mayo hauled themselves back into the game. Down actually went behind after 28 minutes but four unanswered points saw them go in at the interval with a comfortable lead at 0 – 9 to 0 – 6.

A quick start by Down and in the first minute Conor O'Neill won possession, shifted to Caolan Bailie; he found Michael Turley who slotted confidently over the bar. A few seconds later Turley threatened a repeat but this time fired wide off his left. All Down in the first three minutes but then Pádraig O'Flynn lobbed a long range opener for Mayo. Steven Dineen was very prominent for Down and he notched Down's second point, before Dineen went cross field to Danny Toner, Toner laid off to O'Neill who shot between the posts. After 8 minutes another strong run by Dineen who found Bailie in space and he made no mistake. Down were on top in all areas in the opening ten minutes but then in a rare Mayo

attack Stephen Keith fumbled an awkwardly flighted side-line before scrambling the ball out for a 65. Kenny Feeney pointed the 65 for the first of his 8 point haul but the gap was restored when Conor Woods pointed a magnificent free from right on the touchline and 50 yards from his own goal.

Mayo responded and Feeney was again accurate from another placed ball. Within 60 seconds another Mayo free, another Feeney point and suddenly there was just one in it – Down 0 – 5 to Mayo 0 – 4. Dineen made good ground down the left and fired a dangerous ball into the small square but Turley deflected inches past the post. Five minutes passed without a score before Brian Higgins scored Mayo's second point from play. By this time Down had lost their initial fluency and there was little movement in the forward line. Brian Hunt of Mayo picked up the first yellow card of the day although it was unclear why. Danny Toner was dispossessed when looking threatening and when Mayo went up the field they created a goal scoring opening; the hasty Down clearance was picked up by Gary Nolan who put Mayo ahead. Poor wides from Turley and Paul Sheehan were evidence of Down's impatience and lack of discipline before the hard working O'Neill levelled the game with his second point.



Woods struck a free sweet and true to put Down ahead and then Sheehan shot wide when colleagues were better placed. A Mayo delivery into the goalmouth was deflected narrowly wide before Sheehan pointed for his first of the day. Mayo's Derek McDonnell was yellow carded for a double swing and Woods made no mistake from the half way line. So a mixed first half performance but Down with a strong finish ahead by 0 – 9 to 0 – 6. There must have been some strong words in the Down dressing room because they started the second half with real purpose and energy. Dineen showed great control in the first minute when he brought down a Sheehan side line but, hard work done, he shot wide. Bailie made a great catch under strong pressure from the full back before turning and shooting over. Sheehan found himself in space and he pointed from 35 yards. Four minutes in and Fintan Conway pointed after Sheehan won possession in a mass scramble. Brett Nicholson made a determined run into the heart of the Mayo defence and Donal Hughes made no mistake from the flicked pass. Five minutes in and four Down points saw them 7 points ahead and one expected them to push on. Sheehan picked up a yellow for a late tackle while Mayo made a double substitution to stem the Down tide. Was it the substitutions or Down lethargy but between the 7th and 10th minutes Feeney added three points, two of them from frees. The third of these will have annoyed Gerard Monan as backchat to the referee saw the ball brought forward a considerable distance and within Feeney's range.

After 12 minutes Donal Hughes collected Danny Toner's pass and shot over before Feeney pointed another free. The immaculate Woods collected in space, steadied and pointed from 90 yards. Then another set of three Mayo points; Ciaran Charlton from wide on the left, Feeney from a free before Fergal Boland reduced the gap to just 2 – Down 0 – 15 Mayo 0 – 13. Shane Boland picked up a Mayo yellow but again with no Down free it was hard to know why. Conor O'Prey had replaced Dineen and his cross field ball found the on rushing O'Neill who stretched the lead to three. Twenty minutes to go and all to play for but it would be fifteen minutes before we had another score. There were talking points in the meantime but overall play was disjointed and scrappy. On 24 minutes Michael Hughes seemed to be unfairly penalised for a clean tackle but Woods cleared the free. Conway picked up a yellow and then Feeney missed a free from a difficult angle. On 29 minutes Gary Nolan drove into the Down defence; he appeared to over carry but when he went to ground a penalty was awarded. Up came Donal O'Brien from the Mayo goal but Stephen Keith blocked his shot. Down partially cleared the ball but the referee saw an infringement; Down players were

incensed and the referee responded by bringing the ball to the middle of the 20 metre line. Nolan step forward again and Keith responded once more. That was Mayo's last bit of concerted pressure in the game and when Paddy Barrett picked up his second yellow the urgency seemed to leave his team mates. A steeping ball from Woods was blocked out for a 65 which Woods then dispatched for the final score of the game and to see Down home by four points. Gerard Monan and his backroom team will have plenty to work on after this game. The opening minutes of the two halves show what the team is capable of but they will be worried by the loss of control and focus and particularly by that fifteen minute spell between the 20th and 35th minutes of the second half when Down didn't trouble the scoreboard. The defence was sound throughout but the lack of control at midfield and in the Down half forward line meant that Mayo had more possession than they should have. Down's tracking and work off the ball wasn't all it could have been. Conor Woods was strong and reliable at centre back and his scoring contribution was crucial; Michael Hughes had a storming game at corner back while his brother had an unspectacular but highly effective game in stifling the dangerous Brian Hunt. Of the front eight Steven Dineen had an impressive first half but fell away after half time. The only one who was consistent throughout was Conor O'Neill who was a hard working nuisance and chipped in with three excellent points. Others contributed from time to time and the threat always seemed to be there but will have to be more consistent. There were occasions when forwards drove into the Mayo defence but no genuine goal chances were created during the 70 minutes. At times during the game players shot from poor angles, when off balance and when colleagues were much better placed; 18 wides is not acceptable at this level. At the end of the day Down remain on course but it was a better result than performance.

Down: S. Keith; M Conlon; P Flynn; M Hughes; B Nicholson; C Woods (Capt.)(0-5); P Hughes; D Hughes (0-2); F Conway(0-1); D Toner; C O'Neill(0-3); C Bailie(0-2); S Dineen(0-1); M Turley(0-1); P Sheehan(0-2). Subs: C O'Prey for Dineen; C Taggart for P Hughes. Yellow cards: M Conway; P Sheehan

Mayo: D O'Brien; A Brennan; A Connolly; D Kenny; K Kiely; P O'Flynn; P Barrett; G Nolan(0-1); C Charlton(0-1); B Hunt; S Hoban; F Boland(0-1); K Feeney(0-8); D McDonnell; B Higgins(0-1). Subs: S Boland for Hoban; K McDermott for F Boland; C Scahill for S Boland. Yellow cards: B Hunt; D McDonnell; S Boland; P Barrett. Red Cards: P Barrett (2nd Yellow) Referee: Garrett Duffy (Antrim)



AN DÚN

An Dún

Dathana: Dearg agus Dubh



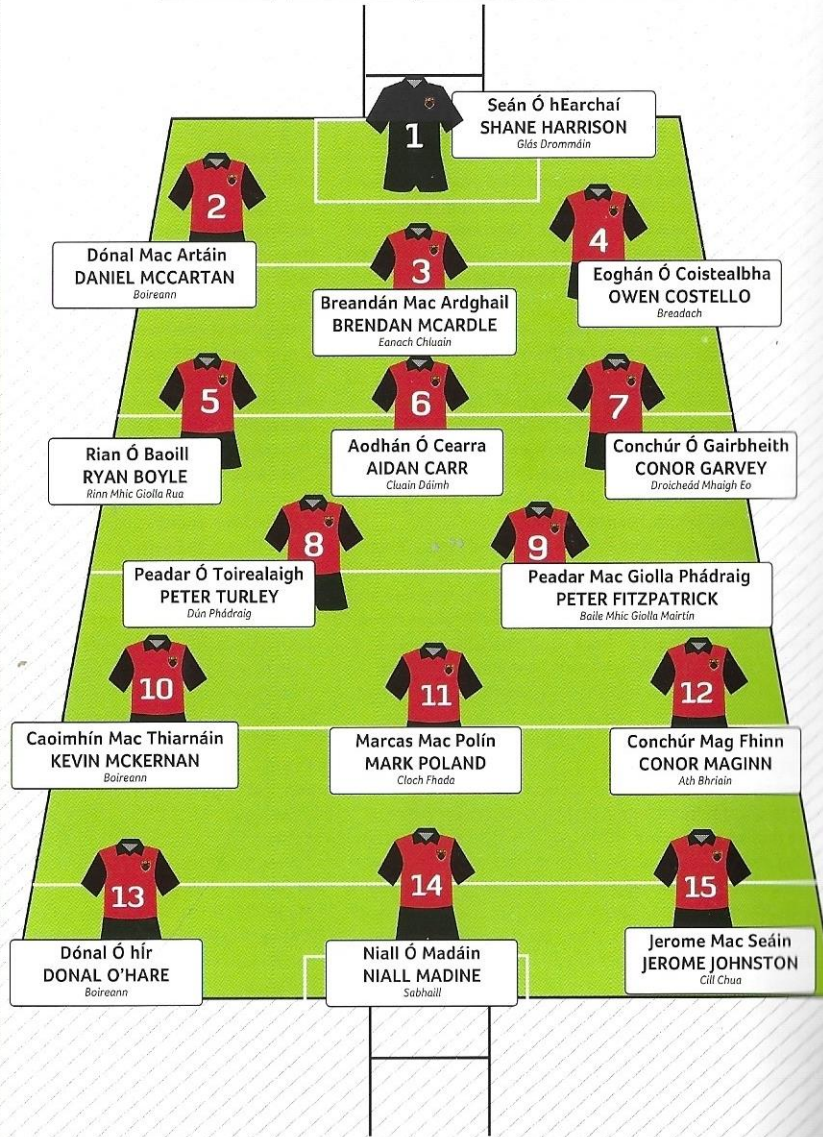
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(Manager)

Roghnoir:
Eamon Burns
Dr. Niall Moyna
Jerome Johnston

Fir Ionaid:

- 16. BRENDAN MCVEIGH
- 17. CONOR LAVERTY
- 18. DARRAGH O'HANLON
- 19. MICHAEL LIVELY
- 20. RYAN JOHNSTON
- 21. BRENDAN COULTER
- 22. DECLAN ROONEY
- 23. NIALL DONNELLY

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1 adh Leath					
2 adh Leath					
IOMLAN					

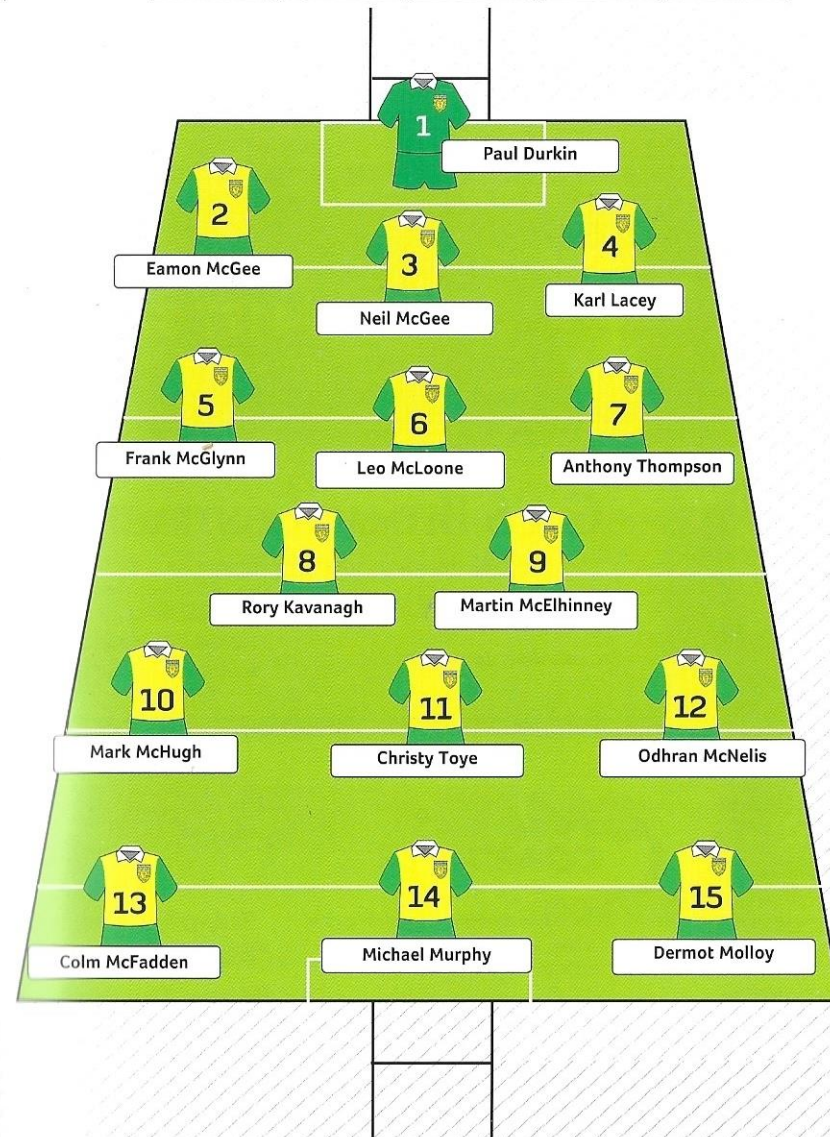


DÚN NA NGALL



Dathana: Glas agus Buí

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachai	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 adh Leath					
2 adh Leath					
IOMLAN					



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(Manager)

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- 17. Darragh O'Connor
- 18. Declan Walsh
- 19. Ryan McHugh
- 20. Gary McFadden
- 21. Hugh McFadden
- 22. Patrick McBrearty
- 23. Luke Keaney
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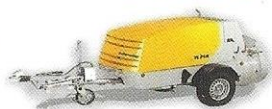
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Did you know Donegal?



Donegal are one of only two Irish counties — the other being Down — who are unbeaten against Kerry in the All-Ireland Senior Football Championship.

They are also one of only five counties to have defeated Kerry in their first Championship meeting — the others being Down (1960), Derry (1958), Dublin (1893) and Cork (1889)



Donegal manager Jim McGuinness became the first Gaelic football inter-county manager to have been offered a role at a professional sports team abroad.



The first Donegal County Board was formed in 1905, with its first football game being against Derry on 17 March 1906. Also in 1906, the county won its first major trophy, the Ulster Senior Hurling Championship, when Donegal overcame Antrim in the final, held at the Moss Road hurling field, by a scoreline of 5-15 to 0-1. Donegal made their first appearance at Croke Park on Sunday 6 April 1952. The occasion was a National Football League semi-final and their opponents that day were Cork.



Donegal's greatest footballing accomplishment yet was realised on 20 September 1992 when they defeated the highly-fancied Dublin by a scoreline of 0-18 to 0-14 to take the Sam Maguire Cup for the first time. Brian McEniff, serving in his second spell as Donegal manager, pulled the strings. Man of the Match Manus Boyle scored 0-9 (four from play), while Gary Walsh pulled off a great save from Vinny Murphy at the end.



The population of the county was 161,137 according to the 2011 census. It has also been known as (County) Tyrconnell (Tír Chonaill), after the historic territory of the same name.



The county is the most mountainous in Ulster consisting chiefly of two ranges of low mountains; the Derryveagh Mountains in the north and the Bluestack Mountains in the south, with Mount Errigal at 749 metres (2,457 ft) the highest peak.

There is archaeological evidence for settlements around the town dating to prehistoric times including the remains of round forts and other defensive earthworks.



Donegal Town itself is famous for being the former centre of government of the O'Donnell Clan, the great Gaelic royal family who ruled Tír Chonaill in west Ulster for centuries and who played a pivotal rôle in Irish history.

Glenveagh National Park

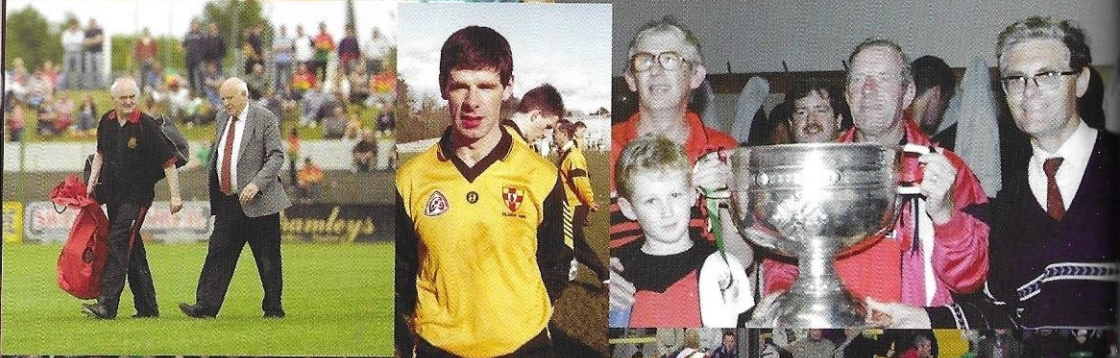


Donegal town



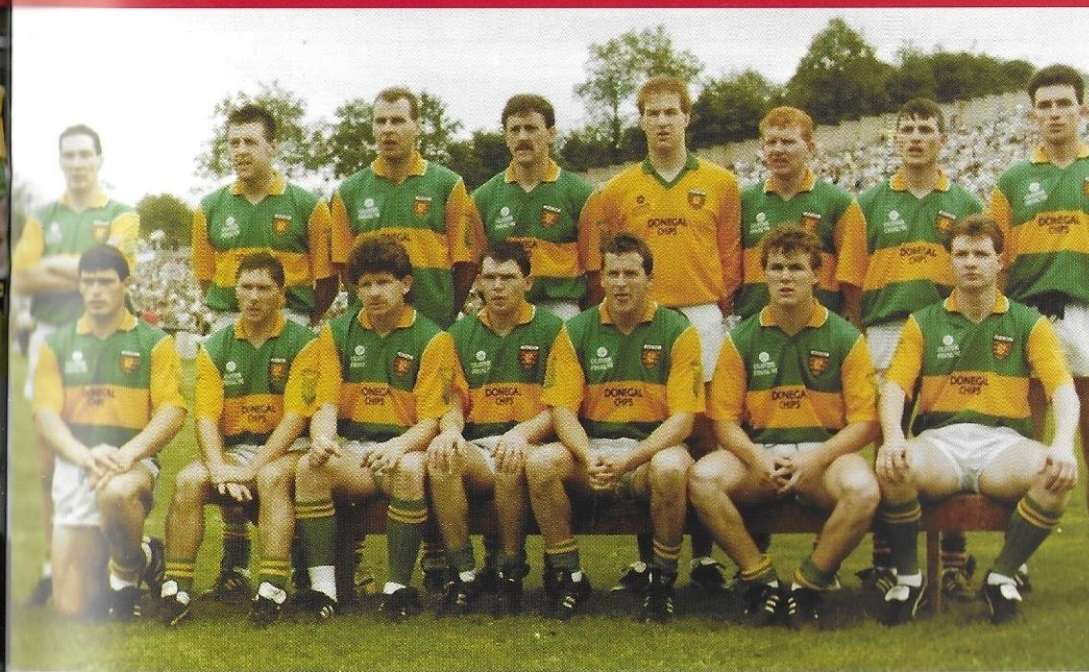
Down Memory Lane

Photos courtesy of Louis McNally



Down Memory Lane

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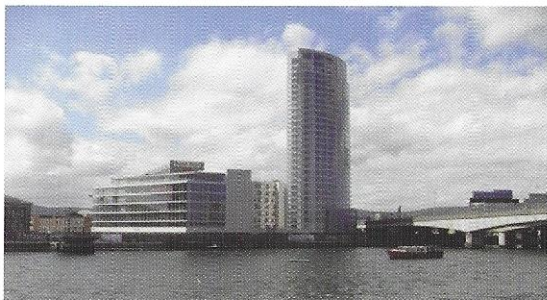
Answers to Junior Quiz

- (1) Conor Maginn
- (2) Mark Poland
- (3) Benny Coulter twice Conor Maginn and Donal O'Hare
- (4) Tyrone
- (5) Mark Poland

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Pub Brain Teaser Quiz answers

(1) Tom O' Hare (2) Trevor Crowe (3) Adrian Lambie (4) Pat Fox (5) Joe Rabbitte (6) Charlie Wrenn.
PS Micheal O' Muircheartaigh said over the microphone 'I've seen it all now a Rabbitte chasing a Fox around Croke Park.
(What would he have said if all six had been involved in the same game)

Junior Quiz

(By Lee Murphy age 10)

- 1 Who scored the Down goal against Monaghan in the Allianz League?
- 2 Who scored the two Down goals against Armagh in the Allianz League?
- 3 Who scored the four Down goals against Louth in the Allianz league?
- 4 Who does Down play in the first round of the Ulster senior championship?
- 5 Who is the captain of the Down team?

Answers to Junior Quiz Page 31

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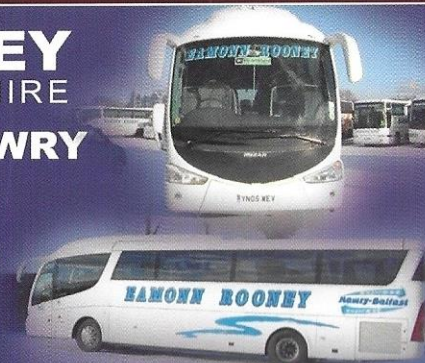
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Ulster Scór Sinsir Semi Final

On Sunday 9th of March the Down County Scór Sinsir champions travelled to Clann Éireann Lurgan, to take on Armagh and Antrim winners in the second Ulster Scór Sinsir Semi Final.

The evening can only be described as an amazing night for Cultural. The standard was unreal and in many competitions the winners were only clear when the results were announced.

At the end of the evening glory went to the eight talented young dancers from Carryduff. The girls were announced by Bean A Ti Anne Quinn as the first winners of the evening and as the results progressed they were to be the only Down winners. Ballad Group and Instrumental music went to Antrim, with Armagh winning Sets, Solo Singing, Recitation and Léiriú.

Leaving the hall on Sunday at the end of the competitions can best be summed up as a proud night for all the Down competitions. They performed superbly and in many competitions the standard was as high as that of an Ulster final.

Well Done everyone and we wish Carryduff best wishes as they will perform on home soil as Down host the Ulster Final in St Patrick's Grammar School Downpatrick on 22nd March starting at 5pm

Results

Ceili Dancing	Down	Carrduff
Solo Singing	Armagh	Silverbridge
Recitation	Armagh	Carrickcruppin
Instrumental Music	Antrim	Portglenone
Léiriú	Armagh	Cullyhanna
BalladGroup	Antrim	Aghagallon
Rince Set	Armagh	Killeavy



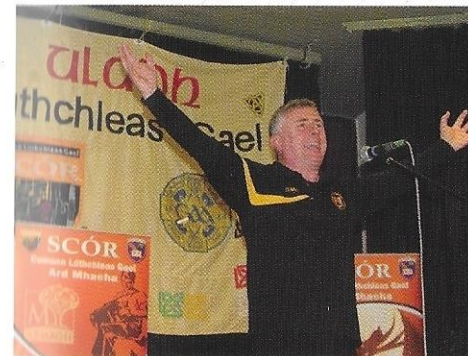
Winning Carryduff dancers



Clonduff Instrumental Music group L_R Sean Murray, Stephen Murray & Paul Kelly



Cumann Pheadar Naofa dancers



Declan Mc Conaghy gave a brilliant performance in the Recitation entitled The All Ireland Final It MAGIC



Gareth Mc Greevy in Solo Singing

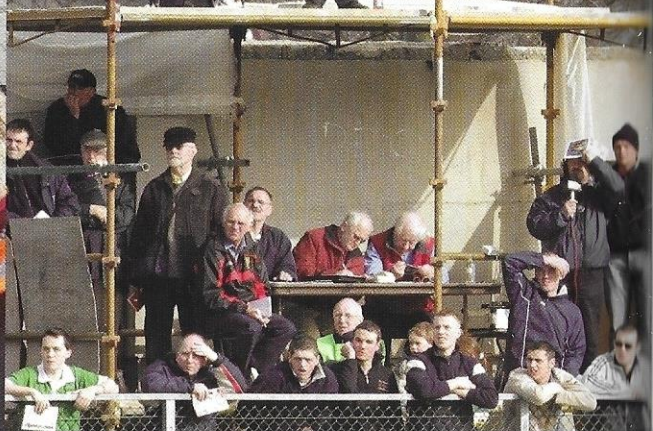
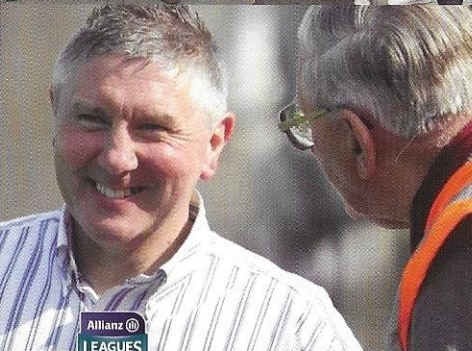
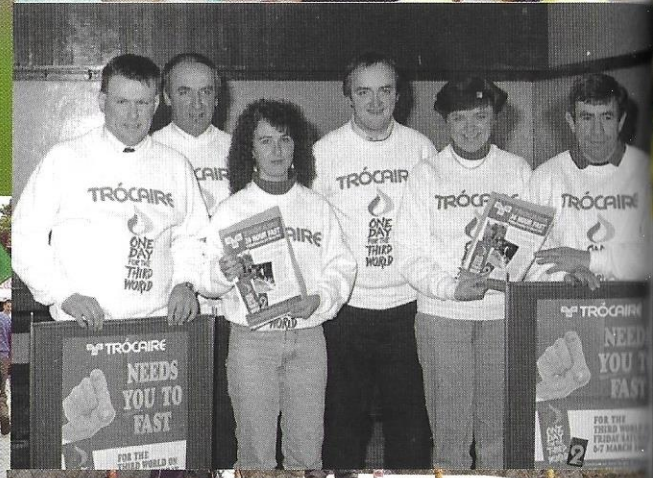
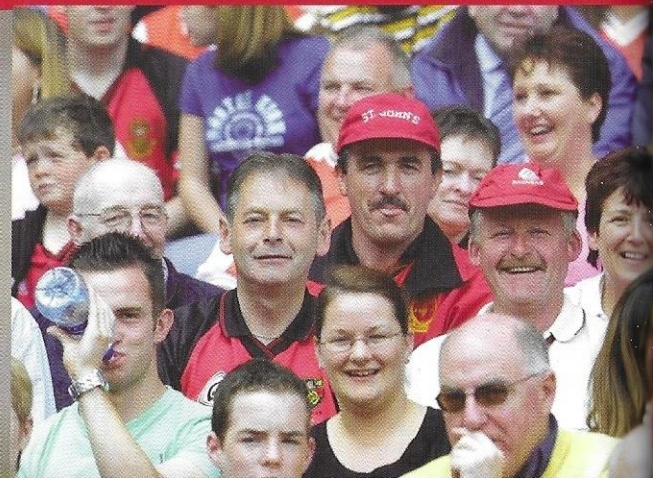
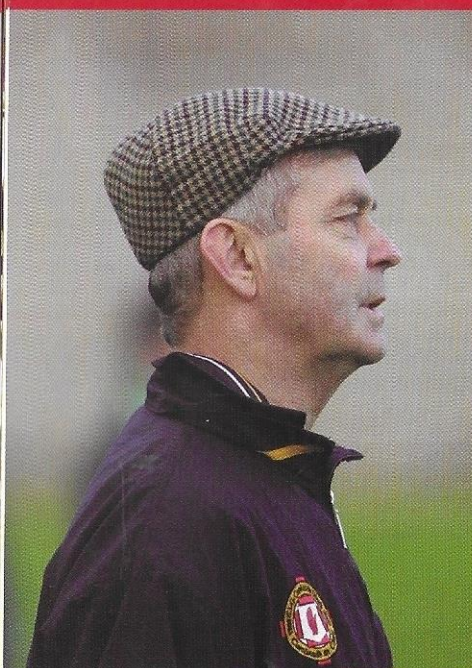


Kilcoo group who performed in the Ulster Semi Final



Saul Ballad Group

Recognise Anyone in these photos?



Photos courtesy of Louis McNally



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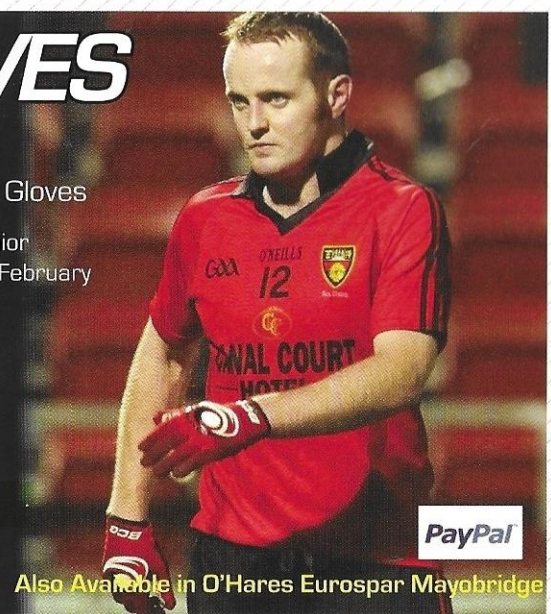
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Down 1-11 v Monaghan 0-14

07.02.2014 (Fri)

Round 2 Athletic Grounds 20:00
Armagh 2-05 v Down 2-07

01.03.2014 (Sat)

Round 3 Páirc Esler, Newry 19:00
Down 4-16 v Louth 0-9

09.03.2014 (Sun)

Round 4 Tuam Stadium 14:00
Galway 1-12 v Down 0-8

16.03.2014 (Sun)

Round 5 Páirc Esler, Newry 14:00
Down v Donegal

29.03.2014 (Sat)

Round 6 Páirc Tailteann,
Navan 19:00
Meath v Down

06.04.2014 (Sun)

Round 7
O'Moore Park Portlaoise 15:00
Laois v Down

Team	Played	W	L	D	F	A	Pts
1 DONEGAL	4	3	0	1	76	49	7
2 DOWN	4	2	1	1	63	49	5
3 MONAGHAN	4	2	1	1	64	51	5
4 ARMAGH	4	2	1	1	70	60	5
5 LAOIS	4	2	2	0	64	68	4
6 MEATH	4	1	2	1	66	77	3
7 GALWAY	4	1	3	0	58	77	2
8 LOUTH	4	0	3	1	48	78	1

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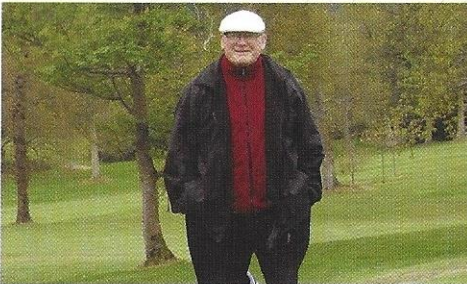
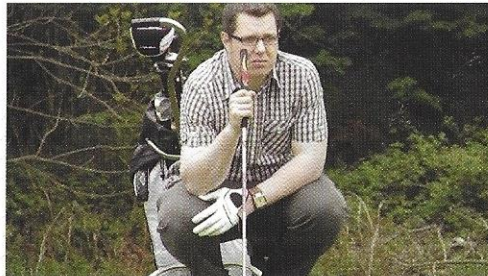
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Down GAA Golf Classic 2014

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The 2014 Down GAA Golf Classic will take place on Sunday 11th May in Kilkeel Golf Club. This is a return to the excellent facilities at Kilkeel which hosted the event superbly in 2013 and once again the Classic is sponsored by Granco.

Already Entries are coming in with the price for a team of 4 remaining at €160.00 which includes your meal. To get your team entered on the Time Sheet you need to contact Mary McGrath on 02841752210 Down GAA Clubs can also enter for the Sean O Neill Cup which is a special competition for Down Clubs, the criteria being that the four ball must all be members of the same Down Club in 2014 .

Even if you can't play Golf you can show your support for the GAA in Down by :

- Sponsor a Tee, have your Logo displayed and have your name on the Scorecard for €200.00
- Sponsor a Hole and have you logo displayed for €100.00

There are excellent Prizes to be won and a great day's Golf is guaranteed so don't delay make sure your entry is in on time.

- To sponsor a Tee or a Hole contact
- Michael McArdle 07718767409
- Down County Office 02843770880
- Mary McGrath 02841752210

Supporting The County – Supporting the Team

PUT YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD FOR DOWN

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Are You a Down person who has never walked in the Mourne's ?

This will all change on May 17th When you can show your support for the Men of the Mourne's by signing up to walk for Down

The Mourne Mountains are our biggest natural asset and now on Saturday May 17th they are set to come to the aid of Down GAA.

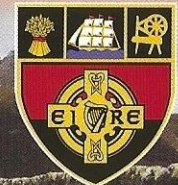
On that day the eve of our Ulster Championship Meeting with Tyrone, everyone gets their chance to play their part and start on the road to what we hope will be Croke Park.

Down GAA are organising the Mourne Challenge a challenge of two parts, for the serious and for the leisurely enthusiast who want to do their bit to support the County Teams.

The Serious Challenge is the 26 mile trek from Donard Park in Newcastle to Rostrevor, here the challenge is for teams of 4 and the entry fee is £400.00 per team. The Dander is for those who want to leisurely walk in the Mourne's and commences at Donard Car Park taking in some of the most natural beauty spots in the Mourne's entry fee for the dander is £20.00.

For more details contact Sean Og on 07739700705 or e mail secretary.down@gaa.ie
Put Your Best Foot Forward for Down

Supporting the County – Supporting the Team



An Dún

Pub Brain Teaser Quiz

- (1) He played in one of the All-Ireland senior finals for Down in the 1960s?
- (2) He played for Cavan in the 2000s and his christian name is Trevor?
- (3) He played for Cavan against Tyrone in the 1995 Ulster final and his christian name is Adrian?
- (4) He played for the Tipperary hurlers in the 1980s and 1990s and his christian name is Pat?
- (5) He played for the Galway hurlers in the 1990s and his christian name is Joe?
- (6) He played for Offaly against Down in the 1961 All-Ireland football senior final and his name is Charlie?

Answers on Page 32

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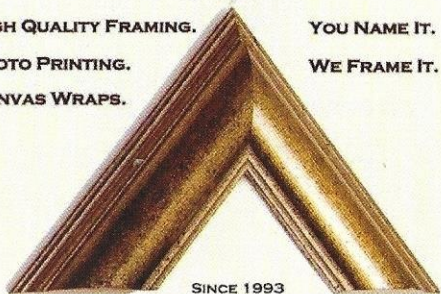
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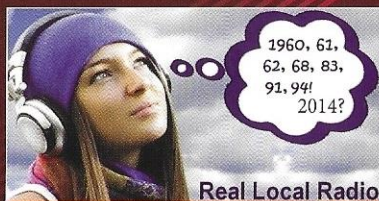


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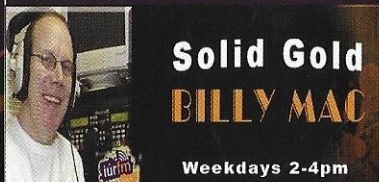
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Information for Patrons Attending Games at Pairc Esler



Down GAA would like to take this opportunity to outline some changes that are ongoing in relation to the organisation of major games at Pairc Esler. The Changes are largely twofold, the first in relation to entry to the ground and the second in relation to car parking.

Entry to the Ground

In 2014 Down GAA are implementing the Bosca System as designed and approved by Croke Park. This means that everyone over the age of 16 must have a ticket to gain entry to the ground on match days. Tickets for Allianz League games can be purchased in advance for the discounted price of €9.00 for home or away fixtures. The price at the ticket unit will be €13.00/€15.00 so a saving is to be made by buying in advance. Tickets can be purchased in advance from the County Office in Castlewellan or Supervalu in Newry or Downpatrick. At Pairc Esler we will no longer be accepting Cash at Turnstiles, you will have already I hope seen the new mobile ticket unit in place where we ask you to purchase your ticket before entering the ground. This new system allows for greater accountability and transparency in that everyone entering the ground is in receipt of a ticket which they then present at the turnstiles. We appreciate that there are teething problems always associated when you try to change the habits of a lifetime but this is the way forward and the Down Mobile Ticket Unit will be a feature at Club Championship Venues throughout the summer.

Parking

Changing the habits of a lifetime also relates to parking close to Pairc Esler. As you will be aware the Dual Carriageway to and from Newry and Warrenpoint is a very busy road and the fact of the matter is that for SAFETY reasons there can be no parking on the hard shoulder of the meridian of the carriageway. Let us just think about it for a minute the anxious and excited young Down Fan opens the passenger door of the car and jumps out onto the inside lane of the carriageway, in front of a travelling vehicle, it would be all our worst nightmares.

The road along Kilmorey Street must also be kept clear of parked vehicles to allow for the contingency of a major incident/accident in the area to allow for Ambulance/Fire access and egress; we have a duty of care to the whole community to ensure that roads are kept clear.

The same scenario applies in the surrounding residential areas we cannot make people prisoners in their own homes for the duration of our games because we just want to park close to the ground even if it means that we block their entrances.

Match parking is fully available in Greenbank Industrial Estate and with the co operation of the PSNI we have a traffic management plan in place to ensure that patrons who park in Greenbank will get priority exit after the game.

On Saturday 1st March we will be operating a two lane exit from Greenbank, the left hand lane will be for traffic wishing to leave by Newry and the right hand lane will be for traffic who seeks to leave the area via the Dual Carriageway to the South Down Area. We ask for your cooperation in this respect.

There are many town centre car parks in Newry which are accessible on Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons, these Car Parks are only a 10 minute walk from the ground and you would avoid any traffic delays after the game.

Our Priority is to ensure that all of our Patrons get to and from the game safely, there will we appreciate be inconvenience involved in that you may have to walk a bit further but is that not a better scenario than not arriving there at all.

Can we suggest that you give yourself an extra 10 minutes on your journey when leaving home for a game to allow for the Parking and the new ticketing system.

On behalf of Down GAA I thank you for your continued support and cooperation on all of these matters.



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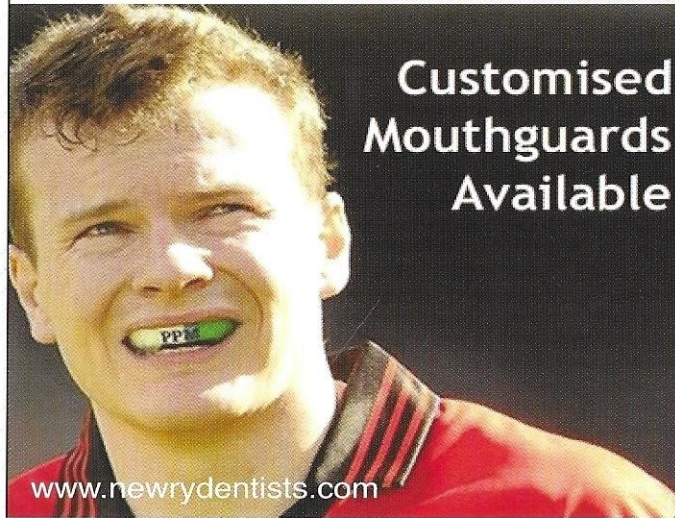
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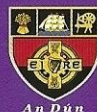
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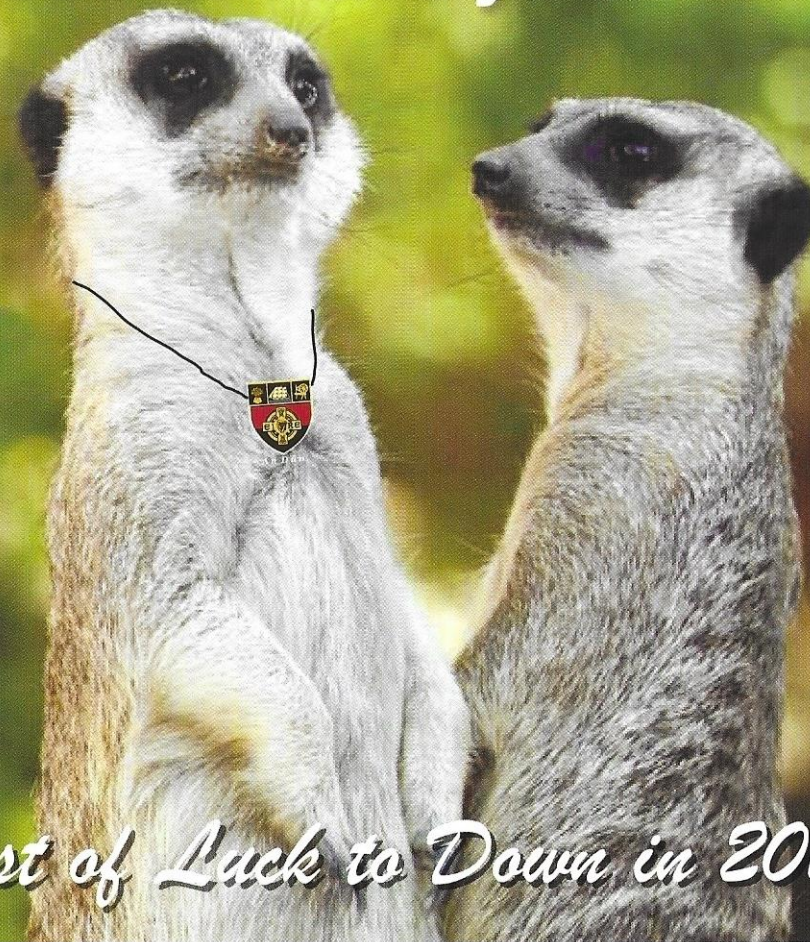
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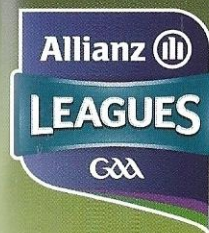
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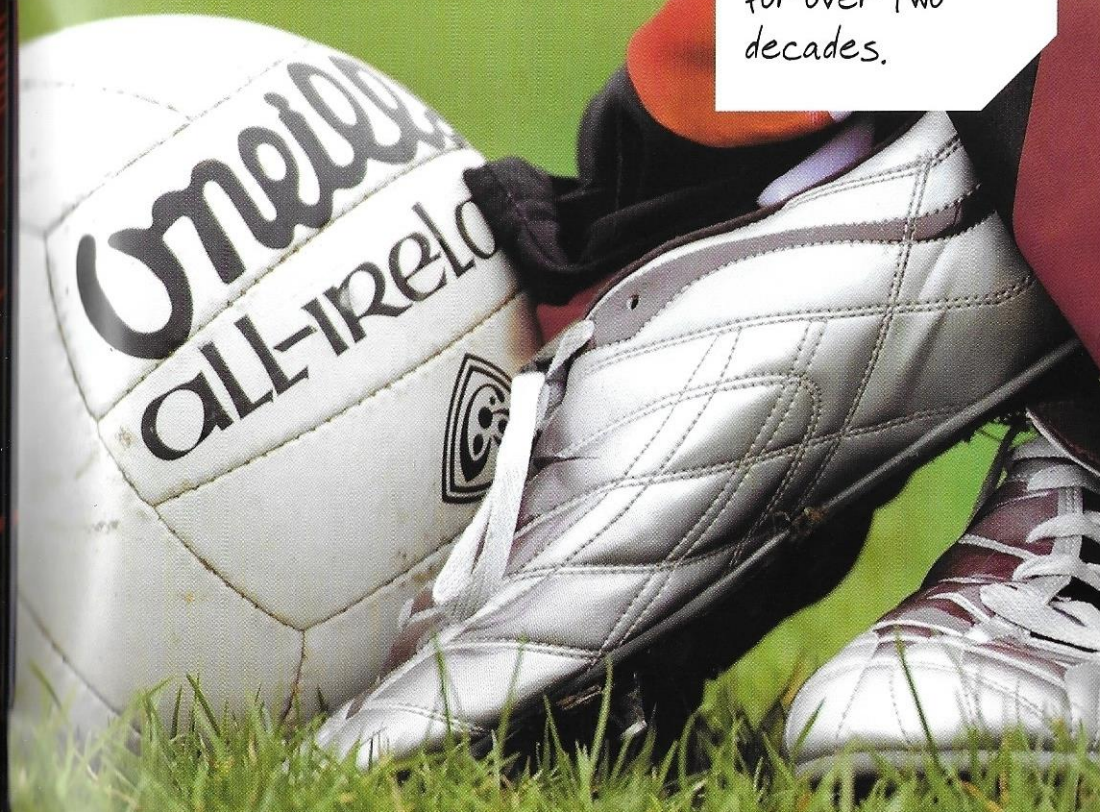
Answers to half-time quiz

- (1) Antrim flag
- (2) Kildare
- (3) Carlow (Green red and yellow) Offaly (Green white and gold)
- (4) In 1968 Bobby Langan the kit man marched at the rear of the parade behind Danny Kelly and Tom O'Hare
- (5) Tipperary, Dublin, Kilkenny, Down, Cork and Wexford
- (6) George Lavery received the new Anglo Celt cup in 1963
- (7) Faith of our Fathers
- (8) Dublin lost to Meath in the semi-final 5.09 to 0.13
- (9) Cavan, Fermanagh, Derry, Mayo and Dublin
- (10) Pat O'Shea, Mickey Harte, Jack O'Connor, Conor Counihan, Pat Gilroy, Jim McGuinness and Jim Gavin



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GAA - ALLIANZ NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION 2

Down win puts Donegal into scrap for promotion

DOWN1-09
 DONEGAL0-10

REPORT BY CHRIS MCNULTY
 AT PAIRC ESLER

A FIRST defeat of the League season leaves Donegal firmly in a scrap for promotion heading into the final two series of games in Division 2.

Down were full value for a two-point win at Pairc Esler on a day when Donegal played second fiddle for too long.

Donegal misfired completely, hitting twelve wides and dropping another five efforts into the hands of Down goalkeeper Shane Harrison.

Down led from start to finish and were much more economical with Niall Madine's goal in the 13th minute the key score as James McCartan's side moved to join Donegal and Monaghan on seven points at the top of the table.

There was no late rescue here as there had been when Michael Murphy scored a dramatic, late equaliser to deny Meath in Ballybofey last weekend.

Having been out-foxed by Meath in winning primary possession, Donegal again found themselves chasing the ball from their own kick-outs, with Kevin McKernan the stand-out here, while Mark Poland's direct side caused quite some heartache for the Donegal rearguard.

Madine's goal gave Down a 1-6 to 0-5 lead at half-time and even though Donegal began the second half well a scoreless twenty-four minutes by Jim McGuinness's side, a period where they hit four wides in a row, proved costly.

The writing had been posted early on. With Conor Lavery clipping over the opening score, Down were in a lead they wouldn't relinquish.

They pulled the chips to their side of the table in emphatic fashion with the game's opening goal.

Full-back Brendan McArdle picked up a break in the middle of the park and cut a swathe through the Donegal rearguard. With a firing squad lining up on the edge of the square, it was Madine who tucked home after taking receipt of Donal O'Hare's ball across goal.

As concerning as the narrative was becoming for Donegal, it might well have been worse as Down should have had a penalty in the eighth minute when, after Lavery and Poland combined, the former was hauled down by Paul Durcan.

Somehow, referee Cathal O'Hagan waved away the penalty appeals, with the Donegal netminder a touch fortunate to escape sanction.

Enraged Down did not when Madine slotted home in a busy goal-mouth to give the Mourne side the edge and there were worrying signs agains for Donegal with Down well on top around the middle third when it came to winning possession.

It was the 18th minute before Dermot Molloy opened Donegal's account, slicing over after Eamon McGee superbly forced a turnover to get the ball in Donegal hands.

But Down's response was instant with midfielder Kevin McKernan sweeping over from out on the left flank.

Michael Murphy, with a majestic effort from the tightest of positions,

and Molloy each had scores cancelled out by Mark Poland and O'Hare (free).

Frees by Murphy and McFadden kept Donegal ticking along, but two quick-fire points by Poland and Madine ensured that Down had a four-point lead as they headed for the sanctuary of the dressing room.

Martin McElhinney slotted over 32 seconds after the re-start and when Leo McLoone showed a neat set of skills that wouldn't have been out of place on a basketball court to reduce the margin to two there was a sense that Donegal had found their way.

However, they were back where they'd started as O'Hare (free) and Conor Garvey restored Down's four-point cushion.

Murphy sailed over a '45, but a barren spell followed with neither side managing to raise a flag for some 21 minutes - 24 in Donegal's case.

Even with a triple substitution, sending Neil Gallagher, Patrick McBrearty and David Walsh into action, Donegal just couldn't get a foothold.

Their attack had been off colour and for the final ten minutes Jim McGuinness sent on young Darach O'Connor - who has a busy few days ahead with the MacLarnon Cup final and a game with the Donegal Under-21s to come - in a bid to salvage a goal.

Lavery posted to give Down a four-point lead again and the game was up for Donegal. A long-range effort by Gallagher and a McFadden free, won by O'Connor, brought Donegal to within striking distance.

However, Lavery took a black card for the team around halfway to cut short McBrearty's intention to make an incision. McLoone and Mark McHugh combined from the free, but when McLoone's floated ball into the square landed in the hands of veteran sub Benny Coulter Down were victors and vanquished Donegal left to ponder a first defeat of the campaign.

Down: Shane Harrison; Daniel McCartan, Brendan McArdle, Owen Costello; Ryan Boyle, Aidan Carr, Conor Garvey (0-1); Peter Turley, Kevin McKernan (0-1); Conor Lavery (0-1), Mark Poland (0-2), Conor Maginn (0-1); Donal O'Hare (0-3, 2f), Niall Madine (1-0), Jerome Johnston. Subs: Ryan Johnston for J.Johnston (56 mins), Benny Coulter for Madine (68 mins), Peter Fitzpatrick for Lavery (black card, 72 mins).

Donegal: Paul Durcan; Eamon McGee, Neil McGee, Karl Lacey; Anthony Thompson, Leo McLoone (0-1), Frank McGlynn; Rory Kavanagh, Martin McElhinney (0-1); Mark McHugh, Christy Toye, Odhrán MacNiallais; Colm McFadden (0-2, 2f), Michael Murphy (0-3, 1f, 1 '45), Dermot Molloy (0-2). Subs: Neil Gallagher (0-1) for Kavanagh (45 mins), Patrick McBrearty for Molloy (45 mins), David Walsh for MacNiallais (45 mins), Darach O'Connor for Toye (60 mins).

Referee: Cathal O'Hagan (Tyrone)