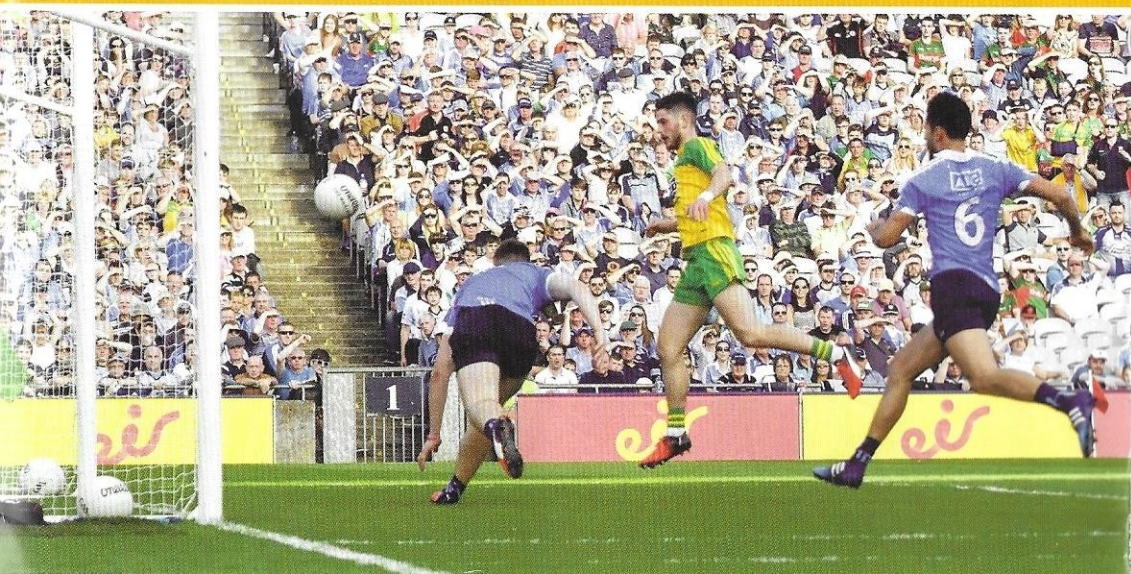




ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Round 3



Dún na nGall

V

Baile Átha Cliath



Dé Domhnaigh, 26ú Feabhra 2017 - 2.00 i.n.,
I bPáirc Sheáin Mhic Cumhaill, Bealach Féich

Referee: Ciaran Branagan - An Dún

Clár Oifigiúil: €3.00

KNG group

A WORLD CLASS LEADER RECOGNISED FOR DELIVERING INNOVATIVE AND ROBUST INFRASTRUCTURE SOLUTIONS AT HOME AND INTERNATIONALLY

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT WWW.KNGROUP.COM

OR CONTACT US ON +353 (0)1 4575000

CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Ar son Bord na Condae CLG Dhún na nGall, ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur romhaibh go léir anseo inniu go Páirc Sheáin Mhic Cumhaill.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you here today to Mac Cumhaill Park for this third round fixture of the 2017 Allianz National Football League. On behalf of Bord na Condae, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to the Dublin team, management, officials and supporters. We are delighted to be hosting the All-Ireland Senior Football champions of 2015 & 2016 in Ballybofey this afternoon and we look forward to an exciting game between our two counties who have built up a very healthy and respectful rivalry over the past 6 – 7 years.



Again on behalf of Bord na Condae and all the Gaels of Donegal at home and abroad, I must acknowledge Neil Gallagher who retired from Senior inter-county football this week. Neil has been a giant in many ways for Donegal over a long career in the green and gold and without doubt one of the greatest midfield players we have ever produced. An absolute gentleman, we wish Neil well for the future as no doubt he will continue to line out for his club Glenswilly in 2017 and beyond.

Finally, I hope that you enjoy this afternoon's game and a safe journey home to both the Dublin & Donegal supporters.

Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh as an chluiche agus go mbeidh turas slán sábháilte ag lucht leanúna Áth Cliath agus Dhún na nGall agus iad ag pilleadh na bhaile.

Is mise le meas,
Seán Ó Duinnín,
 Cathaoirleach.

Buíochas

The Seán Mac Cumhaills club wish to express their thanks to all who contributed to today's programme and running of events. To all the sponsors and advertisers for taking advertisements out and to our club members who gave up their time in preparing to make today possible by helping man the shops, help with traffic and ensure the game goes off without incident. An event of this magnitude requires a large support base and we thank all those who have helped.

Many thanks go out to all those who contributed the articles in this programme: Peter Campbell (Donegal Democrat), Tom Comack (Donegal Democrat), Frank Craig (Donegal Post), Kieran Cunningham (Irish Daily Star), Ryan Ferry (Donegal News), Fr. Seán Gallagher Ed. Byrne (Donegal PRO) and Chris McNulty (Donegal Sport Hub). A special word of praise to Geraldine Diver who has supplied photographs for this programme.

Referee
 Stand by referee
 Linesman
 Sideline official

Ciaran Branagan - An Dún
 Padraig Hughes - Ard Mhacha
 Martin McNally - Muineacháin
 Anthony Marron - Muineacháin

Good luck

to the Donegal team in the 2017 Allianz National Football League!

Donegal Creameries



Re-sealable for extra freshness

Easy to pour

Amhrán na bhFiann

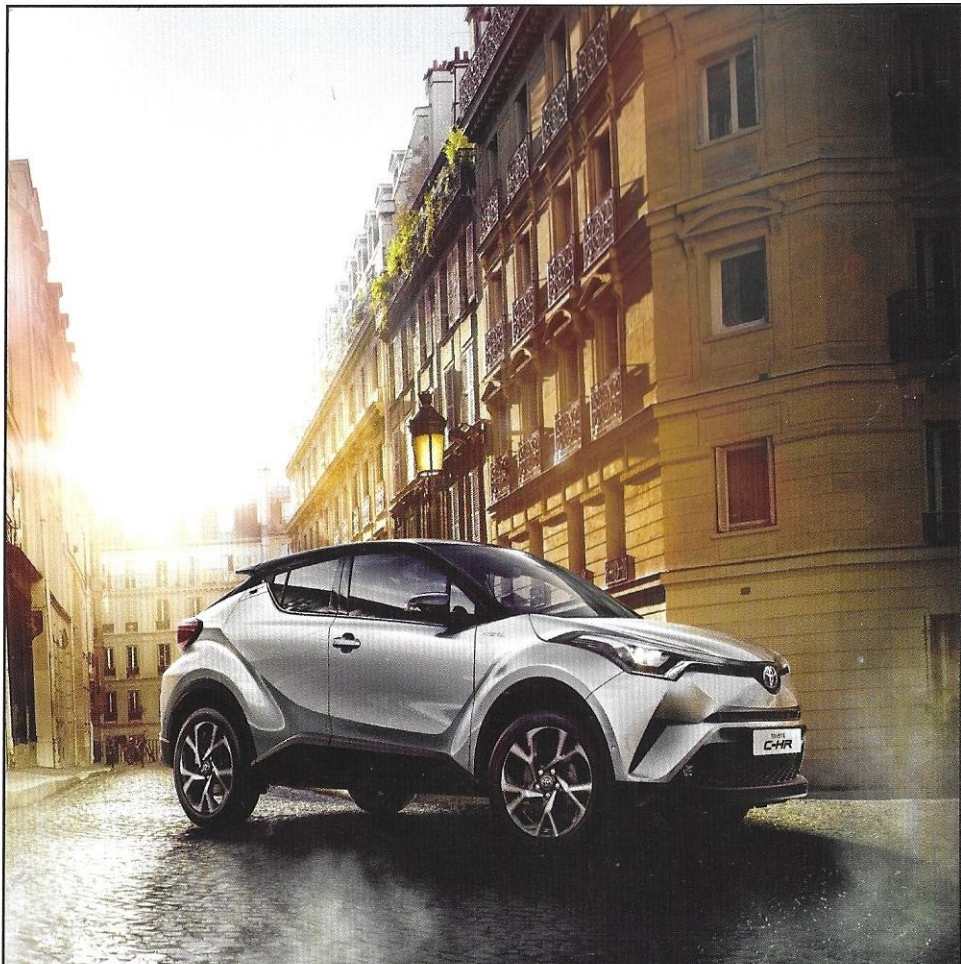
Sinne Fianna Fáil
 Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,
 Buíon dár slua
 Thar toinn do ráinig chugainn.
 Faoi mhóid bheith saor,
 Seantír ár sinsir feasta
 Ní fhágfar faoin tíorán ná faoin tráil
 Anocht a théim sa bhearna baoil,
 Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil
 Le gunna scréach faoi lámhach na bpiléar
 Seo libh canaigí Amhrán na bhFiann.

Allianz Football League Roinn 1

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Dublin	2	1	1	0	28	21	3
2	Tyrone	2	1	1	0	28	22	3
3	Monaghan	2	1	1	0	21	19	3
4	Kerry	2	1	0	1	36	35	2
5	Mayo	2	1	0	1	27	27	2
6	Donegal	2	1	0	1	36	38	2
7	Cavan	2	0	1	1	18	25	1
8	Roscommon	2	0	0	2	27	34	0

GROUND REGULATIONS

- All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Ground Regulations and to the Rules and regulations of Cumann Luthchleas Gael. Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations.
- Fireworks, smoke canisters, gas- horns, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles and other similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the ground and any person in found to be in possession of such an article or container may be refused entry or ejected from the ground
- The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the ground and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground.
- The unauthorized climbing of any structure, walls or buildings in this ground strictly forbidden.
- Unnecessary noise from the use of radio sets, gas-horns and behavior likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind, including foul or abusive language, is not permitted in any part of the ground.
- Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any object the pitch.
- Unauthorized persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play.
- Any person who fails to comply with the instruction from a Garda or Steward may be ejected from the ground.
- In general, the right of admission is reserved to the Ground Management.
- The Ground Management reserves the right to refuse admission to or eject any person who refuses to be searched by a member of the Garda Síochána.
- Any person who remains in or obstructs a gangway or circulation area may be ejected from the ground.
- The Ground Management reserve the right for it's servants or agents to remove from the ground any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence in the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.
- All persons in the grounds are reminded of their obligation under Section 18(3) of the Fire Services Act 1981 to ensure that their behaviour does not present a danger from fire to anyone using the grounds.



All New Toyota C-HR
From €26,895 or €269 per month

Kelly's Toyota

Check out our website kellystoyota.com



TRADE-INS WELCOME
 FINANCE AVAILABLE

TOYOTA Dealer cover
 ASSURED USED CARS



TOYOTA

BUILT FOR A BETTER WORLD



LETTERKENNY Tel: 074 91 21385 | MOUNTCHARLES Tel: 074 97 35011

Donegal fund raising visit to New York

A launch of the Donegal trip to New York will take place in the Villa Rose on Sunday the 26th Feb at 4.30pm in the Villa Rose Hotel, this is open to all members of the public Donegal will play New York in a two game Challenge for the **Corn Cuimhneacháin Jimmy Mc Gonagle**. Jimmy's connection to New York and Donegal GAA is well known, Jimmy is an Uncle of Anthony Molloy Donegal's All Ireland Football winning senior team captain of 1992

Donegal will fly out for the east coast on Tuesday, April 11 and will take on New York in a challenge clash on Thursday, April 13 at Gaelic Park. On Friday, April 14 there will be a bumper Golf Classic at Pelham Bay and Split Rock Golf Course. Donegal will then play their second match on the trip on the Saturday evening, 7.30pm again at Gaelic Park, before ending the trip with a 'meet and greet' event on the Sunday at a venue and time yet to be announced.

100% of the fund go to the Donegal Training fund along with the Training Centre fund. All Details of the Golf Classic & full trip are available on Donegalgaa.ie

Ticket No: _____	 C.L.G. Dhún na nGall Training Fund Draw PRIZES	
Name _____	<small>SEE LIST OF PRIZES ON PAGE 10</small>	First Prize: 2 x Flights & 6 Nights Accommodation for 2 in New York plus \$500 Spending Money <small>Departure 11th April returning 18th April 2017</small>
Address _____		Second Prize: €500
_____		Third Prize: €250
_____		Fourth Prize: 2 x Donegal Club Pass Cards. Free Admission for 2 to all Club League & Championship Matches for 2017
Tel: _____		Fifth Prize: 1 x Framed Signed Donegal Jersey
Draw will take place on Sunday 26th March at Donegal v Monaghan Match in Ballyshannon		Ticket No: _____
Ticket €10.00 (Permit Granted) Book of three tickets €20.00		

Allianz Football League Roinn 1- Round 3

FIXTURES

Saturday 25th February
 Sunday 26th February
 Sunday 26th February
 Sunday 26th February

Mayo v Roscommon
 Donegal v Dublin
 Kerry v Monaghan
 Tyrone v Cavan



DONEGAL GAA PLAYER SPONSORSHIP

CLG Dhún na nGall wish to thank all the companies & individuals who have so generously sponsored our players in 2017

NEIL MCGEE

**Bonner Gill Accountants,
Letterkenny**

MARTIN MCELHINNEY

**Boyce Centra, Carrigart,
Dunfanaghy & Falcarragh**

MARK MCHUGH

**MCM Spirits & Liguers,
Ballyshannon**

CAOLAN WARD

**Villa Rose Hotel,
Ballybofey**

CIARAN THOMPSON

Harcourt Hotel, Dublin

PATRICK MCBREARTY

**Downings Bay Hotel,
Downings**

JASON MCGEE

Rosguill Holiday Park

FRANK MCGLYNN

Marley Travel, Letterkenny

RYAN MCHUGH

Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny

MICHAEL MURPHY

MCR Group, Dublin

STEPHEN MCBREARTY

McShane Coaches, Kilcar

KARL LACEY

**Michael Kelly Glebe
Builders, Donegal Town**

NEIL GALLAGHER

Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny

PADDOY MCGRATH

O'Neill Sports, Strabane

KIERAN GILLESPIE

**Pat the Cope Gallagher TD,
Dungloe**

MARTIN O'REILLY

**Sand House Hotel,
Rossnowlagh**

CAOLAN MCGONAGLE

**Senator Robert Gallagher,
Monaghan**

EOIN MCHUGH

**The Krusty Kitchen
Donegal Town**

EOGHAN BAN GALLAGHER

**Total Splicing Solutions,
Donegal Town**

CONOR MORRISON

**McGlynn's Resturant
Castlefinn**

DARACH O'CONNOR

**Dalys Filling Station,
Lifford**

ÉAMONN DOHERTY

**Macs Mace & Deli,
Letterkenny**

HUGH MCFADDEN

The Harbour Bar, Killybegs

PAUL BRENNAN

**Great Northern Hotel
Bundoran**

MARK A MCGINLEY

**Mick McGinley
Dunfanaghy**

MICHAEL CARROLL

M & N Groundworks, Dublin

PETER BOYLE

Tinney Fuels, Letterkenny

RORY CARR

Kelly's Toyota

BRENDAN MCGOLE

KN Group

MICHAEL LANGAN

**McGinley Motors Volvo,
Letterkenny**

ETHAN O'DONNELL

**Councillor Ciaran Brogan,
Letterkenny**

CIAN MULLIGAN

Coyle Coaches, Gweedore

CHRISTY MCLAUGHLIN

Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town

MARK COYLE

Donegal Piper, Raphoe

ENDA MCCORMICK

**Bonnar Engineering,
Letterkenny**

JAMIE BRENNAN

**Allingham Arms Hotel
Bundoran**

DARREN MCGEEVER

Letterkenny IT

EAMONN MCGRATH

Donegal Piper, Raphoe

MICHAEL BOYLE

O'Neill & Brennan, Dublin

CONOR GIBBONS

Highland Radio, Letterkenny

DANIEL MCLAUGHLIN

Impacto Print, Letterkenny

Donegal aiming to end Dublin's unbeaten streak

By Ryan Ferry (Donegal News)

IT'S quite simple for Donegal today. If they are to collect the two points on offer, they simply have to do something that no side has managed in 31 attempts – defeat the reigning All-Ireland champions Dublin.

Jim Gavin's all-conquering Dubs have dominated the Gaelic Football scene over the last two years, winning all in front of them, and they arrive in Ballybofey looking to extend their unbeaten record.

Donegal, on the other hand, are on a different trajectory.

Rory Gallagher's team are in transition, and following Neil Gallagher's retirement during the week, just seven members of the starting team that won the All-Ireland in 2012, are part of the current set-up.

The Donegal manager has placed his trust in the youth of the county, but has acknowledged that there will be ups and downs.

One of those ups came in their last league game against Roscommon when a last-ditch Eoin McHugh point secured a vital win.

Today's match - on paper at least - appears to be a much stiffer test, but Gallagher is looking forward to the challenge.

"It's important to win and build on our display. Every day is different. Every week in the League, teams have different motivations. We see this as another building block. We know it will take a hell of a lot of improvement to beat Dublin.

"The Dubs will be behind the majority of other counties, naturally, with being All-Ireland champions, in terms of what they're doing, but they have such competition in their squad and they have more than anyone. The new players coming in keep the others on their toes.

"They're on a brilliant run, but we just have to look at our own display. We played well enough to win the game in Roscommon relatively comfortably, rather than having to win it by a late point. We were very disappointed with the two goals that we conceded and we have to cut out those silly errors."

Donegal deployed ultra defensive tactics when they faced Dublin in the league last year, but this

term, they have been using a more attacking, pressing style.

That has seen them record high tallies of 1-17 and 0-16 in their opening two fixtures, but they have also been shipping big scorelines.

Gallagher was coy on the approach he will take today, but he says he will try and play to his team's strengths.

He said: "Any team that plays Dublin end up defending quite a bit. Kerry were quite defensive in a semi-final last year despite conceding 22 points. We have to adapt on different days.

"Our big focus is about new players and playing to our strengths. Our strengths are attacking. We are pleased with our scoring return, but we have conceded too much and we rode our luck. It won't change too much just because it's Dublin." Gavin's men are clear favourites to win today and maintain their record, but Donegal have also got a proud run of their own to protect.

They have not been beaten in MacCumhail Park in 15 league and championship games as the Ballybofey ground has become a fortress in recent years.

"To the outside world, yes, people think you have nothing to lose playing Dublin, and that's the way it is for most teams," said Gallagher.

"But we have a very proud record in Ballybofey and we haven't lost here since 2010. We really, really enjoy playing there.

"The crowd's brilliant, there's great surroundings, it's a beautiful pitch.

"We want to put our best foot forward and the pressure comes from within. We want to deliver and test ourselves against the best teams in the country.

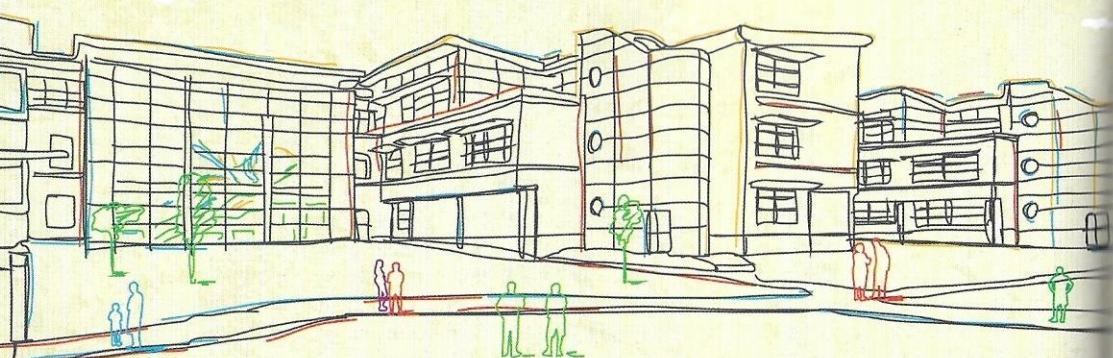
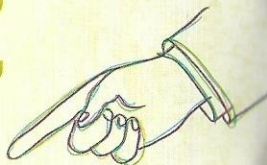
"And this week we're playing without a shadow of doubt the best team in the country.

"They've won four All-Irelands in the last six years and they have been the most dominant team in this era.

"There's a lot that we admire about Dublin and the chance to test ourselves against them, and for our boys to put on a Donegal jersey against the All-Ireland champions is really exciting, and it brings its own pressure."



YOUR LEARNING ADVENTURE STARTS HERE



At Letterkenny Institute of Technology, you'll be inspired by the range of exciting courses on offer to begin a learning adventure, with awards right up to Masters and Doctorate level. Study in a friendly and stimulating environment with excellent teaching facilities. We are located on two thriving campuses in Co Donegal, at Letterkenny and Killybegs. A large number of our courses are also offered on a part-time basis.

Course areas include:

Engineering

Nursing & Health Studies

Sport

Construction

Hospitality & Tourism

Business

Science

Culinary Arts

Design & Creative Media

Computing

Law & Humanities

Visit www.lyit.ie for further details



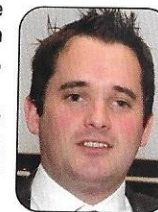
lyit

Institiúid Teicneolaíochta
Leitir Ceanainn

Letterkenny Institute
of Technology

Neil Gallagher

by CHRIS McNULTY - DONEGAL SPORT HUB



Neil Gallagher was always uncomfortable under the glare of the media spotlight. Even when he was the Donegal captain, in 2007, he hated doing interviews.

They were a necessary evil for the Glenswilly man and you felt that it was a big relief when he could decline the requests and dodge the media engagements when Kevin Cassidy took the armband in 2008.

A colleague tells the story of encountering Gallagher in a coffee shop in New York on the All-Star trip in 2012 and of coming face-to-face with 'the most intelligent football brain around'.

The journalist chanced his arm and was rubbing his hands when Gallagher – an All-Ireland winner and All-Star midfielder at that stage – agreed to a one-to-one interview the following day.

24 hours later, a different Gallagher appeared and the writer in question fed off scraps for what he'd promised his Sports Editor would be a blockbuster: "It was if the sight of the dictaphone and knowing he was doing an interview just closed him off completely. It was unbelievable the difference."

Gallagher is probably shuffling uneasily since the news broke of his retirement and the social media tributes started to flow.

Rory Gallagher's mind goes back to 2012 and a game against Cork.

Not the All-Ireland semi-final, but a League game that March. Donegal had lost their opening two League games and were in a tight spot when Cork arrived in Ballybofey.

Within six seconds of the throw-in, Gallagher arrowed a ball into the edge of the square and Michael Murphy netted a goal. Donegal won 1-6 to 0-6.

"If we'd lost that game, and things were difficult, you wouldn't know what way the season could have gone," Rory Gallagher said this week.

In 2011, Neil Gallagher was very much a peripheral figure on the Donegal team.

So much so that there were questions surrounding his future that winter. But after aiding Glenswilly to their first Donegal SFC title, Gallagher came back a transformed man.

The Donegal manager said: "He did a lot of unseen work. Physically, he was always there and he was a very good tackler. What will stand to me is his use of the ball, whether it was to sell a dummy, give a pass or deliver a long ball into Murphy."

Gallagher owned the summer skies in 2012 and was an All-Star, having delivered one of the finest

performances by a Donegal player of an era, dominating the aerial joust against Cork in the semi-final.

Gallagher worked at his game and forced his way into Jim McGuinness's plans in 2012. He always seemed to have time on the ball and had an almost telepathic understanding with Murphy.

The two are big friends off the field and Gallagher is a partner in Michael Murphy Sports & Leisure.

Gallagher was in many ways reinvented after McGuinness became manager and Murphy took over as the team's leader.

He added to his skill set simply because he had to. He could sense, in those months at the end of 2011, that he was on borrowed time and in danger of being cut adrift – but he came back to become one of the most effective players the following year.

It was a testament to the man.

The hard graft never phased him and he could always lead – it was one of the reasons Brian McIver, the Donegal manager, gave him the captaincy in 2007.

That spring, he became the first Donegal man since Anthony Molloy to climb the Hogan Stand's steps to accept a National title, as Donegal defeated Mayo in the Division 1 League final.

The image is iconic. Gallagher shipped a heavy hit during the game and took the silverware while heavily bandaged and sporting a badly swollen left eye, before calling for, in his acceptance speech, for Eamon McGee to 'sing a wee song'.

Indeed, Gallagher kicked Donegal's last point in the 2012 All-Ireland final win over Mayo, gliding over at the Davin End after striding onto a pass by Frank McGlynn.

Rory Gallagher met him one day in late 2013 and he contemplated bowing out then.

His last act in a Donegal career that spanned 140 games was in a League outing last March against Roscommon. He never fully recovered from a back injury that halted him that afternoon.

His return to action, even with minimal training and despite far from full fitness, helped turn Glenswilly's fortunes and in a few weeks they went from no-hopers to county champions.

Gallagher will be content when the spotlight turns away from him but, even when that light dims, his standing as the greatest centrefielder this county will still shine bright.

Adidas MiTeam **TEAMWEAR** **Adidas Tiro 17**

ALLSPORTSTORE.COM
We have All Sports Covered

BRIGA GLOVES & MIDI SOCKS

TRAINING EQUIPMENT

TEL: 0749723513 INFO@ALLSPORTSTORE.COM FOLLOW US

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Fr. Seán

It seems that to-day is the twenty fourth League meeting of Dún na nGall and Baile Átha Cliath:

1. 1984-85	Baile Átha Cliath	1-6	Dún na nGall	1-4	Bealach Féich
2. 1985-86	Baile Átha Cliath	0-15	Dún na nGall	0-8	Páirc an Chrócaigh
3. 1988-89	Baile Átha Cliath	0-10	Dún na nGall	0-9	Páirc an Chrócaigh
4. 1989-90	Dún na nGall	1-10	Baile Átha Cliath	0-9	Bealach Féich
5. 1990-91	Dún na nGall	2-11	Baile Átha Cliath	1-9	Bealach Féich
6. 1991-92	Baile Átha Cliath	3-6	Dún na nGall	1-10	An Cabhán (¼)
7. 1992-93	Baile Átha Cliath	0-9	Dún na nGall	0-9	Páirc an Chrócaigh (cc)
8. 1992-93	Baile Átha Cliath	0-10	Dún na nGall	0-6	Páirc an Chrócaigh (cc)
9. 1993-94	Dún na nGall	0-11	Baile Átha Cliath	0-7	Bealach Féich
10. 1994-95	Dún na nGall	0-12	Baile Átha Cliath	1-8	Páirc an Chrócaigh
11. 1998-99	Dún na nGall	1-8	Baile Átha Cliath	0-9	Béal Átha Seanaidh
12. 1999-2000	Baile Átha Cliath	1-11	Dún na nGall	0-11	Páirc Parnell
13. 2000-01	Baile Átha Cliath	0-11	Dún na nGall	0-8	Béal Átha Seanaidh
14. 2002	Baile Átha Cliath	2-10	Dún na nGall	0-14	Páirc Parnell
15. 2003	Baile Átha Cliath	1-10	Dún na nGall	0-9	Béal Átha Seanaidh
16. 2005	Baile Átha Cliath	1-11	Dún na nGall	0-13	Páirc Parnell
17. 2007	Dún na nGall	0-9	Baile Átha Cliath	0-5	Béal Átha Seanaidh
18. 2009	Baile Átha Cliath	0-13	Dún na nGall	1-8	Béal Átha Seanaidh
19. 2012	Baile Átha Cliath	2-16	Dún na nGall	0-13	Páirc an Chrócaigh
20. 2013	Dún na nGall	1-10	Baile Átha Cliath	0-13	Bealach Féich
21. 2015	Baile Átha Cliath	2-10	Dún na nGall	0-11	Páirc an Chrócaigh
22. 2016	Baile Átha Cliath	1-10	Dún na nGall	0-7	Páirc an Chrócaigh
23. 2016	Baile Átha Cliath	1-20	Dún na nGall	0-13	Páirc an Chrócaigh (½)

- Baile Átha Cliath won 15:
- Dún na nGall won 6:
- Two draws..1993 final and 2013 match here in Bealach Féich.
- Dún na nGall have won 3 of the 5 Bealach Féich encounters.
- Dún na nGall's last victory was in 2007 in Béal Átha Seanaidh – the two Neils are our only survivors.

1984

The first competitive Senior League or Championship game between Dún na nGall and Baile Átha Cliath was played here in Seán Mac Cumhail Park on December 2, 1984 in Division 2 of the National Football League. The post-match shenanigans surrounding referee Pádraig Gorman attracted as much publicity as the thrilling game itself. Brian McEniff's Dún na nGall led Heffo's Baile Átha Cliath all the way until one minute from full-time when Barney Rock's goal saw Baile Átha Cliath win by 1-6 to 1-4.

The main talking points of the game were four goalmouth incidents. After 12 minutes Martin McHugh was fouled in the square but managed to get the ball into the net. However, the referee awarded a penalty and John O'Leary saved Martin McHugh's kick. After 2 minutes of the second half Ciarán Duff flicked the ball into the Dún na nGall net but the goal wasn't allowed as Duff was in the square. With a minute to go Tom Cassin's cross was punched to the net by Barney Rock. The



Crainnte
Forestry Services Ltd.

Specialising in all in all
Consultancy Services for
FARMERS

Forestry establishment operations
(Mounding, Planting, Fencing,
Maintenance)

Completion of 10 Year
Management Plans

Grant applications

Road applications

Inspection paths

Supervision of all forestry operations

Timber evaluation, Sales & Marketing

Contact Shane on

086 8108465

Kinletter . Ballybofey . Co. Donegal



Crainnte
Forestry Services Ltd.

Highly Experienced in
**Afforestation
Grant Schemes**

Forest Premium Rates

Grant & Premium	Per HA	Per Acre
Unenclosed	€185	€75
Sitka Spruce / Pine	€440	€178
10% Diverse	€510	€206
Broadleaf	€575	€233
Oak / Beech	€615	€249
Beech	€615	€249
Alder	€575	€233
Native Woodland	€635	€257

Contact Shane on

086 8108465

For your Free Consultation

goal stood despite furious Dún na nGall protests that Barney was in the square. And deep into injury time a high ball into the Baile Átha Cliath goalmouth was fielded by John O'Leary, who was dispossessed by Séamus Bonner. The ball ended in the net but the goal was disallowed and there was great annoyance.

Dún na nGall:

Tommy McDermott	Noel McCole	
Donal Reid	Brendan Dunleavy	Seán Bonner
	Michael Lafferty	Martin Showlin
	Anthony Molloy and Martin Griffin	
Martin McHugh (0-2)	Sylvester Maguire (0-1)	Joyce McMullan (1-1):
Paul McGettigan	Pauric Farragher	Brian Murray

Subs: John 'Baker' Boyle and Séamus Bonner.

Baile Átha Cliath:

	John O'Leary	
Declan McGrath	Frank McGrath	P.J. Buckley
Pat Canavan	Tom Byrne	David Synott
	Tommy Conroy (0-1) and Brian Mullins	
Anton McCaul	Joe McNally	Maurice O'Callaghan
Glen O'Neill	Ciarán Duff (0-2)	John McCarthy

Subs: Barney Rock (1-3) and Tom Cassin.

1993 - THREE MEETINGS

Dún na nGall reached the National League Final for the first time in 1993. Their final opponents were Baile Átha Cliath, all-out to avenge the Championship defeat of 1992. Over 51,000 crowded into Croke Park on 2 May 1993 to witness a thriller. Baile Átha Cliath dominated the first half and led by 0-6 / 0-2 at half-time. Noel Hegarty's introduction re-invigorated Dún na nGall and they fought back to level it at 0-8 each. Vinny Murphy restored Baile Átha Cliath's lead but Noel Hegarty saved the day for

Dún na nGall with a late equalising point. As in 1984, there was a square-ball incident with Manus Boyle's 53rd minute goal disallowed.

Dún na nGall:

	Gary Walsh	
John Joe Doherty	Matt Gallagher	Barry McGowan (0-1)
Donal Reid	Martin Gavigan	Martin Showlin
	Anthony Molloy and Brian Murray	
James McHugh	Martin McHugh (0-1)	Barry Cunningham
Declan Bonner (0-2)	Tony Boyle	Mánus Boyle (0-4).

Subs: Noel Hegarty (0-1)

Baile Átha Cliath:

	John O'Leary	
Ciarán Walsh	Dermot Deasy	John Calvert
Paddy Moran	Paul Curran	Mick Deegan
	Paul Bealin (0-1) and Jack Sheedy	
Éamonn Heery	Tommy Carr	Niall Guidan (0-1)
Martin Doran	Vinny Murphy (0-4)	Charlie Redmond (0-3).

Subs: Keith Barr and Mick Galvin.

Gerard McCool Bookmakers

Glenfin Street, Ballybofey (074) 9131 483

Main Street, Glenties (074) 9551 523

Lotto Numbers Wednesday & Saturday

Cheltenham money back any non-runners.

All 28 races at Cheltenham from 1st February.

Golf U.S. & European Tour (E.W. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.)

No Rule 4 up to 20c. in €

Money back for 2nd €100 =€150 for betting purposes

Free Bets every Saturday €10 after draws

Specials

Dublin to win

All-Ireland Football 2017 - Price 7/4

Cheltenham Gold Cup

Thistlecrack to win Gold Cup 2/1

All prices subject to fluctuation

Make us your No.1 for Sports Betting



Nearly 60,000 spectators came to Croke Park for the replay a week later. The two Martins – Gavin and McHugh – were flu victims and were replaced by Noel Hegarty and Joyce McMullin. Both Martins came on as subs along with Sylvester Maguire. Baile Átha Cliath had to field without the injured Charlie Redmond. Paul Clarke took his place and Jim Gavin was selected instead of John Calvert. Brian White refereed both games. Baile Átha Cliath had a whirlwind start and despite having Tommy Carr sent off after just 5 minutes, led by 0-8 to 0-1 at the interval. Although Dún na nGall staged another comeback the gap was too big and Baile Átha Cliath deserved their 0-10/0-6 victory and their eighth National League crown. Dún na nGall would return for the 1995 and 1996 League finals before winning it eventually in 2007. The League final results from 2007 were:

2007	Dún na nGall	0-13	Maigh Eo	0-10
2008	Doire	2-13	Ciarraí	2-9
2009	Ciarraí	1-15	Doire	0-15
2010	Corcaigh	1-17	Maigh Eo	0-12
2011	Corcaigh	0-21	Baile Átha Cliath	2-14
2012	Corcaigh	2-10	Maigh Eo	0-11
2013	Baile Átha Cliath	0-18	Tír Eoghain	0-17
2014	Baile Átha Cliath	3-19	Doire	1-10
2015	Baile Átha Cliath	1-21	Corcaigh	2-7
2016	Baile Átha Cliath	2-18	Ciarraí	0-13

Dún na nGall and Baile Átha Cliath met again on the 7 November 1993 in the 1993-94 League. It was Gary Walsh's 100th appearance for Dún na nGall, who won 0-11/0-7. The game marked Marty Carlin's return to inter-county football and a storming display by man-of-the-match, Mark Crossan. Baile Átha Cliath's Niall Guiden was sent off rather harshly half-way through the second half.

Dún na nGall:

Donal Reid	Gary Walsh	Paul Carr
Mark Crossan	Matt Gallagher	Martin Shovlin
	Noel Hegarty (0-1)	
	Brian Murray (0-1) and Marty Carlin (0-2):	
James McHugh (0-1)	Martin McHugh (0-1)	Joyce McMullin
Jim McGuinness (0-1)	Tommy Ryan	Declan Bonner (0-3)

Subs: John Duffy (0-1), Mark McShane, and Martin Gavigan.

Baile Átha Cliath:

Ciarán Walsh	John O'Leary	Paddy Moran
Ger Regan (0-1)	Dermot Deasy	Mick Deegan
	Keith Barr	
	Paul Bealin and Johnny Barr (0-1):	
Vinny Murphy	Tommy Carr	Niall Guiden:
Dessie Farrell	Charlie Redmond (0-4)	Mick Galvin (0-1).

Subs: Jack Sheedy, Stephen Carslake, and Jim Gavin.

Referee: Pat McEaney



Rite FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS

INVESTMENTS	INCOME PROTECTION
PENSIONS • SAVINGS	HEALTH INSURANCE
LIFE INSURANCE	DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS

QUALIFIED FINANCIAL ADVISORS

T: 074 91 75555 www.ritefinancial.com
 Proprietor: Annemarie McGeehan

24 The Weavers, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal Email: info@ritefinancial.com

Annemarie McGeehan Ltd. is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Registered Address: 24 The Weavers, Ballybofey, Co. Donegal. Registered in Ireland no. 448918



**40 Glebe Hollow, Stranorlar,
 Co. Donegal.**

Tel: 086 839 8779

Email: michaelpattonelectrical@eircom.net

LAST VISIT HERE – 2013

The 2013 Division 1 League table before the vital Dún na nGall – Baile Átha Cliath match read:

	P	PTS	Scoring Difference
Baile Átha Cliath	6	10	.
Tír Eoghain	6	10	.
Cill Dara	6	8	.
Corcaigh	6	6	-5
Maigh Eo	6	4	+2
Dún na nGall	6	4	even
Ciarraí	6	4	-21
An Dún	6	2	-19

The last series of matches was:

Dún na nGall	v	B.Á.C.
Tír Eoghain	v	Ciarraí
Corcaigh	v	Maigh Eo
An Dún	v	Cill Dara

Baile Átha Cliath, Tír Eoghain and Cill Dara were in the semi-finals and the rest was a dog fight. A Dún na nGall victory would virtually ensure that they would avoid relegation (and maybe reach the semi-finals!). And it seemed it was going to be a Dún na nGall victory when they led by two points going into injury time. But late points by Jack McCaffrey and Paul Mannion secured Baile Átha Cliath an unneeded draw (1-10/0-13). And Ciarraí won in An Ómaigh and Maigh Eo won in Corcaigh and we went down with Down. And a happy lot we were not!! Not with the penalty Rory Kavanagh didn't get from the substitute referee, not with 'bite-gate', not with relegation, not with life... We let it all out on Tír Eoghain on May 26, 2013!!!

Dún na Gall:

Paul Durcan:		
Éamonn Doherty	Éamonn McGee	Frank McGlynn:
Luke Keaney	Leo McLoone	Anthony Thompson
Rory Kavanagh and Ryan Bradley (0-1):		
Martin McElhinney	Mark McHugh (0-1)	Ross Wherity
Patrick McBrearty (0-3)	Michael Murphy (0-3)	Colm A. McFadden (1-2)

Subs: Odhrán Mac Nialluis, Martin O' Reilly, Daniel McLaughlin

Baile Átha Cliath:

Stephen Cluxton (0-1):		
Kevin O' Brien	Philly McMahon	Darren Daly
Jack McCaffrey (0-1)	Ger Brennan	Johnny Cooper
Michael Darragh Macauley and Cian O' Sullivan (0-1)		
Paul Flynn	Tomas Brady	Diarmuid Connolly (0-1)
Kevin McManamon	Paddy Andrews (0-3)	Paul Mannion (0-6)

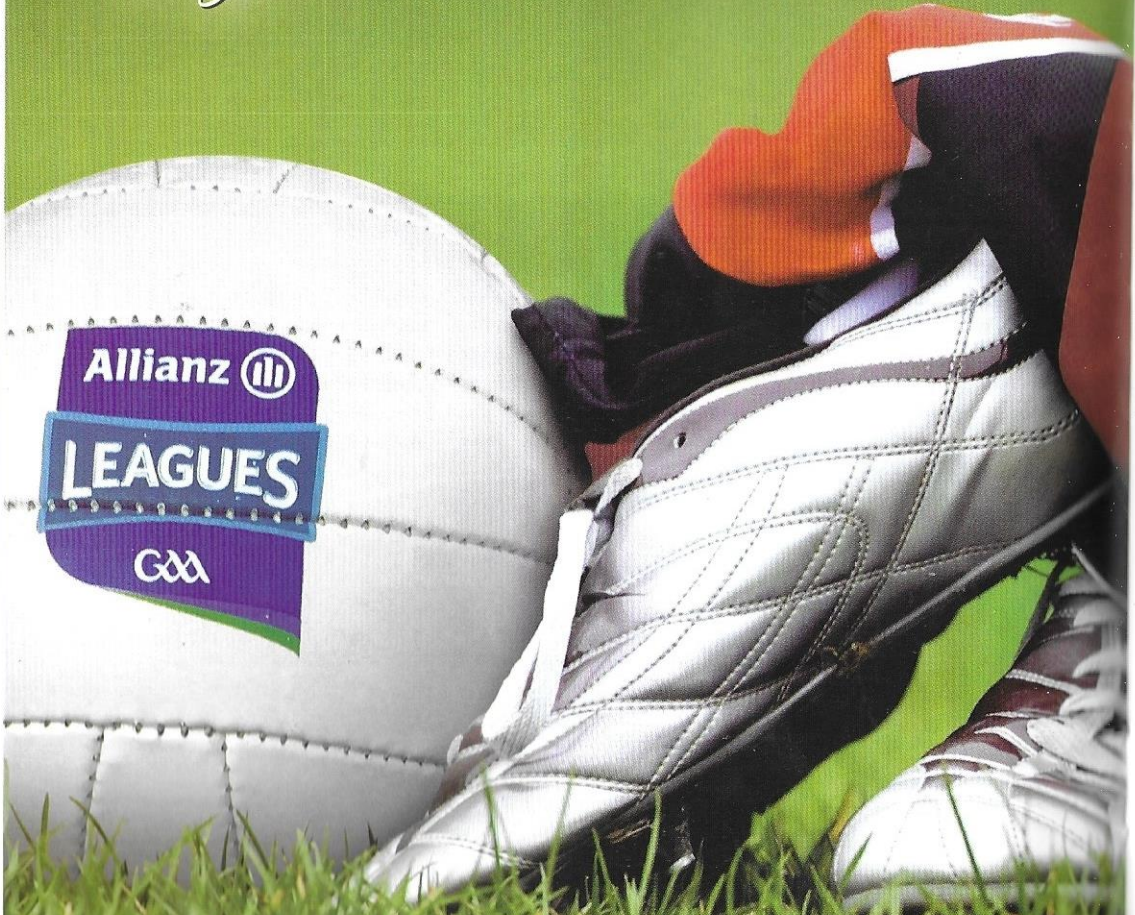
Subs: Jason Whelan, Bryan Cullen, Denis Bastick, Dean Rock, Michael Fitzsimons

Ref: Pádraig Hughes (sub. Michael Duffy).



25 Years

Proudly supporting people and communities through the Allianz Leagues for 25 years



Donegal's brash new attacking outlook to be commended

By Peter Campbell, Sports Editor, Donegal Democrat

It has been a very brave approach to the Allianz National Football League by Donegal manager, Rory Gallagher. Adapting a new attacking-type of game is a major departure from the last five or six years, and it is also a bold approach.



was taken into contact and turned over rather easily. These are the 'learnings' that will make real progress. Imagine taking the ball into contact against the Dubs today; it would be suicidal.

There is no doubt that circumstances have played a major part in the shift from a defensive type game to one where getting the ball forward quickly, by carrying and kicking. The changing of the guard in Donegal has meant that there is a different type of player available to Rory Gallagher, a young and mobile crew, who are working on their core strength.

If there were other points that could be taken from Roscommon, it would be that we need a strategy to win

breaks at midfield. We are breaking plenty of ball, but winning very few of them.

In that regard, many of the newcomers would not be ready for the tough, physical battle that ensues when you go down the road of packing the defence and try to bottle up the opposition. Maybe, in time, that will be an option again.

We will probably need to keep Michael Murphy around the middle for the remainder of the league to coach our new order. We are blessed in Donegal to have such a rich crop of big, young men coming through - Jason McGee, Michael Carroll, Michael Langan, Caolan McGonigle, Ciaran Thompson and Kieran Gallagher probably next year - all well over 6'.

But for now, and rightly so, Rory Gallagher is letting the new guns play an open type game, where, hopefully, they will learn quickly.

Unfortunately, we only have one of Michael Murphy, and we could use him inside as well. Hopefully, Patrick McBrearty, will be available for today's game and he has a big role to play for Donegal going forward also. Even though he is only 23, he has the experience of playing at the top level now for six years, and like the other players who have been there for a while, he has to take responsibility of mentoring the young generation coming on stream.

Two weeks ago, they received something of a lesson from Kerry in the opening half, a Kerry team that was close to championship level. I wonder what thoughts were going through Rory Gallagher's mind when he saw the team that Kerry fielded for their next match at home to Mayo. They had no James O'Donoghue and lost Paul Geaney and Killian Young before half-time. I'm sure Donegal would have liked to have played that Kerry team in Letterkenny!

Changing playing systems is not an easy task for Rory Gallagher, but playing with an attacking ethos must surely make it that bit more enjoyable for players. Winning the odd game also helps.

The Donegal 'result' in Roscommon two weeks ago may have been a little fortuitous, but it was probably deserved over the course of the game.

Today they get the chance to pit their wits against the All-Ireland champions, who are on a 31-match unbeaten run in league and championship. Donegal were the last team to beat them in the championship in August 2014, while their last league defeat was against Kerry in March 2015.

Again there will be 'learnings', as Michael Murphy puts it these days, from the game. Donegal used the quick transfer of ball very well and the pace in the team was used to its full. However, there were also times when the ball

It would be a huge feather in the caps of this young Donegal squad to lower their colours today.

SIMPLY STUNNING FLOWERS
FOR ALL OCCASIONS

The
Flower Shop
STRANORLAR



facebook

www.theflowershopstranorlar.com

Tel: 074-9131692 Tel: 074-9131996 email: flowershop@eircom.net

Main street, Stranorlar, Co Donegal

**Pat the Cope
Gallagher TD**



Pat the Cope Gallagher TD
Leas-Cheann Comhairle

Dungloe, Co Donegal
Tel: 074 95 21276 / 9521133
Dublin 01 700 2191

www.patthecope.com
email: patthecope.gallagher@oir.ie

Mob: 087 2238925  

Barbour FARAH
TOMMY HILFINGER
REMUS UOMO
GANT
SCOTCH & SODA
AMSTERDAM COUTURE

15% OFF SUITING

*Excludes Suit Hire

Valid until 31st March 2017

RALPH LAUREN new balance
CONVERSE
HUGO BOSS
TED BAKER LONDON bugatti
FRED PERRY
Superdry

T: 00353 74 913 1217 • E Info@mcelhinneys.com • Mon - Thurs 9.30am - 6.30pm, Fri 9.30am - 8pm, Sat 9.30am - 7pm

WWW.MCELHINNEYS.COM
FREE NEXT DAY DELIVERY FREE RETURNS*

MCELHINNEYS

BALLYBOFEY, CO DONEGAL

Dún na nGall



1
Pól Ó Dúrcáin
Paul Durkan
Na Ceithre Máistirí



2
Pádraig MacCraith
Paddy McGrath
Ard an Ratha



4
Eoghan Bán Ó Gallchóir
Eoghan Ban Gallagher
Na Cealla Beaga



3
Neil Mac Aoidh
Neil Mc Gee
Gaoth Dobhair



5
Riain MacAodha
Ryan McHugh
CillChartha



6
Caolán Mac an Bhaird
Caolan Ward
Naomh Adamhnáin



7
Pól Ó Braonáin
Paul Brennan
Real na Mara, Bun Dobhráin



8
Jascon MacAoidh
Jason McGee
Cloich Cheann Fhaola



9
Ciarán Mac Thomáis
Ciaran Thompson
Naomh Conaill



10
Mícheál Ó Cearrbhail
Mícheál Carroll
Gaoth Dobhair



11
Mairtín Ó Raghallaigh
Martin O'Reilly
Seán MacCumhaill



12
Eoin MacAodha
Eoin McHugh
Cill Chartha



13
Darrach Ó Conchubhair
Darrach O Connor
Bun Cranncha



14
Mícheál Ó Murchú
Michael Murphy
Gleann Súilí



15
Jamie Ó Braonáin
Jamie Brennan
Real na Mara Bun Dobhráin

Fir Ionaid

16 Peadar Ó Baoill	Peter Boyle	Aodh Ruadh BAS	22 Mícheál Ó Longáin	Michael Langan	Naomh Mícheál
17 Proinsias MacFhloinn	Frank McGlynn	Gleann Fhinne	23 Marc MacAodha	Mark McHugh	Cill Chartha
18 Éamonn Ó Dochartaigh	Eamonn Doherty	Naomh Adhamhnáin	24 Donal MacLochlainn	Daniel McLaughlin	Naomh Mícheál
19 Conchúr Ó Muircheasáin	Conor Morrison	Naomh Adhamhnáin	25 Conchúr Ó Giobúin	Conor Gibbons	Naomh Adhamhnáin
20 Stiofán MacBreartaigh	Stephen McBrearty	Cill Chartha	26 Ethan Ó Domhnaill	Ethan O'Donnell	Naomh Conaill
21 Aodh MacPháidín	Hugh McFadden	Na Cealla Beaga			

Bainisteoir: Ruairí Ó Gallachóir - **Maor Fóirne:** Marcas Ó Curráin

Roghnóir (1): Breandán MacGiolla Chaoin - **Medic (1):** An Dr. Caoimhín Ó Móráin, Manus MacGabhann

Kit Man: Kevin Connors - **Runaí Contae:** Aidín úf Ghíolláin - **Cathaoirleach Contae:** Sean Ó Dúinín

	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seacháí	45	Saor	Ciceanna
1 Adh Leath	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2 Adh Leath	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Iomlán	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>



Baile Átha Cliath



1
Stiofán Cluxton
Stephen Cluxton
Parnells



2
Pilib Mac Mathúna
Philip McMahon
Ciceam Baile Munna



4
Eric Lowndes
Eric Lowndes
Naomh Peregrine



3
Mícheál Mac Síomóin
Michael Fitzsimons
Cuala



5
Darren Ó Dálaigh
Darren Daly
Raibíní Fine Ghall



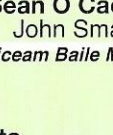
6
Seán Ó Caoilte
John Small
Ciceam Baile Munna



7
Seán Mac Gafraidh
Jack McCaffrey
Cluain Tarbh



8
Brian Ó Fiannachta
Brian Fenton
Rath Éanna



9
Mícheál Mac Amhloídh
Michael Darragh Macauley
Baile Buadáin Naomh Éanna



10
Neil Ó Scoláí
Niall Scully
Teach Mealgóg Sráid Singe



11
Seán Mac Cárthaigh
Shane Carthy
Naomh Uinsíonn



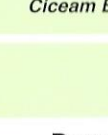
12
Jason Ó Faoláin
Jason Whelan
Ciceam Baile Munna



13
Ciaran Mac Giolla Choinnigh
Ciaran Kilkenny
Caisleán Cnuacha



14
Eoghan Ó Gadhra
Eoghan O'Gara
Teach Mealgóg Sráid Singe



15
Dean Mac Concharráige
Dean Rock
Ciceam Baile Munna

Fir Ionaid

16 Evan Mac Cumascaigh	Evan Comerford	Ciceam Baile Munna	22 Conchúr Ó Maolalaidh	Conor Mullally	Cuala
17 Colm Basquel	Colm Basquel	Baile Buadáin N. Éanna	23 Eoin Ó Briain	Eoin O'Brien	Caisleán Cnuacha
18 Daibhéid Ó Broin	David Byrne	Naomh Olaf	24 Eiméid Ó Conghaile	Emmet Ó Conghaile	Na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin
19 Pól Mac Floinn	Paul Flynn	Fine Ghallainn	25 Ciarán Ó Rodáin	Ciaran Reddin	Naomh Maur
20 Conchúr Mac Aodh	Conor McHugh	Na Fianna	26 Seán Mac Gabhann	Jack Smith	Cláirseacha Na Sceirí
21 Caoimhín Mac Meanman	Kevin McManamon	Naomh Jude			

Bainisteoir: Jim Gavin

	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seacháí	45	Saor	Ciceanna
1 Adh Leath	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
2 Adh Leath	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Iomlán	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Casadh an tSúgain

Bar & Restaurant

Loch an Iúir - Co. Dhún na nGall



We Specialise in...

Fresh Locally Sourced Seafood

Chargrilled Steaks and

Famous for our Award Winning Chicken Wings...

We cater for all Parties & Functions

Call us now to book your next Special Event



074 9848770 / 087 1215811



MARLEY'S

GOOD LUCK TO RORY AND THE TEAM

"THE DONEGAL TEAMS DRIVING FORCE"



'BOOK YOUR SEAT TO ALL THE AWAY

FOOTBALL GAMES

WITH MARLEYS ON

074 91 33333

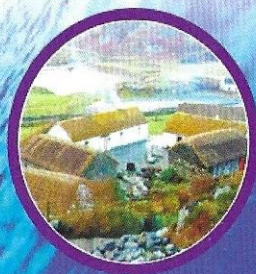
Go Wild Atlantic Way in Donegal



Abbey & Central
Hotels
THE DIAMOND, DONEGAL TOWN



WILD ATLANTIC WAY
SLÍ AN ATLANTAIGH FHIÁIN



Abbey & Central Hotels, The Diamond, Donegal Town, County Donegal

Tel: +353 (0)74 97 21014 **Abbey Hotel**

Tel: +353 (0)74 97 21027 **Central Hotel**



www.abbeyhoteldonegal.com

www.centralhotel.com



Donegal and Dublin a minor challenge in Croke Park

BY TOM COMACK (*Donegal Democrat/Peoples Press*)

Donegal and Dublin meetings were rare enough until they met for the first time in a competitive game in the National League in the mid-1980s.

Former Donegal and Ulster star of the 1960s, Sean Ferriter, has a vague recollection of Donegal playing Dublin in a challenge game, in Parnell Park, sometime in the 1960s.

There may have been others before that but one definite meeting that did take place was a Donegal U-16 team taking on a Dublin selection in the late 1970s in a challenge tie.

You are scraping the bottom of the barrel, I hear you say, when you elevate an U-16 game challenge to significance. But there was in fact great significance to the game.

First of all, the game was played in Croke Park. Yes Croke Park! And wait for it. It was a curtain raiser to a National League meeting of Dublin and Kerry, two weeks after Eoin 'Bomber' Liston had hit four goals in the rain as Kerry beat Dublin 5-11 to 0-9, in the 1978 All-Ireland final.

There aren't many U-16 teams that get the opportunity to play a challenge game on the hallowed sod on Jones Road, never mind playing in the curtain raiser to an All-Ireland rematch in front of a near full house. Even back in the 1970s, it was unheard of. And the significance does not end there. That Donegal U-16 squad was made up a number of players who went on to play pivotal roles in Donegal's breakthrough years, and whose names are forever etched in the annals of Donegal GAA history.

Anthony Molloy, captain of the 1992 All-Ireland winning team, played in that game, as did Sylvester Maguire, a substitute in the '92 All-Ireland final win over Dublin. Matt Gallagher and Joyce McMullin, another two of

the '92 heroes, were on the bench for the game and had played in a challenge game against Dublin club St Vincent's the day before.

Molloy, Maguire, Gallagher and McMullin were joined from that U-16 team by Sean Bonner, Na Rossa, Paul Carr, St Eunan's, Tommy McDermott and Brian Tuohy both Aodh Ruadh, Seamus Meehan, Four Masters, in the 1982 All-Ireland U-21 winning team. Vincent Furey, Naomh Conaill, from the '82 squad, was also a member of the team that played in Croke Park.

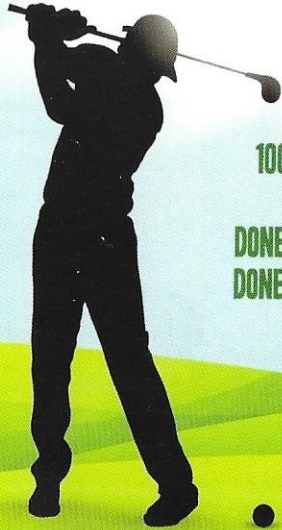
Naul McCole from Dungloe, who later went on to become Donegal senior board chairman, was the Donegal minor board chairman in 1978. Eugene Boyle, Sean MacCumhaill's, was the minor board secretary and Jackie McDermott from Aodh Ruadh was the U-16 team manager. And Dubliner Denis Doyle, the Bord Failte regional manager in the North West region and a member of the St Eunan's club in Letterkenny and St Vincent's Club, in Dublin, was the man that organised the challenge.

"Denis was very good friends with Dublin county secretary of the time Jim King," said Naul McCole. "We took two teams with us to Dublin. One of the teams played St Vincent's on the Saturday, and the other played Dublin on the Sunday in Croke Park." The game in Croke Park came about when Jim King heard that none of the lads that we were taking to Dublin had ever been in Croke Park, never mind played a game in it.

"Jim pulled a few strings and the game was played in Croke Park. I thanked Jim many times after any time we met and reminded him that he had played a part in our breakthrough and the All-Ireland success that followed."



GOLF OUTING FOR DONEGAL TRAINING FUND & DONEGAL TRAINING CENTRE



100% OF FUNDS RAISED
IN AID OF
DONEGAL TRAINING FUND &
DONEGAL TRAINING CENTRE

APRIL 14th
Pelham Bay
& Split Rock
Golf Course
NEW YORK

50ft PUTTING CONTEST - 12 noon (CASH PRIZES)
SHOTGUN START - 1pm
FOLLOWED BY DINNER & AUCTION @ 6PM

ENTRY FEE - \$1,000 PER FOUR BALL

Corporate Box in Croke Park / Tickets & Hotel for All Ireland
Tickets for Liverpool & Premier League Games
Seamus Coleman Jersey • Jason Quigley Boxing Gloves
Driver from Pdraig Harrington & many more auction items

SPECIAL GUESTS:
THE DONEGAL SENIOR COUNTY TEAM



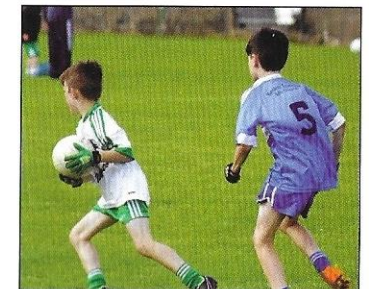
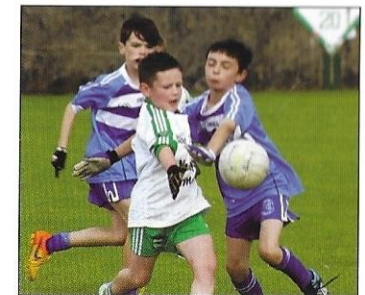
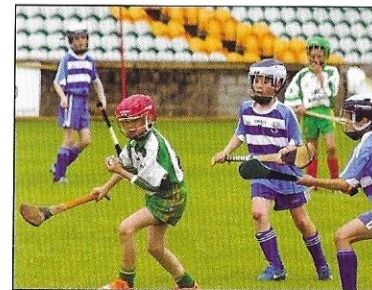
Sean Dunning +353872450505
Aideen Gillen +353879340706
Cleran Kelly +353872450505

Ed Byrne +353876030306
Eddie Boyle +353856181862
Anthony Molloy +353879026973

Kieran Espy +353866048997
Paddy Tinney +353862713800

Beann Eadair, Howth, Pay Visit To Seán Mac Cumhails, June 2016

C.L.G Seán Mac Cumhails were delighted to host Beann Eadair, Howth, Co. Dublin on Friday and Saturday, the 24th and 25th of June 2016 for an event packed weekend. Over 20 kids, their parents and coaches travelled down to play football and hurling against our own under-10 age teams and it proved to be a very enjoyable and worthwhile experience for all involved. The visit was organised by Twin Town's man Paul McCormack, former NYPD Police officer and Chair of the NYPD GAA, who now resides in Howth with his family and took great pride in taking his adopted club down to his home club. He was also fond of telling his Beann Eadair team in the changing room before the game that it was also used by the Donegal Senior Team, the last team to beat the Dubs in a Championship game! After the enjoyable games of football on the Friday evening a presentation followed up in the clubhouse afterwards. On behalf of C.L.G Beann Eadair, a presentation was made to Club Chairman Terry O'Reilly and Minor Board Chairman P.J McGowan and presentations of specially commissioned C.L.G Beann Eadair Jerseys were also made to Simon McDevitt, U-10 manager and organiser on the Seán Mac Cumhails end and to Martin O'Reilly, Donegal Senior Footballer which was accepted by his father Terry. Simon McDevitt presented a framed C.L.G Seán Mac Cumhails jersey to our guests from Dublin. Food was served afterwards and both clubs got to interact off the pitch and enjoy themselves along with a disco for the young players. On Saturday morning our hurlers took part in games against our guests and these were refereed by our own Senior County Hurler Justin McGhee and all teams put in a great display of hurling. We'd like to thank C.L.G Beann Eadair, our new friends, and hope they enjoyed the visit and we now plan our own trip to Howth for the 30th of June. We can't wait for the visit!



Do you need
an MRI,
X-Ray or
Ultrasound?



— get the full picture, quicker

Affidea Letterkenny provides the most advanced MRI, X-Ray and Ultrasound technology to meet the needs of patients locally, in Donegal and in surrounding areas.

Affidea Letterkenny, Scally Place,
Letterkenny, Co. Donegal

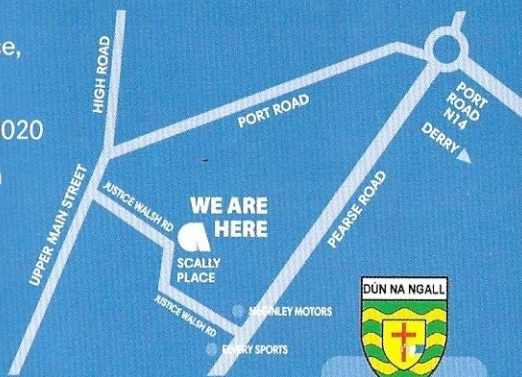
Tel: 074 918 8456 Fax: 074 918 8020

E: appointments@affidea.com

W: affidea.ie

A REFERRAL FROM A MEDICAL
PROFESSIONAL IS REQUIRED

Dundrum - Northwood - Dublin City - Cork City
Kilkenny - Naas - Letterkenny - Sligo



PROUD DIAGNOSTIC
PARTNERS OF
DONEGAL GAA

Jim Gavin

By KIERAN CUNNINGHAM (*Irish Daily Star*)

HE'S on his knees, his body is leaning back and his arms have been thrown to the heavens. Jim Gavin's eyes are closed and he's unleashing a primal scream. Brendan Moran from Sportsfile captured Gavin at the final whistle of Dublin's 1995 All-Ireland final win over Tyrone.

The photograph summed up just what it meant to the Dubs to bridge a 12 year gap since their last Sam Maguire. But Gavin has won Sam three times as a manager, and his response has been markedly different. In 2013, there was virtually no reaction from him at the end of that final. In 2015, he allowed himself a clenched fist, though not a raised one, and the merest hint of a Mona Lisa smile.

Last September, Gavin was similarly composed and restrained - even though he'd just become the first Dublin manager to retain Sam Maguire. Even the great Heffo didn't do that. Tony Hanahoe was player-manager when the Dubs hold on to the All-Ireland in 1977. So what happened to the joy of '95? Where did that go? "Well, it's a players' game.

The management group's job is to get those players to be the best they can be. And if I've done that and the management team have done that, we've done our job," he has explained. "And if we come up against a team that performs better than us, that's just sport. "So all of our focus is geared towards getting those players to perform." Fair enough, but it's put to Gavin that other managers celebrate wildly when they win All-Irelands, even Brian Cody - who's seen it all and done it all.

Is the Dublin manager deliberately trying to stay in control, even at the moment when tens of thousands inside Croke Park have lost control? "No, I wouldn't say...one is controlled so you can be your best for the players," he said. "So whatever influence you have on them at a tactical level during a game, you can make those right calls or replacements coming on." It's a typical Gavin answer, one that bears no relation to the question. The mask stays in place. Gavin is a

product of two worlds - Dublin GAA and the Irish Air Corps. And his military training has had a huge bearing on his work in Gaelic football. Gavin has always been a high achiever. He went into the Defence Forces at a time when only 30 cadets a year were chosen. And, of those 30, only half-a-dozen made it into the Air Corps.

But Gavin was flying one of their six Fouga Majisters before he was 22. At one stage, he was at the controls of the government jet. "I would have been a flight instructor in the Air Corps so that's teaching and coaching is really teaching, the same principles and methods of instruction apply," he has explained. "I've used a lot that I've learned in aviation in terms of instruction on the training field, because there's lots of synergies there. It's the same thing, you're training people."

Before they played Sligo Rovers in the 2013 FAI Cup final, Mick Cooke - the then Drogheda United manager - figured they needed something different. So he took his men for a swim and sauna in Clondalkin Community Centre before introducing a special guest.

He'd known Gavin since he managed Round Towers for a summer nearly 20 years ago, and called in a favour. "Jim came in, sat down, and there wasn't a murmur in the dressing-room. The senior players nudged one another and their heads went up like startled geese," recalled Cooke. "He just quietly pointed out that success in sport all boils down to hard work, and being disciplined. "He said to the players to look at themselves in the mirror and ask 'What do you want? Do you want to go the extra yard? Are you prepared to hurt yourself?' It left a positive mark on all the lads." Gavin is special. A serial winner who has masterminded a remarkable 31 match unbeaten run in League and Championship. Behind that Mona Lisa smile is a man of steel.

MULTI-CRETE PRECAST CONCRETE LTD.



Manufacturers of Concrete Products

- Ready Mix Concrete
- 1500 Gallon Water Storage Tanks
- Cattle Slats
- Support Beams
- Safety Slats
- Retaining Walls
- Dwarf Walls
- Septic Tanks to new EPA standards
- Paving Slabs
- Lintels
- Sills
- Posts
- Kerbs
- Wall Caps



Other Products

- Coloured Garden Stones
- Pre Packed Sand
- Pre Packed Gravel

We now have L Walls and V Walls in stock. Please contact us for more details.

Killygordon - Co. Donegal

Tel: (074) 91 49103 - Fax: (074) 91 49531

Code from N.I. 00 353 74

www.multicreteprecastconcrete.town.ie Email - multicrete@eircom.net

LAFFERTY BUSES

Going the extra mile

PRIVATE BUS HIRE

any occasion
any location

Contact Us
for a quote



Coaches for Weddings,
Day Trips, Tours



**SPECIAL
OFFERS**



CALL US
086 6016157
074 91 31418



**GET A
QUOTE**

Sean MacCumhails making a splash

Niall Gartland - Gaelic Life

IT may be considered the unhappiest month of the year but Donegal club Sean MacCumhails are ushering in the new year with renewed fervour and steadfast belief as they build towards the future.

Blood, sweat and tears have combined to produce one of the most successful clubs in the county, even if four decades have elapsed since their last of six senior football titles in 1977.

Chairman Terry O'Reilly was their midfielder on that occasion, and although originally a Mayo man, there's no doubting that his roots are now solidly based in the Ballybofey and Stranorlar club (the 'twin towns').

His son Martin is their sole representative on the Donegal senior football panel but it's their hurlers who led the way in 2016, clinching a second ever championship crown before falling agonisingly short in an Ulster Junior final against Antrim side Lamh Dhearg.

It's no exaggeration to say they have successfully broken the Setenta and Burt stranglehold on the Donegal Hurling championship. Last season Sean MacCumhails appeared in their sixth final since 2009 and O'Reilly is confident that they can extend their hurling exploits to the football field as well, where they currently reside in Division Two.

He said: "I would be not putting pressure on managers but I really believe that we should be in Division One and I think if you do that you strengthen the team in a way that they compete better in the championship."

"I'd be hoping for a favourable draw in the championship and we'll try to take every game as it comes in the league. In the hurling I'd be hoping we could repeat what we did last year and maybe get to an Ulster final. We were unfortunate up in Owenbeg, there was very little in it and it was disappointing for us, I really feel we should've won that game. I think we probably went with the intention of performing well and then afterwards realised we should've won it."



Of course, the jewel in the crown at the club is Sean MacCumhail Park, which serves as Donegal's home ground. With a capacity of 17500 and some of the finest facilities around, O'Reilly believes it has been neglected by the powers that be who determine

venues for the Ulster Club Championship. "At last year's county final, the crowd was the biggest I've seen in a long time. There was a good interest because Glenswilly were playing Kilcar.

"It's an ideal pitch, I would hope some day that as a club that we would be entitled to an Ulster Club match. I'm only just saying that we seem to be forgotten. I like to think that we're a club that can cater for 17500, we've a main road between here and Sligo and we've good parking.

"I think the reason is if there's a team from the likes of Down or Antrim playing a Derry side for example, realistically Omagh or Monaghan is better situated, but I'd still like to see it."

New clubrooms were developed in 2009 and O'Reilly says that they are in a strong position to pay back their bank loan through fundraising efforts.

"We would be paying £4000 to the bank every month. We borrowed to build the clubhouse. Our dressing rooms were deemed to be a bit small, even though our clubhouse is our own - it's not county board related. It cost us €1.2 million but we're well in position to pay our loan with fundraising."

Donegal has a long history of emigration, and that remains the case in the 21st century, with the county geographically removed from the Republic of Ireland by the effects of partition. Players come and go for various reasons and it's had an obvious impact on the field of play - after winning their six opening league matches last year, their form tailed off a notch and they exited the championship at the quarter-final stage. With the GAA club striving for prominence against soccer and rugby, O'Reilly says they do the best

Villa Rose
Hotel & V-Spa



JACKSON'S
HOTEL

Good Luck Donegal

FROM ALL @ **The Villa Rose & Jackson's Hotels**
Proud Supporters of Donegal GAA

2 HOTELS | 4 BARS
Food Served All Day
Live Sports | Big Screens

Ballybofey, Co Donegal | www.villarose.ie | www.jacksonshotel.ie



they have with the resources at their disposal. He said: "Migration and emigration is playing a part. During the summer you would find that some of the boys would head to America, last year we lost a couple of players, it meant we won six games of the league and then started to go downhill a bit. I think the opportunity was kind of missed because of that. I'd say most of them will be back but next year it could be someone new. We had a lot of the boys based in Dublin as well and it's hard to get them to training. He continued: "We have fairly good relationship with the local soccer teams and the rugby doesn't really affect us. It means we have dual clubs not just in hurling and football but soccer as well. You have to accept that and we're not in any way against that, we just try to get matches at suitable time, the beginning of our year and the end of theirs kind of collide."

In its current guise Sean MacCumhaill's celebrated its 60th anniversary last year. The club won all six of their senior football titles between 1959 and 1977 and O'Reilly says the committee will do everything in their power as the footballers bid to bridge a 40-year gap under new manager Stephen Friel, while the hurlers are again managed by Eamon McAuley.

"I came to Donegal in 1975 and I was involved with the last team that won the championship in MacCumhaills. The u-21s did well a few years later and in the last couple of years we're competing well in the division we're in but we need to take it a step further. I would hope that this year that we will put as much into them as we possibly could.

"We're trying to put a team around Stephen, he would've been involved with the county minor set-up around 2012. He's been very enthusiastic so we have high hopes."

While his son Martin flies the flag for Donegal footballers, there were a whole host of players involved with the intercounty hurling set-up last season: Lee Henderson, Justin McGhee, Jamesie Donnelly, Sean Curran, Del Lavery, Ciaran Matthewson, Paddy Hannigan and Gavin Browne. It speaks volume for the strength of hurling in the club, and O'Reilly is full of praise for the facilities at the players' disposal.

"There's almost too many of the hurlers to

mention playing for Donegal.

On the football side of it Karl Dunnion was on the minor team, he was goalkeeper and he was with them the whole year. Martin is the only one at senior level unfortunately,

"He enjoys it but it's difficult as well – anyone who is a county player doesn't have much time for anything else.

"I think maybe last year he was a bit older and he got more game time because that's the way it is. Our lad Stephen is captain of the club team as well."

He continued: "I'd know a lot more in Donegal than I would now nearly in Mayo. I'm delighted to be part of the club, maybe it's time that I should hand over the reins after eight years.

"We're no better but we're definitely no worse than anyone else. Facilities wise we're nearly the best in the county, we have brand new dressing rooms, new toilets and everything is there."

While the likes of Martin O'Reilly and Lee Henderson are the public face of Sean MacCumhaills, that's only the tip of the iceberg. At juvenile level there were 300 members last season thanks to the sterling work of the minor board and its coaches, and the u-12s were crowned last year's county champions. The club are strong across the codes as well – in the handball alley, Avril McNamee won a raft of titles last season, while the Ladies Footballers are on the way back up after a quiet spell.

"The ladies used to be a big part of our club. What I mean by that is that our ladies had a senior team that were competing very well down through the years. Last year was quite good again because we got it up and running. They participated at a level that were able to compete at. I think they can win titles down the line.

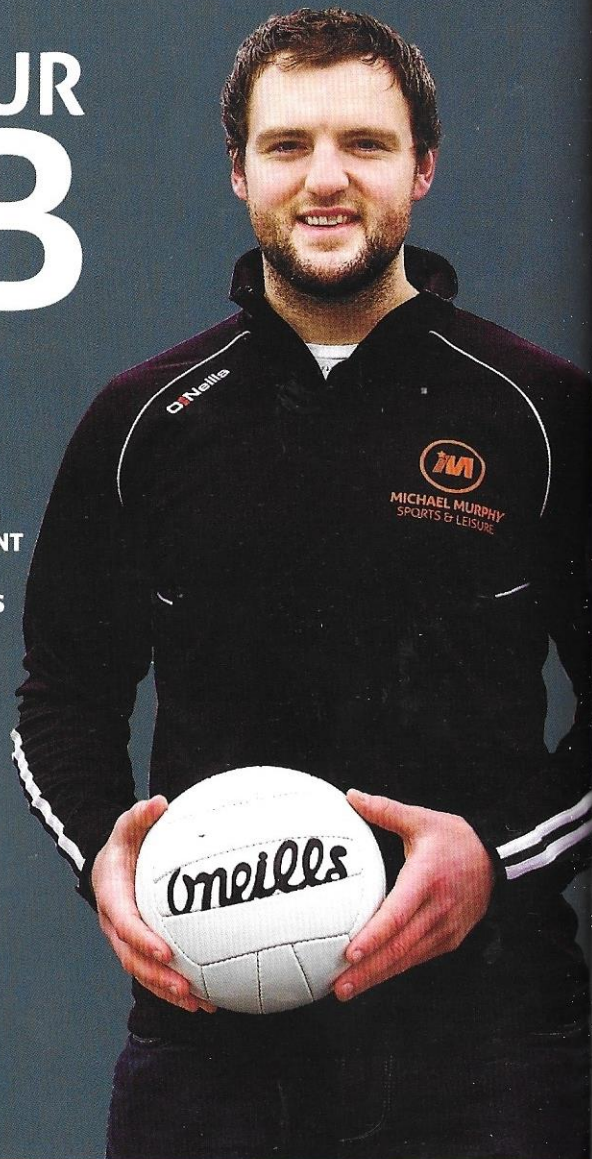
"Both ladies football and camogie are very important to us but it can be difficult to get a team out. The people working with them have done a great job and they the players are there at underage level already."

In closing, O'Reilly made sure to pay tribute to the club's minor and hurling boards, as well as the all-important three S's – the stewards, supporters and sponsors, all of whom have played their part as well in making Sean MacCumhaills a very special club.



MICHAEL MURPHY
SPORTS & LEISURE
www.michaelmurphysports.ie

FOR ALL YOUR
CLUB
NEEDS



-  TRAINING WEAR
-  TRAINING EQUIPMENT
-  PLAYING KIT
-  TROPHIES
-  FOOTBALLS
-  MEDALS



@ STATION ROUNDABOUT
LETTERKENNY

 MICHAEL MURPHY SPORTS & LEISURE
W: michaelmurphysports.ie
E: info@michaelmurphysports.ie
T: 074 91 28268



O'Reilly – Dublin in Ballybofey is a huge one

By Frank Craig - Donegal Post

Marty O'Reilly returns to familiar pastures this afternoon as Donegal welcome All-Ireland champions Dublin to MacCumhaill Park. It's home turf for the player.

And he, just like the entire footballing fraternity in the north west, has been looking forward to the fixture ever since it rolled out of the draw drum. O'Reilly has been excellent so far for Donegal and was again one of the real bright sparks as Rory Gallagher's men turned over Roscommon a fortnight ago.

The MacCumhaills man posted three points from play and his speed and directness caused the Rossies rearward serious problems throughout. O'Reilly, who was also prominent in the team's previous defeat to Kerry, admitted that the most important thing in Dr. Hyde Park was securing two valuable NFL points.

Donegal certainly left it late and required a stoppage time winner from Eoin McHugh to finally settle matters. It was a result that Donegal had to dig deep for. But amidst all that honest endeavour, there was some real individual moments of quality.

Michael Murphy, Ciaran Thompson and O'Reilly wore the pick of the bunch. The latter certainly isn't resting on his laurels but he acknowledges that it has been a very encouraging start to the new season from him.

He told the Donegal Post: "Yeah, it's going alright for me. I'm happy enough. I think I was lucky on one or two of those points – they just crept inside the post. Sometimes you swing a leg and hope for the best! "But look, to be honest, we had to come here and make sure we got the two points. That was the big thing.

"It was seriously tight.

But we're on the board now. Any day you go away from home in Division 1 and get the two points is a good day. I suppose Rory will be happy with the win today but there will be things we'll have to look at."

O'Reilly, along with Thompson and Eoin McHugh was one of three Donegal players to boot three points from play over the 70 plus minutes. O'Reilly insists that will need to be the case going forward as other sides look to limit the impact of their other more obvious scoring dangers.

He added: "Well, it's good to split that burden. Two or three men are usually hanging out of the two boys (Paddy McBrearty and Michael Murphy) so it opens it up a little for the rest of us. At the end of the day, they get a lot of attention so we have to be chipping in from elsewhere too. "Thankfully, a few of us were able to do that"

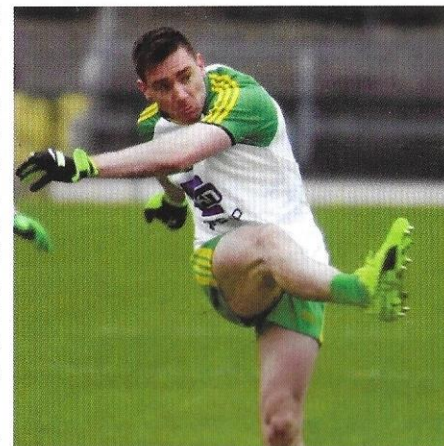
Attention now turns to the side's eagerly anticipated hosting of Dublin today in Ballybofey. O'Reilly – for obvious reasons – has been looking forward to this clash coming around.

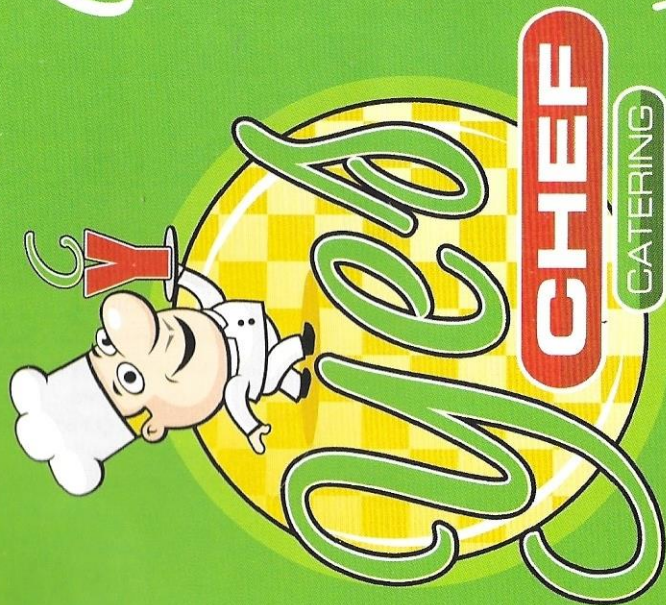
"Ballybofey should be busy," he said. "It's always a big one. We're looking forward to it already. Dublin are the side to beat at the moment. They have shown a serious level of consistency across the board now for a number of years.

"That's the benchmark.

That's the level you need to get to and the young lads new to the scene will get a taste of it.

"The two weeks now, has allowed for any niggles to clear. It was also a chance to get some more fitness work done. It's two solid weeks now and it's led us nicely into the Dublin game."





Outside Catering
Specialists

Delicious Hot Food
delivered to your
Party or Event

www.yeschefcatering.ie

Tel: 087 684 3311



On behalf of the Donegal County Health & Wellbeing committee and the County board we are honoured to welcome as part of our GAA social inclusion, positive aging initiative representatives from clubs who have given of their unconditional time, commitment and dedication to their club and local community. The mission of the GAA Social Initiative/Positive aging event is to create awareness and recognise the contribution made by long standing members of the association to the GAA



The Donegal GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee in conjunction with the National Health & Wellbeing committee and Donegal County Council Social Inclusion department are hosting this event to coincide with today's national league game featuring Donegal and current all-Ireland champions Dublin.

We extend warm welcome to all our members, supporters, invited guests and are delighted to have representatives from Donegal Age Action Council present.

The Donegal Health & Wellbeing committee was established in 2014 to:

Assist the county board and the clubs in identifying and responding to the Health and wellbeing needs of our members in a planned and appropriate manner, both directly through appropriate GAA programmes and by way of signposting to the partnering with relevant local services providers for training/education delivery.

Liaise with Provincial Council and Croke Park for support, direction and assistance.

Establish a baseline audit of programmes and training/education needs in the county and put in place an action plan addressing these needs over a 2/3 year period

Liaise with relevant outside agencies and engage their assistance in delivering the action plan.

Make available resources to clubs to promote health, as provided by Ulster Council, Croke Park and other external Statutory, Voluntary, or Community agencies.

Provide support, advice and signposting to clubs on health related matters.

Our Action plan 2017 will include

- Facilitating training for club Health & Wellbeing officers
- Implementing the GAA "Responding to a Critical Incident Plan"
- Supporting the GAA healthy club initiative
- Delivering Safe Talk workshops
- Supporting the Road Safety campaign
- Continuing our commitment to the Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative

While it is often difficult to measure and put a value on the role of the GAA in health and wellbeing, it's you the members and non-members through your commitment and volunteerism at every level of the organisation that provides a strong foundation of participation, friendship, family connectedness and practical support to your local community.

Le Meas,
Kevin Mills Chairperson
087 2170806 Email: chair.hwc.donegal@gaa.ie

Other members of 2017 County Health & Wellbeing committee
Noirin Ni Dhochartaigh (Secretary) Email: administrator.donegal@gaa.ie
Oisín Cannon PRO
Sean Dunning (County Chairman)
Gary Duffy
Roisin Doherty

O'Neills
1918

THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONS



OFFICIAL LICENSED MERCHANDISE

DONEGAL GAA

iCREATE
DESIGN YOUR OWN

oneills.com



Stranorlar DENTAL SURGERY

Dr Kevin Roarty BDS NUI

Dr Gerald Roarty B Dent SC

Mullindrait | Stranorlar (opposite St. Joseph's Hospital)

Email: info@stranorlardental.com **Web:** www.stranorlardental.com

**Special
Offer**

**Scale & Polish
Only €30**

Get Your White Smile

BOOK NOW
Emergency Cover Available

Tel: 074 91 31886
Mob: 087 4023173

Gift vouchers also available

Free Parking Available
Disabled Access

Medical Cards welcome

Check Out
our **NEW**
Facebook page



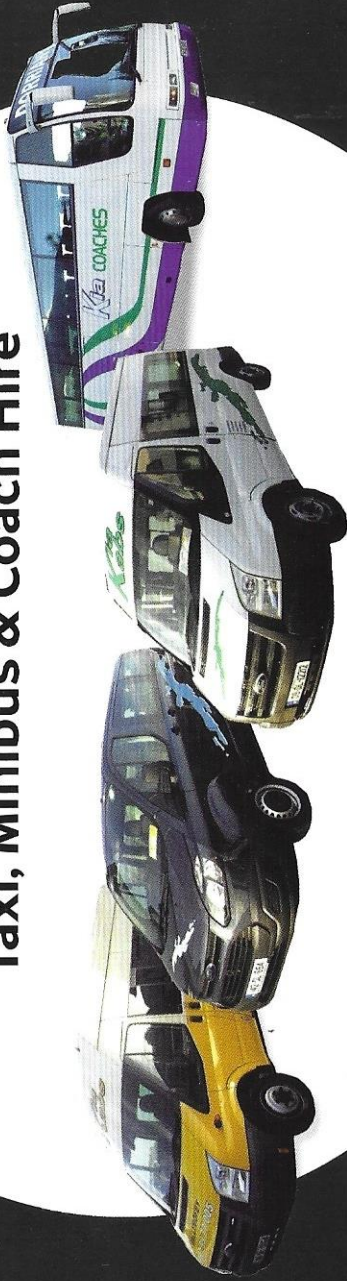
Opening Hours

Monday - Friday 9am - 6pm

2017

Kiaabs

Taxi, Minibus & Coach Hire



49 Seaters | 33 Seaters | 20 Seaters | 16 Seaters | 14 Seaters | 8 Seaters
Executive Car Hire | Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles Available

Ballybofey

Prop: Ryan Dorrian

087 99 77 005

P. Bonar Plant Hire Ltd.

Lorry / Digger Hire

Suppliers of Tarmacadam
Sand & Decorative Chips



DALESIDE

PLANT SALES & REPAIRS LTD.

Callancor, Drumkeen, Co. Donegal.

Tel: 074 9134 860 - Fax: 074 9134 859

Barnes Limestone Quarry Ltd.

Barnes, Termon P. O., Letterkenny.

Telephone: 074 9139 363

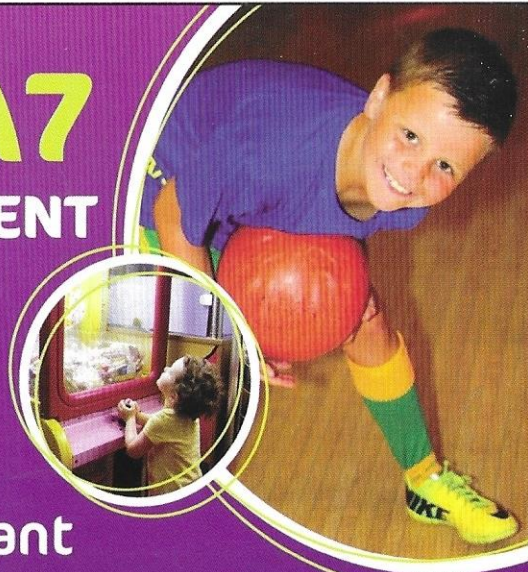
Fax: 074 9139 362 - Mob: 086 8049 740

ARENA7

ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX

FACILITIES:

- Bar & Restaurant
- Kids Adventure Centre
- Laser Quest
- Bowling
- Pool Hall
- Arcade Games
- Karaoke Bar
- Fast Food Diner
- Private Function Rooms



Ramelton Road, Letterkenny
TEL 074 9128853
www.arena7.ie



MCR Group

Proud Sponsors of Donegal GAA

Outsourcing Specialists

Personnel Cleaning Security Engineering Flooring

MCR Group has been one of the largest providers of outsourced staff and services in Ireland since 1996. We have a national network of trained staff providing a range of services to commercial, industrial, construction, retail, leisure and residential clients. Established as an outsourcing company, MCR Group provide a broad range of service solutions through a number of professional subsidiary companies.

In response to the markets growing demand for multi service suppliers, as well as providing a full range of recruitment solutions, we also provide Cleaning, Security, Flooring and Engineering services. We deliver these services to many market sectors currently employing a workforce of over 2,000 employees.

MCR Group
Unit 1 The Capel Building,
Dublin 7.

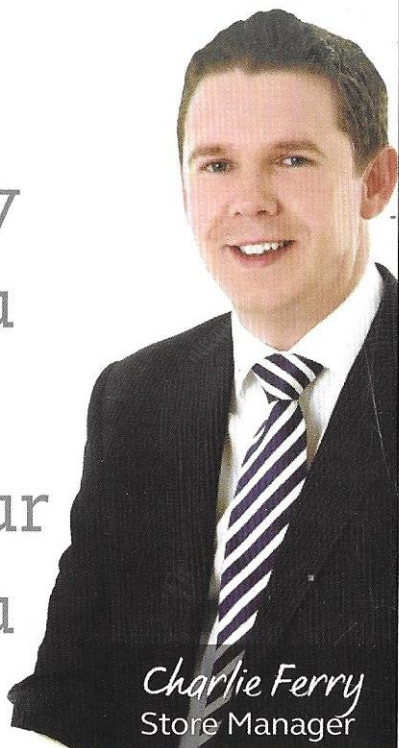
Phone: 01 8899100
Email: info@mcr.ie
Web: www.mcrgroup.ie

Kavanagh's Ballybofey

SuperValu

Real Food, Real People

Fill your trolley
with **Value** you
Really want
everyday in your
local SuperValu



Charlie Ferry
Store Manager

SuperValu

Real Food, Real People

PROUDLY SUPPORTING

**The GAA All Ireland
Football Championship**

ALLIANZ NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE, DIVISION ONE, Round 3

Brilliant goal blitz before half-time gives Donegal impetus to get big result in Ballybofey

FRANK MCGLYNN OUTSTANDING

DIARMAID DOHERTY

e-mail: sport@donegaldemocrat.com
Twitter: @dgidemocrat



Donegal, the fly in the ointment for Dublin so many times in recent years, came ever so close to bringing an end to Dublin's long unbeaten run in a thrilling encounter at Sean MacCumhaill Park on Sunday.

Donegal.....2-5
Dublin.....1-8

In the end, both teams had to settle for a draw on a day when the difficult conditions were a major factor in this Division One clash.

For Donegal, this could well be a vital point going forward. Perhaps more importantly, they will take great confidence from their performance having matched the Dubs with a display oozing with effort and commitment.

The Dubs were the better side for much of the first half but it was Donegal who were in front at half time by

2-2 to 0-5, after they struck two goals within 40 seconds just before the break.

Significantly Donegal managed only three points in the second half, but they were still enough to hold the Dubs to a draw - Donegal drawing level a minute into injury time when Michael Murphy pointed from a free.

Dublin bossed possession for almost the entire first half and despite conceding a point to Jason McGee after 35 seconds, they were well in control.

Shane Carthy drew them level with a well taken point on three minutes and they eventually moved in front on 16 with a converted Dean Rock free.

Donegal defended deep and in numbers and while Dublin were pedestrian in their build-ups, they still carried a real threat in front of goal.

A Ciaran Kilkenny point

made it 0-3 to 0-1 by the 20th minute and Conor McHugh followed that up with another point after Eoghan O'Gara created the opening.

Donegal, for all their hard work, were really struggling to create any opportunities coming forward and the absence of the injured Patrick McBrearty certainly had an effect.

By the 25th minute, Dublin had stretched their lead out to four points, 0-5 to 0-1 and given their possession, the All-Ireland champions should have been further ahead. A free from Ciaran Thompson reduced the arrears before the game turned on its head in a period of 35 crazy seconds. Donegal pounced for their first goal when McGee, at the second attempt, squeezed the ball in under Stephen Cluxton.

Then from the kick-out, Cluxton was caught way out from goal and when the ball was fed inside to Ryan McHugh, the Kilcar man showed brilliant awareness to squeeze his shot into the net past a couple of Dublin

defenders.

A Michael Murphy free, his first score of the day, eased Donegal into a three point lead early in the second half. However, Dublin quickly regained control in the possession stakes and two frees from Dean Rock was followed by a wonderfully worked goal, finished to the net by Niall Scully.

Suddenly Dublin were a point in front and Davey Byrne followed it up with a delightful point to leave the visitors 2-4 to 1-8 to the good.

Donegal however, refused to throw in the towel and their hunger and desire were rewarded with two late frees which drew them level, the first converted by the excellent Ciaran Thompson before Murphy's injury time equaliser.

A good all round display from this young Donegal team, who will learn from the experience. It was a real baptism of fire for many of them with Jason McGee ending as top scorer on the day with 1-1.



Donegal's Michael Carroll in possession against Dublin's Jack McCaffrey during the Allianz Div 1 game in MacCumhaill Park. Photo Thomas Gallagher INDD270217

MATCH FACTS

DONEGAL: Mark Anthony McGinley; Paddy McGrath, Neil McGee, Eoghan Ban Gallagher; Ryan McHugh (1-00), Caolan Ward, Paul Brennan; Jason McGee (1-01), Ciaran Thompson (0-02, 2f); Micheal Carroll, Martin O'Reilly, Eoin McHugh; Frank McGlynn, Michael Murphy (0-02, 2f), Jamie Brennan. Subs: Hugh McFadden for J Brennan (39), Darrach O'Connor for P Brennan (45), Eamonn Doherty for Carroll (56), Stephen McBrearty for E McHugh (72).

DUBLIN: Stephen Cluxton; Philip McMahon, Michael Fitzsimmons, Eric Lowndes; Darren Daly, John Small, Jack McCaffrey; Brian Fenton, Ciaran Reddin; Niall Scully (1-01), Shane Carthy (0-01), Conor McHugh (0-01); Ciaran Kilkenny (0-01), Eoghan O'Gara, Dean Rock (0-3, 3f). Subs: Michael Darragh Macauley for Reddin (42), Paul Flynn for Carthy (42), Kevin McManamon for O'Gara (43), David Byrne (0-01) for McCaffrey (56), Emmett O'Conghaile for Daly (68).

REFEREE: Ciaran Branagan (Down).

FREES: Donegal 19 (5 in first half). Dublin 13 (5 in first half).

WIDES: Donegal 7 (3). Dublin 7 (5)

45s: Donegal 0. Dublin 1

YELLOW CARDS: Donegal 0. Dublin Conor McHugh 11; Niall Scully 47; John Small 60

BLACK CARDS: 0

RED CARDS: 0

Man of the match:

The award goes to Frank McGlynn for his controlled display throughout. The ability to do the right thing on the ball was a vital ingredient. Caolan Ward must also come in for favourable mention.

REF WATCH

On a difficult day for football, referee Ciaran Branagan had a good outing, using common sense where necessary. Donegal will not complain, especially about final free.