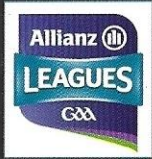


ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Div. 1 - Round 7

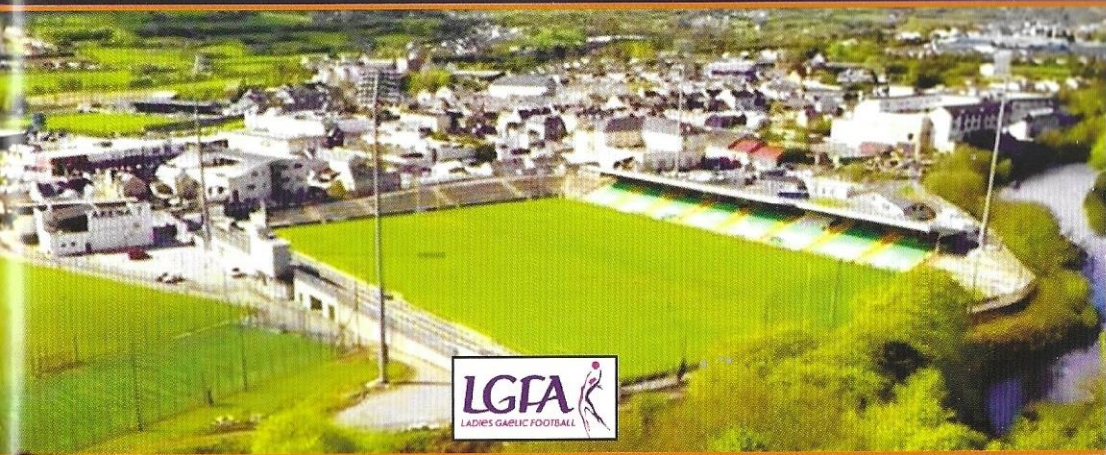


Dún na nGall

v

Maigh Eo

3.00 i.n.



Lidl National Football League Div 1 - Round 6



Dún na nGall

v

Ciarraí

1.00 i.n.



Dé Domhnach, 25ú Marta 2018

I bPáirc Sheáin Mhic Cumhaill, Bealach Féich

Clár Oifigiúil: €3.00



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CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Mar chaothaoirleach de bhord na condae CLG, is mór é an onóir domsa fáilte mór uí Cheallaigh a chur roimh achan duine anseo inniú. Ar an lá speisialta corraitheach seo, an chéad lá dúbailte ionchuimsitheach riamh le foireann na mban is foireann na bhfear.

On behalf of Cumann Luthchleas Gael Dhún na nGall I would like to welcome you all here today, especially our visitors from the counties of Maigh Eo and Ciarraí. We hope you enjoy our hospitality. Both visiting counties bring a wealth of respect from within Donegal, and indeed from within the large GAA family that we are all part of. There are several Kerry people living in Donegal that I personally know, and every Club seems to have a Mayo person, as there are strong connections between our counties. Strong bonds emulate between the western seaboard counties, both at home and abroad, with little difference only our accents. The GAA has so much tradition and such a leading role to play maintaining that strength. In our own county we launch a big development step in the next few weeks with the 2nd phase of our Centre of Excellence. The well designed 2 million euro building, shall see a new home for all Donegal gaels in our county, at Convoy.

Today also sees CLG Dhún na nGall celebrate an Intellectual Disability Day with Club members invited to attend today's match as guests. Under the chairmanship of Kevin Mills and County Administrator Noreen Doherty and the Health and Wellbeing Committee in our county, we recognise your unselfish efforts in today's event. I do hope you all enjoy your day.

Once again I thank the local Club Sean Mac Cumhaill committee for having the place looking in top condition for today's game. It got that little extra touch this week from the Club Chairman Terry O'Reilly, originally from Belmullet

Mar fhocal scor, Gabhaim buíochas libh as ucht bhur dtacaíocht I rith na sraithe, agus muid ag spreagadh an t-aois óg.



Is mise le meas,

Mick McGrath,

Cathaoirleach Bord an Condae

Acknowledgements:

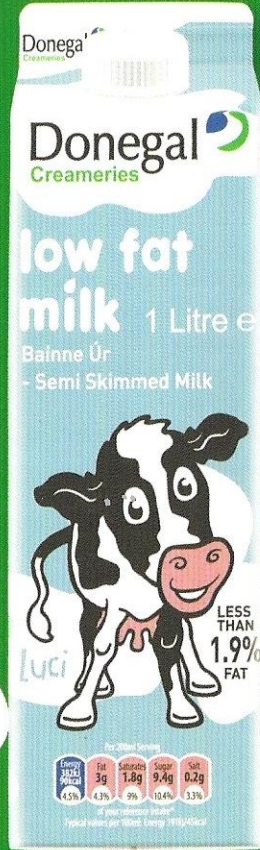
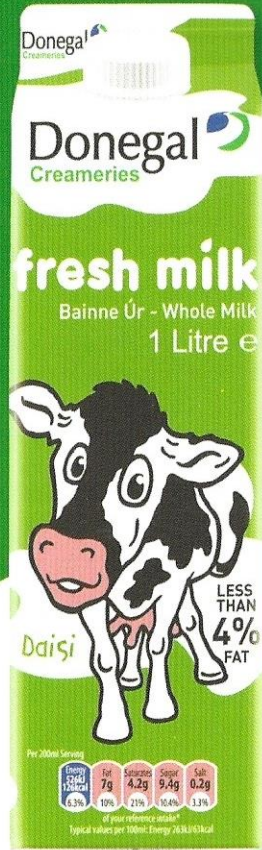
The Seán Mac Cumhaill's club wish to express their thanks to all who contributed to today's programme and running of events. To all the sponsors for taking advertisements out and to our club members who gave up their time to ensure the game goes off without incident. An event of this magnitude requires a large support base and we thank all those who have helped. Many thanks go to all those who contributed to this programme: Peter Campbell and Tom Comack (Donegal Democrat), Michael McHugh (Donegal Post), Gerry McLaughlin, Ryan Ferry (Donegal News), Fr. Seán Gallagher, Chris McNulty (Donegal Sport Hub), Geraldine Diver and Sammy Wasson of Impacto Print.

Allianz Football League Roinn 1

	P	+/-	Pts	Allianz LEAGUES				
1 Dublin	6	+33	11		4 Tyrone	6	+9	6
2 Galway	6	+17	11		5 Kerry	6	-8	6
3 Monaghan	6	+5	8		7 Donegal	6	-17	2
					8 Kildare	6	-23	0

Good luck
to the Donegal team in the 2018
Allianz National Football League!

Donegal
Creameries



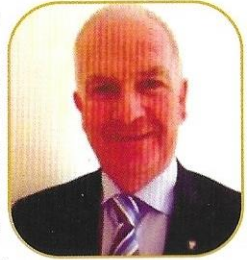
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Cathaoirleach Cumann Peil na mban

Ar son bhord an Chondae de Cumann Peil na mban Thír Chonaill, ba mhaith liom fáilte mhór a chur romhaibh go leir anseo inniu go Pairc Mhic Cumhaill, Bealach Féich. On behalf of the Donegal Ladies Gaelic Football Association It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all here on this historic day to Mac Cumhaill Park Ballybofey. I would like to welcome the Kerry Senior Ladies team, management, and officials, and of course also a big welcome to our rivals from the west the Mayo Senior Men, management and officials and all supporters who have travelled from near and far. Today will be the first time for a Donegal Ladies Senior team to represent Donegal in a curtain raiser to our Senior Men. On behalf of the Donegal LGFA board I would like to congratulate the GAA and the LGFA on this initiative and look forward to future integration between both codes. I would like to take this opportunity to wish both Donegal Managers, backroom teams and players the best of luck today and for the rest of this year. I would also like to thank the Donegal GAA Co. Board for all their support over recent years and for their cooperation in allowing this fixture. A very special thanks to the hosting club Seán Mac Cumhaills for their support in

making this an historic day for Donegal LGFA. The commitment from all our ladies and management teams U14, U15, U16, Minor and Senior is tremendous and without the support of Clubs, Colleges, and the GAA Co. Board regarding the use of training facilities we would not be able to field these intercounty teams. We very much appreciate all their support in the past and into the future. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors and everyone who supports our annual Golf Classic fundraiser. This year's will be on the 11th of May. Finally, I want to wish all four teams the best of luck for today's games and may the



best teams win. To the supporters enjoy your short visit to the heart of Donegal and have a safe journey home. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh uilig sult as na cluichí inniu agus go mbeidh turas slán sábhaille abhaile ag na peileadóirí agus ag lucht leanúna na dtrí condaetha, Ciarraí, Maigh Eó agus Dún na nGall.

Is mise le meas
Seamus Ó hÉaráin
Cathaoirleach

**The Referee for the ladies game Donegal V Kerry is:
Gerry Carmody (Mayo)**



Pictured is Noel, Karl and Riona Doherty with GAA President John Horan in Croke Park before the All-Ireland Club Finals. The club were joint top sellers in Ulster in the GAA National Draw and we received €1000 as a prize for this achievement. The club would like to thank all its members and the wider public who organised and supported this draw and your generosity of spirit is greatly appreciated.



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"Best wishes to the Donegal Senior Ladies & the Donegal Men for the 2018 season"

Amhrán na bhFiann

Sinne Fianna Fáil
Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,
Buíon dár slua
Thar toinn do ráinig chugainn.
Faoi mhóid bheith saor,
Seantúr 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.



Andrea Long is from Ballybofey and is a Primary Teacher in Scoil Mhuire, Stranorlar. She has a great love of music and dance and is musical director of local choirs as well as the children's choir in Scoil Mhuire, Stranorlar. Andrea also performs in musicals in the local Balor Theatre and has represented her local Seán MacCumhaill club in Scór. She is honoured to be representing her County today by singing Amhrán na bhFiann at her local club.

GROUND REGULATIONS

01. 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.
02. 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
03. The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the ground and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground.
04. The unauthorized climbing of any structure, walls or buildings in this ground strictly forbidden.
05. 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.
06. Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any object the pitch.
07. Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play.
08. Any person who fails to comply with the instruction from a Garda or Steward may be ejected from the ground.
09. In general, the right of admission is reserved to the Ground Management.
10. 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.
11. Any person who remains in or obstructs a gangway or circulation area may be ejected from the ground.
12. 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.
13. 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.

TODAYS REFEREE

Referee: Anthony Nolan (Cllí Mhantáin)
Linesman: Sean Hurson (Tír Eoghain)

Stand by: Barry Cassidy (Doire)
Sideline: Martin Conroy (Tír Eoghain)

Dún na nGall



MNÁ IONÁID

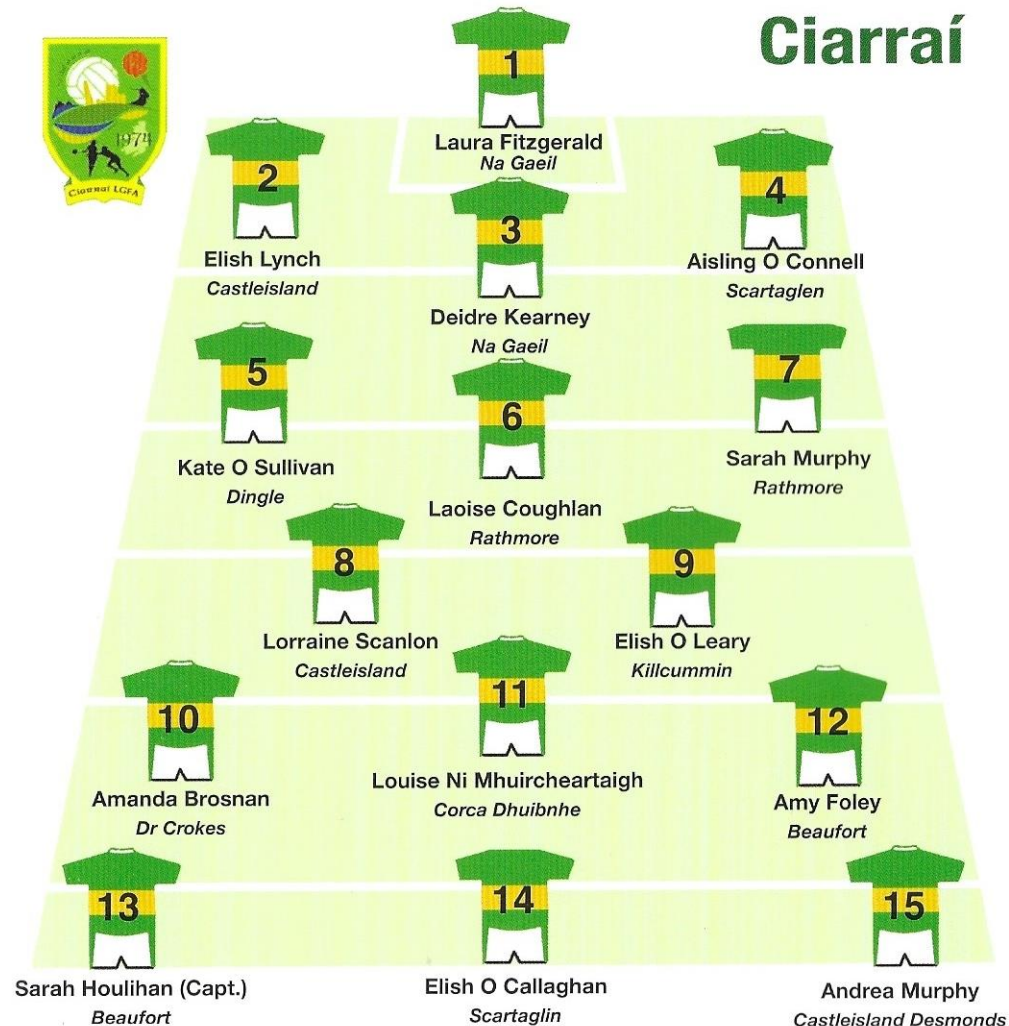
16 Laura Gallagher	Glenswilly	24 Emer Gallagher	Termon
17 Emma McCrory	Robert Emmetts	25 Roisin Friel	Termon
18 Michaela Breslin	St Nauls	26 Kaneshia McKinney	St Eunans
19 Niamh Carr	Milford	27 Sinead McGinty	Glenfin
20 Deirdre Foley	Carndonagh	28 Eilís Ward	St Nauls
21 Bridget Gallagher	St Michaels	29 Paula Mc Groary	Buncrana
22 Alannah McDonnell	N.Connaill	30 Niamh Mailey	St Mary's Convoy
23 Anna Marie McGlynn	Glenfin	31 Aoife McColgan	Malin

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Manager:	Damian Devaney	Club:	Mac Cumhailís	Mentors:	Marie Mc Colgan	Red Hughs
Mentors:	Maxi Curran		St. Eunans	Mentors:	Sabrina Barrett	Convoy
Mentors:	Johnny Mc Ginley		Glenswilly	Physio:	Sara Herron	Glenfin
Mentors:	Gary Walsh		St Eunans	Captain Name	Karen Guthrie	

	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seacháí	45	Saor	Ciceanna
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Iomlán	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Ciarraí



MNÁ IONÁID

16 Linda Bruggener	Spa	22 Clodagh O Connor	Na Fianna
17 Aislinn Desmond	Rathmore	23 Siobhian Goodwin	Castlegregory
18 Emma Dineen	Glenflesk	24 Meabh Barry	Na Gael
19 Deidre Geaney	Dingle	25 Fiadhna Tagney	Beaufort
20 Caoimhe O Sullivan	Listowel Emmets	26 Aoife Geaney	Dingle
21 Brid Ryan	Rathmore	27 Leah Henry	Listowel Emmets

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Manager:	Graham Shiine	Listowel Emmets	Mentors:	Aoife Newell	Corofin
Mentors:	Tim Kennelly	Finuge/St Senans	Physical Trainer:	Thomas Dillion	Duagh
Mentors:	Denis Lynch	Listowel Emmets	Physio:	Marie Griffion	
			Admin:	Lavinia Cunningham	Southern Gaels

	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seacháí	45	Saor	Ciceanna
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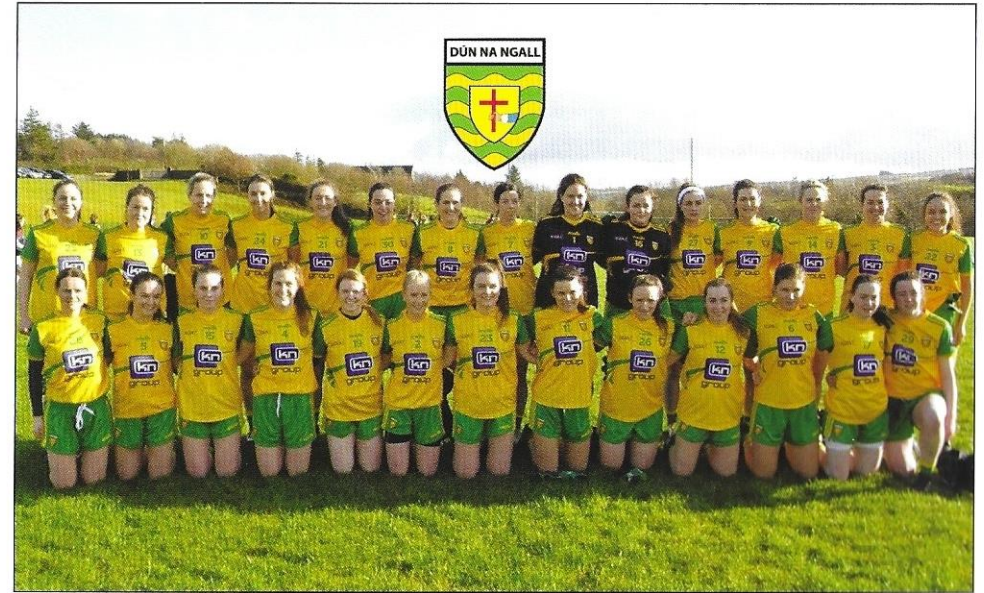
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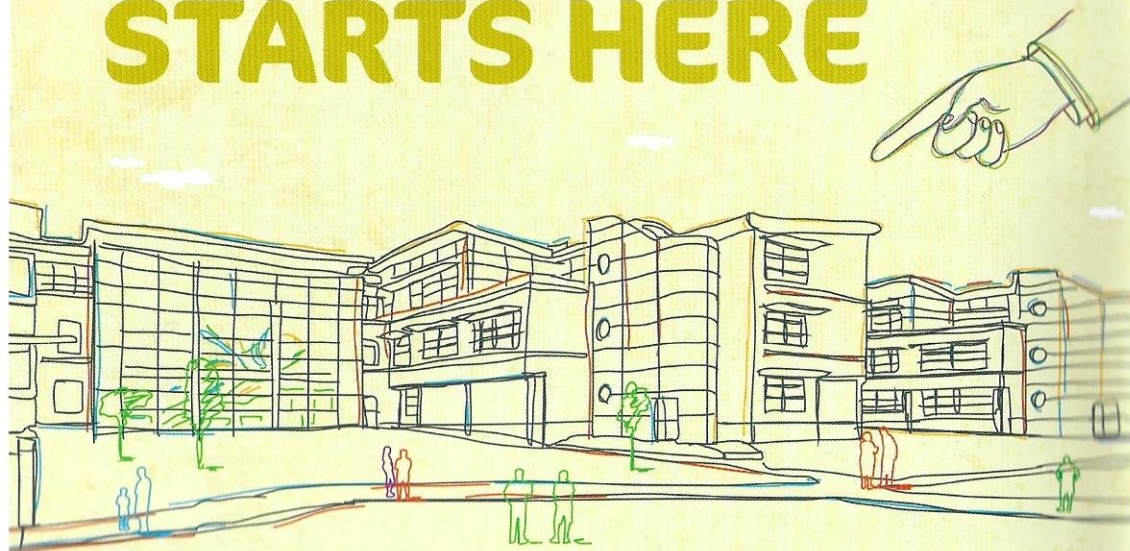


Dún na nGall Ladies Team



Ciarraí Ladies Team

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An Interview with GAA president John Horan

How have you enjoyed this year's NFL? Do you believe it to be, arguably, more unpredictable and entertaining than the championship? 6 teams can celebrate promotion and 4 teams will win a league title.

There is no one can argue that one of the big success stories in the GAA in the last 20 years has been the transformation of the Allianz leagues. The move to a calendar year was crucial and counties really see it as vital preparation for the Championship.

Division 1 contains nearly all of the main contenders for Sam Maguire. But not only that, it is clear that the fact that the four divisions are all hugely competitive and full of meaningful games has enabled every team to use the league as great preparation and in reality the league is a more equitable competition than Championship because every team feels they are in a competition they have a chance of winning.

Dublin will play Galway in the Division 1 final, how do you see it going?

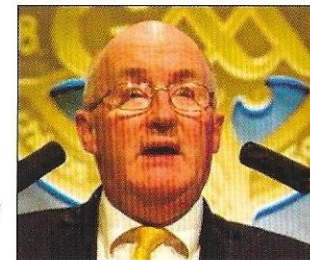
Galway have been the team of the league. It is great to see such a traditional football county synonymous with many of the greatest players in football's history from Sean Purcell through to Mattie MacDonagh and on to Padhraic Joyce come back to the top table.

They have reached the league final without needing any of the Corofin players who put on such an impressive display in the club final and this augurs well for them. They were hugely competitive at home against Dublin and the next step in their development will be a big match at Croke Park.

Dublin have been impressive and Jim Gavin has shown no interest in letting up and wants to see his team remain out in front and it's a credit to them that they continue to have such an attitude and application. The Allianz football

league final will be special.

Kildare have already been relegated, and either Donegal or Mayo will join them. How do you see Sunday's crucial game panning out? Donegal are on a home patch they have been unbeaten on since 2010. They have been hugely unlucky in that excellent displays on the road to Kerry and Dublin on another day would have seen them take those points. The injuries to Lee Keegan and Cillian O'Connor rob Mayo of two top players and score takers and it would appear that Donegal have an advantage but Mayo's tenacity and spirit cannot be overlooked and they will want to stay in Div 1.



Switching codes, have you noted the good results achieved by the Donegal senior hurlers? (3 victories in Division 2B, when they'd never won a match in the Division previously)

There was a time when you could draw a line from Dublin to Galway and hurling thrived south of this line and apart from Antrim, hurling north of that line scarcely had a pulse. We owe a debt of gratitude to hurling people who kept the game alive in places like Donegal and it is a great credit to all involved that they are enjoying the fruits of some hard work recently. Hurling in general is really on the up. More children than ever before are playing the game and for the first time ever, last year saw the number of teams at féile in hurling and camogie outnumber the total of football teams at féile.

Now a little about how you're settling into the new role.

How has the past month been? Does being uachtaran tofa fully prepare you for when you assume office fully?

You have a year to prepare for being Uachtarán after the election of Uachtarán Tofa. But for the first seven months I was actually battling a



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serious illness that I am delighted to say I am finally over. Having been Chairman of a large entity such as Comhairle Laighean, been a member of the GAA's Management Committee and being on the board of Croke Park does give you an important insight into the working and also workload involved.

I worked closely with Páraic Duffy and also Aogán Ó Fearghail and also had a busy time tidying up affairs in my schools, St Vincent's CBS in Glasnevin where I have been principal and have taken leave to take on the GAA Presidency.

It is a busy time and there are a lot of committees to put in place. There is also a strategic plan being unveiled shortly that will look at the next three years and a number of other projects. Nothing stands still in the GAA. We are constantly evolving and I am happy to be part of that.

What's the top item on your agenda as president?

One of the big challenges with the GAA is the fact that there is no one size fits all solution. We are an organization of 2,000 clubs with more than 750,000 members and no two stories are the same.

We have GAA clubs who field 100 teams in competitive action between adult and juvenile. They struggle for facilities and mentors. But they are no more or less important than a club with maybe only one team and looking at fielding a team as a triumph given rural depopulation.

The GAA has to have a place for everybody and leave no one behind. The future we want to build has to cater for urban and rural Ireland. We are all club people and when this job as Uachtarán is over I will be active in Na Fianna helping wherever I can.

I would like to hold a National Club Forum before the end of this year because while Congress deals with rule changes, there are other burning issues that Clubs face which cannot be solved by a rule change but which need to be addressed and discussed and I'd like Clubs to come to Croke Park and have a

sharing of ideas and a unity of purpose. My background as a teacher and a club coach has been working with young people, and improving them. I was honoured to be asked to be a Dublin minor football team manager in the past and a selector on other teams and some of those lads went on to be household names. I'm worried about the cult of the development squad. Young people should be encouraged, nurtured and developed. I am against the way some of these underage squads are operating. No player should ever be told they are a failure. I don't like the fact they take players away from their clubs for long periods and I think we can address that.

And finally, what is your view on the issues facing club fixtures, and the usual uncertainty of them?

(Donegal CCC has drawn up a master fixtures plan that has, for the first time club players have been given full schedule of fixtures, with weekends off, which will allow them to plan their season and their lives outside of sport.) The bad weather has impacted slightly on our plan for this year but the fundamental issue here is that a roadmap has been produced for the next three years whereby the county schedule has been dramatically redrawn and curtailed to create opportunities for club action to take place.

The key word here is opportunity. The GAA nationally has gone further than some would like in condensing the inter county season. That has been done so that the windows are there for club activity. It is vital that county boards and clubs work together to seize that opportunity. It is in for a three year trial and I'd ask us to give it that three years and a fair hearing and if changes are needed then fine. But let no one say that the club player and the club calendar has not been given a chance by the GAA. The power always rests with clubs to make sure their county board has a fixture plan adequately in place and also ensure that they do not let county managers dictate the needs of a minority over the needs and rights of the majority.

A Mayo man, a GAA man, and a clubman

BY TOM COMACK (Donegal Democrat/Peoples Press)

Donegal and the GAA lost a great servant with the sad death of Mayo and Belmullet native Liam Reilly, earlier this year.

He may never have held high office or ever had too much truck with the great and good of the GAA; he never courted the limelight; but the crowds that thronged to Liam Reilly's wake in Dungloe from right around Donegal and beyond; the hundreds more that turned up for his funeral mass and burial in Dungloe spoke volumes about the esteem in which the Mayo native was held by his beloved GAA, his adopted Donegal.

Liam, whose own playing days were cut short in his early 20s due to a fishing accident, courted inter-county management for a short time and managed Donegal to an Ulster minor football league title - a 1982 team that included future All-Ireland winners Gary Walsh, Brian Murray and James McHugh.



Liam Reilly

But it was with his adopted Rosses and the Dungloe club that Liam made his mark.

Tributes were paid by many players who crossed his path in the course of his management and coaching days. Among them was 1992 All-Ireland winner and fellow Dungloe clubman and All-Star Tony Boyle.

"My first memory and first contact with Liam was when I was 15, in 1985 and he was manager of the Dungloe U-15 team that won the county Og Sport," said Tony.

"Back then the county Óg Sport winners qualified for the All-Ireland Og Sport final which used to be held every year over a weekend in Gormanston, Co Meath.

"We didn't do very well. We lost our first two games and won our last after we copped on that in 7-a-side you need goals. All our training had been done taking points.

"We didn't do very well but we had a great time.

"Liam, as most people know, had an artificial leg and he used to take it off at night going to bed.

"We were all sleeping in the one dormitory and I'm not saying who the culprit was but when Liam got up in the morning it was missing.

"There was a mad panic for a few minutes and the late Sean Ward, who was with us too, was calling us a shower a hooligans. Eventually the

leg was found and in fairness to Liam he took it in great spirit and laughed and joked about after.

"I was chatting my brother Ben on Sunday evening about Liam and he was telling me he was on a team in 1980 that played in the All-Ireland Og Sport too in Gormanston.

"They also hid the leg. But they hid it on top of gear of some other team and I think the young lads on the other team got a wild fright in the morning when they found the leg."

Liam Reilly also gave Tony Boyle, at 17, his first senior club championship start. That was in 1987 against Naomh Columba, up in Pairc Na nGael.

"Liam was the club back then; it was his life and he had a great passion for the club.

"The club meant the world to him and that was right up until he got sick a year and a half ago. I remember in my last stint as manager any time I met him

after we won a game his face used to light up. I could see the delight in his eyes."

Liam Reilly, from outside Belmullet in Mayo, played U-21 football for Donegal was first and foremost a Dungloe clubman; a club he nurtured Phoenix-like after it had been reformed by himself and Jimmy 'Nappy' O'Donnell, in 1980 after a period of GAA darkness in the Rosses capital.

The late Liam Reilly died in Letterkenny University Hospital after a long battle with illness. He was 71, born in 1946.

Form a family of 12, eight boys and four girls, Liam is survived by his wife Margaret; daughter Martina; brothers PJ, Terry, Eamon, Paddy, Michael, Tom; sisters Gabrielle, Kathleen, Mary, Teresa; nieces and nephews and a wide circle of friends. His brother John Joe died a number of years ago.

His brother Terry is the chairman of your host club this afternoon, Sean MacCumhailis.

His nephew Marty O'Reilly -son of Terry - is a member of the Donegal squad this afternoon.

And his brother Tom, an All-Ireland Minor Championship winner with Mayo, is a former Cavan chairman and a big wig in Ulster GAA circles.

Sean MacCumhail Park is the spiritual home of the GAA in old Tir Conaille"

by GERRY McLAUGHLIN

Sean MacCumhail Park is the spiritual home of the GAA in old Tir Conaill

And it has been the arena for countless Laochra Gael who graced the rich green sod on the Banks of the Finn.

My first memory of this famous field was watching St Joseph's a combination of Ballyshannon and Bundoran escaping with a very lucky draw in the county final of 1965 against Glenties.

They were a point behind and the Dr Maguire Cup seemed destined for Glenties, and the peerless Frankie Campbell when Joseph's burly full forward Peter Quinn fell about 14 metres from the goal, the "free" was pointed and the south Donegal side won the replay easily.

And I can still see the pain on the faces of the followers of Na Gleannta.

But that pain turned to unbounded joy 40 years later when Jim McGuinness's young men beat the mighty St Eunan's in a replay and it was in Ballybofey, the Wembley of Donegal GAA in 2005.

Ten years later I watched Leo McLoone drag a 14 man Naomh Conaill to victory over St Eunan's in one of the greatest examples of raw courage and leadership when it mattered in MacCumhail Park

All the great moments have unfurled like a film roll as sepia tinged legends graced this greatest field of dreams.

It has all been here, the agony and the ecstasy as the green and gold of Tir Conaill battled with some of Ulster and Ireland's finest.

And the images come hurting back from the seasons of my youth as I recall playing centre forward on an Aodh Ruadh team that beat Convoy fairly comprehensively in the Donegal U-14 county final in 1972 and I think Jimmy Harte was marking me and the field seemed huge.

On another occasion I was taking a 21 metre free for Fermanagh senior hurlers against my native Donegal in 1987 when the legendary P J "Elvis" Ferguson from Ballyshannon, who was directly



behind the goal, roared that I was wearing the wrong jersey which caused me to make a dog's dinner of the shot.

At a much higher level I remember some great county finals in 1967 and 1969 when St Eunan's spurred by greats like Sean Ferriter, John Hannigan, Anthony Gallagher and James Larkion beat the mighty St Joseph's.

I also remember marvelling at the magical Martin McHugh kicking points from the sideline,

But I also remember the scenes of pure unmitigated joy when Four Masters won their first ever county title in 1982 on this velvet sward and the iontas of Gaoth Dobhair when they won their first county title since 1961 in 2002 when Stephen Cassidy hit a goal to die for and his brother Kevin worrying the giant Armagh keeper Paul Hearty into dropping a Hail Mary effort from Brendan Devenney into the net in 2007.

Glenswilly and Michael Murphy also had a first when they took a title in 2011, the celebrations were suitably epic.

But for sheer emotion, last year's Kilcar victory, their first since 1993, was hard to top.

Ardara in 2000 was something special, but for sheer heartbreak, remember Naomh Columba who played in six county finals between 1990 and 1998 and only won one and the image of their greatest warrior Noel Hegarty taking on the might of Killybegs and Aodh Ruadh, raging magnificently against the dying of the light is forever Ballybofey, sadly the graveyard of their dreams.

And it always feels like a close Colosseum as the fans are very near, cheering their local legends, their heroes of home, their ait duichais for the pride of the parish on scorching Sunday's on Donegal GAA's greatest arena.

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Best wishes to both Donegal teams today



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Dún na nGall v Maigh Eo – An Stair

Fr. Seán

1933

It appears that Dún na nGall and Maigh Eo first met in the All-Ireland Junior Football Championship Home Final in Croke Park on October 8, 1933. Dún na nGall played brilliantly in the first half and led by 2-2 to 1-3 at half-time. Tom Diver and Neil Joe McGee were Dún na nGall's goalscorers with Ownie McFadden and the legendary John O'Donnell 'notching the minors', as they used to say in days of yore. The second half saw a complete transformation and a rampant Maigh Eo side held Dún na nGall scoreless and went on to win 2-15 to 2-2.

Maigh Eo went on to win their first All-Ireland Junior title by beating Londain 3-7 / 2-4 in the final. Their team was:

T. Grier (capt.), J. O'Gara, P. O'Loughlin, P.J. Coffey, B. Frazer, P.J. Walsh, M. Raftery, P. Collins, T. Regan, J. Carney, P. Conboy, P. Laffey, H. O'Brien, T. Kelly, T. Culkin.

The Dún na nGall team in Croke Park was: J. McEnhill (Donegal):

J. Lawn (Donegal) Teague Diver (Gaoth Dobhair) J.P. McGinley (Kilcar):

J. Gallinagh (Ballyshannon) B. O'Donnell (Dungloe) J. Brown (Carrick):

T. Gallagher (Ardara) and N. McGee (Falcarragh):

P. McManus (Bundoran) P. Clancy (Bundoran) J. O'Donnell (Dungloe):

K. Sweeney (Dungloe) T. McDermott (Ballyshannon) O. McFadden (Gaoth Dobhair).

Sub: Tom Diver (Gaoth Dobhair).

1936

The official opening of the new Gaelic Park, Bundoran, marked the first appearance (as far as I know) of a Maigh Eo team in Dún na nGall. The Connacht Champions of 1936, Maigh Eo, beat the Leinster finalists of 1934-5, Lú, by 1-6 to 1-1 to capture the Star of the Sea Cup on 30 August 1936. Later on in the year, in a much-praised gesture, Maigh Eo presented the Cup to Coiste Chontae Dhún na nGall for their Minor Football Championship. The Minor Champions received the 'Mayo Cup' until it was replaced by Corn Chuimhneacháin Dhónaill Mhic a' Bhaird.

1939

The Senior Footballers of Dún na nGall and Maigh Eo met for the first time at the Official Opening of the Pearse Memorial Park, Ardara, on June 11, 1939. Maigh Eo won the Pearse Memorial Cup by beating Dún na nGall 3-8/1-4. Maigh Eo fielded seven of the Sam Maguire Cup-winning team of 1936 and five other first-fifteen regulars.

The **Maigh Eo** team was:

J. O'Shaughnessy

T. O'Regan

A. O' Toole

J. Carney (0-1)

G. Gorrell

T. Burke:

P. Quinn

J. Poppenwell

J. Munnely:

P. Judge (1-0)

P. Moclair (1-3)

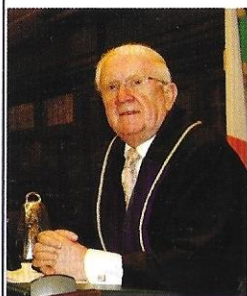
Purty Kelly:

M. Griffin:

B. Mongey (0-1)

T. Hoban (1-3).

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Dún na nGall:

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J. McGarvey
P. McGill
A. O'Gorman
D. Callaghan
Sub: Jackie Gallagher (0-1).

H. McGuinness:

T. Gallagher
P. Gill
H. Gallagher (1-2)
J. Bradley

E. Cannon:
A. Bradley:
V. McHugh (0-1)
C. McDyer:
D. Gillespie.

1940

On November 24, 1940, Dún na nGall and Maigh Eo met in a Senior competitive game for the first time. Maigh Eo beat Dún na nGall 1-10 / 0-5 in the National Football League in Ballina. The 'Derry Journal' report was:

It was a well-contested game. Donegal had a better share of the exchanges than the score would suggest.

Mayo opened with a point from a free by Ormsby, who repeated this performance shortly afterwards. Munnely added a further point, and the Mayo defence, in which Winters was outstanding, repulsed a few Donegal raids. Mayo returned to secure another point per Laffey, and Kearney added two further points for Mayo. Then Laffey obtained a goal, and Judge a point. Donegal forwards missed several scoring chances before McGarvey had a point from a free just before the interval. Half-time score – Mayo, 1-8; Donegal, 0-1.

After the resumption Donegal broke away. Their forwards again missed several scoring opportunities. Despite the fact that Donegal had the balance of exchanges so far in this half, Mayo were the first to score. They went ahead with a point per Munnely. Assuming the offensive, Donegal got two points per H. Gallagher, and a further point per McGarvey. Munnely added another point for Mayo, but just before the whistle O'Neill had a point for Donegal.

The Donegal team comprised the following: - P. McNelis, J. Cassidy, J. Gallagher (Gweedore), H. O'Donnell, A. McBrearty, M. Melly, H. McGovern, C. McDwyer, J. McGarvey, J. O'Neill, H. Gallagher, J. Gallagher (Ballyshannon), M. Slevin, P. Gill, V. McHugh

LEAGUE GAMES

The full list of past National League clashes is:

1. 24 Nov 1940	Maigh Eo 1-10	Dún na nGall 0-5	Ballina
2. 11 Nov 1984	Dún na nGall 1-13	Maigh Eo 1-5	Ballyshannon
3. 27 Oct 1985	Dún na nGall 0-14	Maigh Eo 1-11	Ballyshannon
4. 6 Feb 1994	Dún na nGall 3-7	Maigh Eo 0-12	Ballybofey
5. 13 Feb 2005	Maigh Eo 2-10	Dún na nGall 1-11	Ballina
6. 12 Feb 2007	Dún na nGall 1-13	Maigh Eo 1-10	Ballybofey
7. 22 Apr 2007	Dún na nGall 0-13	Maigh Eo 0-10	Croke Park (Final)
8. 17 Feb 2008	Dún na nGall 2-11	Maigh Eo 0-16	Castlebar
9. 14 Feb 2009	Dún na nGall 2-10	Maigh Eo 1-13	Letterkenny

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to all the teams**



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10. 18 Mar 2012	Dún na nGall 0-17	Maigh Eo 1-7	Ballyshannon
11. 24 Mar 2013	Maigh Eo 1-10	Dún na nGall 0-9	Castlebar
12. 5 Apr 2015	Maigh Eo 0-12	Dún na nGall 1-9	Castlebar
13. 28 Feb 2016	Dún na nGall 1-14	Maigh Eo 1-12	Ballybofey
14. 2 Apr 2017	Maigh Eo 1-12	Dún na nGall 0-13	Castlebar

Dún na nGall won 7, Maigh Eo won 4, with 3 draws

1946

The great Paddy Prendergast played for Dún na nGall in the Dr. McKenna Cup, Ulster Senior Football Championship and National Football League (Dr. Lagan Cup).

1954

On June 6 1954 the Dún na nGall –Maigh Eo bond was cemented by Maigh Eo playing at the official opening of Tírconail Park, Donegal Town. On that day Dún na nGall beat Liatroim 2-6 / 1-6 and Maigh Eo fell heavily to An Cabhán

5-8 /3-2. At the reception in the Technical School (no Abbey then!!) 'Mr. Paddy Prendergast, speaking on behalf of Mayo, said it was a very pleasant duty for him to thank all concerned. He had looked forward to the opening very much as it had a great significance for him, having played for Donegal before he played for Mayo. The park was in the most beautiful surroundings and in looking for alibis as to their defeat when they went home they could say that they were so engrossed by the lovely scenery that they got beaten.'

On that day in Donegal Town Maigh Eo fielded nine of the team that had just won the National League – S. Wynne, J. Forde, P. Prendergast, S. Flanagan, F. Fleming, J. Nallen, P. Irwin, S. O'Donnell, and M. Flanagan.

1971

Martin Carney makes the first of his 76 appearances for Dún na nGall (in the Championship against An Dún).

1991

Pádraig Brogan comes on as a substitute in each of Dún na nGall's three Championship matches.

2016 – LAST VISIT HERE

Maigh Eo's last League visit to Seán Mac Cumhaill Park was on 28 February 2016. The attendance was 11,000 – a record for a League match in Dún na nGall. It was close from start to finish. Maigh Eo led by 0-8 to 0-7 at half-time. Dún na nGall went ahead 0-10/0-9 before a Diarmuid O' Connor penalty goal and a black card for Neill Gallagher, just after he had come on as a sub, made things look good for Maigh Eo. But four of the 2012 brigade – Thompson, Toye, Kavanagh and McLoone – combined for a fine goal in the 58th minute to put Dún na nGall 1-12/1-10 ahead. They held on to win 1-14/1-12.



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Dún na nGall: Peter Boyle:

Éamonn Doherty	Neil McGee	Paddy McGrath:
Ryan McHugh (0-2)	Éamonn McGee	Eoin McHugh:
Rory Kavanagh (0-1)	Michael Murphy (0-5):	
Hugh McFadden	Frank McGlynn	Michael Carroll:
Martin O'Reilly	Patrick McBrearty (0-4)	Odhrán Mac Nialluis (0-2).

Subs: Martin McElhinney – Anthony Thompson – Neil Gallagher – Christy Toye – Leo McLoone (1-0) – Caolán Ward.

Maigh Eo: Rob Hennelly (0-2):

Lee Keegan (0-1)	Ger Cafferkey	Brendan Harrison (0-1):
Michael Hall	Colm Boyle	Shane Nally (0-1):
	Tom Parsons	Jason Gibbons:
Diarmuid O'Connor (1-0)	Aidan O'Shea (0-1)	Kevin McLoughlin:
Evan Regan (0-4)	Conor O'Shea	Keith Higgins.

Subs: Conor Loftus (0-1) – Andy Moran – Donal Vaughan – Chris Barrett – Séamus O'Shea (0-1) – Jason Doherty

Referee: Barry Cassidy (Doire)

Managers: Rory Gallagher & Stephen Rochford

AGUS..

It seems Dún na nGall and Maigh Eo haven't met in the U-21 or Minor Championships. Maigh Eo beat Dún na nGall in the 1933 All-Ireland Junior Football Championship final.

Dún na nGall and Maigh Eo have met 4 times in the Senior Championship. Dún na nGall won in 1992 and 2012; Maigh Eo in 2013 and 2015.

Frank McGlynn has appeared in 8 of the 10 Dún na nGall v Maigh Eo League games in this century: Neil McGee appeared in 7 games, Martin McElhinney in 6.

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Test your GAA knowledge with 20 questions

with Peter Campbell, Sports Editor, Donegal Democrat

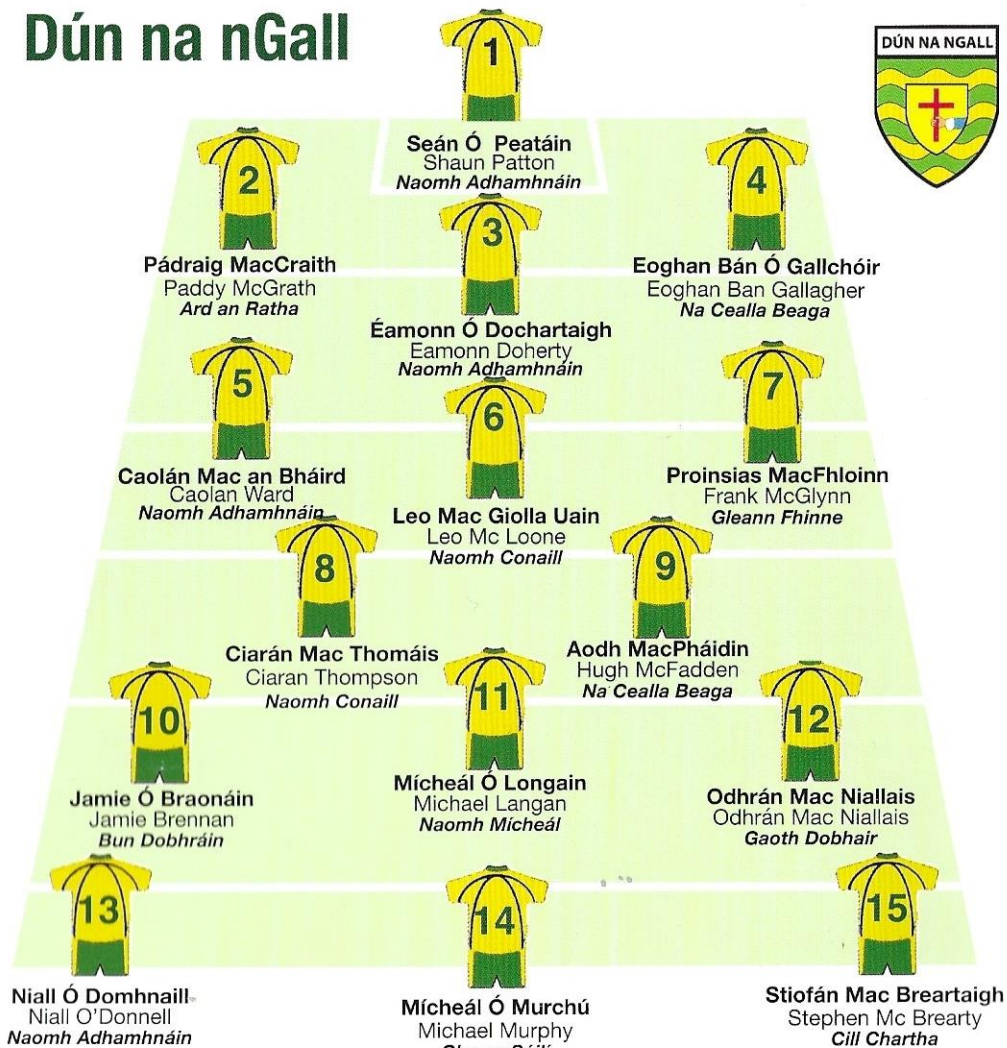


- 1 Kerry won their 20th NFL title last year. Who are second on the list?
- 2 How many All-Stars did Donegal receive in 2014?
- 3 What Mayo player has won Railway Cup medals in hurling and football?
- 4 A famous Mayo footballer joined Bundoran and Donegal in 1991? Name him and the Mayo club he transferred from?
- 5 What is the name of the pitch in Ballina which is hope to Ballina Stephenites?
- 6 Martin O'Reilly is a descendant of a famous footballing Mayo family. From where in Mayo do the O'Reillys come from?
- 7 Mayo midfielder Tom Parsons had an uncle who played senior football for Donegal. Name him?
- 8 How many All-Stars has Dublin's Stephen Cluxton?
- 9 Who captained Roscommon to win the Connacht Senior Championship in 2017?
- 10 What club did Ulster junior champions Naomh Colmcille defeat in the Donegal Junior Championship final in 2017?
- 11 What Mayo club won the All-Ireland Intermediate Club title in 2017?
- 12 In what year did Donegal Ladies win their first All-Ireland title?
- 13 Who was captain of the Donegal Ladies team in 2003?
- 14 What is the name of the football ground in Tullamore?
- 15 Three Mayo players hold the record for of All-Stars. Name them?
- 16 Name the first Mayo player to win an All-Star?
- 17 What Donegal player holds the record for the most All-Stars?
- 18 When Donegal defeated Mayo to win their only National League title in 2007, what was the score?
- 19 One of just two surviving members of the Mayo 1951 All-Ireland winning team, Paddy Prendergast also played for Donegal. With what club in Donegal was he attached?
- 20 Colm A McFadden holds the record of appearances for Donegal at senior intercounty level with 173. Who is second in the list?

ANSWERS:

- 1 Dublin with 12 (just ahead of Mayo with 11);
- 2 Four (Paul Durcan, Neil McGee, Neil Gallagher, Michael Murphy);
- 3 Keith Higgins;
- 4 Padraig Brogan of Knockmore;
- 5 James Stephens Park;
- 6 Belmullet;
- 7 Peter Barry (Bundoran and St. Joseph's);
- 8 Five (2002, 2006, 2007, 2011, 2013);
- 9 Claran Murlagh;
- 10 Red Hughs;
- 11 Westport (who defeated St. Colmcille's of Meath 2-12
- 12 1993 (Donegal defeated Kildare);
- 13 Debbie Lee Fox;
- 14 O'Connor Park;
- 15 Lee Keegan, Keith Higgins and Colm Boyle (all have four);
16. Corner back Johnny Carey was on the first All-Star team in 1971;
- 17 Karl Lacey with four;
- 18 0-13 to 0-10;
- 19 Dungloe;
- 20 Neil McGee is now second (with 164) after leapfrogging Christy Toye when he came on against Kildare.

Dún na nGall

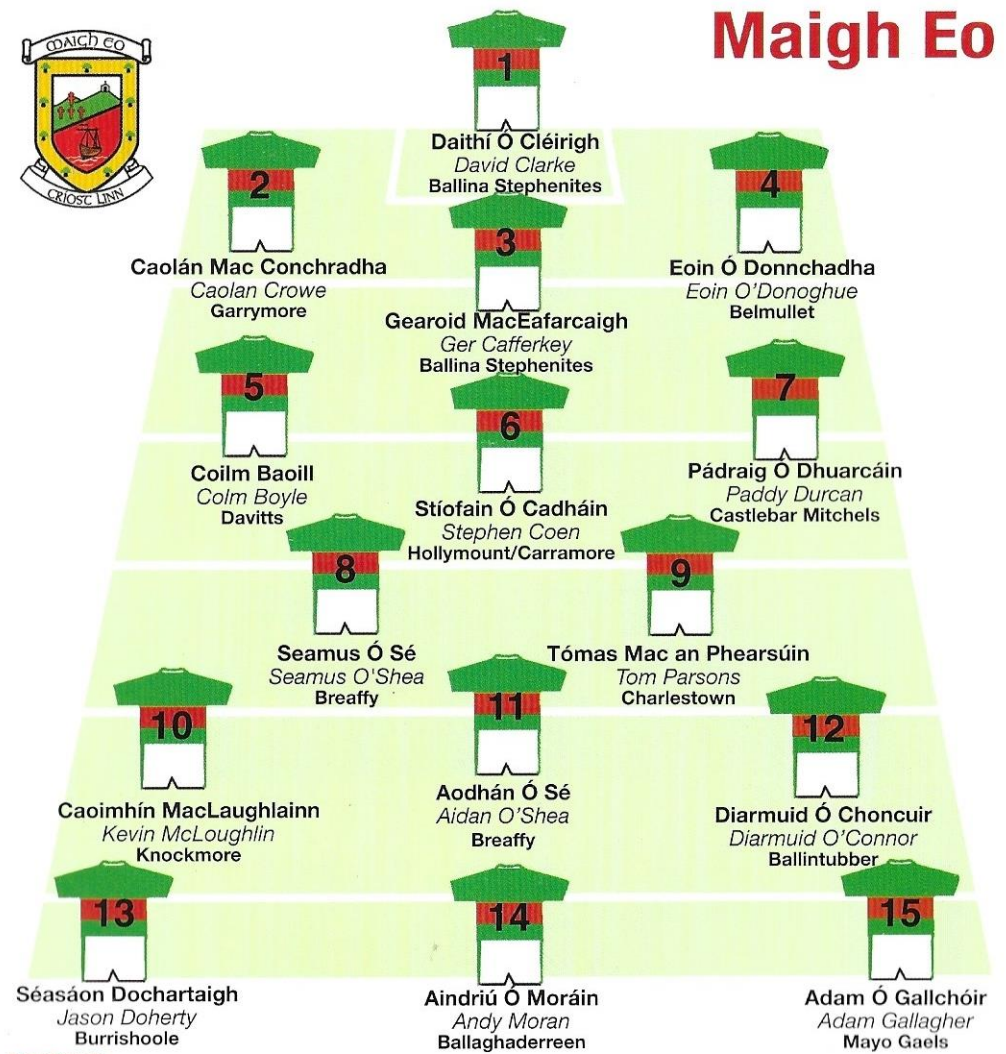


- Fir Ionaid**
- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 16 Marc Antoine Mac Fhionnghaile | Mark Anthony McGinley | Naomh Mícheál | 21 Antoin Mac Leannacháin | Tony Mc Clenaghan | Bun a Phobail |
| 17 Niall Mac Aoidh | Neil Mc Gee | Gaoth Dobhair | 22 Caolan Mac Congail | Caolan Mc Gonigle | Bun Cramnacha |
| 18 Marc Mac Aodha | Mark Mc Hugh | Cill Chartha | 23 Cian Ó Maolagáin | Cian Mulligan | Gaoth Dobhair |
| 19 Mairtín Mac Giolla Chainnigh | Martin Mc Elhinney | Naomh Mícheál | 24 Ciarán Mac Fhionnghaile | Ciaran Mc Ginley | Cill Chartha |
| 20 Stiofán Mac Meanman | Stephen Mc Menamin | Aodh Rua, | 25 Nathan Ó Maoiláin | Nathan Mullins | Naomh Uinseann, B.A.C. |
| | | Cúil na nCuirridín | 26 Mairtín Ó Raghallaigh | Marty Reilly | Seán Mac Cumhail |

- | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Bainisteoir | Deaglán Mac Cnáimhsí | Medic (1) | An Dr. Caoimhín Ó Moráin |
| Maor Fóirne | Antoin Mac Craith | Medic (2) | Cathal Ó hAilís |
| Roghnóir (1) | Pól Mac Congail | Maor Uisce/Camán (1) (F & H) | Carl de Léis |
| Roghnóir (3) | Gearóid Ó Baoill | Maor Uisce/Camán (2) (F & H) | Seán Mac Giolla Cholaim |

	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachaí	45	Saor	Ciceanna
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Iomlán	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Maigh Eo



- FIR IONAD**
- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 16 Riobeard Ó hIonáille | Robbie Hennelly | Breaffy | 22 Dónall Ó Ciarba | Danny Kirby | Castlebar Mitchels |
| 17 Daithí Drach | David Drake | Ballagherreen | 23 Fearghal Ó Beolláin | Fergal Boland | Aghamore |
| 18 Donal Ó Nis | Donie Newcombe | Castlebar Mitchels | 24 Choncuir Ó Sé | Conor O'Shea | Breaffy |
| 19 Michéal de Hál | Michael Hall | Breaffy | 25 Conchúr Ó Lachtáin | Conor Loftus | Crossmolina |
| 20 Seán Mac An Fhailighigh | Shane Nally | Garrymore | 26 Niall Mac Dúghlaí | Neil Douglass | Castlebar Mitchels |
| 21 Barra Ó Moráin | Barry Moran | Castlebar Mitchels | | | |

- | | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Bainisteoir | Stephen Rochford/Stiofán Ó Reachtnín | Medic (2) | Martin McIntyre/Mairtín Mac an tSaor |
| Maor Fóirne | Tony McEntee/Antáin Mac an tSaor | Maor Uisce/Camán (1) (F & H) | Liam Ludden/Liam Ó Loideáin |
| Roghnóir (1) | Donie Buckley/Dónal Ó Buachalla | Maor Uisce/Camán (2) (F & H) | Dessie Campbell/Deasún Mac Cathmhaoil |
| Roghnóir (2) | Peter Burke/Peadar de Búrca | Maor Uisce/Camán (3) (H) | |
| Roghnóir (3) | Joe Keane/Seosamh Ó Catháin | Cathaoirleach Contae | Dermot Butler/Diarmuid de Builéir |
| Medic (1) | Dr Sean Moffatt | Michael Connolly/Mícheál Ó Conghaille | |

	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachaí	45	Saor	Ciceanna
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Recollections of Mayo's All Ireland victory of 1936

By Michael McHugh, Editor, Donegal Post

John 'Spud' Murphy from Donegal Town is an octogenarian plus (86) who remains passionate about Donegal GAA football.

So much so that he has been writing to a multitude of Donegal managers, officials and players down the decades.

Not unsurprisingly, I suppose, as he ended up as Head Postmaster with what is now An Post and the state run Department of Posts and Telegraphs in his early days.

He grew up in Ballyshannon and is a Vice President of the Aodh Ruadh club.

His memory of times gone by, are sharp to this day although the eyesight has seen better days, he will gladly admit.

John's repertoire of stories are of legendary status, like the story he tells of the time Donegal played Kerry in an All Ireland junior football final of 1954.

He regales joyfully as he points out that while he didn't play in Croke Park in that final, his boots did. He lent them to a neighbour, Matt Regan. New boots, size 8, he reminds me.

However his earliest GAA memory is that of the Mayo team returning home after their first All Ireland senior victory in 1936, having been born in Ballyhaunis of August 1931.

"My first GAA memory was the homecoming of the '36 team to Ballyhaunis and Jackie Carney (an Uncle of Martin Carney) was on that team.

"They came home by rail and it was the first station and their first All-Ireland (senior). The whole county had converged on Ballyhaunis station and when the Mayo team appeared on the platform, the crowd went berserk - they went wild, they went crazy.

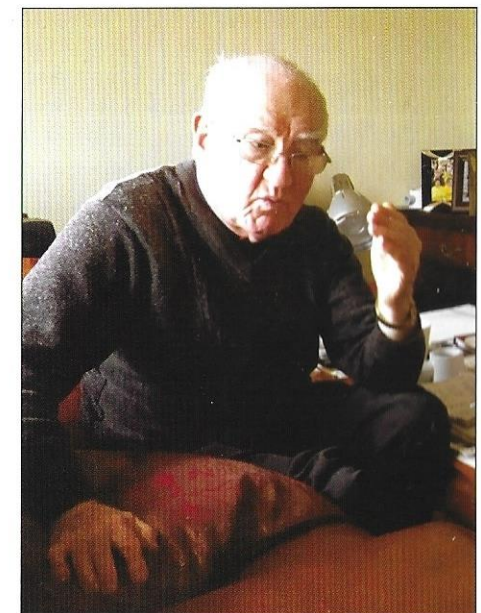
"From what I saw that evening, grown men

crying their eyes out with sheer joy and delight - I was a GAA man. And the following month me Dad did a swap with a guard in Ballyshannon by the name of Ward.

"The (Garda) authorities would allow you swap and we came to Ballyshannon on the 16th of October 1936.

"And I never left this county since except to go on holidays. All my working life was in Donegal - 8 months with the ESB in Cathaleen's Fall in Ballyshannon, 15 months training in the Post Office in Letterkenny and the rest of my service was in Donegal Town. I was appointed here on the 22nd of January 1950. I retired in '94."

While a Donegal GAA man through and through, 'Spud' will never forget that famous and glorious Mayo day eighty plus years ago .

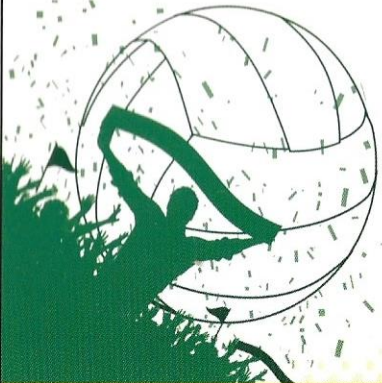


John Spud Murphy in full flow with another tale of GAA day's gone by.

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Will Donegal flex their muscle in Ballybofey today?

By Chris McNulty, Donegal Sport Hub

WHEN JIM MCGUINNESS took over as the Donegal manager, he set about addressing the county's home form as one of his first priorities. Derry, Antrim and Down had left Ballybofey with Championship victories in the previous three years and Sean MacCumhaill's old magic had waned.

A 1-15 to 2-10 loss against Down, after extra time, in May 2010, was Donegal's last defeat in Ballybofey in either League or Championship football.

Since then, Donegal are unbeaten in 19 League and Championship games at MacCumhaill Park.

They can extend that record to an impressive 20 this afternoon against Mayo.

Last year, the record looked set to fall when Dublin arrived and led deep into injury time, but Michael Murphy arched over a last-gasp free. Donegal stated their intent in the lead-up to that one.

Dublin themselves were on a 31-game unbeaten streak, that had stretched back over two years, going into their visit to the Finn's banks. One record was going to fall - barring a draw. But both departed with the strings intact.

To Donegal, that game meant a lot.

"To the outside world, yes, people think you have nothing to lose playing Dublin, and that's the way it is for most teams - but we have a very proud record in Ballybofey and we haven't lost here since 2010," was Rory Gallagher's take on things beforehand.

Tyrone came for a raid in 2015, but were handed their coats. Antrim were dispatched from the Championship last year and when Donegal needed a kick-start following an Ulster semi-final battering by Tyrone, they tucked back into Ballybofey. It wasn't pretty, but the home comforts enabled Donegal to record a 0-12 to

0-7 win over Longford.

This afternoon, Mayo are the opponents for the latest instalment of a rivalry that has really taken legs in recent times. The edge arrived in a challenge game in 2012 at Swinford and has gone from there.



This time, something gives big style. The loser will drop to Division 2. Since the restructuring of the Leagues in the late 1990s, Mayo have never been outside the top flight.

Donegal could still preserve that proud home record and be relegated should they draw the game, but after a disappointing sequence of results victory will be all that will occupy Declan Bonner's mind this afternoon.

In the first League game in the Jim McGuinness era, a late Neil McGee goal secured a draw against Sligo that appeared unlikely for long periods. Just where that narrative would've gone otherwise is anyone's guess, but it certainly was an important moment in the tale.

There were others, too, like the win over Armagh in 2012 that was a winner-takes-all relegation battle and, of course, the Championship wins over Antrim, twice, Derry, Longford and Tyrone twice have added muscle to Ballybofey's biceps.

In the familiar surroundings once more, Donegal will expect to flex their muscle again today.

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Best wishes to all the teams this Sunday



Maigh Eo – An Stair

Fr. Seán

It is 11 years now since the National Football League adopted its present 4-Division structure. The Division 1A / Division 1B etc. set-up was abandoned in 2007.

Maigh Eo and Ciarraí are the only counties to have played in Division 1 in all 11 years 2008-2018. It is a wonderful testimony to the consistent excellence of both counties. Baile Átha Cliath have been in Division 1 for the last ten years. Dún na nGall and Tír Eoghain have played in Division 1 in 8 of the 11 years. Dún na nGall were in Division 2 in 2010, 2011, and 2014.

Sixteen counties have played Division 1 football since the new format began in 2008:

- 11 years: Ciarraí, Maigh Eo.
- 10 years: Baile Átha Cliath.
- 8 years: Dún na nGall, Tír Eoghain.
- 7 years: Corcaigh.
- 6 years: Muineachán.
- 5 years: Doire, Gaillimh.
- 4 years: An Dún, Cill Dara.
- 2 years: An Iarmhí, Ard Mhacha, Laois, Ros Comáin.
- 1 year: An Cabhán.

An Mhí are notable absentees from the list.



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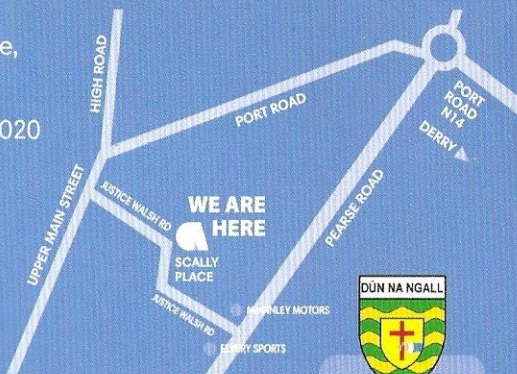
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Jack Hannigan

by CHRIS McNULTY - Donegal Daily & Donegal Sport Hub

Since any of us either writing in or reading this programme can remember, the familiar figure of Jack Hannigan was just part of the furniture around Sean MacCumhaill Park.

For decades, Jack served as the tunnel steward and would often witness some moments of inspiration and madness that could sometimes break out in that dark and dusty passage leading to the pitch.

For the first time in an age today, Jack's presence is absent for an Allianz League game at the venue.

Sadly, at the age of 104, Jack died in December. "It has been a lifetime in MacCumhaill Park, Ballybofey," he said in a 2015 interview.

"I never quit. I always was in the tunnel keeping control."

In 2015, just after his 102nd birthday, Jack was honoured by the Ulster GAA Writers Association, who presented him with the John McAviney Award for Lifetime Services to the GAA. At the 2013 Donegal SFC final, Donegal County Board

Chairman Sean Dunnion presented him with a special plaque to mark his 100th birthday.

Jack, who lived at Main Street, Stranorlar, drove until his latter years and even had his own

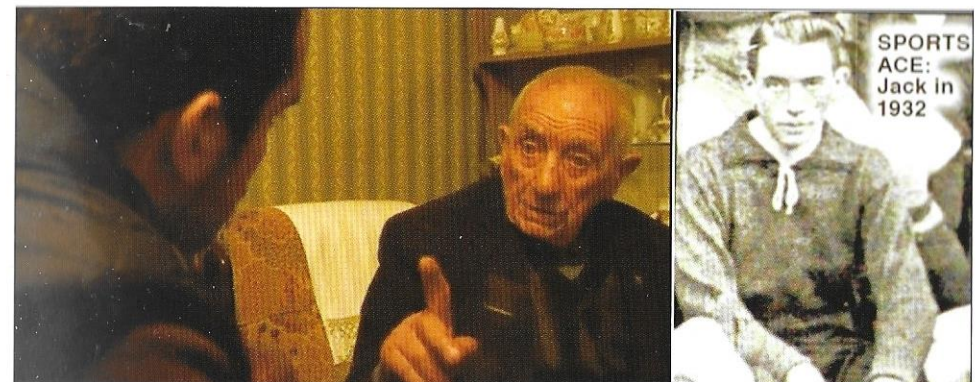
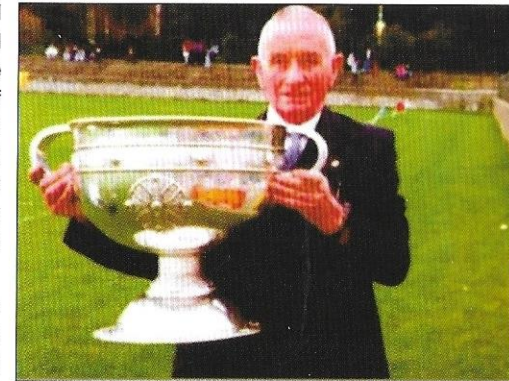
personalised parking spot in the car park of St Mary's Church in Stranorlar.

Jack played football in the Twin Towns alongside his three brothers - 'We weren't good boys either, mind you', he recalled - and was a close friend of Sean MacCumhaill, whom the club was named after in 1950. He played football and

hurling and turned out for Donegal.

A former railway worker, Jack - who celebrated his 104th birthday in October - was a regular attendee at All-Ireland football finals, but it was at his beloved MacCumhaill Park that he was at home.

The old place will be the poorer since his passing on afternoons like this.



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Did you know that ladies gaelic football is Ireland's fastest growing sport?

Donegal is part of that revolution in women's and girls' sport.

Last year 2,983 people were involved in ladies gaelic; 826 adults and 2,157 girls aged under 18.

And this year there are ladies gaelic football teams in 37 of our Donegal GAA clubs.

This enormous growth in our sport through the Donegal Ladies Gaelic Football Association (LGFA) is no accident.

It's the result of years of work by volunteers right across Donegal at club and county level.

Our senior ladies have also secured two Ulster titles, their first ever in 2015, followed by success again last year.

Our underage teams have secured Ulster titles at U14 and U16 level in the past three years and are

fielding teams in the Ulster Championships this year at U14, U15, U16 and U18 level. There's also an U17 panel which will compete at an All-Ireland event in the summer.

Success has many fathers and mothers.

Our club coaches now have their own qualification ladder specifically designed for the girls' game, its unique style and playing rules.

At county level our volunteer coaches work tirelessly to run academies, making them a fun environment in which to excel both personally and with upgraded skills.

Parents play a key role in what we do at the LGFA.

In a country where one in every two girls quits sport by aged 13, we're doing our bit to reverse that trend.

You can too. Want to help? Contact us on our Facebook page Donegal LGFA

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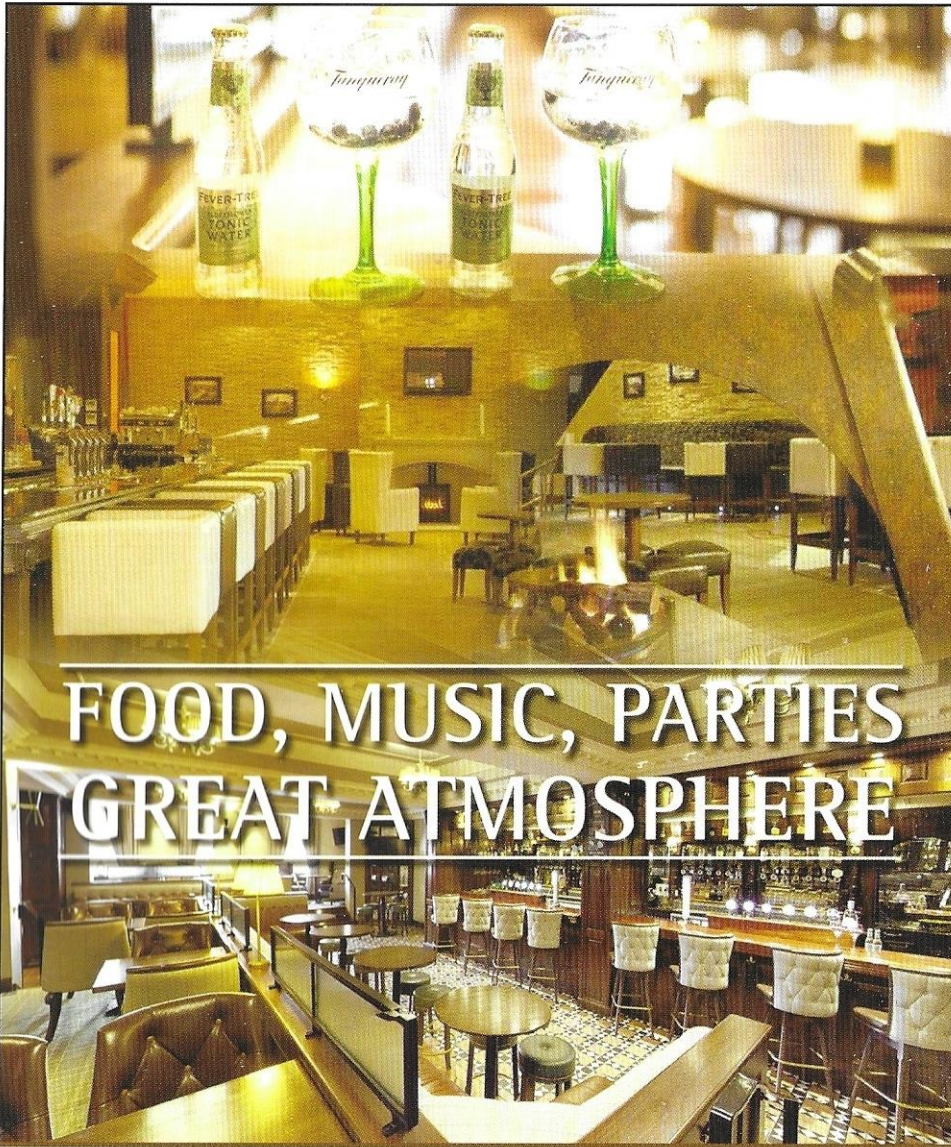
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BONNER EYES IMPROVEMENT

by Ryan Ferry, Donegal News

DONEGAL have had a disappointing league campaign, but that will soon be forgotten if they can see off Mayo today.

Declan Bonner's team head into the final round of fixtures with only two points, but a win will keep them up.

They are in charge of their own destiny in Division 1, and have home advantage for the big match.

However, Mayo won't fear coming to Ballybofey, and Bonner says his side have to improve from their showing against Monaghan last week if they are stay in the top tier.

"It's in our own hands and we can have no excuses," said Bonner.

"We have to go out and win it ourselves. The pitch is not going to win it for us.

"We have got to do better. We are an inexperienced side but we have a lot of experience to come back into it.

"We have to get those boys back on the pitch but the younger lads, Jamie Brennan and Niall O'Donnell stood up there in the first half (against Monaghan), Eoghan Ban (Gallagher) and these guys are improving all the time."

Back in 2015, Donegal stayed up in Division 1 thanks to a last-gasp score from Stephen Griffin against Mayo in Castlebar.

Donegal then took the honours two years ago with an impressive win in front of a big crowd in Ballybofey.

Last year, the sides met again in the final round of the league, but Mayo claimed the spoils in McHale Park.

The Connacht side dominated the physical exchanges that day, and Bonner wants his men to front up to the challenge today.

"We played them down in Castlebar last year, and Mayo turned us over – basically they bullied us.

"We've got to be big and strong, and hopefully we will get good Donegal support behind us.



"We do want to stay in Division 1 as it's a great place for these young lads to develop.

"It's going to be winner-takes-all, and it's going to be a huge match."

Mayo haven't caught alight themselves this year either, but they are a formidable outfit, and were unfortunate to lose the

last two All-Ireland Finals to Dublin.

If Donegal are to win, they will have to take on board the lessons from their last two games and learn quickly.

In both the matches with Tyrone and Monaghan they have conceded goals at the start of the second half, and Bonner wants his team to stay focussed for the entire game today.

"It's something that we do talk about, because normally we are a team that start the second half well.

"But we haven't started the second half well over the last two games, and have conceded goals against Tyrone and Monaghan as well.

"It's something we really have to look at."

MacCumhaill Park has been transformed into a fortress for Donegal in recent seasons.

They haven't lost in league or championship football there since 2010.

The senior team are very comfortable at the Ballybofey venue, but Bonner refuted the suggestion that home comforts will give them an edge

"I don't go into that. It is a match that we have to go and win and

that's the bottom line, so how long we have gone unbeaten or how many

games we have not been beaten in those will not come into it.

"We have to go out and win it and that's it."



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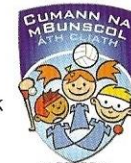
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Donegal Contribution To Capital Success

When did Eoin McHugh and Dublin's Cormac Costello wear the Kerry jersey and Mayo's Diarmuid O'Connor and Galway's Michael Daly line out in the Cork colours? The answer is the Mini Sevens at half time in the 2007 All-Ireland final. Eoin, Cormac and Michael, along with Leah Caffrey - All-Ireland Ladies winner with Dublin, and Offaly's, Adam Scanlon, first cousin of former Dublin captain, David Henry, nephew of the famous Lowry brothers and cousin of golfer, Shane, from Offaly, had the honour of bringing the Sam Maguire Cup to the field before that final. Diarmuid O'Connor wore the Cork colors that afternoon and went on to win Young Footballer Of The Year in 2015 and 2016. All-Ireland u21 winner, Michael Daly, was nominated for the same accolade in 2017.

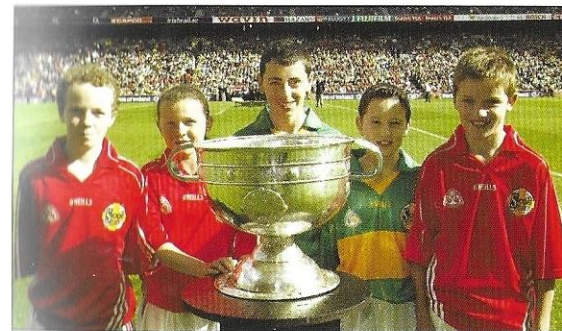
The halftime games are administered by teachers from Cumann na mBunscol, Áth Cliath, currently celebrating 90 years in existence. From humble beginnings with 8 teams in 1928, it now caters for a massive 428



1928-2018
"We're up to 90"

teams in the 2018 leagues. All the traditional Dublin clubs - St. Vincent's, Na Fianna, Kilmacud Crokes, Clann an nGael, O'Tooles etc, grew from games' promotion in primary schools.

Throughout the history of the schools' league, Donegal teachers have played a prominent part. Current INTO President, Seán Ó Baoill Scoil Cholmcille, Knocklyon, served as Cathaoirleach of Áth Cliath from 2001 to 2003. Among many others who have contributed or are still active are Max Cannon, Holy Rosary, Ballycragh, Rónán Boner, Scoil Mochta, Jack Travers, Bayside NS, Daire Mac Pháidín, Scoil Mológa, Hugh Curran, St. Oliver Plunkett's, Malahide, Valerie Morton, Kildare Place, Caoimhe Doherty, St. Malachy's, Noel McCullagh, St. Aidan's, Hugh Daly, Garrisrown, Séamus McAnaw, Diswellstown, Brian Stevenson, Sruleen, Annmarie Doherty, Saggart and Seán Ó Brollacháin, Star Of The Sea, Sandymount - a founder school in 1928.



Adam Scanlon, Leah Caffrey, Cormac Costello, Eoin McHugh and Michael Daly with the Sam Maguire Cup in 2007



Diarmuid O'Connor in the Cork colors.

CÚL CAMPS PROGRAMME - 2018



WEEK 1 Monday, 02/07/2018 to Friday, 06/07/2018.

DL01	Convoy	F/H	Stephanie Friel	087/7618831
DL02	Dungloe	F/H	John Ward	086/6036406
DL03	Naomh Columba	F/H	Paddy Hegarty	087/6386612
DL04	Naomh Padraig, Uisce Chaoin		Joe McLaughlin	086/2098394
DL05	Naomh Muire	F/H	Kevin Boyle	087/7544673
DL06	St Eunans	H	Paul McGovern	086/8114151

WEEK 2 Monday, 09/07/2018 to Friday, 13/07/2018.

DL07	Carndonagh	F/H	Connell McGrenra	086/3866363
DL08	Glenswilly	F/H	Pauline Carberry	083/8243208
DL09	Killybegs	F/H	Paul Hegarty	087/2341064
DL10	MacCumhails	F/H	Luke Gavigan	087/7980865
DL11	Moville	F/H	Dave Lee	086/1921046
DL12	N/Colmcille	F/H	Sharon Monaghan	087/9685558
DL13	Gaoth Dobhair	F/H	Sean Ó Gallachoir	087/6489080

WEEK 3 Monday, 16/07/2018 to Friday, 20/07/2018.

DL14	Beart	F/H	Martin McGrath	087/7431332
DL15	Ardara	F/H	James McHugh	087/2222277
DL16	Kilcar	F/H	Michael Molloy	087/2066513
DL17	Malin	F/H	Shaun McLaughlin	086/8521166
DL18	Milford	F/H	Shaun Barrett	086/6052169
DL19	Naomh Ultan	F/H	Colm Shovlin	087/9052122

WEEK 4 Monday, 23/07/2018 to Friday, 27/07/2018.

DL20	Buncrana	F/H	Laurence Hegarty	086/0604058
DL21	Bundoran	F/H	Noel Carr	087/7851531
DL22	Cloughaneely	F/H	Paddy McClafferty	085/1604448
DL23	L/Kenny Gaels	F/H	Sean McBrearty	085/1742175
DL24	Naomh Brid	F/H	Jamie Timoney	086/1013657
DL25	Naomh Conaill	F/H	Connie Doherty	086/1519835
DL26	Urris	F/H	John Friel	086/0523550

WEEK 5 Monday, 30/07/2018 to Friday, 03/08/2018.

DL27	Aranmore Is.	F/H	John Ward	086/6036406
DL28	Fanad Gaels	F/H	Fiona Shiels	085/1555645
DL29	Four Masters	F/H	Luke Keaney	087/7579506
DL30	Lifford	F/H	Dessie McDermott	086/3667252
DL31	St Michaels	F/H	Manus Friel	087/6470532
DL32	St Eunans	F/H	Paul McGovern	086/8114151

WEEK 6 Tuesday, 07/08/2018 to Friday, 10/08/2018.

DL33	Na Dunaibh	F/H	Johnny Connors	085/2425090
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WEEK 7 Monday, 13/08/2018 to Friday, 17/08/2018.

DL 34	Red Hughs	F/H	Maura McCrudden	086/1635726
DL35	Termon	F/H	Hugh Harkin	087/6891967
DL36	St Nauls	F/H	Shaun Campbell	087/6174258
DL 37	Carndonagh	H	Nuala Lafferty	086/3326945

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Donegal County Champions in Scór na nÓg 2017/2018



Rince Foirne:	Naomh Adhamhnáin
Amhránaíocht Aonair:	Naomh Conaill – Leah Mac Innes
Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht:	Cloich Cheann Fhaola – Conor Ó Gallchoir
Bailéad Ghrúpa:	Naomh Adhamhnáin
Léiriú Stáitse:	Gleann tSúilí
Ceol Uirlise:	Bun a' Phobail
Tráth na gCeist:	Naomh Columba

Comórtas	An méid a ghlac páirt i ngach comórtas in sna babhtai leath cheannais				
	Bun a' Phobail	Ailt a' Chorráin	Gleann Fhinne	Iomlán	Iomaitheoirí
Rince Foirne	4	3	7	14	96
Amhránaíocht Aonair	7	9	11	27	27
Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht	4	7	8	19	19
Bailéad Ghrúpa	2	3	4	9	42
Léiriú Stáitse	1	2	3	6	43
Ceol Uirlise	5	3	5	13	59
Rince Seit	0	0	0	0	0
Tráth na gCeist	7	6	11	24	96
Iomlán ag gach ionad	30	33	49	112 – Lán Iomlán	382

Some clubs had their own internal competitions prior to the semi finals in the county.

Semi final 1 in Bun a' Phobail:	9 clubs
Semi final 2 in Ailt a' Chorráin:	8 clubs
Semi final 3 in Gleann Fhinne:	13 clubs
Iomlán - Total:	30 clubs

Total number of clubs in Donegal is 40. 30 clubs (75%) took part. Apologies from 4 clubs (10%). 6 clubs (15%) made no contact.

Entries ranged from one per club (only two clubs did this) to six per club. Most clubs had 3-4 acts each.

County Final in Ballintra: 6 took part in each category except Léiriú with 5, Solo singing with 7 and Tráth na gCeist with 7. The seven were in these two competitions as we have a rule in the county that if 10 or more take part in a semi final, three go through to the final. Naomh Adhamhnáin's ballad group reached the Ulster final of Scór na nÓg and the Tráth na gCeist team from Naomh Columba went straight through to the All Ireland finals where they achieved a respectable 4th place.

Beór Sinsir: The two Donegal semi finals of Scór Sinsir took place over the weekend of the 23rd and 24th February in Muff and Glenties respectively with a total of 20 clubs taking part. Míle

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buíochas to the Naomh Pádraig Uisce Chaoin and the Naomh Conaill Clubs for hosting the semi finals.

Participation

Category	Number of Clubs
Rince Foirne	1
Amhránaíocht Aonair	12
Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht	5
Grúpa Bailéad	3
Leiriú Stáitse	3
Ceol Uirlise	6
Tráth na gCeist	13
Iomlán - 43	A total of 20 clubs out of 40 took part

There was no sett dancing in Donegal this year nor has there been now for many years.

The county final of Scór Sinsir took place in Glenfin on Friday 2nd March and for the first time the whole final was streamed live receiving in the region of 12,000 hits.

Buaiteoirí - Winners

Rince Foirne:	Naomh Naille
Amhránaíocht Aonair:	An Clochán Liath (Daire Ó Baoill)
Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht:	Gleann Fhinne (Seán Ó Gallchóir)
Bailéad Ghrúpa:	Naomh Naille
Leiriú Stáitse:	Gaoth Dobhair
Ceol Uirlise:	Iorras
Tráth na gCeist:	Gaeil Fhánada

Ulster Semi final of Scór Sinsir: Well done to all the clubs that represented Donegal, An Clochán Liath, Gleann Fhinne, Naomh Naille, Gaoth Dobhair agus Iorras.

Comhghairdeas le grúpa ceol uirlise Iorras agus ádh mór orthú i mbabhta ceannais Uladh i mBéal Atha an Airgid.

Comhghairdeas fosta le CLG an Clochán Liath a rinne sar obair ar an oíche i gcuideachta le coiste Ionad Ailt an Chorráin. Eugene McGarvey did a tremendous job as Fear a' Tí and buíochas also to Cathriona Solan, Ann McGonagle Meehan and Patrick Bonner who operated the stage. Sincere thanks to all from Dungloe GAA club including club secretary, Adrian Alcorn and his team as well as all the local people from Burtonport who are involved with the Community Centre.

The stage and hall were decorated to a standard that equals any venue in Ulster and again Eugene McGarvey is to be commended for ensuring that this was the case. There were many positive comments during the night from members of the clubs that were there and audience members about the quality of the venue.

Tráth na gCeist Bord: Bhí Tráth na gCeist Bord i gClubtheach CLG Naomh Adhamhnáin agus míle buíochas do na clubanna a ghlac páirt. Naomh Adhamhnáin, Aodh Ruadh B.A.S. Gleann Fhinne, An Clochán Liath, Na Cealla Beaga, Gaeil Fhánada, Cloich Cheann Fhaola agus Naomh Golumba. Is mór an trua nach bhfuil suim ag níos mó clubanna i gcúrsaí Teanga ach bhain na clubanna a bhí i láthair sult agus taithneamh as an oíche. Comhghairdeas le Gaeil Fhánada a bhain ar an oíche.

Bailiúchán na teanga: Míle buíochas to all the clubs who took part in Bailiúchán na Teanga on St. Patrick's Day.



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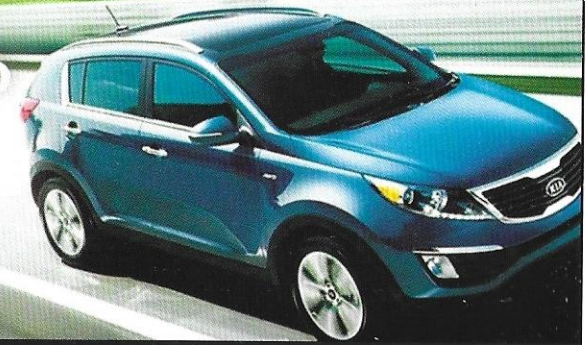


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161	Opel	Mokka	SC 1.6CDTi AUTO	Orange	21450
161	Opel	Mokka	SC 1.6 CDTi	White	20950
161	Opel	Mokka	SC 1.6 CDTi	Red	18950
161	Opel	Astra	5dr Elite 1.6CDTi 136	Red	19950
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151	Kia	Sportage	EXL 1.7 CRDi	Blue	20950
151	Kia	Carens	EX 1.7 CRDi	Grey	19950
151	Kia	Venga	5dr L 1.4 petrol	Blue	13950
141	Kia	Venga	5dr L 1.4 petrol	Grey	12950
132	Kia	Sportage	EX 1.7 CRDi	White	16950
132	Kia	Venga	5dr EX 1.4 crdi	Grey	11950
12	Kia	Ceed SW	Est TX 1.6CRDi	Silver	8950
12	Kia	Rio	5dr EX 1.25	Red	6950
10	Kia	Proceed	EX 1.6 crdi	Silver	8950
152	Suzuki	Vitara	5dr GL + 1.6DDiD	Black	17950
151	Hyundai	IX35	Celebration 1.7 CRDi	Bronze	16450
142	Toyota	Yaris	5dr Luna 1.0	White	10950

Herron Auto Sligo

Carraroe, Sligo

071 91 33211



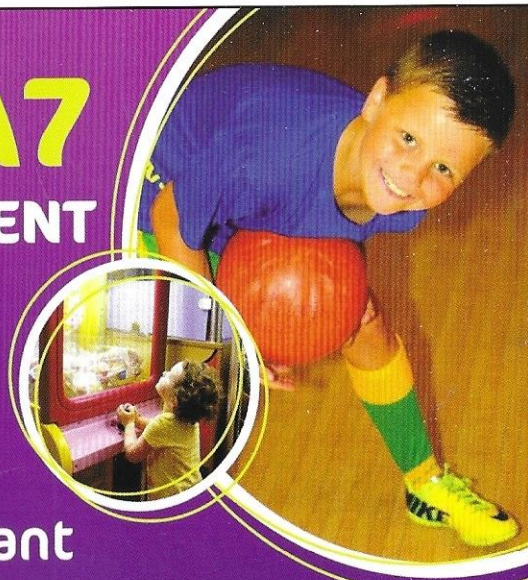
Opening Hours Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm Sat 11am-3pm

Year	Make	Model	Spec	Colour	Price	Garage
172	KIA	Sportage	Platinum 1.7CRDi	Black	28950	Sligo
171	KIA	Sportage	LX 1.7CRDi	White	26690	
161	KIA	Sportage	EX 1.7CRDi	White	24750	Sligo
161	KIA	Sportage	EX 1.7CRDi	Gold	24950	Sligo
151	Kia	Sportage	EXL 1.7CRDi	Grey	21950	Sligo
151	Kia	Sportage	EXLS 1.7CRDi	White	20950	Sligo
151	Kia	Carens	EX 1.7 CRDi	Gold	19950	Sligo
151	Kia	Optima	Platinum 1.7 CRDi	Grey	20950	Sligo
151	Kia	Cee'd	5dr EX 1.4 CRDi	Red	14950	Sligo
151	Kia	Venga	EX 1.6 AUTO	White	14950	Sligo
141	Kia	Sportage	LXE 1.7 CRDi	White	18950	Sligo
141	Kia	Venga	5dr L 1.4 petrol	Grey	12950	Sligo
132	Kia	Venga	5dr EX 1.4 crdi		11950	Sligo
131	Kia	Cee'd	5dr EX 1.6 CRDi	Silver	13950	Sligo
12	Kia	Sportage	LX 1.7 CRDi	Grey	14950	Sligo
12	Kia	Proceed	3dr EX 1.6 CRDi	Silver	11250	Sligo
10	Kia	Proceed	3dr EX 1.6 CRDi	Silver	8950	Sligo
171	Opel	Astra	5dr SRI 1.6 crdi	Red	22950	Sligo
171	Opel	Mokka X	SC 1.6CDTi	White	22450	Sligo
162	Opel	Mokka	SC 1.6CDTi AUTO	Silver	21450	Sligo
161	Opel	Astra	5dr Elite 1.6CDTi 136	Red	19950	Sligo
161	Opel	Mokka	SC 1.6 CDTi	Red	18950	Sligo
151	Opel	Insignia	SC NAV 2.0 CDTi	Silver	16450	Sligo
151	Opel	Mokka	SC 1.7 CDTi	Blue	17450	Sligo
151	Opel	Corsa	5dr SE 1.3 CDTi	Grey	13950	Sligo
142	Opel	Insignia	4dr SC NAV 2.0 CDTi	Blue	15750	Sligo
141	Opel	Astra	5dr SC 1.7 CDTi	Blue	13450	Sligo
141	Opel	Mokka	SC 1.7 CDTi	Silver	17450	Sligo
141	Opel	Corsa	5dr Excite 1.2	Blue	9950	Sligo
161	VW	Polo	5dr Trendline 1.0	White	12950	Sligo
162	Suzuki	Vitara	5dr GL 1.6	Black	17950	Sligo
141	Ford	Focus	5dr Zetec 1.6 tdc	Red	13450	Sligo
141	Hyundai	IX35	Executive 1.7 CRDi	Grey	16450	Sligo
141	Toyota	Yaris	5dr Luna 1.0	Blue	11950	Sligo

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Social and Disability Inclusion



The Donegal County Health & Wellbeing committee and the County board are honoured to welcome as part of our GAA social and disability inclusion programme representatives from the Intellectual Disability Services. The aim of the GAA Social and disability inclusion programme is to work in partnership with other agencies and organisations to enhance the physical health and wellbeing of people with a disability, whilst simultaneously promoting social inclusion through participation. The Donegal GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee in conjunction with the National Health & Wellbeing committee and Health Services Executive Intellectual Disability Service are hosting this event to coincide with today's national league game featuring Donegal and Mayo.

We extend a warm Cead Mile Failte to our invited guests, family members, carers, staff, county executive and supporters.

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 2018 will include

- Facilitating training for club Healthy club 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

We hope that today will go in some small way to promote a meaningful inclusive and participative sporting organisation. The GAA endeavours to make our clubs and facilities more accessible for everyone in our community and parishes.

Le Meas,

Kevin Mills **Chairperson** (087) 2170806

Email: chair.hwc.donegal@gaa.ie

Noirin Ni Dhochartaigh (**Secretary**)

Email: administrator.donegal@gaa.ie

Other members of 2018 County Health & Wellbeing committee

Oisín Cannon	PRO
Mick McGrath	(County Chairman)
Gary Duffy	Children's Officer
Roísín Doherty	Buncrana
Alisha Mc Brearty	St Nauls
Ann Sheridan	HSE

We were delighted when we received an invitation from the Donegal GAA Health & wellbeing committee back in January to be guests at the Donegal V Mayo game today.

A Group of 40 persons with disabilities accompanied by carers /family members are delighted to attend today. . The group comprises persons with Intellectual Disabilities & Autism who avail HSE services across Donegal together with Voluntary Organisation comprising Donegal Special Olympics, ICARE Buncrana and Little Angels Association Letterkenny.

A key theme of the HSE service Plan 2018 is Health & Wellbeing and the participation and attendance at sporting events is encouraged by Donegal Disability Services.

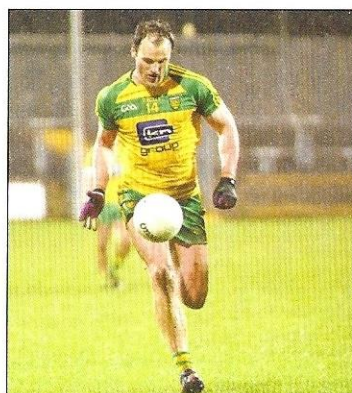
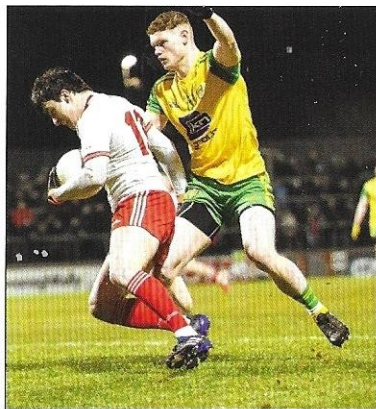
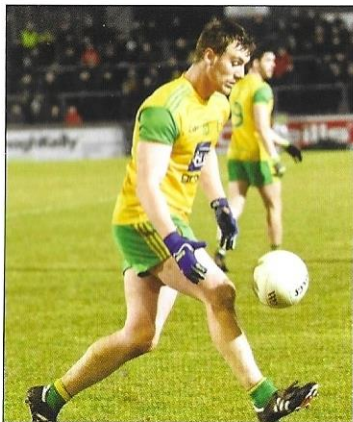
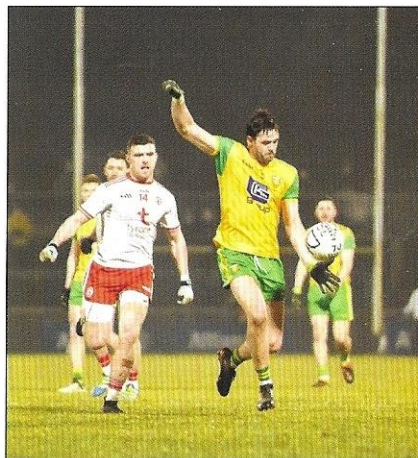
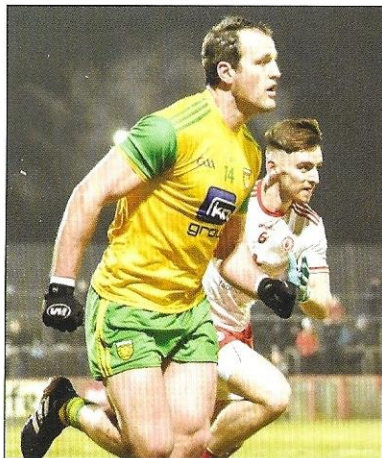
Today's invitation and attendance is a great example of the integration of persons with disabilities into the greater community through sport and cultural events.

Donegal Disability Services would like to sincerely thank the Donegal County Board and Health & Wellbeing Committee for their kindness and hospitality

*Eugene McElroy
 Business Manager
 Intellectual Disability Services
 St Conal's Hospital
 Letterkenny
 Co Donegal*

Donegal in action v Tyrone

Photography Geraldine Diver



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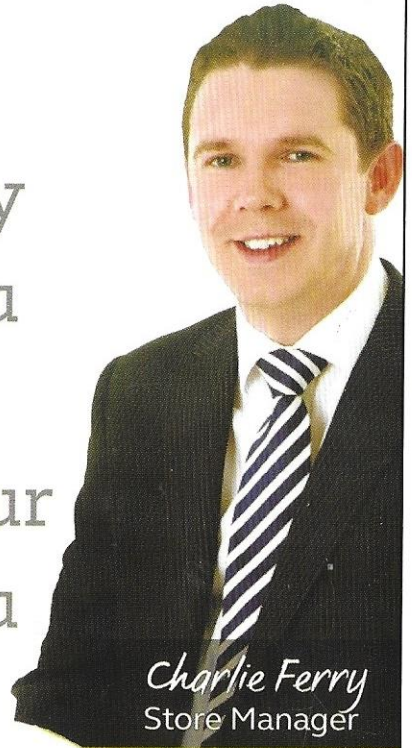
*Best wishes to the
Donegal Ladies Team*

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GAA TALKING POINTS

Liam Keams
Tipp boss queries Casey red after Cavan break hearts
P6

Davy Fitzgerald
Why wouldn't we want to take on Kilkenny again?
P10

Anthony Daly
Pat Gilroy must start sweet-talking the Cuala heroes
P13

Mayo make it miserable day for deflated Donegal

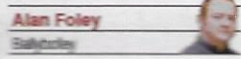
Allianz Football League Div 1

	P	W	D	L	+/-	Pts
Galway	7	6	1	0	23	13
Dublin	7	5	1	1	32	11
Monaghan	7	5	0	2	6	10
Tyrone	7	4	0	3	15	8
Kerry	7	3	0	4	-14	6
Mayo	7	2	1	4	-16	5
Donegal	7	1	1	5	-17	3
Kildare	7	0	0	7	-29	0



Allianz FL Division 1

DONEGAL	0-13
MAYO	0-13



Alan Foley
Ballybofey

When Mayo are in town, there's usually drama and that was certainly the case in Ballybofey yesterday when a point from Kevin McLoughlin in the fourth minute of injury time preserved the top-flight status of Stephen Rochford's side at Donegal's expense.

Mayo were clinging on by the skin of their teeth, but it didn't look good as they trailed by three points with only six minutes on the clock. However, Conor Loftus' sixth point of the day and another from wing-back Eoin O'Donoghue brought the margins to a minimum before McLoughlin's decisive late strike.

Donegal, who missed late chances from Patrick McBrearty and Odhran MacNiallais, were irked by the fact they weren't permitted an

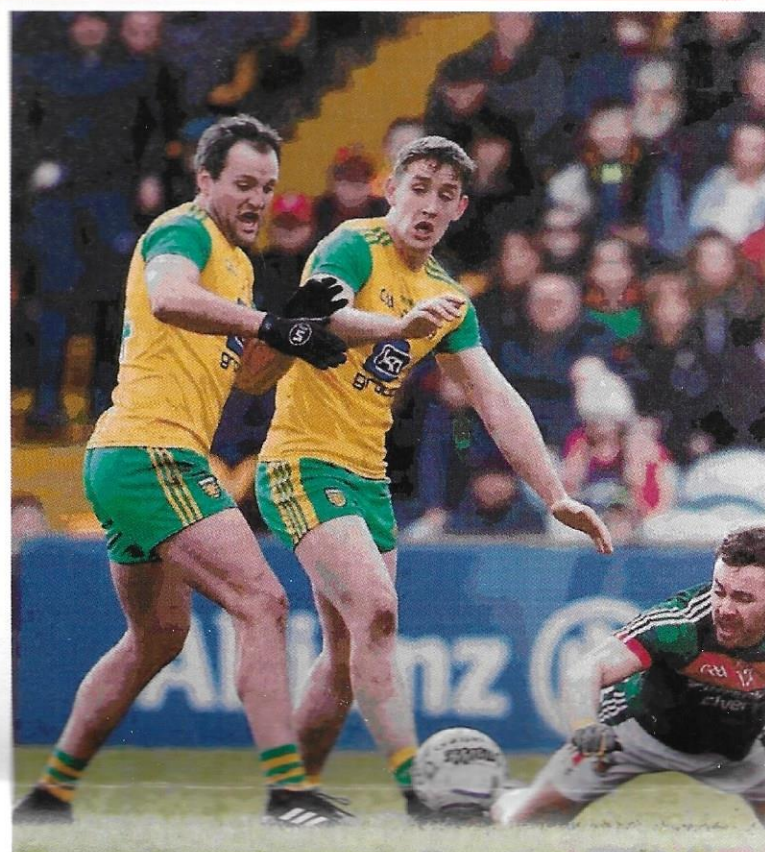
other play to save themselves. "We lost our way in the middle section but we just stuck in the game," Rochford said afterwards. "That is what the experience counts for. We were making it easy for Donegal. We weren't getting it on the money. We did a lot better in the second half but we had to leave it till the last six minutes. We're relieved more than enjoying it to be honest."

"I wouldn't quite say I was worried. When it went down to three points there was always a goal option. There was also the chance Donegal would see out the game conservatively and we could play on the front foot.

"There was a big breeze there. Donegal took advantage of that in the first half and we certainly took advantage in the second in Eoin and Kevin's shots towards the end. But no I genuinely felt that if we got the margin down to two we would go right to the clock."

The visitors finished well and started well, moving into a 0-5 to 0-1 lead inside of the first 10 minutes as they sought to stay to Division 1 for the 21st successive year. Andy Moran started impressively and Donegal goalkeeper Shaun Patton redeemed himself following a poor kick-out to save from Diarmuid O'Connor.

Donegal finally got motor-ing with what would be their



best spell of the contest, kicking seven points in succession. Claran Thompson, Michael Murphy, the marauding Eoghan Ban Gallagher all posted scores before Jamie Brennan levelled matters.

The team managed by Declan Bonner continued with their forward trajectory with McBrearty in particular on form, to go in leading by 0-9 to 0-6. The Kilcar forward was a surprise inclusion having been an absentee with a calf injury in Donegal's losses to Tyrone and Monaghan.

Conor Loftus, who would score six in all, notched four points in the early moments of the second half to bring Mayo to within a point, with

Murphy and McBrearty steadying the nerves for the home team.

Jamie Brennan's score, 13 minutes from time, made it 0-12 to 0-10 for the hosts and when MacNiallais pushed it out to three points, Donegal were almost safe.

Mayo, though, showed serious grit in front of the crowd of 11,250 to eke out those three late scores and keep their head above water. Donegal will return to Division 2 for the first time since 2014.

Donegal hadn't been beaten at MacCumhaill Park for 19 matches, a run that goes back as far as the 2010 Ulster championship. But it certainly felt like a defeat yesterday, as it

was the jubilant Mayo support who took to the field afterwards. They still have never won in Donegal but they will not mind that stat.

"It is disappointing, but you have to take your chances," Donegal manager Bonner said afterwards.

"We had chances at the end and we did not take them. It can be a cruel game at times. We did not get the rub of the green and we did not convert those chances late on which would have seen us through. "We are not going to be laying the finger of blame on anyone.

"It is a squad effort and we are all in it together but we put in a good effort today. We were

Full steam ahead with final weekend of league action

John Fogarty

All four Allianz Football League divisional finals will go ahead next weekend after yesterday's results confirmed the Division 2 and 4 finalists, the 1 and 2 deciders on Sunday, and the 3 and 4 games the day before.

Despite the recent bad weather which forced the GAA to postpone games, the Central Competitions Control Committee (CCCC) will today confirm the football competi-

tion will conclude as planned on April 1.

After nudging past fellow promotion chasers Tipperary, Cavan make a quick return to Division 1 along with Roscommon, who beat Cork.

The outstanding Down-Tipperary and Louth-Meath fixtures are also expected to take place, as only Louth have been confirmed as relegated from Division 2.

Having edged out Carlow, Laois will face their neighbours again next weekend and

will join them in Division 3 next year. The remaining fixtures in Division 4 won't now be played.

Mayo's last-gasp draw against Donegal means their proud 20-year record in Division 1 continues while relegated Donegal's unbeaten stretch in Ballybofey's MacCumhaill Park is also maintained. Fermanagh's tight victory over Longford sees them face Armagh in the Division 3 final.

The Division 1 hurling semi-

finals will be played Saturday, Tipperary and Limerick facing off in Semple Stadium after Tipperary won a coin toss. Wexford and Kilkenny clash for a third time this season in the other semi-final, which will take place at Innovate Wexford Park.

Meanwhile, GAA director of finance Tom Ryan was ratified by Central Council on Saturday as the new director general of the organisation.

The 48-year-old Carlow man, a member of the Faughs

club in south Dublin, will take over after Pádraic Duffy steps down from the position on Saturday.

Ryan, who has been director of finance for the last 11 years and is treasurer of his club, will be the 19th director general of the GAA.

"I am humbled and excited to be assuming this position and I am greatly looking forward to serving the Association and its members to the very best of my ability in the years ahead," Ryan said.

Ryan was chosen by a selection committee which featured current GAA president John Horan and former president Aogán Farrell.

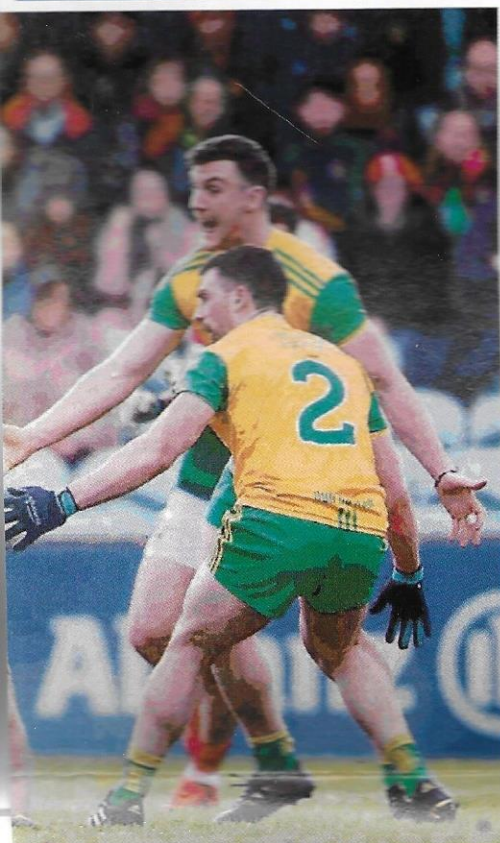
Horan remarked: "He has served the GAA well in his previous position and has the requisite vision to lead the Association in the years ahead. He understands the GAA at every level and is highly active at club level which provides him with important insights into the challenges we face as an organisation."



Supporting people and communities through hurling and football



Allianz



MAN IN THE MIDDLE: Mayo's David Drake comes under pressure as Donegal players close in during the Allianz Football League Division 1 clash at MacCumhaill Park, Donegal. Picture: Tommy Dickson

up against an experienced Mayo team and they played to the end." The game was stopped for a minute and a half and the next thing it is blown up after four minutes. We thought there was going to be at least one play in it but it wasn't to be. That's disappointing. It was one of those campaigns where maybe it was our destiny to go back into Division 2."

Scorers for Donegal: P McBrearty 0-4, J. E. Ban Gallagher, J Brennan 0-2, M Murphy 0-2, H. C Thompson, O MacNiallais, F McGlynn 0-1

Scorers for Mayo: C Loftus 0-6, S. A.

Moran 0-3 K McLoughlin 0-2, J Doherty E O'Donoghue 0-1

DONEGAL: S Patton; P McGrath, N McGee, E Doherty; P Brennan, L McLoone, E Ban Gallagher; C Thompson, H McFadden; F McGlynn, M Murphy, O Mac Niallais; N O'Donnell, P McBrearty, J Brennan.

Subs: M McHugh for O'Donnell (45), S McBrearty for Thompson (58), C Morrison for McGrath (58), C Ward for McGee (61), C Mulligan for Brennan (68).

MAYO: D Clarke; C Crowe, D Drake, E O'Donoghue, C Boyle, S Coen, P Durcan, S O'Shea, T Parsons; K McLoughlin, A O'Shea, D O'Connor, J Doherty, A Moran, C Loftus.

Subs: M Hall for Drake (63), F Boland for S O'Shea (65), B Moran for Parsons (68), A Freeman for Doherty (70).

Referee: A Nolan (Wicklow).

How they lined out

S Patton		
P McGrath	N McGee	E Doherty
C Loftus	A Moran	J Doherty
P Brennan	L McLoone	E Ban Gallagher
D O'Connor	A O'Shea	K McLoughlin
C Thompson	H McFadden	
S O'Shea	T Parsons	
F McGlynn	M Murphy	O Mac Niallais
C Boyle	S Coen	P Durcan
N O'Donnell	P McBrearty	J Brennan
E O'Donoghue	C Crowe	D Drake
D Clarke		

IT MATTERED

Kevin McLoughlin's score 20 seconds from the end of injury time kept Mayo in Division 1 and simultaneously floored Donegal.

CANT IGNORE

What you say about this Mayo team, you certainly can't question their spirit. After being hammered in the first half, Stephen Rochford's team dug it out at the bitter end.

GOOD DAY

No team has been in Division 1 as long as Mayo, who can look forward to a 21st year in the top flight in 2019.

BAD DAY

Declan Bonner's Donegal lost by one-point margins against both Kerry and Galway in their opening two games and were caught at the bitter end again yesterday.

PHYSIO ROOM

Patrick McBrearty was certainly missed for Donegal in their recent defeats against both Tyrone and Monaghan but the 24-year-old was a late addition

to the Donegal team.

SIDELINE SMARTS

Donegal fielded as strong a side as possible, while Mayo have still a handful of regulars to come back to the fray ahead of the Connacht championship.

BEST ON SHOW

Eoghan Ban Gallagher continued to show his class with a brace from set pieces, but he will be of little consolation to the Killybegs native.

MAN IN THE MIDDLE

Donegal were up in arms at the conclusion as referee Anthony Nolan blew for time as Shaun Patton, the hosts' goalkeeper, cleared downfield right after Kevin McLoughlin's point.

NEXT UP?

All eyes are now on Sunday, May 13, with Mayo facing Galway and Donegal welcoming a Cavan side who have taken their place in Division 1.

Alan Foley

Irrational McBrearty decision cost Donegal

Ray Silke



Poor decision making invariably leads to poor results. Players taking the totally wrong option at critical moments in games is a major reason why teams do not get their just rewards.

Donegal should have beaten Mayo yesterday. They were in a really super attacking position to close out the game late in injury-time.

They led by 0-13 to 0-12 and were seconds from maintaining their Division 1 status when their top sharpshooter, Paddy McBrearty, went for glory. He became a 'do it myself' player when there was no need to be one.

Paddy had two better-placed teammates to take on a shot, or McBrearty could have recycled the ball and just ran down the clock. Instead, he

lobbed the ball into the grateful hands of David Clarke. Mayo counter-attacked and Kevin McLoughlin kicked a stunning equaliser to keep Stephen Rochford's men in the top flight for 2019 by the skin of their teeth.

Everybody knows McBrearty is one of the best left-footed point-takers in the country and he had hit two scorers from play in the first half. However, when a cool head was needed, he made a botch of the job and left a gap of opportunity for Mayo.

As they have proven repeatedly over the past seven years, Mayo are nothing if not resilient. They were three behind with seven minutes of normal time left and they kept on going, kept chasing the game.

That is all they know how to do and when newbie cornerback Eoin O'Donoghue hit a stupendous and inspirational point to show his teammates the way and leave only one between them, they needed a break. And they got it with McBrearty's error of judgement.

Staying in Division 1 is huge for Mayo. It was obvious from the players' reactions how much it meant. They face Galway in the Connacht championship in seven weeks and they did not want to do so having been relegated and without injured star defender Lee Keegan.

If they had been beaten yesterday, Stephen Rochford would have had a tough job floating their championship balloon.

But after getting out of jail, there will be a spring in their step and they will believe there is one more big championship season in them.

They were minus a host of first-choice players yesterday: Brendan Harrison, Donal Vaughan, captain Cillian O'Connor, and 2017 All Stars Keith Higgins and Chris Barrett. When those are back in harness, the management team will have options and Galway will give a real focus to their preparations.

The other big positive for Mayo was the display of Conor Loftus, who hit 0-6 (five frees) and showed a bit of cutting when needed.

However, their forward depth must be a massive concern, especially if Cillian O'Connor does not recover quickly from his nasty hamstring injury. When the fat was in the fire with a few minutes to go, they turned to Alan Freeman who was not even listed in the programme and has not been involved in any of their league matches to date.

Freeman had been let go from the panel in 2017 and is now a free agent. He was given a second chance when he got sent to the Mayo camp as it gave answers.

They also rolled out big Barry Moran, who is a bit of a blast from the past at this stage.

When the key personnel on this team grind to a halt, Mayo supporters will worry there is very little in the pipeline to replace them.

The bottom line is that Mayo were very fortunate to survive relegation. The only two teams they beat in the league were Monaghan by a point, who were minus Conor McManus, and Kildare, who everybody beat.

Regardless, they stayed up and if they get a few wins under their belts come championship, maybe they can go on a run.

However, having seen them against Galway, Tyrone, and Donegal in the past 14 days they look like a battle-weary team, with very limited options up front and even less off the bench.

Donegal's over-reliance on Michael Murphy is scary too and you would worry for Declan Bonner's side if anything was to happen their talisman. He controlled the middle yesterday and was the most influential player on the field with support from the wonderfully athletic Eoghan Ban Gallagher.

They face promoted Cavan on May 13 in the Ulster championship.

Calling a winner in that? Well, that is for another day.

'New leaders' stood up, says Rochford

Reaction

Alan Foley

Last week's defeat against Tyrone stood to Mayo as they managed to preserve their Division 1 status with a late rescue job in Ballybofey.

Stephen Rochford's team were hammered 2-14 to 0-8 on home turf against the Red Hands but managed to galvanise themselves to earn a 0-13 to 0-13 draw against Donegal at MacCumhaill Park yesterday,

with Kevin McLoughlin saving the day with a point with the penultimate kick.

"Last week's game against Tyrone was an outlier to us," Rochford said afterward. "Tyrone were really impressive but I thought we assisted that in some of our decision-making and our use of the ball.

"And we were below par on the things we pride ourselves on: our work rate and tackling and a team like Tyrone, with such good runners, will punish you. So you take that

and try learn from it. I don't think we nailed it perfectly but there was improvement.

"But the things that were important — one was getting a result and two well, part of the reason I am back in management is there is huge character and determination in that group and the new guys Eoin O'Donoghue, Conor Loftus, were new leaders in the team today. They stood up and that is really pleasing."

Mayo battled from three points down with just six min-

utes to go to save themselves in front of 11,250 spectators.

"There was a big breeze," Rochford added. "Donegal took advantage of that in the first half and we certainly took advantage in the second in Eoin and Kevin's shots towards the end. I wouldn't quite say I was worried. When it went down to three points there was always a goal option. There was also a chance Donegal would see out the game conservatively and we could play on the front foot."