Review W

VOLUME 23 - Issue 8, 2010

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Minutes of the executive meeting

Held in the Clonard A.O.H., Belfast on Saturday 13th November 2010



The Chairman, John Davidson, opened the meeting following which the Secretary read the minutes of the October meeting. They were subsequently proposed by Gerry Gallagher and seconded by Raymond Connor as a true record.

The Chairman then covered calls via the helplines continuing to speak on the service on offer from Infocash saying that this is an excellent package for clubs and an opportunity for them to provide a service for members, being cost effective, continuing to say that every club, large or small, should have one installed. P&F Amusements are the local agents and it is they who will cater for installation and servicing requirements.

The matter of stock control was raised in regard to two clubs. Gerry Gallagher confirmed that a club in his area is experiencing similar difficulties in relation to stock.

The Chairman confirmed that he had been in contact with Martin Dinsmore of the Computer Accounting Bureau on the query he had received. It was agreed that Martin would visit one of the clubs in question to go through procedures with a club official.

We were delighted to learn that a number of clubs have begun to receive their repayment of VAT related to the gaming machine issue and in addition have also reclaimed the VAT on snooker/pool income. The Treasurer asked if clubs have to continue paying VAT on gaming machines. The Chairman said that the reclaim only related to a specific period and that now clubs continue to pay VAT as normal. We are alarmed to learn that some clubs or their accountants had not lodged claims in time. Unfortunately claims cannot be made retrospectively, although this is something the Federation Chairman wishes to challenge.

North West delegate Gerry Gallagher enquired if clubs are required to pay VAT on additional facilities/services to members, such as charging a fee to members for facilities such as sports or gym facilities. We feel this may be the same as the treatment of snooker/pool but this will need to be clarified.

The Chairman highlighted the importance of contacting members of the DSD committee, confirming that we had already met Simon Hamilton, chair of the committee, Fra McCann and Mickey Brady of Sinn Fein, with plans to meet others in the near future. We are somewhat concerned about the apparent lack of understanding as to the valuable contribution to local communities through sport and social interaction by the registered club sector.

It is apparent that Pubs of Ulster view the club sector as competitors when in fact this could not be further from the truth as it is widely known that approximately 72% of alcohol consumption is carried out in the home environment. It is also apparent that the policy makers are intent on muddying the water by refusing to outline a clear distinction between night clubs and registered clubs. A recent email to the department by the Federation Chairman requested this distinction to be made, the reply to which was dismissive. despite the fact that a public consultation is taking place highlighting the necessity to clearly define the clear difference between a night club and a registered sports, social and recreational club.

We are dismayed at the policy-makers entrenched attitude towards the registered club sector. They are unable to understand the reasoning behind their lack of support for the majority of what is required to help sports and social clubs throughout the province who make such a valuable contribution to sport and society in general.

The debate continued with the Chairman reading out correspondence received in 1996 from the now First Minister. In addition, and in support of the aforesaid document, details of an important document prepared by Deliotte & Touche on the Accounts Regulations was conveyed to members.

In conclusion the Chairman stated that this is the first opportunity for Northern Ireland's elected Assembly to put their own mark on licensing legislation.

At this point the Secretary, David Larmour, provided a detailed financial report which was passed as a true record by Gerry Gallagher and seconded by Jim McCaul.

Details of the cheques for charity day were confirmed as being 11th December 2010 in H&W Welders, Dee Street, Belfast. Invitations have now been forwarded to ten local charities, the representatives of which will each receive a cheque for £500 on behalf of Federation member clubs and our sponsors Diageo, to whom we express our sincere thanks.

As there was no further business the Chairman thanked the management of Clonard AOH for hosting the meeting and for the excellent hospitality which followed the meeting.

Bob McGlone Secretary

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The Chairman's view!

Pressing for change



John Davidson, Chairman, NIFC

Well here we are again with the new year on our doorstep and still seeking to secure a sensible resolve to the impasse to the clubs legislation and becoming ever more dismayed at the apparent lack of foresight by some members of the DSD Committee and the Minister's department officials.

The request to extend the current level of late extensions to three is just a small part of the Federation's overall submission, with department officials having failed to see the bigger picture in what is required to maintain sports, social and recreational facilities provided by the registered club sector, which in the main is administered on a volunteer structure and required to operate under prescribed, draconian legislation, viewed as such by prominent politicians and sporting bodies alike.

We will continue to lobby MLA's, who, for the first time, have an opportunity to form licensing legislation which is fair and appropriate for the twenty-first century. However, we have concern as to their understanding of what is encompassed in the Clubs Order and what is required to create legislation which is fit for purpose.

Recent area meetings, including one in West Belfast, highlighted the community and sporting ethos of registered clubs against the background of anti-social problems emanating from other sectors of the licensed trade. yet a number of MLAs with the opportunity to rectify matters, seem intent on depriving the sector which does not contribute to the problem, while allowing the more relaxed legislation to be available to that sector which does. This is a bewildering situation to say the least and begs the question - what exactly are our MLAs thinking about?

There is no doubt that the anti-social issue will continue to grow from those sectors which are involved in creating the problem. One only has to look at areas such as Belfast's Shaftsbury Square, with large numbers of PSNI officers and medical staff having to be on standby at weekend closing time.

We share the concerns of everyone as to the anti-social behaviour problem but are convinced it is merely a change driven by consumer socialising habits added to by the low cost of alcohol flooding the country - it would seem evident

that this is the main source of the problem with government and other bodies failing or ignoring various ways in which to address this very serious issue. Furthermore we are of the opinion that education is the most likely means of addressing the problem similar to the way in which smoking was addressed.

On a more positive note I am delighted that the VAT reclaim on gaming machine income has been resolved to the satisfaction of those who followed the Federation guidelines. In addition, the reclaim of VAT on snooker/pool income has also been satisfactorily resolved with clubs reclaiming VAT for the past four years with future income being exempt.

The Federation has been very pro-active in bringing on-board the N.I. Sports Forum, the Golfing Union of Ireland, GAA Ulster Branch and others, with representatives of those bodies having formed part of our delegations when meeting government agencies. Our close association with these sporting bodies underlines the link between the social and sporting aspect of a registered club.

The NIFC remain committed to working for the good of registered clubs throughout Northern Ireland. I wish you, your management committee and members a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

John Davidson, Chairman, NI Federation of Clubs



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Federation meet with Mark Durkan M.P.

The November meeting of CORCA was held in the Palace of Westminister, a beautiful location steeped in history. This was Gerry Gallagher's first visit to Parliament and he would be the first to admit that it was a great experience.

Although the meeting was conducted to the usual high level it was cut rather shorter than normal due to the room being required for another parliamentary committee meeting. Our enjoyment however was not taken away when we were to enjoy the company of SDLP M.P. Mark Durkan, who was the perfect host, introducing us to the shadow Northern Ireland

Minister prior to dinner in the House of Commons. This presented the opportunity for the Federation Chairman, John Davidson, Davy Larmour, Harry Beckinsale and Gerry Gallagher to discuss matters of mutual interest. Obviously the Clubs Order and Accounts Regulations were discussed in some detail and it has to be said that our host was most interested in what we had to say and, as you would expect, had an excellent awareness of developments.

We extend our thanks to Mark for arranging a most enjoyable evening and affording us his time in what must be a very hectic schedule.

PPL and PRS tariff updates

Clubs should note that the PPL (Phonographic Performance Limited) tariff from 1st September 2010 to 31st August 2011 is a flat fee of £104.06 + VAT. However PPL fees are generally paid by the company providing the sound system/jukebox. Proprietary clubs pay a much higher tariff.

The new PRS tariff is calculated on the capacity of the room where the featured or background music is played.

PRS calculate the capacity as follows: "Where the accommodation of a room is limited to the number of seats, the capacity will be calculated by reference to the total number of seats; but where, as in the case of discotheque performances, there is no formal means of calculating the accommodation of a room, that capacity will be assessed by reference to the maximum number of persons which can reasonably be accommodated in the room or which is permitted under any regulation by fire authorities or under the club's Rules. Where the capacity exceeds 100 persons one quarter of the charge will be levied on each 25 per-sons."

The Government announced some time ago that it proposed to introduce a joint licensing scheme for PRS and PPL but as yet nothing further has been announced.



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Excellent turnout at Federation meeting

Meeting at West Club, Falls Road, Belfast on Saturday 27th November 2010 at 10,30am.

An excellent attendance of sports, social and recreational clubs listened attentively to an update on Federation activity. Also present was the Minister's brother, Councillor Tim Attwood SDLP, who was sympathetic to our concerns.

The Chairman, John Davidson, opened the meeting by outlining the detail of meetings



with various Assembly Ministers explaining about earlier days, when, under direct rule, the aim was to streamline Northern Ireland's licensing laws, however that all changed when the N.I.

Assembly was established. The Chairman stated that whilst welcoming the return of power to N. Ireland, if it had resumed three months later, all the changes required to create a

Federation officers with (lr) Kevin Stevens, Golfing Union of Ireland (Ulster) and councillor Tim Attwood, following the area meeting in the West Belfast Social Club.

level playing field would have passed through Westminster.

The Chairman said that it was his perception that not all members of the Department



of Social Development (DSD) Committee had read, in depth, the content of the registered clubs legislation and that if they had they would see the onerous nature of it's content.

Federation Secretary, Bob McGlone, interceded to confirm that when under direct rule, the then Minister Malcolm Moss MP, confided that his officials had an anti-club agenda.

The Chairman continued to cover the main points we wish to have addressed in the licensing review, highlighting the situation of a young Rory McIlroy not being able to legally enter Holywood Golf Club premises after 9.00pm, going on to confirm the nature of sports clubs of all kinds which require to have this law amended.

Rights of entry were discussed, highlighting that PSNI rights of entry should be restricted to those applied to other business sectors.

Penalty points was another important area of contention, at which point the Chairman highlighted a recent case and comment by the justice Minister David Ford who said the courts should not be interfered with. This was followed appropriately by a copy of correspondence received in 1996 from the now First Minister Peter Robinson MP to Malcolm Moss MP

which confirmed his view that the penally points system in essence were not required and that the courts were shown to be successful in fulfilling requirements.

The secretary confirmed that the Police at the time of introduction were not consulted despite us being told otherwise. It was the assistant Chief Constable at the time who refuted the statement issue by the policy makers when he confirmed that they were not consulted at all.

A submission by Deloitte was read out highlighting the excessive requirement of the accounts legislation applied to the registered clubs sector.

Numerous questions from the floor were forthcoming with the overall feeling being that it is time for the Federation to go public. Tim Attwood suggested that a meeting be arranged with the Minister Alex Attwood MLA to focus attention on the situation. It was further suggested by the Federation chairman that the opportunity should be taken to arrange for the Minister to visit clubs in the area.



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Don't forget the VAT increase

VAT might mean "Vodka and Tonic" to some club members but for committees' it means Value Added Tax and they need to be thinking now about the increase from 17.5% to 20% next month. In the simplest of terms the increase means from 4th January prices need to rise by more than 2% - without any extra profit being made.

The increase will in most cases be passed on to the members through increased bar prices. Before doing this however, committees should also realise that other sources of income, such as gaming machines, cannot be adjusted as easily. More VAT will need to be paid

on the machines without extra income, so further increases in bar prices may need to be considered to make up the difference.

A delay in removing takings from machines before 4th January means calculating VAT based on the date the machines are used or if they do not record this information an apportionment is required.

The simplest solution for your club is to to ensure your machines are emptied at the end of business on 3rd January.





R.A.O.B. No.4 help Macmillan Nurses



Bro. David Hobson PGP No. 4 Province Sandy Row and Bro. James Beckett, Grand Primo of the Grand Lodge of Northern Ireland are pictured with a representative for Macmillan Nurses at the handing over of a cheque for the fantastic total of £10,000. The R.A.O.B. is renowned for its support of charities and good causes and this handover continues that long-standing tradition.

Infocash ATMs

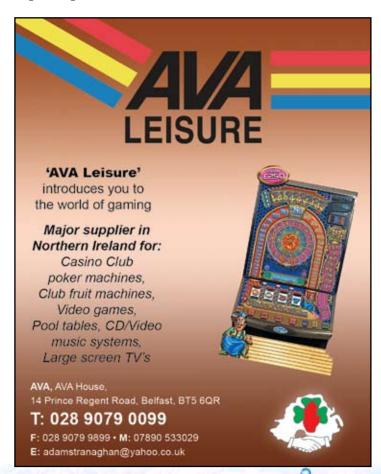
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Federation Chairman, John Davidson, has first hand experience of the benefits for both the club and its members alike. As he has previously outlined, this is a tremendous offer and really is a no-brainer when it comes to making the decision to install an ATM. Robust hardware and reliable

software combine to form a dependable asset but this is backed up further with a programme of proactive maintenance. In the rare event of an issue, a helpdesk is open 7 days a week to support you. Technicians are based throughout the UK and because they only work for InfoCash, they are experts on each ATM machine they install.

Their business may be automated cash machines, but face-less they are not!
There is no substitute for personal service and you will find Infocash, in association with local company P&F Amusements, approachable and attentive.







Questions & Answers

- Q. A guest attended our club today and when asked to sign our guest book refused to complete anymore information than their initial and surname claiming it was illegal under the Data Protection Act to ask for information such as an address. We have always asked for full names and addresses (we accept a simple road name and area entry). We have found this the best way to monitor guest movement and ensure no-one is breaking the rules and signing in the same guest too many times per month. Are we at fault and if so, how do other clubs monitor guest activity?
- A. The club is entitled to request a guest to complete information such as name
- and address in a guest book. I note that you do not require a full address which, again, is acceptable. The suggestion that to request this information is in breach of the DPA is nonsense. If the person in question is introduced to the club again and refuses to complete the appropriate signing in book, then I suggest that they are not admitted. The committee reserves the right to refuse the admission of any guest without having to give a reason. In anticipation of the likely response you will receive, I can also confirm that such refusal of admission does not affect 'Human Rights'.
- Q. We had a committee member suspended for bad behaviour recently

- and would like to know if there is any way to prevent him from reapplying to the committee after he returns.
- A. The answer to this question depends on the rules of your club. The common situation is that if a committee member is suspended for any period of time they are automatically dismissed from the committee. This does not affect the member's entitlement to stand for a committee position at the next AGM. Clubs can, if they wish, introduce a rule which states that a member who is removed or resigns from the committee, for any reason before the end of their term, is barred from standing for the committee for a set number of years.
- Q. At the recent AGM the members elected to amend the rules to increase the subscription fee. The treasurer thinks it will come into force on the 1st January 2011, but the chairman thinks it needs to go to the next AGM in March 2011 to confirm



- the amendment. Who is correct?
- A. I confirm that your treasurer is correct. It is not a requirement for a minute of a meeting to be confirmed at a subsequent meeting in order for an agreed resolution or motion to come into effect.

Once a decision has been made at a meeting it may be brought into effect immediately, unless, of course, the meeting has agreed for action to be taken from a specified date. In the case of your query it has been agreed that subscriptions for next year increase and therefore on 1st January 2011 the subscriptions shall increase.

- Q. Some of our committe members are arguing as to whether there is a statutory right to paid leave on Bank Holidays or public holidays. Can you clarify this for us?
- A. Many staff members do not realise that there is no statutory right to be paid for leave on public or Bank Holidays. It all depends on what is stated on the contract of employment. Time off for Bank Holidays can be counted against a staff member's annual holiday entitlement or can be provided in addition. This is totally dependant on what is agreed between the club and the staff member concerned.



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Award-Winning Bushmills

Single malt Irish whiskies get stunning new pack

Bushmills Irish Whiskey has unveiled new premium packaging for its 10, 16 and 21 Year Old Single Malts which is guaranteed to drive awareness of the multi-award winning Irish Whiskies.

The new packaging was unveiled to global media at a special event in London. Hosted by Helen Mulholland, Master Blender for Bushmills, the exclusive gathering had the opportunity to be the first to taste from bottle number one of the new look Bushmills 21 Year Old Single Malt.

The bold redesign looks set to bring the Bushmills range of Single Malt Irish Whiskies to the attention of a wider audience, at a time when Irish Whiskey is outperforming all other International spirits categories.

The new packaging features striking imagery of the Old Bushmills Distillery, embossing of the 1608 original licence to distil date and a prominent display of the trademark Bushmills Pot Still - features which are testament to the heritage, authenticity and quality of the entire range of Bushmills Single Malt Irish Whiskies.

In March this year, the 10, 16 and 21 Year Old Single Malt Irish Whiskies all won gold medals at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition, while, in February, the 21 Year Old Single Malt was also named the World's Best Irish Single Malt Whiskey at the prestigious World Whiskies Awards in London.



Helen Mulholland said, "We're immensely proud of our Single Malts and it's great to see their quality recognised around the world this year. The new packaging builds on that sense of pride and helps us tell a unique story about the 400 years of local Malt distilling expertise which has led Bushmills to be voted the world's best Single Malt Irish Whiskies."

Bushmills Global Brand Director, Sam Reader, added, "Irish Whiskey is outperforming the market growing at 7% year on year, faster than any other International spirits category. This is a great opportunity for both Bushmills and the trade to drive sales of Single Malt Irish Whiskies in a growing and competitive market.

"We know that today's consumer wants to know, more than ever before, that what they're buying has real heritage and roots. When they buy Bushmills they know that they are buying a whiskey with a unique history and provenance. As we designed our new packaging we wanted to create something that would tell that story and emphasise the authenticity of our Single Malts. I believe it's something we can all be very proud of."

Helen Mulholland added, "Our Single Malts have a great taste and there's something for everyone in the range - even for those who have never thought about drinking a Single Malt before. They're triple distilled for extra smoothness and unlike Scotch Malts they have

no smokiness, allowing you to get straight to the unparalleled taste of Malt. We're delighted that the new Single Malt packaging continues to match the undoubted quality of our whiskey."



Bushmills Master Blender, Helen Mulholland.

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CSR award marks further success for Baileys

Diageo Baileys Mallusk has followed its recent success of being named 'Diageo Plant of the Year' by winning the 'Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility' award at the 2010 Newtownabbey Business Awards.

This latest award recognises Diageo Baileys Mallusk for embracing its responsibility for the impact of its activities on the environment, consumers, employees and the local community.

The plant's Community Events team actively engages with the local community through initiatives such as Silver Surfers, where senior citizens are taught basic computer skills. The judges were also impressed with

Diageo's Wellbeing Project, where employees are given the opportunity to provide personal feedback and suggestions for improvement on all aspects of the company's operations.

The award caps a great year for the site following the announcement that it was awarded 'Diageo Plant of the Year 2010' in October. Sought to recognise the performance and achievements of the company's manufacturing plants globally, Bailey's Mallusk beat off stiff competition from over 70 operating sites across Diageo's Global Supply organisation to win the prestigious award.

Michael Hailes, Baileys Mallusk Plant Manager commented,



Mayor of Newtownabbey Alderman Paula Bradley presents the 'Excellence in Corporate Social Responsibility' award to Julie McAlinden and Michael Hailes from Diageo Baileys Mallusk

"This has certainly been a successful year for us. To be recognised by your peers in the local business community as well as being named Diageo global Plant of the Year is a real honour for everyone at Bailey's Mallusk. These awards are a great testament to the professionalism, dedication and the socially responsible attitude that exists amongst our employees."

Baileys Mallusk, which employs over 40 people, produces and exports over 60% of the world's supply of Baileys to over 100 countries including key markets of the USA, Italy, Spain, Great Britain and Australia. It has the capacity to blend, produce and pack up to 10 million cases of Baileys Original Irish Cream each year, the equivalent of 90 million bottles.

"Both awards highlight that 2010 has been a great year for Baileys Mallusk. They are a great sense of pride for our team as we approach Christmas, our busiest time of the year to meet peak global consumer demand" concluded Michael.





Take 4 steps to purity with Beck's Vier

Beck's Vier is raising a glass to its 4 'Pure' ingredients – WATER, HOPS, YEAST and BARLEY – with the launch of a brand new 'Pure' promotion in pubs and clubs across the province.

Imported from Bremen, Germany, Beck's Vier is brewed with precision to the Reinheitsgebot purity law, which ensures that only four pure ingredients are ever involved. This unique blend of golden barley, Bavarian hops, pure glacier water and yeast gives Beck's Vier its clean, crisp, full bodied taste and exceptional refreshment.

'Take 4 Steps to Purity' will see sampling teams interact with customers in a unique 'Purity

Central Park, Mallusk Road

Challenge' and if successful, they can enjoy a complimentary pint of Beck's Vier and experience the 4 'Pure' ingredients for themselves.

All customers sampled will also have the opportunity to take part in a prize draw to win an iPhone 4.

Promotional teams will also be handing out instant win scratch cards to each customer who purchases a

pint of Beck's Vier. Customers will have a 1 in 4 chance of winning Beck's Vier branded

merchandise including t-shirts, bottle openers and puzzle cubes.





A profitable Christmas with WKD

WKD has exciting plans to drive sales and support stockists in Northern Ireland this Christmas. As well as offering a high cash margin opportunity, the brand has a unique promotional campaign which will directly reward trade customers. In typically WKD-style, licensees and club-goers alike have the chance to win absolutely anything that they ask for, as long as the request is interesting enough to impress WKD owner Beverage Brands.

Under the tongue-in-cheek theme of 'Win Whatever You Ask For! (But only if we like it)', Northern Ireland's no.1 Ready To Drink (RTD) brand, and the brand behind WKD Core cider, is encouraging both club managers and members to think up interesting prizes and request their dream Christmas presents.

Consumers are directed online to Facebook to register their wishes, with the interactive site being hosted by a fun WKD character, called 'Noel'. Those who submit the most original requests will win exactly what they asked for!

"While it's important to build sales for customers via consumer offers," explains Debs Carter, Marketing Director for Beverage Brands, "we also want to reward stockists and involve them in our 'Win Whatever You Ask For!' campaign. So, to build participation and acknowledge their key role in the brand's continued success, we're also seeking Christmas present requests from trade outlets.

Via a trade website area (wkd. co.uk/trade) managers and licensees can register businessrelated Christmas present wishes. We're completely open to suggestions and are looking forward to helping some lucky trade customers have a particularly WKD Christmas this year. Clubs may want new chillers, new loos, or even a new TV; we're open to ideas! We just need to know what outlets want and, most importantly, why they deserve it. So far, for example, we've received requests from customers wanting a remote-control fridge, a lovely lick of paint, a gold barstool, and even a WKD marquee. There's still plenty of time for stockists to register their trade-related Christmas wishes with us."

In addition to WKD's existing TV support, the Christmas promotion itself benefits from a bespoke 20 second TV ad on video-on-demand channels such as 4oD, ITV Player and Sky Player. The promotional ad is also running on Sky Pub Channel and key lifestyle websites.

To give stockists a festive feel, WKD Christmas decoration kits are available free to outlets. The kits can be obtained from the POS Hotline (0800 917 3450) or ordered online when entering the competition.

In addition to granting Christmas wishes, Beverage Brands is also making WKD 'Traditional Christmas Dinner for your Head' kits available. The kits comprise both 'Turkey Head' hats and 'Christmas Pudding' hats to use as free giveaways. The seasonal headgear will bring a real sense of festive fun to clubs, create great stand-out, and build on the unique atmosphere that only the on-trade can deliver.

Carter explains, "Christmas is a busy time of year for WKD as our consumers love the festive season. We've got great promotional campaigns with strong appeal and, to maximise RTD profits, outlets should stock up with WKD - a premium product that delivers premium profits and is the consumer favourite by far."

WKD now accounts for 57% of RTD volume sales in the on-trade in Northern Ireland and all three WKD flavours (Blue, Red and Iron Brew) are currently increasing in both volume and value share, putting the brand in a strong position this Christmas.

Carter concludes, "Our 'Win Whatever You Ask For!' campaign is guaranteed to give some trade participants a very happy Christmas indeed and we're looking forward to receiving many more present requests from customers! In addition to this unique promotion, we're also supporting stockists with free seasonal POS and offering a range of case deals across the WKD brand, as well as bringing festive fun to outlets.

Christmas is a time when premium brands come into their own and it's going to be a WKD-ly profitable one for our stockists."





Ben McFarland and Tom Sandham scoured N.I. for the best kebab shop.

Beverage Brands has launched the 'WKD Good Kebab Guide' - a salad-dodger's guide to the UK's best kebabs. Specially commissioned writers covered over 2,000 kebab miles and tasted a belt-busting 200-plus kebabs to compile the first comprehensive guide to the very best kebab houses in the UK.

As well as detailing the top kebab shops in cities nationwide, the WKD Good Kebab Guide offers tips on kebab-eating etiquette, interesting facts about chillies, kebab trivia, a kebab quiz and the top ten kebab movies (with 'License to Grill' coming in at number three). The 120 page guide is available to consumers via a range of WKD activities, including online competitions, in-outlet promotions and links with men's lifestyle magazines, as well as being sold directly online.

Respected food and drink writers Ben McFarland and Tom Sandham scoured the best kebab houses to research the book, and named ten regional



The Sphinx was named N. Ireland's winner.

winners as they toured the UK in the WKD Kebab Cab. Outlet ranking was based on challenging and extremely important criteria such as looks, taste, chilli-factor, price and after-effects. The Sphinx in Stranmillis Road was named the best kebab shop in Belfast, with Zulfi's in Leeds crowned overall winner and top kebab shop in the whole UK.

Debs Carter, marketing director for Beverage Brands, said, "The WKD Good Kebab Guide will entertain and amuse readers. In identifying the best providers around, the book will be particularly helpful for people who fancy a quality kebab, but doner where to go. The Guide is another great example of our innovative and unique support for WKD."

WKD Good Kebab Guide | Belfast's top bands rock Harp Ice Cold Big Gig



Joanne Bell and Louise Mackey at the Harp Ice Cold Big Gig.

October's Harp Ice Cold Big Gig was the biggest party yet as three of the capital's favourite bands -Pocket Billiards, The Hubris and Pixel vs Nanobot came together for a 'cool' night in Belfast.

The Harp Ice Cold Big Gig showcases the finest new

and up-and-coming talent from across the island of Ireland each month. Visit the Harp Facebook page at facebook.



Michael Dempsey and Sean Ashmore enjoy an ice cold Harp at the Harp Ice Cold Big Gig.

com/harp for all the latest news on The Harp Ice Cold Big Gig and Harp events throughout the country.

WKD seasons ahead for Queen's

WKD has signed a three-year deal to sponsor Queen's University Soccer Academy. The initiative, backed by Beverage Brands, owner of WKD, will cover all aspects of the University First Team, including playing kit and sportswear, as well as branding at Queen's itself.

Debs Carter, Marketing Director for Beverage Brands, said, "Queen's Soccer Club now competes at a high level within Irish League football and we hope that our support will help the team challenge for honours.



WKD and Queen's representatives admire the new strip: Graeme Murphy (Beverage Brands), Paul Smyth (Queen's Captain), Kevin Murray (Queen's Sport) and Denis Clarke (Queen's Soccer Academy).

WKD has a strong history in backing grass-roots football in Northern Ireland and we are very pleased to be involved with the impressive set up at Queen's."

UGAA Coaching and Games Conference

The 7th Ulster GAA Coaching and Games Development Conference will take place on Saturday 29th January in the Glenavon House Hotel, Cookstown.

This year's conference will target coaches who are working with adult players from 17+ years. It builds on 2008 and 2009 when children and youth coaches were targetted.

The conference consolidates the coach education work that is ongoing within the County and Provincial and National Coach Development programmes. The challenge is to constantly refocus our coaching practice and the speakers will again

reinforce good practice and present new challenges.

Places are open to all coaches at a cost of £20/€25 and are limited as well as being allocated on a first come first served basis.

For further information or to register, please contact: 028 (048) 3751 7180 or Email: conference.ulster@gaa.ie





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Down Royal Festival of Racing

Friday 5th and Saturday 6th November were an amazing culmination of the work put into the Northern Ireland Festival of Racing at Down Royal over the last ten years by Mike Todd, Jim Nicholson and the Down Royal team.

The standard of racing over the two days was impeccable.

Kauto Star, undoubtedly the best steeplechaser since Arkle in the mid 1960's, won the Grade 1 JNwine.com Champion Chase, the first of two successive wins for the Champion English trainer, Paul Nicholls. Many trainers now see the Festival as the starting for their Cheltenham hopefuls for the year and the calibre of horses on show over the Festival truly reflected this.

It was equally impressive off the track. With attendance up 10% on 2009, Down Royal is



(L-R) Mike Todd, General Manager, Down Royal Racecoure and Jim Nicholson, JNwine.com and also Chairman of the Racecourse.

Darren Kidd/Presseye.com

really bucking the trend in Irish racing at the moment. 25% of those attending over the two day Festival were from the Republic of Ireland, an indication of how the new road infrastructure from Dublin is really going to benefit Down Royal in the future

The buzz and atmosphere at the racecourse over the two days was electric, culminating in the JNwine.com Best Dressed Ladies Day competition on Saturday 6th November. With a £13,500 Zambian safari for



Pamela Edwards-Lynch, the winner of this year's JNwine.com Ladies Day. She toasted her success with a Jeroboam of Billecart-Salmon champagne. Judges included Ireland's leading model Andrea Roche, Lisa Harrison and Michael O'Doherty.

two, courtesy of Mahlatini African Travel specialists at stake, the competition was as intense off track as on. Pamela Lynch-Edwards from Doncaster clinched the prize with her stunning hat and dress ensemble.



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UGAAWA Merit Award Winner

There were plenty of magical moments from which to choose when the selectors got down to naming the winner of the Quinn Insurance/UGAAWA award for October but after the usual arguments one light shone bright through the darkness and that was Donegal and Termon footballer Geraldine McLaughlin who helped her county to All-Ireland Intermediate Football Championship success and her club to their first ever Ulster SFC title.

It was full-forward Geraldine (17) who was on the spot to blast home the injury time winning score for Termon as she stopped Donaghmoyne from

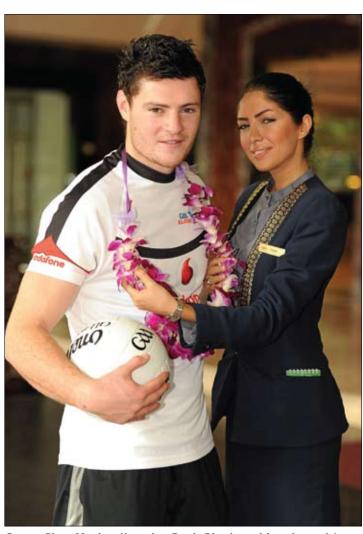


Geraldine McLaughlin with her Merit award for October.

collecting their sixth consecutive Ulster senior title.

Geraldine said, "I'm in shock at hearing I have won this award, in fact I wasn't really aware of the award and to be told I'm the winner takes my breath away."

GAA All-Stars tour Kuala Lumpur



Crowne Plaza Hotel staff member, Pegah Ghanbarzadeh, welcomes Martin Clarke. Picture credit: Ray McManus/SPORTSFILE

The GAA Football All-Stars sponsored by Vodafone departed for Kuala Lumpur on 24th November as part of their one week tour.

The showpiece event of the tour saw the best footballers from the last two championships go head to head under the watchful eyes

of Conor Counihan and James McCartan. Stars such as 2010 Footballer of the Year, Bernard Brogan and Down's Benny Coulter were pitted against the 2009 GAA All-Stars in an exhibition in the Royal Selangor Club, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

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Ulster GAA Writers' Association

2010 awards



Danny Hughes (Down) and Liam Watson (Antrim) winners of the Quinn Insurance/Ulster GAA Writers' Footballer and Hurler of the Year awards.

Writers' Associ

Sean Quinn presenting the Personality of the Year award to Down manager James McCartan.



Donegal star Yvonne McMonagle (left) receives the Female Footballer of the Year award from UGAAWA member Louise Glass, watched by Quinn Insurance girls Teresa (left) and Lisa.

Six counties shared in the awards at the Quinn Insurance/Ulster GAA Writers' Association banquet in the Slieve Russell Hotel, Ballyconnell, with Down's Danny Hughes and Antrim's Liam Watson collecting the Male Footballer and Hurler of the Year awards.

The Female Football award went to Donegal's Yvonne McMonagle while the Handball Award was won by Aisling Reilly (Antrim).

The other winners were: John McAviney Services to GAA - Seamus McCluskey (Monaghan).

Camogie - Rhona Torney (Antrim).

Young Achiever - Ronan O'Neill (Tyrone).

Referee - Joe McQuillan (Cavan).

Communications - Siobhan McQuillan (Monaghan).

Personality - James McCartan, junior (Down).

Ulster Council President Aogan Farrell also made four awards to: Armagh Paul McCormack for his work in advance of hurling;

Down PRO Ronan McMahon for his youth work;

World Handball Champion Paul Brady for his skills as both a handballer and footballer; Antrim's Gilbert (Gilly) McIlhatton for his long service as a GAA volunteer.



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N.I. Football Writers' Association

Player and manager of the month awards



Linfield's Robert Garrett was awarded the October Carling Northern Ireland Football Writers' Association Player of the Month award by Carling's Jordana Grimes and Natasha Shafai.

Robert Garrett has set his sights on personal and collective glory this season. The Linfield midfielder won the Carling Premiership and Irish Cup double last season and his side are, once again, sitting pretty at the top of the table this term.

Garrett's contribution has been a major influence and the former Stoke City man has landed his first honour for recognition.

The Northern Ireland international has been named the Carling Northern Ireland Football Writers' Association Player of the Month for October after helping David Jeffrey's men to stand-out results such as the 8-1 hammering of Crusaders and 11-0 mauling of Kilmore Rec in the County Antrim Shield semi-final.

"I want to thank the Football Writers and Carling for the support they continue to give the local game," said the 22-year old. October was a very good month for Linfield and we hope that will continue between now and the end of the season.

"I'm delighted to win the Player of the Month award on behalf of the rest of the lads and I hope there will be a few more to come. With David Jeffrey winning the Manager's award too, it has been a month to remember."

Carling's Jordana Grimes said, "Robert's performances throughout October were of the highest standard so he fully deserves this award. He faced tough competition which just goes to show the terrific standard of the Carling Premiership. Carling is delighted to be at the heart of local football, supporting local talent, and bringing local people back to the game."



Blues boss David Jeffrey was awarded the October Carling Northern Ireland Football Writers' Association Manager of the Month award by Carling's Jordana Grimes and Natasha Shafai.

Twelve months ago, Linfield boss David Jeffrey feared his trophy-laden reign at Windsor Park was coming to an end. One year on and the Blues have won the Carling Premiership and Irish Cup double for the fourth time in five years and, once again, heading into December, sit proudly at the top of the table.

A spectacular goalfest which included an 8-1 hammering of Crusaders and an 11-0 County Antrim Shield romp against Amateur League side Kilmore Rec - has sent shockwaves throughout the local game.

The prestigious award, Jeffrey's 27th during his 13 years in the Windsor Park hot-seat, has been dedicated to his backroom staff and players.

"I want to thank the Football Writers for the award, every one of them means so much to me," said Jeffrey. "You only get awards like this because of the staff and players you work with and I am no different. I really am pleased as punch with my 27th award and I hope I can make it 30 – before the end of the season but that will depend on my players.

"I also want to thank Carling for their continued support. They deserve credit for what they have done for the game and are vitally important to us all. We have a tremendous product in Northern Ireland and with their support, more people will begin to realise that."

Carling's Jordana Grimes said, "Linfield were exceptional throughout October and manager David Jeffrey fully deserves this award for leading his team to some very impressive results. It is incredible that this is David's 27th award and we at Carling would like to congratulate him for achieving such a remarkable feat."

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Burrows hopes to hit the net again

Carling and the Irish FA are calling on the Northern Ireland public to vote for redhot Glentoran striker, Matty Burrows' wonder goal which has propelled him into worldwide football fame. Burrows amazing strike in a Carling Premiership match in October has been shortlisted in the final ten of the Ballon d'Or - Puskas Award, FIFA's Goal of the Year which puts the 25 year old's name up in lights alongside football superstars Lionel Messi and Arjen Robben.

The goal has been viewed more than four million times online as well as being shown on Soccer AM, Football Focus and on the big screen in Times Square, New York and puts Burrows in the running for one of the top accolades in world football which would see him rubbing shoulders with football greats at the awards ceremony in Zurich in January.

Carling's Jordana Grimes is calling on everyone to show their support for Matty and local football by voting online at www.fifa.com/ballondor/ puskasaward

"We're delighted that Matty's strike in the Carling Premiership match against the Ports last month has been recognised as one of the top goals in the world, which is a first for the Irish league and fantastic for Northern Ireland football. We're urging everyone in Northern Ireland to support Matty and the Carling Premiership and vote for his goal which is up against an array of international football talent. With the support of the public and local football legends such as Jackie Fullerton,



Carling's Jordana Grimes, and BBC Sport's Jackie Fullerton are calling on everyone in Northern Ireland to get online and show their support for Matty and local football by voting at www.fifa.com/ballondor/puskasaward

we're backing Matty to go all the way to Zurich in January!" said Jordana.

Burrows is hoping the support of the Northern Ireland public can make his dreams come true. "It means a lot to me, when you are growing up you can't imagine that a goal you scored would be seen all over the world so it's been amazing. To be up against some of the most talented and respected footballers in the world is an incredible feeling and to have the award within my grasp is unbelievable. I just hope everyone in Northern Ireland will go online and vote for me," added Burrows.

To vote for Matty, visit www.fifa.com/ballondor/puskasaward by the closing date of December 23. The winner will be revealed on 10th January.

S-Marty has all the answers



H&W Welders FC's Marty Verner was awarded the Carling Northern Ireland Football Writers' Association Championship Player of the Month award for October from Carling's Jordana Grimes and Natasha Shafai.

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GREAT SPORTING EVENTS

NO. 46

1980

Borg and McEnroe epic spellbinds Centre Court



Borg and McEnroe get ready for their epic match.

Bjorn Borg staked his claim as one of the sport's greatest players when he won a fifth successive Wimbledon title, beating John McEnroe 1-6 7-5 6-3 6-7 (16-18) 8-6 in arguably the finest final in Wimbledon history. For nearly four hours Borg and his arch rival thrilled the Centre Court in a dramatic 55-game match.

Borg worked hard on improving his play at the net, and his only chink was an inability to stretch wide on his left because he employed a two-handed backhand. It was a flaw exposed by left-handers with swinging serves like McEnroe.

The American abandoned the boorish behaviour he had displayed in a bitter semi-final against Jimmy Connors and with some exquisite play took the first set in 20 minutes. Borg came bounding back to win the next two sets and was on the brink of victory at 5-4 and 40-15 in the fourth set. McEnroe saved both match points, won the game and then forced the champion into a memorable tie-break. It lasted nearly 23 minutes. McEnroe saved five championship points and Borg seven set points before McEnroe levelled the match.

Most other players would have fallen in a heap after missing seven championship points. Not Borg. He maintained his peak form and when McEnroe could not answer a two-handed cross-court shot on the eighth championship point Borg won the title in 3hr 54min.

Battle of the Britons

The two races between Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett, both in classic showdowns at the Moscow Olympic Games, would have captured the attention of the sporting world wherever they happened. That they were on the Olympic stage merely heightened the drama.

In 1979 the paths of the two Britons had never crossed competitively. The speculation over who would win, should they

meet, was intense. By the summer of 1980 it was clear that both were still in top form, but had no intention of racing each other before the Olympics, where each would run the 800m and 1500m.

The first of their Olympic clashes, at 800m on July



Ovett triumphs in the 800m.

26, was almost an anticlimax. Ovett won after Coe, most people's favourite for the shorter distance, had run a poor tactical race in which he was last at the bell. Coe simply left himself too much to do in the home straight after the inevitable upsurge in speed. With the last 200m run in under 25sec Coe did well to move from fourth to second, but he could not come within half a second of Ovett. "I threw it away on the second lap," Coe admitted.

With Ovett having won his less favoured event, and taking a string of 43 successive victories into the 1500m final on August 1, he was heavily favoured to complete the double. But Coe had been smouldering all week. Roundly criticised even by his own father and coach for his poor run in the 800m, he poured every ounce of competitiveness into the 1500m.

After a slow first 800m, the East German Jurgen Straub took the lead and injected a sizzling third lap of 54.2sec, trying to burn out the Britons' finishes. The field stretched out behind him, and with 200m left Straub was leading by four metres from Coe, and six from Ovett.

Then, entering the home straight, all of Coe's frustration was suddenly transformed into useable energy. He kicked past Straub with 80 metres left and raced on to victory. Ovett was unable even to catch Straub, and had to settle for third. "Seb was a worthy winner," he said. "I just couldn't lift myself after the 800m."

Both races had their share of drama and competitiveness, and one Olympic title each was probably the fairest result for the pair. Even if each was effectively an own goal.

Also this year...

Football - Wales beat England at home for the first time in 25 years on May 17 when they won 4-1 at Wrexham. England made 10 changes for the match against Northern Ireland at Wembley on May 20, but could only draw 1-1.

Billiards - Fred Davis won the world professional title at the age of 66. **Cricket** - John Arlott was given a standing ovation by the crowd and the players when he completed his last radio commentary during the Centenary Test at Lord's.

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