

Review Club

VOLUME 32 - Issue 3, 2019

CARLING ANNOUNCES

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Minutes of the Executive Meeting

Hosted by the H&W Welders F.S.C., Belfast, on Wednesday 10th April 2019

The Chairman, John Davidson, opened the meeting, following which he requested the Secretary, Harry Beckinsale, to read the minutes of the previous meeting, hosted by the Irish Republican Felons Club on 13th March 2019. The minutes were passed as a true record by Gerry Gallagher and Tommy McMinn.

Correspondence was covered, with explanations provided on such matters as PPL/PRS, and the MCPL License.

The Secretary referred one matter to the Chairman, who, together with Executive Committee colleague and HR advisor, Joe Patterson, will examine the detail. A brief response was initially provided to the club in question. The engagement of the club insurers was advised as the best course of action, always providing that this area (human resources) was provided in the club insurance policy. The benefit attached by the Rollins Club Insurance policy was again highlighted, as, of course, this is included in their club policy.

The Secretary mentioned that further cover can also be provided, to cover events where the club has not fully followed procedures. Obviously this carries an additional premium, but may be well worth considering, particularly where a member of the management team may have acted in variance to the said employment legislation procedure, or indeed, the club's own constitution.

Another issue was related to another member club in respect

to the re-election of officials, which appeared to be contrary to the club constitution. However, the Chairman was of the opinion that we did not have sufficient information on which to provide an accurate opinion, at this time. The Chairman asked that the Secretary relay this to the club in question.

Calls have continued to be received on the aforesaid MCPL license, with the same advice, which is presently to disregard correspondence received, as we continue to follow the guidance of CORCA. in UK.

Golf clubs continue to contact us in respect to the Sky TV tariff, with a number appearing to be unaware that a specific tariff has been available to golf clubs for some years. However it is intended to broach this subject in the interests of, not only golf clubs, but also in the interests of those clubs which do not enjoy the benefit of sport and recreational rating relief. We wish consideration to be afforded to establishing a tariff for those clubs, based on a given club's audited accounts.

With the Legislative Assembly remaining in suspension, frustration continues in respect to those amendments, which by now would have provided great benefit, to include amendments to the Clubs Order, Accounts Regulations and other issues such as advertising etc.

We have however been invited to contribute to the DSD Consultation to permit the sale of alcohol for Special Events.

The DSD Document has been provided to the chairman for his view on the matter.

A financial report was provided by the Treasurer, David Larmour. Membership renewals, in respect to clubs continuing to pay by cheque, was covered in respect to payments received, and those remaining unpaid. A little over seventy clubs pay by cheque. The Financial report was passed as a true record by Joe Patterson and Brian McCartney.

The Treasurer and Secretary continually communicate on the payment of membership fees. A number of clubs continue

to pay by cheque, all of which having been invoiced. Although renewals have been coming in, a number remain outstanding.

The May Executive Committee meeting will be held in Jumna Street Linfield Supporters Social Club, Belfast on Wednesday 8th May 2019.

Thanks was extends to Harland & Wolff Welders FSC, for hosting today's meeting in their newly refurbished clubrooms, and for the excellent hospitality provided.

Harry Beckinsale
Secretary, NIFC



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Minutes of the Executive Meeting

Hosted by the Jumna Street Linfield Supporters Social Club, Belfast, on Wednesday 8th May 2019

The Chairman, John Davidson, opened the meeting, following which he requested that the Secretary, Harry Beckinsale, read the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held in Harland & Wolff Welders FSC. The said minutes were passed as a true record by Philip Mallon and Gerry Gallagher.

DSD Consultation document on providing for 'Special Occasions'. However, we do not agree that this is not required in isolation, as the amendments to the Clubs Order, which await passing through the floor of the Legislative Assembly, as do amendments to the overall licensing legislation.

The Secretary proceeded to cover correspondence received since the previous committee meeting, expanding on some aspects where and when required.

A discussion on the above ensued, with reference to meetings with the Government Minister, when our initial submissions were being submitted.

The Chairman covered in detail, correspondence received on a

Together with our colleague, Joe Patterson, the Chairman continued to cover a complex

matter involving an employment dispute. It was agreed that while we were eager to assist the club, the depth of information available to us was inadequate, not being sufficient to provide an accurate opinion, or advice. Joe Patterson continued to cover the legal position in consideration of the limited information we have been provided with.

This issue regularly surfaces, with the same advice being provided, which is to seek the guidance of the club insurance policy, if indeed that area is covered in the club policy! Another matter provided

complex circumstances, due to the requirements of the club constitution, which it seems, may require updating to meet present day requirements. In this case it appears that the constitution may be disregarded.

The Secretary provided details of a query received on under 18s being permitted on the premises of a club with a sports registration. That section of the clubs order, covering this issue, was provided to the club official.

Charlie Butler of Jumna Street Linfield Supporters Social Club, extended a warm welcome to the Federation, on behalf

of the club. The Chairman thanked the club official for the invitation to the newly refurbished clubrooms.

The Club Secretary expressed appreciation of the club to the Federation, expanding on how the club is developing, via new members joining, and the facilities being provided for members and guests.

A question was raised by the same official, as to the legality of the club making its facilities available for functions, which of course is possible, although, at this time it is not permitted to advertise events, other than sports, or leisure events, encompassed under the rating

authorities list of prescribed sporting and leisure activities.

The Treasurer, David Larmour, awaited a financial statement, and suggested providing the report at the meeting in June 2019. He did however make reference to the membership renewals received under standing orders and those continuing to payment by cheque. In association with the Treasurer, reminders will be forwarded to outstanding membership renewals shortly.

Advice was provided to the Club Secretary on where contracts of employment could be found on the Federation website.



Federation Executive Committee members with representatives of the Jumna Street Linfield Supporters Social Club.

This concluded the meeting. The Chairman thanked the Secretary and Management Committee for hosting today's

meeting, and for the generous hospitality which followed.

Harry Beckinsale
Secretary, NIFC

What is the legal number of hours employees can have between shifts?

The legal number of hours between shifts is determined by the Working Time Regulations 1998 directive, subsequently amended by the Working Time (Amendment) Regulations (WTR) 2007 directive.

The Regulations specify requirements for:

- Night Work hours
- Daily and Weekly Rest periods
- Maximum Weekly Working Time
- Annual Leave

For Adult Workers (18+) there are 3 types of break - rest breaks at work, daily rest and weekly rest. The minimum rest period in a 24-hour period should not be less than 11 consecutive hours. In general, workers are entitled to at least 11 hours rest per day, at least one day off each week, and a rest break during the shift if it is longer than six hours. For an adult worker that minimum rest break is 20 minutes uninterrupted.

For Young Workers, the minimum rest period is 12 hours in any 24 hour period but rest may be interrupted by short duration work or periods of work being split up during the day.

Opt Out Agreement

An employer cannot insist that a worker works more than 48 hours per week on average. Any more than this is voluntary and subject to an Opt Out agreement.

For night workers, there is a maximum of 8 hours work in any 24 hours on average and a right to free health assessments.

Mobile workers are subject to a variation of these rules under the Road Transport WTR.

You can visit www.gov.uk/ maximum-weekly-working-hours for more information on the WTR and the rules for averaging out the above time limits over a period of time.

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Clubs continue to support charities

At their recent Annual Charity Presentation evening, the West Belfast HPS presented three very worthy charities with £500 each, the proceeds of their New Year's Day Charity event. This year, the three charities selected were as follows:

The Shankill Gateway Club
These people do a fantastic job in the local Shankill area. They receive no government funding and depend solely on public donations.

Chimney Corner Autism Team
Dominic Dewart was the representative from the Chimney Corner Autism Team. The team is made up of autistic children, that are thoroughly enjoying themselves within the group.

N.I. Children's Hospice
A wonderful charity that has been greatly supported by the West Belfast HPS for many years. Sincerest thanks were extended from the Children's Hospice for this generous donation.

I would like to thank all who donated birds, purchasers of birds, and all who attended the New Year's Day Charity Sale.

A final word of thanks to Ken Wilkinson and Barry Telford for all their help in collecting birds and running the show. My final praise is to the man himself, Hugh Stockman (aka Stocky), for yet another fantastic event - well done to all concerned and many thanks for the invite.

New Kid On The Block



Representatives from the Shankill Gateway Club, receiving £500 from Barry Telford (left) and Hugh Stockman.



Dominic Dewart, Chimney Corner FC Autism Team, receives £500 from Hugh Stockman and Ken Wilkinson.



The N.I. Children's Hospice receive a donation of £500 from Hugh Stockman.

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The annual handover of funds, raised in memory of the late David Ervine, past Chairman of the Raven Social Club (RSC) in East Belfast, took place on Saturday 27th April 2019.

Friends and colleagues, who raised over £2,600, gathered at the club and presented Jan Harvey of the Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stoke (NICHS) with the cheque.

Every year, since his untimely death in 2007, the Raven Social Club members and friends have organised a fundraising night and a sponsored walk to raise money for NICHS in memory of David Ervine.

Club Chairman, Stevie Beattie, paid tribute to the efforts of all those involved, "Raven Club members and friends have been supporting our fundraising efforts every year. The total raised is now over £30,000. That is an amazing result. The Morton family raised a massive £881.50 from the sponsored walk. It is gratifying to know that our efforts are helping with the life-saving work of NICHS. David was our much-respected friend and Chairman and we are delighted to be able to remember him in this way."

Jan Harvey of NICHS thanked Chairman, Stevie Beattie, and the members and friends of the

club for, "These much needed funds will help contribute to our research aimed at preventing deaths from heart disease and strokes. The Raven Social Club has raised thousands of pounds for NICHS and we cannot thank you enough. I am especially pleased that the Morton family have made such a tremendous effort to boost the amount raised this year - a huge thanks to them all."

Mrs Jeanette Ervine, widow of the late David Ervine said, "I am

overwhelmed by the efforts of the club staff, members, friends and the Morton family who have raised so much this year. It is a wonderful way to remember David and I am delighted to be part of it."



Pictured is Jan Harvey (NICHS); Jeanette Ervine; Club Chairman, Stephen Beattie; Cllr Dr John Kyle; and Cllr George Dorrian.

2019/20 financial update

National Minimum Wage / National Living Wage update

From 1st April 2019, employees in the UK aged over 25 earning the current minimum wage rate of £7.83 per hour will see a 38p increase to a minimum hourly rate of £8.21. Employees aged under 25 will also see an increase. The small details are set out below for you:

Current rates

- £7.83ph for ages 25+
- £7.3 8ph for ages 21 - 24
- £5.90ph for ages 18 - 20
- £4.20ph for school leaving age to 17
- £3.70ph for apprentices

New rates from 1st April 2019

- £8.21ph for ages 25+
- £7.70ph for ages 21 - 24

- £6.15ph for ages 18 - 20
- £4.35ph for school leaving age to 17
- £3.90ph for apprentices

Auto Enrolment Pension - April 2019 update

All clubs with eligible employees should now have enrolled into the Auto Enrolment Pension scheme. From 6th April 2019, the contributions from the employer and the employee will have increased. The club will now be contributing 3%, up from 2%, and the employee will contribute 5%, up from 3%.

Therefore, the overall total minimum contribution increases to 8% from its current rate of 5%.

Date	Employer Minimum	Employee Minimum	Total Minimum Contribution
Up to 5 April 2018	1%	1%	2%
6th April 2018 to 5 April 2019	2%	3%	5%
6 April 2019 onwards	3%	5%	8%

Further changes may occur from 2020, as the Department of Work and Pensions are considering all workers from the age of 18 being Auto Enrolled. At present only workers from age 22 are Auto Enrolled.

As an example, a member of staff earning £350 per week currently pays £5.62 (after tax relief) - the employer pays £4.68 totalling £10.30 per week into their pension pot. From the 6th April 2019, assuming that the member of staff has a 5% wage increase due to the change in National Living Wage the contributions would increase as follows.

On a new weekly rate £367.50, the employee's contribution would be £9.98 (after tax relief) and the employers would be £7.49 making a total of £17.47 per week into their pension pot.

Opt out rates

The impact on staff of pension contributions increases will be mitigated by the increase in the National Living Wage (NLW) and in the increase on the 6th April of the income tax personal

allowance from £11,850 to £12,500.

Research by The Pension Regulator shows less than 2% of staff in medium, small and micro businesses asked to leave their pension scheme as a result of the increases in 2018.

How will the living wage and pension increases affect the club?

The NLW and pension contribution increases will increase your payroll costs by just under 6%. Many committees have been debating by how much to increase bar prices as a result of supplier price rises but few consider the impact of the payroll increases.

It varies significantly from club to club but wage costs can represent up to 25% of bar takings; if no action is taken, and using this percentage, wage costs will increase to 26.5% of bar takings. In terms of bar prices, a club would need to add, with VAT, an extra 5p to a pint sold for £2.75, in addition to the brewery increases.



Protect club land with 'Keep-Off' signs

A recent case serves as a reminder to all clubs that club land must be protected from unauthorised persons using it. If unauthorised persons are allowed to consistently use club land then they may obtain a legal right to permanently use it. We advise that where open land exists, signs should be erected stating that the land is private and for use by club members only.

Court of Appeal judge, Lord Justice Richards, said that he "rejected the notion that it is necessary for the owner; having made his protest clear; to take further steps of confronting the wrongdoers orally or in writing, still less to go to the expense and trouble of legal proceedings.

"Many millions of people in this country own property. Most people do not seek confrontation, whether orally or in writing, and in many cases they may be concerned or even frightened of doing so. Most people do not have the means to bring legal proceedings. There is a social cost to confrontation and, unless absolutely necessary, the law of property should not require confrontation in

order for people to retain and defend what is theirs. The erection and maintenance of an appropriate sign is a peaceful and inexpensive means of making clear that property is private and not to be used by others. I do not see why those who choose to ignore such signs should thereby be entitled to obtain legal rights over the land."

The case revolved around land formerly owned by a private members club which had subsequently been acquired by new owners. Whilst the club was in operation, the next door fish and chip shop had consistently used the club's car park. When the building was sold, the owners of the fish and chip shop attempted to argue that the new owners had to respect their right to use the car park. There was no dispute that suppliers and customers of the fish and chip shop had used the car park since the shop opened in 1987, right up until access to the space was blocked by the new owners. However, they did so while ignoring signs that stated "Private Car Park, for the use of Club Patrons Only", which were displayed both on the side of the club building and in the window of the club.

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Lord Justice Richards said that the presence of the signs was enough to make the use of the car park "contentious". The signs "clearly indicated the owner's continuing objection to unauthorised parking" and were a proportionate form of protest." The meaning of the signs was clear and persons other than club patrons would be aware that they were not authorised

to use the club's car park. The Court rejected that the club had to continually protest against the use of the car park by the fish and chip shop owners.

We therefore advise all clubs, which have land easily accessed by the public, to clearly display signs advising that the land is private and can only be used by club members and their guests.

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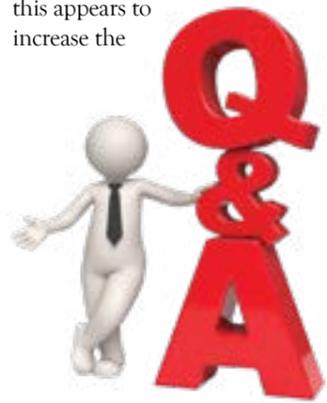
Questions & Answers

Q. In advance of our AGM next month, we've been presented with a proposed rule change which requests that two members be allowed to sit in on Committee meetings as observers. I seem to recall quite clearly a piece you wrote in the magazine regarding the importance of confidentiality this appears to increase the

danger of loose tongues. Does the proposal have to go to the AGM, or can it be refused on the grounds of confidentiality beforehand?

A. I can confirm that a Rule change can only be voted upon and approved at a Special General Meeting. It cannot be discussed or voted on at an Annual General Meeting. Therefore, you can refuse this motion and direct this Member to call for a Special General Meeting if they wish for their rule change proposal to be discussed and voted on. A 75% majority of those Members present at an SGM is required to approve a rule change.

You are correct that it is important that Committee Meetings remain confidential and we would advise your



Members not to vote for this proposal if a Special General Meeting is ever convened to discuss and vote on it. Ultimately, it would be for the Club's Members to make the final decision on such a rule amendment although I hope they would appreciate that it would be difficult to ensure that Committee Meeting matters, such as employee information, is kept confidential if the Committee Meeting is attended by non-Committee Members.

In summary, you can prevent this from going to the AGM since it can only be dealt with at an SGM but ultimately, if an SGM was called and the change was approved by more than 75% of the Members present then it would be a valid rule amendment under those circumstances.

Q. We are aware that we can no longer charge for credit / debit card transactions but can we impose a minimum spend? Each transaction (we use Worldpay) costs us around £1.20 so it seems to me perfectly reasonable to require a minimum spend of £5.

A. We can confirm that you are Able to impose a minimum transaction purchase amount. Having said that, your card processing costs seem quite high, you might want to explore other providers to obtain a lower rate on your transactions. If you frequently process card transactions then your fees should be as low as 0.4% for debit cards and 1.1% for credit cards. You may want to contact Worldpay to see if you can renegotiate your contract.

Q. A Member has requested an AGM motion regarding a new subscription rate which decreases in line with the length of a Member's length of

Membership. The Committee are concerned that this would be difficult to administer and also could reduce the subscription revenue which is an important source of finance for the Club. The Committee would like to write to the Member explaining our concerns and hopefully the Member will withdraw their proposal. If the Member insists on putting his proposal to the AGM can the Committee prevent this?

A. I think such a reply would be sensible, although should the Member insist, then the motion should be placed on the agenda of the AGM to be voted on by the Members (the Committee can present your view to the Members at the meeting that such a proposal may not be in the long term interests of the Club). Most Clubs do already offer a wide variety of subscription packages, the most prevalent being Life Membership once a person has reached a specific age and has been a member of the Club for a set number of years or discounted subscription rates for couples. Having said that, some Clubs are moving towards a single membership fee applicable to all Members. This is really only a decision Clubs can make on a local level.

Ultimately, in most Clubs it is the Member's choice what to set the subscription rates at although I would hope they would be guided by the advice given to them by the Committee. It is worth noting that in some Clubs it is the Committee which has the power to directly set the subscription rates.

If you have any questions you need answered for your club, then please send them to us at: info@nifederationofclubs.com

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Isolation and loneliness often occurs when a spouse passes away or friends and relatives die or move away from the area, the person left behind suddenly has no-one to turn to, or perhaps only sees some friends or relatives on a few occasions.

One of the best ways of combating this social issue is ensuring our clubs are as accessible as possible. This isn't always easy though.

We also know how difficult it can be for families to support their loved ones to maintain social interests or get involved in new hobbies as busy lives, work commitments, and family

obligations pull us in different directions.

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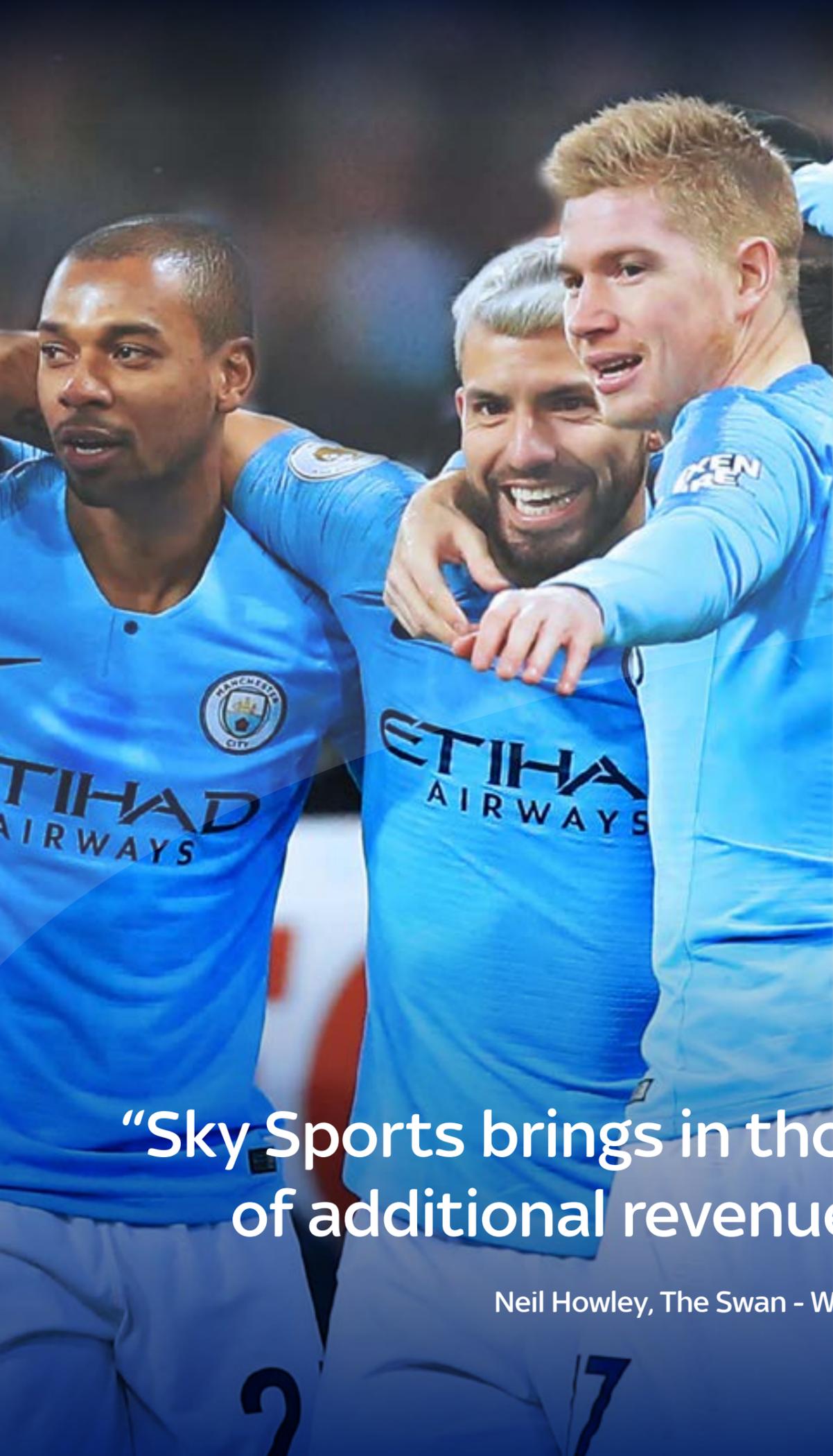
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Sky Sports presents another action-packed month for venues to keep their customers entertained with exciting EFL fixtures, Formula 1 action in Monaco and Anthony Joshua's US debut!

The Premier League 18/19 season may have finished, but there's still the Championship play-offs to look forward to. This season, Sheffield United, Derby County, Middlesbrough and West Brom are currently battling it out in the top six, while the merest slip up could see current league toppers Norwich City and Leeds drop into play-off territory. It's going to be a race to the finish, and three teams are going to head into next season bitterly disappointed.

Sky Sports coverage of the Majors continues as the 2019 US PGA Championship tees off on 16th May. This year marks the 101st playing of the tournament, which was won last year by Brooks Koepka, beating Tiger Woods by two strokes. The former World Number 1 will be looking to repeat his success against rivals Justin Rose and current World Number 1 Dustin Johnson for the \$1,980,000 prize.

A highlight of every F1 fan's calendar is back as the prestige, glamour and challenge of the Monaco Grand Prix takes place on 26th May. Last year, it was Daniel Ricciardo who took the chequered flag for Team Red Bull, but can the Australian recreate his success now he's with Renault? And the changes to F1 this season result in more overtaking on a circuit that famously punishes those who attempt to do so?

At the end of May, Cricket comes home as the ICC Cricket World Cup kicks off with England hosting South Africa at The Oval. After a shaky start, England found their feet in their tour of the West Indies and go into the World Cup as one of the most feared teams in limited overs cricket.

The main attraction in June will be the United Nations League as England will be hoping to continue their success since last summer's World Cup when they go for glory in Portugal. Gareth Southgate's side take on the Netherlands in the last four before a potential final against either hosts Portugal or Switzerland - and your customers can watch it all unfold live on Sky Sports.



All pictures courtesy of Getty Images.

An exciting month of sport is ahead of us and these are the fixtures not to be missed;

MAY	
16th to 19th May	US PGA Championship
24th to 26th May	F1 Grand Prix - Monaco
25th May	Star of the WNBA League
30th May	ICC Cricket World Cup - England v South Africa
31st May	ICC Cricket World Cup - West Indies v Pakistan
31st May	The Derby, Epsom
JUNE	
1st June	Anthony Joshua v Ruiz Jr
1st June	LPGA Tour - US Women's Open
2nd June	ICC Cricket World Cup - South Africa v Bangladesh
3rd June	ICC Cricket World Cup - England v Pakistan
4th June	ICC Cricket World Cup - Afghanistan v Sri Lanka
6th to 9th June	PGA Tour - Canadian Open
7th to 9th June	F1 Grand Prix - Montreal












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Albert Mills

A bass man's life, and the 'Pound'!

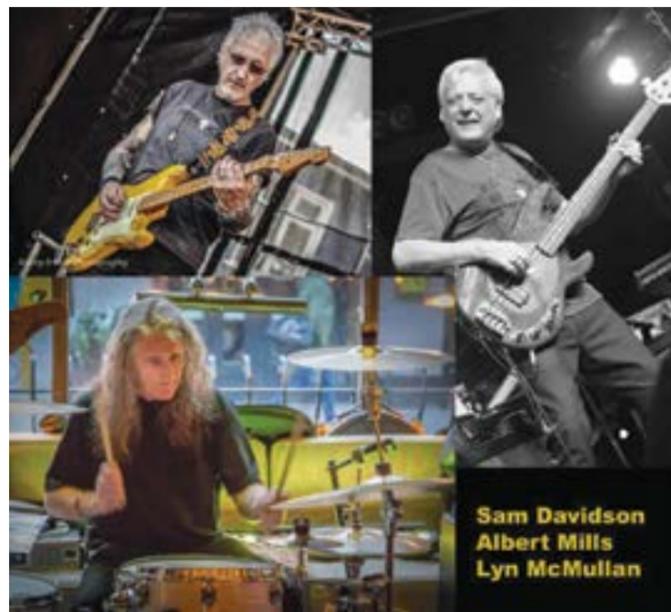


Nigel Blair, Belfast 89FM.

I recently interviewed Albert Mills, when he took me on his life's musical journey, and confessing to loving all types of music since an ealy age, since watching the Beatles..

He formed his first band, Generation X, who became Creative Minds, playing the likes of, Betty Staff's, the Floral Hall, and Dublin's 'Five Club'; and as a blues/rock band, supporting acts such as, Jethro Tull, Small Faces, and Fleetwood Mac.

During the darkest days of the troubles, Albert went to Liverpool for a brief period. Upon his return, he worked in the Belfast Rope Works., later moving with his family, to Antrim, when Albert took a position in British Enkalon, also joining local band, 'Long Street', and touring the cabaret circuit.



Sam Davidson
Albert Mills
Lyn McMullan

After a time he was offered a job with his long time friend, Bobby Dunseith, in Yellow Pages, along with Tommy Locke and Eddie McKee. Although a fantastic band, Albert's heart was not in the cabaret scene, and it was around.1976, that Bobby and Albert visited the 'Pound Club', where top rock and blues bands of the day, such as Spike, performed, fronted by incredible guitarist, Jim Armstrong.

While playing one evening at the Quarry Inn, Jim Armstrong approached Albert, offering him a position as bass player/vocalist with his new band 'Light'.

The following week they became the resident band in the Pound Club, appearing every Saturday afternoon, playing to packed audiences, both there, and in numerous venues across Ireland.

In 1978, Light recorded an album, with all but one song being original material. The

release of which all sold, and which is now keenly sought after.

Albert said, "I relive the memory of Light and the Pound Club each year, with a sell-out show at the Black Box, with a line-up which includes Ian 'speedo' Wilson, Brian Warnock, Brian Glen, Davy McClean and Joe Traynor.

Albert's musical journey continues with Sam Davidson's 'Taste', and 'Blackwood'. He counts himself lucky to be able to continue doing what he does, and to have made so many friends along the way, including the best of the best musicians on the rock and blues scene, too many to mention but suffice to say, he remains at the top of his game. So let me sign off by saying - 'Let there be LIGHT'.

Nigel

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CARLING ANNOUNCES NEW EASY CARRY PINT GLASS TO EASE ON-TRADE QUEUING

NEW GLASS LAUNCHES IN TIME FOR BANK HOLIDAY SEASON

Carling, Britain's #1 beer for 28 years*, has today announced the launch of brand-new easy carry pint glasses. The glasses, designed to help pub goers carry up to four pints back from the bar when enjoying a pint with friends, are now available at selected pubs nationwide, in time for the bank holidays.

The innovative new design, created in partnership with London-based design agency, BrandOpus, incorporates vertical grooves, helping the glasses interlock together, while the embossed lettering creates a tactile grip. The glasses are also designed to be wider at the top and thinner towards the middle to create a natural gap for the hands to wrap around the glass more easily. As well as the more ergonomic design, the glasses have a nucleated bottom – designed to keep pints fresher for longer.

drinkaware.co.uk for the facts
*Source: 1999-2017 GlobalData UK Market Analyzer.

Denise Catney, Customer Marketing Manager at Carling said "Our aim was to create the perfect glass for the perfect pint, whilst responding to the needs of consumers. We know pub goers can feel uncomfortable leaving drinks on the bar because they can't carry them all. We wanted to design something iconic which really brings people together. This is why we created our new easy carry glasses. We hope people find getting pints in for friends, a far more comfortable experience now."

Ryan McFarland, General Manager for the Island of Ireland at Molson Coors said "The launch of the new glassware range reflects our ongoing commitment to our on-trade customers. Consumer-facing innovations such as this will help reduce crowding and queuing time around the bar, improving overall sales during busy periods. Along with our partnership with Sky, which gives access to reduced subscription rates, we are helping pub operators to improve profitability through driving sales revenue and reducing costs in bars and pubs. This will be key ahead of the bank holidays and big sporting events such as the end of the football season, the Ulster GAA Championship and The Open."

For more information, please contact your Molson Coors representative.



Save the date - The Bra Walk is back!



Have your 'bras' at the ready as Belfast prepares to turn pink for the return of The Bra Walk, Action Cancer's 10k walk taking place on Friday 14th June, in aid of the charity's life-saving breast screening service.

Now in its fifth year, The Bra Walk is once again proudly sponsored by SuperValu and will begin at Belfast City Hall at 7pm. Action Cancer is encouraging men, women and children of all ages to take part in this fun-filled family event, helping to raise awareness of breast cancer and raise funds for the charity. By lending support to The Bra Walk, it is a great way to raise awareness of this life-saving service as well as an opportunity to get fit, walk in memory of a loved one, or support someone going through breast cancer.

The charity's flagship event has raised £265,000 to date and once again Action Cancer are asking members of the public to get behind this fantastic cause and sign up, save a life and support a friend!

All participants are encouraged to raise a minimum of £80 in

sponsorship, the amount it costs Action Cancer to provide digital breast screening for one woman aged 40-49 and over 70.

It is anticipated that more than 1,000 participants will take part, with a sea of pink feathers, sequins and bras, as the walkers make their way through the city. So why not get all dressed up in pink and join Action Cancer to walk 10k this June?

Online registration is now open with an early bird rate priced at £9 per adult and £4 per child, and everyone taking part will receive The Bra Walk bag for life and complementary pink t-shirt.

Every year Action Cancer aims to breast screen 10,000 women at Action Cancer House and on-board the Big Bus. For every 1,000 women screened, an average of five or six breast cancers are detected - hopefully at an early and treatable stage. This is only possible because of the continued, generous support Action Cancer receives from the general public in Northern Ireland and through its charity partnership with SuperValu. The charity needs your support now, more than ever, to continue with



the work and help save lives. Valerie Thompson from SuperValu said, "We are delighted to sponsor The Bra Walk for the fifth year running and would encourage families, friends and work colleagues from across Northern Ireland to get involved in this fun event. SuperValu has been supporting Action Cancer's Big Bus since it first went on the

road almost twelve years ago, enabling the charity to screen an incredible 4,339 women to date throughout Northern Ireland."

For further information or to register visit www.actioncancer.org, or contact Action Cancer on 028 9080 3344, or email thebrawalk@actioncancer.org

Big Bucket Collection on Saturday 29th June help at any time through the day in a town near you



This is a hugely important fundraising day for Cancer Focus NI, so join us and hold a bucket - it will make all the difference. **We need YOU.**

Towns
Banbridge, Ballyhackamore, Lurgan, Derry/Londonderry, Newcastle, Bangor,

Dungannon, Omagh, Magherafelt, Armagh, Ballymoney, Cookstown, Portrush, Enniskillen, Kilkeel, Belfast City Centre, Larne, Ballymena, Portadown and Downpatrick.

Please get in touch, we want to hear from you.

Just email jadeknowles@cancerfocusni.org to register your interest and find out more.

Trevor & Karl - Big Bucket collection volunteers 2018.



Ulster GAA Writers' Association annual awards

Rory Beggan made history at the recent Ulster GAA Writers' Association annual awards presentation in Enniskillen, but the big Monaghan custodian wasn't there to enjoy the occasion. Instead, Beggan was training with the rest of the Farney fellows as they prepared for their closing NFL games which would decide their fate - staying in the top tier or a drop to Division Two. Training has since obviously produced results as Monaghan escaped the drop by a whisker.

Beggan was named as the first goalkeeper, in the 31 years' history of the UGAAWA accolades, to be awarded the Male Footballer of the Year and his father Brendan collected the award on his son's behalf.

However, Rory did send a video message to the assembled gathering, expressing his delight at getting the award.

In all, 13 annual awards were handed out with the Female Footballer of the Year crown going to Tyrone captain, Neamh Woods, who led the Red Hands to All-Ireland Intermediate Championship glory, netting a super goal in the final to polish off the opposition.

The UGAAWA annual awards are the only ones that cover the wide scope of GAA indoor and outdoor activities, with the likes of Culture and Services to the GAA included. The awards also cover players, officials, etc. from Young Achiever to Personality of the Year.

Slaughtneil Emmett's have, of course, created their own niche in camogie, and it can't be a surprise that the Derry



The Class of 2018 at the UGAAWA Annual Awards ceremony.

girls won the Team of the Year trophy as they sped through Ulster and then stopped Galway and Connacht title holders Ardahan by double scores.

The UGAAWA awards are not confined, of course, to senior successes and it was Glengormley St Enda's, who is the first Antrim team through to the All-Ireland Intermediate Football final, that took the Club of the Year title, having overcome many obstacles to climb amongst contenders for national glory.

It wasn't a great 2018 year in hurling for Ulster teams but, nevertheless, there were some excellent individual performances, none better than those by Antrim stalwart Neil McManus. The scorer-in-chief of the saffron side collected the Hurler of the Year honour for a third time, also being the winner in 2009 and 2011.

For the second season in a row, World One-Wall champion Conor McElduff (Tyrone) collected the Handball Award.

Titles also went to Monaghan, as Aaron Mulligan, who gave up a promising soccer career to concentrate on GAA, is the Young Achiever of the Year and Noel Duffy's communications work earned him that award.

Gaoth Dobháir beat a trail of success as they clinched the Ulster Club SFC title for the first time and nobody did more to achieve that than their long-servicing full-forward Kevin Cassidy. Kevin is one of the game's most colourful characters and for that he was honoured with the 2018 Personality of the Year crown.

As you filter through the gate into matches in Antrim and throughout Ulster you may know the face but not the name. It's Seamus O'Hare, who is one of the longest serving GAA volunteers in the province, and for his work he gets the Services to the GAA trophy, while another man, Armagh's Sean McCann, who is an avid Irish language worker, collected the Cultural Award.

UGAAWA 2018 Awards

Male Footballer

R. Beggan (Monaghan)

Female Footballer

N. Woods (Tyrone)

Hurler

N. McManus (Antrim)

Handball

C. McElduff (Tyrone)

Camogie

N. Mallon (Down)

Team

Slaughtneil Emmett's Camogs (Derry)

Club

St Enda's Glengormley (Antrim)

Young Achiever

A. Mulligan (Monaghan)

Communications

N. Duffy (Monaghan)

Personality

K. Cassidy, Gaoth Dobháir (Donegal)

Cultural

S. McCann (Armagh)

Services to the GAA

S. O'Hare (Antrim)

Chairman's Award

Geraldine Clarke (Monaghan)



UGAAWA Monthly Merit Award winners

by Tony McGee

APRIL

April is a month that will live long in the memory of Eimear Smyth, and the past weekend got even better. But it is the month of April we concentrate on here as the Derrygonnelly Harps score-snatcher played a merry tune against Limerick in the semi-final of the Lidl Ladies' National Football League Division four.

Eimear broke Limerick hearts as she bagged an amazing 1-12, from full-forward, in Fermanagh's stunning 2-15 to 4-7 victory, fully earned by two late points from their 'striker'. The winners were behind by 4-6 to 1-4 at half-time but allowed the opposition only one more point in the second half as Smyth produced a superb scoring display from play and free-kicks.

In the final against Antrim, Eimear backed up that performance with a 1-6 haul in the 2-6 to 1-10 victory, at Clones, that takes Fermanagh up to Division Three for next season but that's a story for another day as the Mount Lourdes student has already put

MARCH

The year 2019 is one that Tina Hannon will not forget throughout the rest of her life. It is a milestone in her history that few players will ever match as the Slaughtneil camogie star reaps in personal awards.

Offaly native, Tina, collected her fourth All-Ireland Championship medal when Derry champions, Slaughtneil, defeated Wexford winners St Martin's in the All-Ireland Senior Club Final, at a snowy Croke Park. That was her

her hand up for recognition this month.

For her April performances, the Harps' player earns the Ulster GAA Writers' Merit Award for last month and was presented with her award by Quinn's Sales & Marketing Director, Seamus McMahon.

"I'm delighted with this monthly award," said Eimear, who also won the UGAAWA Cormac McAnallen Young Achiever Award for 2017. "Many great players have received the Monthly Merit Award over the years and it is a great honour to be listed among them. Beating Limerick, after such a comeback in the second half, was tremendous. We have a lot of young players in the panel and they all stood up to what was needed."

Her April success is all the more remarkable because of the fact that she is fully immersed in her A-Level examinations at Mount Lourdes in Enniskillen, but she seems to be able to combine her studies with her football, both at high levels.

second All-Ireland medal collected with the "Derry Girls".

For her performance on the '40' with Slaughtneil in the club decider, the Letterkenny based Nurse Manager, scorer of 1-6, was named as Player of the Final but that didn't finish her accolades for her Croke Park display, as she was also named winner of the Ulster GAA Writers' Merit Award for March.

"Yes, this is surely a year to remember for me," enthused Tina. "Things couldn't get



Fermanagh footballer Eimear Smyth, receiving the April Merit Award from UGAAWA Treasurer, Tony McGee (left), and Quinn Building Products Sales & Marketing Director, Seamus McMahon. Picture by Jim Hamill.



(lr) Slaughtneil camogie manager Damian McEldowney; March Merit Award Winner, Tina Hannon; and fiancé, Patsy Bradley. Picture by Jim Dunne

much better or more exciting. Winning the All-Ireland with Slaughtneil - the club's third in a row but only my second - was superb and getting the Player of the Final award was something I didn't expect. After all, it is a team game and I have to thank

all the other girls for helping me win the award but it is always very nice to win individual awards. I also have to thank the likes of Dominic McKinley, Damian McEldowney and Mickey Glover for the work they do with the panel."

Manager and Player of the Month



Ards Football Club goalkeeper Sam Johnston has been named Player of the Month for April by the Northern Ireland Football Writers' Association.

Johnston's incredible form helped Ards avoid automatic relegation, securing their place in the Promotion/Relegation Play-Off.

Johnston kept clean sheets against both Institute and Dungannon Swifts, as well as saving a penalty against Newry City.

A delighted Johnston said upon collection his Belleek trophy, "This is a massive honour for me. I was second in September and I thought my chance was gone, so to win it in April is brilliant."

NIFWA Chairman, Keith Bailie, presents Ards goalkeeper, Sam Johnston, with his Player of the Month award.

Glenavon FC boss Gary Hamilton has been named NIFWA Manager of the Month for the third time this season.



NIFWA Chairman, Keith Bailie, presents Glenavon boss, Gary Hamilton, with his third Manager of the Month award of the season.

He won the April award thanks to his team's impressive victories over Crusaders, Cliftonville and Linfield.

Upon collecting his award a delighted Hamilton said, "I'm delighted to win this award for a third time this season. In a way, it probably sums up our season which has consisted of some

great runs of form and them some disappointing patches.

"The boys were superb in April and this award is really a recognition of their achievements."

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2008

QPR fans acknowledge Cole



A jubilant Andy Cole (right) holds the Champions League trophy aloft, ably aided by Dwight Yorke, following Manchester United's sensational 2-1 last gasp victory over Bayern Munich in the 1999 final.

Queens Park Rangers dreams of reaching the play-offs in the Championship took a drubbing when they were beaten 4-2 at home to Burnley, having been 2-0 up.

Burnley striker Andy Cole was having something of a 'dialogue' with the QPR fans as the fans chanted 'you're not famous any more' (having previously been top scorer for Manchester United and Newcastle United).

When he scored a goal he rushed up to the QPR fans and gave the 'silence' gesture holding his forefinger to his lips. He scored a second and turned to the QPR fans and slapped his bottom. By the end of the game he had scored a third goal (his first hat trick since playing for Manchester United many years earlier).

Despite his almost single-handed destruction of the QPR fans' dream, the Burnley striker was applauded off the pitch by the QPR home fans in acknowledgment of a masterful performance.

Friends 60 years on

Great battles are relished amongst great sportsmen and women. Team-mates and opposition have a special bonding, a unique respect, a particular private club where opponents become friends for life.

2008 saw the 60 year celebration of what was to that date, Ireland's only grand slam winning team, the 1948 side that beat everyone. Pictured opposite shows the team pictured at Ravenhill, taken before their 6-3 victory over Wales.

Rugby's unique code of honour extends beyond shaking hands with the opposition and even applauding the opposition off the pitch. It can extend right through to inviting the opposition into your team photos 60 years after the final whistle, as can be seen in the picture above.



Ireland's 1948 Grand Slam winning team pictured before their 6-3 victory over Wales at Ravenhill.



The Men of '48 - Jimmy Nelson, Bertie O'Hanlon, Jack Kyle, Michael O'Flanagan, Paddy Reid and Jim McCarthy. Also pictured are former Welsh players, Bledwyn Williams and Jack Matthews (front right). The IRFU's Der Healy and John Lyons (back row l & r), complete the line-up.

It happened in 2008...

Football - Manchester United win the Champions League, defeating Chelsea in a penalty shoot-out 6-5, after a 1-1 draw.

Boxing - Joe Calzaghe, fighting for the first time in the USA, won a 12-round split decision over Bernard Hopkins for the latter's world light heavyweight title.

Tennis - Rafael Nadal defeated Roger Federer in a five set thriller 6-4, 6-7, 6-7, 9-7, to win the Wimbledon Men's Final.

Golf - United States defeated Europe 16½ - 11½ to win the 2008 Ryder Cup at Valhalla Golf Club in Louisville, Kentucky.



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