

The Bridge Bulletin



Sun 24th May 2015

50p

SYMPATHY

Mayobridge GAC would like to express its sincere condolences to team manager, Michael Walsh on the death of his uncle Daniel O'Hare and also express its sincere sympathy to Daniel's wife Pauline, children, Daineal and John-Joe and the extended O'Hare, Murphy and Walsh Family Circles.

ANNUAL PRESENTATION

NIGHT

On Friday evening last the players, members and supporters of Mayobridge GAC came together in the Social Club to celebrate the successes of the 2014 season for Down's oldest club. The various award winners were:

Hall Of Fame:

Tommy White

Club Personality Of The Year:

Mairead Rooney

Senior Player Of the Year: Conleth O'Hare

Reserve Player Of The Year: John Joe Gorman

Thirds Player Of The Year: Paul Quinn

U-21 Player Of The Year: Cory Quinn

Minor Player Of The Year: Aaron Magee

Sportsman Of The Year: Caolan Gallagher

Senior Camogie Player Of The Year: Jenny Quinn.

Senior Camogie Player Of The Year: Martina Rooney.

Ladies Football Player Of The Year: Niamh Magennis

Ladies Football Players Player Of The Year: Jenny Taylor.

All Ireland Football winners: Jordan Magee, Sinead McNamee, Laura McNamee.

Handball Personality Of The Year: John White.

Presentations were also made to the captains of the winning teams last season,

Ladies Intermediate League, Captain Laura McNamee,

Premier Reserve League Champions: Medals presented to Eoghan Woods on behalf of the team

Felix Darby Cup Winners, Captain Darren Fegan

Senior Scor Set Dancing Winners: Peter Magee, Mairead Rooney, Mary Keenan. Eunice Downey, Theresa Crimmins, Sabrina Devlin, Paul Magone, Colleen McPolin.

TOMMY WHITE-HALL OF FAME AWARD WINNER

There was a sustained round of warm applause at the Annual Presentation Night when it was announced that the Hall Of Fame winner was Tommy White someone who has contributed greatly to the Mayobridge community and parish and who richly deserved this award.

Tommy has filled many roles in his time just some of which have included playing for the club, acting as secretary on the football committee, secretary of the Youth Club when it first opened in 1965, being a member of the Mayobridge Dramatic Society that performed plays in the Parochial Hall, Bingo caller in the old Parochial Hall and then in the Youth Club and for a long number of years was a star for the Mayobridge Indoor Bowling Club. Tommy first graced the football field in 1954 when he was a member of the Mayobridge schoolboy team and his abiding memory from those days is the winning of an U-14 tournament by defeating Saval in the final and then the team being taken by the team manager, Fr. Emmett Devlin to Rathfriland for ice cream to celebrate their great victory. He first lined out for the senior team in 1958 and was a member of the team that reached the Down Junior Championship Final in 1959. A fortnight before the final the team management decided that the team needed a bit of training and enlisted the help of John Fearon, a boxing trainer from Newry. The training took place in the Parochial Hall and proved very tough and in Tommy,s words “when it came to the

day of the match we weren’t fit to move”. Not surprisingly they lost that final to Banbridge.

In the early ‘Sixties Mayobridge went out of existence but reformed again in 1966 with Tommy as secretary and his brother Jerome as Chairman and one year later Mayobridge won the South Down and Mourne

Intermediate League which was a fantastic achievement. He remembers some great battles from his playing days and recalls how a match against Glenn was abandoned when a Mayobridge player snatched the notebook and pencil off referee, Seamus Crawley from Newry, tore the book up and broke the pencil in two. (So Paul Galvin wasn’t the first to do this). Tommy’s playing career ended after a serious injury in a tournament game against Warrenpoint in Moygannon but he has continued his involvement with the club up to the present day although it is now mainly in the supporter role.

The achievements of Mayobridge in the present era owe a lot to the likes of men like Tommy who guided the club through many dark days and who can now sit back content in the knowledge that they helped to build the foundations for the successful period that Down’s oldest club has had over the past twenty years. Well done Tommy.

'BRIDGE SMOTHERED WITH BLANKET

Mayobridge 0-7 Ballyholland 0-13

Prior to this game the 'Bridge would have been well aware of the defensive strategy that visitors Ballyholland would be employing as their blanket defence has been in operation for the past number of years. However unfortunately Mayobridge were not able to devise a system for unravelling the blanket and at the end of the day the Ballyholland men were worthy winners. While not pretty to watch this system is pretty effective and will frustrate many teams again this season. The 'Bridge would have been favourites for this game but they didn't seem up for the challenge while the visitors were the hungrier side and deservedly took the honours.

In the first half the Sky Blues played with the wind on their backs but didn't take full advantage and at the break the sides were level at 0-6 apiece. In the second half the 'Bridge were frustrated time and time again by the tight defensive blanket and their frustrations were not helped by a series of missed scoring opportunities. Ballyholland on the other hand broke quickly out of their defensive shell adding five points to their total, mainly from the home defence conceding needless frees, while keeping the 'Bridge scoreless until the 54th minute when Kevin O'Rourke converted a free. However the Harps were to score twice more before the long whistle and went on to record their first victory in the 'Bridge since the age of the horse and cart.

Mayobridge team and scorers: C.J. Barr, Conor Fitzpatrick, Miceal

Lively, Shane McNamee (0-1), Adrian Barry, Jamie Barr, Kevin McClorey, Conor Garvey, John Caldwell, Ryan Brady, Conleth O'Hare, Caolan Gallagher (0-2), Cory Quinn, Kevin O'Rourke (0-4), Aaron Magee.

Subs used: Brendan Coulter, Shane O'Hare, Gavin Barry.

Ballyholland scorers: Patrick Quinn (0-6), Ronan Murtagh (0-3), Ruairi White (0-2), Paddy McAnulty (0-1), Tiernan Rushe (0-1).

After the disappointment of losing to Ballyholland the 'Bridge will not have much time to lick their wounds as they go to unbeaten Burren on Friday evening, throw-in 7.30.p.m. The St. Mary's men have been racking up some very impressive scores this year and according to one well known local vegetable supplier are favourites not only for the Down championship but Ulster and All-Ireland as well.

This gives some idea of the task facing the 'Bridge but they could look back on the corresponding fixture last year when they produced a five-star performance to defeat the Burren men. A similar performance will be called for if the Sky Blues hope to avoid a third league defeat.

REPORT ON LAST YEAR'S
LEAGUE MEETING
Mayobridge 2-19 Burren 2-11
(Played Monday 14th April 2014 in
Burren)

Any Mayobridge supporter who failed to attend this game at Burren on Monday evening missed one of the most outstanding performances in recent years. After snatching a draw against Saval on Friday evening not too many people would have put money on the 'Bridge in this game. However the Sky Blues stunned everyone with a superb display and for the first time in several years managed to get the better of our neighbours and the eight point winning margin was just rewards for their efforts.

In the first half both sides were guilty of squandering good scoring opportunities and after 23 minutes the scores were tied on five points apiece. In the 25th minute Conleth O'Hare burst through but his powerful shot just skimmed the crossbar. Two minutes later the same player sent in a perfect delivery to Corey Quinn who outwitted his marker and sent Ryan Brady free to blast to the net. Conaill McGovern and Ryan Brady swapped scores in the 28th and 30th minutes to leave the score at the interval 1-7 to 0-6.

Ten minutes into the second half the 'Bridge had stretched the lead to six points, 1-11 to 0-8 and when Conleth O'Hare rattled the net in the 42nd minute it looked as if that had settled the outcome. However Burren then hit back almost immediately with a goal of their own when they were awarded a penalty which was easily converted by Conaill McGovern. Two minutes later the St. Mary's men were right back in the thick of

things when a surging run from Daniel McCartan saw him set up Eamon Toner for a second goal for the home side. Burren were almost totally dominant at this stage and they took full advantage to narrow the gap to a single point by the 50th minute. The 'Bridge however were not to be outdone and in a blistering last ten minute spell they added eight points to their total to run out deserving winners.

For the neutral this would have been a fine game to watch as both teams played the game **the** way it should be played with none of the defensive football that other teams employ. A most satisfying night's work by the 'Bridge and the whole team is deserving of great credit but perhaps the contributions of Ryan Brady and Kevin O'Rourke are worthy of special mention. Burren will be smarting after this result but only a fool would write off their chances this year. Mayobridge team and scorers: Shealan Strain, Conor Gribben, Micheal Lively, Caolan Lynchehaun, Shane McNamee, Adrian Barry, Kevin McClorey, Shane O'Hare (0-1), John Caldwell, Conor Garvey, Conleth O'Hare (1-2), Kevin O'Rourke (0-7), Corey Quinn (0-3), Ryan Brady (1-4), Benny Coulter (0-2). Sub: Jamie Barr

DIVISION ONE TABLE

Team	Pld	Won	Draw	Lost	Points
Burren	5	5	0	0	10
Saval	5	4	0	1	8
Ballyholland	5	4	0	1	8
Clonduff	5	3	1	1	7
Bryansford	5	3	1	1	7
Cumann Pheadair Naofa	5	2	3	0	7
Glenn	4	2	1	1	5
RGU Downpatrick	5	2	0	3	4
Mayobridge	4	2	0	2	4
Castlewellan	5	2	0	3	4
Annaclone	5	2	0	3	4
Rostrevor	5	1	1	3	3
Kilcoo	4	1	1	2	3
Longstone	4	0	2	2	2
Liatroim	5	0	0	5	0
Clann na Banna	5	0	0	5	0

RESERVES REMAIN IN TOP SPOT

Over the past seven days the reserve team recorded two good wins to maintain their unbeaten start to the league and remain as league leaders. On Wednesday last they had a big win in Hilltown over a previously undefeated Clonduff side, 2-13 to 0-6

and followed this on Sunday with a narrow two point win over Loughinisland, the final scoreline reading 2-12 to 1-13

MAYOBRIDGE GAA LOTTO
Have you your lotto done for Monday 25th May
JACKPOT £2600

JOLLYTOTS PLAYGROUP
Names now being taken by jolly tots playgroup for 3 year olds to attend our afternoon session in September. When your child turns three he/she could attend our afternoon session. Start 12.45 to 2.45 Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday. For more information call jolly tots 02830851122

THANK YOU

Words cannot convey how thankful we are for the prayers and good wishes we received while our little boy Ollie was in the Royal Belfast Hospital for Sick Children fighting Meningitis. He has made the most amazing recovery defying the odds, overwhelming the doctors and nurses.

We will never forget the goodwill and kindness at this time. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Michelle Rooney & Gervais Laverty
Dessie, Imelda Rooney & family.

ALL COUNTY PREMIER RESERVE LEAGUE

Team	Pld	Won	Draw	Lost	Points
Mayobridge	10	8	2	0	18
Clonduff	7	6	0	1	12
Bryansford	9	6	0	3	12
Kilcoo	6	5	0	1	10
Burren	8	4	0	4	8
Rostrevor	8	3	1	4	7
Loughinisland	8	3	0	5	6
Saval	8	1	1	6	3
Bredagh	8	1	0	7	2
Castlewella	8	1	0	7	2

on, won every ball that came his way and scored our final goal to secure victory. Darragh White and Thomas Hardy worked well in mid field supported by the speedy Brian Grant and Ronan Catterson.

Despite a few knocks each, they battled on and played extremely well. Wyatt McAteer was superb in goals today, not letting anything past him and kick outs were terrific. Wyatt, despite wanting to play outfield, was very mature in his decision in staying in goals, however, the last 5 minutes he came out and held onto possession very well. Thanks Wyatt. The B team were unfortunate in their game being beat by 2 points. Some super points kicked from range by captain for the day, Paul Martin, Senan Magone and Ben Mc Mahon.

Team A: Wyatt, Matthew (Captain), Mark, Brian, Ronan, Thomas H, Darragh W, Keelan, Eoghan (0:4), Cathal (2:1), Ben(1:1), Eoin Sherry (1:0).

Team B: Thomas C, Jack, Adam, Darragh T, Jason, Ben (0:1), Paul (Captain) (0:1), Peter, Senan (0:1), Conor M, Eoin.

Primary School League Game 4: Mayobridge 4:6 Ballyholland 0:7

The boys worked extremely hard today to secure a victory over Ballyholland to finish runners up in the league this year. Every boy who played today should be very proud of their performance as they fought to the very last minute to ensure the win after a tough defeat to Ballyholland last year at home. The boys were lead out onto the field today by Captain for the day, Matthew Morgan, and what an example he was. Without question, he was man of the match, an outstanding performance Matthew. Ballyholland had no chance of scoring a goal as his defending was top class, so too was Mark Taylor. Well done Boys. Ben Mc Mahon and Cathal Magee joined the duo of Keelan Mc Evoy and Eoghan Woods in the forward line today, with their shooting boots well and truly on, hitting a few scores each. Unfortunately Keelan suffered an injury but Eoin Sherry came

Ladies U16 result

Mayobridge 2-5 Bosco 3-9

The girls suffered their second defeat of the season to a very good Bosco side today. We more than matched them in the first half and should have been well in front instead of level.

The 2nd half started evenly too and the Bosco goalkeeper kept a great run and effort from Caitlin out, over the hour she was Bosco's best player.

Disappointing result for us but when we start converting our chances to scores the wins will start coming again.

Keep the heads up girls.

UNDER 12 CAMOGIE

The U12 Camogs started their league campaign this morning with a great victory over Ballyholland. This was a tough game but our girls played some great camogie and came out convincing winners 7-1 to 1-1. We had great goals from Chloe Hillen (2) Ella Smyth (1), Grace Cunningham (1) Rachel Toal (1) and Caitlin Coulter (1-1) and one og. This was an all round team performance but we had great individual performances from Ella Gribben, Grace Cunningham, Aoibheann Woods and Caitlin Coulter. For some of the younger girls it was their first U12 league game and they settled in very well. Great result girls.

Team: Ceri Magone, Rachael Greene, Aoife Trainor. Rachel Toal McConville, Aoibheann Woods, Grace Cunningham, Ella Gribben, Leah O Hare, Caitlin Coulter, Aoife Martin, Ella Smyth, Chloe Hillen.

We also played an U10/12 game because we have a panel of 24 players and they came out winners as well 5-0 to 2-0. It was great to be able to field two teams this morning and give everyone a run out. Well done girls. Thank you to the parents who took their children and stayed to support.

Team: Aimee McAteer, Ella Fitzpatrick, Cliona Gordon, Niamh Carr, Cara Crimmins, Katie Rooney, Lydia Mooney, Emily Fitzpatrick, Ellie Carr, Orla McElroy, Laura Greenan, Katie O Keefe.

Under 10 Football News

The U10 footballers will take 2 teams to play Go Games this Saturday 23rd May in Clonduff with a 10.15 start. We will meet in Clonduff at approx 9.45 for a warm up. We will play teams from Clonduff A & B, Rostrevor A&B, Bosco A&B, Attical and Annaclone. All players to wear suitable clothing and Gumshields must be worn to play.

UNDER 14 FOOTBALL NEWS

U14 South Down Division 1 League Mon 18th May

Warrenpoint 3:05 v Mayobridge 6:15

Mayobridge had to work hard this evening to get the better of a determined Warrenpoint team in a game played on a wet Milltown pitch. Playing with the breeze in the first half Warrenpoint fought hard in the slippery conditions to be first to the breaking ball and proved well capable of matching the Mayobridge boys score for score.

In the 2nd half Mayobridge stepped up a gear and played some useful fast flowing attacking football to stamp their authority on the game. Mayobridge have a large panel of players in training and whenever possible boys got game time tonight.

Credit to goalkeeper Ryan McVeigh who had a solid game, especially in the second half when he made a couple of excellent point-blank saves. In the full back line Shane Keenan and Ryan McPolin played well and kept their men scoreless. In mid-field Sean O Hare and Caolin McPolin worked hard as always against the useful Warrenpoint midfielders. In attack Liam Mc Manus, Adam Crimmins and Sean McConville battled hard for possession and set up some good scores.

It was a boost to see our captain Dylan O'Hare back so quickly this evening after injury and taking several good scores.

Well done boys, a fully deserved win this evening, but lots to work on at training on Thurs 6.45-8.15pm

Team: Ryan McVeigh, Ryan Mc Polin, Ollie Grant, Shane Keenan, Charlie Smyth, Sean Magone, Jamie McKay, Sean O'Hare(0:1), Caolin McPolin, Sean McConville, Dylan O Hare (2:8) (capt), Adam Crimmins (2:1), Liam Mathers (0:1), Liam McManus, (1:3) Sean Brady. Subs: Conor O Keefe, Tommy Morgan, Shane Thornton, Shea Magee (0:1), Dane McNeill, Micheal McKay, James Rice, James McManus, Caolin Mc Conville.

MORE CONTRIBUTIONS **PLEASE**

Now that the football season is in full swing could we ask the mentors of the various teams especially at underage level to contribute match reports each week. At the moment reports are appearing on Facebook but don't make it to the Bulletin. Our juveniles deserve all the encouragement they can get and to see their name in print can be a great inspiration to them. The reports don't have to be lengthy, a few lines with the team and scorers would be sufficient. Also the Bulletin will be a source of information in years to come for anyone researching material for historical purposes therefore it is important to have a record of our achievements. So please can we have some information on our various underage teams, ladies football and camogie teams.

Any information or news for The Bridge Bulletin should be e-mailed to me at rosemarymagee9@hotmail.co.uk Or left at 9 Carnany Grove or telephone Rosemary Magee at 02830851647 by a Tuesday evening at the LATEST.

Crochet Class Mayobridge Convent. Thursday 10am - 12. Everyone welcome come along to learn a new craft. £3 per class includes refreshments. Bring a crochet hook and a piece of wool if you have any. What better way to spend a Thursday morning

Tel No 07792815837