

Mid Ulster Football Association

125 Year Anniversary

1887-2012



Armagh City Hotel, Saturday, 26th May, 2012

Chairmans Welcome



It is certainly an awesome achievement and a unique distinction for any organisation to reach the milestone of 125 years of continuous existence but that is what the Mid Ulster Football Association is celebrating tonight, it's 125th birthday. I am, of course, delighted to be in a position to welcome all of you to our anniversary dinner tonight. I consider it a privilege, and indeed, an honour to be Chairman tonight as we celebrate our birthday. With that in mind, I offer all our distinguished guests and patrons, who have come along to the Armagh City Hotel tonight to be with and join us in celebrating our unique distinction, a very warm and pleasant welcome.

It's not easy to review the past 125 years of the Association as much of the early minute books and records have got lost with the passage of time. However, one thing we can be sure of is that the Association has certainly played its part in enriching and enhancing what has now become known as "the beautiful game", a global phenomenon and, of course, not least of all for the invention of the penalty kick in Mid Ulster. A kick that has made

heroes of many players and indeed broken the hearts of many others.

I have no doubt that tonight's Anniversary Dinner will give everyone an opportunity to have their own review and recall their own memories of football, and to remember some of the remarkable players from the Mid Ulster area who have made their mark on the great game of football. Who can forget the goal scoring feats of the great Jimmy Jones from Lurgan whose goal scoring records stand to this day, the great Peter McParland from Newry, who along with Lurgan's Wilbur Cush were the stars of Northern Ireland's '58 world cup campaign, and of course Northern Ireland's most capped player, the great Pat Jennings, to name but a few. Unfortunately (or fortunately) not everyone here tonight will be old enough to remember such players, but believe me they were the players that made history in the game.

Just as there are stars on the pitch, there are also stars off the pitch and there have of course been many who have made vital contributions to the Mid Ulster F.A. over the past 125 years, and it would be unfair of me to single out and acknowledge some administrators over others. Equally well, it would also be remiss of me not to mention two administrators who stand tall in the annals of the Mid Ulster Football Association. The late Bob Radcliffe, who was Treasurer and later Secretary of the Association between the mid 50's and early 70's. His contribution to the Association to this day is unequalled and has the Association's intermediate cup rightly named in his honour. Also, the late Ivan Marshall, who was Chairman from 1977 to 2003. During his term of office Ivan served as vice President to the Irish football Association. Ivan steered the Association through one of our province's most troubled times in our history, and did so with credit and dignity. The Association's junior shield is now named in his honour.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to the work carried out by the Association's Council Members in preparing for tonight's Anniversary Dinner, and I would put on record my appreciation of the huge amount of work carried out by each and everyone on our Council.

Once again, a very warmhearted welcome to everyone tonight, enjoy the dinner, the craic, the music and the dancing. Let's make it a night to remember, for the next 25 years at least.

Chairman
Eddie Pepper

Programme & Toasts

Welcome

Eddie Pepper (Chairman – Mid Ulster FA)

Grace

Isaac Gilkinson (Past Chairman – Mid Ulster FA)

Toast to IFA

Norman Livingston (Vice Chairman – Mid Ulster FA)

Response & Toast to MUFA

Jim Shaw (President – IFA)

Response & Toast to the Guests

**Eddie Pepper
(Chairman – Mid Ulster FA)**

Response

Jim Boyce (Vice President – FIFA)

Merit Awards

to Clubs who have made a special contribution to Association Football in Mid Ulster over the past 125 years

21 Year Service Presentations

to Council Members of MUFA (Brian Larkin & Noel McClure)

Presentations to MUFA

inc. from various Football Bodies

Jackie Fullerton & Special Guests

including NI Manager, Michael O'Neill

Dancing to Addiction

Mid - Ulster Football Association - Directory

Chairman: **Eddie Pepper**
 Vice-Chairman: **Norman Livingston**
 Hon. Secretary: **Brian Larkin**
 Hon. Treasurer: **Colin McCullough**

Committee: *Alan Willis, Maurice Johnston, Isaac Gilkinson,, Sean O'Neill, Noel McClure, Errol Hassin, Mervyn Connor, Aidan Murphy, John Brown, Eddie Drury, Nigel Cooke, Jackie McNickle, Bill Emerson.*

Life Members

David Flack (Dungannon)	Edward Preston (Bessbrook)
Marshall Beattie (Markethill)	Ronnie Higginson (Craigavon)
Roy Marshall (Lurgan)	William McVicker (Newry)
Hugh Heaney (Newry)	William Hogg (Newry)
Noel Hayes (Craigavon)	George Malone (Lurgan)
Steven Miller (Portadown)	



Mid Ulster F.A. Council 2012

Back Row Left to right

Maurice Johnston, Jackie McNickle, Nigel Cooke, Aidan Murphy, Eddie Drury, Alan Willis, Sean O'Neill
 Front Row Left to right Noel McClure, Brian Larkin (Secretary), Norman Livingston (Vice Chairman),
 Eddie Pepper, (Chairman) Isaac Gilkinson, & John Brown
 Colin McCullough (Treasurer), Errol Hassin

Michael O'Neill

The Portadown man with the Midas touch.



that not only stretched across the Irish Sea, but also across the Atlantic Ocean where he starred for Portland Timbers & Boston Bulldogs and with 31 international caps to his credit a successful playing career came to an end when he became assistant manager to Cowdenbeth. Michael says "I remember being so happy when I got my first job as coach after hanging up my boots. It was a great step on the ladder for me but within a few weeks I became a bit frustrated because I wanted more"

And more he got when he took on and enjoyed a successful spell as Manager of Brechin City before moving south of the border (Irish border this time!!) to take up the manager's job at Shamrock Rovers. Shamrock Rovers wanted a League title and O'Neill, with the midas touch, delivered in his second season as manager and delivered what is perhaps the most difficult task in domestic football--- retaining a championship---- and that was delivered last season with back to back league titles. O'Neill, again with the midas touch, made history with Shamrock Rovers by becoming the first League of Ireland club to reach the group stages of the Europa League.

Michael says "I am extremely proud of what we did at rovers but I felt it was the right time for a new challenge and the Northern Ireland job became available (in February of this year) it was instantly attractive to me. In fact I don't think there is a bigger job in football than managing your country."

Profile on a successful club & international Player, Club Manager, and now International Team Manager, Michael O'Neill started his senior playing career with Coleraine, (well he was at Chimney Corner before that) in 1985, making a total of 29 appearances and getting on the score sheet 9 times. He moved to Newcastle Utd. in 1987 making 56 appearances and scoring 16 goals, however in 1989 he moved north of the border (English border that is!!) to play with Dundee Utd. Michael's career has taken in a number of clubs

Position Manager
 D.O.B. 05/07/1969
 Place of Birth: Portadown

Michael O'Neill Career

Club Career:

Chimney Corner Coleraine (1985) —29 appearances, 9 goals
 Newcastle United (23rd October 1987, £50,000) - 56 appearances, 16 goals
 Dundee United (15th August 1989, £300,000) -76 appearances, 13 goals
 Hibernian (20th August 1993, £250,000) - 113 appearances, 24 goals
 Coventry City (26th July 1996, £500,000) -6 appearances, 0 goals
 Aberdeen (22nd January 1998, loan) -6 appearances, 0 goals
 Reading (29d March 1998, loan) - 9 appearances, 1 goal
 Wigan Athletic (18th September 1998, free) -86 appearances, 5 goals
 St. Johnstone (18th August 2000, free) - 12 appearances, 0 goals
 Portland Timbers (26th April 2001, free) - 29 appearances, 9 goals
 Clydebank (23rd November 2001, free) - 19 appearances, 4 goals
 Boston Bulldogs (May 2002-June 2002, free) not known
 Glentoran (22nd July 2002, free) - 61 appearances, 6 goals
 Ayr United (22nd July 2004, free) - 3 appearances. 0 goals Total appearances: 505 Total Goals: 87

Managerial Career:

Cowdenbeath (Assistant Manager, 10th August 2005-30th March 2006)
 Brechin City (Manager, 31st March 2006-12th December 2008)
 Shamrock Rovers (Manager, 13th December 2008-16th December 2011)
 Northern Ireland (Manager, 1st February 2012-to present)

Honours: As Player:

(with Wigan Athletic) Auto Windscreens Shield 1998/99 (with Glentoran) Irish Premier League 2002/03;
 Irish League Cup 2002/03 Co. Antrim Shield 2002/03

As Manager:

(with Shamrock Rovers) Eircom League 2010 and 2011 Setanta Cup 2011

International Career:

Northern Ireland
 Senior: 31 appearances; 4 goals
 'B'
 2 app, 0 goals
 Under-23: 1 appearance, 0 goals
 Under-21: 1 appearance, 0 goals
 Under-16: 1 appearance, 0 goals
 Under-15: 3 appearances, 0 goals

Mid Ulster Stars for the Future - One to Watch:

Stuart Dallas

Stuart Dallas, Coagh United FC, Crusaders, Brentford & Northern Ireland International.

Stuart attended Cookstown Primary School and Cookstown High School during his education, and played for local side Coagh United as an amateur from the age of 15. Stuart became a regular in the Coagh side and his talent soon alerted Glasgow Rangers where he attended two different full week training session. Stuart was in no rush into the big time and was happy to continue his scholarship under the watchful eye of Coagh's joint Managers Noel Mitchell and Stephen Uprichard. In 2009/10, he signed for Crusaders that summer and made his debut against Donegal Celtic on 7 August 2010. He continued his good form with a goal against Linfield at Seaview, to help the Crues beat the Blues at home for the first time in 11 years. In his first year at Crusaders,



Stuart received 6 prizes at the Annual Player of the Year awards ceremony. He was chosen as both the Northern Ireland Football Writers' Association Player of the Year and Young Player of the Year for the 2010/11 seasons. Due to his early season form for the Crues, he received a call-up to the Northern Ireland U23 along with team-mates Chris Keenan, Martin Donnelly, and Jordan Owens. He played the full 90 minutes in a 2-0 defeat to Portugal. At the end of the 2010-11 seasons, along with team mates Colin Coates and Jordan Owens, he received a full call-up to the full Northern Ireland squad, for 2011 Nations Cup games against Republic of Ireland and Wales.

Stuart was the third Coagh United player to be capped for his country following Raymond McCoy and Aaron Hughes to that accolade. He made his debut against the Welsh in Dublin, coming on in the 60th minute. Mid Ulster's own Stuart Dallas has set by example his willingness to listen and learn from a young age at all levels so he could get to archive his goal of fulltime football and that major goal was achieved on 12 April 2012 when it was announced that he signed a pre contract with Football League One Side Brentford, and will join them this summer. Stuart will start his full time career under former East Germany international and Manchester City Player Uwe Rösler who is the present Manager of Brentford FC. We can be sure this will not be the last we hear of this young lad who hails from Cookstown Co Tyrone.

Guest Writer: Malcolm Brodie

There is a saying in football – “get the grass roots in order and you’ll find success”.

It is a theory which has been adopted down the decades by the clubs in the Mid Ulster Football Association and it certainly has paid off in every respect.

Under the current Irish FA Constitution the divisional associations have a vital role in the development and administration of the game. Throughout its history there have been some brilliant delegates, dedicated, knowledgeable and with a deep love of the game, who have guided Mid Ulster football to the heights. One other ingredient – 100 per cent loyalty. The late Harry Cavan, senior Vice President of FIFA and for more than 20 years the distinguished president of the IFA, always stressed on divisional associations to use their influence in the corridors of power. Look too at some of the players from Mid Ulster who have made the grade and whose clubs are capable of measuring up to all opposition.

Mid Ulster was, of course, the birthplace of William McCrum, son of a millionaire linen baron, Robert Garmann McCrum, who played for many years as Milford's goalkeeper, including the opening season of the Irish League (1890-91).

When a member of the Irish FA, McCrum created the idea of a penalty to stop the prevalent practice at the time of professionals fouling an attacking player to stop a goal.

McCrums put forward his idea to the International Board and it was eventually approved in 1891 at an international board meeting in Glasgow and listed as number thirteen in the Laws of the Game.

There is always the danger when mentioning personalities who have given signal service to any organisation. That applies particularly to the Mid Ulster for there has been a plethora of dedicated delegates.

Permit me, however, to name just a few – Bob Peel, Ted Clark, Bob Radcliffe, the inimitable Roy Marshall, David McKee, Richard Holmes, Ivan Marshall, Noel

McClure, Isaac Wilkinson, Alan Willis, Eddie Pepper, Aiden Murphy, Nigel Cooke, Brian Larkin, to name but a few.

There is immense competition between clubs for the major trophies under the MUFA jurisdiction – Mid Ulster Cup, Bob Radcliffe Cup, Marshall Shield, Kennedy Cup and the Ivan Marshall Merit Medal. Mid Ulster clubs have brought glory to the game. Take Glenavon, for instance – first club to take the Irish League Championship out of Belfast, first to fly to a match in the United Kingdom, second after Belfast Celtic to tour the United States (1960) while Portadown were All Ireland champions in 1973-74 and Glenavon North South Cup winners 1962-63.

These clubs have nurtured great players – Davy Cochrane, Jimmy Jones, Wilbur Cush, Peter McParland, Pat Jennings, Billy Dickson, Jimmy Magill indeed Northern Ireland's current manager Michael O'Neill was nurtured in his most formative years in Mid Ulster, where he has now returned home.

What an asset the Mid Ulster has been to Northern Ireland football – an association completely cross-community and driven by an inherent joy for football. During the dark days of political unrest in the Seventies, the MUFA, like all football throughout the province, helped to sustain a degree of normality despite all the problems, murder, mayhem, the bomb and bullet.

Long may the Mid Ulster continue to be a constituent part of the IFA and with the other British associations and FIFA form the International Board, the world rule-making body.

Oh by the way, if your team loses on a penalty shoot out, don't blame the referee, but the boy from the County Armagh, William McCrum.

Happy 125th birthday. May the game we all love continue to prosper and flourish in this beautiful part of Northern Ireland and, above all, help maintain the healthy development of our youth.

Dr Malcolm Brodie MBE is former Sports Editor of the Belfast Telegraph and Editor Ireland's Saturday Night.

Profile of a true prodigy of Mid Ulster Football.

Ivan Marshall

(Vice-president Irish Football Association, Chairman Mid-Ulster FA, Chairman Mid-Ulster League.)

The “Wee Man” that achieved his big ambitions.

In 1954, Lurgan born Ivan Marshall entered into football management when he re-formed Queens Park Swifts. Ivan entered the team into the Mid-Ulster Football League leaving behind a playing career which had seen him play for Lurgan Rangers, Dungannon Swifts and his home town club Glenavon F.C.

It was during his time as manager of Queens Park that Ivan was approached by the late Bob Radcliffe to join the ranks of the Mid-Ulster League committee. Ivan progressed through the committee and went on to become chairman of the league, and in 1977 he took over the reins as chairman of the Mid-Ulster Association from the late David McKee.

During his time as chairman, Ivan always held a desire to progress the Mid-Ulster League and had a dream of starting an Intermediate League within the association. In the 1987/88 season, his dream was finally realised when the Intermediate League was formed and has went on to grow into one of the best football leagues in Northern Ireland today.

Ivan held a number of senior positions throughout his association with football. He was a member of the I.F.A. Senior Council and served on all the committees from Junior to Senior.



Left: Eddie Pepper receiving his MUFA medal from the late Ivan Marshall

A member of the IFA Council for more than 30 years, his greatest moment came when he was nominated vice-president in 1995, succeeding one of tonight's honoured guests Jim Boyce when the latter became president. As an international committee member, he travelled the world with the Northern Ireland Senior teams.

Ivan held on to these positions until his untimely death in February 2003 at the age of 65. In every way, he was quite a character. The “Wee Man” will always be known as Mr Mid-Ulster.

We at the Mid-Ulster are proud to have known and served under such a knowledgeable and deeply respectable man.

We will always remember him.

The Mid Ulster Football League

The Mid Ulster Football League is proud and honoured to be invited to share in the occasion of the 125th anniversary of its parent Association.

Not only do we share a common name but we also have, during the decades that have passed, shared a bond that is probably unique throughout football in the Province.

So many of the constituent members of the Management Committee of the League have in the past, and currently, hold posts on the Council of the Association, including the current Association Chairman, Mr Eddie Pepper who also celebrates over 50 years of service to the League.

This has enabled both bodies to connect and move ahead both in planning, organisation and camaraderie for many years in the past and we hope for many years still to come.

As the Mid Ulster Football League approaches its own 85th birthday in the near future, we take delight in congratulating the Association on reaching this milestone and look forward with anticipation to many more years of friendship and co-operation between us.

Chairman

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Ladies Football in M-U on the Up

Ladies soccer has grown beyond all recognition and crossed many boundaries since the inception of the Northern Ireland Womens Football Association in 1976. Northern Ireland can boast six competitive leagues with teams from across the country; Mid-Ulster is a major force within these leagues with a number of well-run clubs that display tremendous levels passion, talent, enthusiasm and dedication. Here's a brief run-down on a few clubs from Mid-Ulster currently playing in the Northern Ireland Woman's Football Association's leagues.-

Mid Ulster Ladies



Mid Ulster Ladies FC was established in 2000 and has competed since its inauguration in the Northern Ireland Women's

Football League.

The 2005 season saw a historic first in the history of the club as they won the Mid Ulster League Championship. In 2008 Mid Ulster LFC gained promotion to the Premier League after beating Glenavon in a National League playoff.

Mid Ulster LFC have retained their Premier League status since 2008. We also have a thriving Junior section which competes each year in the underage summer leagues. We currently have 6 girls in our squad who have achieved caps in the various International teams (U15 schoolgirls / U17 / U19 and Seniors).

Much credit for the success of these players and the success of our Club must go to our Manager Noel Mitchell whose time, effort and dedication since our Club started is greatly appreciated.

Loughall Lakers



Loughall Lakers first entered into competitive womens football in 2000 making this their twelfth season since inception. Over the years, the Lakers have gone from strength to strength and first experienced an element of success in 2005 when they finished as

Runners-Up in the Mid Ulster Cup in 2005 Following this the Lakers had an extremely successful season in 2006 winning the NIWFA Intermediate A League and Cup double and gaining promotion up into the National League. The Lakers added to their squad and pushed on gaining further success in 2008 when they won the National League and attained promotion into the Premier League. This step up to the Premier proved to be a steep learning curve and the girls found themselves in a play-off at the end of the season which unfortunately they lost narrowly to a very strong Cliftonville side and thus were relegated into the Championship.

This set back proved to be a temporary one when in the 2009 season the Lakers went on to finish as Runners Up in both the Championship League and Cup taking them into a play-off which they won convincingly to gain promotion into the Premier League once more, however unfortunately it again proved to be a step too far for the Lakers as they were unable to make their mark on the Premier League.



Dromore Amateurs Ladies

The first ladies team associated with Dromore Amateurs FC was Lagan Valley Swifts who was managed by then Second team manager George Kelly. The nucleus of this team then became Crusaders Ladies, playing their home games at Lisburn. In 2002, current manager Roger McCartan took over, assisted by Mark

Rimmington. In 2003, the club became Dromore Amateurs Ladies F.C., and a re-structuring of the leagues saw DALFC compete in the Mid Ulster regional division. Season 2004 saw the team lift their first piece of silverware when they won the Mid Ulster Divisional cup, defeating Loughgall Lakers 2-1 in the final. This victory gave the players confidence and belief and

in the following seasons they became a real force in their league campaigns. Although yet to win a league title, the club has finished second to Linfield Ladies and also narrowly to Glenavon Ladies, and in 2010, they reached the semi-final of the IFA Cup.

DALFC draws players from all around the area including Lisburn, Banbridge and Lurgan. The club is also encouraging the next generation of Dromore ladies players, by offering weekly coaching to girls aged 6-12 years. The team currently competes in the NIWFA Championship division, and with the progress being made it surely wont be long before they gain promotion to the top level of women's football in the country.--

Armagh City Ladies



Armagh City Ladies are plying their trade in the NIWFA Championship this year following promotion from Division 1 as Runners-up to eventual winners Derry City. Armagh ended their season last year with an unbeaten run of eight games which secured them the promotion/relegation play off position against Downpatrick - a tie over two legs which they went on to win comfortably, an aggregate score of 6-1.

The Ladies hope to have an equally successful year in the Championship and are so far showing signs that they can at least retain their Championship status with a 2-1 home victory over Coleraine and an unfortunate 3-2 defeat by Donegal Celtic.



Newry City Ladies

Newry City Ladies were formed in 2011 off the back of the Tesco UK under 14 Champions. They entered into division 4 of the niwfa and in their first year won the divisional league and cup double.

In 2012 they expanded to include two under 15 teams as well as a under 17 side; currently they have two full Northern Ireland senior internationals in their squad. Newry City Ladies have recently set up a female football academy and hope the revolution of football continues.

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Mid Ulster Football Stars

Jimmy Jones

The Lurgan man with a goal scoring record

Jimmy Jones was born in Lurgan on 25th, July, 1928 entered, and played Irish League football in the late 1940s and throughout the 1950s. Jimmy joined Glenavon and, contrary to the suggestion that his career was ruined by a broken leg, sustained when he played for Belfast Celtic in 1948, in what is now known as the infamous game, against Linfield at Windsor Park. There was rioting at the end of the game (as a result of Linfield's Bob Bryson suffering a leg breaking injury during the game and Linfield supporters blamed Jimmy) and Jimmy was thrown over the wall which surrounded the pitch. He suffered a broken leg and the rest, as the popular saying goes, is history. Belfast Celtic withdrew from Irish football and their once famous stadium Celtic

Park is now the "Park Centre" shopping complex that you see as you leave the M1 motorway entering south Belfast.

Jimmy Jones was the leading Irish League goal scorer for some years in the fifties. He scored three goals in the Irish League team which defeated the Football League 5 - 3 at Windsor Park in 1953. Jimmy was capped twice for Northern Ireland, the last in 1956 when Northern Ireland drew 1 - 1 with England at Windsor Park in the now defunct British Home Championship. He is still is the leading goal scorer in Irish league history, and finished as Irish League outright leading goal scorer in 6 different seasons, a record that is still unbroken.



Captain Jimmy Jones holds the Gibson Cup aloft following Glenavon's 1959-60 League Championship success.

Team Profile

Glenavon's Success

Brings Success to Mid Ulster

Glenavon FC is one of the oldest clubs in Mid Ulster, formed in 1889, they established Moumeview Park, Lurgan, as their home in 1895 and remain there to this day with facilities which are the envy of clubs' from around the country. Having tasted success at Junior and Intermediate level, winning the Mid Ulster Cup and Mid Ulster Shield, IFA Intermediate and IFA Junior Cups, the club was invited to join the Irish Senior League in 1911 to replace Dublin club Bohemians.

Although a strong force within Mid Ulster, winning a number of Mid Ulster Cups, it was 1921 before the first senior trophy came to Mourneview, the City Cup.

Glenavon continued to win Mid Ulster Cups throughout the 1920's and 30's before withdrawing from senior football in 1941 due to the outbreak of war.

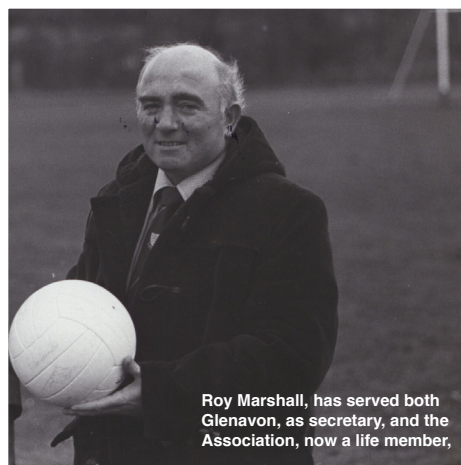
After World War Two, the Irish league resumed and it wasn't too long before Glenavon established themselves as one of the top teams in the country.

The fifties and early sixties were the glory years for the club, becoming the first provincial team to win the Irish League Championship in 1951/52.

Another first came in 1956/57 when they won the Irish League and Irish Cup double. Then as League Champions were the first club from Northern Ireland to take part in the European

Cup. Glenavon defeated Linfield 5 - 1 in the 1961 Irish Cup Final and went on to be the first club to represent the Irish league in the European Cup Winners' Cup.

During the success at senior level, Glenavon Reserves were winning Mid Ulster Cups on behalf of the club in the 1950's/60's and 70's. Senior clubs' returned to the Mid Ulster Cup in the 80's and Glenavon have continued to win the cup on many occasions since. Most recently in 2010/11.



Roy Marshall, has served both Glenavon, as secretary, and the Association, now a life member,

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Glenavon FC's Main Sponsors congratulate MUFA on 125yrs

The clubs' youth team also brought silverware to Lurgan in 2011 when they won the IFA Harry Cavan Youth Cup for the first time in the clubs' history. Although the winning of the league has eluded

the club for some considerable time the Lurgan Blues kept the Mid Ulster flag flying by bringing silverware home on a regular basis during the late 80's and 90's, winning 2 Irish Cups' and many other trophies.

'Oh for the return of those glory days'

Many Glenavon players' had the distinction of representing Northern Ireland during their careers, the most famous of them being the 'Wee Man' Wilbur Cush, with 26 caps. What an example and inspiration he was and would be today to our modern players'.

Wilbur not only played for Glenavon but after his return from Leeds United signed for Mid Ulster neighbors Portadown before returning to Lurgan to finish his career where it all began, Mourneview Park.

Club officials and administrators have also served the Mid Ulster club with great credit over many years. There have been three of the clubs' officials who have held the position of Irish League President over the past ninety-five years.

T Topping (1917-18) N. Booth (1924-25) and W. Kennedy (1965-76). Representatives who served so graciously on the Mid Ulster Football

Association's Council over the decades played their part in keeping the Association to the forefront of football in Northern Ireland. One such administrator, Roy Marshall, has served both Glenavon, as secretary, and the Association, now a life member, during his many years of dedication to football in the Mid Ulster area. Roy left Glenavon to take up a post with the Irish Football Association, a position he held for almost 20 years. How many people from all over the province and all strands of the game have benefited from the experience and knowledge that the 'wee man' from Princess Street has given them over his life time?

Glenavon mark their own 125 year anniversary in 2014, so here's hoping the club will be celebrating renewed success both on and off the field for many years to come.



Congratulations
to
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FA on
reaching 125
Years from
Glenavon FC

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W. J. ADAIR (Chairman) S. WILSON (Chairman) M. HUGHES (Chairman) J. JONES (Chairman) W. CUSH (Chairman) S. CAMPBELL (Chairman) J. ELWOOD (Chairman) C. WRIGHT (Vice-Chairman) W. WALKER (Vice-Chairman)

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Mid Ulster Football Stars

Neil Lennon

The Lurgan man whose boyhood dream became a reality

**Profile on a successful club & international
Player, and now Manager of Glasgow Celtic F.C.**

Neil Lennon was born in Lurgan, Co. Armagh, in June 1971. As a young boy growing up in Lurgan he attended St. Michael's Grammar School and was selected to represent the school playing Gaelic football. As a youngster he grew up supporting his favorite team, Glasgow Celtic, it was no surprise therefore that at an early age he joined the local Lurgan Celtic Youth Team. While playing for the youth team Neil had a dream, an ambition, a desire that some day, maybe one day, he would lead the famous Glasgow Celtic team out on to the Pitch at Parkhead, the home of Celtic. Neil joined Glenavon senior team and in his first ever Irish league game got on the score sheet. He went on to join Manchester City as a trainee in 1987, and 3 years later moved on to Crewe Alexandra. In February 1996 he was transferred Leicester City, spent 4 years with the 'City and in December 2000 joined his beloved Celtic, achieved his childhood dream 5 years later when he was offered the role of captain. Despite being tempted back to Leicester City as Manager he remained loyal to Celtic saying, "That he wanted to captain Celtic to the Premier League title. Crystal Palace also tried to sign him as player/manager in 2006 but without success, next it was Roy Keane who wanted Lennon for Sunderland at the start of the 2006 season but yet again he remained committed to Celtic. Having achieved his childhood dream, Lennon announced that he would be leaving Celtic and in his last game for the club on the 26th, May, 2007, he captained the team to victory in the Scottish Cup final against Dunfermline Athletic. Celtic's 1 — 0 win clinched the League & Cup Double. He joined Nottingham Forest on a one year contract and then moved to Wycombe Wanderers on the 31st, January 2008 but less than 3 months later took up a first team coaching role back with Celtic team and under the management of Tony Mowbray including

managing the Reserve team. Following Mowbray's departure from Celtic on the 25th, March, 2010, Lennon was appointed caretaker manager for the remainder of the 2009-10 season. They won all of their remaining league games under his management. He was appointed manager of Celtic on a full time basis on 9th, June, 2010. He won his first silverware as a manager when Celtic beat Motherwell 3 - 0 in the 2011 Scottish cup final. Neil Lennon won the SPL Manager of the Month award for November 2011. During his playing career Neil Lennon was capped 40 times for Northern Ireland. Got on the score sheet on 2 occasions, both at home, first against Armenia in '96, and again in '98 against Moldova. Unfortunately, due to pressures outside the football game, he found it necessary to retire from international football in August 2002.

Personal information

Full name: Neil Francis Lennon
Date of birth: 25 June 1971 (age 40)
Place of birth: Lurgan Northern Ireland
Height: 5 ft 9 in (1.75 m)
Playing position: Midfielder

Club information

Current Club: Celtic (manager)
Youth career: 1987-1989 Manchester City
Senior career* Years Team Appts (Gls)t 1987-1988 Glenavon
(1) 1989-1990 Manchester City 1 (0) 1990-1996 Crewe
Alexandra 147 (15)

Teams managed

Celtic *Senior club appearances and goals counted for the domestic league only.

Appearances (Goals).

1996-2000 Leicester City 170 (6), 2000-2007 Celtic 214 (3) 2007-2008, Nottingham Forest 18 (0), 2008 Wycombe Wanderers 9 (0) Total ? (26), National team Northern Ireland U21 2 (0), Northern Ireland U23 2 (0) Northern Ireland B 1 (0) 1994-2002 Northern Ireland 40 (2)



Team Profile

Portadown FC

In 1887 the Mid-Ulster Football Association was established and in Portadown a group of young men set about forming a football club with the aim of taking part in the Mid-Ulster Cup. Early meetings of the committee were held in a dimly lit room at the Young Men's Institute in Edward Street where club secretary William Mullen read the minutes by candlelight. Early games were played at Tavanagh and Ripley's Field, Armagh Road and Old Shamrock Park, located approximately where Clounagh Junior High School is now sited. It didn't take them long to put some silverware in the trophy cabinet when they won the Irish Junior Cup, beating Larne 1-0 at Grosvenor Park, on Saturday 18th March 1899. The same season saw a cup double for The Ports with the Mid-Ulster Cup being won for the first time. It was retained the following season and a further five occasions before the outbreak of The Great War. The junior game was very strong in the town at this time and Portadown had to compete for talent with teams such as Edenderry Arrows, Greenview from Edgarrstown, Portadown Celtic from The Tunnel and Parkmount. In 1916 the new Irish Intermediate League was formed and Portadown were selected to be one of the inaugural member clubs. However but the start of the new season The Ports were forced to withdraw due to the high numbers of players and fans who had gone off to fight in The Great War.

With the return of the local men from the war, the clamour for senior football was growing. One man in particular was leading that bid for senior status, William A Mullen, the man responsible for coining the phrase "The Hub of the North" back in the late Victorian days when Portadown's extensive rail network lead to all parts of Ireland. The many local

junior clubs in the area put aside their rivalries to back the club in its desire to join the Irish League. This was a time of expansionism in Irish Football with the league keen to take the game beyond the boundary of Belfast. Finally after several years of preparation, Mr Mullen together with Tom Dawson and his committee met the League chiefs in June 1924 and were able to present a strong case for joining the league. Their good work in winning friends and influencing people paid dividends and at long last Portadown became a member club of the Irish League together with the re-admittance of Belfast Celtic. The nucleus of the first teams to represent the club came from the local junior clubs who had supported the bid. Names such as Nisbet, Dinnan, Carraher, Boyd, Cochrane, Hunter. And so it was in August 1924 Portadown played their first senior game. Our opponents that day were Glentoran. Our First opponents at Shamrock Park were the Champions, Queens Island in a Gold Cup game which finished goalless.

What a fantastic first season it turned out to be in the Irish League. We finished in fourth spot, two points behind Belfast Celtic with Queens Island taking the runners up position behind Champions Glentoran. With an historic first season behind them the Ports settled well in the environs of senior football. Season 1925-26 saw a continuation of their consolidation including away victories at Champions Belfast Celtic and at Windsor Park against Linfield. That steady progress continued and with it came international recognition for the likes of Doherty, Blair and Johnston. After only nine seasons in senior football Portadown lifted their first senior trophy, defeating Glentoran 1-0 at Solitude in the Gold Cup Final. Thousands of Factory workers took a half-day off work and travelled



to Belfast by train. Around 5000 Ports fans were packed into Solitude to witness an amazing triumph. With only three minutes left and the scores tied at 0-0, William Kelly Johnston scored the winning goal amid scenes of wild celebration for the Ports supporters. The team that won that historic first senior trophy was Charles Lawson, Robert Gourley, Ben Clarke, Hugh Bulloch (captain), James Hart, William Ewing, Henry Johnston, Harry Sinnamond, Alex Smyth, WK Johnston and George Cochrane (uncle of the famous Davy Cochrane).

In 1936-37 we finished in fourth place in the league, followed by third place in 1937-38, fourth in 1938-39, and runners up in both the 1939-40 and 1940-41 seasons. With the curtailment of activities and the introduction of the regional league, Portadown soon dropped out of senior football until the end of the war. Most reports at the time suggested that The Ports were on the verge of greatness. During this period of success the Ports were rattling in the goals by the hatful and a look at our results shows victory such as 6-0 and 8-0 against our great rivals from Lurgan (where are they now!!) 8-0 away to Cliftonville, 7-2 at Larne, 7-0 against Newry and three results which really stand out, a 5-2 win against the Blues at Windsor in 1937-38 and our record away victory 9-2 at the Oval the following season, with another terrific 5-0 victory against Linfield coming in 1939-40.

Much of the credit for the upturn in the Ports fortunes is down to Tommy "Sticky" Sloan, the former Irish International and a member of the Cardiff City team that become the first and so far the only team from outside England to win the FA Cup, in 1927. Sloan who arrived at Shamrock Park from Linfield served the club with distinction as a player, manager, coach and trainer for 30 years.

Whilst the Championship proved elusive the Gold Cup found its way back to Shamrock Park in the 1937-38 season. Davy Cochrane had been in inspirational form in the semi-final against Derry City, but two weeks before the final he was transferred to Leeds United for £2,000. Without Cochrane Belfast Celtic were odds-on favourites to lift the cup. As was the case in their first triumph four years previously thousands of Port fans made the journey to Belfast at crammed into Grosvenor Road on a day of on stop rain. Goals from Gamble and Davy Cochrane's uncle George brought the cup back to Portadown. That winning team was Black, McNally, McGurk, Cochrane, McMath, O'Kane, Kerr, Pearson, Gamble, Coull, Armstrong and Monaghan. Had it not been for World War Two, Portadown would most likely have won the Irish League Championship half a century before they finally did.

Portadown have a long tradition of signing Scottish Players, dating back to their earliest days in senior football. In 1948, they appointed Scotsman Tommy Lipton as manager and he put together the famous Portadown "Scottish Team". Ten of the first team in that side were Scottish. The 1950's were not very

successful, with a solitary Gold Cup triumph in 1953. In 1957 another Scot, Gibby Mackenzie, took charge at Shamrock Park, and performances improved drastically.

However, "The Title" still remained illusive, with Portadown finishing joint top in 1960-61 and 1961-62. On both occasions they lost a playoff against Linfield. Gibby Mackenzie left for South Africa and the clubs fortunes dived again. However in the late sixties he was persuaded to return to the club and he won the Gold Cup in 1971, Carlsberg Cup in 1973 adding the Texaco All-Ireland Cup in 1974. With victory in the 1979 Gold Cup there would be no more success for ten long seasons.

The turning point came in December 1986 with the appointment of Ronnie McFall as manager. McFall had played for Portadown on two previous occasions, sandwiched between spells at Dundee United and Ards. He left the club to play for and eventually manage Glentoran. Just over three years after taking the reigns, McFall guided Portadown to the long awaited Irish League Championship victory. The following season he went one better winning the double and adding the Ulster Cup and Budweiser Cup in an historic four trophy season. Numerous Cup Victories and two more League Titles have been added to Ronnie McFalls impressive CV, making him the most successful manager in the history of Portadown FC. 2012 marks the fifty anniversary of Portadown's FC first venture into European competition, and the European venture is due to continue in July. The history of Portadown FC stills has a lot of twist and turns to come.

Trevor Clydesdale
Portadown FC



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Mid Ulster Football Stars Pat Jennings



winning the FA Cup, two League Cups and the UEFA Cup in quick succession. However, believing he was past his best, Spurs foolishly sold him to local rivals Arsenal for £40,000 in 1977, where he enjoyed further success and played on for another eight seasons. He appeared in three more FA Cup Finals and a Cup Winners Cup Final before capping his career with an appearance at the World Cup Finals, where he played in the Northern Ireland side that unexpectedly beat host nation Spain to progress to the Quarter Finals.

Such was his stance in the game that he came out of retirement to play in the 1986 finals in Mexico, winning his record 119th cap on his 41st birthday against Brazil. One of the reasons he was so successful was down to the size of his hands - which were as big as a pair of satellite dishes (or thereabouts). His 'Lurgan shovels', as manager Billy Bingham liked to call them, helped him pull off spectacular one-handed saves which didn't see possible and he had the habit of breaking the hearts of many a centre forward by clawing the ball out of the air single-handedly and holding onto it.

If ever there was a goalkeeper that could be described as a xtypical of the breed, it was Pat Jennings. Unorthodox, unflappable, respectable and polite, Jennings commanded his penalty box with an air of nonchalance and calmness that would shame Peter Schmeichel into retirement. Yet despite never receiving any formal kind of coaching - or even because of it - he became one of the greatest goalkeepers the game has ever seen. Born in Newry, Northern Ireland, Jennings grew up playing Gaelic Football before signing for his local side as a teenager. He first caught the eye playing in a Youth Tournament at Wembley at the age of 17 and was signed by Watford shortly afterwards. His subsequent performances for the Hornets earned him International recognition and a transfer to Tottenham Hotspur in 1964. There he arguably enjoyed the most successful spell of his career,

But it wasn't just about his hands - it was his whole approach to the game. A late starter, his lack of formal training meant he avoided the bad habits and strict codes of conducts of his predecessors, and he broke the mould by willingly using other parts of his body to keep the ball out of the net. He was the first to use his feet to good effect and underlined the strength of his kicking by scoring from a goal kick during the 1967 Charity Shield match against Manchester United. Following his retirement Jennings has worked as a goalkeeping coach. He has worked at Tottenham in this capacity since 1993. In 2003 Jennings was inducted into the English Football Hall of Fame in recognition of the skills he demonstrated in the English league. His son, also named Pat, is also a goalkeeper. He has played for Eircom League clubs UCD and is playing for Derry.

Team Profile

Loughgall FC

Football in Loughgall dates back to the late 1800s, but the establishment of the club, as we know it today, began in the late '60s. Loughgall FC entered, and won at the first time of asking, the Greystone (Co Tyrone) Summer League. In the years that followed Loughgall FC completely dominated both the Armagh (Lonsdale) and Tyrone (Greystone) leagues, winning virtually everything they entered. During the early 70s Loughgall FC applied for and joined the Mid Ulster League Second Division, taking runners-up spot in the Championship and winning the competitive Foster Cup in their first season (1973). This was to be the start of the virtual monopoly of the Mid Ulster League as the team was promoted to the First Division and went on to win the Championship title on four successive seasons between 1976 and 1980.

The early 80s were lean years in terms of on the field success, as the development of facilities became a priority with the opening of a new Clubhouse and pitch in 1981, and again new purpose built Clubrooms in 1988 after an IRA bomb attack on the nearby RUC station the previous year. Having appointed Alfie Wylie in 1986, Loughgall FC joined the Mid Ulster Intermediate League. Wylie brought in new faces and with them success, leading the team to runners up spot in their inaugural season, achieving League and Cup double in 1988/89, winning the Premier Cup in 89/90 and landing the Bass Bowl in 90/91.

The Loughgall FC achievements, since entering the 'B' Division, have been phenomenal finishing runners-up in only their 3rd season (93/94) and then in season 1994/95 becoming the first Mid Ulster side in over 40 years to win the Championship. Many thought the team could not sustain their rapid rise to fame but in 1995/96, defying all doubters and proving they were a real force in intermediate football, they successfully retained their hold on the Championship title. Then, with the Bob

Radcliffe

Memorial Trophy already sitting proudly in the Clubrooms, they went on to make it a hat trick of league successes in 1996/7, a feat only achieved once before. They also took the scalp of Cliftonville in the League Cup before going on to reach the Bass Irish Cup semi-final, ironically against Cliftonville after beating Coleraine FC away from home, in the quarter-final replay, along the way. The marvelous run continued as they made it 'Four in a Row' in terms of championship successes, creating a never to be beaten record, as well as lifting the coveted IFA Intermediate Cup, proving the pedigree of the Club and Management.

With the partial break-up of the team, the club had, by their own very high standards, a disappointing season finishing 5th in the league in 1999, but with the prestigious Bob Radcliffe Cup in the trophy cabinet. At the end of the 1999 season Wylie resigned, bringing to an end his very successful twelve-year reign as manager of Loughgall FC.

In season 1999/2000, Loughgall FC retained the Bob Radcliffe Cup and also picked up the Windsor Cup, as runners-up in the 2nd Division of the Irish League. Under the new management team of Ronnie Cromie and Gary McCullough, Loughgall FC went on to finish 3rd.

Season 2001/2002 saw the appointment of striker and former Glenavon reserves manager Jimmy Gardiner to the managers post with Gary McCullough remaining his assistant, after Cromie had moved on to Distillery.



Loughgall invested heavily in youth with only three of the squad over 25 with this approach paying dividends as they emphatically won the Bob Radcliffe Cup with a 3-0 victory over Lurgan Celtic, and the following season defended the trophy successfully as we as gaining promotion to the First Division. Season 2003/04 was a glorious success for Loughgall with Jim Gardiner's men winning the treble to earn promotion to the Premier League. To accompany the First Division title the Villagers were crowned Bob Radcliffe Cup champions after defeating near rivals Armagh City 2 - 0 in the Boxing Day Final. The third trophy was won when Premier Division outfit Newry Town were beaten on penalties in April.

Loughgall spent three seasons in the top-flight; in their first campaign they achieved an impressive finish of 12th, out of 16 sides, yet this was bettered the following season as Gardiner's men finished in 11th place. Season 2006/07 saw Loughgall crash out of the Premier Division finishing bottom of the table. This season also saw the departure of Jim Gardiner in November, and then his predecessor Shane Reddish. Following the clubs' demotion, Loughgall appointed thirty-four year old former goalkeeper Niall Currie as first team manager. Despite having the unenviable task of building a brand new squad at Lakeview Park, Currie brought unprecedented levels of success to the Villagers. In his debut season, he guided the Villagers to win a clean sweep of five trophies; namely the Championship, WKD Intermediate Cup, Mid-Ulster Cup, Bob Radcliffe Cup and Carnegie League Cup, making it the most successful season in the clubs illustrious history.

In the 2008/09 season Loughgall recorded another successful season as they ran Portadown and Donegal Celtic extremely close in the Championship race as well as triumphing in the Bob Radcliffe Cup. Currie continued his impressive spell in charge when Loughgall were crowned worthy Championship 1 winners in 2009/10 to compliment yet another Bob Radcliffe Cup success. This made it a hat-trick of Radcliffe Cups under Currie's stewardship, and a tenth success overall.

Since then, Loughgall have been faced with the unusual situation of failing to win any trophies; Currie

left the club in February 2011 forcing club legend Marc Robinson and Alan Murphy to perform interim duties for the remainder of the season. Colin Malone was appointed manager for the past season and he has enjoyed a stable first year in charge, the Villagers finished 7th in a competitive Championship 1 whilst there was undoubted disappointment at losing to Lurgan Celtic in the Bob Radcliffe Cup final.

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Mid Ulster Football Stars

Aaron Hughes



recognised and he went on to be the Northern Ireland Captain. Born in Cookstown, County Tyrone, Aaron Hughes came through the Newcastle United ranks to become a regular in the Newcastle starting eleven. He made his first team début in the Camp Nou in a match between Newcastle and Barcelona on 26 November 1997. His league début came against Sheffield Wednesday later in the same season. His first team appearances after this were few and far between, yet he had established himself in the team by the 1999–2000 seasons. During his time on Tyneside, Hughes appeared 279 times for the Magpies in all competitions and scored seven goals. He held the record as the Magpies' youngest debutant in European competition until it was broken by Andy Carroll in November 2006. Aaron was awarded the number 18 shirt by Ruud Gullit at the start of the 1999–2000 seasons while at Newcastle. Since then he has never worn another number at club level. Even at international level he has worn the number since 2002. Hughes is renowned for his disciplined defending, as he holds a record of making over 400 Premier League appearances without getting sent off, which is the third, most in the history of the league. Aaron's career to date from humble beginning has certainly done Mid Ulster Football proud.

Club: Fulham Position - Defender

Date of Birth: - 08/11/1979

Club career: Lisburn Youth, Coagh United Newcastle United (From trainee 11th March 1997) 279 apps, 7 goals Aston Villa (6th August 2005, £1 million) 64 apps, 0 goals Fulham (5th July 2007, £1 million) 194 apps, 2 goals.

Total apps: 536 Total goals: 8

Club Honours: (with Fulham) Europa League Runner-up 2009/10

Full International Career: Debut: 25th March 1998; home v Slovakia (W 1-0) Full Caps: 79 Goals: 1 Starts: 78 Substitute: 1 Un-used substitute: 4 Replaced: 4

Other International Honours 'B' International: 2 apps, 0 goals Under-18: 5 apps, 1 goal Under-16: 2 apps, 0 goals

Mid Ulster own Aaron Hughes started his footballing life with Portadown Boys at the age of 12 and got involved with the Manchester United School of Excellence, travelling to Belfast every week. He went on to the Lisburn Youth side. He was also playing for the Boys Brigade team and made it to the Milk Cup. After coming up against Newcastle his dad was approached following the match and asked if Aaron would like to go over for a trial. Later that year he signed for Newcastle and in his final year at school was travelling to St. James Park almost every weekend to play for the youth team. Always keen to keep the boots laced, Aaron ran out with local side Coagh United and picked up a Border Regiment Winners Medal with Coagh in 1997, scoring twice in their win over Islandmagee, his last club match for Coagh before moving to Newcastle full time. Aaron was the second Coagh Player to be capped for his Country following Ray McCoy but Aaron's talent as a leader was soon

Mid Ulster Stars for the Future - One to Watch:

Ryan McGivern



Newry man Ryan McGivern started his playing career in the under age matches in Newry's Carnbane League. Signed by Loughgall Youth team and while playing for them was spotted by highly rated City scout Willie McKeown, who quickly got him signed and introduced into Manchester City's youth set-up. Ryan, who plays best at Left Back or Central Defender, played for City in their 2008 FA Youth Cup final win over Chelsea. He was also in the side that lost to Aston Villa in the play-offs final of the 2007–08 Premier Academy League and had scored in the semifinal win over Sunderland. Ryan was promoted to City's first team squad for their FA Premier League game versus Fulham on 12 April 2009, and was an unused substitute in this game, before making his debut in a Premier League game against Sunderland on 3 April 2011, coming on as a substitute in the 70th minute replacing Dedryck Boyata in a game that City won 5–0. He is currently on loan to Bristol City till the end of the 2011-12 season. On the International front Ryan has been a regular at various underage levels for Northern Ireland,

winning caps at Under-17 level in 2006, before moving on to the Under-19 in 2007. He played in the Northern Ireland elite side during their 2008 Milk Cup win. Steve Beaglehole called McGivern to the Northern Ireland Under-21 squad for a mini tournament in Ukraine on 19 and 20 August 2008[but he never did make his U21 debut as Nigel Worthington promoted him into the full Northern Ireland squad as a replacement for the injured George McCartney for a friendly international against Scotland on 20 August 2008.[14] The eighteen-year-old made his debut in that match as a starter but the match was marred by his sending-off for two bookable offences. On 11 October 2008, he made his competitive debut, coming on as a second half substitute in a World Cup qualifying match against Slovakia.

Position: left-back/central defender

Height: 6'2;

Weight: 12.00

Club career: (up to and including 20.02.2012)

Loughgall Youths

Manchester City (14th November 2007, from trainee) 0-0

Morecambe (24th October 2008, loan) 6 apps, 1 goal

Leicester City (30th August 2009, loan) 13 apps, 0 goals

Walsall (30th July 2010, loan) 9 apps, 0 goals

Crystal Palace (4th August 2011, loan) 0 apps, 0 goals

Bristol City (31st August 2011, loan) 26 apps, 0 goals

Total career apps: 67

Total career goals: 1

Full International Career:

Debut: 20th August 2008; away v Scotland (D 0-0)

Full Caps: 14

Goals: 0

Starts: 10

Substitute: 4

Un-used substitute: 11

Replaced: 4

Other International Honours:

'B' International: 1 app, 0 goals

Under-21: 5 apps, 1 goal

Under-19: 6 apps, 2 goals

Under-17: 9 apps, 2 goals

Under-16: 3 apps, 0 goals

Team Profile

Oxford Sunnyside FC



Oxford United, the forerunner of Oxford Sunnyside FC, was itself formed following the dissolution of another club. The Seawright & Douglas factory team was formed in Lurgan in 1966 and it competed in the Mid-Ulster League. In 1968 there was a difference of opinion with the factory management about the provision of a set of jerseys for the new season. A meeting of players resulted in the club re-forming as Oxford United, taking its name not, as some believe, from the English club of the same name but rather from Oxford Island the local beauty spot on the shores of Lough Neagh. The club entered a team in the Mid-Ulster League and to begin with played its matches in Lord Lurgan Park swiftly gaining a reputation for good football. The backbone of the side was local insurance broker Billy Davis, probably the most skilful player ever to play for the club, ably assisted by left half Harry Dickson who went on to manage the team in the Golden Years and who is still with the club today. While still in Division 2 Oxford reached the Foster Cup final in 1975, beating Milford Everton 2-0 in the semi final. Milford who were made up almost exclusively of ex-Irish League players later re-formed as the present day Armagh City and ironically their reserve side beat Oxford by the same score in the final, fielding a few further former professionals in their ranks! Oxford was promoted to Division 1 the same year and in 1976 they won the Alexander Cup beating Red Lion 3-1 in the final at Shamrock Park. The glory years began in the 1980's and continued into the 1990's. Starting with its first success in 1982 the club won the IFA Junior Cup a record seven

times as well as several league titles and the Mid-Ulster Shield. It also won the Bob Radcliffe Cup and the Alan Wilson Cup and reached the final of the Mid-Ulster Cup where it lost 1-0 to Glenavon. Its achievements were recognised by the IFA which awarded it the prestigious Junior Team of the Year Award. The club began to experience some lean years after the start of the new millennium but, having already taken a huge step forward in acquiring its own ground Knockramer Park in the 1990's, its amalgamation with Sunnyside Boys FC in 2002 took the club to a new level. Today the youth set-up caters for as many as 250 players from as young as age 6 up to 16 and with the senior team now competing at intermediate level backed by a reserve side in the Reserve league, the future looks positive for Oxford Sunnyside FC which cherishes above all the good relations it has with all the other clubs throughout Mid-Ulster.

Club Honours :

IFA Junior Cup:

1982, 1984, 1988, 1989, 1993, 1995

Mid-Ulster Shield: 1983, 1984, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995

Mid-Ulster League Div. 1: 1981, 1982, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995

Alexandra Cup: 1977, 1980, 1981, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1995

Alan Wilson Trophy: 1985, 1988

Bob Radcliffe Cup: 1988

Foster Cup: 1983



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Congratulations
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Gerald Kennedy Cup



In 2009 Tom Dickson Chairman of the Lurgan Mechanics' Institute Sports & Social Club presents the Gerald Kennedy Cup to Kieran McParland Captain of Windmill Stars F.C. the most successful team in the competition to date.

The Gerald Kennedy Cup is most recent competition to be added to the Mid Ulster Association's football calendar. It is named after the late Gerald Kennedy, A former player, Administrator, and M.U.F.A. council representative for the Lurgan Institute F.C. The

Kennedy family and Lurgan Institute F.C. put up the trophy and sponsored the competition since Gerald passed away. The competition is restricted to the league and cup winners in the various junior divisions in the Mid Ulster area.

Clubs from Newry's Carrbane Football League have enjoyed the most wins since the inaugural year of the competition having supplied the winners on 9 occasions, most successful of that 9 is Windmill Stars F.C. won the cup on 4 of those occasions.

Gerald Kennedy Memorial Cup - Inaugurated in 1995

Year	Winners
1995	Windmill Stars
1996	Oxford United
1997	Newry Celtic
1998	Drumcoo Celtic
1999	St Marys YC
2000	Windmill Stars
2001	Hill Street
2002	Moira Albion
2003	Windmill Stars
2004	Red Lion Potters
2005	Killeavy United
2006	Rockview United
2007	Lurgan Celtic
2008	Cleary Celtic
2009	Windmill Stars
2010	Bessbrook United
2011	Celtic Club (Lurgan No.1)

Bob Radcliffe Cup Winners & Runners Up

YEAR	WINNERS	RUNNERS UP
1978/79	NEWRY TOWN	DUNGANNON SWIFTS
979/80	LOUGHGALL	SHAMROCK ROVERS
1980/81	BANBRIDGE TOWN	NEWRY TOWN
1981/82	DUNGANNON SWIFTS	COOKSTOWN UNITED
1982/83	PORTADOWN RESERVES	MILFORD EVERTON
1983/84	PORTADOWN RESERVES	BANBRIDGE TOWN
1984/85	NEWRY TOWN RESERVES	DUNGANNON SWIFTS
1985/86	DUNGANNON SWIFTS	NEWRY CELTIC
1986/87	DUNGANNON SWIFTS	LURGAN UNITED
1987/88	OXFORD UNITED	THE GUYS
1988/89	COAGH UNITED	DUNGANNON SWIFTS
1989/90	DUNGANNON SWIFTS	BANBRIDGE TOWN
1990/91	GLENAVON RESERVES	LOUGHGALL
1991/92	ARMAGH CITY	OXFORD UNITED
1992/93	DUNGANNON SWIFTS	LOUGHGALL
1993/94	DUNGANNON SWIFTS	LOUGHGALL
1994/95	DUNGANNON SWIFTS	LOUGHGALL
1995/96	DUNGANNON SWIFTS	LURGAN CELTIC
1996/97	LOUGHGALL	ARMAGH CITY
1997/98	LURGAN CELTIC	GLENAVON RESERVES
1998/99	LOUGHGALL	ARMAGH CITY
1999/00	LOUGHGALL	LURGAN CELTIC
2000/01	TANDRAGEE ROVERS	NEWRY CELTIC
2001/02	LOUGHGALL	LURGAN CELTIC
2002/03	LOUGHGALL	COAGH UNITED
2003/04	LOUGHGALL	ARMAGH CITY
2004/05	ARMAGH CITY	COAGH UNITED
2005/06	DUNGANNON SWIFTS RESERVES	COAGH UNITED
2006/07	COAGH UNITED	BANBRIDGE TOWN
2007/08	LOUGHGALL	COAGH UNITED
2008/09	LOUGHGALL	KILLYMOON RANGERS
2009/10	LOUGHGALL	BANBRIDGE TOWN
2010/11	BANBRIDGE TOWN	RATHFRILAND RANGERS
2011/12	LURGAN CELTIC	LOUGHGALL



Mid Ulster Shield Winners

1909	1910	GLENAVON RESERVES F.C.	1961	1962	SEAPATRICK FC
1910	1911	GLENAVON RESERVES F.C.	1962	1963	LURGAN INSTITUTE FC
1911	1912	BESSBROOK FC	1963	1964	GILFORD FC
1912	1913	BESSBROOK FC	1964	1965	LURGAN BC
1913	1914	LURGAN RANGERS F.C.	1965	1966	QUEENS PARK SWIFTS F.C.
1914	1915	NO COMPETITION	1966	1967	DAMOLLY FC
1915	1916	NO COMPETITION	1967	1968	BLANES FC
1916	1917	PARKSIDE FC (LURGAN)	1968	1969	DAMOLLY FC
1917	1918	GLENAVON RESERVES F.C.	1969	1970	MILFORD EVERTON F.C.
1918	1919	CELTIC JUNIORS F.C.	1970	1971	DUNGANNON SWIFTS F.C.
1919	1920	LURGAN RANGERS F.C.	1971	1972	LURGAN CELTIC F.C.
1920	1921	GREENVIEW FC	1972	1973	WARINGSTOWN UTD F.C.
1921	1922	ARMAGH UTD FC	1973	1974	BENBURB F.C.
1922	1923	GREENVIEW FC	1974	1975	RATHFRILAND FC
1923	1924	LURGAN 'B' SPECIALS FC	1975	1976	RATHFRILAND FC
1924	1925	ARMAGH UTD FC	1976	1977	SHIELD WITHHELD
1925	1926	ARMAGH UTD FC	1977	1978	RATHFRILAND FC
1926	1927	EDENDERRY ARROWS F.C.	1978	1979	ARMAGH THISTLE FC
1927	1928	PORTADOWN RESERVES F.C.	1979	1980	PORTADOWN BBOB F.C.
1928	1929	PORTADOWN RESERVES F.C.	1980	1981	SHAMROCK ROVERS NEWRY F.C.
1929	1930	LURGAN RANGERS F.C.	1981	1982	SHAMROCK ROVERS NEWRY F.C.
1930	1931	HOLM FACTORY F.C.	1982	1983	OXFORD UTD FC
1931	1932	DUNGANNON TOWN F.C.	1983	1984	OXFORD UTD FC
1932	1933	LURGAN RANGERS RESERVES F.C.	1984	1985	LURGAN UNITED FC
1933	1934	LURGAN DISTILLERY FC	1985	1986	GUYS WINNERS F.C.
1934	1935	NEWRY UTD F.C.	1986	1987	CRAIGPARK FC LURGAN
1935	1936	PORTADOWN CRUSADERS FC	1987	1988	CAMLUGH ROVERS FC
1936	1937	LURGAN RANGERS FC	1988	1989	SEAPATRICK F.C.
1937	1938	EDENVILLA FC	1989	1990	OXFORD UNITED F.C.
1938	1939	BESSBROOK STROLLERS FC	1990	1991	OXFORD UNITED F.C.
1939	1940	SHANKILL YM FC	1991	1992	OXFORD UNITED F.C.
1940	1941	SHANKILL YM	1992	1993	OXFORD UNITED F.C.
1941	1942	NO COMPETITION	1993	1994	DUNGANNON SWIFTS F.C.
1942	1943	LONG KESH FC	1994	1995	OXFORD UNITED F.C.
1943	1944	DERAMORE (MOIRA) FC	1995	1996	NEWRY CELTIC F.C.
1944	1945	NFS (PORTADOWN) FC	1996	1997	HILL STREET F.C.
1945	1946	SUNNYSIDE FC	1997	1998	HILL STREET F.C.
1946	1947	HOLM FACTORY F.C.	1998	1999	ST MARYS FC
1947	1948	HOLM FACTORY RESERVES F.C.	1999	2000	RIVERDALE F.C.
1948	1949	GILFORD CRUSADERS FC	2000	2001	NEWRY CELTIC F.C.
1949	1950	DUNGANNON SWIFTS F.C.	2001	2002	HILL STREET F.C.
1950	1951	SHANKILL VILLA FC	2002	2003	HILL STREET F.C.
1951	1952	SEAPATRICK REC FC	2003	2004	HILL STREET F.C.
1952	1953	HOLM FACTORY FC	2004	2005	SHANRO SANTOS FC
1953	1954	LURGAN BOYS FC	2005	2006	BESSBROOK UTD FC
1954	1955	BESSBROOK RANGERS F.C.	2006	2007	BESSBROOK UTD FC
1955	1956	DUNGANNON SWIFTS F.C.	2007	2008	WINDMILL STARS FC
1956	1957	QUEENS PARK F.C.	2008	2009	WINDMILL STARS FC
1957	1958	BLEARY FC	2009	2010	ST MARYS FC
1958	1959	WOODVILLE REC. F.C.	2010	2011	CELTIC CLUB NO.1 F.C.
1959	1960	NEWRY UTD YOUTH FC	2011	2012	AMBASSADORS F.C.
1960	1961	ARMAGH BOYS CLUB FC			



Mid Ulster Cup Winners

1887/88	MILFORD	1954/55	SEAPATRICK	2ND REPLAY	
1888/89	MILFORD	1955/56	TANDRAGEE ROVERS	GAME 1: 2-2; GAME 2: 1-1	
1889/90	1ST LANCASHIRE REGIMENT	1956/57	NEWRY TOWN	2002/03	PORTADOWN
1890/91	DONACLONEY	1957/58	GLENAVON RESERVES	2003/04	LOUGHGALL
1891/92	BANFORD	1958/59	BANBRIDGE TOWN	2004/05	GLENAVON
1892/93	DONACLONEY	1959/60	TANDRAGEE ROVERS	2005/06	DUNGANNON SWIFTS
1893/94	ROYAL IRISH RIFLES	1960/61	PORTADOWN RESERVES	2006/07	NEWRY CITY
1894/95	CORNWALL REGIMENT	1961/62	TANDRAGEE ROVERS	2007/08	LOUGHGALL
1895/96	DONACLONEY	1962/63	PORTADOWN RESERVES	2008/09	DUNGANNON SWIFTS
1896/97	MILLTOWN	1963/64	NEWRY TOWN	2009/10	GLENAVON
1897/98	GLENAVON	1964/65	PORTADOWN RESERVES	2010/11	GLENAVON
1898/99	PORTADOWN	1965/66	GLENAVON RESERVES	2011/12	NEWRY CITY
1899/00	PORTADOWN	1966/67	NEWRY TOWN		
1900/01	DONACLONEY	1967/68	BLANE'S		
1901/02	GLENAVON	1968/69	NEWRY TOWN		
1902/03	PORTADOWN	1969/70	PORTADOWN RESERVES		
1903/04	PORTADOWN	1970/71	DUNGANNON SWIFTS		
1904/05	GLENAVON	1971/72	GLENAVON RESERVES		
1905/06	PORTADOWN	1972/73	NEW CENTURY		
1906/07	GLENAVON	1973/74	BANBRIDGE TOWN		
1907/08	PORTADOWN	1974/75	NEWRY TOWN		
1908/09	GLENAVON	1975/76	DUNGANNON SWIFTS		
1909/10	PORTADOWN	1976/77	GLENAVON RESERVES		
1910/11	GLENAVON	1977/78	NEWRY TOWN		
1911/12	LURGAN CELTIC	1978/79	NEWRY TOWN		
1912/13	LURGAN CELTIC	1979/80	BANBRIDGE TOWN		
1913/14	LURGAN RANGERS	1980/81	PORTADOWN		
1914/15	LURGAN CELTIC	1981/82	PORTADOWN		
1915/24	NOT KNOWN	1982/83	PORTADOWN		
1924/25	GLENAVON	1983/84	GLENAVON		
1925/26	GLENAVON	1984/85	NEWRY TOWN		
1926/27	BANBRIDGE TOWN	1985/86	GLENAVON		
1927/31	NOT KNOWN	1986/87	NEWRY TOWN		
1930/31	GLENAVON	1987/88	DUNGANNON SWIFTS		
1931/32	PORTADOWN	1988/89	GLENAVON		
1932/33	GLENAVON	1989/90	NEWRY TOWN		
1933/34	PORTADOWN	1990/91	GLENAVON		
1934/35	GILFORD CRUSADERS	1991/92	CUP WITHHELD		
1935/36	SUNNYSIDE	1992/93	PORTADOWN		
1936/37	NEWRY TOWN	1993/94	PORTADOWN		
1937/38	GLENAVON	1994/95	PORTADOWN		
1938/39	HANOVER UNITED FC	1995/96	BANGOR		
1939/40 TO 1946/47	NOT HELD	1996/97	DUNGANNON SWIFTS		
1947/48	GLENAVON RESERVES	1997/98	PORTADOWN		
1948/49	BANBRIDGE TOWN	1998/99	GLENAVON		
1949/50	BANBRIDGE TOWN	1999/00	NEWRY TOWN		
1950/51	SEAPATRICK	2000/01	ARMAGH CITY		
1951/52	SEAPATRICK	2001/02	PORTADOWN		
1952/53	TANDRAGEE ROVERS				
1953/54	TANDRAGEE ROVERS				

INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS FROM MID-ULSTER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION AREA

CAPS	SURNAME	INITIALS	FIRST CAP	CLUB	TRANSFER	
119	JENNINGS	PAT	PA	1964	NEWRY TOWN	WATFORD
81	TAGGART	GERRY	G	1990	BARNSELY	
80	HUGHES	AARON	AW	1997	COAGH UNITED	NEWCASTLE UTD
40	LENNON	NEILL	N	1994	GLENAVON/MAN CITY YTH	CREWE ALEXANDRA
39	O'NEILL	MICHAEL	M	1988	COLERAINE	NEWCASTLE UTD
34	McPARLAND	PETER	PJ	1954	ASTON VILLA	
26	CUSH	WILBUR	WW	1953	GLENAVON	LEEDS UNITED
26	MAGILL	JIMMY	EJ	1962	ARSENAL	
19	ROWLAND	KEITH	K	1993	WEST HAM	
18	DENNISON	ROBBIE	R	1988	WOLVES	
18	MCMAHON	GERARD	G	1995	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	
18	UPPRICHARD	NORMAN	N	1952	SWINDON TOWN	
17	MCGINN	NIALL	N	2009	DERRY CITY	GLASGOW CELTIC
14	MCGIVERN	RYAN	R	2009	LOUGHGALL YOUTH	MANCHESTER CITY
12	COCHRANE	DAVID	D	1939	LEEDS UNITED	
12	DICKSON	BILLY	W	1951	CHELSEA	
8	TUFFEY	JONATHAN	J	2008	PATRICK THISTLE	
7	MCGIBBON	PAT	P	1995	MANCHESTER UTD	
5	HAMILTON	GARY	G	2003	PORTADOWN	
4	CURRAN	JACK	JJ	1922	GLENAVON	PONTYPRIDD
4	MCBRIDE	SPEPHEN	SJ	1991	GLENAVON	
3	DOWD	HUGH	HO	1974	GLENAVON	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY
3	JONES	JIMMY	J	1956	GLENAVON	
2	HUGHES	MARK	M	2006	OLDHAM ATHLETIC	
2	JOHNSTON	BILLY	WC	1962	GLENAVON	OLDHAM ATHLETIC
2	TONER	CIARAN	C	2003	LEYTON ORIENT	
1	BROWN	WALTER	WG	1926	GLENAVON	
1	BURNS		W	1925	GLENAVON	
1	CARROLL	EDDIE	EJ	1925	GLENAVON	
1	CONNELL	TOM	T	1978	COLERAINE	
1	DALLAS	STUART	SJ	2011	CRUSADERS	
1	DOHERTY		J	1922	PORTADOWN	
1	JOHNSTON	HAROLD	H	1927	PORTADOWN	
1	MCCOY	RAYMOND	R	1987	COLERAINE	
1	NAPIER	JOHN	RJ	1966	BOLTON WANDERERS	
1	SLOAN	PADDY	JW	1947	ARSENAL	
1	WATSON	PETER	P	1971	DISTILLERY	

Acknowledgements

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