

Billy Allen Memorial Shield Final

Player	No	Y	R	G	Player	No	Y	R	G
Fergal Campbell					Craig Robson				
James Whitten					Jonny Tate				
James Connery					Scott Ritchie				
Matthew Gourley					Jay Ritchie				
Niall Kennedy					Darren Hobson				
James Canning					Daniel Edgworth				
David Agnew					Keith Mowat				
Michael Stuart					Scott Crawford				
Charlie Maginness					Willy McIlroy				
Mark McCambridge					Daley Carnduff				
Phil Kernaghan					Daniel McCallum				
Brendan McCrisken					Davy Paton				
Andrew Hayes					Robert Bell				
Stephen Campbell					Jamie Wallace				
					Jonny Heron				
					Daniel Orr				
					Adam Welsh				

Match Officials:

Referee: Ian McKee

Assistant Referees: Dean Gray & Mark Davidson

Referee Convenor: Jimmy Fegan

Match Balls & Man of the Match Award by:

**TEAMWEAR
IRELAND.COM**

Billy Allen Memorial Shield

FINAL

2016



**TEAMWEAR
IRELAND.COM**

Bangor Fuels Arena
28th March, 2016
Kick-off 2:00pm

Chairman's Message

IAN FRAZER



I would like to thank all clubs for taking part in this year's Jigsaw Financial Billy Allen Memorial Shield and congratulate both Newtown Forest and Greenwell Star in reaching this year's Final.

As any footballer, manager or supporter will tell you, reaching the final of a competition is something they strive towards and therefore I am looking forward to a fair, but competitive final, which I'm sure both teams will not disappoint in providing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors Jigsaw Financial Associates Ltd, TeamWear Ireland and the team at Bangor Fuels Arena for the use of their ground and facilities for this season's final.

Ian Frazer



Sponsor's Welcome

Neil Magowan

On behalf of Jigsaw Financial I would like to congratulate both teams on making it to the final of this year's Billy Allen Memorial Shield final.

Having played against both teams this season I can testify to how good both teams are at going forward, so we should be in for a great game of entertaining football.

Unfortunately due to prior arrangements I will not be able to attend the fixture, however would like to take this opportunity to wish both teams the best of luck and in their quest to lift the prestigious Billy Allen Memorial Shield.

Neil Magowan

Referee Focus

Photo	Name	Profile
	Ian McKee	<p>From Belfast, Ian has been an official in the DAWFL since 2011-12, with the 2012-13 Frank Moore Memorial Cup being his first appearance as an official in a final.</p> <p>'Lala's performances have not gone unnoticed, as highlighted by his recent appointment as Assistant Referee in this season's Junior Shield Semi-Final.</p> <p>A former player in the league with Moat Park, Ian has also represented Dungoyne.</p>
	Dean Gray	<p>Dean is an ex- DAWFL player who has represented various teams within the League.</p> <p>Qualifying as a referee in September 2015, the Newtownards man started off as an Assistant Referee in NIFL Championship 2, before joining Jimmy Fegan's team of respected officials in 2016.</p> <p>Dean is no stranger to the big occasion, having acted as the Assistant Referee in an Irish Cup 4th round tie.</p>
	Mark Davidson	<p>Although relatively new to the DAWFL, Carryduff man Mark is vastly experienced having been a referee for 11 years. During this time he has officiated in the Old Boys league, Amateur league, Championship and the Irish Premiership, where he was an assistant referee in a fixture between Crusaders and Newry City.</p> <p>Despite his career being curtailed by injury, Mark has also officiated in Junior Shield and Cup finals, with his talent once again being recognised by the CAFA, who have appointed him as the man in the middle for the upcoming Junior Shield semi-finals.</p>

Manager Focus

Name: Keith Hunter

Age: 36

Who did you play for? 97th Old Boys, Newtown Forest

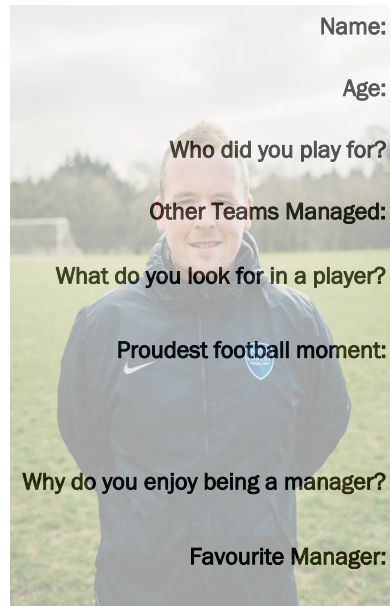
Other Teams Managed: None

What do you look for in a player? A winning mentality and a good attitude are important.

Proudest football moment: As a player it would be getting promoted with our 2nd team. As manager, after only taking over in the summer it has to be getting to this final

Why do you enjoy being a manager? This has been my first season as a manager. Being at a good club with good people has made it enjoyable

Favourite Manager: David Jeffrey



Name: Lee Cathcart

Age: 26

Who did you play for? Ards Youth, Ards Rangers, Glentoran, Lisburn Distillery

Other Teams Managed: Coached at Lisburn Distillery before managing Greenwell Star

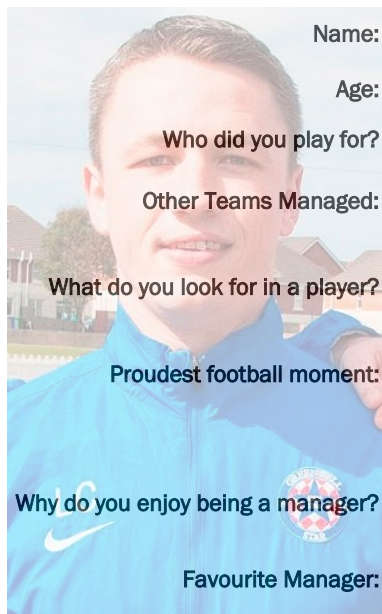
What do you look for in a player? Good attitude and a team player. Also be comfortable on the ball and wants to win

Proudest football moment: Playing - Representing Northern Ireland at schoolboy level

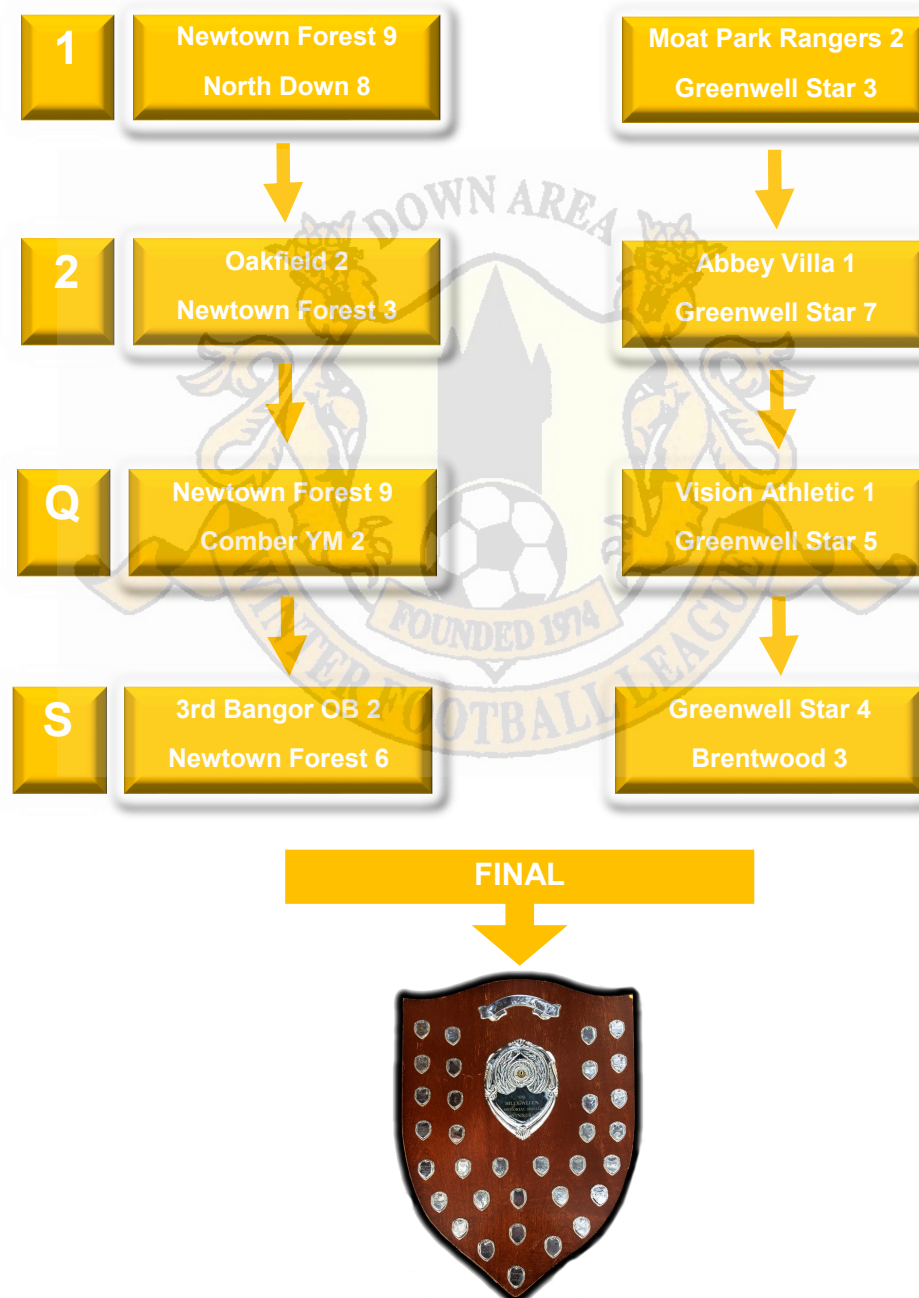
Managing - Winning league with Greenwell in first full season

Why do you enjoy being a manager? Next best thing to playing

Favourite Manager: Jose Mourinho



Route to the Final



The origins of the Billy Allen Memorial Shield

By Dennis S. Nash

Billy Allen, the industrious and knowledgeable manager of Comber YM, earned a position of high standing in local sporting circles and was regarded as one of the top legislators in the local amateur football scene.

His unexpected death after an accident at work in the summer of 1989 caused a wave of sadness right around the community and in 1995 the Down Area Association announced that they intended to inaugurate a new Competition in his memory and that the Tournament would be known as the BILLY ALLEN MEMORIAL KO SHIELD.

It was on Saturday 7th September 1996 that the first games in the new Competition were played, and the Committee organised the very first Final on New Year's Day 1997.

In that game played at Comber Rec's ground at Park Way it was Blades who carried off the Trophy after a Richard Simpson goal gave them a 1-0 victory over Tudor Rangers.



Incidentally Craig Robson, Sammy Spiers, Billy Sproule, Stewart Beattie and David Lemon were on the Tudor side that day.

Another interesting observation from that very first Final was that the match referee was one Jimmy Fegan, who currently holds the position of Referee Convenor with the Down Area. Jimmy's assistants back in 1997 were Eddie Kelso and Martin Moffett.

The second staging of the Final was on 1st January 1998 when the Blades were again involved, but this time, under horrendous weather conditions, they lost 3 - 1 to Portavogie Rangers.

It had proved to be difficult to have the Finalists known as early in the season as New Year's Day, so the third Final was moved to its now traditional setting of Easter Monday.

There have been many other improvements in recent years. For me, none was more significant than the inclusion of a medal for the Club Secretaries in the 2009/2010 season.

The first two medals were awarded to Gary Bailie of Rosemount and Alan McKee of Brentwood who went on to earn two in a week as Brentwood were runners-up in the Billy Allen and runners up in the Tommy Murphy Shield. Managers and players come and go. Secretaries tend to endure longer and are taken for granted. It is fitting that their contribution should be acknowledged fully.



The entrance fees help keep league costs down and help pay for the final itself. It is great that the Committee Members take the time to collect those fees.

Whilst you will be hoping for a win for your favoured team, they will be hoping for a good contest with no hitches off the field and no drama on it. More importantly, they'll be hoping that it finishes in 90 minutes and they can get home to their families without too much grief at spending part of their Bank Holidays at a game!!

Spare a thought indeed for the guys on the gate.

Conrad Kirkwood

“Spare a thought for the guys on the gate”

You will be here today to show your support for **Greenwell Star** or **Newtown Forest** or you may simply be here to avoid Easter Monday at home! Whatever the case, I hope it is a great game with the outcome that you are hoping for.

The hardy souls on the gate today will attend several semi finals and five finals in the end of season fixtures. If they are lucky, their own club might be involved. More often than not this won't be the case. Chances are the guys on the gate won't even get to see much of the match as they will be too busy working. They will have sorted out the programme, the medals, the fixtures, the match officials, the venue, the press coverage, the gate money and a host of other facets of managing the event.

Someone once said that volunteers don't necessarily have the time, they just have the heart. The current Down Area Committee certainly has the heart and, win or lose, you should make a point of thanking them for their hard work.

The American President Abraham Lincoln said

“He has a right to criticize, who has a heart to help.”

and, in that spirit, if you think some small issue can be improved offer your suggestion in a constructive way and it will be well received.

The decision to move the final from the Christmas period to Easter was driven by weather but, given that artificial surfaces are more prevalent, perhaps there can be more flexibility in the date again. Certainly, I recall the bigger crowds which a match in December/January generated and it might balance the season out better.

That game - played between Greenwell Star and Portavogie Rangers - took place at Castlereagh Park on 5th April 1999.

The teams were - Greenwell Star - Craig Hopley, Mervyn Bittles, R Milligan, Colin Smyth, A McVeigh, Derek Burch, Peter Rutherford, David Campbell, Julian Creaney, Peter Bailie and Colin Blair.

Substitutes - Alan King, J Hamilton and Gary Menagh.

Portavogie Rangers - Peter McGonigle, Sammy Clint, R Eccles, Will Doherty, R Bailie, Graham Donnan, M Adair, David Cully, J McFerran, Noel McMaster and M McCready.

Substitutes - S Burch, B Anderson and D Donnan.

Damien Grimley refereed that Final. His assistants were Tommy Preston and Hugh Shields, with Michael McCullough as the fourth official.

On Easter Monday we move to the twentieth staging of the Billy Allen Memorial Shield Final, with Greenwell Star and Newtown Forest on centre stage.

Jigsaw Financial have taken over sponsorship of this event and we thank them for their support and hope that both teams, their supporters and all the neutrals at Bangor Fuels Arena this afternoon will enjoy the Easter Monday experience.





Andrew Rodgers delves into how the DAWFL Fixtures are generated.

In 2013 the Guardian newspaper published an interesting article by James Riach, which provided an interesting insight into the generation of the English Football League Fixtures.

One of the opening comments by the Football League fixtures officer, Paul Snellgrove, noted that people “think names go into a hat and it's almost like a draw”, before going onto explain the complexities of dealing with all the factors that need to be taken into consideration when drawing up the seasons schedules.

Once these are all understood, the data is fed into a “fixtures computer”, which then churns through the information to provide a draft schedule. Several iterations later and supporters will then receive the eagerly awaited dates of interest, allowing them to begin planning out part of their lives for their season ahead.

Now no one would argue that setting the DAWFL fixtures is as challenging as having to account for things such as avoiding political party conferences or adhering to television requests, however Mark Gilmore’s role as DAWFL Fixture Secretary is certainly not one to be taken lightly.

To begin with, Mark doesn’t have the luxury of a super-computer to do most of the processing for him, with him being reliant on good old pencil and paper, an eraser and with Microsoft Excel thrown in for a bit of extra assistance.

So what challenges does Mark face I hear you ask?

Well to begin with, it isn’t possible to release a full set of fixtures for the season ahead like the English Football League, as DAWFL clubs are afforded the opportunity to avail of two free weeks per season. Therefore in order to ensure there is maximum coverage each week, fixtures can only be released 4-5 weeks in advance.

As most of the DAWFL Clubs do not have the luxury of owning their own facilities, at the beginning of each season pitch availability has to be factored in due to some Councils not releasing pitches for use until the end of August, while others cannot be played on until the local cricket season finishes.

Name	Position	Notes
Charlie Maginness	Defender/ Midfield	Charlie joined Newtown Forest just before Christmas. A very good player, who is very comfortable on the ball and has brought a lot to the team.
Mark McCambridge	Forward	Mark's a great player to watch, very comfortable with the ball at his feet and very creative.
Phil Kernaghan	Forward	Phil has been at Newtown Forest for 15 years. A very clever and experienced player.
Brendan McCrisken	Forward	Brendy played a few games for Forest last season before signing again this year. A great option to have up front and never stops working
Andrew Hayes	Forward	‘Pando’ joined in the summer and started in the 3rd team before working his way into the 2nds and then 1st team. A real team player with a great work rate.
Stephen Campbell	Forward	Stephen has been at the club for 15 years, apart from a year out with a bad knee injury, and has spent all that time in the first team. This will actually be his last game before moving to Scotland.



Club Committee:

Chairman - Andrew Rendall

Secretary - Colm Best

Treasurers - James McKeown and James Whitten

Newtown Forest were originally known as 97th Old Boys and were founded by Keith Brunt in 1980, before folding in 1992.



In 1996 the club were reformed by Kyle Rendall with his brother Andrew and spent ten seasons in the Old Boys League before moving to the DAWFL.

The club changed its name to Newtown Forest in 2007 and have went from strength to strength with it now featuring three senior men's' teams and a women's team who compete in the NIWFA league.

Name	Position	Notes
Fergal Campbell	Goalkeeper	A great keeper, probably his own worst critic at times. On his day he's one of the best in the league.
James Whitten	Defender	James played as a forward until the summer when he moved into defence. Very composed and confident on the ball.
James Connery	Defender	A solid enthusiastic player and a rock at the back. Always gives 100% whether it's a game or in training.
Matthew Gourley	Defender	Matthew is another new player having joined at the start of the season. Although he has struggled with injuries he has already shown he has the potential to be a big player
Niall Kennedy	Defender/ Midfield	Niall has played nearly every position this season including goal keeper. One of our most consistent players who never lets his Club down.
James Canning	Defender/ Midfield	James had been a regular in the 2nd team for the last few seasons and has really taken his chance this year to become a permanent fixture in the squad all season.
David Agnew	Midfield	David has been at the club for a few years now and was involved in running the 2nd team, with this being his first year as a regular in the first team. A real team player, the type everyone would love to have in their side.
Michael Stuart	Midfield	Michael is the Newtown Forest Captain. A real leader on the pitch who always leads by example.

There then is the challenge of ensuring that 1st XI's and 2nd XI's who share their pitch are not both drawn at home at the same time. This gets even more complex as different Clubs from within the DAWFL can share a pitch, which can be compounded even further by a DAWFL club and a non-DAWFL club sharing.

By now I am sure you are building up the picture that generating fixtures isn't a simple task, but there are even more factors to consider, such as some of our clubs not being able to take a home fixture if their Intermediate level 1st XI are marked down for a home fixture.



While we do not have the Shrewsbury Flower Show to consider like the English Football League, in the past we have to ensure there are not clashes with Pipe band Championships at Londonderry Park or the Covenant centenary parade in Belfast.

Further intricacies include ensuring there are no clashes with the Northern Ireland Senior and U21 Internationals when they are being played in Northern Ireland, as football regulations state that other fixtures cannot kick-off within 5 hours of their scheduled start. Better not forget that there is also the Irish Cup Final to contend with when allocating fixtures to Belfast based clubs, while it shouldn't be overlooked that the Junior Cup & Shield take preference over the DAWFL fixtures.

And then there is the dreaded weather that has blighted the 2015-16 season, with over 175 games postponed this season already. It will take little imagination to understand the difficulties faced when trying to reschedule all these games. Especially more so when trying to make sure all the necessary cup games are completed in time for our traditional Easter Monday and May day finals, while also ensuring that the overall season is completed by May.

No doubt when some read through the approximate 200 fixtures that Mark has single-handedly produced for April they shook their head while trying to understand what they believed to be some ridiculous fixtures allocated to their club. I myself have been there and can understand their school of thought.

Hopefully however by reading this they can get a little bit more understanding as to the painstaking work that Mark has to go through to ensure their club receive a fixture on a weekly basis. Perhaps they might even shake his hand or buy him a pint to acknowledge the fantastic work he does.

Greenwell Star FC were formed in the summer of 1984 when a group of friends from the Movilla area of Newtownards decided they wanted to enter a team into a summer league.



Things went so well that they decided to continue playing and they entered the side into the County Down League, before eventually applying for and being accepted into the Down Area Winter Football League ahead of the 1986/1987 season.

Name	Position	Notes
Craig Robson	Goalkeeper	One of the best 'keepers to ever play in the DAWFL, bags of Irish League experience, a great talker and organiser of his defence, plus an excellent shot-stopper.
Jonny Tate	Goalkeeper / Defender	Hard to decide his best position as he is equally as good in nets as he is in defence or midfield. Great communicator on the pitch and leads from the front.
Scott Ritchie	Defender	No-nonsense tackler, good range of passing when playing out from defence, excellent reader of the game and very versatile player who can play anywhere along with back four.
Jay Ritchie	Defender	Dependable & consistent defender who used to play on the wing before plying his trade at fullback. Switched to centreback last season and ended up winning the Players Player of Year.
Darren Hobson	Defender	Made captain as soon as he signed for the Club and he leads by example every week, solid as a rock at the back. Darren has won everything there is to win in the DAWFL and is a great penalty taker.
Daniel Edgworth	Defender	Another player who is as comfortable in defence as he is up front, defends with assurance, rarely misses anything in the air and still scores a bag full of goals.
Keith Mowat	Defender	One of the most solid players in the squad and is at least a 7/10 in every game he plays, great attitude, top defender as he reads the play extremely well and never stops working.
Scott Crawford	Midfielder	One of the most naturally gifted footballers the Club has ever seen, glides past people for fun with the ball stuck to his wand of a left foot. Nevers stops working and continues to score some of the best goals the DAWFL is ever likely to see.
Willy McIlroy	Midfielder	Midfield general, tough tackler, constant worker and never stops driving his team forward. Can play anywhere through the spine of the team, but has recently stuck to the 'MakaWilly' role! Also brings bags of Amateur League experience.

Name	Position	Notes
Daley Carnduff	Midfielder	Seen by many to be the best player in the DAWFL, class act in the middle of the park, hardly ever loses the ball and creates chances out of nothing.
Daniel McCallum	Midfielder	Finally back playing this season after a long time out following knee surgery. Has slotted back well with some assured performances and has helped assist quite a number of goals.
Davy Paton	Midfielder	Energetic box-to-box midfielder who loves a tackle and would run through a brick wall to get the ball. Also weighs in with some great goals over the course of the season.
Robert Bell	Midfielder / Attacker	One of the most naturally gifted players at the Club, he's excellent with the ball at his feet, often makes defenders look stupid with great pieces of skills, great passer of the ball & creates plenty of chances for others.
Jamie Wallace	Midfielder / Attacker	Really pacey winger who excels down the left flank, takes people on at every opportunity, delivers an excellent cross and scores some very good and important goals.
Jonny Heron	Attacker	One of the best 'strikers to ever play in the DAWFL, has continued to score goals during each of his various spells with the Club, a player who finds it easy to create space for himself and others all over the pitch, defenders can't cope with him.
Daniel Orr	Attacker	One of the top marksmen in the DAWFL for the past number of years, already chalked up 42 goals in 23 games this season, never stops working and hassling defenders, pace to burn and capable of scoring goals from anywhere.
Adam Welsh	Attacker	Unfortunate to suffer a leg break in last year's Sittlington Cup final which has curtailed his involvement this season, but nearly back to full fitness. Lightning quick, goes past players for fun and a top class finisher.



Club Committee:

Honorary Life President: Cllr. Jimmy Menagh

Chairman: Marty McCallum | Treasurer: Darren Graham | Secretary: Ryan Donaldson

Committee Members: Steven Irvine, Lenny McDowell, Daniel McCallum, Ryan Shaw

Players Rep - Dee McAdams