



## 1977-1978

### **Donegal League Sunday**

04/09/1977	St. Columba's	0 2	Bonagee United
11/09/1977	Castle Rovers	0 3	St. Columba's
18/09/1977	St. Columba's	1 1	Crusaders
02/10/1977	Drumkeen	1 4	St. Columba's
09/10/1977	St. Columba's	1 1	Dunfanaghy Athletic
16/10/1977	Fanad Youths	4 3	St. Columba's
23/10/1977	St. Columba's	7 2	Glenree Athletic
30/10/1977	Gweedore Guilds	0 3	St. Columba's
06/11/1977	St. Columba's	1 1	Letterbarrow
13/11/1977	St. Columba's	3 1	Lurg Celtic
04/12/1977	St. Columba's	0 8	Young Colts
18/12/1977	Ballybofey	3 0	St. Columba's
08/01/1978	Bonagee	2 0	St. Columba's
15/01/1978	St. Columba's	3 2	Castle Rovers
22/01/1978	Letterkenny Crusaders	0 1	St. Columba's
29/01/1978	St. Columba's	2 2	Drumkeen United
06/02/1978	Dunfanaghy Athletic	1 4	St. Columba's
27/02/1978	St. Columba's	0 0	Fanad Youths
12/03/1978	Glenree	4 1	St. Columba's
26/03/1978	Letterbarrow	3 3	St. Columba's
02/04/1978	Lurg Celtic	3 1	St. Columba's
09/04/1978	Young Colts	6 4	St. Columba's
23/04/1978	St. Columba's	4 2	Ballybofey

### **IAWS Cup**

20/11/1977	St. Columba's	1 1	Rathmullen	Abandoned and replayed on 27th December
27/12/1977	St. Columba's	3 4	Rathmullen	

**11/09/1977**

**ST. COLUMBA'S WIN  
DERBY GAME**

CASTLE ROVERS	0
ST. COLUMBA'S	3

A late scoring burst was enough to give St. Columba's the two points in this game played at the spacious Castle Rovers venue. Danny Quinn—the best player on the field, scored two of his side's goals and Gabriel Gillen slotted home the other.

Best for Columba's: D. Quinn, Seamus Neely, Eunan Duffy and Sean Dolan.

**18/09/1977**

**St. Columbas score  
disputed goal**

ST. COLUMBA'S	1
CRUSADERS	1

A hotly disputed goal in the 80th minute by Eunan Duffy gave St. Columba's a point in their game with Letterkenny Crusaders.

The visiting team claim that the ball was in the hands of their 'keeper when it was kicked out of them and into the back of the net. Crusaders scorer was Michael Duffy, who is really showing promise. He took a Pat Begley pass and slammed to the net.

Best for St. Columba's were Eunan Duffy and Seamus Neely.

Duffy, Begley, Eamon Blaney and Eunan McIntyre were best for Crusaders.

**16/10/1977**

### **First win for Fanad Youths**

Fanad Youth Club recorded their first win in this season's Donegal League programme when they defeated St. Columba's by four goals to three. In a superb display, Fanad overcame many of their early season problems by making a number of tactical switches which paid dividends.

Leading 4-2 at half-time, the men from the Kingdom controlled the match for most of the way. Their star player was Dan Herrity, who notched a superb hat-trick. Hugh Shields was the other scorer.

Seamus Neely, S. Dolan and D. Quinn were the St. Columba's scorers.

Fanad Y.C.: G. Gavigan, F. Friel, D. Friel, A. Strain, G. Blaney, J. Carr, E. Sweeney, J. McHugh, E. McBride, J. Friel and D. Herrity.

**23/10/1977**

### **Meehan scores hat-trick**

ST. COLUMBA'S	7
GLENREE ATHLETIC	2

St. Columba's were second highest scorers of the League on Sunday when they slammed home no less than seven goals against Glenree. The Drumoghill side were in fine fettle, making the most of a fine second half display to shoot home five goals.

Ex-Clonleagh Athletic player, J. P. Meehan, scored three goals for St. Columba's; team manager, Seamus Neely, scored another brace,

**06/11/1077**

### *Birthday goal for McGrory*

ST. COLUMBA'S	1
LETTERBORROW	1

In this rather drab match played at St. Columba's, Drumcghill the home side and their visitors, Letterbarrow shared the points equally.

After a dull first half which was spoiled by the heavy rain and almost gale force wind, the second moiety livened up a little with both teams managing to find the net.

Ex Clonleagh Athletic player, J. P. Meehan was the St. Columba's scorer while J. McGrory notched the Letterbarrow score. The latter was celebrating his birthday.

**13/11/1977**

### *Lurgy go down*

ST. COLUMBA'S	3
LURGY	1

Though they have now drawn four of their eight games, Lurgy still can't get their first win. In this reverse fixture on Sunday last they looked like making the breakthrough for a long time but when the pressure was put on their lack of experience found them faltering at the final hurdle.

The game was only nine minutes old when the visitors took the lead per Hugh McDaid. This score was negatived five minutes into the second half when Michael Logue netted. And the game was over when John Tinney scored two late goals for the home side.

St. Columba's: R. Conroy, J. O'Donnell, R. Porter, S. McGinty, S. Doherty, M. McGavigan, J. Toner, M. McGinley, J. Tinney, J. P. Meehan, J. Muray, R. O'Donnell.

Lurgy: B. Trearty, F. Gallagher, H. McGlynn, J. McGettigan, P. Peoples, N. Gallagher, J. P. McMenamin, J. O'Donnelly, R. Shiels, J. Carr, H. McDaid. Subs.: R. Houston and M. Doherty.

**20/11/1977**

### *Referee calls a halt at Drumoghill*

ST. COLUMBA'S 1  
RATHMULLEN CELTIC 1

When Rathmullen Celtic scored their equaliser in the 70th minute it was the signal for the referee to call a halt to the game. The conditions throughout the afternoon were dreadful with both sides finding the blinding snow and sharp cold more difficult to deal with than their respective opponents.

St. Columba's led by a John Tinney goal at half-time. Paddy Merritt scored the Rathmullen equaliser.

### **ST. COLUMBA'S DRAW**

The Raymochy Parish Youth Club (St. Columba's), Drumoghill, will hold a Grand Christmas Draw for which the main prize will be a one year old Chestnut Mare Pony. Other prizes include 5 cwt. of coal, a turkey, wrought iron hall stand, £30; in all there are twelve prizes.

The draw will take place at the club's annual senior citizens' party at the Three Ways Motel on Saturday, 10th December.

**18/12/1977**

## *Ballybofey pushed all the way by St. Columbas*

BALLYBOFEY ..... 3  
ST. COLUMBA'S ..... 1

In this Division 3 game, St. Columba's had far more possession than the score indicates—in fact their tendency to overhold the ball was one of the big factors in their failure. Ballybofey, on the other hand, were adventurous, and their two first half goals—the first blasted through by John Kelly after ten minutes, and the second by Ronnie Reilly five minutes later—came from direct attacks. Seamus Neely had the ball in the Ballybofey net from a 30 yards direct free, but a free out was given for an infringement.

Ballybofey wrapped it up half-way through the second half when following a free by Harry Laverty, John Kelly and P. J. McArdle both had a go before Finnbar McMenamin slotted in. Three minutes before the end Kieran O'Donnell, direct from a 25-yards free, got a consolation goal for St. Columba's.

**Ballybofey** — Hugo O'Donnell, Tony McArdle, Columba Moss, Ronnie Reilly, Gerald McCafferty, P. J. McArdle, Eddie Smith, John Kelly, Harry Laverty, Finnbar McMenamin, Gerry Currie.

**St. Columba's**—Jim Murray, Danny Quinn, Kieran O'Donnell, Patsy Curran, Sean Doran, Seamus Neely, Michael McGavigan, John Curran, Malachy Crawford, Martin McGinley, John Tinney.

**Subs.**—Raymond Porter for S. Neely; Raymond Conroy for J. Murray.

**Referee**—Karl Kelly (Letterkenny).

**27/12/1977**



## Rathmullan find it tough

ST. COLUMBA'S 3  
RATHMULLEN CELTIC 4

Despite their relative positions in the Donegal League, there was precious little separating First Division Rathmullen and Third Division hopefuls, St. Columba's. In fact, for most of the ninety minutes there were grave doubts as to which of them would come out on top.

After getting off to a whirlwind start, which saw them chalk up two goals by Paddy Sheridan, who eventually went on to get a well deserved hat-trick, and Paddy Merritt. Rathmullen looked set to "bury" their opponents. But tenacity in the face of adversity saw St. Columba's come back with two goals inside a minute. This was how the scoreline stood with only a few minutes left before the break. However, that man Sheridan gave Rathmullen the lead.

Early in the second half the Saints came back again and looked like making a comeback until Sheridan popped up to score the winner.

Scorers for St. Columba's were M. Gallagher, J. Tinney and D. Gavigan.

**League Table: 31/12/1977**

### DIVISION THREE

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Young Colts ...	13	11	1	1	23
Ballintra ...	13	8	3	2	19
Crusaders ...	12	6	3	3	15
St. Columbas ...	13	6	3	4	15
Bonagee ...	13	6	2	5	14
Fanad United ...	13	5	4	5	14
Castle Rovers ...	13	5	3	5	13
Dunkineely Celtic	13	3	6	4	12
Letterbarrow ...	13	4	2	7	10
Glenree Athletic ...	12	3	4	5	10
Ballybofey United	13	4	2	7	10
Dunfanaghy Ath.	12	1	7	4	9
Lurgy Celtic ...	12	1	5	6	7
Gweedore Guilds	13	1	5	7	7

**08/01/1978**

## Bonagee won tough game

BONAGEE	2
ST. COLUMBA'S	0

This was a tough, hard game, punctuated with many unnecessary fouls. For Bonagee, however, it was a successful day's football, gaining two very valuable points.

They scored after four minutes when Joe Devine shot home. Their second goal

Eric Funston calmly slotted home the penalty award.

**15/01/1978**



## ST. COLUMBA'S WIN DEAL

St. Columba's 3; Castle Rovers  
2

Drumoghill side St. Columba's won this Lagan Valley derby when they beat near neighbours, Castle in this game. The Saints were in control for most of the proceedings and managed to score the vital goals at the right time.

Their scorers were John Curren, Michael Logue and Jim Porter. The star of this side was Robert Conroy.

Castle's Raymond Cullen was sent off.

**22/01/1978**

### *Crusaders' weak finishing*

LETTERKENNY	
CRUSADERS	0
ST. COLUMBA'S	1

Weak finishing against a superbly marshalled St. Columba's defence well led by Sean Dolan, proved the

downfall of Letterkenny Third Division promotion hopefuls, Crusaders.

Played at Rockhill this clash was always a closely contested affair though from a spectator point of view the "Crus" always seemed to have that little bit extra, and in scoring chances looked the more likely winners. But St. Columba's and that man Dolan were in no mood to let anyone through and John Tinney's 40th minute goal was good enough to see them through.

Only Vincent McGlynn, George Cullen, Sean McIntyre seemed interested in really playing their hearts out for the Crus.

**06/01/1978**

**Dunfanaghy get  
deserved point**

DUNFANAGHY	1
ST. COLUMBA'S	1

A goal ten minutes from time by Dunfanaghy's Tadg McGinley thwarted St. Columba's chances of moving ahead of Ballintra into the second promotion place in Division Three.

For the Drumoghill side it was an unfortunate afternoon. They took the lead when Seamus Neely's long flighted free-kick was only partially blocked and the in-running Sean Dolan flicked it to the net from five yards. And with long periods of control the team members must have fancied taking the two points.

But all credit to the revitalised Dunfanaghy under the enthusiastic Neil McFadden, who kept plugging away never giving an inch and who, under the circumstances, deserved their point.

Best for Dunfanaghy were: D. Devine, T. J. McGinley, H. McFadden, S. Friel, and J. Kaperski. Best for St. Columba's were: Neely, Dolan and Porter.

**27/02/1978**

## Fanad slip at Columba

ST. COLUMBA'S	0
FANAD YOUTH CLUB	0

After some recent top-class displays, Fanad Youth Club slipped a little in their challenge for a promotion place on Sunday last when they were held to a scoreless draw by a St. Columba's team which is having an up-down type season.

Both sides had chances on Sunday last but, unfortunately, neither managed to make much of them; it was a day when defences seemed to be able to take care of everything.

Best for St. Columba's were Sean Dolan, Joe Porter and R. Conroy.

Best for Fanad were H. Shieles, D. Friel and P. Clinton.

**26/03/1978**

## Neilly gets two for Saints

LETTERBARROW	3
ST. COLUMBA'S	3

Making a comeback after being out with injury for some months, St. Columba's team manager, Seamus Neilly was the hero of this game. He scored two goals for his side, one from the penalty spot, to earn a well deserved point against Letterbarrow. The other scorer for St. Columba's was R. Porter.

Letterbarrow scorers were P. McGrory, J. McGrory and J. Gallagher.

**02/04/1978**

## ***Surprise as Lurgy sink Saints***

**LURGY CELTIC 3**  
**ST. COLUMBA'S 1**

Three goals in three minutes midway through the second half of this game gave Lurgy their sixth and best win of the season. The goal blitz came between the 67th and 70th minutes when Lurgy's Hugh McDaid, John O'Donnell and Neil Gallagher slammed home three really good goals.

It had such a devastating effect on St. Columba's that not even their old campaigner, Seamus Neilly, who did manage to score a goal could raise them to fight back.