

# Portrait Biographies

## **Barry McGuigan**

Finbar Patrick McGuigan, MBE, known as Barry McGuigan and nicknamed The Clones Cyclone, is a retired professional boxer from Clones, County Monaghan. Barry was a fan favourite for British and Irish audiences, as he represented neutrality and peace in a time when Northern Ireland was divided by The Troubles.

He began his professional boxing career in 1981 and went on to become the World Boxing Association Featherweight Champion in 1985. He was named BBC Sports Personality of the Year later that year, becoming the first person not born in the United Kingdom to win the award.

McGuigan retired from boxing in 1989 with a record of 32 wins and 3 losses, with 28 wins by knockout and was elected into the International Boxing Hall of Fame in 2005.

He founded, and is the current President of, the Professional Boxing Association (PBA) and he works as a boxing pundit for Sky TV.

## **D.J Carey**

Denis Joseph 'D. J.' Carey is an Irish retired hurler from Gowran, County Kilkenny. He played as a left wing-forward for the Kilkenny senior hurling team and is widely regarded as one of the greatest hurlers in the history of the game.

Carey started his senior career in 1989 and went on to win five All-Ireland medals, ten Leinster medals and four National Hurling League medals with his team in the following decade and a half. Throughout his career Carey made 57 championship appearances, and his tally of 34 goals and 195 points ranks him as Kilkenny's third highest championship scorer of all-time. He has also won nine GAA All-Star awards, as well as being named Texaco Hurler of the Year on two occasions

Carey announced his retirement from inter-county hurling in June 2006. He has since become involved in team management and coaching. At club level he has trained the Young Ireland's junior hurling team, while he has also served as a hurling coach at Carlow Institute of Technology.

## **John Hume**

John Hume, KCSG is a former politician from Derry, Northern Ireland. He was a founding member of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, and was co-recipient of the 1998 Nobel Peace Prize, with David Trimble.

He was the second leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP), from 1979 until 2001. He has served as a Member of the European Parliament and a Member of the British Parliament, as well as a member of the Northern Ireland Assembly.

He is regarded as one of the most important figures in the recent political history of Ireland and one of the architects of the Northern Ireland peace process. He is also a recipient of the Gandhi Peace Prize and the Martin Luther King Award, the only recipient of the three major peace awards. In 2010, he was named "Ireland's Greatest" in a public poll by Irish national broadcaster RTÉ to find the greatest person in Ireland's history.

Hume announced his complete retirement from politics in February 2004. He and his wife continue to be active in promoting European integration, issues around global poverty and the Credit Union movement.

## **Larry Gogan**

Lorcan 'Larry' Gogan is an Irish broadcaster working for Raidió Teilifís Éireann (RTÉ). Gogan started his career in radio in the 1960s when he broadcast his first radio programme on RTE Radio 1. Since then, he has become a well-known Irish presenter, having hosted a variety of TV and radio shows, including "Pickin' The Pops", "Go 2 Show" and "The Golden Hour". Louis Walsh has described him as one of "the kings of Irish broadcasting".

In 1986, Gogan was honoured at the Jacob's Awards for his weekly show, Ireland's Top Thirty. Then, in March 2005, Gogan was awarded the IRMA Honours Award "in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Irish music".

Gogan received the Industry Award at the Meteor Awards in February 2007. He was also nominated for Best Radio DJ at the National at the 2010 Meteor Awards.

## **Paddy Cole**

Paddy Cole is an Irish jazz musician from Monaghan. He started his career with the Maurice Lynch Band before moving on to the legendary Capitol Showband in the 1960's. He later became the frontman for The Big Eight.

Known as Ireland's King of Jazz, Paddy Cole first entered the world of showbiz at the age of 9. He started out playing to audiences throughout Ireland and the UK before joining Capitol Showband. Capitol Showband became the first Irish band to record an LP and were also the first Irish band to appear on 'Sunday night at the Palladium' where they performed to a television audience of 30 million.

Cole's success continued as he joined 'The Big 8', playing to sell-out crowds on the Las Vegas Strip and later setting up his own band and along with his old friend 'Twink'.

Cole has since decided to give up showbiz entirely and went into the pub business where he worked for 12 years. He eventually found himself back performing and returned to the limelight where he has remained as one of the Ireland's top entertainers to this day.

## **WJ McBride**

William James McBride, MBE, better known as Willie John McBride is a former rugby union footballer from Toomebridge, County Antrim. He played as a lock for Ireland and the British and Irish Lions with 63 Tests for Ireland including eleven as captain, and toured with the Lions five times — a record that gave him 17 Lions Test caps. He also captained the most successful ever Lions side which toured South Africa in 1974.

In 1975, as his international career was ending, he played his last game for Ireland at Lansdowne Road. The game was against France and near the end of the match, he scored his first Test try for Ireland. It was the crowning moment of a great playing career. His last international game was against Wales on Saturday 15 March 1975.

After retiring, McBride coached the Irish team and was manager of the 1983 Lions tour to New Zealand. In 1997 he was an inaugural inductee into the International Rugby Hall of Fame. In 2004 he was named in Rugby World magazine as "Rugby Personality of the Century".

## **Jimmy Magee**

Jimmy Magee is a veteran sports broadcaster from Cooley, County Louth. Known as the "Memory Man", he has spent over half a century in sports broadcasting, and has presented radio and television coverage of the Olympic Games since 1968 and the FIFA World Cup since 1966.

Magee started out as a reporter for the Radio Éireann programme 'Junior Sports Magazine'. He presented a number of sponsored radio programmes before concentrating on sport. He was a producer, presenter and script writer for Radio Éireann's sponsored programmes in the 1950s and 1960s.

Throughout his career he has covered a wide variety of sporting events for RTÉ, Channel 4 and UTV. He has been a staple of RTÉ's coverage of the Olympic Games. Beginning at the 1968 Summer Olympics in Mexico City, he has attended the eleven subsequent Olympic Games as a commentator. At the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, the International Olympic Committee presented him with a replica of its torch.

In 1972 Magee won a Jacob's Award for his radio sports commentaries and in 1989 he was the subject of a special tribute show on The Late Late Show.

## **John Giles**

Michael John "Johnny" Giles is a former association footballer and manager from Dublin, best remembered for his time as a midfielder with Leeds United in the 1960s and 1970s. The FAI voted Giles as the greatest Irish player of the last 50 years at the UEFA Jubilee Awards in 2004. In 2006, he was chosen by supporters at Elland Road as a member of the best ever Leeds United XI.

After winning an FA Cup winner's medal at Manchester United, Giles moved to Leeds in 1963 where he played in midfield alongside captain Billy Bremner. The duo went on to form a central midfield partnership which was one of the best in English club football. Their pairing helped yield several major trophies in the most successful era in Leeds' history.

In his later years in football, Giles pursued a managerial career which saw him installed as player-manager and manager of West Bromwich Albion, the Republic of Ireland, and Shamrock Rovers before leaving management permanently in 1985.

Giles then entered the world of football punditry in 1986. He has since gone on to establish himself as the highly respected senior analyst on RTÉ Sport. In addition, he writes two columns per week for the Irish Evening Herald newspaper, and offers his opinions about the game on radio station, Newstalk 106.

## **Ken Doherty**

Ken Doherty is a professional snooker player and radio presenter from Dublin. He is the one of only two players to have been world amateur (1989) and world professional champion (1997). He was also World Under-21 champion in 1989.

As a prolific break-builder, Doherty has compiled more than 300 century breaks in professional competition. He is one of the few players to win back-to-back ranking events – the Welsh Open and Thailand Masters in 2001, also reaching the final of the following Regal Scottish Open.

Doherty has started working on TV coverage on snooker matches with the BBC snooker coverage team. He became a regular commentator for the BBC starting with the 2009 Masters Tournament, following the side-lining of veteran expert Clive Everton.

Doherty guested as a presenter on the Morning Show on East Coast FM, he presents a sports programme on Sunshine 106.8FM on Saturday mornings and he has also presented UEFA Europa league TV coverage on 3e.

### **Mick O'Dwyer**

Mick O'Dwyer is a Gaelic football manager and former player from Kerry. Most recently manager of the Clare senior football team, he is considered to be "the 'high priest' of Kerry football.

O'Dwyer played Gaelic football with his local club Waterville and was a member of the Kerry senior team from 1956 until 1974. O'Dwyer later served as manager of Kildare, Laois and Wicklow, however, his management of the Kerry senior football team from 1975 until 1989 that allowed him to gain iconic status as the most successful manager of all-time. In June 2012, a statue of Mick O'Dwyer was erected in Waterville to honour his achievements.

O'Dwyer announced his retirement from inter-county management in January 2014 after a 60-year involvement with inter-county football. Speaking on his retirement he said "My days of rolling up the match programme tightly in my hand and heading out to patrol the side-lines are over. I'd be happy to give a bit of advice from time to time if anyone wants it but I won't be managing again. That's behind me now".

### **Ronnie Delaney**

Ronald Michael Delany, better known as Ron or Ronnie Delany, is an Irish former athlete, who specialised in middle distance running. He earned a gold medal by finishing in first place in the 1500 metres event at the 1956 Summer Olympics in Melbourne. He later earned a bronze medal in the 1500 metres event at the 1958 European Athletics Championships in Stockholm.

Delany also competed at the 1954 European Athletics Championships in Bern and the 1960 Summer Olympics in Rome, though was less successful on these occasions. Retiring from competitive athletics in 1962, he has secured his status as Ireland's most recognisable Olympian as well as one of the greatest sportsmen and international ambassadors in his country's history.

In 2006, Delany was granted the Freedom of the City of Dublin and was also conferred with an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree by University College Dublin in the same year.

### **Mick Kinane**

Michael J. Kinane is a former flat racing jockey from Killenaule, County Tipperary. A winner of the Irish, English and French Classic races over two decades, Kinane has ridden winners in the 2,000 Guineas four times, the Epsom Derby three times, the Melbourne Cup in Australia and, in the United States, the Belmont Stakes once. Kinane also has four wins in Breeders' Cup races. He has been Irish Champion Jockey on 13 occasions.

Kinane first came to prominence as the stable jockey to Dermot Weld, one of Ireland's most successful racehorse trainers, and later was retained by stud owners and trainers John Magnier and Aidan O'Brien as stable jockey for many years. He joined leading Irish flat trainer John Oxx. He became one of the world's elite jockeys and excelled on big occasions at Longchamp and Epsom, and was regarded as one of the leading professionals of his sport.

Kinane retired at the end of 2009, a season which was highlighted by his association with the horse 'Sea The Stars'. He also bred the 2007 Epsom Derby winner 'Authorized'.