

OFFICIAL MATCH DAY PROGRAMME • £3 FRIDAY 15[™] SEPTEMBER • 7.35[™] KINGSPAN STADIUM



Ø

LUSTERRUGBY ULSTERRUGBY OFFICIALULSTERRUGBY LUSTERRUGBY ULSTERRUGBY.COM ULSTERRUGBYTV



KUKRI





ALL REAL

103

KUKRI

LEADING THE FIELD

Welcome back to Kingspan Stadium, the home of Ulster Rugby, where tonight the Ulster squad face off against the Scarlets and go in search of their third competitive win of the season. Scarlets are fresh off the back of two convincing wins, making tonight's match up Ulster's most exciting in the newly formatted Guinness PRO14 competition.

With only one point separating the top four places in the table, Ulster will be looking to capitalise on the hard work put in throughout the pre-season and cement their spot at the top of Conference B.

Friday nights at Kingspan Stadium are part of what makes Ulster Rugby great and I encourage everyone here tonight to continue that tradition and to create the atmosphere that we have become famous for. Please join me in extending a warm welcome to the Scarlets and their travelling supporters who are looking forward to an exciting and memorable match.

Finally, on behalf of Kingspan, I would like to wish the Ulster Rugby squad and management team the very best this evening as they continue to lay the foundations for a successful season ahead. To Ulster's committed fans, enjoy the game, lead the way and help ensure that this is an evening to remember at Kingspan Stadium.

A Freemal

Pat Freeman Divisional Managing Director



www.kingspan.com



CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME	3
GUINNESS PRO14 WELCOME	4
TONIGHT'S MASCOTS	7
SEAN REIDY	8
WHAT'S ON	11
LUKE MARHSALL Q&A	13
THOUGHT FOR THE DAY	15
DWAYNE PEEL	16
ULSTER ACADEMY+	
AGE GRADE TEAM FIXTURES	21
FAN ACTIVITY	23
NEVIN SPENCE REMEMBERED	24
ULSTER SQUAD PROFILES	26
ULSTER TEAM	30
POSTER	32
SCARLETS TEAM	35
SCARLETS SQUAD PROFILES	36
ABOUT THE SCARLETS	41
ABBEY INSURANCE	
ULSTER ACADEMY	43
WOMEN'S RUGBY	
WORLD CUP: REVIEW	44
MATTHEW REA	47
FEMALE RUGBY FESTIVAL	49
PRO14 MATCH REPORT	50
SUBWAY HALF TIME TEAMS	53
URSC NEWS	55
OUR CLUB NEWS	57
STADIUM MAP	60
STADIUM INFORMATION	61
PRO14 PREVIEW	62
FIXTURES	63
THANK YOU	64

CP

KUKA

ULSTER

KUKR

Give your home a new lease of life

() ()

0



 $\left\langle \right\rangle$

00

For new residential customers with 15% deposit on our Cashback mortgage.

Apply in branch or online

Bank of Ireland 🛞 UK

For small steps, for big steps, for life

YOUR HOME MAY BE REPOSSESSED IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON YOUR MORTGAGE

All mortgages are subject to status and valuation. The mortgage must be secured by a first charge on the property. Suitable buildings insurance is required. All applicants must be 18 years or over. Bank of Ireland UK is a trading name of Bank of Ireland (UK) plc. Registered in England and Wales (No. 7022885), Bow Bells House, 1 Bread Street, London EC4M 98E.



PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

As President of the IRFU Ulster Branch, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to Kingspan Stadium for tonight's Round 3 game in the Guinness PRO14 Championship.

We extend a special welcome to all the Scarlets players, officials and supporters travelling over for this evening's game. We hope you have a very enjoyable experience in Ulster.

Last season the Scarlets were crowned worthy champions of the (then) PRO12, and they have continued that form into the new season with impressive opening bonus point wins over the Southern Kings and Zebre, so we will be sure of a tough test tonight.

Like Scarlets, Ulster also opened the season with a bonus point win over one of the South African newcomers, the Cheetahs, before being made to work for a 14-21 win away to Treviso last weekend. I know the team is looking forward to getting back out in front of the Kingspan Stadium faithful tonight, where the 16th men and women will certainly have their part to play!

For Ulster supporters September 15th will forever be a memorable date as, on this day five years ago, we learned of the terrible news that our esteemed player and friend Nevin Spence, along with his brother Graham and father Noel, tragically died in a farming accident.

Nevin is never far from our thoughts, and as a club we are delighted that his memory will always be preserved with his name attached to the museum and educational heritage centre here at Kingspan Stadium.

Earlier this week you may have seen the tribute video we released on ulsterrugby.com, featuring exclusive interviews with some of Nevin's family, friends and Ulster Rugby colleagues. This morning, our club chaplain, Reverend Andrew Thompson, poignantly contributed the Thought for the Day on BBC Radio Ulster, and tonight supporters will be able to mark their respects for the Spence family with a moment's silence prior to the game.

We have a full programme of club fixtures in the Kukri Ulster Rugby Championship as well as the Provincial and Regional Leagues this weekend, and we would encourage you to get out and support your local clubs when possible.

Tomorrow also marks the beginning of the 2017/18 Ulster Bank League, and we wish all 11 Ulster clubs well in their respective divisions as they aim for success on the All-Ireland stage.

Finally, I would like to extend our best wishes to the Danske Bank Ulster U18 Schools team, the Ulster U19s and the Ulster U18 Clubs, who are all in action against Inter-Provincial opposition this weekend. SUFTUM!

Graffin Parke President IRFU (Ulster Branch)

IRFU ULSTER BRANCH 2017/18 OFFICERS

Graffin Park

President Stephen Elliott Senior Vice President

Gary Leslie Junior Vice President

Denis Gardiner Honorary Secretary

Honorary Treasurer

Greg Irwin Competitions Secretary

EXECUTIVE TEAM

Shane Logan Chief Executive Chris Webster Domestic Rugby Manager Audrey Robinson Financial Controller

Head of Sales & Marketing

Director of Rugby

Operations Director



Kingspan Stadium, 134 Mount Merrion Avenue Belfast, BT6 0FT T +44 (0)28 9049 3222

ulsterrugby.com



Chief Executive Officer, PRO14 Rugby Welcome



The historic moments keep coming in the Guinness PRO14 as South Africa readies itself to host their first-ever Championship games this weekend.

The Southern Kings will welcome four-time champions Leinster Rugby to Nelson Mandela Bay Stadium in Port Elizabeth on Saturday before the Toyota Cheetahs take on Zebre in Bloemfontein later that evening.

To all our new fans in South Africa I wish to welcome you and your clubs to the Guinness PRO14 and we share your excitement about what lies ahead. Of course, it's not been an easy start to the season for the Cheetahs and the Kings, but both clubs have already won plenty of supporters with their free-flowing approach to the game.

We're looking forward to seeing them grow into the Championship and I'm sure there will be plenty for their home crowds to shout about this weekend.

Of course, the addition of the Cheetahs and the Kings has brought positive change to the Championship with a Conference system and an extended Guinness PRO14 Final Series. The Top 3 from each Conference will qualify which gives your team an even greater chance of reaching the knock-outs and emulating Scarlets' sensational title win.

It's great for us to have SuperSport on board to broadcast our games in South Africa while Eurosport have also continued on as our broadcast partners in Italy which is terrific news for fans right across the Championship. In fact, their addition to our stable of broadcast partners means that the Guinness PRO14 is available in over 155 countries and territories across the world.

We've also worked closely with our unions to schedule those Derbies away from international windows, too. Like you, we want to see the best players in the best games because we are hugely proud of the 295 Internationals who played in the Championship last season, not to mention the 26 called up for the British & Irish Lions tour.

You only have to look at our recent champions in Scarlets, Connacht, Glasgow Warriors and Leinster to see the type of adventurous rugby it takes to win our title. Looking back to the previous campaign we saw a record number of tries scored (711) while crowds were up and nowhere was that more evident than at the Final at Aviva Stadium.

A new record attendance saw Scarlets' scintillating play prove too much for Munster in a game that showcased the attacking calibre of our Championship. Just one of the reasons that makes it so exciting to bring the first ever Guinness PRO14 Final to Dublin on May 26, 2018.

I'm also delighted to say we will again implement an Early Bird offer for fans who decide to back their teams and buy their tickets well in advance on www.ticketmaster.ie where prices start from ≤ 5 for Children and ≤ 30 for adults.

Martin Anayi

Chief Executive Officer



26TH MAY | AVIVA STADIUM TICKETMASTER.IE PRO14RUGBY.ORG

*EARLY BIRD OFFER BUY NOW AND SAVE!

17/18 ULSTER RUGBY HOME JERSEY

Available now In store and online



ULSTER

Tobermor

KUKRI

() STEP

K

kingspan

ulsterrugbyshop.com

ULSTER

KUKRI

Kingspan



KUKRI

Kingspar

∦ Kukri

TONIGHT'S MASCOTS



FAITH LUCAS (8)

Faith is from Richhill. She attends Hardy Memorial School and enjoys Musical Theatre and Art. Faith is a big fan of Sparky and enjoys hearing the crowd sing 'Stand up for the Ulster men' during match nights at Kingspan Stadium. Rory Best is her favourite player because he plays for Ulster and Ireland as well as the British & Irish Lions. When she grows up, Faith would like to be an actor, a rugby player or a vet.



JOHNNY GILLESPIE (10)

Johnny is from Belfast and attends Fullerton House School. He plays rugby for Belfast Harlequins and also enjoys swimming and tennis. Johnny's big brother once got to play Mini Rugby at half time at Kingspan Stadium and Johnny would love the chance to do one better by being a Mascot for the night. Rory Best is Johnny's favourite player because he is a skilled leader. Johnny would like to be a vet when he grows up.



QUESTION TIME WITH SEAN REIDY

Sean Reidy, who topped the PRO12 last season for tackles made, continued that form into the new season with a typically all-action performance away to Treviso, in what was his first start of the campaign following a replacement appearance in the Round 1 win over the Cheetahs.

We spoke to the New Zealand born back row to get his thoughts on Ulster's start to the season, the competition for places in the team, and the challenge of Scarlets.

Last Saturday Ulster made it two wins from two with a hard fought win over Treviso in Italy. What were your thoughts on the game?

Going away to Treviso is always very tough. They are a very proud and passionate team, especially at home, so we knew it was going to be a tough challenge. Obviously, there are a few things we need to work on and it was quite tight at the end but it is good that the boys stuck it out, showing their strength of character and holding on to get the win.

At stages of the game we did very well, particularly with a couple of early scores, but Treviso stormed back into the game in the second half. What did you put that down to?

Without a doubt, there were a few handling errors on our part which gave them the opportunity to get back in the game. However, we did create a lot of opportunities and had we finished one or two more of them off, it could have been a different story, so it goes both ways.

You played the full 80 minutes against Treviso, and lead the team with 14 tackles. Did you enjoy getting the full run out?

I am happy to get the time under my belt. I think I played 20-30 minutes against the Cheetahs, then to get another 80 minutes is a fantastic opportunity to further build on my match fitness. You can do as much pre-season training as you want but until you actually get out there, it's a different story.

Looking at the back row options - at the weekend we saw Matty Rea making his debut, while Jean Deysel, Marcell Coetzee and Chris Henry have all featured prominently recently

too – there seems to be good competition for places in there?

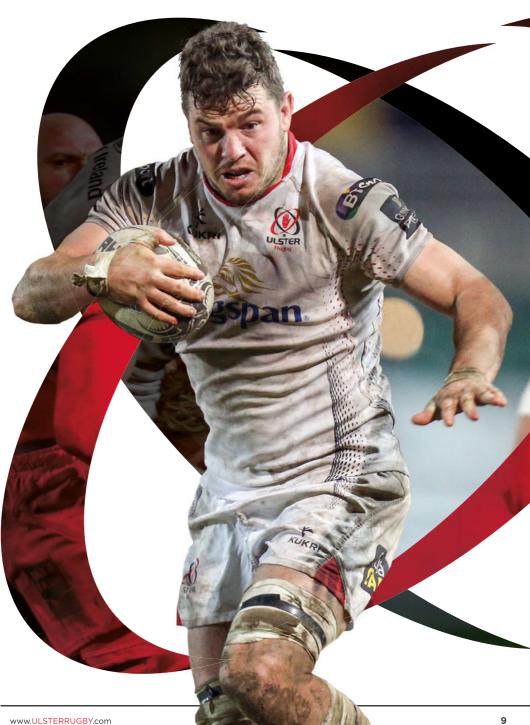
Yeah there is strong competition for places in the back row. You've also got guys like Clive Ross and Nick Timoney knocking on the door plus lain Henderson still to come back, so compared to previous seasons there is a lot of depth there, in fact there is a lot of good options throughout the whole team. Generally, the backs have a lot of depth so it's good to see more guys vying for spots in the forwards with everyone trying to push each other on at training. We are all aware of the importance of the match-day performance so with that kind of depth there if you don't give your best on the day you're not going to be starting.

From the two pre-season trials and the opening two PRO14 games we've seen a lot of guys getting a chance to put their hand up for a place on the team. That must further enhance the competitive edge among the squad?

I think it has a really positive impact on morale and keeps the competition among players alive. Everyone deserves a chance and it is great to see that coaches are prepared to share those chances. It is up to each player to make the most of those opportunities and it is great to see everyone stepping up and doing so.

Tonight, we face the Scarlets on home turf. They are already a team on form this season, following their success last year. What are your thoughts of the challenge they pose tonight?

We know that the Scarlets are a real threat. If you just look at how they performed last season and again at the start of this season, it's clear that they will present a real challenge. They've got class right across the board so we will have our work cut out for us but we're ready for it. We love being back here at Kingpsan Stadium and we're looking forward to going after them.





MADE OF MORE

drinkaware.co.uk for the facts

2015

WHAT'S ON

#SUFTUM

OFFERING TOP TUNES AND CHAT FROM THE FAN ZONE **Q RADIO BUS**

RIVER ROCK PASSING CHALLENGE PUT YOUR RUGBY SKILLS TO THE TEST WITH THE RIVER ROCK CREW

STRIKE A POSE AND CAPTURE A SOUVENIR FOR РНОТО ВООТН THE PHOTO ALBUM

LIVE MUSIC BY FANTASTIC, TWO-PIECE KOBEE IN THE CLUBHOUSE BAR

THE FOOD VILLAGE, LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE FAN HUNGRY? ZONE, OFFERS 8 DIFFERENT STREET FOOD VENDORS

S STATES & CHOOSE FROM A RANGE OF BARS INCLUDING: THIRSTY?

- » THE POP UP PROSECCO BAR LOCATED IN THE FAN ZONE
- » THE SCRUM BAR & LINE OUT BAR LOCATED IN MEMORIAL STAND

» THE CLUBHOUSE & HEINEKEN QUARTER BAR

LOCATED IN THE GRAND STAND

SHARE YOUR PICS FROM THE MATCH WITH **#SUFTUM TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!**

An unmissable line up on BT Sport

Visit bt.com/sport or call 0800 201 2201





LUKE MARSHALL ANSWERS FAN QUESTIONS

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE MOVIE OF ALL TIME? Gladiator

HOW WOULD YOUR TEAMMATES DESCRIBE YOU IN THREE WORDS? Happy. Simple. Aquatic.

WHAT SONG MAKES YOU WANT TO DANCE? Whitney Houston – I wanna dance with somebody

WHAT SCARES YOU THE MOST AND WHY? Clowns – don't know why

WHAT ACHIEVEMENT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF?

Achieving an A* in my GCSE French exam

IF YOU HAD A BOAT, WHAT WOULD YOU NAME IT? Elysium K

KUKRI

WHICH PLAYER HAS THE MOST USELESS TALENT AND WHAT IS IT?

Andy Warwick – he has a lorry licence

WHAT IS THE MOST RIDICULOUS FACT OR PHRASE YOU KNOW? Some man for one man

IF YOU COULD PLAY WITH ANY RUGBY LEGEND WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHY? Jonah Lomu – just give him the ball

TELL US SOMETHING WE DON'T ALREADY KNOW ABOUT YOURSELF? I want to be a fisherman when I retire

QUICKFIRE

ITALIAN FOOD / CHINESE FOOD MOVIE / THEATRE STAR WARS / INDIANA JONES EUROPE / AMERICA HIKE / BIKE BUNGEE JUMP / SKY DIVE UP EARLY / LIE IN SUPER MARIO / SONIC PLAYSTATION / X BOX IRON MAN / CAPTAIN AMERICA SUPERMAN / BATMAN X FACTOR / STRICTLY COME DANCING DOG / CAT

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT LUKE FOLLOW HIM ON TWITTER @LUKEMARSHALL121 K

KUKR



DIUM

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

DIGITAL EXHIBITS

INTERACTIVE GAMES



ADULTS £7.50 CHILDREN £5.50 CONCESSION £6.50 FAMILIES £25.00 (2+2)

ULSTERRUGBY.COM/VISITOREXPERIENCE

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY CLUB CHAPLAIN, REV. ANDREW THOMPSON, ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF NEVIN SPENCE

Five years ago today, on a beautifully sunny September Saturday evening, an unspeakable tragedy unfolded at a farm between Hillsborough and Dromara.

Noel Spence and his two sons, Graham and Nevin, died within moments of one another in the same catastrophic circumstances, and in those moments the Spence family was plunged into unimaginable heartache. Our thoughts and our prayers are, first and foremost, with them today.

The impact of this tragedy was huge and was amplified by the fact that Nevin was a young up and coming star of Ulster & Irish rugby. Nevin was greatly loved and respected by all at Ulster Rugby, not only because of his prodigious sporting talent but also because he was a young man of immense charm, quirky humour, quiet humility and deep faith.

On this day, in each of the years since Nevin's death, the Ulster Rugby squad has gathered to spend some time together doing what they vowed to do when he died: the Ulster captain at the time. Johann Muller said. "As long as this great club exists, the person and the player, Nevin Spence, will never be forgotten". And so, before tonight's match at Kingspan Stadium the whole squad will come together again to remember Nevin, to reflect quietly and privately on his memory and his legacy. How they feel about him is best summed up by the simple words which have been emblazoned for the last five years on the treatment bag of the Ulster Head Physio, Gareth Robinson: "Nevin Spence - Always With Us".

This is no mere sentimentality. Nevin is "always with us", in that he has laid down a tremendous example for others to follow; his courage, his commitment, his work ethic, his love of the game, his respectfulness on and off the field of play and his humble spirit – these are the very epitome of what is good about the game of rugby and the example set by Nevin serves as a unifying force and an inspiration for everyone who is involved with rugby in Ulster at whatever level, in whatever capacity. These values are celebrated in the centre at Kingspan Stadium, which bears Nevin's name. Here, the generations to come will hear Nevin's story and those who never met him or saw him play will come to understand what was special about Nevin – the person and the player.

That phrase, "Always With Us", also well describes the God who was the central focus and foundation of Nevin Spence's life. The Bible is full of wonderful reminders that God is always with us – He is not remote or disinterested in our lives; He is not a "fair weather friend" who sidles away from us when life gets messy or difficult. He is with us and for us; by our side and on our side and He demonstrated His commitment to us by stepping down into our world and experiencing life as we do, as Immanuel – "God with us".

Nevin knew the reality of God with him in the highs and lows of life and rugby – that presence gave him a tremendous perspective in the good times and a peace in the tough times. And God was with Nevin, and with Noel and Graham right to the last – and now they are with Him.

The same God is with you too today, whatever circumstances you are waking up to in your life, however complex or distressing.

Today we remember Nevin Spence – always with us; and we trust in Nevin's God – always with us too.



PEEL ENJOYING LATEST CHALLENGE IN A DISTINGUISHED CAREER



Having joined from Bristol Rugby during the summer, Assistant Coach Dwayne Peel has guickly settled into life in Belfast and is enjoying the challenges presented in his new role.

"I was familiar with Ulster, having been here many times as a player, and was absolutely delighted to have the opportunity to coach here. The talent within the Ulster group alone is a highly attractive pull, but the history of the Province and the great pride of its supporters also appealed to me and I couldn't let the opportunity slip, so here I am about 12 weeks into my contract and enjoying every minute so far. I really enjoy working and living here and feel that my family and I have settled well into Ulster life. The people have been so accepting and welcoming, which makes moving to a new place with a young family a lot easier."

During a distinguished playing career, Peel was capped 76 times for Wales and was a member of the Grand Slam winning Six Nations teams of 2005 and 2008, while he also toured New Zealand with the British & Irish Lions. Having started his career with Llanelli RFC, Peel linked up with the newly formed Scarlets in 2003, where he would make 81 appearances over the following five years, so he knows a thing or two about the opposition faced by Ulster tonight.

"ONE THING THAT WE'RE ALL CLEAR ON IS THE FACT THAT WE ARE ALL IN IT TOGETHER, WE'RE FOCUSING ON WHERE WE NEED TO GET TO AND WORKING HARD TO GET THERE

capacity, he is full of respect for the work done by the Scarlets coaching team, with particular mention for his former teammate and good friend Stephen Jones, the current Backs Coach.

"It's evident that the coaching group at Scarlets has been together for a while now. They're doing some good stuff and the players are producing some great rugby. Stephen, in particular, has had a really positive impact on the team but as a whole the Scarlets are fulfilling their potential at the moment and have a lot of exciting young players to watch out for.

> "We will have to work hard to contain them and impose ourselves on the game. It is important that we don't feed their attack by giving them loose ball to play off and work to maximise each opportunity we get. It is as simple as that."

> With nine points picked up from the opening two rounds of the PRO14, Peel states that he is reasonable happy with what he has seen so far. but acknowledges there is room for improvement in the weeks ahead

"I'm happy with where Ulster is at the moment. We've worked hard over the off-season to put new structures in place. There are, of course, a few issues from both of our opening games that we need to iron out. We reviewed the last game against Treviso guite heavily and identified areas where we could do better so we're working away steadily and hoping to improve week on week.

"As a coaching group we've been working hard together to get unity and identify where we want to go. One thing that we're all clear on is the fact that we are all in it together, we're focusing on where we need to get to and working hard to get there together."

TOGETHER" "I spent most of my career with the Scarlets as a

player and I know it's going to be a tough game for us tonight. They are the form team at the moment and have been for the last few months. They were deserved champions last season and have started the season well with two convincing wins, so they present a big challenge for us, but it is one that we have prepared and are ready for so we are looking forward to it."

Peel joined the Bristol squad in 2014 but an ongoing shoulder injury forced him into premature retirement and down the coaching route in 2016. As he continues to cut his teeth in a coaching





JOIN NOW

PICK YOUR TEAM COMPETE AGAINST YOUR FRIENDS WIN GREAT PRIZES

PLAY NOW AT FANTASY.PRO14RUGBY.ORG

GUINNESS PRO14 ULS TERRY DRAGGONS

K

ingso

ULSTER

FRI 22ND SEP - 7.35^{PM} ULSTERRUGBY.COM/BUYTICKETS











ULSTER ACADEMY+ AGE-GRADE TEAM FIXTURES

ABBEY INSURANCE ULSTER RUGBY ACADEMY

18.08.2017 24.08.2017 01.09.2017	Leinster Ulster Munster	30 - 34 10 - 22 29 - 21	Ulster Ulster Club Select Ulster		3.30pm 6.30pm 5.30pm			
DANSKE BANK ULSTER U18 SCHOOLS								
28.08.2017 02.09.2017 16.09.2017 23.09.2017	Munster Ulster Ulster Leinster	10 - 9 18 - 17 - -	Ulster Leinster Munster Ulster	Thomond Park Campbell College RBAI Donnybrook	3.00pm 1.30pm 2.30pm			
ULSTER U18 CLUBS								
09.09.2017 17.09.2017 23.09.2017 ULSTER U	Ulster Munster Ulster 19	0 - 45 - -	Leinster Ulster Connacht	City of Armagh RFC Thomond Park City of Armagh RFC	1.00pm 1.00pm 2.30pm			
03.09.2017 09.09.2017 16.09.2017 ULSTER U	Connacht Leinster Ulster 18 GIRLS	27 - 21 59 - 15 -	Ulster Ulster Munster	Sportsground Donnybrook RBAI	1.00pm 2.30pm 3.30pm			
24.09.2017 30.09.2017 07.10.2017	Ulster Leinster Munster	:	Connacht Ulster Ulster	Virginia RFC North Kildare RFC Barnhall RFC	3.00pm 1.30pm 3.00pm			
	1			and the second s				





We Search, You Save on home insurance

08000 66 55 44 abbeyinsurance.co.uk



* if we can't beat your current home insurance renewal price!



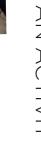


Abbey Insurance Brokers Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority





Ethan Donaldson meeting Sparky at OUR Club HQ



Pictured are Ian Wallace, Ulster prop Schalk van der Merwe and Paul Brockman before the Ulster v Cheetahs match in PRO14 Round 1



Ethan and Chloe Nesbitt at OUR Club HQ





Callum Patterson with a young Ulster fan

Ollie Morriss meeting Ulster Director of Rugby, Les Kiss

AN ASTONISHING TALENT SMILES ON

That shock of blond hair was unmistakeable, as was that winning smile, that powerful stride, the tumbling tackle, the slide-rule pass and the unstoppable sprint for the line.

In life, as in his rugby, 22-year-old Nevin Spence was possessed of a generous, mischievous delight in doing the right thing, keeping to the straightest of lines and being grateful for the sport, family and friends who allowed his refreshing spirit to flourish.

Part of a gifted generation of young Ulstermen who found a career path in professional sport, he took nothing for granted: he'd been introduced to rugby at Dromore High School, his talents honed at Wallace High School and at Ballynahinch Rugby Club. His progress was as rapid as his rapier midfield try-scoring thrusts, and his abilities and application in the Ulster Academy meant that international recognition was inevitable. Two Junior World Championships, eleven appearances for Ireland Under 20s confirmed the presence of a major talent.

He made his professional debut for Ulster against the Ospreys in April 2010 as a teenager, and in the following two campaigns he played a further 41 times.

As the sport lauded the arrival of a new, emphatically unshowy star, Nevin's good humour and grip on reality – even when stalled by some tiresome shoulder injuries – never wavered, definitely bolstered by the solid foundations of life on the family farm near Hillsborough.

There, with his parents Essie and Noel, and older siblings Graham, Emma and Laura he was simply 'wee Nev', part of an industrious unit who worked hard and enjoyed the fruits of their labours in the beautiful swathe of fields which was a welcome respite from the rigours of training, playing important matches in league and in Europe – and from the good-natured but often barbed banter of dressing room filled with a cluster of world-famous names and friends with whom he'd grown up in the game.

In early 2011, a World Cup year, Ireland coach Declan Kidney included the 20-year-old in his Six Nations training squad, and the accolade from his peers as the IRUPA's Young Player of the Year confirmed his arrival at rugby's top table.

Nevin Spence was an unassuming young man, assured certainly, but genuinely grateful for the athletic gifts which were inevitably propelling him to full international status. He was a fan favourite, his passion for the game and for the shirt he wore at Ravenhill evident in totally committed performances studded with brave physicality and astonishing creativity. Along with other superb centres such as Darren Cave and Luke Marshall he was an Ulsterman in every sense of the word, and never more so when his brilliance in a white shirt, whether in thrilling attack or sterling defence had supporters roaring their approval and appreciation of a beloved team and an unique individual talent.

One sunny afternoon, five years ago today, just a day after Nevin and his family had watched Ulster edge past old rivals Munster in the league, the horrendous and still bewildering tragedy struck at the Spence farm. Nevin, his father and brother were killed, his sister Emma only just survived, as they did what they enjoyed doing most: working together, tending the stock and the land they held dear, and, most of all, looking out for each other.

The outpouring of grief was not confined to the community of sport, it was evident throughout the country and beyond, immediate and almost inconsolable acknowledgement demonstrated in many ways. The silences which prefaced rugby and other events for a week and longer spoke volumes for the respect in which Graham and Noel were held, and the void they left, and it disbelievingly celebrated the life and joyous times of one of our sporting heroes: 'Wee Nev'.

Legacy is often difficult to describe accurately or with the humanity it so often represented in the character, personality, warmth and outrageous potential of someone who had the grace of Nevin Spence.

His team-mates immediately insisted that his inspiration and his essence be marked every time they lined out with his initial proudly etched alongside the Ulster badge.

Kingspan Stadium created the Nevin Spence Centre not only to permanently recognise his influence but to offer a tangible record of what Ulster Rugby did for him and continues to do for youngsters who, like him, enjoyed 'messing about with a ball'. The Centre is no solemn memorial to the haunting memories of the past but rather it is as full of vitality and colourful ideas as was the player, and the man, who gives it its evocative name.

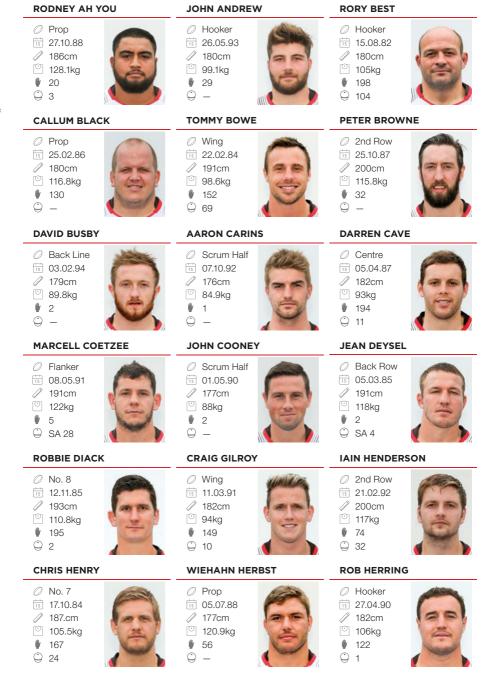
Nevin Spence was a spectacularly-talented rugby footballer, a thoroughly likeable and decent human being, his nature forged by a family and a community he loved with relish. In these hardened, cynical times he was, and remains, inspirationally normal and good.



ARTICLE BY ROD NAWN FREELANCE JOURNALIST AND SPORTS ENTHUSIAST © RODNAWN1







6

ULSTE

BRETT HERRON	ROSS KANE	CHRISTIAN LEALIIFANO	
 Out Half 13.11.95 № 89.9kg 7 - 	 Prop 14.10.94 179cm 113.5kg 11 − 	 Out Half 24.09.87 24.09.87 180cm 91kg 2 AUS 19 	
	ROB LYTTLE	LUKE MARSHALL	Rugby
 ➢ Full Back ○ 08.10.86 ➢ 182cm ○ 92.4kg ○ 56 ○ - 	 ⊘ Wing 28.01.97 ⊘ 174cm ⊗ 86.2kg ♥ 8 ♀ - 	 ⊘ Centre 13 03.03.91 ≫ 180cm № 98kg ♥ 105 ♀ 11 	ULSTER
PAUL MARSHALL	KYLE McCALL	STUART McCLOSKEY	J
 ⊘ Scrum Half 26.07.85 ⊘ 170cm ♡ 76.0kg ◊ 195 ♀ 3 	 Prop 02.01.92 177cm 106.7kg 37 − 	 Centre 06.08.92 190cm 108.8kg €0 1 	SQUAD
JOHNNY McPHILLIPS	PETER NELSON	ALAN O'CONNOR	20
JOHNNY McPHILLIPS Ø Out Half 13.04.97 180cm 88.9kg ▶ − ⊖ − ⊖ − ⊖ − ⊖ −	PETER NELSON Ø Full Back Image: 05.10.92 Image: 05.10.92 Image: 05.10.92 Image: 05.10	ALAN O'CONNOR	SQUAD 2017/18
 Out Half 13.04.97 180cm 88.9kg - - - TOMMY O'HAGAN 	 Ø Full Back 5.10.92 Ø 180cm Ø 87kg 	 ⊘ 2nd Row ⇒ 10.09.92 ⊘ 195cm ≌ 113.2kg 	2017/18
 Out Half 13.04.97 180cm 88.9kg - - - 	 Ø Full Back 180cm 87kg 39 − 	 2nd Row 10.09.92 195cm 113.2kg 40 - 	2017/18
Out Half 13.04.97 180cm 88.9kg -	 Full Back 05.10.92 180cm 87Kg 39 - JACK OWENS JACK OWENS Ø Wing 04.10.95 Ø 189cm 98.6kg 1	 2nd Row 10.09.92 195cm 113.2kg 40 - Callum Patterson Centre 10.08.92 181cm 	2017/18

Should've gone to Specsavers

Official partner of the Guinness PRO14 referees

Specsavers

©2017 Specsavers. All rights reserved.

SEAN REIDY	CLIVE ROSS	DAVE SHANAHAN			
 ⊘ Back Row ☆ 10.05.89 ⊘ 182cm ♡ 103kg ◊ 60 ♀ 2 	 ⊘ Back Row ☆ 14.06.89 沙 190cm ♡ 107.2kg ◊ 52 ♀ - 	 ⊘ Scrum Half 20.06.93 √ 174cm ♡ 77.4kg ♥ 15 ♀ - 	ULSTER		
JONNY SIMPSON	JACOB STOCKDALE	KIERAN TREADWELL	Rugby		
 ⊘ Prop 19.08.90 ⊘ 182cm ♡ 108.3kg ♀ 4 ♀ - 	 Centre 03.04.96 190cm 102kg 25 2 	 2nd Row 06.11.95 198cm 115kg 22 2 	ULSTER		
ANDREW TRIMBLE	SCHALK VAN DER MERWE	ANDREW WARWICK			
 ⊘ Wing 20.10.84 ✓ 185cm ♡ 98kg ♀ 219 ♀ 70 	 Prop 04.12.90 № 184cm № 110kg Ψ 	 ⊘ Prop 12.03.91 № 177cm ♡ 113kg ♥ 75 ♀ - 	SQUAD 2017/18		
PLAYER STATS Keep up to date with the latest player profiles, career stats and squad news at www.ulsterrugby.com.					



PLAYER STATS





JLSTE

JLSTER RUBGY



TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE MARIUS MITREA FIR, 70TH COMPETITION GAME ASSISTANT REFEREES VINCENZO SCHIPANI FIR | KIERAN BARRY IRFU TMO ALAN FALZONE FIR

A FUTURE BUILT WITH OUR PEOPLE

With over 10,000 employees worldwide Kingspan is committed to providing a safe, enterprising and exciting workplace for all employees.



www.kingspan.com





Tobermore PAVING & WALLING

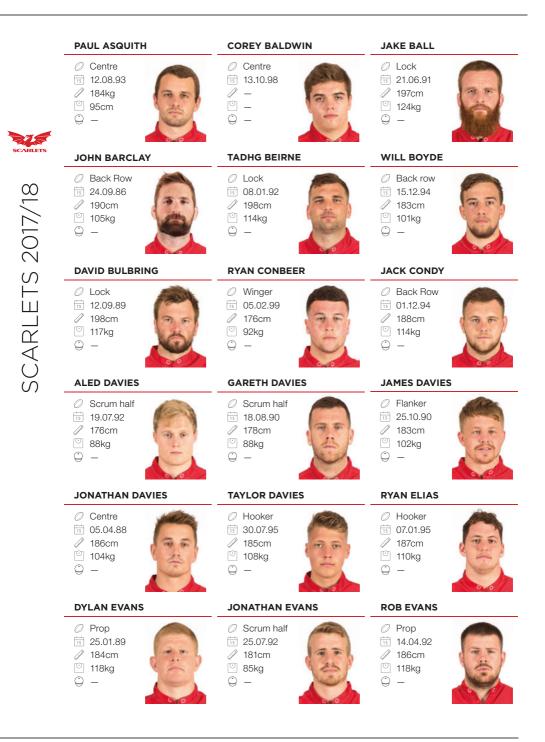
KICK OFF the new season by **TACKLING** your outdoor space!

For details on our landscape design services just get in touch!

www.tobermore.co.uk | 028 7964 2411 | 🗗 🗹 🞯

ROB EVANS	15 LEIGH HALFPENN	GUINNISS PROJO
2 KEN OWENS C	14 Јонилу менісно	
SAMSON LEE	13 HADLEIGH PARKE	SC
JAKE BALL	12 SCOTT WILLIAMS	ETS
5 TADHG BEIRNE	11 STEFF EVANS	
6 AARON SHINGLER	10 RHYS PATCHELL	
7 WILL BOYDE	9 GARETH DAVIES	
8 JOHN BARCLAY	REPLACEMENTS16R ELIAS20J MACLEOD17W JONES21J EVANS18W KRUGER22R JONES19D BULBRING23J DAVIES	
V GUINNESS PRO	KUKRI Kingspan ULSTER Main Sponsor of Ulster Rugby	

 \tilde{U}



SHAUN EVANS	STEFF EVANS	RHYS FAWCETT	
 ⊘ Back Row 14.09.96 ⊘ 183cm ⊙ 99kg ⊙ - 	 ⊘ Winger ⊙ 01.09.94 ⊘ 182cm ⊙ 95kg ⊖ - 	 Prop 09.10.96 185cm 116kg - 	
SIMON GARDINER	TOM GRABHAM	LEIGH HALFPENNY	SCARLETS
 ⊘ Prop 10.02.90 ⊘ - ⊘ - ○ - 	 ⊘ Winger ⇒ 20.06.91 ⊘ 178cm ⊗ 88kg ⊖ - 	 ✓ Fullback 178cm № 85kg ✓ - 	SCARLI
JOSH HELPS	DAFYDD HUGHES	STEFFAN HUGHES	
 ∠ock 22.12.94 197cm 117kg − 	 Hooker 08.01.96 178cm 101kg - 	 ⊘ Centre 17.02.94 ⊘ 180cm ⊙ 95kg ⊙ - 	-S 2017/18
DAN JONES	RHYS JONES	WYN JONES	$\overrightarrow{0}$
⊘ Fly half	Ø Fullback	O Prop	
 183cm 92kg □ 	 5 23.08.87 № 180cm 90kg — 	 26.02.92 № 184cm № 120kg ♀ - 	
 ✓ 183cm ◯ 92kg 	 ✓ 180cm ☑ 90kg 	 184cm 120kg 	
 ✓ 183cm ✓ 92kg ✓ - 	 ✓ 180cm ◯ 90kg ◯ - 	 ✓ 184cm ☑ 120kg ☑ - 	
 ✓ 183cm ✓ 92kg ✓ - ✓ WERNER KRUGER ✓ Prop ✓ 23.01.85 ✓ 191cm 	 ✓ 180cm ✓ 90kg ✓ - ✓ SAMSON LEE ✓ Prop ✓ 30.11.92 ✓ 180cm 	 ✓ 184cm ◯ 120kg ◯ - ✓ JOSH MACLEOD Ø Back Row ◯ 27.10.96 ✓ 189cm 	



GUINNESS PROJA

JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

@PRO14OFFICIAL
#GUINNESSPRO14

IOAN NICHOLAS	KEN OWENS	HADLEIGH PARKES	
 Centre 03.04.98 № 185cm № 84kg ♀ - 	 Hooker 03.01.87 № 184cm 97kg — 	 ⊘ Centre is 05.10.87 № 187cm № 100kg ♀ - 	725
RHYS PATCHELL	EMYR PHILLIPS	TOM PHILLIPS	SCARLETS
 Piy half 17.05.93 191cm 92kg - 	 Hooker 22.02.87 № 183cm № 108kg ● - 	 ⊘ Back Row 13.02.96 ⊘ 193cm ♡ 110kg ⊙ - 	SCARLETS
TOM PRICE	TOM PRYDIE	LEWIS RAWLINS	ίπ
 ◇ Lock 122.01.93 ◇ 203cm ○ 117kg ○ - 	 ⊘ Wing 13.02.92 ⊘ 188cm ⊙ 95kg ⊙ - 	 ○ Lock 13.04.90 ◇ 198cm ♡ 115kg ○ - 	TS 2017/18
AARON SHINGLER	DECLAN SMITH	NICKY THOMAS	100
 ⊘ Back row 107.08.87 ⊘ 197cm 108kg ⊖ - 	 ⊘ Scrum half 14.09.97 ⊘ 175cm ⊗ 87kg ⊙ - 	 ⊘ Prop 26.08.94 ⊘ 189cm № 125kg ♀ - 	
SCOTT WILLIAMS	MORGAN WILLIAMS	TOM WILLIAMS	
 ⊘ Centre 10.10.90 № 185cm № 99kg ♀ 	 ⊘ Winger □ 	 Winger 02.04.91 190cm 95kg → 	
PLAYE	R STATS		

Keep up to date with the latest player profiles, career stats and squad news at www.scarlets.co.uk

SCARLETS



Connect to

_UlsterRugby_WiFi

& register for free access

THINGS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO KNOW... ABOUT THE SCARLETS !

The club was officially rebranded as the Scarlets in 2008, but is inextricably linked with its original and celebrated rugby mecca, Llanelli in South Wales.

When the Welsh Rugby Union proposed reducing its top tier of professional clubs from nine to five, Llanelli Scarlets and Cardiff stood firm, rejected plans to merge with others, and retained their stand-alone identities.

03

02

01

The Scarlets officially represent the West and North Wales regions and occasionally played in Wrexham.

04

Stradey Park was the celebrated home of Llanelli Scarlets and the historic ground staged its last game there in October 2008, against Bristol.

05

The Scarlets are the reigning Guinness PRO14 champions (formerly PRO12) and topped the inaugural Celtic League in 2003/2004 – four points clear of Ulster.

The club moved to its new state-of-the-art Parc Y Scarlets home in nearby Pemberton in November 2008.

07

06

The current backs coach, former Welsh and Lions' out-half Stephen Jones, is the club's record scorer with 2,850 points. 08

09

10

The Scarlets President is Phil Bennett, the great Llanelli, Wales and Lions out-half and a link with the club's rich preprofessional history.

Former Ireland skipper Simon

captain, and was Head Coach

from 2012-2014, before joining

Scarlets has provided 40 players

Joe Schmidt's international

who have represented their

countries at least 20 times.

coaching team.

Easterby is a former Scarlets

Ulster and Scarlets have met competitively 39 times – with honours even at 18 wins apiece, and three drawn games.





SCARLETS



ABBEY INSURANCE ULSTER ACADEMY ADAM MCBURNEY

NAME Adam McBurney DOB 05.09.96

PREFERED POSITION Hooker PREVIOUS TEAMS Randalstown RFC

HONOURS Ulster U18/19/20, Ireland U18/20

RUGBY INFLUENCES Brother/Uncle, Randalstown RFC Coaches

SPORTING IDOLS Richie McCaw

RUGBY AMBITION Have a successful professional career for club and country

BEST ADVICE YOU HAVE RECEIVED Hard work beats talent

DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN 3 WORDS Sarcastic / Physical / Happy

STRONGEST AREA OF YOUR GAME Defence

AREA TO WORK ON Fitness

THING YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT RUGBY The contact / competition

OTHER HOBBIES Cinema, table tennis

FAVOURITE MOVIE Zero Dark Thirty

PRE-GAME SONG 50 Cent - Many Men

CHEAT MEAL Chinese and ice cream





WOMEN'S RUGBY WORLD CUP: REVIEW

() WORLD CUP WOMEN'S WOMEN'S RUGBY WORLD CUP 2017 A few weeks have passed since New Zealand's Back Ferns were crowned champions of the Women's Rugby World Cup 2017, but the jubilant echoes ring on in support of female rugby.



Not only was 2017 the best attended Women's Rugby World Cup in history but it generated the most engagement. Unlike any other edition, Ireland 2017 captured hearts and minds, prompting fervent enthusiasm among the previously indifferent and laying strong foundations for the growth of Women's Rugby both here on the island of Ireland and beyond.

THE STATS

THE BEST ATTENDED

Ireland 2017 raised the bar in terms of support throughout the tournament with a record total attendance of 45,412, showcasing rugby to new audiences:

- » The pool stages in Dublin sold out with 17,516 attending matches
- » The final stages in Belfast attracted over 27,000 spectators across the semi-finals and finals day
- » 51% of spectators attending the finals stages where from outside of the Isle of Ireland

THE MOST VIEWED

The tournament captured hearts and minds across the globe with Ireland, France, the UK and USA all recording record viewing figures:

- » A new tournament record of a peak audience of 3.2 million tuned in for the France v England semi-final
- A peak of 2.65 million tuned in to watch the final scheduled on ITV's main channel - the largest single audience for a Women's Rugby World Cup final and almost half of the audience for the men's final in the UK at RWC 2015

THE MOST ENGAGED

Ireland 2017 was the most socially engaged World Rugby event of 2017, generating record video views, social engagement rates and website traffic, inspiring a new, younger audience:

- » 45 million views across official tournament platforms, the best-performing World Rugby event of the year and the biggest since Rugby World Cup 2015
- » There were 63,000 uses of #WRWC2017 and in total, while 50,000 new fans joined World Rugby's social media communities
- » 600,000 unique users visited www. rwcwomens.com over the duration of the tournament from 223 different territories, generating four times as many page views as WRWC 2014









THE LEGACY

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT PROJECT

As a direct result of, and in attempt to build on, the success of WRWC 2017 Ulster Rugby will deliver a Women's Rugby World Cup Legacy Project funded by Sport NI and the Department for Communities. Clubs, based in Northern Ireland, are invited to participate.

The overarching aim of this project is to enhance the capability and sustainability of female rugby at club level. Activities provided for clubs will include:

- » A club audit of female rugby volunteering to identify areas of need
- » Tailored volunteer training workshops
- » Participation in volunteer recruitment events
- » 12 week female 'Give it a try' programmes at each club delivered by Ulster Branch coaches
- » Participating clubs will be provided with a rugby equipment 'Legacy Pack' worth £250 along with printed resources to support volunteers in their roles and assist with succession planning.
- » 20 clubs will be selected to participate in the project and activities will run until March 2018. Enquire at your local club to be a part of this exciting opportunity.

For more information, or to apply for this opportunity, please email eliza.downey@ ulsterrugby.com.

Please note: applications close at 12.00 noon on Monday 18th September.



PARTICIPATION PROJECT

To kick start activities around the Women's Rugby World Cup Legacy Project, Ulster Rugby invites young female participants to 'Give it a Try' at Kingspan Stadium.

Running for 5 consecutive weeks, from 23 September, Ulster Rugby Coaches, in collaboration with local clubs, will host a 5 week introductory rugby programme for girls who want to play the game.

This programme is aimed at girls aged 10-17 (P7 - Year 13) and will take place from 12:45pm – 2pm on the Aquinas 4G Playing Pitch.

To book your place on the 'Give it a Try' programme at Kingspan Stadium, please email Jennifer.Boyd@ulsterrugby.com.

wно

Girls aged 10 to 17 (P7 to Year 13)

WHAT 'Give it a Try' Introductory female rugby programme

WHERE Kingspan Stadium

WHEN 23 September to 21 October

WHY To build on the Women's Rugby World Cup Legacy



A leading Energy provider offering excellent value Electricity & Gas to Commercial customers throughout NI & ROI

What makes us different;

- No switchboard
- Personal Account Management
- · Most competitive prices within the market
- Easy to switch

POWER

Online Account Management

Business



028 8676 0600

sales@gopower.energy

arming

www.gopower.co.uk



A leading energy provider offering Electricity and Gas to:

Industrial

REA KEEN TO MAKE MOST OF FIRST TEAM OPPORTUNITY

Having earned his stripes with his hometown club Ballymena RFC in the All-Ireland League, Matty Rea's impressive form was rewarded with a first Ulster cap in the opening round of the Guinness PRO14 versus the Cheetahs, before securing his first start for the Province last weekend in Treviso.

As Rea recounts, his path to the Ulster first team wasn't exactly straightforward:

"I played for Ulster U20s a couple of years ago but I dropped off the radar and so turned my focus to play as best I could at club level for Ballymena. Progressing from there, I got into the sub-Academy which helped my conditioning and further development. I suppose traditionally most players would've came into the Ulster pathway via the schools' system, so it was great for me that the coaching staff were keeping a close eye on the players in the club game."

From the sub-Academy Rea was projected straight into the senior panel ahead of the 2016/17 season, but it took a bit longer than expected before he would make his first senior appearance.

"For a long time, I'd looked forward to earning my first cap, but with various injuries last year and the impact that had on my fitness, it just didn't happen for me last season. So I suppose that has allowed me to enjoy these last two games even more. To get a run out in front of a big crowd at Kingspan Stadium then the start in Treviso was just fantastic.

"I had tried to prepare myself as best I could for my first start but I was still very nervous in the first 10 minutes. Thinking back to all the hard work and training I'd put in to get me to that point gave me the confidence to overcome those nerves and feeding off the energy of the rest of the team carried me through. I think it's healthy to have nerves if you don't let them get the better of you and once I settled into the game it was great."

Racking up 5 carries for 30 metres, 7 tackles and a turnover in his first start was a solid day's work for the 23-year-old but he is confident that he has much more to offer.

"Naturally, when playing with the professional squad, there is a big increase in intensity from anything I'd experienced before - even the collisions are heavier which takes it out of the legs a bit more. I am happy with my stats against Treviso and it is great to have that experience under my belt.

"Marcell (Coetzee) and Jean (Deysel) have laid a marker for the rest of us to step up to. It's good to have something to aim for as well as the support and experience of guys like Sean Reidy and Chris Henry to lean on. I still have a lot to learn but I am surrounded by a lot of experienced players so I'm looking forward to the year ahead."

Having already achieved the personal goals of making his home debut and first starting appearance, Rea has had to re-adjust his objectives for the remainder of the season.

"For now, my focus is to be involved and give as much as possible to the team. If I'm picked to start again that's all well and good but even if I'm not picked, I think I can still add a lot of value to the team as a whole."

Kings

MATTHEW REA

DOB 21.09.1993 BIRTHPLACE Ballymena HEIGHT 1.93m WEIGHT 110.91kg POSITION Back Row



TRAVEL TO SOUTH AFRICA

with Killester Travel Group

SOUTHERN KINGS V ULSTER RUGBY SATURDAY 4th NOVEMBER 2017

TRIP DATES

Tuesday 31st October 2017 to Sunday 5th November 2017

INCLUDED:

- » Economy flights with BA and South African Airways
- » Belfast or Dublin departure to Port Elizabeth via London and Johannesburg
- » 4 nights BB twin sharing in Radisson Blu Hotel, Port Elizabeth
- » Airport transfers
- » Match ticket

COSTS:

Belfast from £1185 per person sharing Dublin from £1125 per person sharing

Tailored trips can be arranged on request including Cape Town and other activities like wine tasting, safari, whale watching and golf.

Please contact Paddy Baird on rugby@killestertravel.com for details.



FEMALE RUGBY FESTIVAL AT MALONE RFC

On the eve of the Women's Rugby World Cup Final, Malone RFC, with the support of Belfast City Council, hosted Ireland's biggest ever female rugby festival. The event was a huge success, securing the participation of 24 teams from across the world.

Patrick Baird of Malone RFC President commented: "We have a thriving, and ever

growing women's and ladies section here at Malone and we are delighted to have had the opportunity to host this event and the support of the IRFU to help put female rugby on the map."

To find out more about female rugby opportunities near you please email Jennifer.Boyd@ulsterrugby.com.



PRO14 MATCH REPORT

BENETTON TREVISO V ULSTER RUGBY



GUINNESS PRO14 2017/18 ROUND 2 SATURDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER 2017 AT STADIO MONIGO ATTENDANCE 2,600



			_	
BENETTON TREVISO		STATS		ULSTER RUGBY
JHAYWARD		PERFORMANCE		L LUDIK
A ESPOSITO A SGARBI C	413	METRES GAINED	524	C A TRIMBLE T BOWE
TALLAN	43	CARRIES	43	S McCLOSKEY
T BENVENUTI	168	PASSES	178	J STOCKDALE
I McKINLEY				C LEALIIFANO
T TEBALDI	142	TACKLES MADE	126	J COONEY
F ZANI L BIGI	23	MISSED TACKLES	14	C BLACK R HERRING
S FERRARI	16	TURNOVERS	17	W HERBST
M LAZZARONI	9	PENALTIES CONCEDED	10	R DIACK
F RUZZA				K TREADWELL
F MINTO				MREA
SNEGRI		SCORING		S REIDY
W DOUGLAS	2	TRIES	3	J DEYSEL
REPLACEMENTS	2	CONVERSIONS	3	REPLACEMENTS
E MAKELARA	0	PENALTIES	ο	J ANDREW
CTRAORE	0	DROP GOALS	ο	A WARWICK
T PASQUALI M BARBINI				R AH YOU P BROWNE
A STEYN		DISCIPLINE		C HENRY
G BRONZINI		DISCIPLINE		D SHANAHAN
E GORI	0	YELLOW CARDS	0	PNELSON
MZANON	ο	RED CARDS	ο	LMARSHALL

🕅 GUINNESS PRO

2017-2018 - GUINNESS PRO14 - CONFERENCE B

1	Scarlets	2	2	0	0	98	20	78	13	2	2	0	10
	Leinster Rugby	2	2	0	0	76	25	51	9	1	2	0	10
3	Ulster Rugby	2	2	0	0	63	33	30	9	5	1	0	9
4	Edinburgh Rugby	2	2	0	0	55	28	27	6	1	1	0	9
5	Benetton Rugby	2	0	0	2	17	55	-38	2	9	0	1	1
6	Dragons	2	0	0	2	34	74	-40	1	9	0	0	0
7	Southern Kings	2	0	0	2	20	89	-69	3	12	0	0	0





PROUD OFFICIAL HYDRATION PARTNER OF ULSTER RUGBY





NEW 1 LITRE SPORTS BOTTLE

Deep RiverRock is a registered trade mark of Coca-Cola HBC Northern Ireland Ltd.

Fresh talent

Subway proudly welcomes mini rugby's finest from across the Province at half time.

We'd like to say a big thank you to the coaches, parents, and volunteers who dedicate their time to mini rugby - you're creating the future stars of Ulster Rugby.



Family End

Malone RFC

Club colours White and navy

Team

Lorenzo McGarry James Day Ben Howes Isaac Hargie David Wilson Michael Millar James Farrell Jack Drysdale Jake Hoyle Ben Millar Ethan Edgar Ben Smyrl

Coaches Colin Edgar Alex Hoyle William Millar

Academy RFC

Club colours Maroon and navy

Team

Nathan Carmichael Mark Campbell Sean Flannery Thomas Irvine Alex Place Ethan Pavlovic Josh Manson Conn McInally Frank Davis Ryan Calwell Hadwyn Hughes Kain McCrory

Coaches Gareth Davis James Calwell Charlie McCrory

Memorial End

Carrickfergus RFC

Club colours Black and black

Team

Luke Arbuthnot Ellis Branagh Alfie Cambridge Ryan Cowden Oliver Elliot Scott Hill Josh Jordan Jay Kincaid Ross McCalmont Josh McCauley Blaice McClean Jake Taggart

Coaches Robin Arbuthnot Adam Boyce Gareth McKeown

Instonians RFC

Club colours Black/Purple/Yellow

Team

Josh Holmes Shane Beattie Rory O'Connor Lorcan Donnelly Piers Stafford Conor Anderson Nathan Roberts Luke Beattie Oisin McGurk Ben Hamilton Ethan Clydesdale Tom Crothers

Coaches Craig Holmes Stephen Donnelly Michael Anderson





The Ultimate Driving Machine

THE KEY TO A NEW BMW COULD BE IN YOUR POCKET.

RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL £2,000 OFF A NEW LOWER EMISSION BMW WHEN YOU TRADE IN YOUR OLDER DIESEL CAR OF ANY MAKE OR MODEL.*



BAVARIAN. www.bavarianbmw.co.uk

Official fuel economy figures for the BMW Plug-in Hybrid (PHEV) range: Combined 83.1-148.7mpg (3.4-2.0l/100km). CO₂ emissions 294-44g/km. Figures are obtained in a standardised test cycle using a combination of battery power and petrol fuel after the battery had been fully charged. All figures are intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not be representative of what a user achieves under usual driving conditions. Plug-in Hybrid vehicles require mains electricity for charging. *E2.000 Lower Emissions Allowance towards new BMWs with CO2 emissions of 130 g/km (NEDC) or below. New vehicle must be registered by 31 December 2017 and in the same name and address as trade-in vehicle. Trade-in vehicle must be diesel, any brand, EU4 emission standard or older and owned for at least 12 months. Retail customers only. Participating Retailers only. Can be used in conjunction with other offers. Terms and conditions apply.



OVER

HAVE JOINED ALREADY!

MEMBERSHIP OF URSC FOR THE 2017-18 SEASON IS NOW OPEN

Adult Membership £12 Junior Membership £6 Family Membership £30

NEW members, please go to membership.ursc.co.

RENEWING members, will receive a personal invitation via email with a link to a registration form complete with their existing details. Simply confirm or edit your details as necessary.

Current members who have not yet received a renewal notification, please email membership@ursc.co.uk

BENEFITS

MEMBERSHIP

2017-18

- A URSC Welcome Pack
- Ballot and Prize Draw
- Priority Booking for European, Away and Knockout Games
- Meet the Players' Events
- Discounted Away Travel to PRO14 Games
- Vote for Player of the Month and Player of the Year
- 'Stand Up' URSC Member Magazine
- ... And More!

For full benefits and more information, please visit membership.ursc.co

17/18 ULSTER RUGBY AWAY JERSEY

KUKRI

JUSTER

Available now · In store and online



∦ Kukri

ulsterrugbyshop.com

ULSTER

Dan

Tobermor



WELCOME **TO OUR Club**

Hello and welcome to another exciting match at Kingspan Stadium where tonight Ulster take on last season's Championship winners, the Scarlets!

As a member of OUR Club, Ulster Rugby's Official Junior Supporters Club, we hope you enjoy the opportunity to meet the players tonight and get involved with the various activities set out by the OUR Club volunteer team.

AS ALWAYS THERE IS A FUN-FILLED SEASON IN STORE WITH COMPETITIONS AND GIVEAWAYS FOR THOSE UNDER 12 YEARS' OLD INCLUDING:

- Halloween fancy dress contest
- Food Village takeover
- Mascot and Guard of Honour opportunities
- Christmas Leaders Treat

- » Win a tour for your school competition
 - Design a jersey contest
- End of Season OUR Club Champions training session
- THIS SEASON WE HAVE INTRODUCED NEW ACTIVITIES FOR THOSE MEMBERS AGED 13 TO 16 INCLUDING:
- Work Experience Opportunities
- Opportunity to watch a training session
- Design a jersey contest
- » End of Season Champions training session
- Monthly members ballot call in to OUR Quarter to collect your ticket before each home game (Beginning 1st September 2017)

The OUR Club points system will continue this season, for every activity you do, the more points you are awarded. At Christmas and at the end of the season, all the points are tallied and the top scorers on the leaderboard are awarded a special Ulster Rugby treat!

Keep an eye out for OUR Club emails, which will give you or your parents the details on how to enter. Don't forget to visit OUR Quarter on a match night to pick up extra points and some treats before a game!

Keep in touch with Jen and the OUR Club Crew by emailing ourclub@ulsterrugby.com. Submit photos and stories throughout the season and you may even feature on this page!

Enjoy the match! SUFTUM



Ethan and Chloe Nesbitt

Come rain or shine.

fonaCAB.com

We have over 500 drivers who deeply care about getting you where you need to be — whatever the circumstances. No matter where you are or where you're going, **we are always there.**

Get the app today



android app on Google play



always there.

ULSTER RUGBY VALUES

We are proud that a match day at Kingspan Stadium watching the Ulster Rugby team play is a safe, enjoyable, inclusive experience for people of any age.

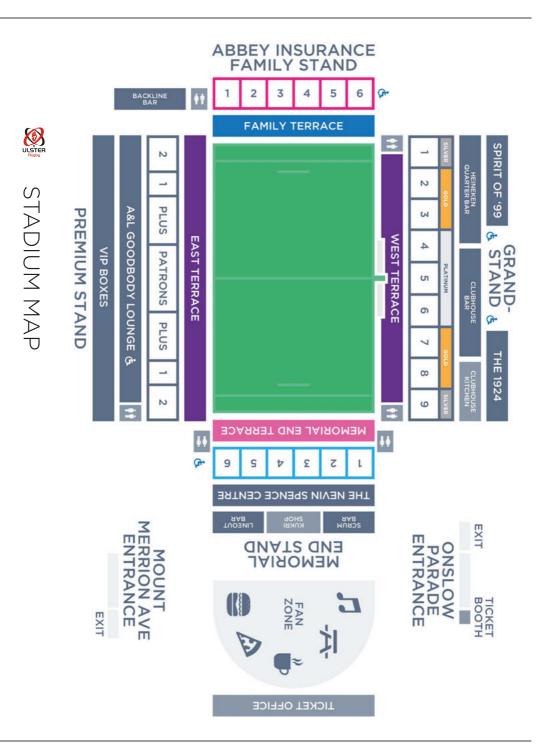
We have a number of traditions that we believe make our stadium one of the best places in Europe to watch live rugby.

Here are our Ulster Rugby values and we ask all our fans to support them throughout the season:

WE ARE PASSIONATE IN OUR SUPPORT OF THE ULSTER TEAM. WE ARE SILENT DURING KICKS AT GOAL BY BOTH TEAMS. WE RESPECT THE MATCH OFFICIALS' DECISIONS. WE DRINK RESPONSIBLY. WE ARE MINDFUL OF OUR LANGUAGE, ESPECIALLY WHEN THERE ARE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE NEAR US. WE DO NOT TOLERATE SECTARIAN, HOMOPHOBIC OR DEROGATORY LANGUAGE. WE RESPECT THE OPPOSITION PLAYERS, SUPPORTERS, MANAGEMENT AND OFFICIALS

If you are attending a match at Kingspan Stadium and do have an issue, please contact your nearest steward. Following a game, you can email any observations, complaints or issues to standup@ulsterrugby.com

THANK YOU AND ENJOY THIS AND EVERY MATCH. #SUFTUM



KINGSPAN STADIUM INFORMATION

Ulster Rugby is appealing to supporters to be mindful of local residents and to avoid parking in the immediate vicinity of the Kingspan Stadium grounds on match day.

Supporters are encouraged to make use of the complimentary Park'n'Ride facilities on Ulster Rugby match days located at Pirrie Park on the Ravenhill Road side of the ground, and along Montgomery Road, on the Mount Merrion side of the ground. There is ample parking at both locations and they are just a short distance from the ground. Supporters can either walk or take advantage of the free buses that run to and from the parking areas and the ground from 90 minutes prior to kick off until 90 minutes after the final whistle.

If required, the PSNI will also close the two main approaches to the ground, Onslow Parade and Mount Merrion Avenue at peak times of entrance and egress to and from the ground.

For more information please contact our Ticket Office on 028 9049 3222

SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is not permitted within any building, structure or the stadium bowl.

This restriction also applies to electronic cigarettes. The permitted smoking areas are the open spaces to the rear of the Grandstand, Premium Stand, Memorial End Stand and in the Food Village.

Stewards have been instructed to speak to supporters whose actions do not comply with the above values and to ask them to desist.

Where supporters choose to ignore this advice and warning and continue to act in an unacceptable manner removal from the stadium and the issue of a banning order may result.

ENTRY ONTO THE PITCH IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN

We would like to remind all fans that entry onto the pitch before, during or after the match is now illegal.

The pitch, as with other areas of the ground is monitored by CCTV.

BEHAVIOUR IN THE GROUND

Please respect others before, during and after the match by behaving in a reasonable and responsible manner.

If you are concerned about the behaviour of others in the ground, please report your concerns to a steward, so appropriate action can be taken.

TAXI INFORMATION

For those spectators who like to relax and enjoy a drink before, during or after the match a taxi service is provided. A specially arranged taxi service has been organised for Ulster Rugby patrons on match nights courtesy of Fonacab. The taxi rank (located in front of head office) will operate as soon after the match as crowd movement permits. You do not need to order a taxi as this service runs continuously from 40 minutes after the final whistle. Persons requiring a taxi are asked to queue within the ground and not on Mt Merrion Avenue.

This service is provided by



THE OFFICIAL TAXI PARTNER OF ULSTER RUGBY



NO SMOKING

Smoking is not permitted in any building, structure or within the stadium bowl, please visit a designated smoking area within the ground



PRO14 PREVIEW

ULSTER \lor **SCARLETS**

GUINNESS PRO14 2017/18 ROUND 3 AT KINGSPAN STADIUM





CURRENT FORM

Ulster have won their last three Guinness PRO14 encounters since slipping up at Ospreys at the end of April.

The Ulstermen have lost just once at Kingspan Stadium in the Championship since Scarlets beat them there by a single point in February 2016: 14-15 to Munster in round 7 last season.

Scarlets have won their last nine Guinness PRO14 encounters, whilst another victory would equal their best ever sequence in the competition, set in 2015.

Scarlets have lost only one of their last eight encounters with Irish provinces: 9-45 to Leinster at the RDS Arena in March.

When the two sides met last season the home team were triumphant on both occasions whilst Scarlets only victory in Belfast since September 2008 was 21-20 in February 2016.

DATE	VENUE	U	s	ULSTER SCORERS	SCARLETS SCORERS
06.01.17	Parc y Scarlets	13	16	Paddy Jackson C/2P Jacob Stockdale T	Dan Jones C/3P Penalty Try (T)
16.09.16	Kingspan Stadium	19	8	Paddy Jackson 3P Iain Henderson T Louis Ludik T	Rhys Patchell P Will Boyde T
21.02.16	Kingspan Stadium	20	21	Craig Gilroy T Paddy Jackson 2C/D/P Luke Marshall T	Mike Collins 2T Aled Thomas C/3P
12.09.15	Parc y Scarlets	12	22	Rory Scholes T Stuart McCloskey C Penalty Try T	Dan Jones C/4P Hadleigh Parkes T Aled Thomas P

PREVIOUS MEETINGS

MATCH PREVIEW

FIXTURES 2017/18



DATE	СОМР	HOME AWAY	ко	WIN LOSE	RESULT	OPPONENT	VENUE	тv
AUGUS	ST 2017							
17.08 25.08	F F	H A	19.30 19.30	L L	15 - 26 55 - 15	Wasps Northampton Saints	Kingspan Stadium Franklin's Gardens	_
SEPTE	MBER 2	2017						
01.09 09.09 15.09 22.09 30.09	PR014 PR014 PR014 PR014 PR014 PR014 BER 201	H A H A	19.35 18.05 19.35 19.35 15.35	W W	42 - 19 14 - 21 - - -	Toyota Cheetahs Benetton Rugby Scarlets Dragons Zebre Rugby	Kingspan Stadium Stadio Monigo Kingspan Stadium Kingspan Stadium Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi	BBC Sport NI BBC Sport NI BBC Sport NI BBC Sport NI BBC Sport NI
06.10 13.10	PR014 ERCC	H	19.35 19.45		-	Connacht Rugby Wasps	Kingspan Stadium Kingspan Stadium	BBC Sport NI BT Sport
22.10 28.10	ERCC PR014	A H	16.15 18.15		-	La Rochelle Leinster	Stade Marcel-Deflandre Kingspan Stadium	Sky Sports BBC Sport NI / Sky Sports
NOVEN	1BER 2	017						
04.11 24.11	PR014 PR014	A H	17.00 19.05		-	Southern Kings Benetton Rugby	Nelson Mandela Bay Kingspan Stadium	BBC Sport NI BBC Sport NI
DECEM	1BER 20	D17						
01.12 10.12 15.12 23.12	PR014 ERCC ERCC PR014	A A H A	19.35 13.00 19.45 19.35		- - -	Dragons Harlequins Harlequins Connacht Rugby	Rodney Parade Twickenham Stoop Kingspan Stadium Sportground	BBC Sport NI BT Sport BT Sport BBC Sport NI
JANUA	RY 201	8						
01.01 06.01 12-14.01 19-21.01	PR014 PR014 ERCC ERCC	H A H A	17.35 17.35 TBC TBC		- - -	Munster Rugby Leinster Rugby La Rochelle Wasps	Kingspan Stadium RDS Arena Kingspan Stadium Ricoh Arena	Sky Sports / BBC Sport NI Sky Sports / BBC Sport NI TBC TBC
FEBRU	ARY 20)18						
9-11.02 16-18.02 23-25.02	PR014 PR014 PR014	H H A	TBC TBC TBC		-	Southern Kings Edinburgh Rugby Scarlets	Kingspan Stadium Kingspan Stadium Parc y Scarlets	TBC TBC TBC
MARCH	- 2018							
2-4.03 23-25.03	PR014 PR0 14	H A	TBC TBC		-	Glasgow Warriors Cardiff Blues	Kingspan Stadium BT Cardiff Arms Park	TBC TBC
APRIL	2018							
6-8.04 13-15.04 27-29.04	PR014 PR014 PR014	A H A	TBC TBC TBC		-	Edinburgh Rugby Ospreys Munster Rugby	Myreside Kingspan Stadium Thomond Park	TBC TBC TBC

F Friendly PR014 Guinness PR014 ERCC European Rugby Champions Cup



TICKETS 2017/18

To purchase tickets for any home Ulster fixtures, please visit www.ulsterrugby.com/buytickets or contact the Ulster Rugby Ticket Office on 028 9049 3222 (Option 2)

THANK YOU

MAIN SPONSORS

Ulster Rugby and the IRFU (Ulster Branch) wish to thank all of our sponsors and partners as well as ground advertisers, programme advertisers and supporters of corporate hospitality for their continued support.

Kingspan **KIT SPONSOR** KUKRI OFFICIAL SHIRT SPONSOR BT Bank of Ireland (3) **OFFICIAL SPONSORS - PROFESSIONAL GAME** ÷ abbeu fona RIVER Bavarian A&L Goodbody EY ATT TO ARGENTO OFFICIAL SPONSORS - DOMESTIC GAME SUBWAR Deloitte. KERRS Danske Bank uster RIVER SONI OFFICIAL PARTNERS M THE ULSTER INDEPENDENT CLINIC MOUNT CHARLES Dicksondigital.com OH OPTIMUM MINDRINT ЯŔ PUBLISHED BY **DESIGN & PRINT** PHOTOGRAPHS Ulster Rugby @ Kingspan Stadium 134 Mount Merrion Ave Official photographs courtesy of MINPRINT Belfast BT6 0FT T 028 90493 222

T 028 9070 5205

minprint.co.uk

Dicksondigital.com Presseye

ULSTER RUGBY STAFF

Neill Alcorn Rugby Development Officer Kyle Alexander Soft Tissue Therapist Willie Anderson Elite Player Development Officer Anita Bayne Events Coordinator Michael Black Rep Team Performance Manager Cathy Blair NSC Coordinator Shaun Bloomfield Rugby Development Officer Maeve Bogie PA to CEO Sara-Louise Bowman Marketing & PR Executive Jen Boyd Female Participation Officer Paula Bradley Ticketing Manager Nigel Brady Resources Coordinator Karen Brown HR Manager Kieran Campbell Academy Manager Tim Craig NSC Team Member Bronagh Cunningham CRM Executive Jonny Davis Head of S&C Amy Davis Academy S&C Coach Ryan Dennison Assistant Performance Analyst Eliza Downey Female Rugby Coordinator David Drake Lead Academy S&C Coach Aaron Dundon Scrum Coach Mick Ennis Resources Manager Adam Ewing Apprentice IT Assistant Richard Finlay Senior Communications Manager Marc Fleming Grounds Assistant Chris Galway Regional Rugby Lead Clive Gardiner Disability Participation Officer Kevin Geary S&C Coach Jono Gibbes Head Coach Jonny Gillespie Talent Development Officer Janice Gilpin Accounts Assistant Matthew Godfrey Academy S&C Coach Jonny Graham Rugby Development Officer Chris Hagan GPS Analyst Neil Hanna Business Development Manager Matthew Holmes Club Services Officer Ricky Huey Regional Rugby Lead Stephanie Ingram Academy Nutritionist David Johnston Funding Manager Neal Johnston Female Rugby Officer Damian Kelly Marketing Communications Manager Andrew Kent CRM Executive (Maternity Cover) James Laird Head Groundsman Simon Lloyd-Lavery Creative Content Designer Liz Lowry Accounts Assistant Matthew Maguire Academy S&C Coach Niall Malone Performance Analyst & Skills Coach Dr. Phillip McClelland Academy Doctor Fiona McComb Receptionist & Administrator Ann McCracken Accountant (Maternity Cover) Jill McCullough Administration Officer Adrian McDonagh IT Manager Jennifer McFederies Ticketing Assistant Lesley McGaughey Administration Officer Darren McGuigan Regional Rugby Lead George McMinn Grounds Assistant Chris McNicholl Senior Physiotherapist David Minion Lead Academy Physiotherapist Ryan O'Connor Grounds Assistant Laura-Jane O'Neill Administration Officer Dwavne Peel Assistant Coach Sarah Power HR Officer Lynn Richardson Marketing & PR Executive (Maternity Cover) Gareth Robinson Head Physiotherapist Sarah Sherry Team Administration Coordinator Chris Shields Rugby Projects Manager Ciaran Sloane Apprentice S&C Coach Joy Sparkes Regional Rugby Lead Kerry Spence Spirit Officer Heather Stoneman Ticketing Assistant Zoe Templeton Rugby Development Officer Fergus Thompson Stadium Facilities Manager James Topping Elite Player Development Officer Jamie Turkington Rugby Development Manager Dr. Michael Webb Medical Director Paul Whitten Rugby Operations Coordinator Pamela Wilkes Administration Officer David Wilkinson Referee Development Manager Barry Willis Rugby Operations Manager Bryan Young Talent Development Officer

ulsterrugby.co.uk

NEW Sky Sports FEELITALL

adidas

macro

DRYHOUSE

alk

- State

1

Bank of Ireland

Sky sports action Sky sports arena



MADE OF MORE

drinkaware.co.uk for the facts

2015