

# The Echo

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The Echo: Irish Dancing with Richie Hogan

Sporting thought for the week:

“Matt Jarvis had acres of time there” - Stan Collymore

## Happy-Ending For Ralfie

Fans of celebrity Claretian couple, Ryan O’Connell and Alfie McNulty, were delighted this week to learn the that duo have reconciled after several weeks of intense speculation about the state of their romance.

The pair, commonly referred to as Ralfie by the paparazzi, had separated in dramatic

fashion after McNulty had been caught on several occasions on CCTV at a well-known south London venue, in what can only be described as “compromising positions” with young females.

O’Connell was said to be devastated by the revelations of Alfie’s extra-curricular activities and the pair split after the Bank Holiday at the end of May, when McNulty was said to have gone on what was termed a “bird binge” with fellow Claretian bad boy, Ronan Gaughan.

However, friends of Ralfie were said to be “over the moon” when pictures emerged of the pair in an intimate embrace at a recent gathering, with social media going wild when the photos went viral.

A fellow guest at the party told *The Echo*: “They were right beside me all evening. I was talking to Ryan about the state of the

Brexit negotiations, when suddenly Alfie moved over towards where we were standing. I went to the bar to get a drink and when I came back, the two of them were in a very passionate embrace. There was definitely a bit of tongue involved.”

Representatives of Ralfie refused to comment on the speculation of the reunion.



Kiss and make-up: Ralfie



Bad-boy Alfie: compromising pics

## Sunday Game Comes To London

RTE’s first attempt at broadcasting live Championship action from London ended in chaos this week, when the post-game analysis descended into farce.

A trio of St Clarets legends had been selected for the broadcast, with John Kelly, Colm Lynott and Gerry Lynott undertaking to give their expert opinions on St Clarets in their crunch Championship match against Tara on Wednesday night.

In a pre-game meeting, the three were asked to adopt the persona of one of the more famous RTE analysts, with Colm opting for Joe Brolly, Gerry for Pat Spil-

lane and Kelly deciding he would try to mimic Colm O’Rourke as best he could.

After the game, Colm Lynott went full Brolly on another ex-Clarets player, Pdraig Donegan, who had umpired at the game and been involved in a controversial decision to award a penalty to Tara.

"He’s a brilliant umpire," Colm declared, "but you can forget about Pdraig Donegan as a man", an almost identical statement as Brolly had made on Tyrone footballer Sean Cavanagh after he pulled down



The panel: Two Lynotts and a Kelly

Conor McManus of Monaghan in 2013.

However, Colm wasn’t finished as he then turned his attention to Clarets centre back Ronan Gaughan, when he continued: “I’ve been reading about Gaughan in *The Echo* for weeks. But from what I see, he’s a typical Mayo footballer, over-hyped and sure to go missing on the big day”.

Not to be out-done by his brother, Gerry Lynott, playing the Spillane role, spent fifteen minutes telling viewers how good he had been as a player, before then criticising the St Clarets full forward (his own brother Patrick).

“When I was playing, I was known as Gerry-hat-trick as I guaranteed three goals a game. Patrick’s in their flouncing about the place and I see no goal threat from him whatsoever.”

Meanwhile, John Kelly, adopting the Colm O’Rourke profile, said nothing.... Just like Colm.