

# The Echo

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The Echo: Alright, alright, everything alright

## Sporting thought for the week:

“Hard work beats talent, when talent doesn't work hard.” Tim Notke

## Kelly's Greatest Claret Surprise

Former Claretian Chairman John Kelly made a surprise return to the black tie circuit last week at an exclusive event that he organised himself, which marked the launch of his new book – *JK's Greatest Claret*.

A select group of St Claret's members were invited to the swish Maida Vale location to celebrate the book that Kelly has been working on since he stood down as Chairman in 2015.

Throughout the evening rumours swirled around as to who would receive the recognition in Kelly's much anticipated publication, with early favourite Tadhg Lee being dismissed after much discussion, due mainly to the fact that the hard-working secretary has been with the club less than ten years.

Former player and manager Tony Murphy was also highly fancied among the gathered dignitaries, especially after he became the oldest player ever to represent the club, when he lined out in the JFC in 2017 at the age of 64. However, his claim was also dismissed when compared to that of fellow guest Gerry Lynott.

Lynott's Claret's career began back in the 1980s as a goal-grabbing full forward, when he was dubbed *Gerry-hat-trick*, and spanned all the way through to 2017, when he finally hung up his boots after a stint playing in goal, when he was simply known as *Gerry-atric*.

However, some did believe that Lynott's wife Colleen was in with a shout, despite being with the club for a relatively short time.

Colleen is credited with helping to manage Gerry's transformation from a free-scoring, full forward into a grumpy-git playing in goal. When approached on the topic, the always unassuming Galway native insisted that all she did was make sure that Gerry took his cod liver oil tablets every morning to stop him seizing up completely.



Claretians at John Kelly's much anticipated book launch

The presence of John Kelly's wife, Teresa, made many wonder whether he was about to acknowledge her involvement in the club. But, given that she only ever washed the senior kit once, and complained about it for three months after, most felt that her claim was quite weak. Ultimately, it was agreed that she was only there to drive John home at the end of the evening.

Eventually though, after a star-studded evening, Kelly was able to give a brief preview of the publication and also reveal that his favourite Claret of all time is a Château Montaguillon 2014, which retails at about £16 a bottle.

Several Liverpool FC legends have been warned not to be holding their breath when Kelly launches his next book *JK's Greatest Red*.

### Say what?

New mother Karen Lynott took extra precautions last week when Claretian legend Paddy Donaghy called around to congratulate herself and Patrick on the birth of their daughter Ciara.

Upon Donaghy entering, Karen immediately put a pair of industrial, noise-cancelling ear muffs on baby Ciara.

When asked why, Karen replied: “It's bad enough Patrick trying to get her to say ‘*Mayo 4 Sam*’ and her only a week old, without Paddy coming in brain-washing her about ‘03, ‘05 and ‘08. I want the little angel to have a normal childhood, not one spent living in the past or waiting for a miracle.”



Hear no evil: Ciara

### Mother of Matt!!

Claretian matriarch Patricia Healy was shocked this week to discover a profile of her eldest son Matthew on the GAA dating website *Horny Hurlers on the Hunt*.

Patricia was said to be dumbfounded when she saw Matt's picture on the popular site. She told a long-time family friend that despite his obvious attempts to disguise himself, she had spotted her dual star son straight away.

“It was the No. 3 on the front of his jersey that gave

it away” she said. “I number the boys clothes in order of my preference, although they obviously don't know that. In fact, I've been tempted to put a No. 4 on Matt's clothes, but that



Matt Healy's dating profile

would be a bit cruel, given I only have three sons. It goes without saying, my little goalie Liam is my No. 1.”

As of yet, no one has figured out exactly what Patricia Healy was doing on the *Horny Hurlers on the Hunt* website in the first place!

Meanwhile, administrators of the site have contacted Matt to inform him that Irish Dancing medals do not qualify as “Honours Won” on the *Horny Hurlers* website, and suggested that he try registering with rival site [dancingfriendsdate.com](http://dancingfriendsdate.com).