

# The Claretian Echo

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## **St Clarets GFC: Makes "Fight Club" seem like "Daddy Day Care"**

### **Healy Hires Hughes' Handlers**

#### **No Go Alonso**

Ferrari's plans for the upcoming Formula 1 season were said to be "in ruins" this week, as the news broke of a catastrophic mix-up in re-fuelling on the last day of pre-season testing.

As ace driver Fernando Alonso entered the garage for the last of his planned pit-stops, the chief engineer's assistant, lifelong Claretian Mick Keane, took control of the re-fuelling.

However, unbeknown to both Alonso and team principal Stefano Domenicali, Keane had decided to use his own home made mixture of fuel which included Guinness, potato skins and birthday cake, mixed with red diesel, a blend that Keane was convinced would help eek out the vital tenth of a second that Ferrari were looking for.

Needless to say, Alonso's Ferrari didn't make it out of the pit box and a red-faced Keane was seen pointing an accusing finger at his one-year old grandson Tadhg, who was at the back of the garage, enjoy what was left of his first birthday cake.

Ferrari and Formula One have launched independent enquiries trying to establish how Keane was able to smuggle his own fuel into the Ferrari garage.

F1 supreme Bernie Ecclestone has already dubbed this latest drama "Potatogate" and is said to have promised to: "Peel back the lies and chip away until I get to the truth".

Keane himself was unavailable for comment, but was last seen on Sunday afternoon thumbing a lift on the Uxbridge Road carrying a petrol can and a baby

Rising star Matthew Healy has had to endure a difficult few days defending his recent behaviour as he has come under increasing scrutiny from fans and the media.

Since scooping two of the club's most prestigious awards last year, friends of Healy have stated that they have seen a definite change in his behavior.

These claims come as Healy's own actions have raised more than a few eyebrows, especially with the news last week that he has engaged soccer super agent Kia Joorabachian, who also represents Carlos Tevez and Mark Hughes, as his full time representative.

Further fuel was added to this fire with the news yesterday that Healy has "done a Ronaldo" and trademarked the logo MH14, a combination of his initials and his shirt number with St Clarets.

Sources say the more prestigious MH6 has also been reserved by Healy, a real sign of intent.

In his soon to be released autobiography "*That Healing Feeling*",

Matthew talks at length about his struggle for recognition and the sacrifices he has made in order to achieve the success he is currently enjoying.

He also talks about last season's dramatic stand-off with club chairman John Kelly, in which Healy objected to having to wear the club's number two shirt during a game, due to the fact that it wasn't "his number".



Kia Joorabachian: the man in charge of Healy's fortunes.

Kelly refused to back down on the issue, saying that to do so would be to totally devalue the efforts of that day's No. 4, all-round good guy John Hickey.

However, Healy remained firm

and in a bizarre move, painted green and white hoops across his body and got his brother to paint the number 4 on his back, before taking to the field for the relegation play-off game against Thomas McCurtains, although shockingly he did forget to add a pair of shorts to his ensemble.

This paint protest however did lead to a two-day stay in hospital for Healy, due to skin burns caused by the over-use of paint-stripper after the game.

Interestingly, Healy also mentions his bitter Twitter battle with Patrick Lynott, Player of the Year in 2011.

Patrick was unable to collect the award in person, so Healy tweeted: "*I'll take it home Pat. It should have been mine anyway.*"

Healy tried to explain his situation to his personal website: "My situation is complex. My mate Luke Kelly asked me what my problem was? It's complex, it's way over his head. Mind you, going by last Sunday, most things are over Luke's head."

#### **Moves Like Michael J**

An increasing number of questions are being asked about the direction in which the careers of two current St Clarets players may be heading.

Dance double-act, Pat Queally and Michael Joyce, were notable absentees from last Sunday's season opener against St Dymphna's, with speculation rife that they had quite literally danced the night away.

Since the two west of Ireland men discovered their joint passion for dance

back in December, during an impromptu visit to a Soho night club, it has become increasingly difficult to get either of them to commit to any GAA related activities.

Indeed, such is Queally's obsession with dance, that he recently admitted to teen magazine *Just Dance* that he and Joyce share the "I Wanna Dance With Somebody" ring-tone on their mobiles, so that they know when each other is calling.

Queally admitted that the late Whitney Houston's 1987 floor-filler was a source of inspiration for both of

them and described it as "our song".

Further concerns were raised about Joyce's GAA future, when a work colleague spotted him booking tickets for the West End show *Midnight Tango* for Sunday's matinee. When challenged about the purchase, Joyce nervously insisted that they were for a friend who didn't have a credit card.

The atmosphere was described as "frosty" at the coffee machine in Clancy's Harefield HQ on Monday morning.

*More on this story next week.*