

Down Community Games

Forty years is a life time and much water has passed under the bridge from the early days. Down Community Games has lost many of its founder members in those years. In the early days Frank Monaghan (deceased), Newry, Kevin O'Hare (deceased), Glenn, Susan Greeran (deceased), Dechomet, Frank & Hugh McAvoy (Dromara), Dean Davis (Rostrevor) and Gus Lennon (Iveagh) were prominent organisers.

Down had three big areas in the beginning, increasing to 24 at one stage. Today there are 10 areas and a few of the founder members remain active. Gus Lennon has been a faithful member of Down and is currently active in both county and area. Gus is presently Down President. He spent many years with the Mosney security team and has many a story to tell. He is renowned for his wit and sense of fun, but also known for his wrath when anyone stepped out of line. Gus is presently unwell and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Hugh McAvoy is also still active and can be seen officiating at county and national athletics Finals. Last year was a

very sad year for Down when a very special person to Community Games passed away suddenly. Our past president Suan Greeran died and left a deep void and much sadness among everyone in this organization. Her efforts to promote a better way of life for the children of Ireland will not go unnoticed.

Dean Davis is still a patron of Community Games but is no longer active due to his pastoral commitments.

The present Down county committee has only one person who was active in the early days. This lady has worked as County secretary for many years. She presently is county representative to the Ulster committee and also Ulster NEAC delegate. Teresa O'Hare has seen many changes over the years in this organization but still is as enthusiastic as ever. She is an inspiration to us all in Down.



PHOTOGRAPHS

1. National Community Games AGM in Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle, Co. Down including Minister for Sport, Frank Fahy T.D., Ronnie Delaney, the late President Leo Carolan, the late Arthur McGinley, Michael O'Grady and Richard Farrell, and Down Delegates and friends.
2. Gus Lennon, Hugh Pat McEvoy and Christine McCartan at Co. Athletics Finals
3. Gus Lennon and Donal Moran son in law
4. Brian Canavan, Cllr. Seamus Doyle, Cllr. John Hanna, Gus Lennon and Sean Cairns
5. Christine McCartan and Gus Lennon at AGM
6. Gus Lennon, Martin Lennon, John Drake - Director HSE Community Games
7. Gus Lennon and wife Susan enjoying a night at Banbridge Special Olympics Party

