

THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND FEDERATION OF CLUBS

# Review <sup>Club</sup>

VOLUME 33 - Issue 2, 2020

**EVEN APART,  
WE STAND  
TOGETHER.**



**GUINNESS**



# COVID-19 (coronavirus): Public information

You can help prevent the spread of infection.

The best way to protect yourself and others is:



Wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel, regularly throughout the day.



Catch your cough or sneeze in a tissue, bin it, and wash your hands.

If you have recently arrived back from specified areas follow the returning traveller advice.

Check the list of areas and find out more at

[pha.site/coronavirus](https://pha.site/coronavirus)



# From the Secretary's desk



Harry Beckinsale, Secretary,  
N.I. Federation of Clubs

We are certainly living in strange times, and the pace at which our day to day lives are being reshaped, is changing the landscape at frightening speed.

The relationships we have developed with suppliers to the registered club sector has provided mutual benefits over many years, but in particular, with the difficulties presented by the Pandemic this has resulted in the provision of support which has been outstanding by any measure.

Since first receiving a press release from Diageo, closely followed by Tennent's NI, Molson Coors and Russell's etc., together with similar offers of support from other numerous suppliers, the support has been humbling.

Unfortunately, the support offered by the Prime Minister, is substantial, but is hampered by the delay between announcement and introduction.

Hopefully our own Finance Minister, Conor Murphy MLA, will afford N. Ireland businesses the same twelve month rating holiday, as is the case for our counterparts in England.

It is our sincere hope that some clubs and businesses will not be lost to us, due to the speed at which legislation is being implemented.

The number of calls being received all seek the same advice. Do we have to close? Although this remained your decision until Friday night, the Government decided to enforce closure through legislation, a decision taken in an attempt to slow the progress of the Covid-19 infection.

How we were required to treat staff, was of prime concern, which, until the announcement of the introduction of the Government backed Coronavirus Jobs Retention Scheme on Friday 20th March, was causing turmoil for individuals and families throughout the province. We are still trying to gain clarity on how this scheme will actually function, as it doesn't appear to be as straightforward as at first thought.

From the initial information that we have sourced online from various agencies, if you, as the employer, have a clause in your staff contract of employment which allows for you to either introduce lay off, or short time working, then the answer is that no consent is required from staff.

If there is no lay off clause in the contract, technically consent will be needed. However, if an employee refuses to consent to be sent home on furlough, then they risk being made redundant. The employer could make an employee redundant if they refuse, provided they have been selected for it fairly.

From the scant information that we have at hand, to take advantage of the Coronavirus Jobs Retention Scheme grant, staff must be sent home in the first instance, and also placed on furlough. The purpose of the scheme is to ensure that as few staff as possible go out to work and heighten the risk of infection to the general population.

We request that all clubs however, gain advice from their insurance provider/HR advisor and follow their guidance in all instances.

**Will I still have to pay Sky TV?**  
No you will not. Sky TV have informed us that billing has been suspended since 14th March 2020. We understand that BT Sport have implemented something similar.

Other organisations, such as PPL/PRS, may possibly afford consideration over the timespan of closure and the entertainment being cancelled.

No doubt many other difficult days are ahead of us, but if we work in a team spirit, I am quite sure we can overcome them.

Club representatives who have contacted me have been apologetic, commenting that I must be inundated with calls. Well yes, I have been, as has been the Chairman and my other Federation colleagues, but that is what we are here for. Therefore, if you require assistance, please do not hesitate to call us.

As stated above, while we are aware that rates will be put on hold for three months, we remain hopeful that we will fall

into line with the remainder of the UK, where twelve months has been afforded. If that turns out not to be the case, we will have the opportunity to broach the subject in a meeting with the Finance Minister Conor Murphy MLA, in early April.

## What role can we play in controlling the coronavirus?

While some will wish to carry on as normal, we all nevertheless need to be mindful of the risk posed by this coronavirus pandemic. Without doubt, this is a dreadful situation, impacting on day-to-day life.

## So what can you do?

The decision to close your club, or remain open, has been taken out of your hands. Many of our members had already taken the decision to close as a sensible thing to do. However the pace at which things are moving is quite astounding, and it is important we care for one another, particularly the vulnerable in our society.

While clubs have the advantage of knowing those who enter their club, the information from health professionals supersedes everything. If we all follow Government guidelines, we will come out of this a lot quicker.

The following pages contain information from the NHS and other health bodies on best practice on what to do during these troubled times. The information is obviously subject to change, but at the time of writing is the correct course of action to take.

Member clubs should be aware that the Federation is here to help you. It is precisely what we are here for!

## Business advice

Courtesy of Gavin Robinson MP

*This following information is accurate as of 23rd March 2020 but may be subject to change due to the rapid progress being made at all levels of Government.*

Given the range of queries relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus), I have compiled this note to be helpful. With advice and guidance changing rapidly, it is not exhaustive, but I hope it proves useful.

### UK Government Support For Business

The UK government has set out a package of measures to protect public services, people and businesses

throughout this period of disruption caused by COVID-019.

### Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

Key features of the scheme:

- Employees are on 'furlough' leave rather than dismissed
- The Government will fund 80% of wages up to a maximum of £2,500 per month
- For any employee on the payroll on the 1st March 2020
- Payments will be available from the end of April and backdated to 1st March
- The Scheme will run for at least three months from

1st March 2020 but will be extended if necessary.

### Deferring VAT and Income Tax Payments

- Businesses will have their VAT payments deferred for 3 months until 30th June 2020
- Income Tax Self-Assessment, payments due on the 31 July 2020 will be deferred until the 31st January 2021
- This is an automatic offer - no applications necessary

### Business Interruption Loan Scheme

- Businesses will have their VAT payments deferred for 3 months until 30th June 2020

- Income Tax Self-Assessment, payments due on the 31st July 2020 will be deferred until the 31st January 2021.
- This is an automatic offer - no applications necessary.

### Northern Ireland Business Rates Relief

- COVID Small Business Grant - A grant of £10,000 for all small businesses who are eligible for the Small Business Rate Relief Scheme (ie all businesses with a NAV up to £15,000). More information is available at [www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/content/small-business-rate-relief](http://www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk/content/small-business-rate-relief)
- Hospitality, Tourism and Retail Sectors Grant

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Scheme - An immediate grant of £25,000 for companies in these sectors with a rateable value from £15,000 up to £51,000.

*Details are still to follow*

Businesses in Northern Ireland will not receive a rates bill this month. Bills will not be issued until June and the intervening three months will be covered by £100 million allocated in last week's budget. Details can be found at [www.finance-ni.gov.uk/news/covid-19-ps100m-emergency-rates-package-businesses](http://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/news/covid-19-ps100m-emergency-rates-package-businesses) If you have financial difficulty with paying rates, you are encouraged to contact Land and Property Services at [www.finance-ni.gov.uk/land-property-services-lps](http://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/land-property-services-lps) or access NI Direct online [www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/guide-rates/help-paying-your-rates](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/information-and-services/guide-rates/help-paying-your-rates)

#### COVID-19 Emergency Grant for Hospitality Workers

This grant will be a one-off payment of £250 per household.

- You must be currently working within the UK hospitality industry or have worked in the industry within the last month
- Have savings of less than £1,000 per person or £2,000 for a family or couple (including rolling bank balance)
- They do not take into account any income you receive from state benefits
- You are experiencing financial issues relating to your employment status owing to coronavirus

Click on the following web link for more information and to download the relevant form to apply for the grant - [www.hospitalityaction.org.uk/media/2140/covid-19-grant-190320\\_v9.pdf](http://www.hospitalityaction.org.uk/media/2140/covid-19-grant-190320_v9.pdf)



#### Employers

Government has committed to repaying SSP for employers with a staff level less than 250. The regulations to put this action in law have yet to be finalised, so details will follow but reference can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses)

#### Insurance

Business interruption cover through your insurance will depend on the type of cover you have purchased and what is specifically included in your policy. You are best to read your policy or ask your broker directly, but most policies will not ordinarily include a notifiable disease extension.

More information can be found from the Association of British Insurers website [www.abi.org.uk/products-and-issues/topics-and-issues/coronavirus-qa/#a](http://www.abi.org.uk/products-and-issues/topics-and-issues/coronavirus-qa/#a)

#### Mortgages

Government has announced that mortgage lenders have

agreed to facilitate a 3 month payment holiday should you require help to meet your mortgage payments. This also includes equity loans for those with Help to Buy Mortgages and for renters/landlords, Buy to Let Mortgages. It will not be assumed you need this, so talk to your lender before payment is due. **DO NOT JUST DEFAULT.**

#### Rent

As mentioned above, buy-to-let mortgages are included in the 3 months holiday. If you are unable to pay rent, you should notify your landlord so that they can seek the holiday from their lender if relevant. Government will

also bring forward legislation to stop eviction cases from proceeding through the courts during this crisis.

#### Food Banks

Food banks are there to help those most in need, but also require significant help from people able to give it. Please don't bulk buy, but perhaps consider a couple of extra items to donate to any in your area.

#### General

Remember advice on self-isolation and symptoms can be found at the PHA website [www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus](http://www.publichealth.hscni.net/news/covid-19-coronavirus) or by calling 111 and then option 1 for NI.

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# Covid-19 (coronavirus)

## Questions and Answers (correct at 20th March 2020)



COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It's caused by a virus called coronavirus.

### 1. Should I stay at home if I have coronavirus symptoms?

Stay at home if you have either:

- a high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (*you do not need to measure your temperature*)
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (*if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual*)

Only call 111 if you cannot get help online via <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>

### 2. How long should I stay at home?

Everyone should do what they can to stop coronavirus spreading.

It is particularly important for people who:

- are 70 or over
- have a long-term condition
- are pregnant
- have a weakened immune system

#### DO

- Wash your hands with soap and water often - do this for at least 20 seconds
- Always wash your hands when you get home or into work
- Use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- Put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- Avoid close contact with people who have symptoms of coronavirus
- Only travel on public transport if you need to
- Work from home, if you can
- Avoid social activities, such as going to pubs, restaurants, theatres and cinemas
- Avoid events with large groups of people
- Use phone, online services, or apps to contact your GP surgery or other NHS services

#### DON'T

- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean
- Do not have visitors to your home, including friends and family

#### If you're at high risk

The NHS will contact you from Monday 23 March 2020 if you are at particularly high risk of getting seriously ill with coronavirus. You'll be given specific advice about what to do.

Do not contact your GP or healthcare team at this stage - wait to be contacted.

#### 3. Who's at risk?

You may be at a particularly

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high risk of getting seriously ill with coronavirus if you:

- Have had an organ transplant and are taking immunosuppressant medicine
- Are having chemotherapy or radiotherapy
- Have blood or bone marrow cancer, such as leukaemia
- Have a severe chest condition, such as cystic fibrosis or severe asthma
- Have another serious health condition

#### 4. How is coronavirus spread?

Because it's a new illness, we do not know exactly how coronavirus spreads from person to person.

Similar viruses are spread in cough droplets.

It's very unlikely it can be spread through things like packages or food.

#### 5. I'm pregnant. Am I at risk?

If you're pregnant and worried about coronavirus, you can get advice from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists by visiting this link - [www.rcog.org.uk/en/guidelines-research-services/guidelines/coronavirus-pregnancy/covid-19-virus-infection-and-pregnancy/](http://www.rcog.org.uk/en/guidelines-research-services/guidelines/coronavirus-pregnancy/covid-19-virus-infection-and-pregnancy/)

#### 6. Is there travel advice?

There are some countries and areas where there's a higher chance of coming into contact with someone with coronavirus.

If you're planning to travel abroad and are concerned about coronavirus, see advice for travellers on [www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus)

#### 7. What treatment is there?

There is currently no specific treatment for coronavirus.

Antibiotics do not help, as they do not work against viruses.

Treatment aims to relieve the symptoms while your body fights the illness.

You'll need to stay in isolation, away from other people, until you have recovered.

#### 8. Will staying at home help stop coronavirus spreading?

You'll need to stay at home if you have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or live with someone who does.

Staying at home means you should:

- Not go to work, school or public areas
- Not use public transport or taxis
- Not have visitors, such as friends and family, in your home
- Not go out to buy food or collect medicine - order them by phone or online, or ask someone else to drop them off at your home

You can use your garden, if you have one. You can also leave the house to exercise - but stay at least 2 metres away from other people.

If you have symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature or a new, continuous cough) and you're not sure if you need to stay at home, use the 111 coronavirus service - <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/> - to find out what to do.

#### 9. How long should I stay at home?

If you have symptoms of coronavirus, you'll need to stay at home for 7 days.

After 7 days:

- If you do not have a high temperature, you do not need to stay at home
- If you still have a high temperature, stay at home until your temperature returns to normal

## Coronavirus - NHS 111

Northern Ireland now has full access to the NHS 111 helpline service on coronavirus

Call 111 and then press 1 when through to the recorded message



You do not need to stay at home if you just have a cough after 7 days. A cough can last for several weeks after the infection has gone.

#### 10. What if I live with someone who has symptoms?

If you live with someone who has symptoms, you'll need to stay at home for 14 days from the day their symptoms started. This is because it can take 14 days for symptoms to appear.

If more than 1 person at home has symptoms, stay at home for 14 days from the day the first person started having symptoms.

If you get symptoms, stay at home for 7 days from when your symptoms start, even if it means you're at home for longer than 14 days.

If you do not get symptoms, you can stop staying at home after 14 days.

#### 11. What's an isolation note?

If you live with someone who has symptoms of coronavirus, you can get an isolation note to send to your employer as proof you need to stay off work.

You do not need to get a note from a GP.

If you have symptoms of coronavirus and need to stay at home, use the 111 coronavirus service to get an isolation note.

#### 12. I have symptoms and live with a vulnerable person. What should I do?

If you live with someone who is 70 or over, has a long-term condition, is pregnant or has a weakened immune system, try to arrange for them to stay with friends or family for 14 days. If you have to stay at home together, try to keep away from each other as much as possible.

#### DO

- Try to keep 2 metres (3 steps) away from each other
- Avoid using shared spaces, such as kitchens or bathrooms, at the same time as each other
- Open windows in shared spaces if you can
- Clean a shared bathroom each time you use it, for example by wiping the surfaces you have touched
- Use a dishwasher if you have one - if you do not have one, use washing-up liquid and warm water and dry everything thoroughly

#### DON'T

- Do not share a bed, if possible

*continued on page 8*

- Do not share towels, including hand towels and tea towels

### 13. How can I reduce the spread of infection in my home?

While you're staying at home, you should:

- Wash your hands with soap and water often, for at least 20 seconds
- Use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- Put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards
- Clean objects and surfaces you touch often (like door handles, kettles and phones) using your regular cleaning products

### 14. How should I do my cleaning and laundry?

Use your usual household

products, such as detergents and bleach, when you clean your home.

Put used tissues and disposable cleaning cloths in rubbish bags. Then put the bag into a second bag and tie it securely. Wait 3 days before putting it in your outside bin.

Dispose of other household waste as normal.

Wash your laundry in the washing machine in the usual way. Laundry that has been in contact with an ill person can be washed with other people's items. Do not shake dirty laundry, as this may spread the virus in the air.

If you do not have a washing machine, wait for 3 days after your stay at home has ended before taking your laundry to a launderette.

### 15. How should I look after my

### health and wellbeing?

To help yourself stay well while you're at home:

- Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated – drink enough so your pee is pale and clear
- Take paracetamol to help ease your symptoms
- Stay in touch with family and friends over the phone or on social media, to help you avoid feeling low or lonely
- Try to keep yourself busy - you could try activities like cooking, reading, online learning and watching films
- Do light exercise, if you feel well enough to

There is advice about how to look after your mental wellbeing while staying at home from Every Mind Matters - [www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-tips/](http://www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-tips/)

### 16. What should I do if I need medical help but have to

### stay at home?

If you get symptoms not related to coronavirus and need medical help:

- do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
- if it's not an emergency, use the NHS 111 online service – call 111 if you cannot get help online
- if it's an emergency, call 999 - tell the call handler you may have coronavirus

Cancel all routine face-to-face medical and dental appointments while you're staying at home. You may be able to do some appointments over the phone.

Use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service if:

- You feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home
- Your condition gets worse

Only call 111 if you cannot get help online.



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# Questions & Answers



**Q.** We have a Member who is trying to obtain signatures to call for an EGM to remove the current Committee due to a decision he does not approve of. Are there any rules or regulations relating to how a Member can gather signatures for an SGM? Does it have to

be within the Club or can the signatories be gained outside the Club? We are concerned this person may harass Club Members on the street.

**A.** There is no prescribed manner in which signatures should be obtained in view to calling an EGM. Clearly if a petition is presented to the Committee amidst allegations of harassment or intimidation in order to gain the signatures then the Committee can investigate these allegations further.

I think you simply have to wait and see if a valid petition is presented to the Committee. If a petition is presented and there are concerns then you can have a quiet word with some of the names on the petition to ensure that they did not feel intimidated, into signing the

petition. Assuming it is a valid petition, then an EGM will have to be called as per the Club's Rules. The benefit of the doubt should be with the petition to call an EGM and unless there are serious issues which call the petition into question then the request should be granted if it is supported by sufficient signatures.

**Q.** One of our members recommended social distancing during the coronavirus pandemic. What exactly is social distancing?

**A.** Social distancing measures are steps you can take to reduce the social interaction between people. This will help reduce the transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19).

**They are:**

- Avoid contact with someone who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). These symptoms include high temperature and/or new and continuous cough
- Avoid non-essential use of public transport, varying your travel times to avoid rush hour, when possible
- Work from home, where possible. Your employer should support you to do this.
- Avoid large gatherings, and gatherings in smaller public spaces
- Avoid gatherings with friends and family. Keep in touch using remote technology such as phone, internet, and social media
- Use telephone or online services to contact your GP or other essential services

We understand these measures may cause an issue when clubs are permitted to reopen, but we have received word that several clubs put measures in place to

ensure their club is a safe space for their members.

**Examples:**

- Limit the number of members and guests in your premises.
- Remove tables and leave larger gaps between the ones that remain.
- Marking spaces on your floors with tape to highlight the recommended space between individuals
- Ensure there are numerous bottles of hand sanitiser available for ease and frequency of use
- Ensure your bathroom facilities are stocked with soap and/or anti-bacterial handwash

These are only a few recommendations you should act upon to safeguard your staff and members.

We strongly advise you to follow the above measures as much as you can and to significantly limit your face-to-face interaction with friends and family if possible, particularly if you: are over 70, have an underlying health condition, or are pregnant.

This advice is likely to be in place for some weeks.

**Q.** One of our bar staff wasn't actually sick but his doctor advised him to self-isolate due to the coronavirus outbreak. Do we have to pay SSP in this instance?

**A.** The Government has stated that if NHS 111, or a doctor, advises an employee or worker to self-isolate, they should receive any Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) due to them. If the employer offers contractual sick pay, it's good practice to pay this.

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It is expected there will be further announcements over the coming weeks regarding the Statutory Sick Pay system.

**Q.** Due to the coronavirus pandemic, our club may have to make several staff redundant. Can you advise what redundancy payments we will have to make.

**A.** Planning for and handling redundancies carefully and with great sensitivity is crucial. It will help minimise emotional distress for the individuals affected. It will also help minimise damage to organisational performance which can happen when there is uncertainty or poor management of the situation.

Organisations can potentially avoid or minimise the need for redundancies by planning their labour requirements very carefully. Employers should also establish an agreed procedure for handling redundancies,

which demonstrates a fair and objective approach when selecting members of the workforce for redundancy.

If an employer is considering making an employee redundant, they must follow a standard dismissal procedure. However, the procedure does not apply to some collective redundancies.

To be entitled to receive a statutory redundancy payment, an individual must:

- be an employee working under a contract of employment;
- have at least two years of continuous service; and
- have been dismissed, laid off or put on short-time working (and have a qualifying period of lay off).

When issuing redundancy pay, an employer must provide a statement showing how it was calculated.

The amount payable is

dependent upon age, length of service and contractual earnings.

- Up to the age of 21: half a week's pay for each completed year of service;
- 22 to 40 years of age: one week's pay for each completed year of service;
- 41+ years of age: one-and-a-half weeks' pay for each completed year of service.

The calculation for weekly pay is subject to the statutory limit of £547 (6 April 2019). This is reviewed annually.

The maximum number of years that can be taken into account in a redundancy payment calculation is 20.

More detailed information for employers and employees can be obtained from the HR team linked to your club insurance provider, or the Labour Relations Agency.

**Q.** We have a number of members who have still not

paid their annual membership Subscriptions. Can we bar these members from attending the Annual General Meeting and voting?

**A.** You are perfectly entitled to prevent members who have not paid their annual subscription from attending the Annual General Meeting and voting.

In fairness, most clubs collect subscriptions from the 1st January so the Committee should have had ample time to make sure all members were up to date with

their subscriptions prior to the AGM taking place. I suggest that in future years, the Committee are pro-active in dealing with members who are late with their subscription payments and apply the terms of the rules which cover such late payments.

*If you have any questions you need answered for your club, then please send them to us at: [info@nifederationofclubs.com](mailto:info@nifederationofclubs.com)*



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## Diageo pledges 8m bottles of hand sanitiser

Diageo, maker of Johnnie Walker and Smirnoff, has pledged to enable the creation of more than eight million bottles of hand sanitiser, by donating up to two million litres of alcohol to manufacturing partners, to help protect frontline healthcare workers in the fight against COVID-19.

The world's leading distiller will provide Grain Neutral Spirit (GNS) - a 96% strength ethyl alcohol used primarily in production of vodka and gin - and make it available at no cost to hand sanitiser producers in multiple countries, to help overcome shortages in healthcare systems. This donation will enable the production of more than eight

million 250ml bottles of hand sanitiser.

Diageo continues to engage with national and local governments across the many countries where the company has major distilling operations. The spirit will be made available in supply chains according to local circumstances, working with the relevant authorities and hand sanitiser manufacturers. This will ensure the donation is used for maximum impact in protecting health workers and patients and that sanitiser reaches the frontline as quickly as possible.

The plan includes:  
**The UK and the Republic of Ireland:** 500,000 litres of

GNS to be made available for national healthcare systems and workers across the UK and Ireland.

**Italy:** 100,000 litres of GNS to support the healthcare system and other national needs

**USA:** 500,000 litres of GNS to be supplied to meet local community needs

**Brazil:** Diageo's Ypioca plant will produce 50,000 litres of spirit for the local healthcare system, in conjunction with the Ceara State Government.

**Kenya:** Diageo's East Africa Breweries Ltd will enable production of 135,000 litres of sanitiser, prioritising vulnerable and at risk groups.

**India:** 500,000 litres of alcohol to supply to the sanitiser industry across 25 States, for use in national healthcare

systems and for consumers.

**Australia:** Diageo's Bundaberg Distilling Co. to produce 100,000 litres of ethanol for the Queensland Government, to be forwarded to hand sanitiser manufacturers.

"Healthcare workers are at the forefront of fighting this pandemic and we are determined to do what we can to help protect them," said Ivan Menezes, Chief Executive of Diageo.

"This is the quickest and most effective way for us to meet the surging demand for hand sanitiser around the world."

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must stay at home for 14 days\***

Do **not** go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

You can ring NHS 111 for information or advice and they will help you decide if you need to contact your GP.

Calling your GP directly is only necessary if you have:

- an existing health condition
- problems with your immune system
- very serious symptoms

**If it is a medical emergency and you need to call an ambulance, dial 999 and inform the operator of your symptoms.**

**\*For further information and self-isolation advice, visit  
[www.pha.site/coronavirus](http://www.pha.site/coronavirus)**

# Bryson Care continues to support society's most vulnerable

In these uncertain times, it is vital to remember those who need us most

The present situation has grounded flights, postponed public events, and placed enormous pressure on our country's healthcare service.

Coronavirus, or COVID-19, has brought about a great deal of uncertainty for the people of Northern Ireland. In business, it has left many without permanent and stable employment. Our thoughts are with those affected by this sudden and indeed devastating change of events.

If you or anyone you know has been impacted, temporary

and permanent positions are available within Bryson Care. In these uncertain times, it is vital to remember the most vulnerable members of our society.

Perhaps you worked in hospitality and have been affected by the recent layoffs? Or maybe you just want an opportunity to give back to your local community during this difficult time.

You'll work as a Total Support Worker, delivering best-in-class care and support to people in the comfort of their own

home. We welcome applicants from all walks of life, and our Care service covers the Greater Belfast area.

Further information can be found by visiting [bryson.getgotjobs.co.uk/](http://bryson.getgotjobs.co.uk/)

It is however, important to acknowledge that the coronavirus pandemic is an evolving situation.



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**For Further Information:**  
Please ring the office on 028 9034 7731 or follow @BrysonCare on Twitter to keep up with all the latest developments.

Stay safe, stay well, and carry on caring.

# NEW GORDON'S SICILIAN LEMON



*Gordon's*

NEW SICILIAN LEMON

...SHALL WE?



# In these difficult times, can you afford not to review your club expenditure?

We are all facing a very difficult and worrying time with the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Many clubs/businesses will now have been forced into 'survival mode' and will be perhaps looking at ways to reduce expenditure in order to survive and get through this unprecedented event.

Businesses are now looking at any ways possible of reducing business expenditure and we have found that a major expense in any business is that of electricity and gas. So, if we may, we would like to try and help you at this most difficult of times.

MJ Utilities has direct lines with every major energy supplier in the country. We can carry out a no-obligation review to identify any savings that you may benefit from which I am sure will be welcomed at this difficult time.

Many businesses including energy suppliers have a large part of their workforce working remotely from home which is good for us as it still enables us to carry on as normal (or as normal as it can be at this time).

The nature of what we do means that we can conduct a lot of our business via email without having to visit your premises at a time when you'll



likely be trying to keep footfall to a minimum. You could be just a couple of emails away from helping reduce your clubs expenditure.

We also work with a number of local companies that may be able to help reduce other spends such as telecoms, merchant services and LED lighting.

If you would like us to review any of these things for you then

please get in touch as soon as possible.

We're in this together - please stay safe.

For further information email [mark@mjutilities.com](mailto:mark@mjutilities.com) or [office@mjutilities.com](mailto:office@mjutilities.com) or call 0777 699 4807.

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## Cancelled appointments for Cancer Focus NI patients



Cancer Focus Northern Ireland has temporarily halted all face-to-face appointments with vulnerable local cancer patients as a result of the current coronavirus crisis.

Lifeline services provided by the leading local cancer charity to patients and their families have been seriously disrupted by the outbreak.

The charity has had to temporarily stop face-to-face contact with patients who would normally have attended for counselling, family support, art therapy, bra-fitting and other care service appointments. It has also cancelled home and hospital visits.

Roisin Foster, chief executive of Cancer Focus NI, said, "We're very aware that these are extraordinary and, for many

people, very worrying times, and difficult decisions have to be made.

"As a local cancer charity, many people who access our services may be particularly vulnerable during this time, for example those who are undergoing cancer treatment. We have a duty of care to our service users and want to act responsibly during such an uncertain time. Therefore, the decision has been made to temporarily stop face-to-face appointments and meetings, such as bra-fitting and group support activities," she said.

"For services such as counselling, family support service and art therapy, we intend to provide patient support via telephone and video call. Our freephone Nurse Line will be operating as normal, Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm, on 0800 783 3339 for

advice and information about cancer or email [nurseline@cancerfocusni.org](mailto:nurseline@cancerfocusni.org)."

The charity also operates a driving service to take patients to and from hospital appointments. For the time being it will no longer be taking new referrals but the charity will do its best to honour appointments already made.

If you have an immediate appointment for one of the Cancer Focus NI care services, a member of staff will be in touch to cancel.

Roisin added, "We are looking at ways to use technology to keep in contact with our patient support users during this uncertain time. We are used to walking hand-in-hand with our clients and will continue to try and do so remotely. We

will be reviewing our practices as government guidelines are reviewed," Roisin added.

"We would ask everyone to please bear in mind that we can only continue to deliver these services to local people with your help. We are over 90% reliant on public donations to deliver our good work. As a relatively small local charity, we will need your help over the coming months.

"Unfortunately, cancer and how it affects people - the patient and carers - will not stand still during this pandemic.

"There are many ways you can show your support remotely.

Please visit [www.cancerfocusni.org/backlocal](http://www.cancerfocusni.org/backlocal) for more information. Thank you for your patience and understanding at this time."

## Forget Me Not Funds remember a loved one

Cancer Focus Northern Ireland is encouraging local people to open a Cancer Focus Northern Ireland Forget Me Not Fund in memory of a loved one. A Forget Me Not Fund is a unique and positive way for family, friends and colleagues to remember a loved one and keep their spirit alive - and help other people in Northern Ireland who are affected by cancer.

Jimmy Carrigan, who worked with the health service before he retired, lost his wife Gina to cancer 14 years ago. He opened a Forget Me Not Fund in her memory because he felt it was an ideal way to honour her memory.

Over the years, Jimmy, together with his family and friends, has raised an amazing £100k for Cancer Focus NI and another cancer charity and Jimmy would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody who helped out with the fundraising.

Gina was 47 when she passed away in 2006. The couple's daughter Clare was 18 at the time and their son Conor was 15.

Jimmy said, "Gina was originally diagnosed with lung cancer. She had surgery but after 18 months it had spread to her brain. She lived with cancer for four years and ended up in

a wheelchair for the last part of her life.

Jimmy continued, "Before she died, Gina talked openly about her funeral arrangements. She told me she wasn't afraid to die, but didn't want to leave us. She said that she would like us to remember her in a positive way. Gina was always helping others, even when she was ill.

"When I heard about Forget Me Not Funds I thought that would be the perfect way to enshrine her memory. It has been a great way for me and my family to focus our thoughts and energies and we found it a

great comfort to be doing some good for others."

Cancer Focus NI community fundraiser Barbara Long said: "When someone you love dies you may wish to celebrate their life and memory in a special way. You'll know the best way to remember them but a Forget Me Not Fund offers a way that not only celebrates their life but helps other local people affected by cancer too.

To sign up or to find out more email [barbaralong@cancerfocusni.org](mailto:barbaralong@cancerfocusni.org), call 028 9068 0746 or visit [www.cancerfocusni.org/forgetmenot](http://www.cancerfocusni.org/forgetmenot)

# West Belfast GAA Club celebrate after raising £90k for Northern Ireland Children's Hospice

West Belfast GAA Club, O'Donnell's GAC, is celebrating after raising a staggering £90k for Northern Ireland Children's Hospice.

The club have been actively fundraising for the Children's Hospice since 2000 by holding an annual Social Night every December in the Club to raise vital funds for the Hospice. The funds were raised on the night through a ballot, with prizes kindly donated by local business. The Club also kept collection cans at the Club Bar all year round to help raise additional funds for the charity.

Joe McNerney, bar treasurer said: "We've been fundraising for the Children's Hospice since 2000. We would like to thank all the local businesses who have generously donated prizes to the event every single year and our tenacious club members for their support. We couldn't have raised this money without their support and generosity."



Michael Nugent, Regional Fundraiser at Northern Ireland Children's Hospice, added: "This incredible donation really will make a difference to the lives of local children and their families who we care for in the Hospice and in the

local community. We couldn't continue to provide our vital service without fundraising events hosted by the local community. We're extremely grateful and humbled to accept this donation on behalf of the club".

Northern Ireland Children's Hospice is the only service of its type in Northern Ireland caring for over 370 local infants, children and young people with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions every year.

## NI Hospice announce shop closures

Due to the recent COVID-19 (coronavirus) outbreak, we have made the incredibly difficult decision to close all 25 of our Hospice shops throughout Northern Ireland.

While we will miss greeting you every day, it's important for us to put these precautionary measures in place to protect our customers, volunteers, staff and to help minimize the spread

of the virus within the local community.

We still need your help to continue caring for our patients and families. We are still accepting quality donations for when our shops reopen, we will also be adding new products to our online shop or if you can make a cash donation to help us support local people living with life-limiting or life-threatening

illnesses you can donate here.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to welcoming you in store again soon!





## UGAAWA Awards

The final Ulster GAA Writers' Annual Awards dinner was held in the Great Northern Hotel, Bundoran when the cream of 2019 throughout the GAA activity last year were presented with their trophies.

Not many All-Ireland titles arrived in the northern province last season but still the action was fast and furious in many codes, with various players raising their hands for recognition.

On the club front, both Slaughtneil and Kilcoo were very much to the fore nationally with the Slaughtneil camogs clinching the All-Ireland senior club title, again, while Kilcoo senior footballers went within a whisker of

collecting the All-Ireland Club Championship crown.

At colleges' level, St Michael's Enniskillen made history by being the first Fermanagh side to win the Hogan Cup. They done so with a complete panel of Fermanagh players.

There was double success for Fermanagh as full-forward Eimear Smyth, for the second



Ulster GAA Writers award winners for 2019.

Courtesy of The Irish News - picture by Philip Mulligan.

year running, was named the winner of the Cormac McAnallen Young Achiever of the Year, after her exploits in helping the Erne girls to promotion from Division Four in the Lidl Ladies' National Leagues.

Cathal McShane, who turned down a career in Aussie Rules to stay with Tyrone, won the Male Footballer of the Year while Donegal 'striker' Geraldine McLaughlin was named Female Footballer, making it three No 14s to win major honours.

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### UGAAWA 2019 Award Winners

**Male Footballer of the Year**  
Cathal McShane (Tyrone)

**Female Footballer of the Year**  
Geraldine McLaughlin (Donegal)

**Hurler of the Year**  
Gerald Bradley (Slaughtneil)

**Camogie Player of the Year**  
Shannon Graham (Slaughtneil);

**Cormac McAnallen Young Achiever of the Year**  
Eimear Smyth (Fermanagh)

**John McAviney Services to the GAA Award**  
Mickey Moran (Derry)

**Personality of the Year**  
Malachy O'Rourke (ex-Monaghan)

**Team of the Year**  
St Michael's College Enniskillen (Fermanagh)

**Club of the Year**  
Kilcoo (Down)

**Cultural Award**  
Omagh St Enda's (Tyrone)

**Communications Award**  
Eugene McConnell (Tyrone)

**Chairman's Award**  
Kilcoo (Down)





# NIFWA Monthly Award winners



After scoring 6 goals in the month, Linfield's Andrew Waterworth has been nominated the February Player of the Month.



Coleraine boss, Oran Kearney picks up his 11th NI Football Writers Award after a magnificent run of results in February.

Linfield striker Andrew Waterworth is the NIFWA Premiership Player of the Month for February. Waterworth scored six goals in the month, as Linfield stormed to the clear at the top of the table with four victories. The former Hamilton Academical forward found the net against Dungannon Swifts, Warrenpoint Town, Ballymena United and Crusaders.

Upon collecting the Belleek trophy, Waterworth said, "I'd like to thank the Football Writers' for this award. I was delighted when I heard that I had been selected. Personally, this has not been my best season. I've spent a lot of the season on the bench, and I had to work incredibly hard to get back in the team and stay in the team. It's fantastic to be back amongst the goals again.

"For the club, it's also been a difficult year. The Irish Cup defeat to Queen's was embarrassing and we haven't been at our best for most of the season. We have improved but we still have an awful lot of hard work to do if we are to win the title."

It's the fourth time Waterworth has won the Football Writers' monthly prize and his third as a Linfield player.

Coleraine FC boss Oran Kearney is NIFWA's Manager of the Month for February.

In February, Coleraine won the BetMcLean League Cup, defeating Crusaders 2-1 in the showpiece final at Windsor Park. The Bannsidiers also booked their place in the semi-finals of the Irish Cup with a 3-2 win over Larne, as well as claiming league victories against Glentoran and Institute.

Upon collecting the Belleek trophy, Kearney said, "This is hugely a reflection of what the team have been doing. Last Tuesday was our first home game in about five weeks, which makes the run all the more impressive to me. We lost at home to Crusaders and since then we have put together a run but it is important not to get too ahead of ourselves.

"We've been able to bring in Curtis Allen and Stewart Nixon and their introduction has given the entire place another lift, too."

It's the 11th time Kearney has won the Northern Ireland Football Writers' Association's monthly award.

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# 1974

## Shankly's Liverpool win FA Cup



*Ray Clemence and Brian Hall celebrate their 3-0 FA Cup triumph over Newcastle United at Wembley Stadium.*

The 1974 FA Cup Final between Liverpool and Newcastle United was held at Wembley Stadium on Saturday, 4 May 1974. Liverpool were appearing in their fifth final and Newcastle in their eleventh, which was a record at the time. Liverpool had won the FA Cup once, in 1965, and Newcastle six times, most recently in 1955.

Both teams entered the competition in the third round. Liverpool and Newcastle had scares in the third and fourth rounds, in all cases drawing home ties against much smaller clubs and then winning the replays. Both had good wins in the fifth round and Liverpool won away in the sixth (quarter-final) round. Newcastle's sixth round home tie against Nottingham Forest was declared void after a riot on the field by Newcastle fans when their team was losing 1-3. The game was delayed until order was restored, which Newcastle won 4-3. Forest made a written protest to the Football Association and Newcastle were very close to being disqualified from the competition. The FA relented and ordered that the match be replayed at a neutral venue. Two replays were needed before Newcastle won through. In the semi-finals, Newcastle defeated Burnley 2-0 at Hillsborough and Liverpool defeated Leicester City 3-1 in a replay at Villa Park, following a 0-0 draw at Old Trafford.

The final was watched by a crowd of 100,000 and Liverpool won a one-sided match 3-0 with goals by Kevin Keegan (2) and Steve Heighway.

The team managers, Bill Shankly and Joe Harvey, sat next to each other all through the match. It was to be Shankly's last game in charge of Liverpool as he retired on 12th July, although he led the team out for the Charity Shield match in August.

## Ali rumbles Foreman



*Muhammad Ali and George Foreman in their legendary bout, held in*

*The Rumble in the Jungle* was a historic boxing event in Kinshasa, Zaire (now Democratic Republic of the Congo) on 30th October 1974. Held at the 20th of May Stadium (now the Stade Tata Raphaël), it pitted the undefeated world heavyweight champion George Foreman against challenger Muhammad Ali, the former heavyweight champion.

The 60,000 people witnessed a magnificent spectacle, with Ali soaking up all the pressure, before coming back in sensational style to knock-out undefeated champion Foreman in the eighth round.

It's still considered by many as the greatest sporting event of the 20th century. Ali's win was a major upset, with him coming in as a 4-1 underdog against the unbeaten, heavy-hitting Foreman. The fight is famous for Ali's introduction of the rope-a-dope tactic.

The fight was watched by a record estimated television audience of 1 billion viewers worldwide, becoming the world's most-watched live television broadcast at the time. This included a record estimated 50 million viewers watching the fight pay-per-view on closed-circuit theatre TV. The fight grossed an estimated \$100 million (inflation-adjusted \$500 million) in worldwide revenue.

### It happened in 1974...

**Cycling** - Belgian cycling legend, Eddy Merckx 'aka The Cannibal' won the last of his five Tour de France titles, with a time gap of 8min 4sec.

**Golf** - American, Johnny Miller, was the PGA Tour leading money winner with \$353,022 (\$1.8m in today's terms).

**Horse Racing** - Red Rum wins the second of his three Grand Nationals, with L'Escargot second and Charles Dickens in third.

**Football** - Host nation West Germany won the World Cup 2-1 against the Netherlands. The tournament marked the first time that the current trophy, created by the Italian sculptor Silvio Gazzaniga, was awarded. The previous trophy, the Jules Rimet Trophy, had been won for the third time by Brazil in 1970 and awarded permanently to the Brazilians.

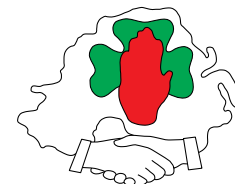
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(2) .....

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