

PADDY MURPHY ARTICLE 2015

Murphy's Inspired Bowling – so ran the headline in The Irish Times on Friday 27th June 1975. The report was as follows:

“A brilliant sustained spell of medium pace bowling by Paddy Murphy, who in only 11 overs took nine wickets for 18 runs, saw Malahide to a very easy 10 wickets victory over Carlisle in their Leinster Senior League game at Kimmage yesterday.

Carlisle were shot out for a paltry 40 runs due to the inspired Murphy, who as well as being on a hat-trick on three different occasions, took 7 wickets in his last three overs without conceding a run. He was helped in his deadly performance by Ray Daly, who claimed five catches off his bowling.

Carlisle had reached 36 before the third wicket fell but the wickets toppled rapidly from there out with Stephen Molins remaining undefeated with 10. Malahide openers Daly and Barry Gilmore with 20 runs each saw their side home in a brief 10.4 overs.

Carlisle CC 40 (R Molins 13, J Simon 11, S Molins n.o. 10; P Murphy 9 for 18, A Hughes 1 for 18), Malahide CC 41 for 0 (R Daly 20*, BW Gilmore 20*)."

Leinster Statistician Gerry Byrne confirms that Murphy's was the best bowling performance in Leinster in 1975. The only other nine wicket haul in that year was Dougie Goodwin's nine for 27 against Phoenix CC.

“I just chucked it down” explained modest Paddy when asked to account for the inspirational performance.



MALAHIDE CC 1st XI 1976 - WINNERS WIGGINS TEAPE LEAGUE
b/r: Kieran Gleeson, Paddy Murphy, Bobby Shaw, Alan Hughes, Dougie Goodwin, Barry Gilmore, John Pryor
f/r: David Martin, CD Smith, Gerry O'Brien (captain), Les O'Shea, Brian Gilmore, Joe O'Neill (President), John O'Neill (scorer)

But Marty Block who was one of Paddy's victims on the day vividly recounted that “Paddy was unplayable that day. Seam and bounce. And Ray Daly took five catches at short leg.” Ray was fearless and peerless as a close in fielder.

Marty continued "Being a mid-week game, Tony "Tubby" Leon, Carlisle batter, arrived a little late at 2.30pm for the match. He looked at the scoreboard and saw Malahide 35 for no wicket. He assumed it was the first innings, got changed and was ready to enter the fray when Carlisle Captain Rodney Molins told him in no uncertain terms not to bother as the match was almost over!"

The victory was famously celebrated after the game in Coman's Bar, Terenure.

Paddy joined Malahide from Clontarf in mid 1974. Such transfers were unusual and it was even more unusual when fellow first teamer Kieran Gleeson followed Paddy from Tarf at the same time.

At the time Paddy was working in the Norwich Union which was headed up by our own Des Cashell. Paddy continues to this day to work in the insurance industry.

Paddy re-joined Clontarf briefly in 1977.

Clontarf CC Stats 1968-1973 and 1977

Matches	Wickets	Average	5+ wkts
87	100	21.01	3

Malahide CC Stats 1974-1976

Matches	Wickets	Average	5+wkts
43	79	16.17	4

There is a famous story in Clontarf about Paddy. He was fielding on the far side of the ground in Castle Avenue and a ball was hit high towards him. He got into position but it was under one of the red beech trees, so the ball came through the leaves. He lost it and it hit him on the head, knocking him out temporarily. Teammates JB Bunworth and Johnny Nolan were first to reach him and both were in their Jesus phase (long beards!) and obviously wearing white. When Paddy came round, he looked up, saw the two lads and said "Jaysus, am I in heaven?"

Another story, and there are many, was when Paddy was travelling back from an insurance game in Belfast in the 1980's. Paddy Murphy from Man O'War was also in the car. They were stopped at the border and the customs officer asked Man O'War Paddy (in passenger seat) what was his name. He told him and the customs officer asked and was told our Paddy's name. The officer immediately ordered him out of the car, thinking he was being made a fool of. Paddy talked him around and they left the best of mates.

The good news is that Paddy has re-joined the Club as a Pavilion member.

Brian Gilmore