

First Cousin

## HENRY WOOD 'HARRY' HAGGAN: 1948-2010

Harry was born in 1948 in Belfast, Northern Ireland to John Henry McWhirter 'Jackie' Haggan and Rebecca 'Ruby' Wood. He was the eldest of 4 siblings: his brothers were William George, John Park 'Jackie' and Trevor.

After the war, temporary housing was built in the suburbs of Belfast. Harry's family moved out to one of these new estates in the South of the City, Taughmonagh, and this is where he grew up.

Harry's partner was Margaret and they had one daughter, Tracey. Harry also had a son, John, from another relationship.

In 2010, Harry passed away after a short illness relating to his diabetes.

Harry was always great company and a real character in his own right. He enjoyed the involvement of cross community work, using his own experiences to make improvements to the lives of local people.

The following pages reflect the esteem Harry was held in in his local community.



Photo: Harry's Dad, Jackie Haggan, in the front Garden at 53 Malfin Drive, Taughmonagh, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

# Adams and McDonald meet for the first time

BY BRIAN ROWAN

LOYALIST 'brigadier' Jackie McDonald and Sinn Féin president Gerry Adams have met face-to-face for the first time, the Belfast Telegraph can reveal.

It happened yesterday when Mr Adams came to offer condolences to the family of loyalist community worker Harry Haggan who worked on the Suffolk-Lemadon interface in Belfast.

Mr Haggan, a former prisoner with UDA links, died on Friday. His funeral takes place today, with some republicans expected to attend.

Mr Adams first called his widow Margaret and then asked to visit the family home. The loyalist and republican leaders met on the peaceline and arrived at the house together.

## background

BUILDING relationships was at the heart of Harry Haggan's community work.

The retired HGV driver worked quietly and effectively to enhance life on the Suffolk-Lemadon interface in west Belfast.

His family have sought much comfort from the condolence cards that fill the walls of their home, including a card and bouquet of flowers from Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams. Harry's widow Margaret said: "Gerry Adams spoke about the high regard that Harry was held throughout west Belfast and what he had contributed."



They had spoken previously on the telephone, but had never met.

"I've viewed him from a distance," the UDA leader told the Belfast Telegraph.

"He didn't seem to be the type of person you could get close to."

"But today (Tuesday) I thanked him for what he did for the family."

It was a wonderful gesture."

He described Mr Haggan as a man who had helped create a better atmosphere for the two communities on the Suffolk-Lemadon interface — dealing with difficult issues such as flags and bonfires.

And Mr McDonald said it was only when the west Belfast MP vis-

ited the family home that they "realised the work that Harry was doing".

"He praised Harry for his work and his courage," the loyalist leader said.

"And when Gerry told them this was the first time he and I had met, there was an even greater sense of pride."

"They couldn't believe Harry's death had brought us into the same room."

"He left the family with a great sense of pride."

Three years ago Adams stepped into the loyalist community to attend the funeral of political leader David Ervine — just weeks before the historic Stormont agreement between Sinn Féin and the DUP.

## Westminster to debate Sinn Féin expenses

CUTTING Sinn Féin's Parliamentary expenses would save taxpayers up to £4m over the course of this parliament, the Government will be told

BY SAM LISTER

today. Nigel Dodds has secured a Westminster Hall debate on the cash the five republican MPs can claim despite refusing to take their seats in the Commons.

He will tell ministers Sinn Féin is "seeking and getting preferential treatment" and demand the

Conservatives stick by the promises they made in opposition, quoting a number of Cabinet Ministers including Northern Ireland Secretary Owen Paterson, Home Secretary Theresa May and Work and Pensions Secretary Iain Duncan Smith, who have all been highly critical of the system in recent years.

"On this issue the DUP has been consistent," Mr Dodds is expected to say. "It opposed the original decision to grant these allowances and supported Conservative attempts to overturn them."

Face-to-face  
Jackie  
McDonald  
and (far left)  
Gerry Adams



# The inaugural 2010 cross community Golf tournament for the 'Harry Haggan Memorial Shield'

38 | FEATURE

Andersonstown News | www.belfastmedia.com | 21 August 2010

## Celebrities hit it off to a tee at Colin Valley

**Local celebrities joined in cross-community golf day on Sunday**

A CROSS-COMMUNITY golf day was held on Sunday at the Colin Valley Golf Club.

Members of the Suffolk and Brooke/Moor Park estates came together to putt and drive at the Blacks Road course for the Harry Haggan Memorial Shield. Harry was a community worker from the Suffolk estate who died in June.

A total of 100 people participated in the event and a stream of local celebrities joined in, including Marty Hogan, Miss Northern Ireland Lori Moore, James Peake, Paddy Jenkins and John Litchman whose alter-ego May McPettridge made an appearance during the celebrations later that night.

"It was a great way to bring the communities together," said Marty Black of the



Brooke and Moor Park Residents' Group. "And it was a great way to pay tribute to Harry. We want to thank everyone for getting involved and particularly the Balmoral Hotel for its sponsorship. The weather was glorious and a great day was had by all."

**BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER:** Colin Valley Golf Club, Brooke & Suffolk Cross Community Golf Classic



Seamie McPeake





**TAUGHMONAGH  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

*Service of Thanksgiving  
For the Life of*

**HARRY HAGGAN**

**WEDNESDAY 30 JUNE 2010  
AT 12.00 NOON**

**SERVICE CONDUCTED BY: REV. ROBERT LOVE**

**ORGANIST: DAVID CAPPER**

**COMMITTAL AFTERWARDS AT  
ROSELAWN CREMATORIUM (ARRIVING AT 1.30PM)**

Margaret, Tracey & the family would like to thank you for your presence here today and would like to invite you all to join them for refreshments at La Men House Hotel following the committal at Roselawn Crematorium.

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Donations in memory of Harry may be sent to the  
British Diabetic Association  
*(Cheques made payable to nominated charity please)*  
C/o Elwood & Capper Ltd.  
Independent Funeral Directors  
238 Kingsway, Dunmurry  
BT17 9AE

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