

Sinn Féin election special



Only One Winner

SINN FEIN TO RETAKE FERMANAGH SOUTH TYRONE AFTER 20 YEARS OF UNIONIST MISREPRESENTATION

For the first time Sinn Féin are standing candidates in every Westminster constituency. Here in Fermanagh South Tyrone we stand on the threshold of retaking the constituency after years of Unionist misrepresentation.

Sinn Féin are the only party who can win this seat from the unionist. A seat that 20 years ago was a Sinn Féin seat. Now is your chance to end unionist domination, misrepresentation and bigotry in Fermanagh South Tyrone.

You can now have the opportunity to elect a politician who along with Gerry Adams, Martin McGuinness, Bairbre de Brun and others initiated the peace process, who helped to negotiate the Good Friday Agreement and has worked tirelessly to support both.

You now have the opportunity to end the unionist inspired political and economic isolation of Fermanagh South Tyrone from the Rest of Ireland.

Sinn Féin is the fastest growing party in Ireland and the fastest growing among young people. Sinn Féin is stronger now than ever before and we are going.

Sinn Féin are the engine driving the peace process. We are delivering. Sinn Féin are building a future of equals, we are the face of change. Our elected representatives are at the forefront in confronting injustice, inequality and discrimination.

You can be confident that Michelle Gildernew will work hard and negotiate hard to win the rights and entitlements that beho every constituent as of right. Consequently, every vote will count. Every vote for Sinn Féin and Michelle Gildernew will make a difference.

For a second, just imagine a future with Michelle Gildernew as the next MP for Fermanagh South Tyrone.

Imagine how this will change the perceptions of this constituency and what it will mean to have a local Sinn Féin MP on the ground representing you.

The groundswell support for Sinn Féin is vindication of the hard work and commitment of all our elected representatives and activists alike and an endorsement the party's performance

Sinn Féin are the only party who can win this seat from the unionists. . . We are the largest party in Fermanagh South Tyrone . In the 1998 assembly elections we took 29% of the vote - 7 points clear of the SDLP and ahead of the UUP and anti-agreement unionists.

at leadership and at a national level. This rise and resilience has been a major catalyst in the progress towards peace.

It is a vote of confidence in their tireless efforts to transform the political landscape of the six counties thus creating the conditions that will deliver the common interests and aspirations of the Nationalist people whereby our vision of a peaceful, democratic Ireland, with justice and equality for all, can become a reality. Combine that with a Nationalist electorate than ever before and there is a direct connection between Sinn Féin electoral gains and a growing Nationalist confidence.

We go to the with a solid record of achievement, in the assembly, in the executive and in local government. In Fermanagh District council our record speaks for itself.

We are the largest party in Fermanagh South Tyrone. In the 1998 assembly elections we took 29% of the vote - 7 points clear of the SDLP and ahead of the UUP and anti-agreement unionists.

In the most recent By-election just a year ago in Erne west, Sinn Féin took 51% of the vote. Yes, over 50% of the constituency - in Derrylin, Kinawley,



Sinn Féin Fermanagh South Tyrone Election candidate
- Michelle Gildernew MLA

Belcoo, Garrison and Derrygonnelly - backed Sinn Féin. We Polled more than the the SDLP and the combined unionist vote unionist vote put together.

20 years ago Bobby Sands took over 31,000 votes and won 51.5% of the vote. In the 1997 Westminster election Gerry McHugh secured the largest nationalist vote. In 1998 more people voted Sinn Féin than voted for any other political party in the constituency.

Voting Sinn Féin will ensure that change is delivered. Every vote will

ensure that change is delivered. Every vote will count. We will win this vote people of Fermanagh South Tyrone form a winning pact with Sinn Féin. Sinn Féin will be the only winner in Fermanagh South Tyrone. But it is the people of Fermanagh South Tyrone That will win by voting Sinn Féin.

This is a straightforward contest between Sinn Féin and Unionism. A Vote for Michelle Gildernew is a vote to end 20 years of unionist misrepresentation in Fermanagh South Tyrone.

Votáil GILDERNEW X

The BIG picture

A MESSAGE FROM GERRY ADAMS

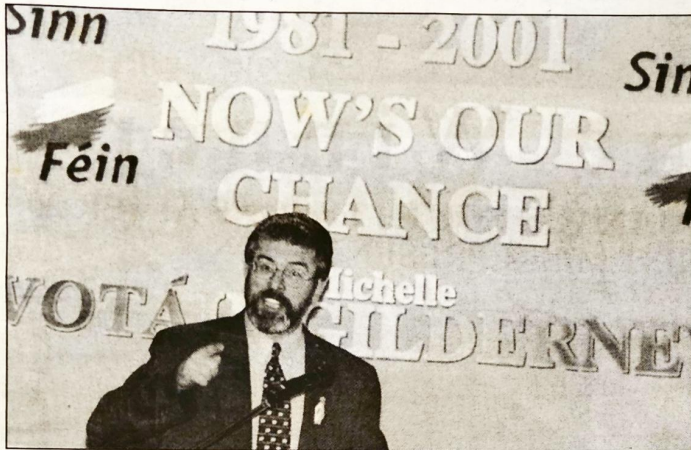
A chara,

Sinn Féin is the only all Ireland party in this election. We are the only party providing effective representation throughout Ireland. Our elected representatives have been at the forefront of confronting injustice, inequality and discrimination.

This election offers you the historic opportunity to form a winning pact with Sinn Féin and end unionist misrepresentation in Fermanagh South Tyrone by voting for Michelle Gildernew and backing Sinn Féin on June 7th. By doing this you will be insuring full implementation of the of the Good Friday Agreement and a brighter future - Building an Ireland of equals.

Is Mise

Gerry Adams



Owen Carron - 20 years awaiting

Looking back now, 20 years after the election of Bobby Sands and then myself as MPs for Fermanagh South Tyrone, it is still hard to articulate the emotion, memories and pain of that time. The Hunger Strikes of 1980 and 1981 stand as major events in my lifetime. They were difficult times for all nationalists.

On the surface it is memory of black flags, torchlight processions, rosaries on street corners and campaign meetings in small halls in places such as Killagher, Cooneen and Dungannon. It was a time of intense activity when normal life was put on hold because of the great sense of crisis that affected us all. It was a time of great solidarity too.

But something very profound happened in 1981 that changed forever the political landscape and that had a resonance far beyond these shores and beyond that time. It was a watershed period, things would not be the same again, ten men died. Like nothing ever before they had somehow managed to make us equal - they had died for our tomorrows.

It seems a long time now back to 1980 when Betty Lenard, Pat Cox and myself met in Lyman's Hotel in Derrylin to form the Fermanagh H-Block Committee. From Enniskillen came Bernie O'Connor and Bernadette Haysten, Patsy Magee from Belcoo, Stephen Maguire came from Irvinestown. A good number came from across the county, stalwarts like Eamon Cagney and Loretta Gleeson and ex-POWs like Jimmy Lynch, Oliver McCaffrey and Oliver McMahon and others like Tommy Murray who was later expelled from the SDLP for signing Bobby Sands' nomination papers.

We did a good job in our area of raising awareness about the plight of the prisoners. You have to remember - the war was going on and there was huge harassment from the RUC, UDR and British Army in travelling to meetings and protests. Yet the campaign took off. When the first Hunger Strike ended on December 19th 1981 we were all confused.

Over that Christmas into January and February little happened. The British government was still refusing to give the prisoners their rights.

Bobby Sands started the second Hunger Strike later in the year, he would be followed by others. Frank Maguire's death changed the equation.

At a meeting in Monaghan republicans from

Fermanagh South Tyrone were asked to consider putting a prisoner forward. Many, fearing a split vote or poor result, were against it.

After the meeting Loretta Gleeson, Vincent Murray and some others met Gerry Adams and agreed that we back a prisoner nomination. In the end Bobby Sands had a clear run against the Unionist candidate Harry West. I had been appointed election agent for Bobby and found myself pushed to the forefront.

I went to visit Bobby to get him to sign documents. The first time I met Bobby was on the 30th day of the Hunger Strike, he was unlike the photo image. He had short hair and looked like a university student and was now in the prison hospital. He was so committed, so calm and accepting of the situation. He was very focused on what was taking place. He had no illusion and understood that he was going to die.

On the outside there were only days to polling. Crowds flocked from all over the county to help with poster and canvassing. Many came from across Ireland to add their solidarity. There was much work to be done but we remained undeterred. With the Slogan 'His life - your Hands' we campaigned hard.

The atmosphere was tense. On the close of polling the boxes were brought to the Technical College under a heavy RUC presence. Joe McConnel, one of our election workers sat all night to ensure that there was no tampering with the votes.

Next day the atmosphere was electric. At 4 o'clock the result came. It was amazing. Bobby Sands had destroyed the Unionist candidate. I can still recall the cheers of Danny Morrison interrupting the returning officer Alistair Patterson as he flatly announced 'Sands, Anti-H Block 30,492'.

I claimed the victory on behalf of the prisoners. The world's media was there and the result sent reverberations around the globe. For me, my life was to change because in the absence of the new MP I was in the limelight. I visited Bobby after his victory. I believed this would save his life but he wasn't so naive.

I recall my last visit. Bobby was very weak. It was the Saturday before he died. He was lying on a sheepskin rug. His eyes were closed. He was concerned for his mother, and asked if I would go and see her. It was a sad meeting and we both knew the end was near.

I was home in Fermanagh at 1.30 on May 5th when Jim Gibney phoned to say Bobby had died. I travelled up to Belfast for the funeral. I had to write and give the oration and it was hard to say the right things. Over 100,000 people followed Bobby's coffin. We had failed to save his life. Within a week Francis Hughes was dead and before May was out Raymond McCreech and Pasty O'Hara would be gone too. It was a terrible time. Great sadness and pain for the families. Mickey Devine died the day I was elected MP.

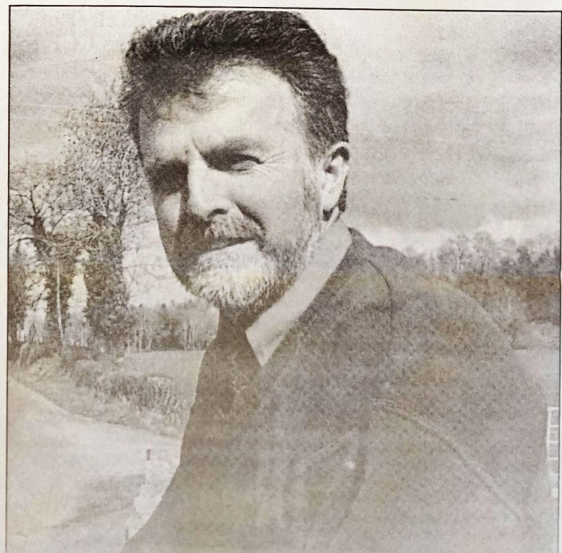
Some ask was it worth it all. The prisoners eventually got their demands, yet they died for much more. Bobby wrote at the start of his Hunger Strike, "what is gained is gained for the republic". Certainly there was much lost, a whole generation of young men who would never be my age, never lived to get freedom or be released or raise families. We were unable to save them, but somehow they saved us. They made us equal and I sense a great confidence and hope in the nationalist people today. Of course it has been at a terrible price, a huge sacrifice and we owe our sense of freedom, our sense of equality and hope to the hunger strikers and their families.

ers and their families.

I hope that on this 20th anniversary that we all appreciate their sacrifice, that we will remember the pride that people in Fermanagh had in standing by the prisoners and in electing Bobby Sands. I hope that people in Fermanagh South Tyrone will remember that they made history.

I hope that in this 20th year after the election of Bobby Sands MP that people will continue the onward march to equality, justice and freedom. I hope they will come out in strength for Sinn Féin on June 7th, that they will return many Sinn Féin councillors and that they will restore Fermanagh South Tyrone to the nationalist people by returning Michelle Gildernew. The people of Fermanagh South Tyrone have been awaiting this 20 years.

I hope Fermanagh people will vote for Michelle Gildernew and once again deal a blow to Unionist intransigence, bigotry and misrepresentation and British rule and bring nearer the day of a new Ireland of Equals based on self-determination, justice and Equality for all its citizens.



Votáil GILDERNEW X

Tyrone-Fermanagh final - why not?

The 2001 Ulster Championship will be historic from the point of view that the 'back door' system will be introduced but will it provide us with the same level of entertainment as the millennium championship?

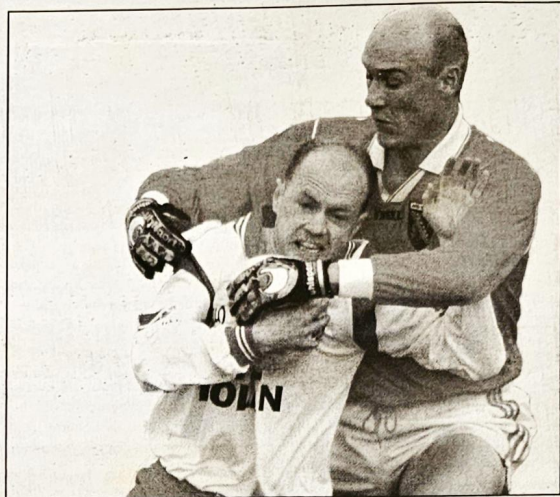
A large portion of the excitement was provided by two counties that were not expected to do well last year, namely Antrim and Fermanagh.

Antrim took care of the mourne men and only for a point-saving catch by Anthony Tohill in the dying seconds, Derry would have made an earlier than planned exit. Likewise, Last year's Ulster Championship saw Fermanagh continue to climb up the pecking order in terms of Ulster's finest. Their victories over Monaghan and Donegal were well deserved and they too came close to reaching the Ulster final. Unlike Tyrone, Fermanagh would appear to be on the easier side of the championship Draw and they will rightly be setting the Ulster final as a very attainable goal.

They would relish the prospect of meeting neighbours Tyrone in the final but have both teams a realistic chance of getting there? Tyrone, like Fermanagh are on an upward learning curve- after the demoralising per-

formance against armagh last year there was probably only one way Tyrone could go! Art McCrory and Eugene McKenna have gone for youth and with the exception of three or four grey/bald heads the tyrone squad is very young. This has been very beneficial in terms of hunger and desire and they have brought great enthusiasm to the squad. These younger men, whilst inexperienced, are playing with great spirit and confidence - a knock on effect from their minor and under 21 successes at county level. Nevertheless, a number of them will taste the red hot atmosphere of the championship for the first time and this can be a daunting experience. Tyrone will also have to cope with the high expectations of their fanatical supporters- a direct result of under-21 success and the good National League run.

Another potential problem facing Art and Eugene will be the fixture backlog caused by the Foot and Mouth disease. As well as the latter stages of the league the panel will be involved in siegerson cup and county U-21 championship matches, leaving a very depleted panel for training. Having made my excuses I still think Tyrone will put it up to Armagh but we are under no illusions about the enormity of the task. Armagh are going for three-in-a-row and they would love to be the first team to emulate the achievements of the



Down team '59, '60 and '61. Unlike Tyrone, Fermanagh have a more settled look about them and will be entering the 2001 Championship with plenty of confidence.

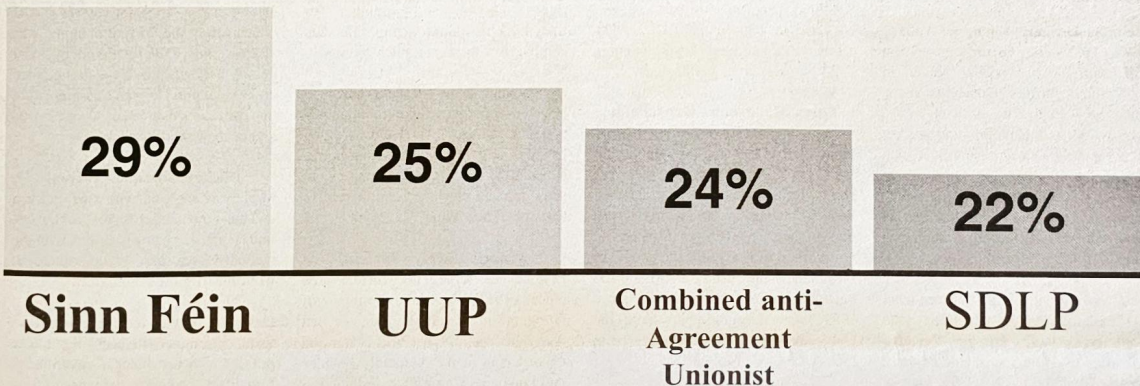
Under the guidance of Pat King, Fermanagh have made considerable progress and the arrival of Mayo's John Maughan has added another dimension to the team. Maughan doesn't suffer fools lightly and is noted as being an excellent physical trainer. The Mayo man also brings a wealth of experience with him- his

managerial boasts include leading Clare out of the wilderness in Munster and bringing Mayo to Consecutive All Ireland finals. Is he capable of bringing success to Fermanagh? Time will tell but the potential is certainly there and they have a strong back bone in the team consisting of Paddy McGuinness, the Brewsters and the Gallaghers, players that would walk on to any county team.

I wonder what the odds are for a first ever Fermanagh V Tyrone Ulster final?

Fermanagh South Tyrone THE FACTS

1998 Assembly election results



Which is the BIGGEST party in Fermanagh South Tyrone?

Sinn Féin

UUP

Who TOPPED the poll in the in 1998 Assembly election?

Sinn Féin

UUP

Who will WIN the Fermanagh South Tyrone Westminster election?

Michelle GILDERNEW

James COOPER

Vote for the clear winner

THIS ADVERTISEMENT HAS BEEN INSERTED BY A CONSORTIUM OF FERMANAGH SOUTH TYRONE BUSINESSPEOPLE

Your Sinn Féin local government election candidates

MAKE HISTORY BY RETURNING SINN FEIN THE LARGEST PARTY ON FERMANAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Phelim Gildernew - Blackwater
Phelim, a local farmer, is a founder member and former chairperson of Bantry Area Rural Development (BARD), a founder member of BRACE and a committee member of Aghaloo GFC. He has been involved in Republican politics for over 30 years and played a leading role in the 1968 squatting in Caledon, which led to the first Civil Rights march from Caolisland to Dungannon.

Phelim is married to Geraldine and they have 10 children. The eldest of their daughters is Michelle, who both an Assembly member for the area and Westminster candidate.

Dominic Molloy - Blackwater
Dominic, 29, is married with a young daughter and works as a dispatch manager in a large meat processing plant. He has been a playing member of Robert Emmets GFC since underage.

Dominic has been involved in republican politics since his teens and is currently chairperson of Thomas Clarke Sinn Féin Cumann Blackwater. He is committed to the redevelopment and regeneration of rural areas and is determined to help and support new and existing community groups in rural areas access funding. Provision of play areas and recreational facilities in the Blackwater area will be a priority for Dominic on Dungannon and Borough Council.

Sean McGuigan - Clougher Valley
Sean, 40, is a married man from Killeeshil. He has been involved in republican politics since his teens when he sold the Republican News. Sean works as a Development worker for Ar Ais Aris in Dungannon, which provides training, advice and educational opportunities for republican ex-prisoners and their families. He is involved with Killeeshil Community Centre, Youth Club and GAA Club.

Sean was imprisoned in 1978 and went on the Blanket Protest, which led to the 1980 and 1981 Hunger Strikes. Released in 1981, Sean immediately became involved in Sinn Féin. He has been involved in many campaigns including Saoirse, Disband the RUC and opposition to telephone masts.

Seamus Flanagan - Clougher Valley
Seamus is a married man from Clougher and has been a member of Sinn Féin for many years and a Sinn Féin councillor for Clougher Valley for

the past 4 years. He has worked hard for the people of Clougher Valley and been instrumental in the road improvements currently being carried out in the area.

Seamus has also been involved in local campaigns to stop the erection of telephone masts as well as helping local

Barry Monteith - Dungannon Town
Barry, 25, will be the youngest councillor in Dungannon. He works full time to Fermanagh South Tyrone Assembly member Michelle Gildernew, in the Sinn Féin Advice Centre in Irish Street.

Barry has a degree in Irish Politics and

Francie has campaigned for the restoration of acute status to the South Tyrone Hospital and the establishment of the Community Forum. As Chairperson of the Health Action Zone rural sub-group 'Healthy Living on Farms', Francie has campaigned for improvements in rural services. Francie also ensured that the inflation busting regional rates increase was reversed

Brendan Doris - Torrent
Brendan has been a member of Dungannon Council since 1989. He has also been actively involved with a range of local community groups and believes that the community has a central role in building and developing the area as rural communities represent a large part of the Torrent area.

Brendan was imprisoned in Long Kesh from 1971 to 1976 and 1978 to 1980. For the past 30 years he has campaigned for the rights of people in the Torrent area in relation to housing, welfare rights and planning.

Dessie Donnelly - Torrent
Dessie is married with three grown up children. He has been an active republican for many years, he has worked as an election worker in every election for the past 20 years and helped to organise various events. Dessie was imprisoned between 1970 and 1973 in Long Kesh.

Dessie has a keen interest in issues which affect the Torrent area and will address the problems faced by local people. He will provide a strong voice on Dungannon Council and make sure that the issues that affect you are raised and dealt with effectively.

Mickey Gillespie - Torrent
Mickey is married with two children and has represented Torrent for the last four years. He has strong ties with the Galbally area and is committed to working with the community.

Dessie is part of a strong Sinn Féin team determined to bring republican politics to heart of local government. Equality is central to the work of Sinn Féin and Mickey is working to ensure that it is an issue everyday within council business. Rural communities provide the backbone of the Mid Ulster constituency and Mickey is committed to working on planning approval in rural areas and ensuring rural regeneration.



community groups. He is currently a member of the South Tyrone Hospital Community Forum and is committed to an accessible health service for South Tyrone. Seamus has and will continue to oppose the RUC charm offensive and highlighting the ongoing RUC harassment of nationalists.

Larry McLarnon - Dungannon Town

Larry is from Derrylatinee, Bantry but has lived in Dungannon since he was a child. He has been a member of Sinn Féin for twenty years having joined during the 1981 Hunger Strikes. He has worked tirelessly for the people of Dungannon and further afield. He has been a Sinn Féin advice worker since 1987 when he graduated from the University of Ulster with a degree in Fine Art.

Larry's Track record as an advice worker, in regard to benefits and housing is second to none and it is a role he derives a great deal of satisfaction from. He takes great pride from the fact that he has been able to represent and help people from all sections of the community regardless of class or creed.

History as well as university qualifications in Information Technology and Community Development. He is a trained youth worker and welfare rights advisor and member of Lisnahull residents group. He has campaigned to gain improvements in housing standards throughout Dungannon. Larry is determined to help ordinary people, to combat poverty and social problems. He is involved in the setting up of Community Restorative Justice in Dungannon, to provide a non-violent approach to anti-social behaviour.

Francie Molloy - Torrent

Francie has served the Torrent area since 1985, as a member of Dungannon Council. He is an Assembly member for Mid Ulster and Chairperson of the Assembly Finance and Personnel Committee. Francie has been active in republican politics for the past thirty-five years. Throughout the Civil Rights campaign, the Relatives for Action campaign for Political Status and the Hunger Strikes of 1980 and 1981. He was Chair of the Tyrone H Block Committee and Director of Election for Bobby Sands.

Votáil Sinn Féin 1, 2 & 3

(As directed by your local Sinn Féin canvas team)