

Written by John Melvin
Friday, 15 April 2011 09:33



The blame was been laid at the feet of darts PRO Jimmy Canning, while I'm sure Ger Staunton also took some heat, but I have to clear their good names and take the hit myself for last week's faux pax in relation to the winners of the Deely Opticians Castlebar Town League dates final.

It is customary in such events, and in the interest of expediency, that both teams are pictured with the cup prior to the final as it does save the hassle of having to hang around late, and some of these darts games can last a long time.

And so both Bosh and Rocky's were snapped with Kildare native Mark 'shocking well' Deely on his best behaviour presenting the fine piece of silverware to the both teams prior to the event. Unfortunately, it was the picture of Bosh with the cup which appeared in last week's edition, although the caption was correct in saying Rocky's were the cup winners.

I can well imagine Michael 'Elvis' Chambers and Dick Staunton rolling in the aisles in stitches in Bosh, while I'm sure the boys in Rocky's thought it was a late April Fool's joke and may not have been too impressed given the hard work they put in to seeing off the challenge of the boys from Bosh.

It was a case of 'I should have gone to Mark Deely's' and if the truth be told, I did, but it seems I wasn't sharp enough to spot the error.

Anyway, in the interest of harmony, I enclose the 'real' winners of the Deely Opticians Castlebar Town Darts League above so Jimmy Canning and Ger Staunton can rest easy and yes, I have both hands in the air.

Meanwhile, Bosh will be back in action this Sunday evening when they take on Hogs Heaven in the final of the Paddy Moran Memorial Cup and no, we haven't forgotten about the ladies - we will have a report on the Hogs Heaven cup final win over Stacks along with the Bungalow's magnificent victory over the Castle Inn in the division two final next week, and hopefully with the correct captions on the photos.

Denis the Menace

Tony Flynn tells me Denis 'the Menace' Priestley packed them in to his Rush Street premises on Saturday night.

Flynn's is a huge darts house and watch out for further big names in the darts world over the coming months.

The sport is massive, particularly ladies darts, with Stacks, the Bungalow, The Harp and Hogs Heaven among the top darts houses in town.

Tony himself had a chance to turn pro at a very young age but declined the opportunity having

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been smitten by the love bug when he met the love of his life, Harriet, who comes from the finest of Galway stock.

"I wouldn't trade her for the world," said Tony, humming a line from a well known song which is very dear to his heart.

Clear round for Martin

Top tipster Martin Coleman struck again on the double at the weekend.

Martin, who is regarded as the encyclopaedia of national hunt horse racing, was on the Grand National winner, Ballybriggs.

But when your luck is in, your luck is in, and not only had Martin a sizeable bet on the winner but he also drew the horse in Mick Byrne's national sweep.

You just can't keep a good man down.

Meanwhile, the man who keeps Dunnes Stores ticking over, Kieran Redmond, hit the jackpot in the Castle Inn sweep.

Kieran walked away, sorry, ran away - we're still waiting for him to buy a round - with the top prize.

Paddy Power reported a brisk trade on the race, which brings them all out for the one special day in steeplechasing, but a lot of money was on Ruby Walsh and AP McCoy to land the spoils. Mairead and her staff were a bit like the horses in the race - nearly ran off their feet - but these young fillies are well able to cope with the pressure.

I suggest a free week in Portugal (with a reporter to record the trip, ahem) for all the staff, and God knows don't they deserve it! Paddy Power take note!