

## Events and Activities

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Margo was born in Kincasslagh, County Donegal. The second eldest of five children, she has an older brother John, a younger sister Kathleen and two younger brothers, James and Daniel. There was always music in the O' Donnell family home and from a very early age, Margaret, as she was then known, displayed an obvious talent for delivering and interpreting country songs.

Over the past thirty-four years she has recorded thirty-six albums, an outstanding achievement in an ever-changing music industry. Success has meant a constant changing lifestyle, but for Margo the grounding factor has always been the family roots on Owey Island, and in Kincasslagh.

The Cathaoirleach Clr. David Alcorn, in his welcome address, praised Margo's longstanding contribution to the music industry, and acknowledged that a strong sense of background had enabled her to forge such a successful career.

The County Manager, Mr. Michael Mc Loone stated that the reception, which had been instigated by Clr. Alcorn, provided the people of Donegal with an opportunity through their elected representatives to thank Margo for her many years of involvement in the entertainment industry and for bringing great honour and recognition to her native county, whilst inspiring many other young artists to follow in her footsteps.

A fitting conclusion to the occasion saw Margo treating all those present to a memorable rendition of "James Connolly".

### Civic Reception for Stephen O' Reilly

A reception was held in the Council Chamber, County House, Lifford on the 11th October, 2004 to honour Donegal sports star Stephen O' Reilly. This proved to be a memorable occasion for the young Stranorlar man, and the Council Chamber itself was packed to capacity with family and friends.

Stephen has been involved in sports from a very early age, playing Gaelic Football, Soccer, Hurling, and Golf, and on many occasions representing his county at national level. In 1997, he began training with the Twin Towns Amateur Boxing Club thus embarking on a successful career in the sport. Indeed, he has lost only one Boxing Tournament since the year 2000. To date, he has acquired an impressive list of boxing titles, most notably a European Championship Gold Medal. Stephen has boxed for Ireland ten times and won all ten contests. His ambition is to represent his country in the Olympic Games, a feat which should not be impossible for this talented young man.

The Cathaoirleach, Clr Patrick Mc Gowan acknowledged that at such a tender age Stephen had achieved remarkable success, and in doing so provided the youth of Donegal with an excellent role model. He said that as a member of the Stranorlar Electoral Area he was particularly privileged to have this opportunity to pay tribute to Stephen, and that it was fitting that Donegal County Council should choose to honour Stephen in this way.

### Expenditure on Civic Receptions

The total amount spent on Civic Receptions in 2003 was €2,067 and in 2004 was €2,597.