

Interview Ash Barty

and Ash Barty, and a friendly disagreement over whether the former world number one might yet be enticed back to tennis following her shock retirement in March. The former England cricket captain was adamant it would eventually happen. Barty was equally adamant there was no chance. And so on Saturday evening at St Andrews, a £20 bet was struck between the pair.

But if the experience of watching Barty down the years has taught us anything, it is that the straightest shooter in sport says what she means and rarely loses - whatever the stakes. And, in her first major interview since quitting tennis at the height of her powers aged 25, the sport's former first lady makes it clear she is not for turning. Not when she is having the time of her life travelling the world, playing golf and steadily ticking items off her bucket list.

"I've no regrets about retiring," she says. "Not one. I knew it was the right time for me. It was what I wanted to do. And I know that a lot of people may still not understand it. But I hope they respect that in the sense that it was my decision. And yeah, it's been incredible. It's been everything that I've ever wanted."

Her zest for her new life path was evident in her choices last

watched as many matches as I did when I was playing, which was slim to none

wild on that one. It was just a Saturday comp at home. I play it every week. I don't win every week and when I do it's a rarity. It's just a very laidback event with my girlfriends and my mum!"

Yet her love of the game is obvious as she relays what it was like to stand on the first tee at St Andrews in hushed tones. "It was a real pinch yourself moment to play at the home of golf under championship conditions. I made some good pairs, hit some good drives, and also hit a few wild shots that went to areas of the golf course that you've probably never seen on TV before. It was just an amazing experience."

A particular highlight was saving par on the opening hole after flirting with the famed Swilcan Burn that guards the first green. "I hit an awful second shot - a bit of a skull with an eight iron - and it went into the little burn and popped back out again. And I managed to chip up and saved par. So I had a little bit of luck along the way but I finished about six over, so it

big event."

It is the nature of professional sport that it moves on, even when someone as compelling and popular as Barty retires. But her decision to walk away, having added the 2022 Australian Open to her 2021 Wimbledon and 2019 French Open titles, was a mic drop that still leaves a deep reverberation.

Dominance

Such was Barty's dominance of the women's game at the time, she had been ranked the number one WTA player for 114 consecutive weeks - a run bettered only by Steffi Graf, Serena Williams and Martina Navratilova. But it was her relatability that helped her to strike an even deeper chord with the wider public. That, Barty says, has not changed even as she has slipped into joyful anonymity. "I like to think that I am approachable. I'm just a regular person that people can come up and say 'G'day' to and chat to."

So is there anything she misses in tennis? "I definitely miss seeing my mates. We spent so much time together and all of a sudden I'm living in a different corner of the globe. But retirement has been a really seamless transition. Instead of spending a few hours on the practice court every day I just get into different routines. And because I knew it was coming for quite a

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APPOINTMENTS

SITUATIONS VACANT

CHEF DE PARTIE required. (Responsible for the food preparation and cooking of Thai/Indian cuisine as per Camille Thai menu and guidelines) at Camille Thai Restaurant / Kitchen (Delivery and Collection Unit) Minimum 2 Years Exp. 30K per Annum, Permanent position, 39 hours average per week. Loc: Asbourne, Co Meath. Mr. Abhilaash 086 2183824

DUBLIN CITY Community Co-operative is recruiting for the position of Project Coordinator. Strength-in-Diversity Project Role: Management of the Project reporting to CEO, outreach research, training. Email info@dubcitycommunitycoop.ie for details. Location: Unit 1 Killarney Court, Buckingham Street, Dublin 1. remote work also required. Salary and working hours: €35,000-45,000 commensurate with experience, 35-hour week, Mon-Fr

THE K CLUB in Straffan, Co. Kildare is recruiting for Sous Chefs to join our talented Culinary Team on the resort. €37k - €41k per annum. 45 hours per week. Contact: recruitment@kclub.ie / 01 601 7200

THE K CLUB in Straffan, Co. Kildare is recruiting for Chef de Parties to join our talented Culinary Team on the resort. 35k per annum. 45 hours per week. Contact: recruitment@kclub.ie / 01 601 7200

The Royal St George Yacht Club requires a chef de partie with a minimum of two years' experience to work in its restaurant in Dun Laoghaire. An annual salary of €37,000 will apply for a 39 hour week. Applications by email please to operationsmanager@rsgyc.ie.

PUBLIC NOTICES



NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT BY LOCAL AUTHORITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2000 (AS AMENDED) AND PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS, 2001 (AS AMENDED) PROPOSED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT 27 PATRICK STREET, DÚN LAOGHAIRE, CO. DUBLIN PC/H/03/22

In accordance with Part 8, Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended), Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council hereby gives notice of a proposal as follows:

Three storey apartment development comprising three 1-bed units and one 2-bed unit, bicycle parking and bin storage. Site Development works include reducing the carriageway and reprofiling the footpath for 35m along Cross Avenue, removal of 6no. on-curtilage, surface car parking spaces and provision of 2no. on-street parking spaces on Patrick Street. In accordance with S.I. No.476/2011, Planning and Development (Amendment) (No.3) Regulations, 2011 and S.I. No. 296/2018 European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has carried out screenings and has determined the following:

- An Appropriate Assessment is not required
- There is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment so therefore the preliminary assessment has concluded that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report is not required.

Any person may, within 4 weeks from the date of this notice, apply to An Bord Pleanála for an EIA screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Plans and particulars of the proposal are available for inspection from 14th July 2022 up to and including 12th August 2022, at the:

- Housing and Planning Departments, County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm;
- Council Offices, Dundrum Office Park, Dundrum, between the hours of 9.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 4.30pm Monday to Friday, excluding Bank Holidays; and on the
- Public consultation portal <https://dlrco.co.citizenspace.com> on the Council's website.

Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development and dealing with the proper planning and development of the area, may be made, to arrive no later than 4.30pm on Friday, 26th August 2022:

- a. Online at <https://dlrco.co.citizenspace.com>;
- b. By email to housingconstruction@dlrco.co.ie or
- c. In writing addressed to Maura Hickey, Acting Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

Submissions and Observations should be clearly marked "PC/H/03/22 - Proposed Housing Development at 27 Patrick Street, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin".

Maura Hickey, Acting Senior Executive Officer, Housing Department, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co Dublin

14th July 2022

Talented athlete going places fast

Sportswoman of the Month Rhasidat Adeleke (Athletics)



MARY HANNIGAN

When she won gold in the 200m at the under-18 European Championships four years ago, at the age of just 15, we had a notion that Rhasidat Adeleke would go on to make very regular appearances in our roll of honour.

And so it has proved, the Talaght sprinter developing in to one of our most exciting sporting talents, her form through the first six months of 2022 un-

helping Texas finish runners-up to the University of Florida in the team competition, their best performance since 2014.



Rhasidat Adeleke has broken four Irish sprint records so far this year

"Competing at Texas has built my mental game," she said after her nationals win. "I came from Ireland and got so used to winning, so it was a shock to the

whether or not she will run at August's European Championships in Munich, her focus for now on the World Championships, which start tomorrow in Oregon, where she will compete in the 200m, 400m and 4x400m.

The competition in Oregon is likely to prove a little too hot for Adeleke who doesn't turn 20 until next month, but the experience will prove invaluable as she works towards competing at the very highest level.

Monthly Winners

December: Ellen Walshe (Swimming)
January: Lucy Mulhail (Rugby)
February: Emma Mamoiro (Golf)