



## A TRIBUTE TO Our Joey



In August 2001 Council accepted an offer from Honda to commission a life size bronze sculpture of Joey on his famous Honda SP1 Bike. The sculpture, funded by Honda and Council, was designed and produced by Isle of Man sculptress Amanda McMillan.

The casting of the bike and the pose, which shows Joey with one foot on the ground and slightly looking over his left shoulder, was taken from a picture specially chosen by Joey's wife Linda.

The sculpture was installed in a memorial garden created by the Council on lands at Seymour Street in the town, donated by the NI Housing Executive. The attractively laid out garden has pedestrian links to Seymour Street and Castle Street. The central feature is a wall displaying plaques of Joey's achievements.

*"The sculpture is a fitting lasting tribute to Joey, who, unaffected by the world success which his motorcycling career brought him, remained the quiet, cheerful, family man from Ballymoney, a characteristic which endeared him to all."*

Ballymoney Mayor, Councillor Bill Kennedy, on accepting the sculpture of Joey from Honda on 23rd April 2002.

### The plaque at the site reads:

*Joey Dunlop - 1952-2000  
Husband, Father, Son, Brother, Friend  
and Gentleman, who became one of  
motorcycling racing's greatest ambassadors*



An exact copy of Ballymoney's tribute was unveiled on June 4th 2002 on a part of the T.T. course known as "The Mountain", opposite a motorcycle museum. That venture was sponsored by Aria Helmets which Joey wore during his racing career.



### DIRECTIONS:

Follow the clearly marked brown tourist signs from the A26 for Joey Dunlop Memorial Garden, visible from both Coleraine and Ballymena directions.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON  
BALLYMONEY BOROUGH CONTACT:

**Tourist Information Centre** Tel: (028) 2766 0230  
Email: [touristinfo@ballymoney.gov.uk](mailto:touristinfo@ballymoney.gov.uk)

[www.visitballymoney.com](http://www.visitballymoney.com)

Photographs of Joey Dunlop courtesy of Clifford McLean

# JOEY DUNLOP MEMORIAL GARDEN



Recall, Remember, Reflect



a place to quietly reflect on a racing legend



# Joey's CAREER AND ACHIEVEMENTS



## Joey EARNS THE FREEDOM OF BALLYMONEY BOROUGH



## RESPECT FOR A SPORTING GREAT

In a career that brought him success on the motorcycling world's outstanding circuits, Joey Dunlop remained the quiet, cheerful, unaffected man from Ballymoney. He made no boasts, issued no threats, avoided the headlines and concentrated on getting on with the job. Joey, 'The King of the Roads', through courage and ambition, became the greatest rider of all time.



In addition to winning five Formula One World Championships, he made sporting history by setting a new world record of 26 wins in the Isle of Man T.T. Races. His sporting achievements were recognised by Her Majesty the Queen when he was awarded an MBE in 1986. Ten years later, he was presented with an OBE for his remarkable humanitarian work with children in Eastern Europe.

*"That the Freedom of the Borough of Ballymoney be conferred on Mr Joey Dunlop in recognition of the great honour brought to the Borough through the outstanding skill and courage by which he gained, as a racing motor cyclist of world renown, five Formula One Championships, and a record of fifteen wins in the Isle of Man T.T. races."*

Excerpt from Council Resolution, 2nd August 1993



### "Knight" of the Isle of Man

Joey also received an accolade 'knight' of the Isle of man. Isle of Man Tourism Minister, David Cretney presented Joey with a gold replica of the Sword of State following his record breaking 25th T.T. win in the 250cc race.

*"You have done so much for tourism on this island that I now present you with this honour. Not only are you King of the mountains, but you are now a Knight of the Isle of man"*

The Rt. Hon David Cretney, Isle of Man Tourism Minister

3

### Tragic loss of a gifted sportsman

Joey Dunlop lost his life on Sunday, 2 July 2000, while racing in Estonia. It is estimated that 60,000 people from across the world came to Ballymoney to attend his funeral.

*"Everyone in Northern Ireland, not just fans of motorsport, has followed Joey's glittering career with tremendous pride and satisfaction, in particular his recent string of successes at the Isle of Man T.T. Joey was a brilliant sportsman, a true man of the people and a wonderful ambassador for Northern Ireland. It will be hard to find his like again."*

Northern Ireland First Minister and Deputy First Minister, 3rd July 2000, David Trimble and Seamus Mallon.

*"We will never see the likes of him again and the sport he loved will never be the same. Joey Dunlop was a legend in motorcycling, but his fame spread so much further."*

NewsLetter 5th July 2000

*"There are few sporting figures who can justifiably be described as legends. Joey Dunlop was such a man. The Co. Antrim rider was probably the most admired and gifted figure ever produced by this most dangerous of sports. His career broke every record in the book and his achievements at the Isle of Man, at the age of 48, were nothing short of phenomenal."*

Irish News 3rd July 2000

