

A Tribute to Our Two European Bronze Medallists

On the third day of March two thousand and nineteen
In the Emirates Stadium in Glasgow there to be seen
The European Indoor Championships two finals to go
With two top Irish athletes hoping to put on a show

First to run was Mark English who was from Donegal
In his semi-final he was impeded finishing fifth overall
A protest was then lodged which allowed him get in
Could he now in this final an 800 metres medal win

As the gun sounded the field were sent on their way
One of the first to be seen was Mark having his say
Up with the leaders and he running a copybook race
At the bell he was there in the bronze medal place

Going into the last lap two athletes went to the front
English holding third spot the others still in the hunt
Showing all his experience and his craft and his fight
He took the bronze medal he was filled with delight

Ciara Mageean from County Down next one on track
She finished third in her semi-final not very far back
A top field faced her including Champion Laura Muir
Could she emulate English she would try to for sure

The 1500 metres final began no one keen to dictate
Laps one and two now covered the pace still sedate
Ciara very well placed and her tactics seemed right
Ready to go if required keeping the others in sight

As the race progressed the pace began to increase
The Champion Muir cut loose opening up a big lead
Behind her the race for second and third a close call
Between Mageean and a Pole both giving it their all

In the back straight last time Ciara took second place
The Pole just behind her and still well up with the pace
Approaching the finish the Pole regained second spot
Ciara a few inches third but her bronze medal she got

On the third day of March two thousand and nineteen
In the Emirates Stadium Glasgow there to be seen
Two Irish athletes Mark English and Ciara Mageean
With European bronze medals, a King and a Queen.

Fintan Walsh Waterford Athletics PRO 4/3/2019