

Sam Maguire bells to be focus of community endeavour in West Cork



he local ringers who have been training for the first official ring of the Sam Maguire Community Bells.

On tomorrow Saturday, 9th September ,in the St Mary's Church of Ireland Church, Dunmanway, County Cork the completion of a unique community project will be celebrated in the presence the Mayor of Cork County, the two Bishops of Cork, the President of the GAA as

well as local representatives, community organisations, local volunteers, leaders and clergy.

The eight bells, which were named and dedicated by Bishop Paul Colton at ceremony last June to the memory of Sam Maguire, a member of the Parish 100 years ago, and whose name is given to the cup awarded each year to the winners of the All-Ireland Football Championship, have now been installed in the bell tower. The project will be officially opened following a Service of Thanksgiving at which Bishop Paul Colton will be joined by Bishop John Buckley, and afterwards the President of the GAA (which has co-funded the project) will give an oration at the grave of Sam Maguire in the churchyard. Sam Maguire died 90 years ago this year.

Bishop Colton's sermon will refer to the project as a model, from here in the heart of West Cork, of how he hopes the coming centenary years of commemoration of the complicated and many-faceted history of the War of Independence and Civil War will be observed.

In 2016, following centenary celebrations of the 1916 Rising, the Rector of the Parish, the Reverend Cliff Jeffers, together with the people



The finished ringing room in the tower of St. Mary's Church, Dunmanway.

of the Parish began to look at ways to commemorate Sam Maguire; the legendary sportsman and patriot who is buried in the parish churchyard in Dunmanway.

Each of the eight bells has been given a theme, through which the story of Sam Maguire and the history of the town are told. The bells will ring officially for the first time during the Service.

The themes selected with the help of Dunmanway Historical Association and local people are :

- Sport.

- Wars and Revolution.
- Agriculture.
- People of Dunmanway.
- Migration.
- Religious Traditions.
- Education and Arts.
- Industry and Commerce.

These themes will be developed into story boards (posters) in part of the church telling Sam's story and the history of Dunmanway town. One of the main aims of this project is to provide an amenity that can be used by all of the people of Dunmanway. Already, groups of people from the whole community have been learning the art of bell-ringing (campanology).

The next phase is to research, develop and present the story of Sam Maguire and the town Dunmanway in a format that would be suitable for tourists and school groups. We will also be adding a chiming mechanism that the Sam Maguire Community Bells can easily be rung by visitors.

Bishop Colton said: "As we approach another sequence of centenary years of commemorations (1918-1923) it is, I believe, vital that we acknowledge the intervening 100 years: what we are now, what we have become, and

how things have changed, as well as remembering the history of events and times themselves. Our focus here in this Diocese will be forward-looking with special attention to reconciliation (not least reconciling memories) and fostering relationships for today and the times ahead. Events and projects that nurture opportunities for reconciliation and community-building in the Ireland of today will be important. This very imaginative community project which reaches out beyond the Church of Ireland parish to other churches, community groups, and national bodies - the idea of the local rector, the Reverend Cliff Jeffers - does exactly these things, in my view."

The rector, the Reverend Cliff Jeffers, explains: "Sam Maguire was laid to rest in St. Mary's churchyard (Church of Ireland) 90 years ago, and after the centenary celebrations last year we realised that we had done little to remember him. We chose to install the Sam Maguire Community Bells as a way of remembering Sam Maguire, of telling his story, and the story of Dunmanway town through eight different themes. As the people of Dunmanway learn to ring these bells together we hope that it will strengthen our sense of community and working together for the good of the home town of Sam Maguire."

Pilgrim Passport Stamp for 2017 Camino de Glendalough

The 2017 Diocesan Camino de Glendalough will take place on Sunday September 10. This year, for the first time, those taking part who have Pilgrim Passports will be able to get their passports stamped with a Camino de Glendalough stamp to mark their witness on the day.

The day will start with a Service of Holy Communion and Pilgrim blessing in St Kevin's Church in Hollywood at 9.00 am. There will be a service in St John's Church in Laragh at 9.30 am. Pilgrims will be welcome to join the Camino at any point during the day. They can choose to take the full 30 kilometre pilgrimage following St Kevin's Way from Hollywood in West Wicklow to Glendalough or a shorter route from the Wicklow Gap or they may follow the many pathways around the Monastic City.



Once again, St John's in Laragh will act as a hub during the day with buses available to ferry people to the Wicklow Gap for the shorter 12 kilometre walk to Glendalough. Parking will be available in Laragh. Those following the full route on foot should expect to take at least six hours.

The day will conclude with a short service at the Upper Lake in Glendalough which will begin at 5.00 pm. Pilgrims who completed the full Camino de Glendalough

can get their passports stamped at the service. There will be a bus to transport pilgrims back to Hollywood after the service.

Information may be posted on the Dublin & Glendalough Facebook page during the day and there will be updated information on the Camino de Glendalough page on the diocesan website.

Dublin and Wicklow Mountain Rescue has advice for all venturing into the hills and mountains and urges people to do so with caution and with the correct equipment. Further information is available from their website www.dwmrt.ie/

The first Camino de Glendalough took place last November and attracted pilgrims from all over Dublin & Glendalough and beyond. A special booklet was compiled to assist reflection during the day. It can be downloaded the Camino de Glendalough page on website.

The time table for the Camino de Glendalough 2017 is:

9:00 am: St. Kevin's Church, Hollywood – Pilgrims intending to complete the full St. Kevin's Way of 30km will be sent out by the Archdeacon of Glendalough, the Ven Ricky Rountree and the Rector of Blessington Union, the Revd Leonard Ruddock, following a time of prayer and blessing and a service of Holy Communion. Please note that the walk is expected to take approximately six hours.

9:30am: St John's Church, Laragh – Service of Holy Communion

10:30am: Pilgrims planning to walk from either Wicklow Gap or around Glendalough, are invited to make their way to St John's Church, Laragh. A minibus will be on hand to take people to Wicklow Gap. Also, if needed, the minibus will drop people to the Holy City.

11:00 am, 12 midday, 1.00 pm and 2.00 pm: St. John's Church, Laragh – A minibus will take pilgrims to Wicklow Gap, where they will be able to take a two hour walk back to Glendalough along St Kevin's way.

5.00pm: Upper Lake, Glendalough – Pilgrims are invited to gather for an outdoor service of thanksgiving and prayer. A minibus will be available to take pilgrims back to Hollywood after this service.

* Please feel free to join at any time throughout the day. The key aim is to be at the Upper Lake at 5.00pm. * The minibus will be available to transport people from Laragh to Glendalough throughout the day.

Pope Francis arrives in Colombia for visit to promote reconciliation

Pope Francis has arrived in Colombia for a five-day visit in which he hopes to give an extra boost to the country's peace process and



encourage reconciliation after a decades-long guerrilla conflict.

Francis arrived on a flight from Rome at Bogota's military air base.

He was greeted by President Juan Manuel Santos and Colombia's national symphonic orchestra playing classics by Vivaldi and Beethoven as well as traditional music.

The visit has been a few years in the making but was delayed as the Colombian government's negotiations with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia stretched on.

Francis was a big promoter of last year's peace deal with the rebel group but in visiting Colombia he will have to be sensitive to the viewpoints of the large number of conservative Roman Catholics who voted against the accord in a nationwide referendum.

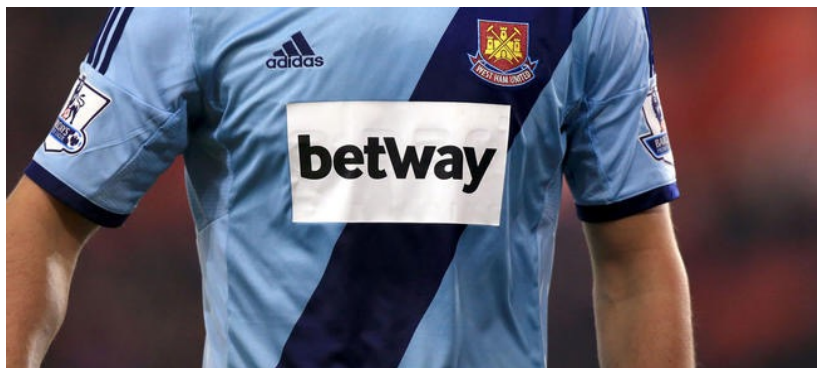
Christian charity backs call for ban on gambling ads on football shirts

A Christian charity is backing calls for gambling firms to be banned from advertising on football shirts.

CARE has been responding after the Labour Party said it was wrong for young fans to be exposed to betting ads.

With 25 of the 92 league clubs, including nine out of 20 Premier League sides, currently engaged in such sponsoring, shadow Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) secretary Tom Watson said it was time to take action.

"Football has to play its part in tackling Britain's hidden epidemic of gambling addiction. Shirt sponsorship sends out a message that football clubs don't take problem gambling among their own fans seriously enough.



"It puts gambling brands in front of fans of all ages, not just at matches but on broadcasts and highlights packages on both commercial television and the BBC.

"Just as tobacco companies were banned from sponsoring sporting events and putting their logos on branded goods because of the harm smoking can cause, it's right that we recognise the harm problem gambling does and take gambling logos off football shirts."

Mr Watson said clubs should take the lead from the Football Association as it ended its commercial agreement with Ladbrokes in June after deciding it was not appropriate for it to partner with a gambling company.

Supporting the calls, CARE's Director of Parliamentary Affairs Dr Dan Boucher said: "This is a positive step in the right direction".

"Betting ads on sports shirts are irresponsible - it normalises gambling to a very young audience."

"Shown completely without context, these shirts are on the backs of children's sports heroes and create the illusion that gambling is harmless, fun and without consequences. We know that is not the case. There has been a trebling in problem gambling amongst 18-24 year olds."

Lidl apologises for removing church crosses from food packaging

The supermarket chain Lidl has apologised after it was found to have airbrushed Christian crosses from images on some of its food packaging. It said the 'mistake' would be rectified 'as soon as possible'.

Lidl came under **heavy fire this week** when it was found that the packaging of its Greek-themed Eridanous products depict images of the Greek Island of Santorini's blue-domed Orthodox churches – but the white crosses atop them have been removed from the image.

'We are sorry for any offence caused by the artwork on our Eridanous range. We can confirm

that we will be revising the design as soon as possible,' the German retailer said in a statement.

It added: 'We made a mistake in the most recent revision of the product design and are now treating the issue with the highest priority.'

A Lidl spokesman had previously said that the discounter avoided religious symbols in a bid for 'diversity' and because it didn't wish to 'exclude any religious beliefs'.

In its most recent statement Lidl said the product design was not intended to convey any ideological standpoint.

Christian Aid partners in Haiti prepared for hurricane Irma to hit hard

Christian Aid in Haiti is bracing itself for the worst hurricane ever to be recorded in the Atlantic Ocean to hit. Hurricane Irma has been classed a category 5, the highest rating possible, which means it has the potential to cause mass devastation; destroying homes and lives in its path.



Christian Aid is preparing for Irma to strike Haiti on Thursday and Dominican Republic on Friday. It is working with local partners on evacuation plans and stockpiling provisions.

Prospéry Raymond, country manager for Christian Aid in Haiti and Dominican Republic said: "Hurricane Irma is huge and we are very worried about the people in Northern Haiti and the Dominican Republic; particularly vulnerable communities. Our partners are doing all they can to evacuate as many people as possible and find them safe shelter.

"For example, in the North East of Haiti, we have built more than 160 hurricane-resistant houses, and some of those families will host others if needed. But we fear that Irma will wipe out even well-built houses.

“People are being moved to schools and churches for safety but in some areas, especially in the North West of Haiti, these buildings will not withstand the force of the storm. In these cases, they need to be transported to safer locations in the cities.

“We work with some of the poorest communities in these countries and they are still reeling from Hurricane Matthew last year which was also a category 5. There is no time for them to recover between these disasters and now we are already hearing about Hurricane José which is only about four days behind Irma”.

Climate change experts believe Irma is so powerful because there has been a rise in temperature in the Atlantic Ocean. Hurricanes benefit from warmer water.

Richard Ewbank, Climate Advisor at Christian Aid, highlights the links between climate change and the severity of the hurricane. “Cyclones churn up the sea surface layers below them, mixing cooler, deeper water with warmer surface layers. This usually limits the ability of the storm to persist and gather moisture. But in Irma’s case, and in Harvey’s last week, the deeper

layers are also warm creating a longer and more dangerous storm. Irma has had longer over open water to build up to category 5 (Harvey only made 4) and develop a larger storm surge”.

As well as evacuating people, Christian Aid partners including MISSEH, KORAL and Haiti Survie are clearing the ravines and canals of rubble so that the expected influx of rainfall can flow more easily and not cause even more damage by blocked waterways pushing the water through communities.

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