

PRESS RELEASE

PÁIDÍ PROMISES A FOOTBALL FEAST!

13TH PÁIDÍ Ó SE WEEKEND OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED BY AN TAOISEACH BERTIE AHERN T.D

An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern T.D this evening officially launched the 13th Páidí Ó Se Football Weekend at the Burlington Hotel in Dublin. An Taoiseach, a keen GAA follower and Dublin supporter, performed the draw to decide which teams will face each other in the first leg of the tournament to be held in Ventry and neighbouring parishes.

The tournament will take place in Ventry, County Kerry on the 25th, 26th and 27th February 2005. Sponsoring the event this year are Douglas Newman Good Nationwide, one of Irelands leading estate agency brands and Homevalue Hardware one of Irelands leading builders merchants franchises.



Pictured at the official launch of the 13th Páidí Ó Se Football Tournament at the Burlington Hotel on Tuesday 15th February are (L-R) Páidí Ó Se, Keith Lowe, Managing Partner, Douglas Newman Good (co-sponsors of the tournament), An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, Sean Kelly, President of The GAA and Pat O'Leary, Operations Director, Homevalue Hardware (co-sponsors of the tournament).

Participating clubs this year are as follows:

Dromore of Omagh; Allanwood of Co Kildare; The Downes of Mullingar, Co Westmeath; Spiddal of Co Galway; An Ghaeltacht of Co Kerry; Garrycastle of Athlone, Co Westmeath; Newcastlewest of Co Limerick; and Annascaul of Co Kerry.

All teams will be welcomed to Ventry on the Friday evening (February 25th) where they will enjoy a welcome dinner and receive confirmation of the playing order. On Saturday

(26th) the teams will begin battling it out in the race to the finals which will take place on Sunday 27th.

Speaking at the event Páidí Ó Se said:

"I am delighted with the calibre of teams who have agreed to come down to Ventry and the nearby towns to support and compete in the tournament. These teams represent some of the very best football clubs in the country. The range of talent on display over the weekend promises to offer up a feast of football."

Co-Sponsors DNG Nationwide Managing Partner, Keith Lowe said:

"DNG Nationwide is delighted to be associated with Páidí in bringing some of the best GAA talent together through this wonderful tournament. I believe it is important for Irish businesses to support events such as these in promoting Gaelic games which are an integral part of communities right across the towns and villages of Ireland."

Catherine Shiels, CEO of Homevalue Hardware, who are also co-sponsoring the event said:

"Páidí has done a great job over the years in promoting GAA and in this, the 13th tournament weekend is testament to this fact. We are delighted to support the efforts of all those involved in ensuring this tournament remains an important part of the GAA calendar."



Douglas Newman Good Nationwide are this year co-sponsoring the 13th Páidí Ó Se Football Tournament due to take place at the end of the month. Keith Lowe, Managing Partner, Douglas Newman Good expressed his delight in sponsoring the event & highlighted the importance of Irish businesses in supporting events such as these which play such an integral role in towns and communities across Ireland . Pictured (L-R) Keith Lowe, Managing Partner, DNG with An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern who officially launched the tournament .

On the Saturday evening there will be a night of entertainment to ease the tension of the ensuing finals the following day. Mr John O'Donoghue T.D. Minister of Arts and Tourism will officially open a photographic exhibition by Oscar O'Sullivan to officially mark the 13th Páidí Ó Se Tournament. Oscar O'Sullivan explains the background to his exhibition:

"I was delighted when Páidí invited me to hold my exhibition for the 13th Páidí Ó Se football tournament. The tournament and events that take place over the weekend are a fantastic celebration for the people of West Kerry and a testimony to Páidí's incredible energy and enthusiasm.

"I have a lifelong passion for photography and my native West Kerry. The interaction between man and nature has always fascinated me and the effects of this interaction

can be seen in the faces of the local people. This exhibition represents but a sample of photos I have taken of the area over the last 50 years or so. It depicts local people, landscapes and flora.....there is something there for everyone.

The last word was inevitably Páidí's, "Bain taitheamh as!"

Notes to Editor:

For More Information Please Contact:

Páidí Ó Se
087 903 6000

Tom Keane
087 236 1453 / 01 25 000 45

Helen Elliott
The Keane Partnership
No 5 Fitzwilliam Place
Dublin 2

Tel: +353 1 250 0047
Fax: +353 1 250 0049