

MEDIA INVITE

ROGAN PACKS A BUNCH OF BAGS AT PARK CENTRE FOR WESTLINK RUN

Commonwealth heavy weight Champion Martin Rogan lends support to Between the Bridges Charity Run and helps with the mammoth task of packing 3600 participants packs.

Date: Wednesday 4 March 2009

Time: 11am for 11.15am start

Location: Park Centre shopping mall - former Woolworths store, Donegall Road, Belfast, BT12 6HN

BACKGROUND:

The Between the Bridges, Westlink Charity run this Sunday 8 March is a one off event to mark the official opening of the £103 million Westlink/M1 upgrade which is in support of Northern Ireland Hospice.

The Park Centre will mark the start and finish line for the event and on Wednesday volunteers will be putting together the participants' packs for the 3600 strong list of entrants. Commonwealth heavy weight Champion Martin Rogan will join the volunteers to lend a hand.

Then on Sunday Rogan will take part in the 5k event as well as presenting a prize.

This unique community event will start at Broadway up to Stockmans Lane, down to Clifton Street and back to Broadway using the M1 and Westlink and will provide runners with a unique opportunity to run on one of the largest road projects in the North. The 3600 participants culminate from a mixture of fun runners, joggers and local athletes. The Minister for the Department of Regional Development, Conor Murphy will also be taking part in the run and Hollyoaks actor Gerard McCarthy will be present on the day to lend his support along with other local sporting heroes and personalities.

Participants will collect their run packs from the Park Centre on Thursday 7th and Friday 8th March between 1-9pm and on Saturday between 1pm and 6pm. All participants are encouraged to arrive to the event in good time before the race commences at 10am. The Westlink will be closed from 9am – 1pm on Sunday 8th March.

www.betweenthebridges.org

PHOTO / INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES - Park Centre

Volunteers making up entrants packs in preparation for Pack Collection which takes place on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Hospice Nurse with stethoscope and Martin Rogan with gloves / belt.

- **Martin Rogan**, Commonwealth heavy weight Champion
- **Dougie Adams**, Event Organiser, Cumann Spóirt An Phobail
- **Joanna Pawson**, Marketing & Fundraiser Manager, Northern Ireland Hospice
- **Eamonn McCartan**, Chief Executive, Sport Northern

Ireland (event sponsor)

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