

Sport

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Post Sport

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SOMETHING FOR THE WEEKEND

Soccer



Thurs-4-Jun U20 Germany v Uzbekistan 8am EuroSp
Thurs-4-Jun U20 Hungary v Brazil 8am EuroSp2
Thurs-4-Jun TT Costa Rica v Qatar 4pm BT1
Thurs-4-Jun TT France v Holland 6pm BT1
Fri-5-Jun U20 Ukraine v USA 8am EuroSp2
Fri-5-Jun TT Morocco v Mexico 4pm BT1
Fri-5-Jun TT China v England 6pm BT1
Fri-5-Jun IF Scotland v Qatar 7.45pm SS5
Sat-6-Jun CL Juventus v Barcelona 7.45pm SS1/5/ITV
Sat-6-Jun WWC Canada v China 11pm BBC3
Sat-6-Jun MLS Philadelphia v New York 12am SS1
Sun-7-Jun WWC New Zealand v Holland 2am BBC1
Sun-7-Jun WWC Norway v Thailand 6pm BBC1
Sun-7-Jun IF Ireland v England 8pm ITV
Sun-7-Jun WWC Germany v Ivory Coast 9pm BBC3
Sun-7-Jun MLS Real Salt Lake v Colorado 10pm SS1

Rugby Union

Fri-5-Jun S15 Hurricanes v Highlanders 8.35am SS3
Fri-5-Jun S15 Western Force v Brumbies 12noon SS3
Sat-6-Jun S15 Rebels v Bulls 6.30am SS3
Sat-6-Jun S15 Blues v Crusaders 8.35am SS3
Sat-6-Jun S15 Reds v Chiefs 10.40am SS3
Sat-6-Jun S15 Cheetahs v Waratahs 2pm SS3
Sat-6-Jun U20 Ireland v Scotland 3.30pm BT2
Sat-6-Jun S15 Stormers v Lions 4pm SS3
Sat-6-Jun U20 England v Wales 7.30pm S4C/BT1

GAA



Sat-6-Jun LSFC Kildare v Laois 6pm SS3
Sun-7-Jun USFC Derry v Down 2pm RTE2
Sun-7-Jun MSHC Cork v Waterford 4pm RTE2

Formula 1

Sun-7-Jun Canadian Grand Prix 7pm SSF1

Rugby League

Thurs-4-Jun SL Widnes v Hull FC 7.30pm SS1
Fri-5-Jun SL Warrington v Catalans 8pm SS1

Golf

Thurs-4-Jun-Sun-7-Jun Nordea Masters SS4
Thurs-4-Jun-Sun-7-Jun The Memorial SS4

SOCCER

Football's coming home



The Market's Field, Limerick FC's spiritual home, looking splendid for this weekend's return.
Photo: Cathal Lee L20P

by **Liam Togher**
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AFTER 31 nomadic years, Limerick FC can at long last call the Markets Field home once more when they welcome Drogheda United to the Garryowen venue this Friday June 5 (kick-off 7.45pm).

Having done the rounds in Hogan Park, Pike Rovers, Jackman Park and Thomond Park since vacating their spiritual home in 1984, the Super Blues finally have a venue to call their own, returning to the scene of their most illustrious period as a club.

Manager Martin Russell is among those relishing the Markets Field return, in particular the quality of the pitch, and he hopes that, after a

troubled few months for Limerick, this landmark occasion can spark an upturn in fortunes.

"It's a very big step forward for the club to be able to get back into the Markets Field. It's something that hopefully the club can build on and it's something to be proud of in terms of the playing surface. At the moment it's as good as any in the country. Things like that are very positive and it's a step in the right direction.

"It's been a tough season and it will continue to be a challenge for everybody. You've got to work through tough times. Other clubs have done it and have come out the other end, while other clubs have had good days and have now fallen by the wayside. It doesn't stop; you have to keep working at it. Moving

back to the Markets Field is a big step forward for the club."

Russell emphasised, though, that Friday's grand opening is only scratching the surface of Limerick FC's capabilities, adding that the club seems to be better placed than most in Ireland to enjoy a sustainable long-term future.

"It was really important to firstly get into the Markets Field and now it's important to develop the Markets Field and continue to develop the team. There is a time frame on that; it won't happen immediately but everybody can help to work our way towards a better future.

"There's been a reliance on one individual to drive the club forward and, in a city like Limerick, I find that disappointing because I think that the rewards for the football

team, and for the area, are there to be taken, but it needs as many steps forward as we can take. Getting back into the Markets Field is definitely one.

"For me it is a medium- to long-term project and any club should have a long-term plan, but I do think that Limerick, more than most, have a brighter future if it's done right. There's a lot of clubs who I don't think have a long-term plan and they may not know where they're going to be in one or two years' time."

On the field, Limerick's hopes of an FAI Cup run in 2015 were extinguished with a 1-3 defeat away to Bray Wanderers last Friday. Dean Clarke's 15th-minute equaliser was in vain after a second half double from Chris Lyons.

IN BRIEF

Jumping in the City

THE START lists for the first ever leg of the new The Underwriting Exchange Limited, 'Jumping In The City' series, which takes place at Limerick Greyhound Stadium this Friday June 5 were announced last week.

Limerick's Micheal Ryan has booked a place in the feature Grand Prix which was limited to just 16 horses and riders.

A native of Oola, Limerick, 38 year-old Michael, is better known as an Eventing rider having competed at two European Eventing Championships, World Championships and Olympic Games. He only recently began show jumping at this level and finished third in Millstreet CSI1* Grand Prix earlier this year and it will be fascinating to see how Michael Ryan performs against the elite show jumping riders on Friday.

Twilight Racing Limerick

TWILIGHT racing continues this-Saturday evening as action starts at 5.45pm with seven races played out in a fast-paced format, matched by plenty of spectacle off the track. The racing finishes at 8.50pm but the music plays until late. The Crescent Shopping Centre Twilight Most Stylish Lady competition will take place on the evening with a prize valued at €300 to be won for Neville Jewellers and Primadonna. The Dublin Gospel Choir will entertain the crowds after racing. From their modest beginnings as a local school choir in Dublin's inner city in the mid 1990s, the Dublin Gospel Choir have become a household name in Ireland, playing a host of concerts each year, plus a large number of corporate and charity events. For more info see www.limerickraces.ie

Bushypark Golf Day

THE Bushypark Treatment Centre will host its 5th Annual Golf Classic on Saturday 29 at Ennis Golf Club.

Bookings for tee times and for sponsorship spaces can be secured by calling Des on 087-2491960 or Margaret on 065-6840944.

There is a fantastic range of prizes on offer again this year thanks to our many local sponsors.

The cost per team of four is €120, or €30 per person (individual golfers will be accommodated). All at the treatment centre, who are in desperate need of funds, are thankful to Ennis Golf Club and to Des Neylon for assisting with the running of this event again this year.

The Limerick Post Newspaper hopes golfers will be able to keep the date free and support on the day.