



Flanders Peace Field (site of the Christmas Truces)

Declaration of Peace

- The Declaration of Peace will be signed by Marlene Dodds, Cregagh Community Association.
- Pledge to facilitate football for fun games on the United Nations' International Day of Peace every 21st September.
- Pledge to support all-inclusive games on Cregagh Green's Peace Pitch and act as a Peace Ambassador.



About Us

The National Children's Football Alliance's extended children's focused organisations form a vital network of partnerships - sharing education and best practice, protecting childhood through play.

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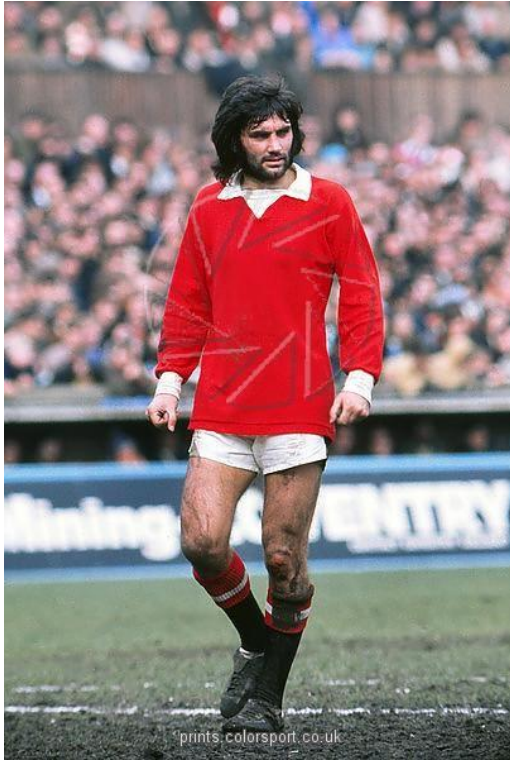
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Belfast City Council



CELEBRATING PEACE

The football for fun games facilitated by TW Sports will provide children with the opportunity to witness the twinning ceremony of Cregagh Green with Flanders Peace Field; the site where games of football between Allied and German soldiers produced the historic moment of peace in The First World War, known as The Christmas Truces. The children will participate in creating a legacy for peace on the green. A place where the legendary George Best will be forever more associated with peace through play.

PROGRAMME

1pm Opening Ceremony

- **Speeches: Alderman Tommy Sandford BCC. Ernie Brennan, CEO, NCFA.**
- **Blessing of the pitch by Rev Adrian Green**
- **The Last Post; The Royal British Legion Cregagh Wandsworth & Ormeau Branch.**
- **Sign the Declaration of Peace.**
- **Cross Community Primary School Football matches on pitch**

Refreshments served in Cregagh Youth & Community Centre – Mount Merrion Avenue, Belfast BT6 0EW.

““This is a very poignant way for the next generation to mark the centenary of the end of WW1; to reflect and learn about some of its history. “It’s long been acknowledged that sport can be a uniting factor and it’s the same today as it was 100 years ago - and how fitting that this is happening at the very place where Bestie played football as a young boy.”

Alderman Tommy Sandford, chair of Belfast City Council’s City Growth and Regeneration Committee.



Belfast 1914

Lest We Forget – Commemorating War.

Two young Belfast friends, William Kerr, a Catholic, and Tom Martin, a Protestant, enlisted in the 36th Ulster Division, almost immediately after the outbreak of war in 1914, they lived two doors away from one another.

The pair joined the 14th (Young Citizen Volunteer) Battalion of the Royal Irish Rifles and were shipped off to the Western Front, from where neither would ever return. Tom perished in a trench collapse in the lead up to the Somme, while William was killed in 1917 at Langemarck during the Third Battle of Ypres.

This incredible WWI story of Catholic and Protestant friends from the same street is one of many true-life stories that inspired The NCFA to approach Cregagh Community Association and Belfast City Council to consider a Peace Pitch. Twinning a designated area of play with Flanders Peace Field.