

Report of the West Muskerry A.C Macroom Bypass Run/Walk

N22BBM

Jons Civil Engineering-John Cradock JV were delighted to be able to provide an opportunity to West Muskerry AC to run a large scale fundraising event on the route of the new Macroom By-Pass Road before it opened to the public. The event itself was held on Sunday 27th November 2022 and proved to be a huge success, with between 2,500 and 3,000 people participating.

This is West Muskerry A.C.'s account of the occasion:

West Muskerry A.C. were raising funds for a new Sports hall on their training grounds in Ummera and had been told that the Contractor for the By-Pass might be interested in providing sponsorship towards the project as they have sponsored some local events in the past. We decided not to ask for sponsorship but instead ask to run a road race or a series of road races on the completed By-Pass. We sent in our proposal letter on the 24th of August 2021. As the road was progressing, we kept enquiring if this event would be possible.

When news broke that part of the By-Pass might be open before Christmas, we again enquired if our proposal would be possible. When we received the call three weeks ago that if we had our insurance in order with an indemnity to the contractor, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, and Cork County Council, it could be possible.

Once our insurance was sorted our Committee of Collette O`Riordan, Club Secretary, Sheila Daly, Treasurer, Jeremy Kelleher Vice Chairman, Brian O`Shea Chairman and Brighid Mullane Registrar had several meetings late into the night to draw up a plan, Risk Assessment and Medical Plan, organising stewards, booked Ambulances for



Sponsors Sign Board



Kids from West Muskerry A.C. ready for action

the day and first-aiders on bikes and make a list of what was needed on the day to make the event very special for everyone. A few trips on the By-Pass driven by Cole of Cork Co Council to work out distances, markers, and parking followed on.

The Pop-Up Races chip timing for the race was booked and we decided to look for some sponsors to help with the cost. Folláin, Cork County Council and Jons Civil Engineering/John Cradock/JV Ltd came on board. The supporting sponsors from Macroom supplied safety pins for numbers, bananas, water, cereal bars, sandwiches for stewards and we were confident all was going to fall into place.

It was an early, wet start to the morning, putting up tents, but it then dried up and from 10.30 to 4.30 we had a continuous stream of cars. It seemed as if the whole Community came out to support. The buzz was electric. All smiling and all meeting people they had not met since pre-covid and all delighted to get the chance to run/walk on the By-Pass.

The feedback from the event was extremely positive. We got no negative remarks at all. All were very happy and complimented us on a very well-organised event. Some quotes from the general public:

“ Thanks so much to all the organisers. It was a great day with lovely atmosphere and once in a lifetime opportunity” (Sinead Twomey)

“ Thanks so much to all involved in the organising of yesterday. It was a great day for the Community” (Margaret Cookley)

“ Well done on an extremely well run event. It was a logistical triumph to run each of the run/walk distances. Everything ran like clockwork from the parking, number pick-up, the fabulously friendly marshals and support team. My father, who passed away last year, was from Bealick Macroom and would have loved to be there today. I stopped to get some photos of Bealick Mills in his memory. Looking forward to travelling on the bypass from where I live in Kilorglin to visit my family in Cork City. I will always remember the first time on the Macroom Bypass with fondness (except for the hill to the finish line” (Susanne).

West Muskerry A.C. are extremely proud of how the day went. With over 630 members in the club now, from as far away as Dunmanway , Ballyvourney, Millstreet, Lissarda, Ovens, Ballinagree, Reinanaree and many more waiting to get in for 2023. The money raised will benefit the club massively and help the whole community in staying fit and healthy. Macroom Fairy Garden and Macroom Senior Citizens will also receive a donation from the club.

The Winners of the 5k:

Male: 1st Johnny Collins 2nd Cillian McNamara and 3rd Adhamh O`Leary

Female: 1st Rachael O`Shea, 2nd Eanna Duff, 3rd Saoirse Twomey

10 mile:

Male: 1st Derek Griffin 2nd Brian Murphy and 3rd Michael Herlihy

Female: 1st Carol Finn, 2nd Clara Ryan and 3rd Benedetta Bacostra

We would like to thank Jons Civil Engineering/John Cradock/JV Ltd most sincerely for allowing us run this very special event on the bypass and it will be remembered for years to come. We would like to thank all our Main Sponsors and supporting sponsors and anyone who helped in any way to making the event such a success. If we ever get the chance to run a similar event on the Ballyvourney side of the By-Pass, we would be delighted but with charities from Ballyvourney but that's for another day.

Dated the 29th November, 2022
West Muskerry A.C.



The contractor would like to congratulate West Muskerry A.C. for a very well organised and successful event, one that will live long in the memories of those who took part. The gods smiled on the event with really excellent weather for most of the day, despite it being nearly the end of November. We are very much looking forward to the opening of the Macroom By-Pass section of the overall N22 BBM Road Development project, which is scheduled to take place on 9th December 2022 and we are pressing ahead with the remainder of the project with a view to having the overall project delivered before the end of 2023.