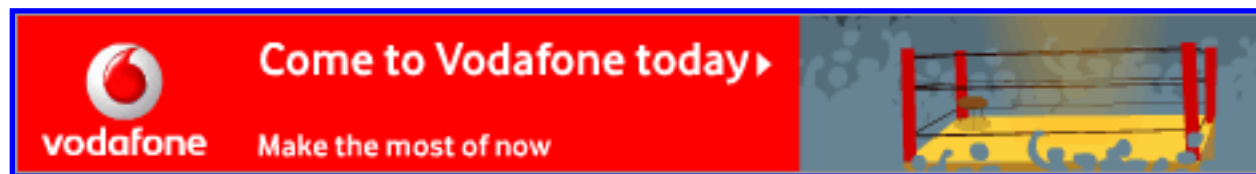


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Victim's dad wants more help from McGuinness

Published Date: 19 August 2008

By Staff reporter

The father of a Buncrana schoolboy killed in the Omagh bomb has accused Sinn Fein's Martin McGuinness of refusing to urge republicans to provide crucial information about the 1998 explosion.

Victor Barker, whose 12-year-old son, James, was among those who lost their lives in the Co. Tyrone town 10 years ago, says he asked the Deputy First Minister to examine his conscience and bring the bombers to justice.

On Friday last - the 10th anniversary of the Real IRA bomb blast - Mr. McGuinness reportedly informed Mr. Barker that the group responsible for the attack had recently declared him a "legitimate target" and he questioned whose agenda the organisation was working to then and now.

In a message to the Sinn Fein MP, Mr. Barker asked if it was now time for him to urge people to come forward and give statements with a view to securing a criminal conviction.

Mr. Barker says he feels that, once again, Mr. McGuinness has failed to step up to the mark.

"I have been here before with Martin McGuinness. What he said to me by text was largely what he has said before. He won't take that further steps to help bring these killers to justice."

The full article contains 211 words and appears in Journal Tuesday Derry Edit newspaper.

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