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Bar must take another name

Pro fide et patria

Editorial

05/03/09

The murder of Robert McCartney by IRA members outside Magennis's bar in Belfast city centre just over four years ago was an appalling crime which made international headlines.

It was understandable that, after the pub changed hands, the new owners wanted to distance themselves from

the events of the past by completely rebranding it.

However, the decision to name it after the

legendary folk singer Ronnie Drew, who died last year, without making any effort to gain the approval of his relatives was a considerable error of judgment.


Phelim Drew, son of the founder of the Dubliners, said yesterday that his father would have been horrified by the move, which was completely opposed by his family.

Mr Drew intends to take further advice on the matter but it would be wrong if he was forced to take any form of legal action.

The appropriate outcome would be for the proprietors of the business to simply and swiftly accept that a mistake had been made and find a different trading title.

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