

Press Release

Issued 18th Jan 2005



Darragh McGann (left) pictured with 2005 JCI World President, Kevin Cullinane at the JCI World Congress last year. Darragh was elected President of JCI Cobh at the local AGM on Monday 17th Jan.

World Debating Champion Inaugurated as JCI-Cobh President for 2005

The A.G.M. of JCI-Cobh took place on Monday evening last at the Commodore Hotel, Cobh and was attended by members, past presidents, civic leaders, politicians, and the 60th World President of JCI, Mr. Kevin Cullinane, who is also a member of JCI-Cobh.

In her address as out-going Chapter President for 2004, Cheralyn Finn extended a very warm welcome to Mayor of Cobh, Mr. Danny Crowley, President of Cobh and Harbour Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Michael McCormack, Deputy David Stanton, Immediate Past National President of JCI Mr. Eugene Garvin and World President, Mr. Kevin Cullinane. She also outlined the many achievements of JCI-Cobh during 2004 including, successfully running the St. Patrick's Day Parade, raising much needed funds for Courtney Leahy, a young child in need of medical attention, having a member of the Chapter representing Ireland and Europe in World Speaking and Debating, and the successful nomination and election of Kevin Cullinane as 60th World President of JCI.

Mr. Danny Crowley, Mayor of Cobh, spoke of the great role that JCI-Cobh has and will play in the future of Cobh. And he also spoke of his pride at the achievements of Darragh Mc Gann and Kevin Cullinane in their respective fields.

Immediate Past National President of JCI, Mr. Eugene Garvin spoke of his delight at been able to attend this historic A.G.M. He declared that he was the proudest National President at the World Congress in Fukouka, Japan and to

have led the Irish delegation in their finest hour in having their nominee elected to the highest office of JCI. Eugene thanked out-going Chapter President, Cheralyn Finn for her outstanding leadership during 2004 and for nominating Kevin as Cobh's candidate for JCI President. He also congratulated Darragh Mc Gann on his election as JCI-Cobh President for 2005 and looked forward to working closely with him as leader of the World President's home chapter.

60th World President of JCI, Kevin Cullinane spoke of his great joy and pride at been able to attend his home Chapter's A.G.M. He thanked Cheralyn Finn for the great support that she gave him during the past year and for her great leadership of the local organization. Kevin also congratulated Darragh and how he looked forward to a very exciting year ahead for Cobh under Darragh's leadership.

Kevin also reported on the great success of JCI Operation Hope, a project launched on January 1st to get much needed aid to the survivors of the Tsunami Disaster. He spoke of the great professionalism of the entire JCI Organization in contributing to the relief effort and already getting supplies to all those in need.

The Inauguration of Darragh Mc Gann took place with three Past Presidents of JCI-Cobh, Immediate Past National President, Eugene Garvin, and World President, Kevin Cullinane all assisting in transferring the Chain of Office from Cheralyn Finn to Darragh Mc Gann.

JCI-Cobh President for 2005, Darragh Mc Gann then addressed those present and put forward his Plan of Action for the coming year.

Darragh thanked Cheralyn for her great leadership and support during the past year and he made a presentation to her on behalf of JCI-Cobh.

Darragh expressed his deep gratitude to Eugene Garvin and thanked him for his great leadership of the National Organization last year. In recognition of this, Darragh made a presentation to Eugene and assured him of his continued support during 2005.

Darragh then spoke of the reason for joining JCI and the person who encouraged him to become a member. He stated how privileged and humbled he was to lead the home Chapter of the 60th World President of JCI. In recognition of his friendship, support and mentorship, Darragh made a special presentation to Kevin Cullinane and assured him of the full support of JCI-Cobh during 2005 and beyond.

Darragh then concluded by inviting all present to encourage all young people between the ages of 18 and 40 to come andJOIN US at JCI.

JCI-Cobh Plan of Action 2005

Membership:

- Re-design and distribution of JCI-Cobh brochure.
- Advertising in local press.
- T.O.Y.P.
- Promote active participation in all projects.
- Hold New Members Nights quarterly.
- JCI-Cobh will increase its declared Membership to JCI Ireland to 25 by our National Convention in October 2005.
- Promote and conduct training for all members.
- Attendance at JCI National/International Conferences.
- E-Awards.

Marketing:

- Concert in aid of Tsunami (February 3rd)
- St. Patricks Day Parade (Sunday March 20th)
- Community Centre Fundraising (Throughout the year)
- Easter Egg Project (April)
- Cobh Tidy Towns (Summer Months)
- Park Road Centre (September)
- Compiling of and publication of a Pocket Guide to What's in Cobh.
- (This will consist of lists of all organisations/where and when they meet. Will also incorporate local businesses)
- Promotion of the new corporate identity.
- Civic List.
- Ensuring that all members hold JCI pins and membership cards.

Media:

- Continued relationship with G.I.C.N.
- Forming and Building of relationships with other publications and media.
- Designing and publication of JCI-Cobh newsletter.
- Continued up-dating of JCI-Cobh web-page.
- Erection of JCI-Cobh sign at Belvelly.

I propose a budget of € 7,000 to subsidise those who wish to travel to the European Conference in June and the World Congress in October. This budget will also include funding for training, insurance and projects during the year. This amount shall be raised through sponsorship, patronage and fundraising.

Darragh Mc Gann
JCI-Cobh President 2005