



Monthly Newsletter April 2006

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Letter from the President

Dear JCI Friends,

I'm still recovering from a very enjoyable and busy Spring Conference in Trabolgan last weekend. Congratulations to Orla and the team for organising a great weekend. Congratulations too to all of the winners and the participants in the National Public Speaking and Debating Competitions. It is a long time since we've had so many entrants and Graham Hanlon did a super job in chairing both competitions. I look forward to supporting Stephen Murray as he represents JCI Ireland in the European Public Speaking Competition in Tallinn in June. I'm confident that we will also have a debating team in Tallinn too.

I was delighted to welcome our International Vice President (IVP), Katri Salonen, to Cork last weekend. Before we travelled to Trabolgan, we went to Cobh, where Katri was greeted by the Major of Cobh, Stella Meade who kindly walked with us through the Heritage Centre and then joined us for lunch. Later in the afternoon, Katri met the Lord Mayor of Cork, Deirdre Clune, at a Reception to launch JCI Cork's Easter Egg Hunt. Thank you to JCI Cobh and JCI Cork for organising both events.

I was also delighted to be joined by JCI Immediate Past President (IPP), Kevin Cullinane, and by JCI General Legal Council (GLC), Graham Hanlon, over the weekend. Graham's nomination for 2007 Executive Vice President (EVP) was ratified at the National Council Meeting and I would like to wish Graham well in his campaign.

Looking ahead, deadlines are approaching for some of the JCI Competitions.

TOYP :

The Outstanding Young Person of the Year honours 10 individuals between the ages of 18 and 40 who exemplify the finest attributes of the world's young people. The closing date for entry into the JCI competition is Friday 6th May. Please email your nomination forms to me by that date. Nominees

submitted after this date, can still enter the National Competition, the finals of which will take place at National Convention.

E-Awards :

The closing date for the JCI E-Award Programme is Sunday 14th May. E-Awards must reflect projects/activities that occurred from January 1st 2005 and December 2005. Submitting an E-Award is a fantastic way of gaining recognition for the excellent projects that you run and the on-line process is really straightforward. Our Awards Manager is Joyce Sheerin and she will be more than happy to clarify any issues you have in relation to E-Awards.

Finally, JCI Galway will host our second National Training Day on Saturday 6th May in Courtyard Marriott Hotel in Galway. The final details have still to be confirmed but they have invited both National and International Trainers and are also planning to have a social event in the evening.

I look forward to seeing you all there.

Suzanne Corcoran
National President 2006
JCI Ireland



Upcoming events:

Deadlines:

TOYP : Friday 5th May

E-Awards : Wednesday 10th May (TBC)

Scottish National Convention – April 21st – 23rd 2006

Scottish National Convention will take place in Aberdeen. The Early Bird rate is £95 (before 7th March 2006) and standard rate is £115. Accommodation at the Conference Hotel is £70 for twin room with breakfast. Contact michelle.beveridge@btopenworld.com for further details.

National Training Day - Saturday 6th May 2006

A National Training day will be hosted by JCI Galway. Further details TBA.

European Conference 2006 – June 14th to 17th 2006

The European Conference 2006 will take place in Tallinn, Estonia. A conference fee of €290 is payable before 14th April. Registrations received after this date will be charged at €330. (Please note all registrations are subject to a €9 booking fee). For online registration visit www.ec2006tallinn.ee. Offline Registrations can be emailed to registration@ec2006tallinn.ee. For further details please see <http://www.ec2006tallinn.ee/>

JCI UK National Convention – September 8th – 10th 2006

JCI UK National Convention will take place in Barnsley. Further details TBA.

JCI Ireland National Convention – October 6th – 8th May 2006

JCI Tullamore will host National Convention from 6th-8th October 2006 at the Tullamore Court Hotel, Co. Offaly (www.tullamorecourthotel.ie). More details to follow on the JCI Tullamore website.

Update from the Chapters

(Chapters are listed in alphabetical order)

JCI Castleknock

Another busy month for Castleknock. Several of our members went to the meal in Maloti's Indian restaurant - thanks to Dublin for organising a very enjoyable evening.

Another highlight was the World Trade Game organised as part of Fingal's Mentorship Programme at DCU where Indonesia emerged as an economic powerhouse, Japan struggled to feed its citizens & Mexico sold oil to the Americans - just like the real world then!!! We continued our participation in Dun Laoghaire's Mock Interview project where repeat Leaving Cert students applied for jobs & courses in a wide range of careers from childcare to business studies via plumbing and psychology applied to information technology!

In the 100% Efficiency Programme, we were joint first with Cork, Cobh, Galway & Limerick (30 points each) in the league table shown in Trabolgan - thanks to everyone who helped with this.

We continued our participation in the joint Dublin PR project, aimed at increasing awareness of JCI in the Dublin area. At a local level, Susan has been successful in getting several articles published in various local newspapers over the last month.

Suzanne attended our March meeting, which was the first in living memory not to end with a trip to the bar - although it did start there :) !!!

Last but not least it's our 30th anniversary this year. We're busy planning an event to mark the occasion so watch this space!!

JCI Cobh

In the midst of Cold and Rain, Cobh shone brightly!!

St Patrick's Day in Cobh will be remembered for an outstanding amount of entries for this very special St Patrick's Day Parade, on the theme of "Making a difference in Cobh".

The Parade was again organised by JCI (Junior Chamber) Cobh and they were proud to welcome to Cobh, 5 members of JCI De Masskant, a chapter located just outside Amsterdam. These members were in Cobh for the first time (and got to march in the parade), and are discussing a twinning agreement with JCI Cobh, an event that is sure to be welcomed by Civic and Business bodies in the town, thus forging new links for Cobh.

The Festivities began at 12 noon with the opening of Cobh Farmers Market and Craft Fair in the Promenade. This was followed by the arrival of Barney and Face Painters from Cobh Community College to entertain the children in almost arctic weather conditions.

The Parade itself began from "The Bench" at 3.30pm and with over 24 entries, Cobh Sea Angling was judged as the Best Entry, a competition this year sponsored by Fleming Construction.

Later that evening, we were joined for dinner by JCI Ireland President Suzanne Corcoran and this was truly the icing on the cake for all present. Thank You Madame President!!

On Saturday morning, a convoy of 5 cars packed with members of Cobh, DeMasskant and four new members for the future, Aled Finn, Blaithe Verwey, Matthew Pearson and Caled Mohammed, all headed off for the Vee in the Comeragh Mountains to show off part of our beautiful country to our visitors. This convoy headed by Kevin Cullinane, a true leader, ended up in Clonmel for lunch, before heading for Moby Dick's in Youghal to sample Ireland's Premium Stout.....aka Murphy's. From there it was straight home for an important date in Twickenham!!.....We won!!

To close the evening, we later gathered in Peg Twomey's Pub, where Immediate Past President Darragh McGann played guitar to end the visit in song and craic!!

The members of JCI Cobh have been invited to Holland in September and it is envisaged that the Twinning Agreement will be signed there.



JCI Cork

This month has been extremely busy for JCI Cork. Members were busy working, under the leadership of Michelle O'Brien, project manager, to ensure the success of Spring Conference, while also hosting the visit of JCI National President Suzanne Corcoran & International Vice President, Katri Salomen. JCI Cork are delighted to announce that the Clarion Hotel, Cork have agreed to come on board as a patron member again this year. Meetings take place in the Clarion Hotel at 7pm on the last Thursday of every month.

A cheese and wine reception was held in the Clarion on March 24th to mark the visit of IVP Katri to Cork. JCI Cork presented Katri with a clock, an apt gift given that the clocks went forward that very weekend. JCI Cork's Easter Project, chaired by Desmond Moore, was also launched at this time. JCI Cork would like to extend our thanks to Kevin Cullinane, 2006 JCI World IPP who delivered training at our March meeting.



Visit of National President to Cork - Patrick's Day 2006

This month JCI National President, Suzanne Corcoran paid a visit to the Cork Chapter. On Thursday night, March 16th Suzanne joined members of the branch at the COPE Foundation Charity Ball. The conversation (& wine!) flowed on the night, ensuring a good time was had by all. Early next morning Suzanne, and Orla Ryng, President of JCI Cork attended a Celebration of the Eucharist in St. Finbarr's Cathedral followed by coffee and cakes in the Bishop's Palace. Here Suzanne met with the Lord Mayor of Cork, Rt. Hon. Cllr. Deirdre Clune, Minister of State, Micheal Mairtin and other local dignitaries and invited guests. Following a walk about the St. Patrick's Festival in Cork City Suzanne, Orla and other members of JCI Cork took their places on the reviewing stand. Despite the bitterly cold wind and driving rain, the colourful parade put a smile on everyone's faces. Immediately after the parade a reception was held in the Imperial Hotel to mark the athletic achievements of Derval O'Rourke. Some sandwiches and tea ensured blood circulation was restored(!), before Suzanne continued her visit of the Southern Chapters, travelling on to our near neighbours in Cobh.



JCI Ennis

JCI Ennis was officially relaunched on Wednesday the 1st March at the Old Ground Hotel in Ennis. Guests in attendance on the night included Suzanne Corcoran, Catherine Laffey, Anne Healy, Rose Ann O'Brien, Tom Lawless, Orla Ryng and Rose Dolan. The officer board elected on the night for the forthcoming year is as follows:

- President: Declan O'Loughlin.
- Secretary/Treasurer: Gráinne Hassett.
- Membership Officer: Aileen Kennedy.
- PRO: Tom Malone.
- Events Officer: Clare Cassidy.
- Training Officer: Catherine Murphy.

Following on from the inaugural meeting JCI Ennis decided to go bowling on the 9th March at the Clare Leisure World in Ennis. This was the first official Social Event and a good night was had by all. Forthcoming events planned include a trip to the dogs in Galway on April 29th. Any member of JCI who is in Galway on that night is welcome to attend and further details can be obtained from any of the committee members.

JCI Fingal

JCI FINGAL MEETS THE ODD COUPLE

JCI Fingal regularly enjoys theatre nights out and this month we revisited one of our local theatre groups Rush Dramatic Society, who were staging Neil Simons "The Odd Couple."

Founded in 1927, Rush Dramatic Society stages six plays per season and hosts many well known artists in its purpose built theatre, The Millbank Theatre, Rush. JCI Fingal member Gráinne Nolan double jobs as a "front of house" member of the Rush Dramatic Society and is always happy to open the doors to welcome JCI members whose support and attendance can always be relied upon.

This months production "The Odd Couple" is probably the best known of Neil Simons comedy plays. Opening first in 1965 and sparking a film and TV series of the same name, it tells the story of Felix Ungar and Oscar Madison, an ill-matched pair who are sharing an apartment in New York. Felix, the demander of neatness and order contrasts perfectly with Oscar, a sloppy, disorganised grouch. Simons was awarded a Tony Award for Best Play for the "Odd Couple" in 1965 and it was generally agreed by JCI Fingal that Rush Dramatic Society had surpassed themselves with the 2006 production. It was a hilarious rendition of the story most of us will remember being immortalized by Jack Lemmon and Walter Matheau.

Adjourning to the bar during the interval, we reminisced about the many nights we have enjoyed at the Millbank. We have laughed our way through many a good production including "The Field", "Women on the Verge of HRT", "Boeing Boeing", "Stella by Starlight", "Educating Rita", "Tick my Box" and some of us were moved to tears (of joy and sadness) by a very recent production of John B Keane's "Sive."

JCI Fingal always look upon the Millbank Theatre and the Rush Dramatic Society as being a great asset and gift directly on our doorsteps in the North County and we look forward to continuing our patronage to this fine local organisation.

JCI FINGAL/DCU CLOSING CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 12th

JCI Fingal and DCU will formally bring its 2005/06 Mentorship Programme to a close on Wednesday April 12th. Now in its third year, this partnership has gained momentum and we are looking forward to celebrating the success of this years programme appropriately on April 12th. Report from this event and the 2005/06 Programme to follow in May Newsletter.

JCI FINGAL CONGRATULATES GLC GRAHAM HANLON ON HIS NOMINATION FOR EVP.

Fingal President, Aisling Murphy was delighted to nominate local member and General Legal Counsel (GLC), JCI, Mr Graham Hanlon as a candidate for Executive Vice President this year. Graham had expressed interest in an EVP position last year but was appointed to the high office of GLC while in Vienna in Oct 2005. JCI Ireland welcomed the nomination at Spring Conference in Cork recently and ratified the nomination with great enthusiasm. We wish Graham well and pledge our support to his campaign.

JCI Galway

Greetings from Galway!!



What a fun filled and highly entertaining month we here in Galway have had this month. The first half of March centred around the theme of Green as we celebrated both GREEN NOSE DAY and ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

JCI Galway run Green Nose Day in conjunction with REHAB to sell green noses on the eve of St. Patrick's Day. 10 members of JCI (a lot of these were brand new members) dressed up as leprechauns to sell green noses around town. (See group picture attached).

The proceeds from this fundraiser go to Benefits Quest who are part of the REHAB foundation. It is a brain rehabilitation unit based in Galway. Last year JCI Galway raised €4,500 for this charity from the sale of green noses.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE.

As you can see from the Group photo, JCI Galway members decided upon the theme of " JCI Galway and the projects we do". Even though it was a bitterly cold day, we managed to keep our spirits up singing and dancing along the parade route. Led by our Banner Ladies – (Tish and Mary Giblin) and our Parade team Grand Marshall – Eugene Garvin, we were quite a collection of 'ducks', 'leprechauns', 'graduates', 'cup winners' 'the Tourist Guide' and of course our famous 'Easter Bunny'. It was great to see some new members getting involved and enjoying themselves.



Debating expert Graham Hanlon came to Galway to provide a training session on



Successful Debating. This man is the face of JCI International Debating, having chaired countless competitions nationally and internationally. He delivered an excellent training event and even managed to persuade 3 novices to get up in front of those in attendance to do a mini debate along with Stephen Murray.

It was extremely valuable training which resulted in Galway participating at Spring Conference in Cork. The JCI Galway debating team of Stephen Murray, George Conboy and Rose Dolan (coach) proposed the motion the 'The Problem With Irish Men Is Their Mothers' but were knocked out of the

competition by JCI Limerick who went on to win the competition overall.

Representing JCI Galway in the Experienced Public Speaking Competition, our local Training Officer Stephen Murray won the competition and will go on to represent JCI Ireland in the European Public Speaking Competition in Tallinn in June. Stephen spoke about JCI's role in Corporate Social Responsibility. He is pictured in the attachment with JCI Ireland National President Suzanne presenting him with the perpetual trophy.



Francis Keary represented JCI Galway and spoke on the topic 'Where Would We Be Without Credit Cards?' Francis delivered a very entertaining and humorous speech but was narrowly beaten by President of our host chapter Orla Ryng.



SPRING CONFERENCE

JCI Galway had 10 members attend National Spring Conference in Cork at the weekend and what a great time they had. Who could not have enjoyed the list of activities provided by Trabolgan for teambuilding purposes? Zip wiring by all accounts was a great highlight of the weekend. Galway fared well in the Public Speaking Competition, as well as in other activities such as Go Karting and the highly entertaining Karaoke.

Many thanks to Orla and Michelle and all involved in JCI Cork for hosting such a great weekend.

JCI Limerick

A busy month was had by all for March. It started off at the end of February with a new members night held in Perys Hotel, Limerick where 10 potential new members attended.

At our monthly meeting held in March, Darragh McGann attended and provided training to our members on public speaking and debating in preparation for the upcoming competition held in Trabolgan at the end of the month. The following week a mock debate was held in Pery's Hotel in order to give a run through for all, particularly those new to debating. The topic chosen for debate was 'Girl Power has had its day', We won't say who the winning team was, but a few tips were picked up by both teams to assist with the competition in Trabolgan.

Then on the 17th March JCI Limerick members helped out with the St. Patricks Day parade. This is becoming an annual event for the JCI members and 7 members braved the cold to help direct floats and marchers up O' Connell street as well as assisting with managing the parade itself and starting the band competition. They also distributed the goody bags at the end of the parade to participants. They then retired to the VIP reception held in the Georgian House for well deserved hot food and drink. Overall a good day was had by all.

Three JCI Limerick members attended the full weekend in Trabolgan on the 24th to the 26th March. They had a great weekend and we believe that none of them will be giving up their full time jobs to take up a career in singing. On Sunday the debating and public speaking competitions were held and while we had no participants in the main public speaking event or the novice public speaking we did have two teams (named Team A & B) in the debating with 3 members travelling down to Trabolgan on the Sunday morning. The two teams had great fun in their debates with Team B winning their first round by beating Cork and then being beaten in the semi-final by Dublin. This team was made up of Pauline Duggan, Sue Redmond and Olive Duffy, all new to the art of debating. Team A it has to be said did us all proud. Consisting of Rose Ann O' Brien, Pat Murnane and Declan Sexton the team beat Galway in the first round, Cobh in the semi-final and Dublin in the Final. The winning debate topic was 'Trabolgan is the New Disneyworld' with Limerick proposing. The plaque is now winging its way back to Limerick for the second time in three years. Lets hope with a bit of practice we can make it three out of four next year!!!!

Suzanne Corcoran is to attend our April monthly meeting which is being held in Pery's Hotel on the 5th April 2006.

JCI Tullamore

JCI Tullamore have had a busy year to date, particularly in their preparation for JCI Ireland National Convention, which takes place 6-8th October in Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore. Events will include Training, TOYP Awards Ceremony, 'Wear Your County Colours Night' on Friday night and Gala Banquet on the Saturday night. Keep updated on JCI Tullamore's website for further info! Early Bird rate of €110 (excluding accommodation) before 31st July 2006. Book early! A great weekend is guaranteed!

New Members Night was held on 14th March, which included presentations and a Fun Table Quiz. There was a great turnout on the night!

Mr. Joe Toner, 2000 JCI National President facilitated training in Officership Roles and Project-Working in March, which was very interesting and informative for members.

10 members from JCI Tullamore attended Spring Conference in Trabolgan, which was very enjoyable!

On the social front, JCI Tullamore attended a meal for members, a trip to the Cinema and a Bowling Night! Members also got out their dancing shoes and attended Cha, Cha, Jive and Salsa lessons in Bridge House Hotel, Tullamore. Great fun was had by all!

JCI Tullamore are currently preparing for their Easter Egg Project and also hope to have entrants for TOYP.

Announcements

For any announcement you would like to make in future issues please e-mail the Newsletter Editor at RoseAnn_O'Brien@dell.com.

Born to Emer and Joe Toner (formerly JCI Galway and JCI Dun Laoghaire respectively) - a brother to Kevin & Conor - a baby boy, Rory on 23/03/2006.

CONNECT 4 SUCCESS - JCI Ireland National Training Day – by Catherine Laffey President JCI Galway

JCI Ireland National Training Day 2006 will be hosted by JCI Galway in the Courtyard Marriott Hotel in Galway on Saturday 6th May from 9.30 am to 5.30pm. The theme is 'Connect 4 Success' and we have secured top class trainers to present three stimulating and interactive workshops.

Networking For Growth - Andrew C. Keogh, Aristo

You will develop your networking skills, learn how to be more confident in your interactions with others, talk so that others will listen and discover the secrets to building relationships and trust and getting quality referrals for your business.

Andrew is a coach/trainer with over 20 years experience in the area of Business Coaching and Personnel Development. Aristo promotes leadership and management training which focuses on developing people's ability to Connect 2 Grow their Business. Andrew is a member and former president of Lucan Toastmasters Club and is a committee member of the Professional Speakers Association Branch in Ireland.

Flirt Your Way To Business Success - Mel Harris, The Training Tree

Do you ever feel anxiety or dread before a business meeting? What if you knew that in each interaction, you could naturally engage with the other party and leave a lasting positive impression? The art of flirting is all about making others feel good and to do that you have to feel good too. Learn how to create the right state of mind, read other people's signals and communicate effectively while building rapport.

Mel has spent 10 years marketing SMEs in a variety of industries and at an international level. Now with two of her JCI colleagues Mel has set up The Training Tree to empower individuals and businesses to achieve their ultimate potential by meeting their training and learning needs, acting as a one stop shop to business and a marketing and sales facility for Trainers and Coaches. Mel is a JCI National Certified Trainer from JCI Scotland, and has been a JCI member for over 11 years. Mel Harris attributes her success to 'dreaming big, walking your talk and being the best flirt in the world'.

Negotiation Skills – Scott Johnston,

We negotiate every day of our lives both in our business and personal lives. If we recognise how and when we negotiate, we can ensure we get what we really want from almost any situation. Scott will analyse the four steps in any successful negotiation and explain the subtle art of 'win-win' negotiation and you will learn many proven tactics, which will make you a better negotiator immediately.

Scott runs his own business Johnston Consulting as an Employment Law specialist and Personal Development trainer. He helps companies, charities and individuals to resolve employment disputes and provides training in areas such as negotiation, conflict resolution and presentation skills. Scott was National President of JCI Scotland in 2004.

Registration costs just €50 and includes a two course lunch. There will be a social programme the evening of National Training Day and more details will be confirmed shortly. The closing date for registrations is Tuesday 2nd May so please ensure that completed registration forms and full payment are received on or before this date to guarantee your place. Please make all cheques and bank drafts payable to JCI Galway and post to JCI Galway, PO Box 99, Galway.

Accommodation is available in the Courtyard Marriott Hotel at a rate of €139 per person sharing per night. This price includes breakfast and complimentary parking. Delegates will need to make their own accommodation arrangements by contacting the hotel on 091-513200 and quoting reference: JCI Galway National Training Day.

There are a number of alternative hotels available in the area and details are available from the committee. Further information is available from JCI Galway Training Officer Stephen Murray by telephone 085-7319551 or email murnau@ireland.com or from JCI Galway President Catherine Laffey on 087-6315574 or president@jci-galway.org

Useful websites for further information:

www.jci-galway.org

www.galwaycourtyard.com

www.aristo.ie

JCI Spring Conference - by Michelle O'Brien, Photos by Simon Buggy JCI Cork

A large number attended Spring Conference from Friday 24th to Sunday 26th of March 2006. This event was held in Trabolgan holiday village, hosted by JCI Cork. The weekend kicked off with a NEC meeting at 7.30pm. This was followed by karaoke and a few beverages in Jim Gallagher's Pub.

In the event of anyone needing a fry up to cure sore heads on Saturday morning, houses were stocked up with sausages, puddings etc.

On Saturday morning the National Council Meeting was held in the Clubhouse. All other members spent the morning getting wet at the teambuilding. The teambuilding involved zipwiring, archery and go-karting. In the afternoon more teambuilding took place for those who had missed it in the morning. Unfortunately it never rains but it pours! The heavy rain stopped some of the activities and we had to adapt and move indoors. Indoors the aeroball and soccer proved very popular. Around lunchtime we were lucky to get one hour's training from International Vice President Katri Solomen on marketing.

Saturday evening we all gathered at the restaurant for some food to replace all our lost energy from the teambuilding followed by some presentations and speeches. The experience of the night before had to be relived and we all adjourned to the bar again for drinks and karaoke.

On Sunday the Debating and Public Speaking took place. A special well done to all those who participated, especially those who took the plunge for the first time. Congratulations to JCI Limerick who won the Debating competition, to Stephen Murray of JCI Galway who won the experienced Public Speaking Competition and to Orla Ryng JCI Cork who won the novice Public Speaking Competition. Sadly the weekend drew to an end at 3pm, as people rushed off to the airport. Presentations were made to the prize winners of the morning's competitions and also prizes were given to the most successful teambuilding house!





Report on Spring Conference by Marie Mitchell JCI Galway

On Friday 23rd March last myself and 9 of the troops from JCI Galway headed south to Trabolgan, Co. Cork for a weekend of teambuilding. What a weekend, we got wet, talked a lot, and had the customary few bevs, of course!

When we arrived on Friday evening to a lovely warm chalet we quickly abandoned the cars and headed for the local distillery to catch up and see who was around. There were groups from all parts of the country - Tullamore, Limerick, Cobh, Dublin to name but a few. This meeting of minds carried on into the small hours with some 'sweet' karaoke to get one in the spirit of the weekend. As we headed home to rest our lofty minds there were many with thoughts of the meetings the following morning on their minds, National Council etc. and then ourselves with nothing to do only teambuilding.

The fun and frolics started on Saturday at 10am in the rain, with some geared for the weather and some not quite so. But we had come to team-build and what better way than a spot of archery. Well they did have to tell us once or twice to aim at the board and not the dripping wet clients. It was fun and we had a laugh. Next came the zip-wiring. You might ask 'What is that?' 'Tis where you allow yourself to be strapped to a rope on a tower and then you step off and away you go down the line, freedom or what?, oh and you had to pot the tennis balls on the way down. Rose you are the best! Or did you drop the ball while walking back as a few of us thought we might do. But considering how hard some of us found it to step off, we think you are a genius. Then it was on to the go-karting in the rain. What a way to travel. After all this fun and laughter we were free to pursue other activities. Some like myself headed off to the massage parlour and what a treat that was! More headed for the pool and still more tried their best at some soccer. I missed that, so I hope the winners were happy and the rest were good losers.

All this time there were various meetings taking place with Katri Salonen, our IVP from Finland and the Local President's Forum.

Then it was time to prepare for evening dinner at the in house restaurant which was attended by the various VIP's, Graham Hanlon, General Legal Counsel, IVP, Katri and 2005 World President, Kevin Cullinane. We enjoyed a complimentary tippie from Tallinn to give us a taste of European Conference in Estonia and followed this with a lovely meal and some words of thanks to various attendees and our most gracious host and organizers, Orla Ryng and her fellow members. We adjourned to the local bar across the road for some 'night caps' and really soulful or soul destroying karaoke. We retired then for some go-karting the following morning but only one or two showed up and I know this as I was one of them! All that was on everyone's mind was the National Public Speaking and Debating competitions at 10am on Sunday morning. We had the novice and the definitely not so novice (experienced) section which were won by Orla Ryng and our own champion Mr. Stephen Murray respectively. This was followed by the debating with some appropriately named motions in honour of Mothering Sunday. This was won by the Limerick chapter who had beaten Galway in an earlier debate.

The weekend ended there with everyone heading to their various destinations and various means of getting there. It was not just the mere automobile in use this weekend although I don't think anyone cycled there. It was with a pep in our step we left as we headed out of the comfort zone in the self-contained village of Trabolgan, looking forward to the next weekend away with JCI.

Sincere thanks to all those who made this a great weekend, pat on the back and enjoy the rest....until our event in May right here in Galway.

Message to all Chapter P.R.O.s by Michael Scott National PRO

Well Done To You All On Your Work To Date In Promoting The Achievements Of Your Local Chapters!

Please Ensure That Your Press Releases, Etc Reach An Even Wider Audience By Copying Them To The National P.R.O. Who Will Insert Your Published Articles On The Junior Chamber Ireland Website.

My Address Is : mscott@limerickcoco.ie

When Submitting Articles To The Local Press Don't Forget To Follow-Up With A Telephone Call. By e-mailing your Press Releases to me, the N.E.C. will be able to award points to Chapters under the 100% Efficiency Programme."

Michael Scott,
JCI Ireland

JCI Cork announce details of Easter Egg Hunt and Charity Auction- by Orla Ryng JCI Cork

On Easter Saturday, April 15th, JCI Cork will hold an Easter Egg Hunt and Charity Auction in Fota House and Gardens. The Easter Egg Hunt will commence at 2pm. Cost is 5 Euro per child, and all proceeds will be donated to the Children's Ward of the Cork University Hospital and to Fota Trust. Each child will receive an Easter Egg upon successful completion of the hunt.

A Charity Auction will take place in Fota House at 3.30pm on the same day. Items up for auction include

- 3 day Break on the Shannon (valued at €900)
- Arc Strider (valued at €500)
- Josef Keys painting (valued at €200)
- Loccitane hamper (valued at €150)
- Yves Rocher (valued at €150)
- Hayfield Manor Dinner for 2 (valued at €100)
- Ballymaloe House Dinner for 2 (valued at €100)
- Radisson SAS Hotel Dinner for 2 (valued at €90)
- Metropole Dinner for 2 (valued at €80)
- Sheraton Fota Island Dinner for 2 (valued at €100)
- Mahon Point Voucher (valued at €100)
- Rochestown Park Dinner for 2 (valued at €80)
- Mirror (valued at €150)
- Keanes Seiko watch
- Moore's Jewellers

All are welcome to attend the Egg Hunt and Auction. Further info from www.jci.cc/cork or 087 - 2971338

2006 JCI Galway Tourist Guide - by Co-Chairperson, Anne Healy JCI Galway

JCI Galway is reaching the final stages of compiling the 2006 Galway Tourist Guide, now in its 39th edition. 50,000 pocket-sized copies will be printed this year and will be distributed locally, nationally and internationally throughout the year. The tourist guide will continue to provide a calendar of events of Galway as well as information on accommodation, eating out, entertainment, shopping and other tourist attractions. It will also include a walking tour of Galway city, features on the GAA, the Gaeltacht and the Aran Islands.

The guide is our main source of funding for the various activities offered to JCI Galway members, and we are glad to say that the cheques are flying in! The guide will be launched at the Imperial Hotel, one of our longstanding advertisers on April 28th at 7.30pm. This will be a night of great celebration by the committee members, JCI Galway members, distinguished guests as well as by several of our advertisers.

We would be delighted if JCI members from other Chapters would come along on the night. It's a night not to be missed.

George Conboy and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the committee members for their dedication and commitment for ensuring that the JCI Galway Tourist Guide is successful yet again this year.



International News by Grainne Nolan, Director of International Affairs

European Conference, Tallinn, Estonia 14-18 June.

Early Bird Registration: eur290 until April 14th

Accommodation still available to Irish Delegation at the Conference HQ Hotel - Reval Olumpia. To assist, a booking link has been created for you. Simply log onto <https://secure.estravel.ee/ec2006/groupbk.php> username: ireland and password: ie06bkoly will allow you to make the booking online

Payment for the hotel accommodation can be made by online credit card payment or bank transfer. Point to note: Cancellation of the booking will be charged the full payment. Information and details on other hotels and their availability can be viewed on www.ec2006tallinn.ee

Your 2006 National Executive

National President: Suzanne Corcoran
Immediate Past President: James Corcoran
Deputy President: Karen Sweeney
Finance Director: Brian Egan
Director of International Affairs: Grainne Nolan
Director of Administration: Joyce Kelly
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