



# Junior Chamber Dialogue

April 2003

Volume 2, Issue 2

*The Quarterly Newsletter of Junior Chamber Ireland – Entrepreneurs in Action!*

## THE FIRST 100 DAYS .....

Since my election as President of Junior Chamber Ireland, I have been extremely busy in my travels and in my endeavours in carrying out my plan of action the WAY FORWARD for Junior Chamber.



I made it a priority that I would visit all chapters early on in the year to see how each chapter is developing and what their Plan of Action entails. I am surprised, and encouraged, at the level of activity within certain chapters. I am also pleased to learn that chapters recognise the need to be more involved on a national level and to get involved in projects initiated by the National Executive. What is of concern is the number and quality of the projects that chapters are running which go unnoticed by way of publicity. This is something that I am trying to address at the moment. We should not be afraid to avail of publicity, and actively seek it, when we are running projects.

Sponsorship is something which was often raised during my visits and is an issue at both local and national levels. I would encourage you to build on existing relationships and be mindful of sponsorship opportunities when planning your projects and programmes. I am currently working with our Business Director Eugene in seeking sponsorship, at a national level, for our organisation. I'm also able to report that Training Director Emer is investigating the possibility of establishing a Training Institute in Ireland after a successful Prime Training course in Enfield was completed by 18 participants. This is the second year running that Prime was held and I know from discussions with other prime graduates that they are enthusiastic about the organisation and they want to contribute a lot more.

On the International front I have been to the European Development Council meeting in Riga where I met with other Presidents from around Europe and essentially went through our plan of action. We certainly are one of the more active National organisations. I was also able to enjoy a vigorous training programme by partaking in the SNOW GAMES, only the fittest survived!

In late March our assigned International Vice President, Josep Montanes, visited us and he made a number of chapter visits where he met many members. Josep also gave a training day in Limerick to prepare Deputy Presidents and Officer Board Members for their roles in 2004. Many thanks to those Chapters who supported his visit.



Josep Montanes

An area that has been identified is that of the establishment of new chapters. Executive members Eugene Garvin and Cormac O'Sullivan have been instrumental in the launch of a new chapter in Headford, County Galway. I was able to attend the launch night and was delighted with the great turnout. We intend to identify new chapters in the forthcoming year and if any member knows of a potential chapter please let us know.



Junior Chamber is your organisation and while the team on the National Executive is working for you, you can only get what you put in. To be continued.....

Jeremy Doyle  
2003 National President

## **LOCAL LEADERS TRAINING**

Once we have taken the plunge, risen to the occasion and agreed in our wisdom(?) to take on the role of a local officer, we are sometimes left with the realisation that we don't know exactly where to start. The aim of the local leader's training was to bring local officers and members interested in such a role together to get some pointers on making the year in office a good one for the member and the chapter.

20 members arrived in Tullamore from Castleknock, Fingal, Galway, Limerick and Waterford on February 9<sup>th</sup> last to attend this day long session. The day started with group sessions where members were first broken into groups according to chapter and discussed the strengths and weaknesses of their chapter along with the opportunities and threats facing them in 2003. The groups then shared their ideas with other groups. The interesting outcome was that no matter what size or strength the chapter, the experiences and issues were similar.

Next the members separated in groups according to their role on local council. They discussed the challenges of their role, what they hoped to achieve in their year and what they hoped to leave behind.

At this point the Presidents and Deputy Presidents went into a separate session to discuss local and national issues and planning for the year. Past National President and Chairman of the Senate, Seamus O'Neill, facilitated this session.

Whilst this was taking place the other attendees were given some useful advice on how to manage their accounts and records by Immediate Past National President Graham Hanlon (Fingal) and personal skills training by John Lalor (Galway)

After lunch all groups came together again to hear a presentation by Graham on the Strategic Planning and Resource Committee, which has agreed a strategic plan for Junior Chamber Ireland for the next 5 years. Seamus O'Neill then gave a session on Protocol in Junior Chamber. Members were brought through the intricacies of how to address the mayor and other dignitaries, who speaks first, when to wear the chain and how to treat visitors to monthly meetings and other events.

The session wrapped up at 5pm. Thanks to those who supported the event and to the trainers who gave so freely of their time. The feedback was quite positive and one member felt sufficiently confident afterwards to offer their services as their local chapter treasurer.



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES – Grant for first timers !

- Are you a member of Junior Chamber Ireland for not more than four years?
- Would you be attending European or World Conferences in 2003 as a first timer?
- Are you willing to be actively involved in the Conference and attend the training seminars?

Answer yes to these questions and you could be the recipient of a grant from Junior Chamber Ireland towards the cost of the Conference. Simply complete the application form, available on the Junior Chamber Ireland Website ([www.juniorchamberireland.org](http://www.juniorchamberireland.org)), and send it to International Director Deirdre O'Donohue. Please ensure Applications for Birmingham are received one month prior to Conference and for World Congress two months prior to the commencement date.

The 2003 European Conference takes place in Birmingham from 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June. Members of Birmingham and British Junior Chamber have been working hard to produce a Conference with a difference: high profile speakers, business networking opportunities training sessions that are stimulating, informative and fun.

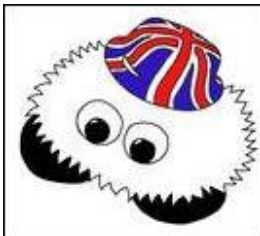
From November 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> the 2003 World Congress will be in Copenhagen, Denmark, with an expected 3000 – 4000 delegates from more than 60 nations. The Programme contains a world of interesting seminars and fantastic keynote speakers. National Parties will be held during the Event and they promise to be the most exciting nights ever. For more information contact International Director Deirdre O'Donohue, by email, at [dodonohue.ennis@eircom.net](mailto:dodonohue.ennis@eircom.net) or visit the Conference websites as detailed below.

### 2003 JCI European Conference

4-7 June 2003  
Birmingham, England

e-mail:  
[info@ec2003birmingham.org.uk](mailto:info@ec2003birmingham.org.uk)

Website: <http://www.ec2003birmingham.org.uk>



### 2003 World Congress

3-7 November 2003.  
Copenhagen, Denmark

e-mail:  
[WEBMISTRESS@WC2003.DK](mailto:WEBMISTRESS@WC2003.DK)

Website: <http://www.wc2003.dk/>





## GO ON LINE !

Junior Chamber Ireland:

Visit Junior Chamber Ireland at:  
[www.juniorchamberireland.org](http://www.juniorchamberireland.org)

Junior Chamber International:

Visit Junior Chamber International, read inspirational stories, view the World President's schedule and see the latest photographs from his travels at  
[www.juniorchamber.org](http://www.juniorchamber.org)

## THE 2003 BRITISH IRISH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

This Academy is focused in developing future leaders within Junior Chamber. The course focuses on coaching and developing the attending members in strategic leadership skills with the aim of making a difference both to the individual's own careers and for the future of the Junior Chamber organisation worldwide.

In this, its second year, the Academy takes place from Friday July 31<sup>st</sup> to Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Ballymascanlon House Hotel in Dundalk. This course is for current local and national officers and past and potential LOM/NOM officers. All potential delegates should be interested in taking on a leadership role in Junior Chamber in 2004 whether Locally, Regionally or Nationally. The 3 day event is limited to a total of 24 individuals, from England, Ireland and Northern Ireland. Ireland is limited to 12 places.

Trainees will learn to

- Use both Intra- and inter-personal elements for balance in your year and for outstanding performance
- Recognise the profile of an outstanding LOM/NOM officer
- Acquire the 5 Basic Roles of a successful leader in JCI
- Lead your Team to Success
- Plan your own career.

Anybody interested in applying for this course can contact Emer Toner Individual Development Director, on 086-3841279, by email to [emer\\_toner@yahoo.com](mailto:emer_toner@yahoo.com) or log on the national website for further information.



## FOR THE BEST GO WEST!

The 2003 National Convention of Junior Chamber Ireland will be hosted by Junior Chamber Galway from October 9th to October 12th in the 5 Star Galway Radisson SAS Hotel.

Your convention organising committee (COC) have been meeting once per week since January and I am delighted to tell you that this years convention looks like it will be something really special. As you can imagine we are still in the planning stages, but you can rest assured that we will leave no stone unturned in our efforts to make this a convention to remember.

### Some Highlights From The Programme:

Thursday 9th:

Finals of The Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Competition.

Friday 10th:

The TOYP awards ceremony.

The Mardi Gras Launch Party.

Saturday 11th:

The Success Seminar.

Historical Pub Tour of Galway.

The World Famous JCG Corrib Princess Tour.

The Senate Lunch.

National Awards Ceremony and Presidential Banquet.

Sunday 12th:

Farewell Lunch.

Unfortunately our hard work will all be to no avail without one very important ingredient.....YOU! Convention is no different from any other Junior Chamber activity in that it will be no good unless YOU attend. YOU will be the secret ingredient which will bring the 2003 Junior Chamber Ireland National Convention to life, YOU will be it's personality and YOU will make it special.

In order to help you make your mind up on whether or not you should attend we have organised a once off, very special rate, of 250 Euro if you register before July 9th. This price includes two nights accommodation (per person sharing) at The Five Star Galway Radisson SAS Hotel and tickets for all the above mentioned highlights except the Senate Lunch.

Registration forms will be available from April 20th onwards. If you would like more information on the 2003 Junior Chamber Ireland National Convention, please feel free to contact me via e-mail at [mdhosty@indigo.ie](mailto:mdhosty@indigo.ie) or via telephone at 086 2512762. In the meantime I look forward to seeing you in Galway in October.

MacDara Hosty, 2003 Convention Director.



## **PRIME**

Prime is described and the Junior Chamber Coaching course, the first rung on the ladder to becoming a recognised JC Trainer. Sounds great but what is it really all about and what does it entail.

17 members of Junior Chamber Ireland decided to find out last 7 to 9 March. They were joined by one member from Belfast Junior Chamber. The very enthusiastic and energetic trainers who were flown in from Belgium added an international dimension to the weekend.

The course is laid out in a series of modules. These cover the theory of how people learn as well as practical tips on how to make a session interesting and hold attention. Presentation skills are emphasized throughout the course. Trainees are broken into groups for much of the weekend and prepare a presentation together as a team.

Perhaps the greatest benefit of the weekend is the sense of achievement, teamwork and empowerment people feel in being able to meet the challenge of the course .....and it is a challenge.

The group, which attended PRIME in Enfield in March were buzzing when I went to meet them at lunchtime on Sunday. They were enthusiastic and very much a group. You got this sense of the team the minute you walked in and it was amazing to think that a lot of those who attended would not have known each other prior to the event.

It brought back memories of my own experience of PRIME when I completed the course in 1999. I had been unsure of what it was all about but was absolutely buzzing with enthusiasm on completing it. Ready for the next challenge and confident I could meet it.

It was remarked to me that PRIME is undersold in Junior Chamber and that is true, it offers a whole lot more than the course description and the only ones who can sell it are those who have been on the course themselves. There was a good representation from all the chapters so the challenge for all PRIME graduates is to sell the course on to others, what it holds for you as an individual and as a team member.

The other challenge is to put your new found skills into practice and use them in your chapter. You now have the network to help you to take the next step.

If you are interested in doing PRIME this year you haven't missed the boat. The Course is usually delivered at European and World Conferences each year so you could complete it in Birmingham or Copenhagen later this year. Take a look at their websites for further details.

Well done everyone who participated and thanks to those presidents who promoted the course in their chapters.

Emer Toner  
2003 Training Director



Pictured are the Prime coaches and delegates

## WALKING TO A HEALTHIER LIFE

Last year Leitrim held the (dubious) distinction of being the only county without an official Sli na Slainte walking route. Members of Carrick on Shannon Junior Chamber in association with The Irish Heart Foundation and the staff of M.B.N.A. (who have a large facility in the area) organised a route around the town of Carrick-On-Shannon. The route was officially launched on National Heart Day in September 2002 with a sponsored walk in aid of Special Olympics and the Hospice.



The team from Carrick-On-Shannon are pictured presenting a cheque towards the Special Olympics, the result of their sponsored walk on the new route.

Left to right are Irene Maxwell, Micheal Duignan, Gerry Doyle, Teresa Donohue (Bank of Ireland and Chairperson of the local Special Olympics Committee), Jim McLoughlin 2003 President of Junior Chamber Carrick On Shannon and Phil Faughnan.



## **EDITOR'S NOTE**

This issue sees a big focus on training with many opportunities having already being offered in 2003 with more to come. Don't wait, get involved!

For the next (Convention Edition) I would love to see more articles coming from individual members and Chapters. I encourage you to share your project successes and personal experiences with fellow members. Please send your articles and photographs, either print or digital to me before the closing date, September 20th. Articles are always welcome and I look forward to hearing from you. Any original photographs will be returned.  
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