



# CHAMBER LINK

The Voice of Business in South Dublin County

 **South Dublin**  
Chamber of Commerce

## DEAR CHAMBER MEMBER

Welcome to the March/April edition of Chamber Link. We recently held our Annual Careers Expo sponsored by Anglo Irish Bank, The Institute of Technology, Tallaght and Coca Cola Bottlers Ireland. Over 1,200 students attended to listen to 80 speakers from local industry/business, national and local government agencies, sporting bodies and entrepreneurs. We would like to particularly acknowledge our members who give time to our Schools Business Partnership, without them it would not be possible. We are currently seeking personnel to assist with mock interviews in local schools. The mock interview procedure is a most helpful way of students preparing themselves for the business world and it is often difficult to get sufficient numbers of volunteers to participate on interview panels. If you or someone in your company would like to volunteer I would ask you to contact Mary Grassick at T: 4585234 or email:mary@sdchamber for further information.

In order to adequately respond to members needs and continue to provide quality services we are aiming to survey all members over the coming months. The main objectives of the survey are to ascertain the satisfaction level among members for the wide range of services, which the Chamber provides on your behalf. The results will allow us to improve and plan towards future activities and services and I would appreciate your co-operation with this task.

Finally our 2005 Yearbook and Member Directory is now available and being distributed to all members and I hope you will use it to expand your business network. Remember, when doing business, phone a Chamber member first.

**Peter Byrne**  
*Chief Executive*



Pictured at the February Member meets Member event in the Institute of Technology, Tallaght are: L-R; Dr. Tim Creedon, Director, Institute of Technology, Tallaght, Deirdre Mooney, President, South Dublin Chamber of Commerce, Tom Clarke, IT Board member.  
Thank you to the Institute of Technology, Tallaght for hosting this event.

## CHAMBER POLICY

The Chamber's Infrastructure Policy Committee has completed its work in the areas of Transport, Communications and Waste Management and papers will soon be launched. The Committee will now proceed to deliberate on Power, Water & Drainage and Property.

Three working groups will be formed to discuss the key infrastructural requirements in each area and to make recommendations on the needs of business now and in the future. Each Committee will meet four times between early April and mid May, with meetings generally taking place at 8am and finishing no later than 9.30am.

If you feel you can make a contribution on the subject of Power, Water & Drainage or Property and would like to join the Committee, please contact Sinead at 4585243 or email sinead@sdchamber.ie for full details.

The Chamber Link is sponsored by



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The Plaza Hotel  
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The Plaza Hotel is a Four Star hotel, comprising of 122 bedrooms which are inclusive of 2 Suites and 7 Junior Suites. Situated conveniently off the M50, N81 and the Belgard Road, it offers the highest standards of service in an idyllic environment. The hotel boasts an assortment of Restaurants and Bars to cater to your every need including the N81 Café located in the lobby, the Vista Café and Bar and the Olive Tree Restaurant located on level 1 both looking out onto the Dublin Mountains. Grumpy Mc Claffertys is a traditional Irish pub boasting a succulent weekly carvery and tantalising evening bar food. Obar 1 is a late night bar which plays the latest funky tunes and the Playhouse Nightclub is also open for further late night entertainment.

The Plaza Hotel can cater for your meeting or conference, from a board meeting to a banquet seating up to 220 people. In total the hotel has 10 meeting rooms, all air-conditioned and we have wireless broadband internet access WI-FI throughout the hotel.

We look forward to welcoming you at the Plaza Hotel in the not to distant future.

## SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL ITISS INITIATIVE

The South Dublin County Council has become a partner organisation in a European funded project to improve the content of and access to traveller information systems across Europe. The overall objective of the ITISS (Intermodal Traveller Information Systems) initiative is to provide better travel information and better co-ordination of the information to improve journey time and trip planning.

At a recent meeting of stakeholders, attended by the Chamber, the Council outlined its particular contribution to the project. The Council will focus on the development and implementation of an Automatic Number Plate Recognition System facilitating journey time analysis and origin-destination patterns. The Traffic Management Centre at the Council will also be expanded, switching over to broadband and providing traffic and travel information to individuals including camera images, traffic volumes, congestion data and links to timetable information for transport operators such as Luas, Dublin Bus etc.

The project will be rolled out over the next two years, with partner initiatives in France, Germany, the Netherlands and Manchester in the UK. A single web site or portal will be developed to capture the information provided by each region.

For further information contact Helena Fallon, South Dublin County Council at T: 4149172 or email: hfallon@sdblincoco.ie

## Advertising

We aim to offer our members affordable and competitive advertising options. For all your advertising options and costs contact elaine@sdchamber.ie

## SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY IDENTITY GROUP

This group was set up by the County Development Board to examine and develop a strategy to promote an awareness of the County. Many people living and working in the County are not aware that South Dublin County is a county in its own right and has been for eleven years. In fact, the population of South Dublin County (238,000) is larger than the combined populations of Limerick, Galway and Waterford cities.

At a meeting on 2nd March '05 the committee reviewed some tenders for the appointment of consultants to oversee the issue of branding the county. The group are developing several ideas including; SD (South Dublin County) identification on car number plates, postal codes containing the name South Dublin County, inter Dublin County sports events run in association with national organizations such as the GAA, FAI, IRFU and how the physical environment may reflect the area we live in.

This is a major undertaking and will take some years to reach fruition.

For further information contact Peter Byrne at T: 4622107 or email: business@sdchamber.ie

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

The 10th Annual General Meeting of South Dublin Chamber of Commerce Limited will be held at 9.30am on Wednesday 6th April in Gallaheer (Dublin) Ltd., Airton Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24. Documentation for the AGM has been posted to each member.

For further details contact Ursula at T: 4585203 or email: ursula@sdchamber.ie

## South Dublin County Tourism Board

The South Dublin County Tourism Board was set up in 2004 to promote and develop tourism in South Dublin County and is supported by the South Dublin County Council and South Dublin Chamber of Commerce.

On 1st March 2005 the Board progressed the appointment of a full time Tourism Executive Officer and this full time position will be filled soon. Following elections for the key positions on the board, the following were elected; Chairperson, David Kennedy (The Echo Newspaper), Vice Chairperson, Councillor Marie Ardagh, Treasurer, Michael McBennett. The role of secretary will be held by the new Tourism Executive and the Company Secretary is Peter Byrne, Chief Executive.

The Board is working with Hotels, Retail Centres, Guesthouse and Golf Clubs in South Dublin County to develop our county as a key place to visit. The primary focus will be to build on our strong business market and to highlight the excellent retail and sporting attractions the county has.

For further information contact Peter Byrne at T: 4622107 or email: business@sdchamber.ie

## Vacant units Tallaght Business Centre, Whitestown Ind. Est.

The following units are available for lease:

Unit 7 - 1007 sq ft.

Unit 9 - 806 sq. ft.

Unit 17 - 806 sq. ft.

For further information contact Sharon at T: 4585230 or email: Sharon@sdchamber.ie

Finnstown Country House Hotel  
Newcastle Road  
Lucan  
Co. Dublin  
Tel: 01 601 0700  
Fax: 01 628 1088  
E-mail; manager@finnstown-hotel.ie  
www.finnstown-hotel.ie



### NEW 24 "Guest Suites" at Finnstown Country House Hotel

Finnstown Country House Hotel will be able to cater for your long-term hotel accommodation requirements by mid April.

Because Finnstown is different in many ways to regular Hotels, business guests continually come to stay for weeks or even months making Finnstown their home-from-home.

With these guests in mind the "Guest Suites" have been created, each will full hotel facilities but in addition each with its own separate living-room and service kitchen. They will be on offer for longer staying guests (a week or more) at normal Hotel room rates.

The official opening will take place beginning of May. Should you wish to experience the homely comfort first hand and attend the opening ceremony, then please send your contact details by e-mail to Daniela@finnstown-hotel.ie .

We look forward to meeting you soon.

### Guest Articles

We would like our members to submit articles that will touch on issues of interest to your fellow Chamber members and the business community in general. Areas of interest may include insurance, health care, recruitment, marketing how-to's, sales tips, tax tips and more. You should submit your article (approx. 150 words) with a short summary of your business and a note as to why your article is important to our members to elaine@sdchamber.ie. Please note all submissions are subject to editing.

### New Members

Company	Phone	Contact	Type of Business
Associated Hardware plc	4611800	Catherine Shiels	Hardware/Builders Providers Buying Group
Cummins Metal Recycling Ltd	4500905	John Henry	Recycling of all metals end of life vehicles, general electronics etc's
Griffin Digital Print	4504375	Declan Griffin	Printing Copy Shop
Ingenico Ireland Ltd	4192222	Oliver Ryan	Payment of secure payment systems to banks & retailers
Global Tax Reclaim	4587460	Alan Byrne	Recovery of VAT on Foreign Expenses
Elephant Storage Centre	4148288	Rory O'Meara	Storage

### New Corporate Members

Company	Phone	Contact	Type of Business
FBD Insurance plc	1850 216 316	dublinsales@fbd.ie	Insurance Services
Harcourt Developments Ltd	4753928	Conal V Harvey	Property investment, construction and management company
O2 Ireland	1800 200016	David Ralph	Telecommunications Provider
RW Pierce (Ireland) Ltd	4582929	Jim Pierce	Business printing, security printing, smaller volume marketing print

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South Dublin Chamber of Commerce Year Book and Directory



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For more information call **4599177**  
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### SKILLNETS

Skillnets provides a support framework and funding for companies and industries to help them develop their staff and business through the creation of training networks. Since 1999 Skillnets has helped over 30,000 staff in 5,000 Irish companies to meet their skills and training needs. This was achieved through 90 training networks across a broad range of industry and service sectors nationwide.

This enterprise-led approach allows companies and their staff to determine their training needs and priorities and to develop the solutions which are most appropriate to their size, sector and situation. Participating companies have experienced a number of benefits including reduced training costs, improved customer satisfaction, increased sales, boosted staff morale and decreased absenteeism.

For further information contact Mary at T: 4585235 or email: mary@sdchamber.ie

# EVENTS

## APRIL

### Business Breakfast Briefing Employment Legislation and Advice for your Business – Chamber HR

Date: Tuesday 12th April  
Time: 7.45am – 9.30am  
Venue: Lynch Green Isle Hotel  
Fee: Free to Members  
Speaker: Fiona McKay, Peninsula Business Services

### Member meets Member hosted by Westpark Fitness Centre

Date: Tuesday 26th April  
Time: 6.15pm – 8.15pm  
Venue: Westpark Fitness Centre, Greenhills Road  
Fee: Free to Members

## MAY

### Waste Management Seminar - 'Be Waste Wise - Obligations, Solutions and Cost Reduction Tips for Managing your Waste'

Date: Wednesday 4th May  
Time: 9.00am - 1.00pm  
Venue: The Plaza Hotel  
Speakers: Joanne Treacy, Race Against Waste  
Campaign; Máire Ni Dhomhnaill,  
Environmental Awareness Officer, South  
Dublin County Council and other key  
speakers  
Fee: €25 per person (including light lunch)

### Business Breakfast Briefing - 'Doing Business with China - selling and outsourcing to the world's fastest growing economy' in association with Newmarket Partnership

Date: Wednesday 18th May  
Time: 7.45am - 9.30am  
Venue: Red Cow Moran Hotel

## JUNE

### South Dublin Chamber of Commerce President's Lunch - Celebrating the 21st Anniversary of the Chamber sponsored by Vhi Health Care

Date: Monday 13th June  
Time: 12.30pm - 2.30pm  
Venue: Citywest Hotel & Conference Centre  
Speaker: An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern TD



## SEPTEMBER

### Annual Golf Classic sponsored by Ann Kilgallon Recruitment

Date: Thursday 15th September  
Venue: Citywest Hotel, Conference, Leisure and Golf  
Resort



To secure your best tee time contact Sinead at T: 4585243  
or email: [sinead@sdchamber.ie](mailto:sinead@sdchamber.ie)

To discuss your sponsorship options or to book a place at any of the above events contact  
Sinead Ni Mhaille at T: 4585243 or email: [sinead@sdchamber.ie](mailto:sinead@sdchamber.ie)

## Vodafone 'Passion for the World Around Us Awards'

South Dublin Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with Vodafone are delighted to announce details of the  
Vodafone 'Passion for the World Around Us Awards' for the Dublin Region.

This quarterly regional awards programme will honour individuals who have made a positive difference to their  
community in any one of a number of ways, for example;

Those who have made an effort to improve their local environment.

Those who have introduced or supported an educational or safety initiative in their local area.

Those who have set up groups or volunteer in their time to help in organisations that benefit members of the community.

Each regional winner will be presented with a specially commissioned silver sculpture, designed by renowned Irish artist, Seamus Gill.

For nomination forms or for further information please contact Mary at ph: 4585235 or email: [mary@sdchamber.ie](mailto:mary@sdchamber.ie)



If you are interested in advertising in the next edition of ChamberLink please contact Elaine  
at ph: 4585234 or email: [elaine@sdchamber.ie](mailto:elaine@sdchamber.ie)