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ISSUE 02 2022

Cork's future  
is bright



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# ChamberLink

## Welcome

After a quarter of great progress for Cork we are delighted to bring you this second edition of Chamberlink, featuring an interview with Cork Chamber President Ronan Murray, who was recently elected at our 203rd AGM this May.

While we continue to face multiple crises, there are many positive developments to highlight and use as motivation to continue on our path towards creating a sustainable, inclusive and resilient business community.

The on-going war on Ukraine, the consequential impacts of disrupted supply chains and influx of refugees paired with the climate crisis have once again emphasised the vulnerability of our region to global events. It has also proven Cork's resilience and ability to collaborate in finding solutions to these complex and sensitive challenges, such as welcoming and integrating refugees into our community and working towards generating a clean, cost-effective and indigenous energy supply.

We have seen significant progress in Cork's transport system. Sustainable commuting and connectivity are now becoming a reality for our region, as both Irish Rail and the National Transport Authority have been progressing the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy. We will continue to keep our members informed on progress and work towards ensuring timelines around delivery of key milestones are met.

We cannot rest on our laurels. Concerns over talent attraction and skills availability along with Cork's positive designation to be climate-neutral by 2030 should be used as impetus to future-proof our region and make it the destination of choice for a diverse talent pool.



Central to this is the delivery of a diverse housing and apartment supply, which caters to families but also to compact growth in our city region. The significant investment and jobs announcements we have witnessed over the past months prove the attractiveness of our economy and region for FDI and indigenous enterprise. To continue to attract and facilitate this growth we must create an environment that enables housing development in the short to medium term.

It is clear that connectivity, place-making and quality of life are central to overcoming the challenges our members face. These key elements show how far we have come as a society, with business and the wider community now interlinked more than ever. We would like to take this moment to convey our gratitude to our members for meeting these challenges by continually innovating, adapting, and recognising that business cannot continue as usual.

Over this second half of 2022, Cork Chamber will continue to advocate on your behalf, working towards enhancing the reputation of Cork, nationally and beyond our borders.

*Conor*

**Conor Healy**  
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**Cover Image:** Ronan Murray, President Cork Chamber

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# Chamber welcomes Rory to the team

Rory Kelleher has been appointed Director of Public Affairs, Sustainability and Communications at Cork Chamber. Rory has an extensive background in media, public affairs, policy, sustainability and communications. He worked for a range of national newspapers including The Irish Times and the Irish Examiner for over a decade and is a former advisor to the Climate Change Advisory Council.

He will be representing members' interests through active engagement with government and a range of other stakeholders. Working closely with the Chamber team Rory will take a strategic approach to enhancing our advocacy and lobbying function, while embedding sustainability across our activities.



**Rory Kelleher**

*Director of Public Affairs,  
Sustainability and Communications*

# Most innovative project award goes to Cork's place in Europe

Cork Chamber won an award in the 'Most innovative' category for our project 'Communicating Europe - Cork's Place in Europe' at the Chambers Ireland awards. Cork Chamber was nominated in four categories at the recent Chambers Ireland Awards 2022. The awards, hosted by Chambers Ireland and sponsored by Zurich, recognise the outstanding work of chambers of commerce throughout the country in supporting local, regional and national business.

- **Best Marketing Campaign** - *The Cork Chamber Member Christmas Gift Guide*
- **Event of the Year** - *Cork Chamber CONNECTS Series*
- **Most Innovative Project** - *Cork's Place in Europe - Communicating Europe Initiative*
- **Engagement with the Sustainable Development Goals** - *Sustainable Cork Programme*

Now as the second largest English speaking city in Europe, Cork has an opportunity to raise its profile and to actively engage with the EU on tackling the challenges of our time and enhancing the single market. The Communicating Europe project was powered by contributions from our passionate business community. Thank you to those member businesses who contributed to our research and shared their views.



Conor Healy, CEO Cork Chamber accepts the award for Most Innovative Project from Joe Creegan, Head of Corporate Life & Pensions, Zurich.

# AGM 2022 - Representing You



**Ronan Murray**

*EY*

Ronan Murray, Partner M&A (Strategy & Transactions) at EY Ireland was elected President of Cork Chamber at the 203<sup>rd</sup> AGM. Addressing assembled members Ronan spoke about opportunities to enhance the reputation of the city region as a place for business. He went on to describe how Cork has a real opportunity to build its reputation as a sustainable and accessible city region, further attracting inward investment.

In concluding the meeting he expressed thanks to President, Paula Cogan and board members - John McAllen, Bank of Ireland; Seamus Downey, EY and DC Cahalane, BuiltInCork. The President welcomed incoming board members Fiona Kearney, The Glucksman; David Swinburne, Fitzgerald Legal & Advisory LLP; Catherine Sheridan, EI2 and Richard Morrissey, Moneycorp.



**Fiona Kearney**

*The Glucksman*

Fiona is the founding Director of the Glucksman, UCC. A graduate of UCC and TCD, she has published widely on contemporary art and Picturegraphy, and throughout her career has received several distinguished awards including the NUI Prix d'Honneur from the French Government, a UCC President's Award for Research on Innovative Forms of Teaching and the Jerome Hynes Fellowship on the Clore Leadership Programme. She is an assessor on the Museum Standards Programme of Ireland, and a board member of the Irish Architecture Foundation and Cork Midsummer Festival.



**David Swinburne**

*Fitzgerald Legal & Advisory LLP*

David is a Chartered Accountant, Deal Maker, Restructuring and Insolvency Partner at Fitzgerald Legal & Advisory LLP with over 20 years of professional services experience in business advisory, turnaround and restructuring, corporate finance, transaction services and forensic accounting. He holds a B. Comm from NUI Galway and masters degree in accounting from UCD. He is also a member of the Review Committee of the Legal Services Regulatory Authority ("LSRA").



**Catherine Sheridan**

*EI2*

An energy professional with 20 years utility experience, Catherine's key focus as Chief Operating Officer with EI2 is to help Ireland, and Europe achieve Net Zero 2050 through green hydrogen and energy system integration. A Chartered Engineer and Fellow of Engineers Ireland; project manager and communications expert, her experience includes site and contract management as well as commercial roles with national utilities.



**Richard Morrissey**

*Moneycorp*

Richard is Head of Corporate Sales at Moneycorp Technologies Limited, a world leading payments fintech. Richard has worked for over 25 years with various banks, domestic and international in the treasury arena and has held senior business development roles in the US, UK and Ireland. He sits on the Dublin Chapter Board and Global Forum of BITA. He was also part of the team that set up the CUH Charity Ball. Originally from North Cork he is a lifelong Cork GAA supporter and holds a BBS degree from DCU.

# Cork's future is bright

**Ronan Murray, President Cork Chamber**

## **To begin, tell us about your career to date.**

Originally, I'm from Tralee in County Kerry and after secondary school I went to University College Cork where I obtained an Honours Bachelor of Commerce Degree. I then completed a graduate recruitment programme and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 2004. I have worked in professional services for over 21 years. In the earlier part of my career, I spent some time in New York, London and Dublin before settling down in Cork. My career has evolved from external audit to corporate finance and very recently I re-joined EY Ireland as an M&A Partner in our Strategy and Transactions team.

## **What has been your greatest business achievement and challenge?**

During a varied corporate finance career, I have been very lucky to work with some fantastic business owners, entrepreneurs, and finance professionals. Helping mid-market private companies achieve their objectives is a rewarding experience for me as a trusted advisor. Over the past couple of years, from a public health perspective, protecting the vulnerable was an imperative. However, the restrictions were challenging from a personal perspective. The pivot to working from home meant no in-person interactions with both colleagues and business stakeholders which was at times limiting. On the positive side however, new efficiencies were created on the shift to virtual which are now embedded within a standard business transaction process.

## **What's the best piece of advice you have received?**

Follow your own path. There may be different turns along the journey but you need to own your own career and development. Know that you will learn more from challenges than from positive experiences. Look for the learning in every situation. It's so important to treat people with respect. Everyone has a story and an opinion to contribute. As a leader, this distils down into being inclusive and always promoting inclusive behaviours in the teams that you work with.

## **How would you define your work style and how has it evolved over the years?**

I like to get to know and understand colleagues and clients as much as I can. The more you know about them as people, the more likely the relationship will be successful. I'm enthusiastic and operate at a reasonably fast pace. Over the years I think my style has evolved whereby I can now slow it down and spend more time listening before forming a decision. My late mother described me as "happy go lucky" and I'm still not sure if it was a compliment or a minor criticism!

## **Based on your experience, what are your top career tips?**

Take time to listen and reflect on other people's positions in discussions. In doing so, you become more aware of subjectivity in your own approach. Take time to enhance your own self awareness. Be open to new concepts and ideas and embrace new technologies. It's important too to find time to disconnect and spend time with family and friends.

## **If you had to choose another career tomorrow, what would it be and why?**

That's an interesting question. I wasn't good enough to play professional soccer or Gaelic football but a role that could combine finance and sport might have been an option. I'm very happy with my career to date and it's an exciting time for me to join EY Ireland.

## **What are you most proud of?**

I'm proud of where I grew up in Tralee, especially of my parents, family and friends there that shaped me in my formative years. I'm equally proud of my wife Aideen and our two girls Annabelle and Nina. Aideen's parents and her family have equally been hugely supportive. I take pride too in the fact that I have lived and worked in Cork for over 25 years and am lucky to have a varied and successful career in corporate finance.





## > Prioritising access to Cork city centre will maximise benefits for retail, leisure, hospitality and employment.

### **What does becoming President of Cork Chamber mean to you?**

I am personally very honoured to take on the role as President of the Chamber and Chairperson of the Board. I'm excited by the opportunity to play my part building on the great work to date. As a long held objective of the Chamber, I look forward to further advancing the business interests of our membership base with a mandate to promote Cork as a globally recognised place for business, innovation and quality of life.

### **What are your priorities for your term of office?**

Cork continues to be a source of significant investment as both indigenous and FDI companies seek to grow and expand. I'm committed to supporting all activities that will continue to harness the right ingredients to encourage companies to strategically invest and grow in this region. Cork has an opportunity to become the investment city of choice on this island.

I'm a city dweller and will support all initiatives that are likely to bring more people back into the city centre. While we are working from a positive position, the associated economic growth and demand in housing and sustainable travel should continue to be carefully managed to safeguard and enhance Cork's attractiveness to live, work, visit and indeed invest in. The roll-out of key transport projects Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (CMATS) will also help in achieving the 15-minute city concept and prioritising access to Cork city centre will maximise benefits for retail, leisure, hospitality and employment.

The transition to a low carbon economy presents significant challenges ahead in delivering on carbon budgets. Considerable co-operation and co-ordination will be required to ensure we can deliver as a collective in this space as certain sectors will be more challenged and will require additional support as part of the transition process.

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# Exploring talent attraction strategies for places

## Making Cork a magnet for talent

Talent availability and attraction have been highlighted across our membership as one of the top challenges to business growth across all sectors. To tackle this issue, we brought together business leaders and regional stakeholders for a seminar and discussion with industry expert Morten King-Grubert, of Future Place Leadership. The topics of talent attraction, investment attraction and placemaking, and the intersection between these themes were explored. Here are some of the key takeaways.

### A Shift in Employees' Mindsets

Placemaking and quality of life, rather than the company itself, are now at the forefront of employees' priorities when choosing where to work. This important element, which was heightened by the pandemic, brings into focus the need for storytelling around place, but it also requires a deeper dive into what Cork can offer to future employees.

Fortunately, second cities like Cork are becoming more appealing to talented workers, with only 9% of employees preferring to work in larger cities with over 900,000 inhabitants. However, worker mobility and remote working means that Cork is now competing for the same talent with cities of similar size globally. This challenge further highlights the need to identify Cork's unique selling point for attracting and retaining a pipeline of talent.

### Collaboration before Competition

After an engaging workshop, a number of key actions that could help progress this agenda were brought to light. With placemaking being a priority among



Conor Healy, CEO, Cork Chamber with Morten King-Grubert, of Future Place Leadership

workers there are opportunities for Cork to improve the quality of life for its citizens and ensure a 'soft landing' and community integration for new arrivals. For example, increasing the efficiency and understanding of day-to-day bureaucratic services, such as obtaining a driver's license.

Strategic actions were further identified, which if not taken, could potentially impede Ireland's reputation abroad. Specifically, the timely delivery of planned infrastructure projects such as the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy (CMATS) and tackling the housing crisis.

In order to realise these goals and advance the human capital agenda it is

essential that competitors, businesses, and stakeholders take a joined-up approach to promote Cork as a destination of choice for workers. In doing so, we can all mutually benefit from a larger and more diverse talent pool.

It is clear that talent attraction and retention will continue to be a key priority for Cork and our membership. Cork Chamber will continue to work on your behalf to progress this agenda and to ensure that Cork is the best place to live and work.



We are Cork.

# Ireland Gateway to Europe

**Ireland Gateway to Europe (IGTE) is a not-for-profit annual trade mission made up of professional advisory firms who promote bilateral trade between Ireland and the US.**

After a two-year break, a delegation of over 70 Irish business leaders and former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern headed to Chicago and Boston, with an optimistic message about Ireland's robust trade partnership with the US. Cork Chamber, represented by CEO Conor Healy, joined the IGTE trade mission in April for the first time as part of our new two-year membership. The group were accompanied by The Business Post and the team from The Hard Shoulder on Newstalk, who broadcast from the US events throughout the week.

The Irish delegation had a packed schedule during their visit to the two cities. Many of the events were organised in partnership with the Boston College Ireland Business Council (BCIBC), an initiative founded by the Global Leadership Institute (GLI) at Boston College and IGTE, were designed to enhance transatlantic trade between Boston and Ireland.

These events included the Transatlantic Tech Breakfast Drift, with over 100 guests attending at the offices of Drift in Boston. This event was a forum for US and Irish tech leaders to share insights around the opportunities and challenges on both sides of the Atlantic. At the Global Leadership Special Session in the Kellogg School of Management, Dean Francesca Cornelli interviewed former Taoiseach Bertie Ahern on his role in the Irish peace process and other peace processes around the globe since then. The Global



Jim Rooney, CEO Boston Chamber of Commerce and Conor Healy, CEO Cork Chamber.

Leadership Lunch, hosted by BCIBC and the Boston College Chief Executives Club, focused on themes including the role tech is playing in the current status of work and how it will help with talent retention.

A Cork representation in Irish delegations to the US is vital to the success of Cork Chamber's international relations strategy and that of the Connecting Cork and the We Are Cork brands. Reinvigorating relations between Cork and the United States will enhance the economic development of the region by encouraging continued inward investment of multinational firms, the attraction of talent and the building of networks to ease the expansion of Cork firms expanding into the US.



Conor Healy, CEO Cork Chamber with Jack Lavin President & CEO, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

# New Jersey business mission to Cork

**Cork Chamber was delighted to welcome Governor Philip Murphy and a New Jersey delegation of academics and business leaders to Cork as part of their four-day trade mission to Ireland.**



Tim Sullivan, President and CEO Economic Development Authority; Helena Nolan, Consul General (New York); Wes Mathews, President and CEO - Choose New Jersey; Conor Healy, CEO Cork Chamber; Paula Cogan, President Cork Chamber; Governor Phil Murphy; Cllr. Colm Kelleher, Lord Mayor; Ann Doherty, CEO Cork City Council and Valerie O'Sullivan, Divisional Manager Cork County Council.

This was the first official US visit to Cork since 2019 when another delegation from New Jersey was the last to travel to Cork before the pandemic ensured a quiet few years in terms of visitors. With Cork's New Jersey friends bookending this quiet period, hosting this event was an opportunity to show the world that Cork is open again and actively looking to develop our international partnerships and to promote Cork for business, investment, talent, tourism and collaboration.

At the event in the Clayton, Governor Philip Murphy spoke in depth about his Cork ancestry and his love for returning back to his ancestral home. Governor Murphy presented a clear vision for consolidating and expanding the close economic ties between Cork and New Jersey. He highlighted his vision for New Jersey being an open, fair and just society and wanted to work with regions and countries who spoke to the same values.



Wes Mathews, President and CEO Choose New Jersey and Tim Sullivan, President and CEO the New Jersey Economic Development Authority reiterated the Governor's call for closer economic ties and thanked Cork Chamber for making the event possible.

Cork Chamber President Paula Cogan, a keen historian, highlighted that this was the highest level of US political Office to visit Cork since President Kennedy and read an extract from his speech on that day in 1963. Cork Chamber CEO Conor Healy highlighted the many common areas of economic interests between Cork



and New Jersey in the technology, life sciences, pharmaceutical, academic and renewable energy sectors and welcomed the calls for closer collaboration.

Bringing together academic, business and political leaders from the two regions at the lunch opened an important dialogue between the New Jersey delegation and members of Cork's business and wider stakeholder community. The event re-established relationships that will continue to grow over time and allowed both parties the opportunity to showcase their regions for investment.



# A rich history: let's get Cork city cycling again

## Cork Cycling Campaign reveal the story of cycling in Cork

Cork has a rich history and culture of cycling. From the role of the bicycle in the formation of the state to the recent upsurge in cycling following the Covid-19 pandemic, Cork has always been a cycling city.

The 1930s saw the first international bike boom as bicycles became more reliable and affordable for all. Throughout the 1950s and 1960s the bicycle was the main mode of transport for many, across all ages, social status and outings.

With the increase in prosperity leading up to the mid 1990's and beyond and a population shift to the suburbs and satellite towns, the bicycle began to decline in use as car ownership and dependency grew substantially. Streets became busier, and speeds increased, leaving the bicycle for the brave and confident few who were willing to cycle amongst the heavy traffic.

Today cycling is on the rise again in Cork. From packed city centre bike parking stands to the regular flow of bikes on our main routes, the increased popularity of cycling and its many benefits are there for all to see.

Cycling is a healthy and sustainable way to get around the city and the Telraam citizen science traffic counting project shows a clear trend upwards. The urgency of climate action, and rising costs of motoring are now a significant factor in people's transport decisions. Local grassroots initiatives such as school cycle buses, bike-week campaigns, and critical mass cycles have brought more attention and awareness to cycling as an alternative to the car.

The socio-economic benefits of a shift towards cycling are well known, including reduced healthcare costs, reduced congestion, less pollution, increased productivity, and increased

retail spend. Internationally, good cycling connectivity is now seen as key to attracting and retaining the talent needed for businesses to thrive.

Key policies such as the Cork Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy 2040 and Cork Air Quality Strategy are recognising and supporting active travel as a sustainable transport mode. With Cork's recent selection as a Mission City for the Horizon EU project to achieve climate neutrality by 2030, all climate mitigation elements must be acted upon.

With policy supporting active travel, we can now see infrastructure progressing. Significant cycling investment is planned for the city in the coming years; however, rollout remains slow and many existing cycle lanes are fragmented and end abruptly. In a 2021 campaign survey, less than 1% of people



indicated that they had proper cycling infrastructure for 75% of their journeys.

Policy must now be acted upon to deliver a connected cycle network, designed and built to the highest international standards so that cycling can be a safe, comfortable and attractive option for all ages and abilities.

Infrastructure and policy alone are not enough, however. Behavioural change is also required to increase cycling through promotion, education, and awareness campaigns.

### **How the business community can get involved**

The Cork Cycling Campaign are researching a project in collaboration with the University of Eindhoven, to document the history of cycling in Cork over the past century. This is an

exciting opportunity to be involved in an internationally orientated environment of cycling and mobility research, and the first for an Irish city.

They have also linked up with Decisio, of the Dutch Cycling Embassy, to develop a Cork City Bikenomics proposal. Bikenomics is a Social Cost-Benefit Analysis used to quantify in monetary terms the benefits generated by a connected cycle network and increased cycling mode share.

Projects such as these have been used in many cities to help bring about the change in mindsets necessary to encourage more people to choose active travel.

The Cork Cycling Campaign are a volunteer organisation whose aim is to make Cork a more cycle-friendly city. The projects outlined above require financial support and

business expertise to bring from proposal stage through to fruition.

If you share this vision for how cycling can transform Cork into a cleaner, more sustainable and liveable city, please get in touch with the Cork Cycling Campaign for further details on how your company can help.

With its compact city centre and a beautiful riverside setting, Cork has the potential to become a truly great cycling city, by any international standards.

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### **Contact Details:**

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[@CorkCyclingCrew](https://twitter.com/CorkCyclingCrew)

# Food and Beverage Conference 2022

UCC in association with Goodbody hosted the inaugural two-day Food and Beverage Conference 2022 in May at the UCC Centre for Executive Education on Lapps Quay. A delegation of industry leaders of companies with a combined turnover over of more than €140 billion, including Heineken, Musgraves, Tesco, Kerry Group, Boormalt, Foresight, Yield Lab, AIB, KPMG, Tesco, Tate and Lyle, SHS Inc, Origin Enterprises, Zespri, Goodbody, Keelings, C&C Group and IDL Pernod Ricard addressed the near 100-person audience on investing in sustainable production, distribution and retailing of food and beverages. The conference featured discussions regarding the sustainability initiatives of the organisations represented and investment trends in the sector. While progress is being made, food and beverage industry leaders acknowledge that more must be done to make the sector more sustainable.

## Key Challenges

One of the key challenges of the sector is that despite the significant consumer demand for sustainably produced food and beverages, surveys show that not enough consumers are prepared to pay more for sustainable products. Other concerns raised were related to waste and recycling infrastructure for the enablement of a more circular economy in Ireland.

## Employee engagement and collaboration

There was a common view among the food and beverage organisations that «a corporation that practices sustainability is a sustainable corporation», but there was also a genuine sense of openness and honesty regarding progress and challenges in implementing sustainability. Employee



Pictured are Conference Sponsors: Dr Vincent Power, Partner, A&L Goodbody; Tom McEvoy, KPMG; Thia Hennesy, Dean, Cork University Business School, UCC & Honorary Secretary Cork Chamber; Joe Gill, Director, Goodbody and Cathal O'Connor, AIB.

engagement was emphasised as one of the essential aspects of success as employees are the true implementers in any organisation and to implement they need to be informed, empowered, and assured of the company's commitment to sustainability because sustainability concepts pervade culture and organisational values.

Given that climate action is a critical requirement for sustainability, and to meet Ireland's targets of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 51% by 2030, with Industry and Enterprise targets of 29-41% by 2030 and reaching net-zero emissions by 2050, a focus on working collaboratively with all stakeholders in the food and beverage supply chain is critical.

## Green finance

The conference heard that capital markets have an appetite for Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) projects, but variations in definitions and measurements between rating agencies for ESG needed to be made more coherent to simplify and more effectively advance the marriage between ESG projects and finance. In particular, investors need to have access to lower cost

capital for projects that are seen to improve their sustainability standards.

## Where to Next?

The food and beverage industry faces a lot of change, challenges, and opportunities. The conference concluded with remarks from panellists, who shared that extensive consumer education about the true cost of sustainably produced food is required.

While there is progress in the industry on the implementation of sustainability, there is a need to move from "business and sustainability" to "sustainable business".

The panellists also said that there was a need to streamline the definition of ESG and its measurement, and place focus on more impactful measures. It was strongly acknowledged that the business community must take responsibility as climate action will not be solved by political means alone. Supply chain actors must work collaboratively to facilitate change, and shift from talking about what it will cost to implement change and instead focus on the benefit of sustainability implementation.

# Sustainable Futures Project

**The €3.9m Sustainable Futures Project is led by UCC in partnership with Maynooth University and Atlantic Technological University.**

A landmark new nationally-coordinated initiative spearheaded by UCC is bringing together higher education and multiple industry and enterprise partners to drive climate action and environmental sustainability through new educational programmes. A growing number of enterprises require a skilled workforce who are knowledgeable in sustainability and decarbonisation, and who can place climate concerns at the heart of strategy, operations, and decision-making while at the same time maximising employment provision and profitability. A range of new postgraduate programmes, including a flagship Masters in Sustainability in Enterprise, have been developed, aimed at university graduates from all disciplines, industry staff, and current and aspiring leaders looking to develop their capacity to drive the industry and business response to sustainability challenges. New executive education and continuing professional development courses will also be developed.



Professor Brian Donnellan, Vice President Research and Innovation, Maynooth University, Dr. Marguerite Nyhan, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Engineering & Future Sustainability UCC, Professor John O'Halloran President University College Cork and Dr Orla Flynn, President, Atlantic Technological University  
Picture: Gerard McCarthy

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# Touchdown on Leaside

Ruth Fuller reflects on International Mixed Ability Rugby Tournament



IMART 2022 brought a spectacular event to Cork this June. With over 1,100 players from 15 countries, well over 600 volunteers, an estimated 3000 international visitors to the city and county, it was a resounding success!

The week saw a Mixed Ability Rugby World Cup, the First Women's Mixed Ability Rugby World Cup, an International Mixed Ability Rowing Regatta, mixed ability boxing, kinball, curling and soccer showcased throughout the week. In conjunction with the sport, there was an international conference hosted in UCC, which saw, amongst others, the EU, UNESCO and Mixed Ability Sport Ireland coming together to discuss how the Mixed Ability model can grow from here.

The lasting legacy of the event, is the establishment of Mixed Ability Sport Ireland, which will look to grow the movement here. This is the start

of the Mixed Ability movement in Ireland, which offers unprecedented opportunities to change lives, sports, social and commercial worlds. Mixed Ability Sport Ireland is the start of that movement, and we're delighted to see it launched in such spectacular fashion.

IMART wouldn't have been possible without the huge support from public and private enterprises. Thanks to our many sponsors and supporters in particular the EU, Smurfit Kappa, Permanent TSB, Heineken, Laya, O'Flynn Exhams, KPMG, Dairygold, Morgan McKinley, Quintas, Musgrave, Savills, Cork City Council, Cork Chamber, Munster Vehicle Sales, Munster Rugby and the IRFU.

We'd also like to thank An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, Minister Simon Coveney and Minister Michael McGrath, who supported our ambitions from the beginning.

First Row Left to Right: IMART organisers at the Opening Ceremony at Musgrave Park, pictured left to right, Annette Cullen, Alan Craughwell, An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin T.D., Cllr Tony Fitzgerald, Deputy Lord Mayor, Liam Maher and Ruth Fuller.

Volunteers from Cork Chamber Carmel Holland, Finance Manager and Naoimh Frawley, Director of People, Operations & Governance with Chamber colleague Ruby Hardie-Brown player with Ballincollig Trailblazers.

Minister Simon Coveney and Minister Michael McGrath in the thick of it, with the Sundays Well Rebels, who went on to win the World Cup! Away the Well!!!

Chamber team members with other volunteers

Ballincollig Trailblazers team huddle.

Marie Healy, captain of the Ballincollig Trailblazers, Ireland's first Women's Mixed Ability Rugby Team, with Ciara Aherne, founder, Ballincollig Trailblazers pictured with Matt Cooper before going on stage to officially launch the games.



# New Partners

In recent months we welcomed the following members to the Partner Programme



**Matheson**

Matheson's primary focus is on serving the Irish legal needs of internationally focused companies and financial institutions doing business in and from Ireland. Our clients include the majority of the Fortune 100 companies, 7 of the top 10 global technology brands, 7 of the world's 10 largest asset managers and over half of the world's 50 largest banks. Matheson is headquartered in Dublin and has offices in Cork, London, New York, San Francisco and Palo Alto.



**Ørsted**

Ørsted develops, constructs, and operates offshore and onshore wind farms, solar farms, energy storage facilities, and bioenergy plants, and provides energy products to its customers. Ørsted ranks as the world's most sustainable energy company in Corporate Knights' 2021 index of the Global 100 most sustainable corporations in the world and is recognised on the CDP Climate Change A List as a global leader on climate action. With headquarters in Denmark, Ørsted employs more than 7,000 people around the world. In Ireland, Ørsted employs over 100 staff and owns and operates a portfolio of onshore wind farms. Our ambition is to significantly grow our asset base across wind, solar and storage in the coming decade.



**Qualcomm**

Qualcomm is an American multinational corporation headquartered in San Diego, California. It creates semiconductors, software, and services related to wireless technology. Qualcomm is the world's leading wireless technology innovator. Qualcomm is enabling a world where everyone and everything can be intelligently connected. You interact with products and technologies made possible by Qualcomm every day, including 5G-enabled smartphones that double as pro-level cameras and gaming devices, smarter vehicles and cities, and the technology behind the smart, connected factories that manufactured your latest purchase.



**Statkraft**

Statkraft, Europe's largest producer of renewable energy, entered the Irish market in 2018 and since then has more than doubled its workforce and tripled its development portfolio. From its headquarters in Cork, it develops, owns, and operates renewable energy projects across a diverse range of technologies including onshore wind, offshore wind, solar, battery storage and grid services. It is currently building 330MW of wind and solar projects, and was successful with another 360MW in the Government's most recent renewable energy auction.



**TRIGON  
HOTELS**

CREATING EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCES.

Trigon Hotels are a leading hospitality brand in Cork offering exceptional service and a genuine, authentic warmth that is unique to the character of each individual location. Trigon Hotels cater for both the leisure and corporate markets with a diversified portfolio of hotels including The Metropole Hotel, Cork International Hotel and Cork Airport Hotel. Trigon Hotels are committed to the passionate pursuit of perfection, aiming to lead the way in inclusion, diversity, wellbeing, community relations and sustainability while creating exceptional experiences for both guests and team members.

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## Partner Programme

Cork Chamber has a strong and influential Partner Programme, made up of a range of companies spanning across industries from pharmaceuticals to professional services, manufacturing to agri-food, and from energy to technology. For more information and to view all Cork Chamber Partners visit [www.corkchamber.ie](http://www.corkchamber.ie)



The world has  
prioritised ESG issues.

**So have we.**

**Environmental, social and governance (ESG)** questions are at the top of agendas for businesses in Cork, in Munster and worldwide. Matheson's ESG Advisory Group has the tools and expertise to help you navigate the implications for your business. We are the leading advisor on renewable energy procurement and other environmentally focussed programmes (eg, **Corporate Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)**) for businesses in Ireland; we lead the way advising our clients on ESG-related reporting and disclosure requirements; and drafted the first modern slavery provisions to be included in Irish contracts to manage this key ESG supply-chain risk for our client.

To learn more visit [www.matheson.com/esg](http://www.matheson.com/esg) or get in touch with your usual Matheson contact.

# Annual Dinner 2022



## Call for businesses to support net-zero target

After a one-year hiatus, Cork Chamber, the voice of business in Cork, held its Annual Dinner 2022. This time at Páirc Uí Chaoimh, the event was attended by 950 business leaders, political decision makers and stakeholders with guest of honour, An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin TD. Sponsored by Kearys Motor Group, the event allowed all to re-engage and make new connections, while also celebrating the successes of the business community.

Speaking at the event, Paula Cogan, President Cork Chamber spoke passionately on the coming together of communities, the mobilising of business supports and resilience in the face of the pandemic and how we must now harness that same determination and resolve to tackle the next global crises – “a war on European soil, the ticking bomb that is climate crisis and, closer to home, a redefinition of what we want the

Irish state to stand for, not just for our current citizens but for those who look to us as a place of refuge and an opportunity for a better future just as millions of Irishmen and women who left our shores did for centuries.”

Paula continued, “In 2020 I called upon Cork to seek recognition as European Green Capital. We applaud Cork City Council for taking the lead and Cork has now been selected as one of the 100 net zero cities that have committed to carbon neutrality by 2030. This target cannot be delivered without the support of every single person and organisation in this room tonight. The ball has now been thrown in and now it is up to us all to run with it.”

Achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 will be a huge undertaking and will require the collective approach that has been so essential in moving through the pandemic successfully.

Admitting that that strong policy frameworks are in place to allow our city region to achieve this target, Ms Cogan said that focus on delivery and removing roadblocks is essential. “All emphasis must be on delivery of existing and new policies such as Ireland 2040, the NDP, CMATS, new City and County Development Plans, Repower EU, and the Green Deal. Every organisation of the state must ensure that all projects that impact positively on this initiative is fast tracked and resourced.”

Paula Cogan, President Cork Chamber pictured with representatives of Kearys Motor Group. Picture: Darragh Kane

in association with





## Remarks by An Taoiseach

For the first time in 2 years we are able to gather together to honour and celebrate the creators, the innovators and the leaders who make our community so vibrant and successful.

Tonight, gives us an opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved, and also how our biggest challenges can be addressed in the months and years ahead.

And there is simply no doubt that this is a defining moment in the history of our country and the wider community of nations to which we belong.

The challenges are great – but our history shows that we can and will overcome them.

And if we ever needed an example of how much we can achieve together there is no clearer example than the past 2 years.

In our response to the pandemic 3 pillars – community spirit, determined national action and strong international links were central – and it is in them that we will overcome the challenges which we continue to face.

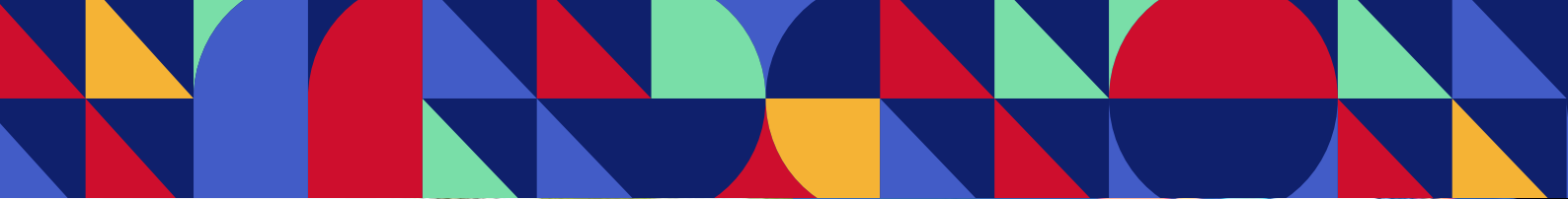
**Above:** Paula Cogan, President Cork Chamber welcomes attendees to the Annual Dinner 2022. An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin T.D. during his address in Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Pictures: Darragh Kane

“The challenges are great – but our history shows that we can and will overcome them”



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS









**Cork  
Chamber**  
Advancing business together

**CORK COMPANY OF THE  
YEAR AWARDS 2022**



**vodafone**  
business

# Carbery Tastes Victory

**The awards, in association with Vodafone Ireland and media partner the Irish Examiner, were presented at the Cork Chamber Annual Dinner in Páirc Uí Chaoimh.**

Carbery Group took the top prize as the overall winner of the Cork Chamber Cork Company of the Year Awards 2022 along with the four individual category winners.

The individual category winners were

- **Green Rebel;** Cork Emerging Company of the Year 2022
- **Simply Blue Group;** Cork SME Company of the Year 2022
- **Altada;** Cork Large Company of the Year 2022
- **Carbery Group;** Cork International Company of the Year 2022

Paula Cogan, President of Cork Chamber said: "The winners are all highly deserving of this recognition and have displayed their ability to persist, adapt, innovate, and respond to ever-changing environments. Each is a player in what we know is an outstanding business

culture in our city region and have set themselves apart through their people-focus, their strategy, and their sustainable delivery."

Jason Hawkins, CEO Carbery Group said:

"We are truly both honoured and humbled to win this prestigious award. This award is an acknowledgement of the commitment and success of Carbery's team, both in Cork and around the world. Carbery's origin was inspired by a vision to create a sustainable future for the farming communities of West Cork and has since led to the creation of an international food ingredients company now operating in communities all around the world. The growth of Carbery Group has been underpinned by the vision and support of our farmer shareholders, to whom this award also belongs."





Elaine Collins, Vodafone Ireland added, "We are excited to again be part of the Cork Company of the Year awards and delighted to be able to present them in person this year, at the 5G-enabled Páirc Uí Chaoimh. These awards showcase the very best of business talent and recognise the success of Cork-based companies."

"Businesses in Cork continue to go from strength to strength by embracing innovation and digital transformation. Vodafone supports this through sustained investment in infrastructure across our mobile and fixed networks. It is our ambition to enable Cork-based companies through high-speed connectivity and business solutions, like IoT technologies, so they can compete globally. On behalf of Vodafone, I extend the warmest of congratulations to Carbery, Altada, Simply Blue Group and Green Rebel for their outstanding achievements, I wish them continued success in the future."

Clockwise from top left: Jason Hawkins from Carbery Group, pictured receiving the Overall Company of The Year Award from Paula Cogan, President, Cork Chamber, and Elaine Collins, Vodafone Ireland, at the 2022 Cork Company of The Year Awards. Picture: Michael O'Sullivan

Anne O'Leary, Chief Executive of Vodafone Ireland making her way to the podium to address the attendees. Picture: Michael O'Sullivan

Conor Healy, CEO Cork Chamber with Annie Fitzgibbon, Director of Member Services and Naoimh Frawley, Director of People, Operations and Governance, Cork Chamber. Picture Darragh Kane

Allan Beechinor, CEO and Niamh Parker, Co-Founder of Altada who won the Large Company category at the Cork Company of The Year Awards. Picture Darragh Kane

Sam Roche Perks and Val Cummins, Director at Simply Blue Group who won Cork SME Company of the Year at the Cork Company of The Year Awards in Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Picture Darragh Kane

Cork Emerging Company of the Year 2022 was awarded to Green Rebel. Celebrating the award is CEO, Kieran Ivers. Picture Darragh Kane

Media Partner  
**Irish Examiner**

# Cork Digital Marketing Awards 2022 - Launching Soon

The Cork Digital Marketing Awards provide a platform for Cork businesses to showcase their recent digital successes and achievements. It is an opportunity to be recognised for the digital, social and online work carried out by businesses in our local digital community. Keep an eye on the Cork Chamber website for updates and follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @CorkChamber.



"Receiving the award of Overall Digital Marketing Legend was hugely significant for Crawford Art Gallery.

"These are significant awards for our team to receive in any year but particularly given the year that we had just experienced. Digital platforms have never been more important than in the last 2 years and we have been delighted to create content, inform, educate and bring joy and inspiration to our audiences, even when our doors had to be closed. "

- Mary McCarthy, Director, Crawford Art Gallery, Overall Digital Marketing Legend 2021.

## AWARD CATEGORIES 2022

- **Best use of Digital by a Start Up**
- **Best Website**
  - less than 20 employees
  - 20 or more employees
- **Best in Content Creation (Video, Blog, Podcast, TikTok, Digital Assets)**
  - less than 20 employees
  - 20 or more employees
- **Best Use of Instagram**
  - less than 20 employees
  - 20 or more employees
- **Best Use of Twitter**
  - less than 20 employees
  - 20 or more employees
- **Best Use of Facebook**
  - less than 20 employees
  - 20 or more employees
- **Best Use of LinkedIn for Business**
- **Best Use of Digital Marketing for the Greater Good**
- **Best Social Media Campaign**
- **Best Digital Marketing Team**
- **Best Digital Marketing Student**
- **Best Transformation - traditional to digital marketing**
- **Overall Digital Marketing Legend**

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**ENTRIES OPEN JULY**  
**KEEP AN EYE ON CORKCHAMBER.IE**  
**#DIGITALCORK22**

# Upcoming Events

For more information & bookings visit [CorkChamber.ie](https://CorkChamber.ie)



**TUESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> AUGUST | 7AM-2PM**  
**CORK GOLF CLUB**

Cork Chamber's popular Golf Classic returns this August to be held in the spectacular surrounds of Cork Golf Club.

This will be a 4-Person Team event and is always a fun, exciting day out - perfect for team-building, informal networking and corporate entertainment.

Scenically situated in Cork Harbour, the Club has hosted many major amateur and professional Championships over the years including the Irish Open. Your team will also have the opportunity to win some great prizes on the day!

The winning team will represent Cork Chamber at a national Chambers Ireland golf competition in the K Club, Kildare later this year.

This is a popular event so please register your team early to avoid disappointment and to secure your preferred tee time.

in association with



**WEDNESDAY 31<sup>st</sup> AUGUST | 10AM-11AM**  
**ONLINE**

Join this virtual workshop to learn how to maximise your membership through our many promotional channels, in particular, our digital Member's Area.

You will gain practical tips on how to access the wider Chamber membership base, maximise your visibility, share your member news, advice and supports, utilise the Member's Area to its optimum capacity and build your company profile through the Member Directory.

This session is open to anyone within your organisation, to both our newer and long term members who would like a refresher on how to best utilise the Chamber platforms to continue to promote your brand, stay connected and be informed.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**CORK CHAMBER**  
**DUBLIN DINNER 2022**

**CLAYTON HOTEL**  
**BURLINGTON ROAD DUBLIN**

**TUESDAY 22ND NOVEMBER**



# Recent Events

## Embracing Change & Transformation – Ensuring Relevancy in 2022 & Beyond

in partnership with Employment & Recruitment Federation



Donal O'Donoghue, ERF & Sanderson; Bryan Hyland, ERF & Morgan McKinley; Ronan Murray, President Cork Chamber; Mike O'Shea, Public Speaker; Sarah Abbott, Carbery Group; David Walsh, ERF & Osborne Recruitment and Mike Morrissey, CareerWise Recruitment.



Ronan Murray, President Cork Chamber opening the event.

We were delighted to partner with the Employment & Recruitment Federation to host their Cork Conference on the 9<sup>th</sup> June. The event was chaired by Bryan Hyland, Morgan McKinley & ERF Regional Chair with Ronan Murray, President Cork Chamber and Ed Heffernan, Managing Partner, Barden & ERF Treasurer providing an overview of Cork business. Keynote speakers included Mike O'Shea, Adventurer & Public Speaker and Sarah Abbott, Group Chief People Officer, Carbery Group.

## Networking at Noon at Starcircle

Our first in-person Networking at Noon in over two years took place in Starcircle on the 21<sup>st</sup> June. Our members were over the moon to be back together doing what they do best, Networking! And where better to host than Starcircle's beautifully restored, iconic Thompson building on MacCurtain Street.



James Galvin, Starcircle; Ciara Byrne, Starcircle and Conor Healy, CEO Cork Chamber.



Andrew Walker and Susana Marambio, BBCC with Brita O'Connor, Starcircle.

## Business Breakfast with Minister for Foreign Affairs, Simon Coveney TD

in association with RDJ LLP and Media Partner Irish Examiner



Jamie Olden, RDJ LLP; Ronan Murray, President Cork Chamber; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence, Simon Coveney TD and Alan Healy, Irish Examiner.

Our Business Breakfast took place on the 24<sup>th</sup> June with over 140 in attendance to hear our guest speaker, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence, Simon Coveney TD. The Minister discussed how politics have changed fundamentally and the impact of this on the Cork business landscape with Cork City being small enough to be agile but big enough for economies of scale.



Keynote speaker, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence, Simon Coveney TD.

## HR Barometer Report – Unrivalled Source of Analysis & Insights

in association with Adare Human Resource Management



Annie FitzGibbon, Cork Chamber; Sarah Fagan and Katie Ridge, Adare Human Resource Management.

This session with Adare Human Resource Management took place on the 19<sup>th</sup> May. Speakers, Sarah Fagan, Managing Director and Katie Ridge, Head of Employer Relations, Adare Human Resource Management provided valuable insights on key issues and challenges impacting HR in Ireland focusing on retention, employee engagement, wellbeing & talent development and performance management.

## Demystifying the “Digital Transformation” Journey for SME leaders

in partnership with it@cork | in association with Cork Chamber Skillnet and it@cork Skillnet

The second webinar in this partnered series with it@cork took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> May and featured a valuable discussion on digital transformation, facilitated by Kevin O’Regan, Founder and Director, Radius Technologies with Conor Buckley, Chief Executive, Granite Digital and Noel Dillane, Director, ITdirector along with Paula Cogan, Chief Executive Officer, Cognate Health giving an insightful end user perspective on Cognate’s digital journey.



Annie FitzGibbon, Cork Chamber; Noel Dillane, ITdirector; Kevin O’Regan, Radius Technologies, Conor Buckley, Granite Digital and Paula Cogan, Cognate Health.

## Sustainable Cork Programme: Cork City Revitalisation – The Future is Now

in association with Cork Chamber Skillnet, Gas Networks Ireland and Matheson



Conor Healy, Cork Chamber; Shane Clarke, The VQ; Giulia Vallone, Cork County Council and Dr William Hynes, KPMG Future Analytics.

The first session of this year’s Sustainable Cork Programme Webinar Series featured Dr William Hynes, Managing Director, KPMG Future Analytics and Giulia Vallone, Senior Architect, Capital Projects Implementation Unit, Cork County Council. This discussion focused on place-making, public engagement and consultation as an approach to planning, design and management of public spaces facilitated by Shane Clarke, Director of Operations at The VQ.

# HR BAROMETER

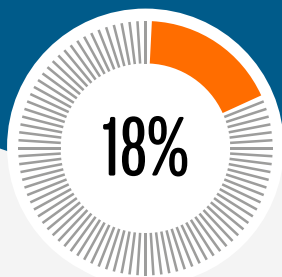
BENCHMARKING | ANALYSING | FORECASTING



The HR Barometer Report is the **most comprehensive research report** analysing the impacts, challenges and trends within the HR and Employment Law landscape in Ireland. It is an **invaluable source of information, analysis and insights** on the key issues and challenges facing HR Practitioners.

The HR Barometer Report examines all aspects of HR including HR Metrics, Key Strategic HR Areas, Pay & Benefits, Working Practices and HR Priorities.

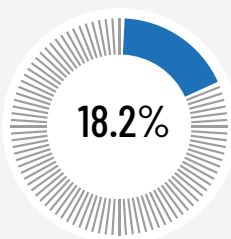
## TOP 5 HR PRIORITIES FOR 2022



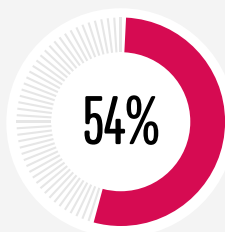
AVERAGE EMPLOYEE  
TURNOVER 2021



HIGHER SALARY  
WITH NEW EMPLOYER  
AS TOP REASON  
FOR LEAVING



EXPECTED  
TURNOVER  
2022



ORGANISATIONS  
INCREASING  
SALARIES IN 2022



AVERAGE  
SALARY  
INCREASE



\* Based on national findings from HR Barometer Report survey, March 2022

The HR Barometer Report is exclusively available to our Linea members. For more information on how you can access it please visit [www.adarehrm.ie](http://www.adarehrm.ie)

# Recent Appointments



**DR DENIS DOYLE**

*Chair, Tyndall*

Tyndall National Institute has announced the appointment of Dr Denis Doyle as the new Chair of the Board. An incisive and strategically focused leader, Dr Doyle will lead the Board's oversight of the future development and expansion of Ireland's flagship research institute in integrated ICT hardware and systems at University College Cork (UCC). Tyndall has made substantial progress with its plan for significant expansion by 2025, to become a research player of international scale with a consequent direct benefit to the Irish economy. Dr Doyle is an innovative industry leader and expert with a unique background in technology, manufacturing, mergers & acquisitions, and talent development. The Cork native has 30 years' experience in senior positions in the high-tech semiconductor industry. He is an engineering graduate of University College Cork, and undertook his Masters and PhD at NMRC/Tyndall. The announcement comes as Tyndall celebrates 40 years of ground-breaking research.



**CARMEL LONERGAN**

*Director of Group Operations, Trigon Hotels*

Trigon Hotels has announced the appointment of Carmel Lonergan as Director of Group Operations. The position is a new role for Trigon Hotels which operates the Cork International Hotel, The Metropole and the Cork Airport Hotel. Tipperary native, Carmel Lonergan has extensive experience in the hospitality industry in Ireland and internationally. She began her career as a trainee manager at the Dunraven Arms Hotel, Adare. She graduated with Business in Hospitality Management from GMIT before moving to Grosvenor House in London. Carmel also spent time in the United States before returning to Ireland 15 years ago. Carmel was part of the opening team of the Cork International Hotel in 2007 and has held numerous leadership roles at the hotel since then across events, sales and operations. In 2016, Carmel was appointed General Manager of the Cork International Hotel.



**RAY EGAN**

*Chairperson, Chartered Accountants Cork Society*

The Chartered Accountants Cork Society, following their AGM, has announced the election of Ray Egan FCA, Advisory Director at PwC as the new Chairperson for the upcoming year 2022/2023. Ray takes up the mantle from Kevin Nyhan, AIB. Ray is a fellow of the Chartered Accountants Ireland and has worked in practice for 17 years. Ray, originally from Limerick, was educated in the University of Limerick and qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 2009. Ray relocated to Cork in 2013 and joined the PwC Advisory team in 2018 as a Director in the Deals team. Ray expressed his enthusiasm for his new role, commenting that "It is a wonderful opportunity to represent the Cork Society members and to be an advocate for the numerous skills and experience that Chartered Accountants contribute to the wider community. The last number of years have been very challenging for the Cork Society, and I am looking forward to reconnecting with the members over the next 12 months."

# New Members Corner

We welcome the following new members

### ADVERTISING/MARKETING/MARKET RESEARCH

#### **Narration Marketing Ltd**

Narration is a marketing consultancy and training business focused on growing your business through brand storytelling.

T: 087 992 1571

E: [stephen@narration.ie](mailto:stephen@narration.ie)

W: [www.narration.ie](http://www.narration.ie)

#### **Upfront Model Management**

Upfront Model Management represent top fashion and commercial models for shoots, shows, advertising campaigns and content creation.

T: 086 839 9115

E: [orla@upfrontgroup.eu](mailto:orla@upfrontgroup.eu)

W: [www.upfrontmodelmanagement.com](http://www.upfrontmodelmanagement.com)

### ARCHITECTS/TOWN PLANNERS

#### **MM Interior Design Mariola Mialkowska**

MM Interior design is a design studio in which Mariola Mialkowska along with a team of qualified architects and interior designers implementing its vision of housing made-to-measure.

T: 085 817 2335

E: [info@mminteriordesign.ie](mailto:info@mminteriordesign.ie)

W: [www.mminteriordesign.ie](http://www.mminteriordesign.ie)

### AUDIO/MEDIA/PUBLISHING/VIDEO

#### PRODUCTION

#### **dmg media Ireland**

dmg media is one of Ireland's largest publishers and media content producers with a portfolio of brands reaching wide and diverse audiences including, EVOKE.ie, OneFabDay.com, Extra.ie, RollerCoaster.

T: 01 256 0800

E: [dearbhla.meaney@dmgmedia.ie](mailto:dearbhla.meaney@dmgmedia.ie)

W: [www.dmgmedia.ie](http://www.dmgmedia.ie)

#### **Get Visual**

Get Visual is an animation & video company founded by artists & filmmakers.

T: 089 969 7854

E: [director@getvisual.ie](mailto:director@getvisual.ie)

W: [www.getvisual.ie](http://www.getvisual.ie)

### BUILDING CONTRACTORS/PROVIDERS

#### **Carrigbel Construction Ltd.**

A quality focused construction company.

T: 086 867 1447

E: [info@carrigbelconstruction.ie](mailto:info@carrigbelconstruction.ie)

W: [www.carrigbelconstruction.ie](http://www.carrigbelconstruction.ie)

#### **Sea Box Group**

Sea Box... We Solve Problems. Since 1983, organisations around the world have relied on SEA BOX's expertise to engineer and construct some of the most incredible containerised inventions ever conceived.

T: 087 416 5876

E: [patrickh@seabox.com](mailto:patrickh@seabox.com)

W: [www.seabox.com](http://www.seabox.com)

### BUSINESS CONTINUITY SERVICES

#### **MONERE Development Services**

MONERE Development Services Ltd is a learning and development company which provides training services to national and international companies.

T: 058 75000

E: [info@monereredevelopmentsservices.com](mailto:info@monereredevelopmentsservices.com)

W: [www.monereredevelopmentsservices.com](http://www.monereredevelopmentsservices.com)

### CHARITIES

#### **AsIAm**

Working with the Autism Community in Ireland we seek to work towards equality.

T: 01 445 3203

E: [Dick@asiam.ie](mailto:Dick@asiam.ie)

W: [www.asiam.ie](http://www.asiam.ie)

### EDUCATION/TRAINING/LANGUAGES

#### **Mike Roche Training**

Professional Training Delivery Services in the areas of leadership development supervisory management and general soft skill development.

T: 087 205 2018

E: [mikerochettraining@gmail.com](mailto:mikerochettraining@gmail.com)

#### **StageSHIFT Coaching & Consulting Ltd**

We are an Ireland-based global coaching community who deliver proven CXO Vertical Leadership Development, Systemic Team Coaching, and Culture Evolution Programs for organizations to flourish.

E: [Antoinette.Braks@StageSHIFT.coach](mailto:Antoinette.Braks@StageSHIFT.coach)

W: [www.stageshift.coach](http://www.stageshift.coach)

### ENGINEERING

#### **LaserAge**

If there is merit in applying the laser cleaning process, in a manner that is environmentally friendly, cheap to run, affordable, portable, requires minimal training, then laser cleaning ought to be considered as a substitutional or complementary method of cleaning.

T: 087 608 0919

E: [leo@laserage.eu](mailto:leo@laserage.eu)

W: [www.laserage.eu](http://www.laserage.eu)

### ENTERTAINMENT/LEISURE/TOURISM

#### **Fáilte Ireland**

Fáilte Ireland is the National Tourism Development Authority. Our role is to support the tourism industry and work to sustain Ireland as a high-quality and competitive destination. We provide a range of practical business supports to help tourism businesses manage and market their products and services.

T: 0818 888800

E: [CustomerSupport@failteireland.ie](mailto:CustomerSupport@failteireland.ie)

W: <https://www.failteireland.ie>

### EVENT MANAGEMENT

#### **FUEL**

Creative Production Agency that connects brands with people in a meaningful way.

T: 086 370 8831

E: [leigh@fuelhq.ie](mailto:leigh@fuelhq.ie)

W: [www.fuelhq.ie](http://www.fuelhq.ie)



#### FINANCIAL SERVICES/PENSIONS/INVESTMENT

##### **Credendo Guarantees & Speciality Risks**

Credendo is an Export Credit Agency, established in 1939 as ONDD. It is the official Belgian export credit agency. Backed by the state, its mission is to promote international trade relations, providing medium-term and long-term trade credit insurance cover.  
T: 021 237 9727  
E: S.Comerford@credendo.com  
W: <https://credendo.com/en>

#### GRAPHIC DESIGN

##### **Diane Higgins Design**

Diane Higgins Design designs brands, websites, products, books, affirmation cards, social media, animated videos, infographics, brochures, wedding stationery, adverts, posters, reports, award submissions.  
T: 083 358 8482  
E: diane.higgins.cork@gmail.com  
W: [www.dianehiggins.ie](http://www.dianehiggins.ie)

#### IMPORTER/EXPORTER

##### **Omnia Machinery Ireland Ltd**

Dealer of heavy plant machinery  
T: +44 164 233 2612  
E: peter.broadbent@omniamachinery.com  
W: [www.omniamachinery.com](http://www.omniamachinery.com)

#### IT SERVICES

##### **Ellendale Business**

Ellendale Business is an IT consultancy company  
T: 086 076 2745  
E: [info@ellendalebusiness.com](mailto:info@ellendalebusiness.com)  
W: [www.ellendalebusiness.com](http://www.ellendalebusiness.com)

#### MANUFACTURERS

##### **Watson-Marlow Fluid Technology Solutions Limited**

Since 1956, we have been manufacturing positive displacement pumps and providing engineering support to a range of industries.  
T: 021 4757 030  
E: [info.ie@wmfts.com](mailto:info.ie@wmfts.com)  
W: [www.watson-marlow.com/ie-en](http://www.watson-marlow.com/ie-en)

#### OFFICE SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT/FURNITURE

##### **Docutec - A Cantec Group Company**

Providers of managed print and document management services.  
T: 0818 337 012  
E: [info@docutec.ie](mailto:info@docutec.ie)  
W: [www.docutec.ie](http://www.docutec.ie)

##### **Kabana Lifestyle**

Purveyor of Hot Tubs, Saunas, Swim Spas, Pergolas, Beehive Pods, & Log Cabins.  
T: 021 242 9777  
E: [hello@kabana.ie](mailto:hello@kabana.ie)  
W: [www.kabana.ie](http://www.kabana.ie)

#### ONLINE SHOPPING/RETAIL

##### **Alana Artificial Intelligence App Ltd**

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# News



## The Echo celebrates 130 years as a voice for Cork

On June 14, 1892, the first Evening Echo was sold on the streets of Cork. From the start, the newspaper operated on a very straightforward principle: Local news for the people of Cork. That is just as true for The Echo and EchoLive.ie as it ever was. Our website receives around a million page views every week. Speaking to mark the significant anniversary, Editor of The Echo and EchoLive.ie Maurice Gubbins said: "From that first Echo of June 14, 1892, the amount of change has been incredible. More change has happened in the past 20 years than in the previous 100. Twenty years ago e-mail was a novelty and home broadband a dream. Now communication with downloads onto mobile phones and tablets brings news from all over the world as it happens. What will the future bring? "The changing demands on how news is delivered will inevitably challenge The Echo to keep abreast of new technology. We have already added the chime of the smartphone to the cry of the Echo Boy to bring the latest Cork news to you, the reader. It has been my privilege to be editor of The Echo for the past 20 years and my promise is this: Our ethic will remain the same — Cork news and Cork sport for Cork people."

Staff of The Echo celebrate 130 years on the roof of their premises, Blackpool, Cork, included are Michael Sheehan, Managing Director of The Irish Examiner & The Echo and CFO of The Irish Times Group, The Echo Editor, Maurice Gubbins and staff. Picture Dan Linehan



## Iconic hotel celebrates 125 years welcoming guests to the city

One of Ireland's most historic hotels is celebrating 125 years at the centre of Cork life. Designed by architect Arthur Hill, The Metropole was owned by the Musgrave family of merchants until 1977. Today it is part of Trigon Hotels and employs more than 100 people. To mark the 125th birthday, the hotel has launched a new cocktail menu giving a nod to the history and nostalgia of the hotel. It is also showcasing the history of the hotel with new displays and will be running tours for guests throughout the summer. General Manager Roger Russell added, "The Metropole has a fascinating history and one we're really proud to celebrate. I hope that guests will find it as interesting as we do. Cork city has vastly changed over the years but the Metropole remains a constant. We have welcomed huge movie stars, famous singers and writers but every guest is special to us. It is wonderful to see generations of families return year after year celebrating the important milestones like christenings, weddings and anniversaries and I hope it will continue for another 125 years more."

Pictured are Jan Mitchell, Deputy General Manager with Roger Russell, General Manager and Kylie Basnett, Group Corporate & MICE Sales Manager.

# News & Updates



## BioMarin celebrates 10 years in Ireland

Global biopharmaceutical company, BioMarin sought a unique way to celebrate 10 years in Ireland by recognising the deep connection to the communities in which it operates, especially rare disease populations. Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Michael McGrath, T.D. officially unveiled The Giving Tree – a specially-commissioned sculpture by Cork-based artist, Rachel Doolin, which celebrates BioMarin’s roots in Ireland. The sculpture consists of 1,200 individual bronze disks that when connected together create a structure with great strength and impact. For each disk, a native tree is being planted across Ireland, symbolising the company’s commitment to the environment and aspiration to create a better future for rare disease patients. The manufacturing facility at Shanbally, Co Cork has been developed as part of a €38 million investment which will see the opening of a new drug product-filling facility this year.

Pictured are: Conor Delaney, VP of Operations, and Site Leader at BioMarin, Shanbally, Co. Cork; Avril Daly, Vice-President of EURORDIS; Minister for Public Expenditure & Reform, Michael McGrath TD, and Rachel Doolin, Visual Artist. Picture: Michael O’Sullivan



## Johnson & Johnson and MTU mark decade-long partnership

Johnson & Johnson sites in Cork are celebrating a decade-long partnership with Munster Technological University that has seen more than 20 students avail of STEM scholarships to support their education and early career pathways. A reception held recently at DePuy Synthes, part of Johnson & Johnson MedTech, in Ringaskiddy, Cork, was attended by prior recipients of the scholarship, as well as key representatives from Munster Technological University and Johnson & Johnson. This STEM scholarship is awarded to three students annually (one each from the Biomedical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Pharmaceutical Biotechnology courses), providing financial support to the value of €3,000 per year for the duration of their course. Recipients are also assigned a Johnson & Johnson mentor who they meet with throughout their studies, availing of their insights, advice, support, and guidance. 80% of scholarship recipients who have completed their courses have chosen to pursue careers within the Johnson & Johnson family of companies.

Recipients of the J&J STEM Scholarship pictured at the event with: Prof. Maggie Cusack, President of MTU; Alan Bateman, Site Lead, Make Asset Management, Janssen Sciences Ireland; Colm Hynes, Site Lead at DePuy Synthes; Gary Clerkin, DePuy Synthes; and Michael Loftus, VP at MTU. Picture: Adrian O’Herlihy

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# News



## FUEL expands through acquisition of Cork agency

FUEL, one of Ireland's leading creative production agencies, has announced the acquisition of Cork-based event management agency Leigh Gillen Events. The company's expansion into the Munster market comes at a time when brands and companies globally are looking for new and innovative ways to engage with customers and employees. The acquisition of Leigh Gillen Events supports FUEL's strategy to expand its operations in Ireland, the UK and the United States. FUEL has ambitious plans to grow its business with a mix of live and virtual events, brand experiences, employee engagement and gifting solutions. FUEL currently employs a talented team of 70 at its Dublin headquarters, where it is also recruiting a further 10 staff to service its future needs. FUEL plans to operate out of The Marina Market Cork and grow its numbers in Cork to 10 within the next two years. FUEL will be recruiting for roles across creative, client services and production.

Newly appointed Director of Cork for FUEL, Leigh Gillen with co-founders of FUEL Jamie Deasy and Brian McDermott.



## Maldron Hotel South Mall invests in city's Outdoor Dining Scheme

Cork's most centrally located four-star hotel has played a key role in helping to transform Beasley Street into a stylish al fresco dining area and underline the city's position as a top foodie destination. Maldron Hotel South Mall Cork City is now officially offering the perfect outdoor dining experience daily, with its tasty Grain & Grill Restaurant and Bar menu served from early morning to dinner. The menu includes a wide range of stand-out Maldron dishes with a local twist, from delicious light bites to signature burgers and Italian stone baked pizzas. With capacity for outdoor dining up to 180 people, this is an ideal spot just off South Mall and Oliver Plunkett Street where diners can also enjoy the full bar menu featuring delicious cocktails, wine and beer, as well as barista prepared coffee from the hotel's very own Red Bean Roastery coffee shop. The hotel has invested €80,000 to bring this al fresco offering to life, alongside Cork City Council who contributed €120,000 through Failte Ireland's Outdoor Dining Scheme.

Robert McCarthy, General Manager and Donna Mannion, Corporate Sales & Marketing Manager, Maldron Hotel South Mall Cork City are joined by The Lord Mayor of Cork, Colm Kelleher to celebrate the opening. Picture: Gerard McCarthy



## Merck invests more than €440 million in Cork

Merck, a leading science and technology company, is expanding its membrane and filtration manufacturing capabilities in Ireland. The company will invest approximately €440 million to increase membrane manufacturing capacity in Carrigtwohill and to build a new manufacturing facility at Blarney Business Park, both in Cork, Ireland. The investment, which is the largest in a single site ever for the Life Science business, will create more than 370 permanent jobs by the end of 2027. The announcement follows a €36 million investment at the same site in 2021 for a second lateral flow membrane manufacturing product line. Now formally open, this facility produces lateral flow membranes, most commonly used in rapid diagnostic testing for rare diseases such as dengue fever, malaria and Ebola. They are also a key component in rapid antigen tests, which are used for the detection of COVID-19. All expansion projects include clear targets for energy efficiency, water consumption and waste treatment to support Merck in meeting its goal to be carbon-neutral by 2040, in line with its sustainability strategy.

Pictured: Michael Lohan, Head of Lifesciences & Talent, Transformation and Innovation, IDA; An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin TD; Matthias Heinzl, Member of the Executive Board of Merck and CEO Life Science, and Martin McAuliffe, Managing Director and Head of Cork Operations, Merck. Picture: Michael O'Sullivan



## Volvo Cork Week will attract global visitors to Cork Harbour

Volvo Cork Week was officially launched by Simon Coveney T.D., Minister for Foreign Affairs & Minister for Defence, and the Mayor of the County of Cork, Cllr. Gillian Coughlan. The legendary world-renowned regatta returns to the Royal Cork Yacht Club in Crosshaven from 11-15 July 2022. At the launch in the title sponsor Johnson & Perrott's Volvo Showroom in Bishopstown, Cork, Volvo Cork Week co-chairs Annamarie Fegan (the first female vice admiral in the club's 302 year history) and Ross Deasy met with key event partners and revealed details of the much-anticipated sailing festival's return. Among those in attendance were David Thomas, Managing Director of Volvo Car Ireland, Mark Whitaker, Chief Executive of Johnson and Perrott Motor Group and Conor Mowlds, Chief Commercial Officer of Port of Cork Company Ltd, which has been an event partner for over 30 years. Volvo Car Ireland is title sponsor of Volvo Cork Week in partnership with Johnson & Perrott, with official partners Cork County Council, Port of Cork, Musto, Dubarry, Heineken, Barry & Fitzwilliam, Clean Coasts, and MaREI.

Minister Simon Coveney and the Mayor of County Cork, Cllr. Gillian Coughlan launch Volvo Cork Week 2022 with organisers and key sponsors from Volvo, JPMG and Cork's RedFM.

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# News



## €11.7 million DHL hub opens in Cork

A major investment in the Munster region by leading express service provider DHL Express, has come to fruition with opening of its new state of the art logistics hub in Blarney, County Cork. DHL has been operating its express service in Cork since 1979 and this new facility is a testament to the company's long-term commitment to the area. Despite a challenging and turbulent few years, DHL's focus on maintaining operations and service levels to customers has remained constant. This €11.7m investment into the new purpose-built Cork facility will allow the company to more efficiently service and deliver for customers across Ireland. This facility in Blarney Business Park sees a significant increase in terms of sorting capacity, from 2,308 total usable sq.m in the current facility, to over 14,980 sq.m in the new facility. This will facilitate significant growth in the DHL business, as well its customers, with the capability to handle 60 routes at a time.

Mike Farrell, Operations Director and Bernard McCarthy, Managing Director DHL Express Ireland with Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Michael McGrath TD and Conor Healy, CEO Cork Chamber.



## College of Business and Law holds prize ceremony

The College of Business and Law (CoBL) held its annual scholarships and prizes ceremony on campus in Devere Hall. Acknowledged at the ceremony were the achievements of over 160 CoBL students in the academic, workplace and personal spheres. Professor Ursula Kilkelly, Head of the College, hosted the event and was joined by Professor Mark Poustie, Dean of the School of Law. New awards presented at the ceremony this year included the RDJ Scholarship which recognizes diversity in the School of Law; the Ornuia and Carbery Group Scholarships, both for postgraduate students in co-operatives, agri-food and sustainable development; the KPMG Outstanding Scholar; The KPMG Women in Accounting Prize and the Comyn Kelleher Tobin LLM Scholarship.

Celine Fox, Audit Partner, KPMG Cork with Carmel Casey Joint winner of KPMG Woman in Accounting prize.



## TechFest 2022 - building better tech

TechFest, it@cork's annual flagship tech conference, returned in person with the need for technology to drive sustainability and social good highlighted by speakers. Attended by over 250 people, the sell-out event featured keynote speakers from across a range of sectors and partner events running across the south-west region throughout this week. Keynote speaker Mala Kumar, Director of Tech for Social Good at GitHub, opened the day's proceedings by highlighting how the tech industry is uniquely placed to drive a positive impact on the world. During her address, she explored the ideas of leveraging technology for social good, ethical technology, diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives, and environmental, social, and corporate governance.

it@cork Techfest team and volunteer students from MTU celebrating the success of the sell out it@cork techfest 2022. Picture: Gerard McCarthy

# The future of learning & development



**Hovione, an international contract development & manufacturing organisation, has been operating globally for 60 years and based in Cork for the last 10. For nearly six of those Donnacha Ryan, Learning & Development Specialist, has been working for Hovione. Here he shares some insights with us on the learning & development landscape of Cork.**

## **Why should employees be interested in learning and development?**

Investing in your learning and development will provide people with skills that not only improve their performance but will also show that the company is invested in them too. We cannot stand still as a contract manufacturing company, we must be robust, be change ready and flexible for our customers – having well trained, engaged Team Members will ensure we meet these objectives.

## **Why should companies prioritise training and upskilling?**

Training and upskilling secure your future as a company and upskilling team members will allow companies to fill positions from within. The investment in training is a key foundation to running of any business; retention and loyalty will improve by investing in employees to allow them to grow to their full potential and possibly take on key project management and leadership roles within the company.

## **As a company that is constantly expanding and in an everchanging industry, why do you put such an emphasis on training?**

We continually survey our team members to ensure we are meeting their requirements; training has always been a key aspect of this research. We are always looking to improve our systems, training content and invest in upskilling our trainers and SMEs. At Hovione, highly motivated employees are well trained employees, and that our goal.

## **Do you have an example of someone putting their training to use to upskill?**

Many of our process engineers attended Project Management and MS Project Training via Cork Chamber Skillnet and it is great to see them now take lead positions on many of our new product introductions projects.

## **Can you see any emerging trends/areas of focus in training that you feel people can benefit from?**

Virtual reality is an area that is being explored more and more, particularly for operational tasks. Having a virtual headset allowing team members to mimic the real task is something I am looking forward too.

## **Where do you see learning and development going in the future and the future of work?**

I see a lot more investment in digital training and a move to a more pull rather than a push experience. We need to work closer with universities and technical colleges to ensure the curricula matches the requirements of industry.



Stay focused and always try to build on your experiences

For queries regarding your training needs, please contact the Cork Chamber Skillnet team at [training@corkchamber.ie](mailto:training@corkchamber.ie)

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