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**Drogheda and District Chamber Digest – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2009**

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Please note that the weekly digest is strictly for the information and use of Drogheda and District Chamber members and must not be reproduced elsewhere – unless specifically stated.

\*\*\*\*\***CONTENTS**\*\*\*\*\*

**Introduction from the President**

**Chamber Events & Services**

1. AGM and Chamber Social Event – 25<sup>th</sup> June, The d Hotel
2. Chamber HR Seminar 18<sup>th</sup> June – Review

**Chamber News and Services**

1. Chamber Translation Service
2. Do you export goods as part of your business? Certificates of Origin
3. European Investment Bank – accessing European funds for SME's
4. Looking for a new office?
5. Chamber Boardroom / Training room available

**Membership – New Members, News and Special Offers**

1. Welcome to our new members
2. Looking for something to do this week? Calipo Theatre and Picture Company have the answer!
3. Bank of Ireland – Open for Business
4. Paycheck Plus win Fingal Chamber Enterprise Award
5. Seapoint Golf Club – Celebrating entry into Irelands elite top 30 Golf Clubs
6. Bellewstown Races shortlisted for Irish Sport Betting Awards
7. International Networking Opportunity – here in Drogheda!
8. Learn about James Gogarty Stone
9. AA Membership – Discounts for Drogheda and District Chamber Members

**Other News**

1. Incubation Space – Millmount
2. Network Louth seeking nominations for Network Ireland Business Awards 2009
3. Starting an IT Business – specialist support available from Novation

**Quote of the Week**

\*\*\*\*\***WELCOME FROM PRESIDENT PATRICIA ROONEY**\*\*\*\*\*

It might be coming into the silly season but I am delighted to see from this weeks Chamber Digest that members have not been letting the grass grow under their feet. Lots of good news stories and special offers for you to read about. It is also great to see so many new members joining the Chamber.

It was my great pleasure last week to put on display the plans for the new Drogheda Chamber Enterprise Centre which will provide space for step up businesses to grow. Watch the Drogheda Independent and Drogheda Leader this week for details of the plans ... we plan to turn the sod on the project later this year and it promises to be a great new resource for the business community.

Our AGM and Summer Social takes place on Thursday next. Bucking the trend and mixing business with pleasure I know it will be great fun and a super chance to mingle and meet other business people. If you have a friend who is not a member of the Chamber but you think could benefit from being involved invite them to join us for the social event – we would love to meet them. Please do come along yourself – we look forward to seeing you at the d Hotel on Thursday!

\*\*\*\*\***CHAMBER EVENTS**\*\*\*\*\*

**AGM and Chamber Social – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

Join us this week for the Chamber AGM and Social Night on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June @ 6.30pm at the d Hotel**. The AGM is open to members only.

The event will be followed by a Chamber Summer Social event at 7.30pm and both members and non members are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be served and there will be entertainment. This will take place in the beautifully refurbished lounge of the d Hotel. It promises to be a relaxed and fun evening and we do hope you can join us. If you know of any business people who would like to attend but are not Chamber members do invite them – the more the merrier!

Should you have any questions or require any additional information please contact Marian Caddell on 041 9833544 or [e-mail](#). We really look forward to seeing you.

### **Chamber HR Seminar – A Review**

Last Thursday's Chamber HR Seminar was a really informative and thought provoking event. Hosted by Peninsula on behalf of Drogheda and District Chamber the speaker Tony Keirns addressed issues including NERA, Health and Safety and Employment legislation. Those who attended found the session beneficial and left with lots of ideas for what they need to do to protect their business and employees.

Drogheda and District Chamber reminds members that all members are entitled to a free consultation with Peninsula about the Chamber HR Service. There are a range of services including Document Only, Small Business Service, Health and Safety Services, Personnel Services or a combination of all of the above. Services are available on a 1, 3 or 5 year basis depending on your business needs. Appointments to meet with their consultants are free and there is no obligation to purchase. If you would like to find out more you can contact Michael O'Toole on 01 855 4861 or by [e-mail](#).

\*\*\*\*\* CHAMBER NEWS AND SERVICES \*\*\*\*\*

### **Chamber Translation Service**

Chamber Translation service offers an affordably multi-lingual translation service for every business translation requirement. Do you have staff for whom English is not their first language? Do you have offices or outsourced departments abroad? Do you have a website that is aimed at customers across Europe? Well bridging the language barrier is now easier than ever. Chamber Translation Service have access to over 750 qualified native speakers who have technical knowledge in areas of business, finance, health and safety, legal, technological, marketing, medical, pharmaceutical and software. For a quote [e-mail](#) details of your requirements to Marian at the Chamber office.

### **Do you export goods as part of your business?**

Did you know that you can source your certificates of origin here at Drogheda and District Chamber? Marian here at Drogheda and District Chamber will be happy to assist you with our certificates of origin service. An added benefit of membership is that Chamber members can avail of discounted rates for certificates of origin. Our office is open Monday-Friday 8.30-5.00pm. If you have any questions or require any additional information contact 041 9833544 or [e-mail](#) her.

### **European Investment Bank – Accessing European Funds for SME's**

Chambers Ireland has published a very useful guide for business owners about accessing funds through the European Investment Bank (EIB). There are a number of EU led schemes currently in operation which can be of direct benefit to Irish business. Traditionally the main obstacles for the SME sector from benefitting from this scheme is lack of awareness and uncertainty as to how to access them. The guide "Smarter Business Guide to the European Investment Bank" is available for Drogheda and District Chamber (041 9833544) or by contacting Chambers Ireland on 01 4004300.

### **Looking for a new office? We have the answer ...**

Are you looking to expand or reduce your current working space? Are you looking for a bright, easily accessible office in Drogheda? Look no further than Chamber House on the Dublin Road. We have 3 separate offices for rent immediately or all 3 offices to the same company. You can review the details of each office by clicking on the links below.

[Office 1](#)

[Office 2](#)

[Office 3](#)

[Entire Floor](#)

If you would like to set up a viewing or would like further information please contact Sarah on 041 9833544 or by [e-mail](#).

### **Did you know you can use the Chamber Boardroom?**

The [Drogheda & District Chamber Meeting Room](#) is available for rent. Accommodating up to 12 people, the rental includes the use of a plasma screen and refreshments. The room is comfortable and accessible.

- €65.00 Evening Hire Rate
- €60.00 ½ Day Rate

- €110.00 Full Day Rate

Reduced rental fees are available for Chamber members please enquire for rates. Call Sarah for further details or to make a booking - 041 9833544

\*\*\*\*\* MEMBERSHIP – NEW MEMBERS, NEWS AND SPECIAL OFFERS \*\*\*\*\*

**New Members**

We are delighted to welcome the following new members since the last Chamber Digest:

- |                                |                |  |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--|
| • Hoey’s Finest Meats          | Brendan Hoey   | Bryanstown Centre, 041 980 4535  |
| • CTI Business Solutions       | Paul Martin    | <a href="http://www.ctibusinesssolutions.com">www.ctibusinesssolutions.com</a> |
| • Young Design Build           | Stephen Young  | <a href="http://www.youngdesignbuild.ie">www.youngdesignbuild.ie</a>           |
| • Irish Guide Dogs Association | Paddy Coyle    | <a href="http://www.guidedogs.ie">www.guidedogs.ie</a>                         |
| • Kobi Living Colours          | Stacey Coburn  | <a href="http://www.myschooluniform.ie">www.myschooluniform.ie</a>             |
| • James Gogarty Stone          | James Gogarty  | <a href="http://www.jamesgogartystone.ie">www.jamesgogartystone.ie</a>         |
| • The Children’s Shop          | Mary Sarsfield | 95 West Street, 041 9830164  |
| • Dave Marron Motors           | Dave Marron    | Unit 14 Donore Business Park, 041 9830066                                      |
| • Joseph Lyons Interiors       | Joseph Lyons   | <a href="http://www.josephlyonsinteriors.ie">www.josephlyonsinteriors.ie</a>   |

**Looking for something to do this week?**

Calipo Theatre and Picture Company remind you not to miss the all new production of **ALL OVER TOWN** by Phillip McMahon at Project Arts Centre, Temple Bar, Dublin. **Opening tonight and running until June 27.** Ticket available from: 01 8819613.

*"Life isn't about finding yourself. It's about creating yourself."* Just ask Seán. He's swapping the grey of Dublin for the neon of Bangkok and the bright lights of Sydney. His agenda? Fun, beer and sex: in no particular order. He just wants out of Ireland and away from his family and friends... but everything comes at a price.

Drogheda and District Chamber are very proud of our members Calipo Theatre and Picture Company. Calipo is an arts organisation that operates on three levels - as a professional theatre company, as a film and television producer, and as a community arts training house. Their award winning work has received much acclaim and you can find out more about them by visiting their [website](#).

**Bank of Ireland - Open for business...**

The team at Bank of Ireland here in Drogheda have been in touch to invite you to come and see them. Whether you are an existing customer or not they are here to deliver services to you. Business Advisor Una McGoey recently explained to Drogheda and District Chamber “When it comes to making the most of your business, Bank of Ireland is there to work with you and help you in finding the best route forward. We believe that business customers need a range of support and advice and are fully committed to supporting the SME sector in Ireland.”

Bank of Ireland have published useful guides for Business called “Flexible Finance for your Business” and “Financial Advice Guide for your business” both of which are available at your local branch. For further information on how Bank of Ireland can support your business, call Una McGoey on 041 9873410.

**Award Winning Paycheck Plus**

Paycheck Plus were recently announced as winners of the “Best Small Business Excellence” for 2009 at the Fingal Dublin Chamber Awards hosted by Marty Whelan. They are proud to have secured this latest award against such stiff competition and thank all those involved in their efforts at recognising business achievements in such a difficult economic time.

To celebrate their award, they are offering a free payroll period to companies or a free gift to individuals who refer another business to Paycheck Plus during the month of June. Is there someone you know who could benefit from the services of Paycheck Plus? If so, they would love to hear from you.

They have also introduced a new service providing a temporary payroll solution. The service enables companies outsource their payroll while their usual payroll person is on holiday, maternity leave or other extended absence thereby avoiding the need for temporary placements and training. This ensures that the company payroll is completed professionally and on-time without the need to use up resources that could be put to better use in the core business. When the payroll person returns to work the

payroll is returned to the company. For more details on any of their services contact Paycheck Plus on 041 988 1774 or visit their [website](#).

### **Seapoint Golf Club – Celebration Time!**

To celebrate Seapoint Golf Club's entry into to Irelands *elite top 30 Golf Clubs* and also the recent launch of our 5 day membership and also our 7 day annual membership we are delighted to offer the members of Drogheda Chamber Of Commerce an exclusive deal. 50% discount of published green fees for June, July and August 2009, Mon to Friday. 25% discount Sat & Sun. This offer is strictly limited in number and is only available to Chamber members on a 'first come, first served' basis. To avail of this exclusive discount please register your interest by [e mail](#) to Miriam Ryan.

*This is open to Chamber Members only, is not transferable, excludes open days/ special events, cannot be used in conjunction with other offers and is strictly subject to tee time availability.*

### **Congratulations to Bellewstown Races**

It's that time of year again, the long summer evenings, smell of freshly mown grass – it must be time for Bellewstown Races. Drogheda and District Chamber want to extend congratulations to the team at Bellewstown Races who were finalists in the Irish Sport Betting Awards last week in the category of Best Racetrack. This is a huge accomplishment for the team at Bellewstown and a credit to all the work they have done. The team at Drogheda and District Chamber will be looking forward to great racing on the Hill this summer. For dates and more information about this years festival visit their [website](#).

### **International Networking Opportunity – here in Drogheda!**

This week, (June 25th and 26th) **Edgewater College** will be hosting the 5th Marco Polo Sino European Aviation Training Solutions meeting in their college on the North Quays, Drogheda. This is a huge event with a high profile guest list. There will be representatives from 18 global companies attending. This is a great opportunity to network with international businesses visiting Drogheda. Contact Danielle at Edgewater College on [Danielle@edgewater.ie](mailto:Danielle@edgewater.ie).

### **Learn about James Gogarty Stone**

Drogheda and District Chamber are delighted to welcome as members James Gogarty Stone. Based here in Drogheda they are a traditional stone cutting company who can meet all your stone requirements. Customers can choose from their extensive stock of carefully selected granite, marble, limestone and quartz which they process locally in their factory.

For the home interiors they specialise in kitchen worktops, tiles, staircases and bathroom vanity tops. For the house builder they can supply walling, windowsills, quoin stones, arches and other architectural details direct from their own limestone quarry. They work closely with architects, designers and developers and their designers are on hand to consult on everything from external cladding to interior design. A visit to their premises allows customers to see for themselves the range of granite and marble from all over the world.

James Gogarty Stone are also renowned for their extensive selection of monuments from the traditional to the modern design in a variety of colours. Our skilled masons specialise in hand carved Celtic crosses and once off unique designs.

Their team are always happy to meet you to guide you through the selection process and discuss your ideas and plans. For more information or to arrange a consultation contact Jacinta on 041 9835472 or visit their [website](#).

### **Special AA Membership Rates for Drogheda and District Chamber members**

Drogheda and District Chamber are delighted to announce a new Affinity Scheme with AA on their Roadside Rescue service. It is open to both staff and business owners for personal membership. The affinity discount is also available to existing AA members next your policy is due for renewal. You can find out more about it plus an application form by visiting the [members section](#) of the website and watch out for an e-mail later this week with more information. If you have lost your membership password just click "Forgot Password" and we will be delighted to send you a replacement password.

\*\*\*\*\* OTHER NEWS \*\*\*\*\*

### **Incubation Space Available**

Sean MacEntee of the Regional Development Centre at DkIT has been in touch with Drogheda and District Chamber to advise that they have high quality office space available at their Incubation Unit at Millmount, Drogheda. If you are interested in finding out more contact Sean directly on 042 9370453 or via [e-mail](#).

### **Network Louth Awards 2009 – Nominations Open**

the Organisation for Women in Business, the Professions and the Arts are delighted to announce a great new opportunity to highlight you and your business- it's time to celebrate your business achievements through the **Network Ireland Business Awards**

**2009.** They are seeking nominations for three categories for Network Louth members to go forward to the National Awards later this year. The three categories are:

1. BUSINESSWOMAN OF THE YEAR (SELF EMPLOYED)
2. BUSINESSWOMAN OF THE YEAR (EMPLOYEE)
3. BUSINESSWOMAN OF THE YEAR (NEW BUSINESS)

Interested in finding out more? Click [here](#) for information and to download an Application Nomination Form

**Technology, Knowledge Based or ICT Business?**

Are you or do you know someone who is starting a business in the Technology, Knowledge Based or ICT areas? With the changing economic conditions in Ireland, Starting a Business will be even more difficult for those who are unprepared. Novation at the Regional Development Centre are currently recruiting for the Novation Enterprise Platform Programme which will start late September. This programme offers unparalleled support for anyone considering setting up a business. To find out what the programme has to offer click [here](#).

Contact Garrett Duff, Enterprise Development Manager on 042 9331161 for further information. **There are only places for 10 participants on the 2009 programme.**

\*\*\*\*\* QUOTE OF THE WEEK \*\*\*\*\*

*"All lasting business is built on friendship"*

- Alfred A. Montapert