



**Longford
CHAMBER**
IN BUSINESS FOR BUSINESS

NEWSLETTER

Volume No 1 January 2015



As the recently elected President of Longford Chamber I am delighted to launch our monthly newsletter. The newsletter is designed to keep members up to date with items of interest, locally and nationally. Going forward we would be delighted to receive snippets from yourselves about your businesses or suitable events in your lives for insertion. Please forward all correspondence to info@longfordchamber.ie.

Chamber Schedule 2015

Chamber have a number of events planned for the year. Friday, February 20th, Business Breakfast Registration at 7.45am, in Longford Arms Hotel. Contact info@longfordchamber.ie for further information.

St. Patrick's Day Parade



Chamber Council: Fintan McGill President, Benny Igoe, Sharon Devlin, Bishop Emeritus Colm O'Reilly, Peter Dolan and

Leas Cathairteach Longford Co. Co. Seamus Buttler

This year we celebrate the wonderful Restoration of St. Mel's Cathedral and the 150th anniversary of St. Mel's College, to mark these auspicious events Chamber are delighted to announce that the Grand Marshall of the 2015 parade will be Bishop Emeritus Colm O'Reilly and the theme of the parade is St. Mel. For further information about the parade contact lisabradly1@outlook.ie

Business Excellence Awards

Chamber will launch the first Longford Business Excellence Awards in the coming weeks. There will be categories for all types of business County wide. The Awards ceremony will be held in May. Check our February Newsletter for further details.

Security Text Alert

Benny Igoe is our new point of contact for TextAlert. With 42 operational members this alert has been growing from strength to strength since its inception. To date 37 strategic alerts were sent to members throughout the Business Community. Benny can be contacted on...

085129188 who will then convey all alerts to the Gardai Liaison Officer for vetting prior to being SMS to all members. Any queries, feedback or proposals would be appreciated.

Remember this alert only works if we all use it.

Longford Tourism

Longford Tourism are currently compiling their 2015 calendar of events. To include a listing contact info@longfordtourism.ie

Proposed New Digital IT Hub in Longford

On Tuesday 6th May a new initiative called "Longford IT HUB" was launched. The long term aim of the project is to encourage technology start up companies to establish in Longford. There are currently in excess of 20 IT companies operating in the county and it is hoped to leverage this existing company base to encourage more companies to come to Longford.



The HUB will offer reduced price office space and professional advice while at the same time provide a forum for sharing information and resources between local companies.

Derek Scanlon, Chamber Vice-President is co-ordinating the initiative and he can be contacted for further information. Email: derek@obrien-accountants.ie

Chamber Ireland News

Following the release of the 2014 Exchequer Statement today (05/01/15), Chambers Ireland has called on Government to maintain its focus on job creation and cost management.

Speaking this afternoon, Ian Talbot, Chief Executive, Chambers Ireland said "The 2014 Exchequer Statement provides evidence of just how far the Irish economy has progressed in the past twelve months. The increases in tax receipts, particularly in VAT and Capital Gains Tax, point to a significant growth in economic activity and an improvement in the domestic economy." "2015 will be a watershed year for Ireland's economic recovery and we must continue to build on the strong performance of 2014. However risks remain, many outside our control such as ongoing international developments. Therefore Government must not lose focus and needs to continue to commit to the prioritisation of job creation and cost containment in the economy as the key drivers of competitiveness," he concluded.

Town Notes

Congratulations to Andy O'Dowd and Tidy Towns on achieving 3rd place in the Irish Business against Litter Awards. Tidy Towns are an inspiration to us all.



Thank you for taking the time to read our first newsletter and remember, think Longford, shop Longford, support Longford and together, Longford will thrive once more