

The CCD
NEWS

AUTUMN 2010

CCD
THE CONVENTION
CENTRE DUBLIN



CELEBRATING OUR LAUNCH

IN THIS ISSUE

The CCD
Official Opening
7 September 2010

**MEET OUR EXECUTIVE
HEAD CHEF**
Lenny Fearon

**WIN A BOARDROOM
MEETING AND LUNCH**
for 10 in our Autumn Competition



WELCOME

Nick Waight
Chief
Executive



...to our Autumn newsletter and our special Launch edition.

I'm delighted to announce that, after an incredible journey, we are now officially open.

On 7 September, we held our Official Opening, marked by a Civic Reception and Trade Launch. The Civic Event took place at noon and included a plaque unveiling by Irish Prime Minister, An Taoiseach, Mr. Brian Cowen in the Auditorium, who also officially 'activated' the building. This was followed by speeches, performances by Sinead O'Connor and Fidget Feet aerial artists, and a buffet lunch for over 1200 guests.

The trade event in the evening included an uplifting speech by the Minister of Tourism, Sport and Culture, Mary Hanafin, followed by a banquet and live entertainment from Celtic Rising, The

Halleluia Gospel Choir and, the highlight of the night, Westlife!

The day was covered extensively by Irish and International media and we were delighted with the overwhelmingly positive and complimentary feedback we received from all our guests.

So now the real job is underway! And with over 200 confirmed events, we are well and truly up and running. I hope you enjoy this special edition, with highlights of the launch event.

We look forward to welcoming you to The CCD soon.

Nick Waight,
Chief Executive,
The Convention Centre Dublin

Up and Running...

We certainly hit the ground running in our opening month with 42 events, including our first two international association conferences, the 39th European Dialysis & Transplant Nurses Association / European Renal Care Association International Conference (2,000 international delegates) and the European Union of Geriatric Medicine Society Conference (EUGMS) (1,200 delegates). We also hosted our first major international corporate event, Google EMEA Sales Conference (3,000 delegates) and our first Charity Ball for 800 guests.



Google treats at The CCD

"We were delighted to host Google's EMEA Sales conference at The CCD. Google is the largest international corporate event we have hosted to date and it really allowed us to showcase our expertise in managing large-scale, world-class conferences." **Nick Waight**

Over the two-day event CCD Hospitality served 7,000 cups of coffee, 4,000 lunches, 2,500 dinners and 2,000 ice-creams!

Ireland Stands Up to Cancer Charity Ball at The CCD

On Saturday 2nd October, we hosted the first ever 'Ireland Stands Up to Cancer' fundraising event, attended by over 800 guests. This event brought together, for the first time, four major Irish charities (All Ireland Cooperative Oncology Research Group (ICORG), Crumlin Children's Hospital, Marie Keating Foundation and Friends of St. Luke's Hospital), involved in cancer research, prevention and care.

Following a Champagne Reception in the Foyer, the Gala Ball took place in The Liffey, lit in ambient pink in honour of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. There was wonderful entertainment, as well as incredible raffle and auction prizes. The event raised €250,000, split equally between the four charities. Our thanks to all our guests and sponsors for their generous support.



"I am delighted that Conference Partners has finally arranged its first International Conference (EUGMS) in the magnificent CCD.

From the moment we arrived, we were surrounded by the friendly warm faces of The CCD team who could not do enough to ensure that the conference ran smoothly from beginning to end. This iconic building shone as brightly as the sunshine itself with beautiful views through the drum over the City and Dublin Mountains.

The outside is brought inside and there is a tremendous feeling of spaciousness, a perfect haven for networking. I look forward to bringing many more International Conferences to The CCD".

Nicola McGrane,
Managing Director,
Conference Partners

"Thank you for a fantastic night last night! The Venue is spectacular and of course there was amazing entertainment in the form of Westlife. Well done to all the staff who brought it together so well. Looking forward to hosting our event there in November."

Nicola Burns
McDonalds Restaurants of Ireland



"Congratulations and very well done to you and your excellent team. You must be very pleased - last night wowed us all! I honestly (and I mean this) did not expect to get such a high standard dinner - your chef is to be congratulated and indeed the persons organising the serving - talk about precision."

Mary Leahy,
Head of Protocol, IP Department,
Dublin Airport



"Thanks so much for such a wonderful night last night. It was a great show and I thoroughly enjoyed myself. The building is absolutely stunning, the staff are gorgeous and the food was exceptional. Congrats to all the team."

Sarah Grennan,
Editor, Hotel & Catering Review

"A huge thank you to you and all the team for your efforts on the day. It was absolutely terrific and all the feedback we have received to date has been fantastic! We are delighted and I know the 'wow' factor of the venue greatly contributed to the overall success of the day."

Catherine Carrigy,
Executive Assistant,
Lloyd's Ireland Representative Limited





“Convention centres are normally spread out over a large area with everything on the same level but we confronted the challenge of building an enormous facility in a relatively small space. As sometimes happens, the problem provided inspiration. We were able to design something which features the movement of people and ensures the process of getting around the building is memorable. When you are at an event here, it is when you get out and move around that communication can be enhanced by the public spaces.”

Architect, Kevin Roche

THE CCD OFFICIAL O



“It has been very important to differentiate ourselves from other venues in terms of technology. We felt that to really move forward the convention experience for our customers, we needed a platform that enabled new technologies and was future-ready for any technology developments. So let me assure you that the equipment here is second to none, not just in Europe, but the world!

I would like to use this opportunity to thank all of our customers for their support and, as Chief Executive of The CCD, I will do everything possible to make it the best convention centre in Europe.”

The CCD Chief Executive, Nick Waight

"This project launched me and my colleagues on the most challenging and, ultimately, the most satisfying journey of our careers. The CCD team has delivered a landmark state building on time and within budget that is truly fit for purpose, fit for place and fit for posterity. The CCD provides a platform for us, the Irish, to set new international standards of hospitality. Our goal is to become the best convention centre in Europe by 2014."

The CCD Chairman, Dermod Dwyer

OPENING

7th September 2010



Leading Shareholder, Treasury Holdings, Richard Barrett

Following his greetings in Irish, English, Russian and Chinese, symbolic of The CCD's function as an international venue, Richard Barrett said "The CCD is a meeting place of races, cultures and tongues, a forum for the interchange of ideas, a beacon of hope for Ireland - for it is from hope that the future springs".



An Taoiseach, Mr. Brian Cowen, T.D., at our Civic Reception, officially 'activating' The CCD

"The CCD strengthens the hand of tourism agencies in promoting Ireland as a venue for international conference business. The CCD will boost the Irish economy not only through the conference fees generated, but with the spin-off business for hotels, restaurants, taxis, pubs and shops as well as cultural and tourist attractions. I believe that Dublin offers delegates the perfect combination of high quality professional facilities, in a friendly and sociable city. I call on all private and voluntary sector organisations to actively promote the Centre as a location for international conferences - to maximise its impact on the economy."



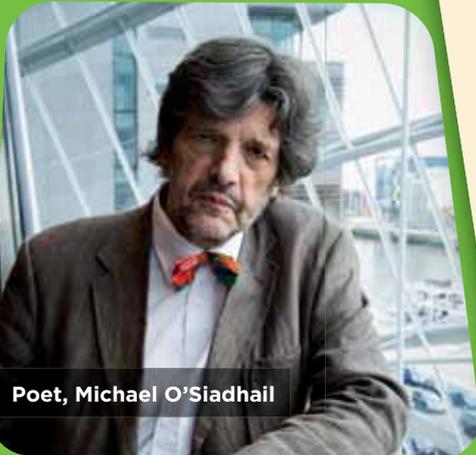
Minister for Tourism Sports and Culture, Mary Hanafin, T.D., at our Launch

"The Convention Centre Dublin is the latest symbol of a very proud and confident Irish nation, which opens our doors to the people of the world to visit and to do business. 8 out of the top 10 ICT companies and 8 out of the top 10 Pharmaceutical companies worldwide are based in Ireland. And, of the top 25 medical devices which help to improve the quality of so many people's lives, 15 of them are made in this country. A recent survey ranked Ireland 10 out of 102 countries for ease of doing business. This small little island in the Atlantic is not West Britain or East America. It is Ireland, a proud people who are cultured, innovative, spontaneous and fun."

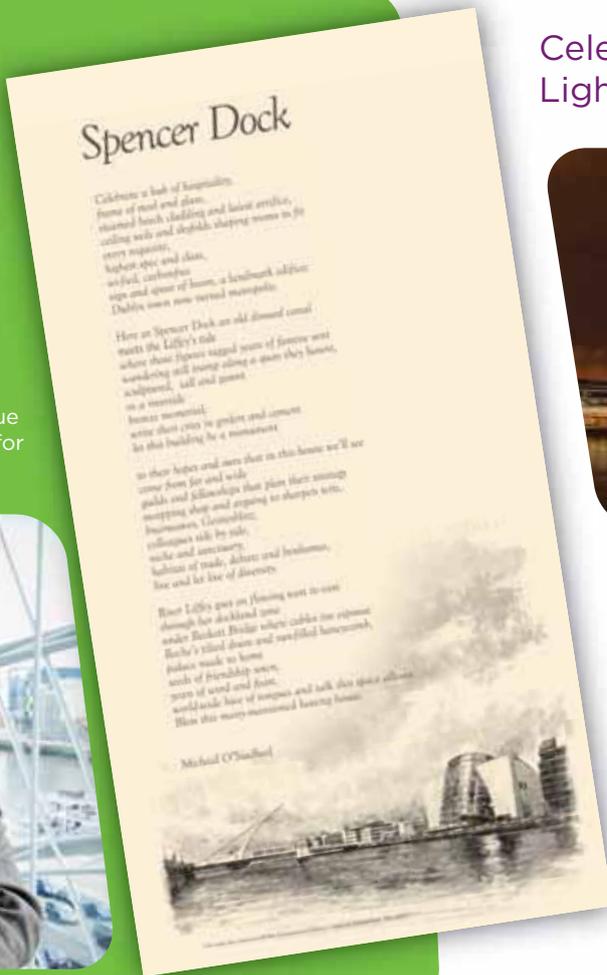
Spencer Dock

To celebrate our launch, renowned Irish poet Micheal O'Siadhail wrote and performed Spencer Dock, a poem connecting the past and the present of Dublin's Docklands, and the many future possibilities for visitors to The CCD.

You can find the poem 'Spencer Dock' on our website in the Venue section or by searching the site for 'poem'.



Poet, Michael O'Siadhail



Celebrating our Launch with a Light Projection Show for Dublin



To help celebrate The CCD launch, we projected a light show 170 metres across the River Liffey, onto the front of the building, every night during launch week between 9pm and 12pm. The show is based on the Irish legend 'Bua an Eolais' (The Gift of Knowledge). Set in a romantic Celtic forest, it begins with the legend of the young Fionn MacCumhail, who gains the wisdom of the world by tasting the Salmon of Knowledge when he burns his finger while cooking the fish over a campfire. It moves to a graphic sequence, which showcases The CCD as a catalyst to support the exchange of ideas. To view the show, visit the video blog area on our website www.theccd.ie

In the spotlight...

MEET OUR EXECUTIVE HEAD CHEF Lenny Fearon

Why did you become a Chef?

I always had a passion for food. From an early age, I began learning from my father who had a fond interest in nature and hunting to supply meat to local businesses. He taught me about respecting nature and the importance of seasonality as well as understanding the principles of cooking.

Where did you start your career in Hospitality?

I always wanted to raise the bar, so from the beginning I strived to learn from the best in the world. I trained at the world famous Boca Raton Resort and Club in Florida under Chef John Mergan and Chef Paul



Lenny Fearon
Executive Head Chef



Bocuse, the "Emperor of Cuisine," the world's most famous French chef. I went on to work in Germany and Switzerland, including the Michelin-star restaurant Le Chateaux.

What happened next?

I returned to Ireland to put all my new skills to the test. I was fortunate to work in Michelin-starred restaurants such as Conrad Gallagher's Peacock Alley, where I served as Head Chef for 3 years, and Derry Clarke's L'Ecrivain. In 2004, I was appointed Executive Head Chef of Fitzers Catering, which gave me an opportunity to manage a different level of service as it involved serving food for large banqueting occasions. With Fitzers I had the opportunity to manage venues such as Powerscourt House, Leopardstown Racecourse, Lansdowne Road and Croke Park, the fourth largest stadium

in Europe. In fact, during the first Rugby international match in Croke Park, I was responsible for feeding 5,000 corporate guests as well as 4,500 match-goers.

What kind of food will you create for delegates?

My aim is to deliver an exceptional 5-star food experience for The CCD. I want delegates to realise that this venue is one of the best in the world with food to match, and I believe we are already demonstrating our expertise in this area.

What can delegates expect to see on The CCD menu?

They will see the best quality home-grown produce from every corner of Ireland, prepared with a contemporary twist. All our beef and chicken are locally sourced and prepared to the highest level by our creative culinary team.

Do you have a signature dish?

I'm working on a few things but I'm getting lots of compliments on the food, so that's a great start. I do have a few favourite dishes and concepts that I would like to develop, for example, white celeriac cream with bruschetta of chicken pâté and pea shoots or Clare Island salmon teriyaki with panko fried lemongrass rice cake, charred butternut squash, black pudding and duck cigar. Another favourite is the beef on our opening night with the Foie Gras floating potato and braised oxtail cannelloni.

New Appointment

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Roisin Brennan as our new Sales Account Manager for Banqueting. Roisin is currently dealing with all of our enquires and bookings for Christmas events and private dining.

Roisin Brennan
Sales Account
Manager
for Banqueting



Now Booking Christmas Events

We are now taking bookings for Christmas events, small meetings and private dining, in addition to larger conferences and events. At The CCD, we offer world-class hospitality in 5-star surroundings, complete with meticulous technical and event management support. We cater for groups from 10 to 2000, in a range of flexible meeting rooms and halls.

For more information, contact Roisin or any of our Sales Team on:

Tel: +353 1 856 0000
or email sales@theccd.ie



New Business Confirmed for The CCD

- **The 17th Annual Symposium and AGM of the Irish Menopause Society**
13th November, 2010
- **Globe Forum**
17-18 November, 2010 (1,000 international delegates)
- **Project Management Institute (PMI) Global Congress 2011**
7 - 9 May, 2011 (1,500 international delegates)
- **8th International Conference on Auditorium Acoustics**
20 - 22 May, 2011 (200 international delegates)
- **TM Forum's Management World Conference**
24 - 26 May, 2011 (3,000 international delegates)
- **The Annual European Association for International Education Conference**
9 - 14 September, 2012 (4,000 international delegates)
- **The 22nd IAVE World Volunteer Conference**
22 - 26 September, 2012 (2,500 international delegates)
- **European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology (ESPE) Annual Meeting**
16 - 21 September, 2014 (2,500 international delegates)

Upcoming Events at The CCD

We have confirmed over 200 events to date. Here are some of the events we will be hosting from now until the end of the year.

- **The 4th National Hospitality Environmental Conference and Exhibition**
- **Society of Chartered Surveyors Conference**
- **Sunday Business Post - Mobile Communications Conference**
- **Sunday Business Post - Waste Management Conference**
- **Construction Industry Federation - CECA dinner**
- **Irish Hospitality Institute Awards and Founders Ball**
- **Taste of Christmas**
- **Business & Finance Magazine Awards**

Visit our Video Blog and Facebook Page



Have you visited our website recently? Take a look at our Video Blog, accessible from our home page or via our YouTube Channel 'Conference Dublin' We are also now live on Facebook, 'The Convention Centre Dublin' with regular updates, images and competitions.



In our latest competition, you can win a complimentary meeting at The CCD in one of our 4 exclusive boardrooms, as well as an executive lunch for 10. Furnished to a very high specification with natural light, the boardroom will suit any type of small meeting, training session or intimate event.

The prize includes full rental of the boardroom for a day and an executive lunch for up to 10. Our Boardrooms are technically sophisticated with a dedicated technician on call throughout the event. To enter our draw, please visit our homepage at www.theccd.ie. Closing date is 30 November, 2010. Terms and conditions apply.

And the winner is...

We are delighted to announce that Melissa Morris of Congrex UK was the lucky winner of our Summer 2010 Newsletter Competition.

The correct answer to the competition question 'Our catering equipment includes how many pieces of cutlery?' was '51,000'. Melissa received two tickets to our Evening Launch Event, including flights and accommodation.



Spencer Dock, North Wall Quay
Dublin 1, Ireland.

t +353 1 856 0000
e info@theccd.ie
w www.theccd.ie



www.fsc.org Cert no. SGS-COC-003235
© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council