

We hope you
enjoy the new
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www.corkcdb.ie

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Cork Gets Connected

Ever wondered about modern technology and how it can be of use to you? The internet, email, online services, what you need: type of computer, applications you would like to use; e.g. for typing letters, creating a database of contacts, what training you will need for getting the best out your computer, what benefits there are to using the internet, and what is broadband anyway?

Well Cork City Council's new 'Connect Cork' initiative can help.

'Connect Cork' aims to raise awareness of the benefits of this modern technology amongst the people of Cork – residents, companies, students, older people, community groups.

The new Connect Cork website (www.connectcork.ie) includes information on how to get connected, the benefits of using the internet under 'Life Online', a basic internet guide, details of the upcoming events for Connect Cork and news items on competitions.

Speaking at the Connect Cork launch the Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor Deirdre Clune said:

"Connect Cork™ ... is focused on bringing together the key elements of ICT development (i.e. hardware and software, network access, content and education & training) in an integrated manner for the benefit of businesses and



consumers...so don't delay, get involved and discover the developing world of information and communication online and at your fingertips!!"

The Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Micheál Martin TD said of the initiative:

"The Connect Cork initiative is a comprehensive and integrated plan for ICT in and around the city, and represents a milestone in the development of the area for the information age."

There are a number of activities that will be run within the Connect Cork™ initiative, including:

- The 'ICT Business Make-over' competition, with prizes to the value of €20,000, sponsored by Sage, in association with FDS Technology.
 - The Schools New Technology Idea project and Digital Essay competitions, sponsored by Eircom with prizes for the winning students and schools
 - Internet demonstrations
- ...and many more

For more details about the Connect Cork™, log onto www.connectcork.ie or phone 1850 575757.

Upcoming Connect Cork Events

Tues 20 Sept	<i>Sage Technology for Business event</i> (Millennium Hall, City Hall, 12 noon - 8pm)
Fri 7 Oct	<i>Chorus Technology Education & Training</i> (Metropole Hotel, 2pm - 8pm) for students, parents, teachers, businesses and others
Tues 25 Oct	<i>Wireless Technology</i> (Millennium Hall, City Hall, 12 noon—8pm)
Sat 19 Nov	<i>Techie Toys for Christmas</i> , (Millennium Hall, City Hall, 12 noon— 7pm)

Young People Discover Science

Over 4,500 young people attended Cork's first interactive science exhibition "Discovery 2005" in City Hall in March.

This three day event provided an exciting opportunity for young people across Cork city and county to interact with hands-on science and technology exhibits and stands.

Organised by the Cork City Learning Forum the event aimed to stimulate interest and excitement about science, and encourage more young people to study science subjects.

25 interactive exhibits were hired from the Techniqest science centre in Wales - hydrogen rockets, Bernoulli Blower, crazy cranes, design a tree and a variety of fun and interactive displays. Exhibits from the Dublin-based Ark Cultural Centre for Children provided a chance to

explore the inventions of Leonardo da Vinci. Other interactive stands from UCC, CIT, Alimentary Pharmabiotic Centre, and the Tyndall National Institute featured virtual reality computer games, a 'Gutreaction' computer game, 'your star sign through a telescope', "can I eat it" slime, liquid nitrogen ice cream and furry "are they real?" animals.

The event also featured electronics workshops where young people built electronic gadgets, including lie detectors and musical bagpipes, and robot-making workshops. Robots also featured at the Lego Mindstorm Robots arenas, where some local secondary school pupils demonstrated their prize winning robots in association with the Cork

Electronics Industry Association, UCC and CIT. Outside the City Hall, the Science Bus visited a number of local schools, enabling children to carry out experiments in their on board laboratory.

Sponsored by the Discover Science and engineering programme, together with CIT, UCC, Cork City Council, Cork City Enterprise Board, Cork Electronics Industry Association and FAS, the exhibition was a great success. The Learning Forum is now seeking funding to rerun the event in 2006.

Exploring Leonardo da Vinci's inventions at Discovery 2005



Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr Séan Martin launches the 2nd Lifelong Learning Festival

Just 2 years on and the Cork Lifelong Learning Festival has gone from strength to strength. Taking place from April 7—10 the second festival fea-

Cork Celebrates Learning

ured over 140 free events across the city.

Events included demonstrations, exhibitions, tours, introductory classes, information sessions, seminars, workshops, talks. The festival promotes and celebrates learning of all kinds and for all ages and is organised by the Learning Forum

The emphasis was once again on fun with plenty

of opportunities for the public not just to watch but also to join in and try out a skill – from French to crochet, circus skills to Irish dancing – and a whole lot more.

A new element in the 2005 festival was the green kiosk on St Patrick St which distributed programmes throughout the festival.

If you'd like to organise an event for the 2006 Lifelong Learning Festival contact Elmarie McCarthy, tel 4924104, e-mail learningfestival@corkcity.ie

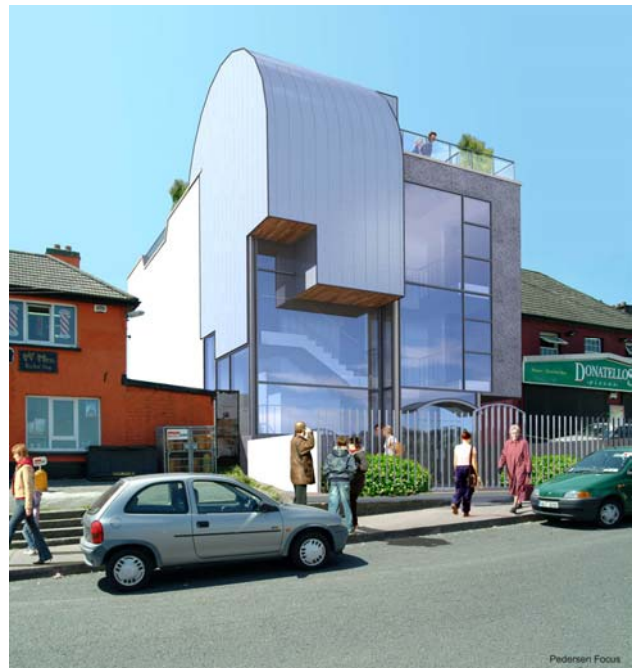
New Community Facility for Gurranaברה

By the end of 2006 Gurranaברה should have a new state of the art community facility. The project will cost €1.4 million with Cork City Council providing the main part of the funding. In addition significant resources have been secured from the Dormant Accounts Board, HSE (RAPID Leverage Fund) and the Dept of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

Consultation with the local community in Gurranaברה under the RAPID Programme confirmed that a new community facility was a top priority for the area. Working with representatives of the local community and other stakeholders Cork City Council prepared a plan for the provision of a multi-use facility on the site of the premises known as The Hut on Gurranaברה Road.

The new facility will be used by a variety of groups - one floor will be devoted to work with young people and will house the Gurranaברה Youth Development Project and the Drugs Task Force. There will also be activities for older people such as social evenings, Bingo, Health and Fitness Activities such as Tea Dances. The new Gurranaברה/Churchfield Community Development Project will also be based in the new centre. The general community will also be catered for and the building will be used for the delivery of a range of local services and activities and for local meetings and events.

The local community is delighted with the new building and a local Steering Group for the project has been established.



Artist's Impression of new Community Facility in Gurranaברה

RAPID Funding Update

The four RAPID areas in Cork have been allocated substantial additional funding to support local development.

Local Authority Housing Enhancement Scheme - €100,000 has been allocated to each of the four RAPID areas in the city. The funding is to be spent over two years (2005-2006) and is co-funded by the Dept of Environment, Heritage & Local Government, the Dept of Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs and Cork City Council. The type of work being carried out under the scheme includes landscaping, boundary walls, improvement to open spaces, seating areas, lighting, and works to make open spaces in flat complexes amenable to recreational use. Work must be carried out by 21st October 2005.

Playground Development - following on from the 2004 allocation of €288,000 to develop playground facilities in the four RAPID areas, a further €256,000 was approved in 2005. This will support the development of 4 multi use games areas for 10-14 year olds.

These will be located in Mahon, Mayfield, Gurranaברה & Farranree.

Equality for Women - €934,000 was allocated by the Dept of Justice, Equality and Law Reform Equality for Women Measure to 7 projects in Cork City. The projects which received funding reflected the endorsement project that was undertaken locally. The specific focus of the funding is to improve the quality of life for women living in the RAPID areas. The 7 successful projects included We the People, L.INC, Traveller Visibility Group, Cork Anti Poverty Resource Network, Mayfield Community Arts Centre, Northside Community Health Initiative and Cork City Partnership.

Health Leverage Funds - €120,000 has been allocated to each of the four RAPID areas to support smallscale health & community projects. Co-funded by HSE & RAPID Leverage funds, the Projects to receive this funding are: The Kerrigan Tyrrell Youth Centre, Newbury Arts Centre, Glen NYP and Glen Pre-School, The Hut, Knocknaheeny Senior Citizens Project, Mahon Family Resource Centre and Orchards Community pre-

school

Dormant Accounts - Approximately €1.7 million has been allocated to projects in the RAPID areas in the last 6 months. Grants range from €5,000 to €485,000. A full list of allocations is available from www.dormantaccounts.ie

Sports Capital - in 2004 over €500,000 in Sports Capital funding was allocated to projects across the four RAPID areas, plus an extra 30% from the Dept of Community, Rural & Gaeltacht Leverage fund for each project endorsed by the AIT. In 2005 the allocation is €800,000 and details of 2005 top up funding are awaited.

Equal Opportunity Childcare Funding has been awarded to 5 centres in the RAPID areas - Knocknaheeny Family Centre; Barnardos; Before 5 Centre Churchfield; Blackpool (Little Hands Creche) and Lus na neala Naoinra

Traffic Calming - €45,000 has been awarded to each of the RAPID areas to enhance traffic calming measures and to increase pedestrian safety. Projects will be implemented by the end of 2005.



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International Volunteer Day

Groups are reminded to return their pen pictures of volunteers for inclusion in the special Evening Echo supplement by 30 Sept to Mary Rose McCarthy, St Patrick's Hospital, Marymount Hospice,

In Memory of Jim O'Flynn

It was with great sadness that the Members and support staff of Cork City Development Board learned of the death of their colleague Jim O'Flynn. Jim was a founder-Member of the Board and also a Member of the Cork City Monitoring Group. He was always active in promoting the interests of the stakeholders he represented in Local development and he also supported the Board in a very practical way through his position as CEO of Cork City Partnership. His contribution and experience will be greatly missed by all of us.

CDB Strategy Review

Three years on from the adoption of integrated strategies by the City and County Development Boards across the country, the Minister has asked each Board to conduct a strategy review. In particular each Board has been asked to identify limited number of key priorities and actions for the next three years, along with an implementation work programme for 2006-2008.

Special attention should be given to those priorities/integrated actions which are designed to result in the more co-ordinated delivery of services. A context paper, highlighting key changes since the original strategy was prepared, has been circulated and the reviewed strategy should be

New Look CDB Website

The Cork City Development Board's website has been redesigned to make it more accessible and informative. Both the content and the technology behind the site have now been updated. Key features of the new look website include:

- News items and events relating to the CDB
- Director's progress reports to the Board.
- Key publications to download
- Who's on the Board
- Links to other, related sites.

CDB On-Line Action Tracking System

An online action-tracking facility, developed by the Local Government Computer Services Board for the City Development Board, is now in operation.

This web-based system allows the Board to examine the progress of its integrated strategy "Imagine Our Future". Each member agency will have a nominated user who can update that agency's actions. In addition to a brief comment which can be entered as an update, relevant documents can also be uploaded, giving a more detailed description of the action's progress. Training will be provided to all users of the system in the coming months

City of Difference

A new publication "*City of Difference: Mapping Social Exclusion in Cork*" has just been published. Drawing on the 2002 census the report clearly presents the main population, unemployment, and education statistics in Cork. It includes maps and tables that should help the reader understand the dynamics of social exclusion in Cork City.

The report was developed as a partnership between Cork City Council (Social Inclusion Unit) and University College Cork with the co-operation of Cork City Partnership and Combat Poverty Agency. To receive a copy Tel 021 4924060 or e-mail cathy_buchanan@corkcity.ie.

