



Oct–Nov 2013 | Issue 24

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The International Councilor

President's Message

BY John Sexton, CII

Greetings,

This is my first message to all of our members as the new President of CII!



Two years ago, when the planning of the 59th AGM was in its infancy, it felt like we had forever to arrange what turned out to be an incredible experience in Ireland last month. However, by the time August rolled around, I began to wonder what had happened to *forever*.

Looking back on our spectacular AGM, it is hard to believe that I had to convince my future committee (they were the makings of a committee, but they didn't know it yet), in a pub in Dublin one night, that Wexford would be a grand location for an AGM. At first they shot me down. Fortunately, I was aided by two persuasive negotiators; namely John (Jameson) and Arthur (Guinness). Those of you who have had the opportunity to while away a few hours in a pub in Ireland will understand that pubs are sometimes used as offices and it is not uncommon for official business to be conducted therein.

By the time the bartender flicked the lights to signal the last round, myself and the Chairman; Mr. Derek Nally were shaking hands on the agreement. We both got what we wanted; he got me to agree to raise funds by way of sponsorships (“there’s no money in Ireland these days”, says he, “the only reason people are in the pubs at all, is because the recession has them driven to drink”) and I got Derek to buy the last round.

In all seriousness though, it is because of the hard work and dedication of that committee — Derek Nally, Tony Fagan, Michael Bennett and James Gahan, that we were able to all share in such an unforgettable experience. I know for a fact that their respective spouses; Joan Nally, Colette Bennett and Mairead Gahan were pillars of support throughout the planning and implementation stages. Another Nally who worked away tirelessly in the background was Lorena Nally, who provided much needed technical support throughout.

There is another long standing member who actively participated in every aspect of the 59th AGM and who along with myself, flew to Ireland in 2012 to attend the official PR launch. Past President Jim Kirby (Chicago), was available seven days a week over the past two years and is to be highly commended for being one of the corner stones of the whole process.

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I would have liked to have been able to single him out during my inaugural speech, but the M.C. for the night, James Gahan, Esquire, very eloquently informed me that he didn't want "that Chicago crowd to be getting

big heads."

Ireland has long been known for her warm hospitality and is indeed the reason why she is referred to as the "land of a hundred thousand welcomes." Having said that, it was impossible not to feel amazed by the outpouring of support by the local community—business and civic leaders, cultural dignitaries—right up to the most important political office in the land; that of An Taoiseach (Prime Minister)—all gave us a welcome that was akin to what visiting royalty would experience. My first taste of that was at the PR launch. The press room was filled to capacity, including two radio stations in attendance to interview us about the types of investigations we conducted and who exactly was this association called CII. People were genuinely interested in finding out about us and offering their support. Thanks to Ms. Kavanagh from The Wexford Gathering Committee, I was able to bring literature with me in advance to the 58th AGM in South Africa, in order to show the attendees a bit of what our host location had to offer.

I am sure that most (if not all) who were there will agree with me that we



experienced entertaining and enlightening speakers; beginning with the opening ceremony and an address by An Taoiseach, Mr. Enda Kenny,



TD. I am still in awe that the leader of the country so appreciated and respected our gathering, that he took the time out of his incredibly busy schedule to welcome us and to bear witness at our official ceremony. Then there was Mr. Eamon Hoare, who gave a presentation worthy of a televised documentary, on bringing the John Fitzgerald Kennedy eternal flame from Arlington Cemetery, Virginia over the Atlantic Ocean to where it now burns proudly, in New Ross, Co. Wexford.

One of the highlights of the week, must have been the charity auction on Irish night. Thanks to the generosity of artist Philip Corley, who painted a special depiction of the Galway Races, specifically for our auction and to the generosity of our members and guests, the auction raised \$10,000.00. The designated recipient was the Wexford General Hospital and a presentation was made at the gala dinner. The gala dinner was a splendid affair and we were honored to have as the key note speaker, The Attorney General of Ireland, Ms. Maire Whelan. Also in attendance were the Minister of State, Mr. Paul Kehoe as well as many other local dignitaries. It was clearly a "who's who" of County Wexford, where 160 members and guests enjoyed the evening's proceedings. And I would be remiss if I did not issue a special congratulations to our 2013 Meritorious service award winner Alan Marr and our 2013 Investigator of the Year Galen Clements.

As I stated in my report to the AGM, I was confident that the 2013 AGM Committee would produce a total package that meshed hospitality, entertainment, history, value and friendship into a virtual Celtic design which had no beginning nor end.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members to our board: Sachit Kumar from India, Brett Mickelson from Panama, Debra Macdonald from Canada. Debra will be the new Secretary. I would also like to welcome returning Board members: Anne Styren – the AGM Chairperson, Sheila Ponnosamy – Public Relations Chairperson, Bert Falbaum, Jack Chu, Galen Clements – Vice President, Eddy Sigrist – Treasurer, who takes over for Rod Webb. Our heartfelt thanks go out to Rod who served admirably for several years as Treasurer.

Many new changes occurred this year for the first time, as a result of the implementation of the newly revised bylaws, as presented to the membership during the AGM. Some of the main changes were as follows; The President will not automatically go “through the chairs,” but will be voted on by the Board members. Even though I was the First President going into the AGM,

I was voted on by the Board to assume the Presidency at the new board meeting. The President can now also serve a second year. In the past, there was no provisions for a second year immediately following the first. We no longer have the positions of Chairman, Third, Second and First President. Instead, there will be a Vice President. We believe that this streamlining of positions will make for a leaner and more agile Board.

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The new Board has already identified a number of areas on which we will focus in the coming year. Renewing and restructuring these areas will be of direct benefit to all of our members. The first project will be to develop a brand new website. The current website has become too cumbersome and time consuming to navigate around. It does not represent us as well as it should. We are seeking to create a website that will act as our “professional calling card.” In conjunction with the new website, we are seeking to develop a corporate identity package. It is felt that many of our members will be able to use this to their advantage for marketing purposes and to help grow their businesses.

The 2014 AGM committee, headed up by Bob Fenech and Nancy Barber are busy with the planning for next September in San Francisco. They have already secured their first Gold Sponsorship, from Sachit Kumar and Globe Detectives of India. By the way, New Delhi will be the location for the 2015 AGM!

In closing, I would like to thank the Board for placing their trust in me to assume the responsibilities of President. Little did I know back in 2004, when Joan Beach recommended to me that I should join CII, that ten years later I would be assuming the leadership of the Council. It has been a wonderful ten years and I have made many good friends and shared many precious memories. I would like to urge all of our members to become active in your Council, whether through volunteering on a committee, running for a Board opening or writing an article for *The Councilor*. I know our Editor, Lois Colley, who brings out one of the most professional e-zines that you will find anywhere, would be happy to receive all contributions.

John Sexton,
President CII 

Editor's Message › Planes, trains, and automobiles...

By Lois Colley, lec@colleypi.com



In my little corner of the world,(a noisy café), I await an order of take away sushi because in the U.S. we are *always* in a hurry for *everything* (including fun) and have no time for *anything*, (including sustenance) having failed to heed the churning of my stomach hours ago.

However, a moment of solitude allows me to reflect upon our recent AGM. Has it really been a month since our visit to Enniscorthy? Was the trip as amazing as I recall? Did I really have as much fun as I remember?" These are the thoughts that run through my mind. I flash to approaching the hotel in Enniscorthy, lugging my suitcase across the town bridge, underneath a banner reading "Welcome delegates" flanked by the flags of the 17 countries represented at our conference. Cars were circling the city emblazoned with CII conference logo's. I ask you, who but the POD's (Pal's of Derick) could pull that off only to be followed up by four days of festivities including Celtic dancers, castles, cannons, an opera singer and various dignitaries (i.e., Enda Kenny TD) not to mention our own two seminar speakers, Steve Kirby and Jack Devine whose presentations were spell binding. Of course the best Irish Band in the land entertained us on two occasions. *Afterall, they are the POD's.*

Precisely how do Derek Nally, Jimmy Gahan, Mick Bennett and Tony Fagan take over Wexford County in a seamless manner? I suspect a conspiracy involving spouses, children and comrades. The POD's not only exploited the Chamber of Commerce and the local town councils, but they transformed their spouses into greeting committee, tour directors, concierge and hostess. Lorena Nally was forced to provide live entertainment every time she spoke, a chip off the old block for sure including charming the Kuman Brothers.



Dave Bennett did a great impersonation as bartender and bus driver, and several police detectives were fabulous posing as chauffeurs. Our incoming president John Sexton, outgoing President Eddy Sigrist and the ever elusive Jim Kirby worked very hard behind the scenes to ensure a good time was had by all, but the POD's and their family suspended reality to do so.

So what has happened in the aftermath? Did the sign get removed from the town bridge? Did the Enniscorthy Town Council, The New Ross Town Council and The Bunclody Golf Club recover from their outburst of hospitality? Did Miriam Gahan return to her day job as a physician? Will Redmond's Tavern acknowledge they even know Derek Nally? Did Joan Nally and Colette Bennett seek recompense in the form of a weekend getaway or simply stare at their husband's and say "YOU OWE ME."

It was great to see the members mingling, especially the new faces and those members we have not seen in awhile such as Hermann Kaminski, with his wife and cutest toddler ever in tow (Germany), Robert and his beloved wife Brenda Dudash (USA), Alison Chong (Singapore), and Jan Collie (London). Alison specializes in financial matters and Jan specializes in forensics.



Peruse this newsletter and future ones to find out. Check out the bio's of this year's award recipients and catch up on the latest CII commentary. Take the time to read this month's past president's survey, a series that is brought to us courtesy of Nancy Barber.

And speaking of courtesies, a special thanks to Ed Kelly, our "unofficial" official photographer as well as the many other members who took the time

to send me some their 2013 photos.

There is no getting away from the buzz that is generated at an AGM. As we look to the future, and rebuild a fraternity that



should be the hallmark of our organization, mark your calendar for the 2014 AGM from 2 September to 6 September in San Francisco, or the 2015 in Dehli.

President and board members strategize in Ireland 2013

They say no matter what side of the fence one is on, the grass is always greener on the other side. I am confident that is true when referring to the Emerald Isle. It's a magical place with magical people and for all of you who made it possible I speak for every member of our organization when I say *Go Raibh maith agaibh. WE THANK YOU.* 📷

More Photo Highlights from the 2013 AGM



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John Sexton receiving President's Medal from Eddy Sigrist



President John Sexton bestowing an honorary membership to Michael Bennett



Galen Clements, Investigator of the Year



Steve receives gift from President John Sexton



Tanya, Jay, Brenda, Helen & Graham



continues on next page



John presenting speaker gift to Eamon Hoare





Past President Survey by Nancy Poss Hatchl



This issue highlights past president Nancy Poss Hatchel. Nancy joined CII in 1982 and became president in 1995 and board chair in 1996. She is a past recipient of the IIOY award. The series is brought to us courtesy of Nancy Barber

1. How did you come to become an investigator?
A *I was divorced with three young teens, and at first I worked as an undercover operative for a corporation that was investigating a suspected drug ring. I learned to soldier and assisting with busting the ring! Although I enjoyed it, I sought less risky work and moved to working for a general PI firm.*
2. Was there any licensing in place, and if so, was any testing required?
A *I'm based in California, USA. I had to meet an hourly requirement for working in the field, pass a licensing exam and criminal history check before being licensed in 1979, My license is still active and in good standing.*
3. When you first started your investigator's career, what, if any privacy concerns were a parameter of the profession, and what were the parameters?
A *At first, the biggest "no no" was in busting doors open. Most all public records were open: voters, property, civil & criminal. It sure made work easy...but after their removal with privacy legislation in the mid-1980's- ongoing, a full successful investigation could be done with adaptability and using the sources legally available. It challenged our skills.*
4. How has privacy issues emerged, or change since you started your career?
A *When I began, there were few privacy issues. During the 80's and 90's it became a huge issue. Now, records get sealed every day without*

announcement, The public sector has "won the war". Yet there are still many ways to complete an assignment legally.

5. How has the privacy issue impacted your business?
A *If records are sealed, there is usually a talkative neighbor or ex-spouse that can provide information. As our U.S. government has moved into the use of "drones" and other technology, I suspect it will have a residual impact on privacy rights.*
6. What, if any reasons did you have for joining an international organization?
A *I wanted to expand my horizons. establish friendships and to learn about international laws and practices of our profession. I see the world as shrinking in size with the technological developments.*
7. When did you first join CII and who mentored you into the organization?
A *Dan Wilson, and other members from California mentored me. My first meeting was in the late 1980's when Dan was installed as president in Santa Monica's AGM.*
8. When did you serve as president and what were the most challenging issues facing the profession?
A *I was installed in 1995, (I believe) at the AGM in Edinburgh. My installation was a total disaster. We had overbooked and were packed tighter than respectable sardines. Our planned host, Malcolm Thomson had died that year, and John Grant and Sandy from Glasgow acted as co-hosts. Someone caught the drapes in the banquet hall as they were "smoldering as a result of a cigar. After the installation and oaths, and before the toast to the Queen and dancing began, the smoldering fire became a blaze. The fire engines arrived with sirens blaring and we spent the rest of the evening sharing "brollies & Macs" behind the hotel in the rain,*

My presidency was a serene one highlighted by the first ever Asia meeting as we had our mid-year meeting in Phuket, Thailand.

9. What were the most challenging issues facing your presidency?

A *In 1989, our CII President, who will remain nameless, elected to resign. After this event, he and his friends bombarded the CII officers and members with hateful mailings. Some were anonymous...others were not. This occurred for several years. We lost some members but for the most part, kept most. Some of those who left wanted back in.*

For a while, there were daily crisis, then the barrages just stopped. I wanted to add recommended members, especially from countries and places where we had not had members. We expanded, and added several key future presidents who came in during my presidency. My Strategic Planning committee did some excellent work that impacted the future of the organization.

10. Where do you see the future of organizations, such as CII, in light of the Internet and other technological changes, in the next ten years?

A *The world is shrinking with the advances and improvement in communications and technology This indicates a bright future for international professional associations, if they can adapt.*

11. Do you see a role for continuing education as part of that strategic planning?

A *Continuing education is important and of course the big reason for the educational seminars provided during our AGM's. It will be important to have the topics not self-serving, but rather actually aimed as imparting new knowledge and skills for our members. We should have the information in our seminars on an audio or DVD available for the members who were not able to attend the meeting. The idea of regional meetings is an excellent way to draw our membership closer.*

12. Do you see a role for CII in responding to privacy issues, and if so, what?

A *Yes, to study legal alternative sources of information, and education on how to avoid illegal privacy invasion. Trying to get back to the past is futile. Easier to stuff a very fat bumptious bride into a size 6 wedding dress!*

13. Being a woman?

A *I was the third female president. I sort of danced on the glass ceiling a few times hopefully for the betterment of my gender. ☐*

Thank you Ed Kelly

Ed Kelly, CII's "photographer in residence" snapped many of the 2013 AGM photos that appear in this newsletter. We have Ed to thank for many of our CII memories that have been captured on film over the past decade.

Ed started taking photos at age eight when his photographer grandfather gifted him a Kodak Brownie camera Not only did Ed's grandfather mentor him in photography, but he taught him how to process film and develop black and white prints. Ed took that training and turned himself into an avid nature, wildlife, underwater and forensic evidence photographer,

In 2010, Ed was designated a Certified Evidence Photographer by the Professional Photographic Certification Commission in 2010. after completing rigorous training and significant testing. A member of the Evidence Photographers International Council, Ed spent five years as a staff instructor teaching photography and investigative technology at a San Francisco PI academy. Ed is the owner/partner in Intercoastal Investigations and a 10 year member of CII. ☐

2013 Member Survey

A new survey is being presented to all members. It is an up-dated version of the survey that was published in 2009 and will include questions about your CII membership, the CII external marketing and CII meetings. A list-service notice will tell you when the survey is up and running on our CII website. Please take the time to provide some feedback. ☐

Member News > John Sexton Inaugurated as next

Council President | BY Ryan Colley



The 2013 AGM in Ireland was an event-filled week culminating with the appointment of a new board and CII president for 2013-2014. John Sexton of Fairfax, Virginia was installed as the council's new President.

John Sexton, CII, PPS, CST, is the President and Director of Training for the SEXTON Training Institute. He has over 30 years' experience in law enforcement and non-governmental organizations such as the United Nations and various corporations. John has worked and travelled extensively throughout West and Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Prior to joining the United Nations in 1994 and working with the Government of Mozambique, he was a member of a counter-terrorist unit in the British Isles. After five continuous years in the Balkans, John settled in the Washington D.C. Metro area in 2000, where he founded his own private security firm and training academy. John specializes in sensitive Corporate investigations involving internal theft, embezzlement, harassment, fraud and industrial espionage. He is considered a subject matter expert in conducting interviews—especially Integrity Interviews—both as a proactive measure and used in conjunction with high-level investigations. He certainly did a good job interviewing Jack Devine, former CIA Director of Operations during this year's conference.

He teaches advanced security classes in the Commonwealth of Virginia and is a Past Vice President of the Professional Investigators and Security Association (PISA). He is a member of INTELLNET, Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (A.C.F.E.) and a graduate of The FBI Citizen's Academy. His book: *How to Make a Killing as a Bodyguard* is set for release by Amazon in 2013.

2013 Malcolm Thomson Award to Alan Marr | BY Lois Colley

To no one's surprise except the recipient, Alan Marr was distinguished with the 2013 Malcolm Thomson Award at the AGM conference this year.



Alan founded his private investigation and security company in 1991, known as Jigsaw Services. Alan joined CII that same year and progressed through the chairs until he assumed the Presidency in 2003 and Chairmanship in 2004. In recent years, Alan has been responsible for assisting and organizing CII Regional Meetings in France, The Netherlands, Belgium, Israel, Romania, Switzerland and UK.

Forever behind the scenes making everyone else's jobs look easier, it is no wonder Alan was selected to receive this award. In addition, it is not the first time. Alan was the recipient of the Malcolm Thomson Award in 2006 and the Meritorious Service Award in 2010.

Prior to establishing his own investigative and security company, Alan service for 32 years with London's Metropolitan Police, including a position as Detective Inspector with New Scotland Yard. ☐

John Sexton Inaugurated as next Council President [continued](#)

The President-Elect was installed as a Board Member in 2007 and will lead the council until 2014. ☐

2013 IIOY awarded to Galen Clements

By Ryan Colley

Congratulations to Galen Clements for winning the 2013 International Investigator of the Year award! Prior to joining the private sector, Galen spent 26 years in Law Enforcement, including a member of the SWAT Unit and Burglary/Robbery Squads of the Philadelphia Police Department and the District Attorney's Office holding positions that included Detective, Detective Sergeant, Director of Investigations and Supervisor of the Dangerous Drug Offenders Unit (DDOU) in the Narcotics Enforcement Division.



Galen has testified as a fact and expert witness in the use of electronic surveillance methods in prosecuting Corrupt Organizations; money laundering and white collar crimes. He has supervised a large staff of Law Enforcement Agents during sophisticated/complex investigations at the Federal, State and Local levels. Galen has extensive training and professional credits in relation to Criminal Investigations; Narcotics Enforcement and Economic Crime. He is a member of many professional organizations including the Law Enforcement Intelligence Unit (LEIU); Army & Navy Club (RAG) in United Kingdom; the Council of International Investigators (CII); National Association of Legal Investigators (NALI), World Association of Detectives and the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists. Galen earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Administration and served three tours in the Republic of Vietnam while in the United States Army.

Galen was elected to the Council's board in 2010 and his term expires in 2014. Galen and his wife, Arlene Bell, Esq. reside in the metropolitan area of Philadelphia, state of Pennsylvania, U.S.A. He is the president of Clements Global Services, LLC. The Clements purchased the work of art at the AGM auction that enabled the association to make a generate donation the local hospital. Thank you Galen! ☐

Heartfelt Thanks from Nancy and Sidney Hatchl

We were so happy to get the snail-mail cards of good wishes sent from our dear friends attending the 2013 AGM in Ireland. Thanks to all and to Nancy Barber for organizing the greetings. We will do our best to attend the 2014 meeting in San Francisco (health willing). Until then, we send warmest sunny greetings from Southern California to our dear CII family! My heart is still with CII!

— Nancy & Sidney Hatchl ☐



You can't keep a good Irish man down.

Not only can Derek still kick a mean rugby ball, but he rebounded from retirement to make an arrest at this year's AGM. Next thing you know he will be running for President. ☐



Derek Nally comes out of retirement for one last arrest.

➔ *Member News continues on next page*

Jack Devine Receives A Spy Award

Just when you thought spies do not get any respect! Jack Devine, one of our more illustrious members received the Hugh Montgomery Intelligence award at the Annual OSS Black Tie dinner on October 26 2013 in Washington DC. Only one individual, the main honouree, Admiral McRaven of the Bin Laden fame was able to upstage Jack. Congratulations Jack! This is a big deal in the U.S. spy arena. Congratulations Jack! ☐

The Kirby's Go Irish

Rumours were circulating that the Kirby brothers are engaged in secret negotiations to purchase a percentage of the Gahan petrol station located in Wexford County, Ireland. This was not well received by other yanks who expressed concern over the possibility the brothers have gone rogue and the effect such a merger would have on the security of the POD ball. ☐

Our 2013 AGM Sponsors—*Thank You!*

A heartfelt thanks to the follow individuals who sponsored our 2013 AGM.

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➔ This article appears on page 6 of the *Slaneynews* Issue 42, Tuesday – 1st October 2013 and can be accessed online at: http://issuu.com/slaneynews/docs/sn_issuu_42/6 

A private eye view of Enniscorthy



On Friday 20th September I had the pleasure of attending the Black Tie Ball for the 59th Annual Conference of International Investigators at the Riverside Park Hotel – a first for Enniscorthy and County Wexford.

An elegant and most memorable occasion as the 120 strong group of International Investigators from across the globe gathered with notable locals including Minister Paul Kehoe, Bishop Denis Brennan, Chairman of Wexford Town Council Ted Howlin, Archdeacon Chris Long, Tony Larkin, Padraig O’Gorman, Vice Chairman of Enniscorthy Town Council James Browne, Chief Superintendent John Roche and celebrity guest speaker Attorney General Marie Whelan for a Champagne Reception to launch proceedings.

There wasn’t a dishevelled Columbo in a tatty rain mac to be seen – the men looked dap-

per and polished in their dress suits and bow ties and the ladies wear was in the main black and sequined either long or short. There were one or two exceptions of brilliant blue, a most exquisite white designer ensemble and the Attorney General herself wearing a classy champagne coloured dress with black patterned jacket. The chat was friendly and animated with many Enniscorthians going to great efforts to be gracious and sociable and their International counterparts only too eager to reciprocate. By the time we adjourned to the ballroom for our sumptuous repast we were all bfs sharing life experiences – theirs I have to say in the main rather more entertaining and unusual than ours.

I had the good fortune of sharing my table with a PI from Sacramento by the name of Robert Wallace, his wife Shirley and niece Kathleen – none of whom had ever been to Ireland

before nor indeed had any Irish connections. They were completely taken with Enniscorthy saying what a truly picturesque place it is and they were equally overwhelmed with the friendliness of the people. In fact Kathleen said that she has already spoken with her husband (at home in Sacramento) about holidaying in Ireland in the near future. What an endorsement of Enniscorthy and Wexford!

Between main course and desert whilst the talented Lambert Sisters delicately plucked elegant airs from their harps, Robert Wallace spoke extensively about his area of expertise investigating the disappearance of children during and after divorce proceedings. A most worthwhile and rewarding career in his opinion and one that he had enjoyed for the past thirty odd years he said recounting tales of broken homes and kidnapped children and his part in finding them and reuniting them with their lawful guardians. An eloquent and interesting man and the perfect dining companion.

Speaking of eloquent men our own versatile Jimmy Gahan did us proud as MC for the event as he introduced the speakers – Marie Whelan Attorney General who complimented the Organising Committee of Michael Bennett, Tony Fagan and Jimmy Gahan and expounded the virtues of main man Derek Nally for his ethics and high standards in Investigating and his ethos that there is ‘never a wrong time to do the right thing’. She went on to pay tribute to his life



Mingling in the foyer at CII Conference. Pic: Maria Nolan.

which she said was ‘a pursuit of justice and integrity and a battle against the abuse of power’. Society Ms. Whelan said would always need its Derek Nallys.

The Riverside audience then witnessed outgoing President Mr. Eduard Siegrist from the Netherlands hand over his Chain of Office to the incoming President Mr. John Sexton from Donegal who was sworn in by local Solicitor and member of CII Tony Ensor and treated the audience to a 3 minute visual presentation on his home county to the strains of Paul Brady’s unusual interpretation of the song The Homes of Donegal. Mr. Galen Clements was bestowed with the Investigator of the Year Award and delegates from Singapore and Vietnam were applauded for travelling the

longest distances to the Conference.

Before concluding formalities and handing over to Sean Boland to provide the musical entertainment for the rest of the evening Mr. Gahan said that it had been a wonderful couple of days with delegates from over 16 Nations including Netherlands, Canada, Ukraine, Germany, France, Sweden, Finland, India, Singapore, Costa Rica, Vietnam, Switzerland and the UK and USA net working and establishing contact with each other. He hoped they had all enjoyed their stay in Enniscorthy and Riverside Park Hotel and that they would carry home many treasured memories of CII Conference 2013 and it would be his fervent wish that they would come back to see us again bringing

family and friends with them.

At the end of the evening I was sad to take my leave of these most fascinating people who are sharp, proficient, intelligent, interesting, entertaining and well travelled but I was elated to hear their wonderful endorsement of my town and its people and excited to think that these positive vibes might be dispersed across their 16 nations which can only augur well for our tourist industry going forward.

Well done to anyone who had anything to do with bringing the illustrious event to Enniscorthy.

And finally one last thing next year’s Conference will be held in San Francisco – any chance that *Slaney News* would like me to cover it??

– Maria Nolan



The talented Lambert Sisters provided the music during the meal. Pic: Maria Nolan.