



IIA Irish District

The IIA - UK and Ireland

Irish District newsletter – Issue 1 Dec 2009

Message from the Chair



*Nicola Brennan, Chairperson,
Irish District Committee*

Welcome to the first edition of the IIA Irish District newsletter, produced by an editorial team from the Education & Training Sub-Committee. Going forward we plan to issue three Newsletters each year – Autumn, Spring and Summer.

Following our AGM held in Knightsbrook Hotel on the 24 April 2009 Nicola Brennan ACA, MIIA, was elected as the new Chairperson of the Committee.

Nicola trained as a Chartered Accountant with Moore Stephens where she also began her career in internal audit. She went on to work in Ernst & Young's Risk Advisory Services team where she managed a number of fully outsourced internal audit contracts in both the public and private sectors. More recently Nicola joined Northern Ireland Water where she is currently setting up an internal audit function. She has served as a volunteer with the Irish District Committee for the past four years and was previously Deputy Chair.

Nicola's key objective for her term as Chair is to continue to develop relationships with the Institute in London to establish a basis for members in Ireland to receive similar levels of service to those available within other regions. These services, whether they be training, examination support or networking events will only be viable if we have sufficient demand. To this end, we need to know what you, our members, expect from the Institute.

A member survey was recently issued to gather views from members about IIA services delivered within the District. We had a fantastic response rate - so many thanks to all those who took the time to respond. The responses are currently being analysed and we hope to be able to build further on the services already provided to members in Ireland.

Any ideas or opinions?

The Irish District Committee meets bi-monthly and. If you would like to raise any issue of concern or if you have any ideas or opinions to help the District (which includes both the Republic and Northern Ireland) become more vibrant and dynamic, we would be delighted to hear from you.

We have recently formed sub-committees so as to give a unique focus to the interests of the diverse range of stakeholders amongst our membership. The Chairs of these sub-committees would be delighted to receive expressions of interest about becoming involved as well as suggestions about suitable topics and/or speakers for events.

The Spring 2010 Newsletter will feature further information on sub-committees. In the meantime, details of sub-committees and their Chairs are as follows:

- Education & Training (Brendan Ruddy, DIT)
- Financial Services (Kyle Black, AIB)
- Public Sector (Nuala Comerford, South Dublin County Council)

Successful Annual Conference 2009



Photo of Irish District Committee at 2009 Conference

L to R: Brendan Ruddy, Gay Ireland, Mandy Coleman, Fintan Geraghty, Nuala Comerford, Patrick Farrell, Nicola Brennan, Pamela McDonald, Geraldine Fahy, Kyle Black.

The 21st Annual Conference took place on 22 – 24 April 2009 in Knightbrook Hotel & Golf Resort, Trim, Co. Meath.

Gay Ireland, Chair of the Conference Organising Committee opened the official opening of the conference. There was an excellent turnout with 150 delegates and speaker in attendance. The opening address was given by Fintan Geraghty, Irish District Chair and the Conference Facilitator was Áine Lawlor, from 'Morning Ireland' on RTE Radio 1.

We are indebted to Philip Ratcliffe, President IIA - UK & Ireland who delivered the address at the Gala Dinner. A special word of thanks is extended to the Conference Organising Committee and Mandy Coleman, Irish District Administrator.

We are grateful for the attendance of Francis Nicholson, Director of Education and Phil Gray, Communications Director from IIA London and Kati Fiebig who manned the IIA stand.

News from the Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held during the conference and was chaired by Nuala Comerford, Acting Secretary, who welcomed all present. Fintan Geraghty announced that he was stepping down from the Committee and appreciation was expressed to him and Jennifer Coughlan, Kevin Goulding and Elaine Murray, the other members not seeking re-election.

The financial report for the Irish District revealed a healthy position. A number of new members have joined the committee: Patrick Treanor (Central Bank & Financial Services Authority of Ireland), Cian Blackwell (Grant Thornton) and Brendan Ruddy (DIT).

The officers appointed after the AGM are Nicola Brennan (Chair), Corne Mouton (Honorary Treasurer) and Nuala Comerford (Honorary Secretary).

Date for your diary! 2010 Annual Conference

Please make a note in your diaries to attend the 2010 Annual Conference which will be held from the 22 – 23 April 2010 in the Johnstown House Hotel, Enfield, Co. Meath.

The impressive list of speakers confirmed includes:

- **Prof Mervyn King**, Chairman of the King Committee on corporate governance, South Africa
- **Frank Cushnahan**, Chair of Audit Committee of the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister
- **Mary Hardy**, Head of Risk Assurance, The London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Ltd
- **Sean Mahon**, Director of Cable & Wireless Ireland
- **Peter Morris**, Group Chief Internal Auditor, Bank of Ireland
- **Tom O'Higgins**, Member of Irish Human Rights Commission
- **Prof Andrew Kakabadse**, Professor of International Management Development at Cranfield University

If you would like to register your interest in attending the conference please email mandy.coleman@iaa.org.uk

Graduate Awards Ceremonies



Dublin Graduate Awards Ceremony
L to R: Eileen Croghan, Will Byrne, Stuart James, Slawomir Zolnierrek, Dympna Shanahan, Ian Peters



Belfast Graduate Awards Ceremony
L to R: Hillary Smyth, Ann Magee, Ian Peters, Dawn Harmon, Brian Donaghue

The Irish District held Graduate Awards Ceremonies in Dublin and Belfast to mark the achievement of members successful in obtaining their IIA qualifications. We would like to express our gratitude to Dr. Ian Peters, the new Chief Executive of the IIA UK and Ireland for making the presentation to the new graduates. Congratulations to the following 13 students on being awarded the IIA Diploma or Advanced Diploma in Internal Auditing:

Awards Ceremonies	Diploma in Internal Audit Practice	Advanced Diploma in Internal Auditing & Management
Dublin 8 th October, 2009	Petrina Doherty Philip Doyle Stuart James Dympna Shanahan	Will Byrne Eileen Croghan Slawomir Zolnierrek
Belfast 21 st October, 2009	Ann Magee Trevor White	Brian Donaghue Dawn Harmon Hillary Smyth

The Dublin ceremony was preceded by a presentation on 'Assessment of Internal Audit function effectiveness' by Denis Spillane, Associate Director of KPMG. The Belfast ceremony was preceded by a presentation on 'Communicating effectively with Audit Committees' by Brian Clerkin, ASM Howarth.

Public Sector Interest Group



Public Sector Session, Dub, Nov 2010

L to R: Sean Garvey, Sean O'Broin, Pamela McDonald, Nuala Comerford, Pat Treanor

The inaugural meeting of the newly formed Public Sector Interest Group took place on Monday, 25th May 2009 in the offices of South Dublin County Council. Joe Horan, County Manager, South Dublin County Council delivered a presentation and Daragh O'Brien, TD, Vice Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee gave an insight into the deliberations of that committee. After the meeting there was a discussion on topics for future meetings and on terms of reference for the group, with some useful ideas for incorporation in the terms of reference.

The second public sector event was held in the Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) Aungier Street, Dublin 2 on Tuesday 10 November 2009. The speakers were Phil Furlong, Chairperson of the Audit Committee, Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources and Sean Garvey, Senior Investigator, Office of the Information Commissioner. This event focused on Freedom of Information and was organised in response to interest expressed at the inaugural meeting for guidance in relation to accessibility of audit reports under such legislation.

We would like to express our gratitude to Nuala Comerford for organising these events.

Financial Services Interest Group

The Financial Services Interest Group has been up and running for approximately one year. Two events have been organised to-date in May and October, 2009. At the May meeting Nick Hodgson, Partner from Ernst & Young delivered a presentation on 'Financial Services Auditing in a Recession', whilst the most recent meeting involved a presentation from the Irish Regulator on 'Auditing in a Changing Regulatory Landscape' by Bernard Sheridan, Head of Domestic Credit Institutions and Dwayne Price, Domestic Credit Institutions Policy. A repeat presentation on the subject will be given early in 2010 and the intention is to secure attendance by the Heads of Internal Audit from the major banks in Ireland.

We would like to express our gratitude to Kyle Black for organising these events.

New IIA IT Auditing Certificate

The IIA UK and Ireland recently launched the new IT Auditing Certificate. This exciting qualification is aimed at qualified Internal Auditors who seek to develop a deeper understanding of risks and controls associated with complex Information Systems. More information is available [here](#)

Membership update

The current membership of the Irish District has reached the grand total of 726 members. Please encourage your colleagues in Internal Audit to join our Institute or if you know or meet a lapsed member, give them a gentle reminder to renew their membership!

Tuition Providers for IIA Qualifications

There are several tuition providers for the Diploma in Internal Audit Practice (PIIA) and Advanced Diploma on Internal Auditing & Management (MIIA) in Ireland. Details of tuition providers are available [here](#)

Tuition is offered by IIA Learning, Institute of Public Administration (collaboration with University of Glamorgan) and PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. Other tuition providers are BCU Business School, National School of Government, BHBi Consultancy Ltd and University of Glamorgan.

Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL)

Many practitioners have learning without formal recognition. The IIA has introduced a new pathway to qualification through Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL). As a result there are now three routes to attaining professional qualifications - examinations, exemptions and experience.

Please see [here](#) for more details on how you can get the recognition you deserve.

Events programme 2010

Date	Title	Venue	Presenter
Dublin			
27/01/10	Update on Accounting Standards	Camden Court Hotel, Camden St, Dublin 2	Robert Kirk
10/02/10	Whistle blowing	Arthur Cox, Dublin 2	TBC
02/03/10	Corporate Governance/Code of Practice	Grant Thornton, 24-26 City Quay, Dublin 2	TBC
18/05/10	Monitoring Internal Controls	Grant Thornton, 24-26 City Quay, Dublin 2	TBC
22-23 April '10	Irish District 22nd Annual Conference	Johnstown House Hotel, Enfield, Co. Meath	Various
Belfast			
Feb'10	Internal Audit Effectiveness Reviews	KPMG, Belfast	TBC
Mar '10	Developing Assurance Frameworks	Deloitte, Belfast	TBC
April '10	TBC	PWC, Belfast	TBC
Cork			
Jan '10	Fraud Risk Assessment/Forensics	Deloitte, Cork	Andrew Brown
Mar '10	Internal Audit Effectiveness Reviews	KPMG, Cork	TBC

If you are interested in booking a place at any of these events please email Mandy Coleman at mandy.coleman@iia.org.uk