

Newsletter – November 2008



Welcome to our November newsletter.

Important date for your diary!

We are delighted to announce that March 26th 2009 has been confirmed as the date for the inaugural '**Fundraising Ireland National Conference**'. We have already secured a number of excellent local and International speakers and Croke Park is booked. So make sure to pencil the date into your diaries. More information will come in the weeks ahead.

International Fundraising Congress, Holland

By: Harvey Duthie

Last month I attended the much anticipated International Fundraising Congress in Holland. I was one of about fifteen Irish who attended. It is interesting to note that the NSPCC had twice that number attending from their charity alone. It certainly puts into question Ireland's commitment to fundraising innovation if from 6,000+ potential organisations so few were represented.

It was billed as 'the world's leading education and training conference on fundraising'. As you can imagine I was quite excited that 2into3 were paying the €2,000+ to send me for the for the three days. (I should point out there is also a fourth day Master class option to choose from.)

Having attended an number of CASE conferences and being a regular to the Institute of Fundraising events in London I was delighted to see the calibre of attendee. Head of Fundraising preceded the names of a significant portion of those there and I was one of the few without grey hair. There were almost 1,000 delegates from over 60 countries in attendance. Facilities were perfect and there was a programme so varied that there was something for everyone from first thing in the morning to last thing at night.

Topics covered the traditional areas such as major gifts, direct marketing, legacies and corporate partnerships to online giving, new thinking, global partnerships, innovation and of course reacting to global economic unrest.

The sentiment in Holland was paraphrased perfectly on Ask Direct's newsletter - 'we should stop whingeing and get fundraising'.

For more see: http://www.resource-alliance.org/ifc/about_the_ifc/default.asp

Charities Bill Passes 5th Stage

Fundraising Ireland welcomes the recent passage through the Dáil of the Charities Bill.

See more on <http://www.wheel.ie/user/content/view/full/4739>

The 4th (Report) Stage of the Charities Bill concluded on the 5th November 2008, when the Bill in its entirety was also passed at 5th Stage.

- Organisations that promote a political cause that is directly related to the advancement of their charitable purpose will be able to register as charities.
- The Promotion of Human Rights is not included as a charitable purpose.
- The promotion of Environmental Sustainability is included as a charitable purpose.

- All organisations currently recognised by the Revenue Commissioners as charities (i.e. with CHY numbers) will be included automatically in the new register when it is established.
- The Companies Registration Office will automatically forward the annual returns made by charities-that-are-companies to the Charities Regulator (so there will be no dual filing for corporate charities).
- It will be an offence for an organisation that is not a registered charity to describe itself in terms that would cause the public to believe that it is a charity .
- There is no proposal to regulate the sale of Mass Cards.
- A charity will be permitted to remunerate a trustee/s for providing a service for it as long as that service does not relate to the performance of their duty as a Trustee.
- Charities will be permitted to indemnify trustees from charitable funds.
- Applications for both Cash and Non-Cash collection-permits will be afforded equal treatment.
- Charities will be able to apply for fundraising permits up to 12 months in advance of the proposed collection.
- There will be a range of new requirements that will apply to both Cash and Non-Cash Collectors .
- The presumption of public benefit attaching to religious charities will now be rebuttable by the Regulator.
- There will be no requirement for foreign-based charities to have a registered place of business in Ireland prior to their registering with the Regulator.

Gonzaga College Hosts Meeting of Schools Fundraisers

By: Fiachra Etchingham

On Wednesday 1st of October representatives of 12 Dublin area schools assembled for a meeting on the subject of fundraising for schools. The meeting, which was organised by Fiachra Etchingham, Director of Finance at Gonzaga College, aimed to bring together the collective experience of the various schools in a forum which would allow them to share that experience and learn from each other. Those attending included Fundraising Directors, Finance Directors, Headmasters and voluntary members of fundraising committees.

The meeting consisted of a group discussion on a set of agreed topics; motivating donors, alumni relations, the use of fundraising consultants and recruiting fundraising staff. There was an interesting debate on each of the topics. It became apparent that all schools faced the same type of challenges in their fundraising campaigns. However the solutions to those problems i.e. the structures needed for a successful campaign where in most cases quite similar irrespective of the type of school or the size of the fundraising goal.

Those attending agreed that the meeting was very worthwhile and that further meetings should be organised in the future perhaps inviting guest speakers with particular expertise to address the group. If you would like to become involved in this group please contact Fiachra at fiachra@gonzaga.ie

Philanthropist of the Year Award

By: Niall O'Sullivan

The Community Foundation for Ireland's 2008 Philanthropist of the Year Award winners will be announced on December 8. Keep an eye out in national press for details of winners, information will also be posted on www.communityfoundation.ie/news

At a time when Ireland has very few philanthropy role models, these awards seek to 'shine a light' on philanthropy and generate positive press about those who are proud to speak of their philanthropy .

Philanthropy Ireland

Philanthropy Ireland have launched their new website – www.philanthropy.ie.

Recession Fundraising

This is a difficult time for fundraisers but the needs for your organisations are probably greater than ever

before. A number of people and organisations have put together hints and suggestions for the current climate and Fundraising Ireland is delighted to bring you these. A free web based seminar is also available and the link is below and some excellent articles may also provide hints and ideas (and hope) as you plan your immediate and longer term fundraising strategies.

- <https://www506.livemeeting.com/lrs/8001245996/Registration.aspx?pageName=m1fbst5r0vt38xsh>
- <http://www.fundingpoint.ie/?q=fundraising-guidance>
- <http://www.2into3.com/news/Fundraising%20in%20a%20Cold%20Climate.pdf>
- <http://conorbyrne.wordpress.com/>

Linkedin

For those of you with LinkedIn accounts (www.linkedin.com), make sure you join our Fundraising Ireland group. Simply put Fundraising Ireland into the group search and click. We will do the rest.

For our next newsletter

Please send your articles to info@fundraisingireland.ie

www.fundraisingireland.ie