

WMB™

WOMEN MEAN BUSINESS
CONFERENCE & AWARDS 2014

MONDAY OCTOBER 6TH
DUBLIN'S SHELBOURNE HOTEL

Think BIG LIVE THE VISION

www.womenmeanbusiness.com/awards

A UNIQUE EVENT

The theme for WMB's eighth annual Conference & Awards is **'Think Big - Live the Vision'**. So what exactly does this entail? Many of us believe in the power of thought and that positive thoughts can bring positive things. We have seen it time and again in the interviews we have watched and read, and the achievements we have witnessed in our daily lives and in those around us. Therefore imagine for a moment your biggest dream and believe that you have achieved it. How do you think you would feel? How would this dream change your life,

the life of your family and friends, or the people around you? If you believe you will achieve your goals, the likelihood is that you will.

The last number of years have been hard on most businesses and only the 'fit' have survived. Now, it is time to succeed. As entrepreneurs and businesswomen, we want to flourish. We need to step beyond 'comfort'; to stretch our minds and extend our horizons. So **'Think Big - Live the Vision'**, after all 'you're worth it'.

SPEAKERS



DEIRDRE SOMERS Irish Stock Exchange

Deirdre Somers is Chief Executive of the Irish Stock Exchange ("ISE") since June 2007. Having joined the ISE in 1995, Deirdre was instrumental in establishing the ISE's leading position in international primary markets through the listing of international investment funds and fixed income instruments.

As Director of Listing in the ISE, in addition to being responsible for the main equity market, Deirdre oversaw the establishment of a number of specialist markets, in particular the ESM, the ISE's enterprise market which focuses

on growth companies. She is outspoken about the importance of the role of markets as a relevant and accessible funding source for issuers, particularly for high potential SME companies.

A Fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland, Deirdre is Vice-President of the Federation of European Securities Exchanges, where she chairs FESE's Strategy subgroup. She is a member of the IFSC Clearing House Group, which co-ordinates the development of the international financial services sector in Ireland. She also sits on the National Council of IBEC, and is a former Governor of University College Cork.

SPEAKERS



LUCY GAFFNEY Communicorp Group Limited

Lucy Gaffney has been involved in a variety of successful businesses in Ireland since 1985. As Managing Director of The Ideas Company, Lucy joined Esat Digifone as an advisor in its bid and subsequent launch as Ireland's second GSM mobile phone operator. She then joined the core team and served in a number of various senior positions within the company, including Managing Director Esat Clear, Director of Marketing of Esat Telecom Group plc and Chief Operating Officer.

Lucy Gaffney is Chairperson of Communicorp Group Limited - a communications group that owns and operates radio stations across Ireland, the UK, Europe and the Middle East, including Irish national stations Today FM and Newstalk 106-108 FM. Earlier this year, Communicorp acquired 8 regional radio stations from Global Radio in the UK, bringing the groups total number of radio stations to 27.

Lucy is a founding director of Digicel Group since its launch in Jamaica in 2001. Today the Digicel Group has extended its operations to 32 markets with over 11.9 million subscribers in the Caribbean, Central America and South Pacific regions, including Jamaica, Haiti, Panama and Papua New Guinea.

Lucy was appointed to the Topaz Energy Group Limited (TEGL) Board of Directors in May 2014.

From March 2005 to December 2008, Ms. Gaffney held the position of Chairperson of the National Action Plan against Racism in Ireland (NAPR). She has previously held directorships in Special Olympics, First Active plc and Campus Stadium Ireland.

Lucy was a Non-Executive Director of the Board of Ulster Bank Limited, whose ultimate parent company is the Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc, from 2004-2007.

In March 2009, Lucy was appointed to the Board of Independent News & Media plc as a Non-Executive Director.



ELAINE COUGHLAN Atlantic Bridge

Elaine Coughlan is a Co-Founder and General Partner of Atlantic Bridge Capital, a technology fund providing growth equity and expansion capital to technology businesses in Ireland, Europe and the US. Atlantic Bridge is headquartered in Dublin with offices and staff in London, Palo Alto, Beijing and Hong Kong with over €250 million of assets under management. She is also a co-founder of Summit Bridge Capital, a \$100 million China Ireland Tech Growth Fund backed by China Investment Corp (CIC) and the National Pension Reserve Fund of Ireland. This fund is focused on investing expansion capital in Irish companies with a focus on scaling in China. She currently serves as Non-Executive Director on the board of a number of Irish software companies.

Elaine has over 20 years operational experience as an entrepreneur and

executive in scaling Irish technology companies with extensive M&A experience. She was co-founder and director of Glonav, an Irish GPS software and hardware company which was sold successfully to NXP for \$110 million. Prior to Atlantic Bridge and Glonav, she has been involved as CFO or VP Finance in three successful Irish technology IPOs on Nasdaq, raising more than \$1 billion in capital for Parthus, Iona and Smartforce.

Elaine is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and a qualified Chartered Director. She was named as one of Europe's Top 100 Women in Technology and is a lead mentor and advisory board member of Going for Growth and DCU Ryan Academy Female Propellor program - both initiatives with Irish Government support for the advancement of women entrepreneurs in Ireland.

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PAULA FITZSIMONS

Fitzsimons Consulting

Paula Fitzsimons is the founder and managing director of Fitzsimons Consulting, which specialises in areas related to entrepreneurship and growth. A recognised expert on entrepreneurship, Paula Fitzsimons has been the national coordinator of GEM for Ireland since 2000.

Building on the findings of GEM research that fewer women start new businesses and of those that start, fewer have significant growth ambitions than do men, Paula designed and developed Going for Growth (www.goingforgrowth.com). Now in its 6th cycle, Going for Growth has supported over 300 women entrepreneurs to achieve their growth ambitions and

measures its success in terms of the participants' increased turnover, additional employment created and the number of new exporters. Since its pilot in 2008, the initiative has been recognised on many occasions as good practice. In 2014 alone, it has received accolades from the EU and OECD, and most recently from the European Institute of Gender Equality.

Paula also drew on GEM research in the design and development of Senior Enterprise. This initiative seeks to increase the engagement of those in the older age group with entrepreneurship and with enterprise more generally (www.seniorenterprise.ie). In November 2013, Senior Enterprise won a European Enterprise Award 2013 in the "Investing in Skills" category.



MARGOT SLATTERY

Sodexo Ireland

Margot Slattery is Managing Director of Sodexo Ireland, one of the country's leading food and facilities management providers with clients in business and industry, finance, government, education and healthcare. It employs 1,800 people based in 200 client locations throughout Ireland.

Margot is committed to furthering the Diversity and Inclusion agenda and Sodexo was one of 11 founding partners

and signatories of Ireland's first Diversity Charter.

Margot represents Ireland on Sodexo's Diversity and Inclusion Council and sits on its global LGBT network. She was also the founding chair of the Sodexo Women Work employee network launched in 2011 to help female employees enhance their professional and personal growth.

Margot won the Empowering Women category at the 2013 WMB Awards. She is a non-executive Board member of GLEN, the Gay and Lesbian Equality Network.



MARGARET HEARTY

InterTradelreland

Margaret Hearty is Director of Programmes and Business Services at InterTradelreland - the all island trade and business development body. To date, the organisation has helped more than 25,000 companies with cross border information and business services and over 6,000 SMEs have participated in its trade and innovation programmes.

Over £700 million worth of business value has been generated by the businesses that InterTradelreland supports. The body helps SMEs to take advantage of cross-border opportunities to access new knowledge and expertise, to improve innovation capabilities, increase speed to market and draw on

alternative pathways to bring ideas to market.

Margaret is responsible for the development and delivery of InterTradelreland's suite of programmes. She is passionate about the importance of supporting the indigenous SME sector, ensuring that InterTradelreland's supports are relevant and accessible. The body continuously takes the pulse of business through its quarterly Business Monitor and reflects the feedback in its services to business.

Margaret is a business and marketing graduate. She completed an MBA in 2004 and her career to date has focused on supporting the development of SMEs and early stage companies. Margaret was appointed to her current position in December 2009.



MAURA HOWE

Assistant Head of Operations and Communications

Maura Howe is Assistant Head of Operations and Communications at the Pensions Authority, this role involves the provision and management of pension information, guidance and

data. Prior to her current role, Maura spent five years managing the National Pensions Awareness Campaign on behalf of the Department of Social Protection. Maura's work has involved promoting pension awareness and understanding, as well as encouraging pension adequacy and engagement among those involved with the pensions system. The Pensions Authority is a statutory body set up under the Pensions Act 1990.

The Authority regulates occupational pension schemes, trust RAC's and Personal Retirement Savings Accounts (PRSAs) in Ireland.

The Pension Authority's mission is to support a sustainable pensions system that will provide adequate and reliable pensions for retired and older people and that achieves wide coverage. The Authority aims to achieve this by:

- Safeguarding the interests of occupational pension scheme

members and Personal Retirement Savings Account (PRSA) holders through effective regulation.

- Providing relevant information and guidance to the public and those involved with pensions.
- Developing policy proposals and supporting the Minister for and Department of Social Protection and other government departments through high quality policy advice and technical support.

The Authority through its website - www.pensionsauthority.ie - provides a wide range of pension information and technical guidance for scheme members, pension contributors, trustees, employers, pension industry professionals and members of the public. The 'Understanding Your Pension' section on the website provides a user-friendly and interactive information guide to help you engage and understand pensions better.

NETWORKING PARTNER

THE SCHEDULE

- 7.45am Registration & Informal Networking
- 9.00am Welcome Address: **Rosemary Delaney**, WMB
- 9.15am Speaker: **Deirdre Somers**, Irish Stock Exchange
- 10.15am Speaker: **Elaine Coughlan**, Atlantic Bridge Capital

- 11am Tea/Coffee Break
- 11.15am ViewPoint Panel: Think Big - Live the Vision
Paula Fitzsimons, Fitzsimons Consulting
Margaret Hearty, InterTradelreland
Margot Slattery, Sodexo Ireland

- 12.00pm Networking with The Pensions Authority
- 1.00pm Lunch
- 2.30pm **WMB Awards Ceremony**
- 3.30pm Speaker:
Lucy Gaffney, Communicorp Group Limited

SPONSORS

JUDGING PANEL



Boots Ireland is a leading pharmacy-led health and beauty retailer with 76 stores and just over 2,000 employees.* Boots Ireland's purpose is to help customers look and feel better than they ever thought possible. Customers are at the heart of our business and we are committed to providing exceptional customer and patient care, being the first choice for pharmacy and healthcare and offering innovative products 'only at Boots', such as No7 – all delivered with the great value our customers love.

Established in Ireland since 1996, we believe in making a difference and are proud of the contribution we make to the wellbeing of the communities we serve. Caring for our communities, our customers, patients and colleagues is at the heart of who we are and what we do.

Our partnership with the Irish Cancer Society has raised nearly €400,000 helping to fund the Irish Cancer Society Night Nursing service across Ireland, with Boots colleagues holding numerous fundraising events and activities in our stores throughout the year. This partnership was awarded 'Best Corporate Charity Partnership' at the recent Fundraising Ireland Awards.

On 27 February 2013 we launched our partnership with Dress for Success and No7 to support women returning to the workplace and we are the only retailer in Ireland to be awarded the 'Business Working Responsibly' mark for responsible and sustainable business practices.

Visit www.Boots.ie for more information.

*As at 31st March 2014



Newstalk, Ireland's leading Independent talk radio station enjoys over 615,000 listeners on a weekly basis. The Newstalk presenter line-up includes Ivan Yates, Pat Kenny, Chris Donoghue, Ian Guider, Shane Coleman, Tom Dunne, Sean Moncrieff, Jonathan Healy, George Hook, Shona Murray, Dil Wickremasinghe and Ger Gilroy.

The action-packed weekday schedule kicks off with Newstalk Breakfast's, Chris Donoghue and Ivan Yates. The programme delivers national and international breaking news, business and market updates, the latest sports developments and key interviews. Following Newstalk Breakfast, Pat Kenny brings his experienced broadcasting style and

incisive analysis to the day's news and current affairs, weekdays from 10am-12.30pm.

Jonathan Healy then delivers the most up-to-date breaking news and analysis on their Lunchtime show. Afternoon programming is led by the infectious Sean Moncrieff followed by the hard-hitting Right Hook, presented by George Hook. Newstalk's multi award winning sports show, Off the Ball broadcasts every night from 7pm to 10pm. It's considered one of the best sports analysis shows in the country.

For more information on Newstalk 106-108fm, please check out www.newstalk.com



EDEL FLYNN

CHAIRPERSON: EDEL FLYNN

For over 15 years Edel Flynn has spearheaded, shaped and contributed to the growing technology and start-up industry in Ireland. In the past 7 years her career at the Digital Hub in Dublin spanned major roles and portfolios at senior management level including Chief Operations Officer and the role of CEO.

In her role as Chief Operations Officer, Edel headed up the property

development, estate management, sales, product development, customer service, procurement and IT divisions.

She was subsequently promoted to CEO of the Digital Hub Development Agency (DHDA), the Irish state agency charged with managing The Digital Hub.

Edel has caught the entrepreneurial bug and is currently establishing her own business, details of which will be announced shortly. This is the second year that Edel has chaired the WMB Awards where she brings her extensive business expertise to the occasion.



CARMEL O'BRIEN

CARMEL O'BRIEN, HR Director, Boots Retail Ireland Ltd

Carmel holds a key role within the leadership team of Boots Ireland which employs over 2,000 employees. She is passionate about the role of HR and believes that HR is central to the achievement of a successful business. In her time with Boots, Carmel has concentrated on creating a truly engaged culture through new

Performance Leadership Tools, Career Frameworks and a strong CR strategy. An advocate for the role of Boots in the community, Carmel has worked with the Boots teams to embed the ideals of CR into the day to day business through charity partnerships, fundraising initiatives and volunteering. Carmel has a strong background in Psychology, Business Strategy and Business Coaching.



GARRETT HARTE

GARRETT HARTE, Station Editor, Newstalk 106-108fm

A native of Donegal, Garrett Harte has over 20 years experience in broadcasting and has been involved in the start-up operations of both Newstalk and TV3. Garrett worked as Producer with the UTV News Bureau in Dublin before moving on to take up the role of Series Editor with the TV3

flagship current affairs programme 20/20. Garrett joined Newstalk 106-108fm in early 2002 prior to the station going live and spent the first four years as Editor of the station's drive-time talk show 'The Right Hook with George'. Garrett took up the role of Station Editor in 2006 prior to Newstalk going national.



ROSEMARY DELANEY

ROSEMARY DELANEY, MD, WMB Publishing

In 2006, Rosemary launched her own multi-media business – WMB Publishing; it includes the flagship title WMB – the Irish Magazine for Businesswomen and the business website: Womenmeanbusiness.com. A year later, she launched the very successful annual WMB Conference & Awards.

Rosemary has been a past Chairman and Director of Magazines Ireland. She sat on the Steering

Committee to establish a Press Council and subsequently sat on the first Press Council of Ireland. In 2011, her first book aptly named: Women Mean Business, One Woman's Journey into Entrepreneurship was released (Orpen Press).

In December 2013 Rosemary joined the Board of InterTradelreland, the only organisation which has been given responsibility by both Governments to boost North/South economic co-operation.

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