

Irish Distillers supplied the Irish Whiskey, Bord Baine supplied the cream and Aer Lingus made available dozens of hostesses to dispense the magical mix to all the delegates.

There was extremely tough competition for this as the 1970 World Congress was the 25th World Congress of Junior Chamber International.

Thanks to the hard work of a great team, we were successful and won the bid to host the 1970 Silver Jubilee World Congress in Dublin. When the Congress was held it was voted the best ever held up to that time.

The bidding campaign (which had taken a year to plan) was very exciting and to support it Junior Chamber Dublin and other Irish Junior Chambers had carried out excellent projects and submitted these for awards - we won four International Awards.

Through Junior Chamber I have made many friends and some in very high places, like Valery DEstang, Past President of France, and the then Crown Prince of Sweden.

One of my achievements concerned the lifting of the ban on membership to females and I am very proud to note that they now form a large proportion of the membership, right up to the highest office of National President.

Article by First Lady member JCD - Joan Morrison

Mention of Junior Chamber conjures up memories from way back. Back to 1957 when I joined the Association of young business executives - the first woman, I believe, to join the all male preserve. I was made very welcome and quickly appointed to the House and Finance committee and to the Council two years later.

They were busy and exciting times - an ambitious European Congress to be held in Dublin in 1959 where all hands were called on deck (especially as the organising secretary, just before the Congress went to New York and didn't return!). It was indeed a great way to get to know the other members and to test our capabilities. Notable qualities such as attention to detail often attributed to women (there were a few more of us by then) were much appreciated.

The World Congress held in Paris in 1961 gave us an insight into the politics of Junior Chamber International - so much lobbying for the prestigious positions not to mention the ferocious bidding for the location of subsequent Congresses!

I remember the emphasis that was placed on joining Committees, following correct procedure and arriving at decisions through group discussions. Monthly luncheons with either a guest speaker or one of our members making an address were great opportunities to learn to speak confidently to an audience. It also gave us the chance to hear about our fellow members' businesses and professions.

All in all a great arena for making friends, networking and practical person development.

Joan Morrison