

Frank Carthy, another former Junior Chamber president, became Dublin Chamber President in 1976, and went on to become President of the national organisation, Chambers of Commerce of Ireland, some years later.

Declan Lennon was elected President of Dublin Chamber in 1982, and initiated the bicentenary celebrations before handing over the presidency to his successor in 1983. Declan was also a Junior Chamber past president.

Pat Loughrey assumed the presidency of the Dublin Chamber for the year 1991-92, and also went on in due course to become President of the Chambers of Commerce of Ireland. Pat was, in fact, amongst the first members of Junior Chamber Dublin, having been nominated in 1956 by his late father, PJ Loughrey, then Managing Director of Batchelors Ireland Limited and a member of the Council, and who had himself been President of Dublin Chamber in 1953. Pat was a Junior Chamber President in its early years.

So the mutual synergy between Dublin Chamber and Junior Chamber Dublin has continued to the present day, and long may it last. Frank Carthy and Pat Loughrey are still members of the Council of Dublin Chamber, having made their contribution, with others, to the commercial life of Dublin through the work of Junior Chamber Dublin and the Dublin Chamber of Commerce.

The twentieth century model has proved to be a winner!

Article by Founding Member JCD - Paul Rowan

When I had the honour of becoming the National President of Junior Chamber Ireland in 1960, there were only four Junior Chambers in existence.

My inauguration as National President took place at the National Convention in Shannon and was attended by the then Taoiseach, Sean Lemass. During his time in office, he came every year to the National Conventions of Junior Chamber Ireland.

In 1960, I represented four Junior Chamber chapters, so I concentrated on the expansion of the movement in Ireland. During the following years, the number grew to twenty eight. Denis Murphy from Cork, Douglas Thornton and John Hegarty both from Dublin, were instrumental in bringing this about so rapidly.

One of the great advantages of membership of Junior Chamber was the possibility of visiting many far away places at a very reasonable cost. This was done by chartering planes and filling them with members to go to European and World Congresses.

A memorable trip was organised from Dublin to Argentina for the World Congress in Mar del Plata in 1968. The large Boeing left Dublin with only three dozen members and picked up some 200 colleagues in London, then on to Zurich where the plane was filled.

We landed in Rio de Janeiro and had two days break there before heading off to Mar del Plata in Argentina. The object of the exercise was to persuade the delegates there to vote that Dublin would be the venue for the next World Congress.

The problem was, how could such a small delegation make an impact on so many. We organised a huge hospitality event to which all the delegates were invited. The secret weapon of the Irish delegation was a drink which was cold on top and hot down below? Irish Coffey, of course!