

# THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF ARBITRATORS

## Irish Branch

### NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 1, July 1997

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#### EDITORIAL

Dispute resolution requires authority, confidence and expedition.

Authority comes from pre-eminence in their professional field and experience in the procedures of arbitration.

Confidence stems not only from that authority but from the conviction that disputes can be rationally resolved by a fair finding of facts and a due holding of law. That confidence needs to overflow into a higher degree of party satisfaction.

Whether this requires a reasoned award or an award with reasons attached depends, to a large extent, on the authority and confidence of the arbitrator.

Arbitration, as a preferred mode of dispute resolution, needs to be expeditious and to be seen to be so. The majority of disputes administered by the Branch are resolved within ninety days from appointment of the arbitrator to the date of the award. Only in exceptional circumstances such as personal injury claims is there any justification for delaying the arbitral process.

Arbitrators themselves need to be more aware of the statutory underpinning and the judicial backing of their awards. Such realisation breathes confidence into an ever more important institution.

#### COMMITTEE

The Committee, on behalf of all the members, wish to thank Tim Sullivan, BE BSc DIC CEng MIWES MConSEI ACI Arb, who has been our esteemed former Chairman and Branch Regional Representative on Council in London, for all his efforts on behalf of the Branch. Tim is, of course, a member of Council in London.

In like manner, the Committee wish to thank David Gill, FRICS DipArbLaw DipIntArbLaw FCI Arb, for his contributions on the Committee.

The Committee meet generally on the last Wednesday of each month. Suggestions and comments would be welcomed by the Chairmen of relevant sub-committees whose faxes are indicated overleaf; by the Chairman Roderick Murphy, Fax No. 284 1317, or James Bridgeman, Honorary Secretary, Fax No. 872 0455.

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## SUB-COMMITTEES

The function of these sub-committees is as follows:

**Seminars and Functions** - The highlight of last year was, of course, Anne Bunni's securing Her Excellency, President Robinson, as Guest of Honour at the Institute Dinner.

The Committee were unanimous in appointing Anne Bunni (Fax No. 839 1167) as new Chairman of this sub-committee to use her best endeavours to have Her Excellency's successor to sup with us next autumn.

The Committee are planning a mock arbitration with the International Chamber of Commerce in late September.

A Fellowship Assessment Course is planned for September 20/21, 1997. A Special Fellowship Course is planned for mid-October, and an Entry Course for associate membership is planned for November. Details of these courses to follow.

**Schemes** - are the lifeblood of the professional activity of the Branch. The Committee hope to introduce a number of further schemes. Meanwhile, the travel referrals continue to increase.

John O'Reilly (Fax No. 276 2724), who has developed the function of Honorary Secretary and set up our first Secretariat, was unanimously appointed Chairman of this sub-committee. He has also introduced a licensing system for industry users.

**Law Reform** - Chairman is Bernard Gogarty (Fax No. 041-35194). The International Arbitration Bill is now with the Law Reform Branch of the new Department of Justice. The Committee acknowledge the help of David Byrne SC, as he then was.

**Public Relations** - Ken McQuillan (Fax No. 679 7761), Chairman, has had discussions with several public relations firms with a view to promoting the Branch in the forthcoming year to liaise with the opening of the Arbitration Centre in Church Street.

## SECRETARIAT

Members will welcome Geraldine Cosgrove's voice (Telephone: 662 7867, Fax: 662 7891) and presence from 9.00 to 13.00 at the top of 8 Merrion Square, Dublin 2.

The Committee would appreciate if all members would inform Geraldine (preferably by fax) of their current addresses, primary profession, telephone/fax numbers and, if applicable, e-mail addresses so as to promote members as arbitrators and to facilitate communications between members and the Committee.

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