

NEWRY DEMOCRAT

Happy 200th Anniversary Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade!

As President, I am delighted that we are marking this important milestone in our Chambers history, at our Annual Banquet 2021.

It is amazing to think that our Chamber has been active for over two centuries! Established with the great vision and foresight of the men and merchants of Newry 1820, we are proud of our heritage and celebrate the men and women of the Chamber then and now, who continue to play a crucial role in the commercial development of Newry and the surrounding areas.

Our Chamber has evolved to become the largest business-to-business organisation in the Greater Newry region. We have now a strong, vibrant and growing membership of over 220 organisations of varying sizes from all sectors of the economy.

We are a leading regional voice for business providing repres-

entation to a range of stakeholders. We work to promote our area as a premier destination for tourism, investment, entrepreneurship, employment, and as a happy, healthy place to live and work.

Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade has been built on strong foundations of collaboration and resilience so much so that it is now ingrained in the DNA of our City and of our people. As a Chamber we continue to bring businesses and individuals together, to share ideas, to grow together stronger and to support each other. The last 18 months has been testament to that collaboration, innovation and resilience. Our business community responded tremendously, in one of the hardest of times that has faced our community, navigating Brexit and the Covid19 Pandemic.

There will be more challenges

ahead but as a Business Community and a Chamber we are confident about our future. Our renowned entrepreneurial spirit will ensure that local businesses continue to grow and thrive, and continue to create employment opportunities for our City and region.

We continue to open our doors to businesses all across our region, and welcome you to join our Chamber. We would like to thank everyone who supported us over the years, to advocates, to sponsors and patrons, to the many hundreds of volunteers who have given so freely of their time to keep the legacy of our Chamber alive and most important to our members, for their continued loyal support!

We celebrate with pride the 200 years that have been, and raise a toast to the men and women who carry our Chamber on for the next 200 years!



**NEWRY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & TRADE**

The Voice of Local Business in the Greater Newry Area for over 200 Years.

Join over 225 local businesses who are members of Newry Chamber
JOIN NOW: www.newrychamber.com

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Newry Chamber Board of Directors



Emma Mullen-Marmion (President)



Julie Gibbons (Vice President)



Michael McKeown (Treasurer)



Tony McKeown (Chief Executive Officer)



Kieran Grant



Jerome Mullen



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To
Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade

NEWRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TRADE

On their
200th Anniversary

NEWRY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary



Council Chairperson, Councillor Cathy Mason.

Chamber to the forefront of many key milestones across the District

THE Chairperson of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, Cathy Mason, has acknowledged the magnificent contribution made to the whole community by Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade over the last two centuries.

"Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is delighted to be associated with celebrating the fantastic landmark achievement of Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade's 200-year anniversary.

"Through the decades, Newry has had a rich history of commercial enterprise and industrial ingenuity beginning in the 17th Century with the development of international trade and the increasing expansion of the retail industry. The 18th Century saw the completion of the Newry Canal which meant goods were arriving at the quays from all over the world. Newry saw several newspapers established during the 19th Century and with the flourishing linen industry, Newry was able to make its mark in the international market. During this century, the arrival of the railway was a huge benefit to business with a faster form of travel and more opportunities began emerging in the local area.

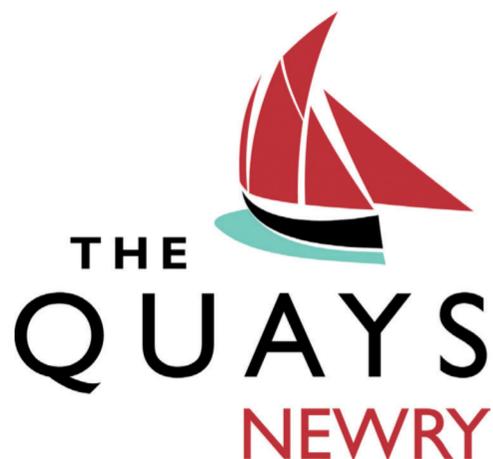
"During the 19th Century we also saw the establishment of the Chamber in 1821 with their focus at heart of business life in Newry. Following its establishment, the Chamber and its members have gone from strength to strength and in its 200-year history it has been at the forefront of many key milestones, not only in Newry, but across the entire district.

"They have historically over this time been assisting businesses through regeneration, events, business support and lobbying and are continuing to significantly contribute towards growth and investment across the District. Congratulations on this fantastic achievement.

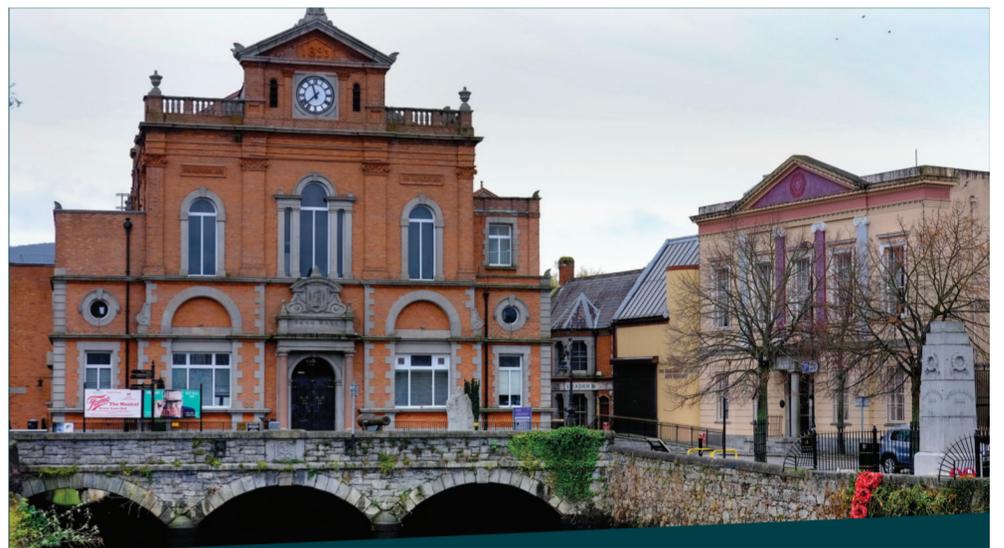
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Chairperson, Councillor Cathy Mason



COLM Shannon, former CEO Newry Chamber of Commerce. NM183804
Noel Moan



Congratulations to
**Newry Chamber of
Commerce & Trade**
on their 200th Anniversary
and continued success
in the years ahead



Congratulations

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is proud to be associated with Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade and congratulate them on reaching this landmark anniversary of 200 years.

Throughout this time the Chamber has directly supported businesses as well as significantly contributed towards growth and investment across the district. Well done on this fantastic achievement.

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agus Ard Mhacha Theas
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and South Armagh



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne and Down
District Council



NEWRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary

In the beginning....

Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade is the largest business-to-business organisation in the Greater Newry Area, representing in excess of 200 local businesses of varying sizes from all sectors of the business community.

They are the leading regional voice for business in the Greater Newry Area, promoting the area as a premier destination for tourism, investment, entrepreneurship, employment and as a happy, healthy place to live and work.

Through the use of revenue generation programmes, the Chamber provide their members with business support programmes to help them drive their business growth.

As a central body, Newry Chamber provide representation to key government and civil partners, lobbying on behalf of our members and local business issues.

They are an affiliate member of Chambers Ireland and the Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce.

A Chamber of Commerce

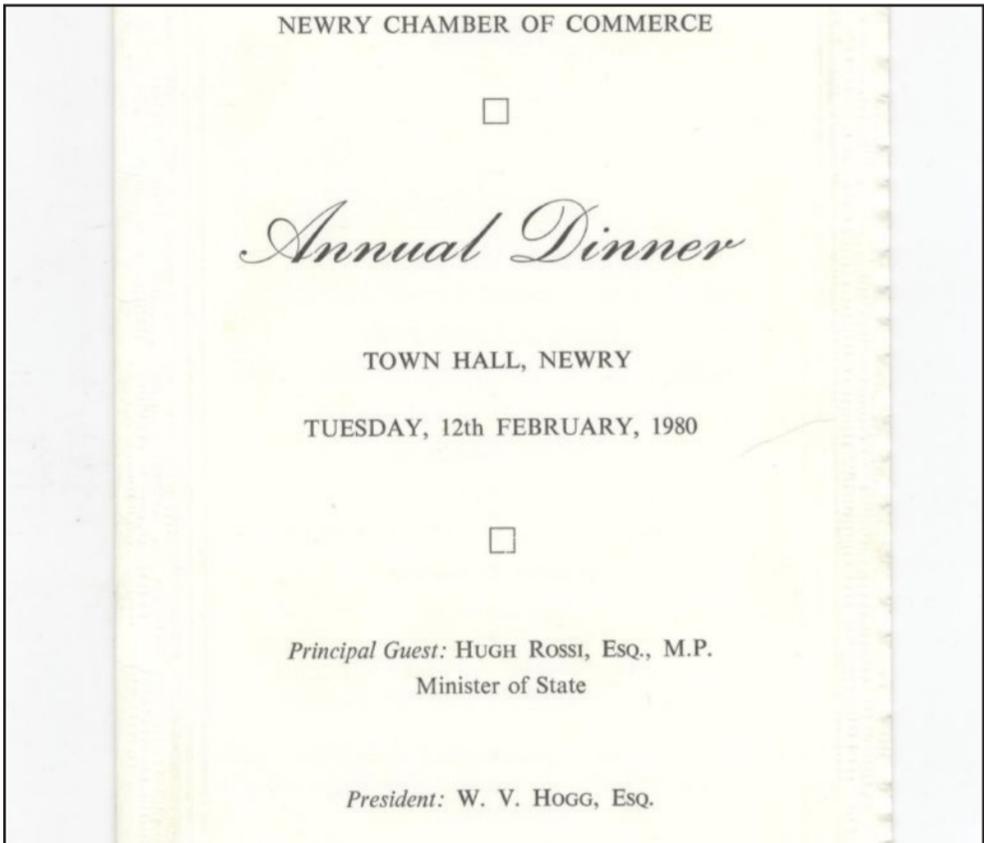
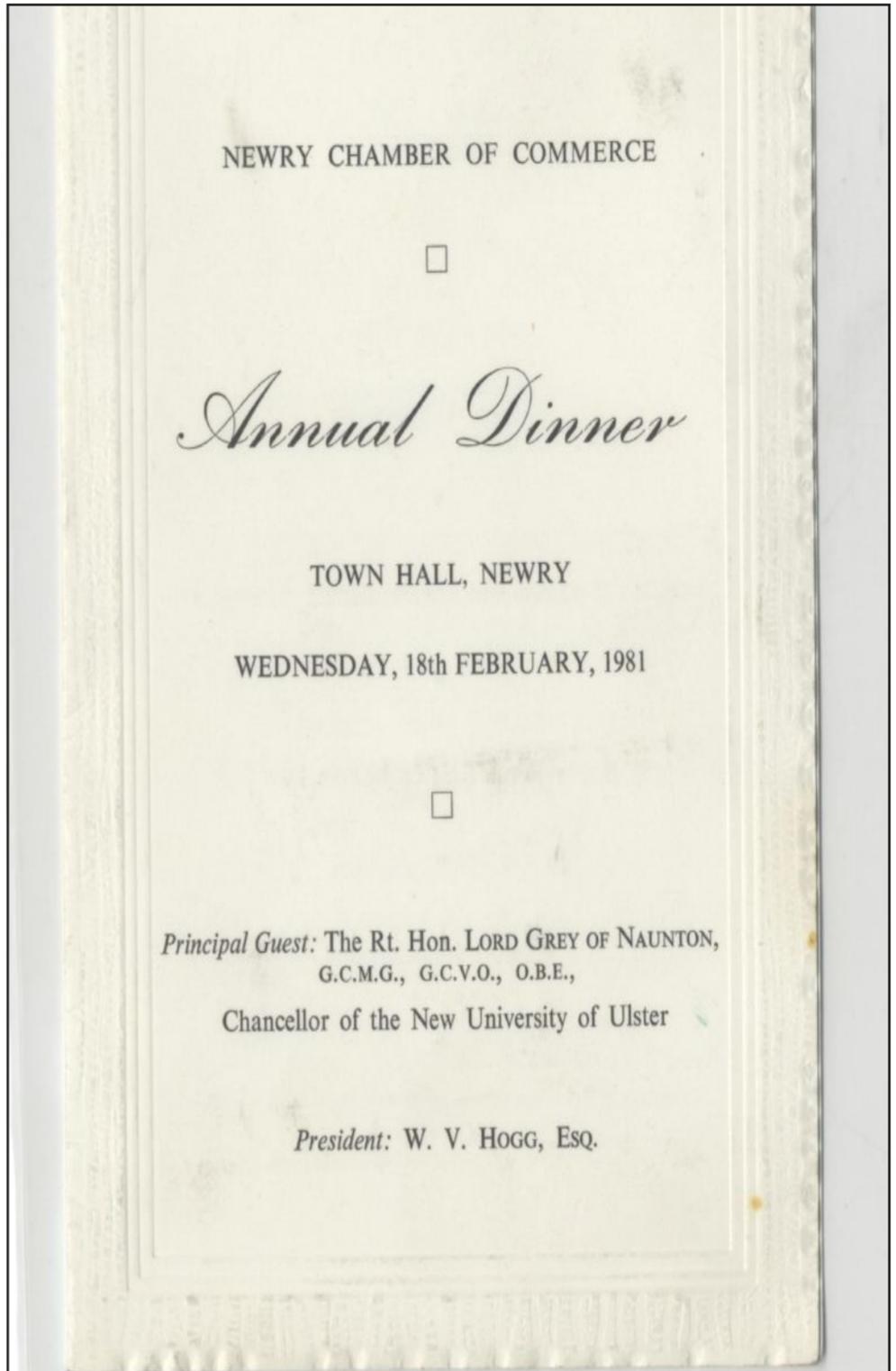
Although Chambers of Commerce were not formally established in these islands until the latter part of the 18th Century - the custom whereby groups of merchants & manufacturers

met from time to time to protect and promote their interests in relation to Government policies and trading opportunities is as old as business itself.

In medieval times guilds existed in all the major cities throughout Europe - In London the Mercers' Company of textile merchants take precedence in the Civic Order; in Vienna, the Bakers Guild takes precedence.

In 1705, the leading merchants in Dublin Formed the fascinating Ouzel Galley Society, named after a captured ship, which administered charitable funds retrieved from pirates: it also abirritated in commercial disputes. Later a Guild of merchants was represented on the Dublin corporation and played an active part in the civic and commercial life of the city

The term 'Chamber of Commerce' for an association of merchants & manufacturers was first used in 1599 by the 'Chambre de Commerce à Marseilles' but it was not until 1768 that the first group in the British Isles to use that title was formed in Jersey. By 1797 Chambers had been established in Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Leeds, Manchester, and Birmingham. There is no evidence of a chamber existing in Newry in this era.



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NEWRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary

The Newry Chamber of Commerce 1820 -1830

Newry has had a Chamber of Commerce from at least 1820, the date of the earliest record so far found.

It is possible that one existed before that date but there no historical record has yet been uncovered to confirm same.

The town was up until that period a strange and rare legal entity – an “Exempt Jurisdiction” with its origin in the establishment of a Medieval Cistercian monastery in the 12th Century.

It was unlike our twenty first century concept of a town or city administration: where a forum of elected officials or a body of respected citizens may hold sway. It was for a great part of its existence controlled by the Cistercian Abbot of Newry and later, from the time of the Protestant Reformation, by his replacement, the Lay Abbot of Newry.

The history of those events is covered in Bradshaw’s Guide to Newry 1819 which appears in replica form in this publication.

It is believed that when the Abbot of Newry was replaced by a layman in 1547, the displaced cleric was allowed to retain the marsh land, Carneyhaugh, which lay between the Clanrye River and the walled town on the hill in the area we now call Abbey Way and High Street.

The modern centre of Newry encompassing Hill Street, Kildare

Street, and Trevor Hill were a later development by the Hill family of Hillsborough who purchased the swamp from the descendants of the last Cistercian Abbot.

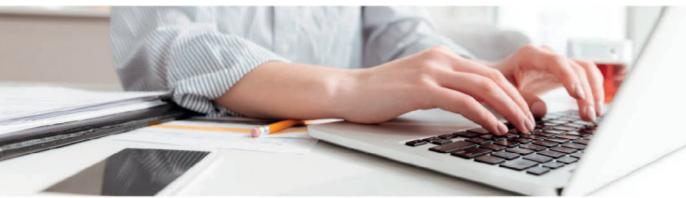
Over a period of decades from around 1740 until 1800, the Hill family drained the swamp and built a dyke along the Clanrye, leasing out plots of reclaimed land for businesses and homes gradually pulling all the important services such as the inns and coaching stops away from High Street into Hill Street. The canal and its banks beyond the river lay in the ownership of the Lay Abbotcy of Newry represented at that period by the Needham family, the Earls of Kilmorey.

The merchants of Newry depended on these two independent landlords, Needham and Hill, to manage maintenance and improvements to local infrastructure. The Canal, which was the source of prosperity, was in the control of the indifferent Government authorities and it was this issue that gave rise to the first recorded existence of the Chamber of Commerce whose president, Isaac Glenny, wrote to Lord Castlereagh. The letter dated 15th April 1820, is preserved in the papers of the Chief Secretary to Ireland, in the National Archives of Ireland.



Newry Canal was the source of prosperity.





Congratulations Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade on your 200th Anniversary. We are honoured to have played our part in the Chamber over the past 15 years and we wish the Board, Management and Members every continued success.

King Communication is a leading Communications, PR & Marketing Consultancy based in Newry.

www.KingCommunication.co.uk



CONGRATULATIONS TO NEWRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TRADE on their 200th Anniversary



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Congratulations to Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade on their 200th Anniversary

NEWRY CHAMBER
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Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary

The Chamber is re-established 1854 -1870

THERE is no further historical record of a Chamber of Commerce in Newry until 6th November 1854 when a hastily arranged meeting was held to consider the re-establishment of a Chamber.

It was attended by such notable persons as James Lewis Carvill, the largest employer in Newry and by the wealthy miller, Joseph Lupton. The main proposal at the exploratory meeting was a mechanism for the settling of business disputes among members so as to avoid lengthy and costly court proceedings. It was stated: "The matters in dispute did not sometimes amount to more than a few shillings but were carried into the courts until hundreds were expended. If a Chamber of Commerce were in existence, these matters would be easily decided by arbitration."

Reestablishment occurred on 10th January 1855 in the Commissioners rooms in Marcus Square. The constitution of The Belfast Chamber had been adopted, and an annual subscription of one pound sterling agreed. Hugh Dalzell, a Town Commissioner, was elected President and Joseph Lupton and T.A. Kidd, also Town Commissioners became Vice-Presidents.

The matter before the March meeting of the Chamber was consideration of the "Fairs and Market Bill." At that same time the Town Commissioners were deliberating on the "Towns Improvement Bill".

This business elite, wearing different hats, was dealing with both civic and mercantile lobbying and legislation. Furthermore, the Committee of the Newry Navigation Company comprised of some

Many of them were Magistrates and Justices of the Peace: the October 1861 meeting was held between only five Commissioners: the other sixteen were engaged in court matters.

The affairs of Newry were in the hands of an elite of successful businessmen and their powers were almost as complete as those of the medieval Cistercian Abbot and his successors.

It is not clear why Dalzell, Lupton, Kidd and others were motivated but this iteration of the Chamber of Commerce which recruited less than thirty members disappeared from the pages of Newry history as suddenly as it had manifested: no further documentary records of its proceedings after its first meeting are to be found.

The need may have arisen due to the number of conservative minded Ratepayers who were seen to be obstructing progressive moves such as the afore mentioned 1854 Towns Improvement Act. Whilst giving authority to Town Commissioners to borrow funds from Government for projects providing infrastructure such as proper water and sewerage treatment, adoption of the act would allow them to increase the Rates to pay for such improvements.

This legislation which required the majority of Newry ratepayers to agree to its adoption was voted down by a vociferous and packed attendance convened at the newly completed Court House at Trevor Hill on 3rd September 1855.

The first item on the agenda, predictably, concerned the Great Northern Railway and a motion to request a last train from Belfast later than the regular 5pm service. Frustration with the GNR and seeking better outcomes for Newry passengers, mails and goods remained a constant focus of the Chamber for many decades. In 1900 the Chamber promoted a bid to break the monopoly of the GNR by establishing a new Light Railway from Newry to Tynan via Keady. Such a scheme required an Act of Parliament; the M.P for Newry, P.G. Carvill, was an older brother of the then Chamber President, John Carvill. When the Bill came before the Parliamentary Select Committee, two members of the Chamber, Robert Sands and J.J. Shannon, gave evidence demonstrating that Newry Chamber had direct influence in Westminster.

The second great issue occupying debates in the Chamber was the maintenance of the Inland Canal and the Port; both of which had been in

private hands since 1829; owned by local shareholders of the Newry Navigation Company, some of them now prominent members of the Chamber of Commerce. In imitation of their predecessors of 1820, the Chamber members effected an Act of Parliament but one which returned this important infrastructure to public hands: albeit with the Chamber Secretary, John Carvill, his associate J.J. Shannon and four other Chamber members were appointed as trustees to the newly formed Newry Port & Harbour Trust. The mirroring of Chamber Executive and Trust Board continued for subsequent decades. In 1928, F.D. Russell, the past President of the Chamber of Commerce was also the Chairman of the Harbour & Port Trust.

Third in importance, at meetings of the revived Chamber, was the improvement of postage services and of telephony. Newry did not have a designated Post Office and indeed was served only by a primitive telephone service. The first telephone service in the Newry area appears to have been a private line between the mill at Bessbrook and its subsidiary at Dromolane on the Quays installed in 1886.

The company already had a private tramway from Bessbrook to Edward Street, Newry and obtained permission to run a wire from that station, at a minimum height of 25ft over the length of Needham (Dominic) Street. In April 1891, The National Telephone Company advertised for subscribers in Newry at £7 per annum, but with little success. At a Chamber meeting in May of 1893, it was suggested that merchants saw little advantage over the existing telegraph system.

Indeed, at the insistence of the Chamber a new telegraph office was opened in William Street that year! It was also alleged that Dundalk were being offered lower connection rates: which was true as the Dundalk system providers had charged a mere £4 per annum and failed financially. The Chamber of Commerce became the negotiating body on behalf of Newry. Despite a

demonstration system being set up at an office on Merchants Quay, "no person ever sought to engage" the service. Almost four years later, the Town Commissioners decided to intervene but quickly dropped the matter saying that it was entirely for the "consideration of the merchants of the town."

It was not until 1899 that these merchants decided to support a local exchange, but they were hampered in two respects by the Post Office which had become the monopolist: not providing a connection to the Belfast - Dublin trunk line nor permitting connections on the County Armagh side of the town. Eventually an exchange was established in a ladies' clothes shop at Number 2 Kildare Street, and a connection was made to the trunk lines upon a financial guarantee from the National Telephone Company to the Post Office. The Newry Reporter was an early subscriber being allocated the phone number 2 and a prominent trader in the town, J.J. McArvey advertised as "Telephone: 1X, Newry"



Bessbrook to Newry tramway.

**Congratulations to
Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade
on their 200th Anniversary**

Wishing them continued success in the years ahead,
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NEWRY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary

The Newry Chamber of Commerce 1891 – 2021

GREAT political changes occurred at local level in Newry and in the growth of democracy in the United Kingdom in the latter half of the nineteenth century.

The need for a separate Chamber of Commerce had been diminished by the 1928 Act for Lighting, Cleansing and Watching of Cities & Towns which had made the Newry Chamber members into legislators for their own town.

Over the following decades of successful commercial development, the limitations of the 1828 Act became apparent and further legislation came in the belatedly adopted 1854 Towns Improvement Act which gave access to Government funding and the key to providing cleaner water, better sewerage, and a more effective police force. The two great achievements of the new Commissioners were the taking of ownership of the water supply away from London based investors and a takeover of the Newry Gas Consumers Company.

Chamber of Commerce

In 1876, the diverse railway companies of the North of Ireland merged and by 1879 had incorporated the Newry & Armagh Railway Company initiated by Newry businessmen who were now made minority shareholders with no control over tariffs. Differentials in carriage costs out of Belfast as opposed to Newry arose to the detriment of Newry traders.

Merchant committees were set up to petition government to monitor the conglomerate known as the Great Northern Railway which had become a monopoly through various mergers. At one such protest, held in April 1889, a suggestion was made by Samuel Duncan, Duncan & Alderdice, that a "permanent committee" should "meet once a month and keep a vigilant watch out as regarded the imposition of rates and charges. The terminology, 'Chamber of Commerce' was mentioned but not pursued.

However, the seed had been planted and on the initiative of John Carvill and James Shannon, the owners of two of Newry's largest businesses, a meeting was convened on Friday May 29th, 1891, in the Town Commissioners Board

Room, Hill St, to consider forming a Newry Chamber of Commerce. Carvill and Shannon shrewdly invited Mr. Henry Barcroft, the outstanding businessman and innovator of that era to chair the meeting. In his position as Managing Director of The Bessbrook Spinning Mills Limited, he was Newry's largest employer.

Repeating the sentiment of his Chamber predecessors of 1827 who had brought about the establishment of the Town Commissioners, Barcroft stated that the many questions affecting the business of a town, can only be dealt with by a body representative of the merchants and traders; Newry should have such a body. His motion was passed unanimously by the twenty-six businesses attending and a steering committee appointed to create a constitution. A limited company format was chosen and the Articles of Association, prepared by R.A. Mullan, Solicitor were passed and signed. Official registration including permission not to include the word "Limited", in the title, occurred on 19th February 1892, a date which until recently was believed to be the first instance of a Chamber of Commerce existing in Newry.

With these preliminaries completed, the first General Meeting was held in a room provided by the Town Commissioners in Marcus Square at the rent of one old penny per month. Henry Barcroft was elected President and John Carvill was elected Secretary, a position which equated with chief operating officer.

The first item on the agenda, predictably, concerned the Great Northern Railway and a motion to request a last train from Belfast later than the regular 5pm service. Frustration with the GNR and seeking better outcomes for Newry passengers, mails and goods remained a constant focus of the Chamber for many decades. In 1900 the Chamber promoted a bid to break the monopoly of the GNR by establishing a new Light Railway from Newry to Tynan via Keady. Such a scheme required an Act of Parliament; the M.P for Newry, P.G. Carvill, was an older brother of the then Chamber President, John Carvill. When the Bill came before the Parliamentary Select Committee, two members of the Chamber, Robert Sands and J.J.

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NEWRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary

Momentous Chamber events caught on camera...



Mayor John Feehan meets Dr Ian Paisley at the Chamber Gala Ball in the Canal Court many years ago.



DEPUTY First Minister Martin McGuinness is pictured with Mickey Ruane Chairperson of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Michael McKeown President of Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade. DEM1014



MICHAEL McKeown President Newry Chamber of Commerce pictured with Brian Conlon from First Derivatives and Mary Meehan, Chamber of Commerce CEO. NM2831



Justin King, CEO Sainsbury's pictured Dr Conor Patterson, President Newry Chamber of Commerce and Dr Gerard O'Hare, Parker Green at the annual Chamber of Commerce Business Breakfast.



As a local employer and a growing business serving an international customer base, we are proud to be a member of Newry Chamber of Commerce.

The wide range of commitments we make to responsibly support sustainable economic development and improve environmental industry standards are consistently supported by the Chamber.

Over the last two centuries they have been the leading regional voice for business activities in the Greater Newry Area and, since our establishment 23 years ago, our long-term vision to positively impact the local area has always been aligned.

It's amazing to see the Chamber reach such a significant milestone. We congratulate them for impacting and representing local businesses for over 200 years.

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Our Impact

SOCIAL

Connecting with the workforce of the future by employing locally and creating opportunities within the Greater Newry Area.

We actively participate in activities with our charity partners and community support organisations across Ireland.

In support of the Ghana Water Project, we covered 50% of the cost for a village water scheme. Helping a village in Ghana get a new fresh water source.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Reduced carbon footprint by 30% by moving to wind powered electricity and converting from LPG to bio LPG.

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NEWRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary



ARDAL O'Hanlon with Michael McKeown, President Newry Chamber of Commerce and Gillian Fitzpatrick, Chairperson Newry Mourne and Down District Council at the 17th Annual Christmas Charity Dinner in the Canal Court . NM5046



NEW President of the Newry Chamber of Commerce, Deboragh Loughran. NM4334



NEWRY Chamber Hosts Annual Business Lunch with President of Ireland Mary McAleese. Pictured: Dr Conor Patterson, President of Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade, President of Ireland Mary McAleese, Dr Martin Naughton, Executive Chairperson, Glen Dimplex and Ms Orla Jackson, Chief Executive, Newry Chamber. NM4527



Peter Murray Chairman Newry Chamber of Commerce, Mervyn King Governor of the Bank of England and Mayor Pat McGinn.

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Presidents of Newry Chamber



Michael McKeown



Paul Convery



Emma Mullen Marmion President of the Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade



Dr. Conor Patterson



Jerome Mullen



Dr. Gerard O'Hare



PETER Murray, NM4424



David Han

Member of Commerce and Trade



DEBORAH Loughran



Cathal Austin



Mary Doran



MVHogg

Throughout its long and illustrious history, the Chamber has had many Presidents who were instrumental in guiding the organisation. Among those who held the prestigious office and who contributed to the development of the commercial and industrial life of the town were:

- 1820 Isaac Glenny
- 1823 Trevor Corry
- 1824 James Williams
- 1825 John Quinn
- 1892 - 1899 Henry Barcroft
- 1899 - 1900 J.C. Nicholson
- 1900 John Carvill
- 1909 Frank Fisher
- 1901-1902 Samuel Duncan
- Arthur McCann.
- 1910 Edgar Connor
- 1917 - 1918 G.F. Crook
- 1924 -1925 F.D. Russell
- 1932 -1935 David Ferris
- 1936 William Magowan

Edward Hodgett President, Associated Chambers of Commerce Northern Ireland, in August 1952

1945 J. Getty

- 1951 James V. Kelly
- 1952 - 1953 H. E. Rungay (Westover - a company?)
- 1954 - 1955 M.J. O'Rourke
- 1956 Ernest Cooper (bought Templegowran Mills in 1925 sold to W.h.B. Moorehead in 1937)
- 1957 H.C. Lyons
- 1958 -1972 W.V. Hogg
- 1973 - 1975 E Mackle
- 1976 - 1983 W.V. Hogg
- 1984 - 1987 Eddie Mackle
- 1988 - 1993 Gerald Murphy
- 1994 - 1995 B.B. Shriver
- 1996 - 1997 Brian Rowntree
- 1998 - 2000 Jerome Mullan
- 2001 - 2003 Gerard O'Hare
- 2003-05 Peter Murray
- 2005-07 David Hanna
- 2007-08 Cathal McHale
- 2008-09 Mary Doran
- 2009-11 Conor Patterson
- 2011-13 Cathal Austin
- 2013 -2015 Deborah Loughran
- 2015 -2017 Michael McKeown
- 2017 -2019 Paul Convery
- 2019 -2021 Emma Marmion

NEWRY CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE & TRADE

Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary

Newry Chamber launch NI Workplace Health & Wellbeing Conference

NEWRY Chamber of Commerce and Trade have launched their first ever NI Workplace Health & Wellbeing Conference.

The new event will take place on Tuesday 30th November 2021 (8am to 12.30pm) at the Canal Court Hotel & Spa, Newry. It will include keynote speakers, case studies and an exhibition space.

The event is supported by principal sponsors Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Action Mental Health. It is open to organisations of any size from across NI, not just the Greater Newry area.

Emma Mullen, President of Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade said, "Businesses and their employees have experienced an extremely challenging last 18 months due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This has had a negative effect on the physical and mental health of many of our citizens. We feel now is the right time to help local employers to come together, share best practice and help them develop effective health and wellbeing strategies for their workplaces.

The conference will include expert speakers from specialist organisations and local employers who are leading the way with their programmes. We are looking forward to keynote addresses from Nicola Connolly Byrne, Founder of I AM Positive Mindset and John Ryan, Founder & CEO Healthy Place to Work. NI Chest Heart & Stroke will present on their Work Well Live Well programme.

We are extremely grateful to our sponsors Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Action Mental Health. Without their support we could not run this, not to be missed, conference".

Oonagh Magennis, Vice Chair of Newry,

Mourne and Down District Council said, "We are delighted to support Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade with this important initiative. As a council one of our key objectives is to improve the lives and livelihoods of the people who live and work in this region. It is important that we work across all three sectors, public, voluntary and private, to share what works best to support employees.

Rachael Power, AMH Works Manager, Action Mental Health, commented "AMH are delighted to be sponsoring this important conference and to be working with Newry Chamber of Commerce and Newry Mourne and Down Council to support local business. We are thrilled to see employers in the Newry area taking such a proactive approach to the mental health and well-being of employees and we look forward to working with them in the future."

The NI Workplace Health & Wellbeing takes place on Tuesday 30th November. To view the event programme, full speaker line up and to book your FREE place, please visit newrychamber.com.

Emma Mullen, President Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade, Oonagh Magennis, Vice Chair Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Rachael Power, AMH Works Manager, Action Mental Health help launch the NI Workplace Health & Wellbeing Conference.



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Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary



Paul Murnaghan

Paul Murnaghan, President, NI Chamber of Commerce and Industry

“Regional Chambers of Commerce play an important role in local economic development in towns and cities across Northern Ireland and without doubt, Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade is a leading example.

It has been providing a very strong, representative voice for businesses in

the greater Newry area for 200 years and in that time, has been instrumental in enabling many extremely successful firms to establish and grow there.

“That success is thanks to the many people who, over decades, have dedicated their time and talent to economic growth in the locality and who have been wonderful advocates for the area. The current team, led by Chief Executive

Tony McKeown and President, Emma Marmion is doing sterling work and carrying on a very proud legacy.

While it is fitting that at such a milestone we look back, I know that the current CEO, Board and Council are focused on the future, prioritising things like skills and cross-border trade, all of which will be instrumental in setting the region up for next century.”



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Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary

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**Community Advice Newry,
 Mourne and Down would like to
 congratulate Newry Chamber of
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 200th Anniversary.**



The work of Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade goes on 12 months of the year with one of the highlights of Commerce and Trade Michael McKeown pictured with the organising committee of the Newry Chamber C were generously donated by more than 750 patrons who attended the dinner and were distributed to families almost £100,000 for local causes this year and brings the total raised by the annual dinner to £1.231million.

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> START A BUSINESS



Newry Chamber of Commerce & Trade 200th Anniversary



at the 'Toy Mountain' at Christmas. This picture was taken four ago and shows President of Newry Chamber Christmas Charity Dinner at the 'Toy Mountain' in the Canal Court Hotel during the Annual Dinner. The toys in the greater Newry Area by St Vincent de Paul and the Salvation Army. The dinner in its 17th year raised



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