

January 2018

New Year – New Beginnings – New Frontiers

What a night! On Wednesday, January 24th the 'Class of 2018' made their mark at the DIT/IADT New Frontiers Annual Showcase evening, sponsored by William Fry Solicitors. Media Cube startup companies made their business pitches for the 'Lead Entrepreneur Award'. One word? Impressive!



(Left to right, Bernadette O'Reilly, Manager of DIT Hothouse, Pierce Dargan, Equine MediRecord, Heather Humphreys, TD, Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Brendan Looney, Horus, Ann Marie Phelan, Enterprise and Innovation Manager, Media Cube, Matt Hanbury, Lightly Technologies and winner of the 'Lead Entrepreneur Award'. Congratulations to all of the participants of New Frontiers 10 and 11.

Heather Humphreys, TD., Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation gave an inspiring speech, recognising the significant impact that start-ups have made in the wider economy and applauded their courage in pioneering new and exciting technologies. Kudos to Pierce Dargan and Simon Hillery of Equine Medirecord, NF11 who were one of the three finalists for the award. Bravo to Matt Hanbury, of [Lightly Technologies](#) (NF10, DIT) who won the top prize!

Ann Marie Phelan – Enterprise and Innovation Manager, The Media Cube, IADT

MEDIA CUBE NEWS

Equine MediRecord – Winners of the ITBA 'Dragons' Den' Competition!



Congratulations to Pierce Dargan and Simon Hillery of EquineMediRecord who won the overall prize at the inaugural ITBA (Irish Thoroughbred Breeders Association) Dragons' Den! Pierce and Simon have won a prize of €3,000 and will also receive mentoring from Sean Gallagher, Enterprise Ireland as well as PR advice from Brian Purcell. [Equine MediRecord](#) were also finalists for the 'Lead Entrepreneur Award' at the recent New Frontiers Showcase. Watch this space!

MyDealDoc – Go n-éirí an t-adh libh!



Over the last two years, we have witnessed the growth of several New Frontiers companies, who have 'blazed a trail' at the Media Cube. Mike Morrissey and David Keenaghan of MyDealDoc are no exception. Mike and David originally started in the New Frontiers hotdesk room in 2016. Their [BabyDocClub](#) website is now Number One for expectant consumers and parents of toddlers! Mike and David are now expanding their operations and joining former Cubists, [Atlas Risk Advisory](#), to offices in Pottery Road. It is a tribute to their popularity that so many people arrived to wish them good luck at their 'Going Away' party. We are delighted that they plan to stay in touch!

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NEW FRONTIERS AND THE MEDIA CUBE

Introducing – Alison Strohr – Dr. Coys (New Frontiers 4 Grad, Media Cube)



'Serious Respect' is due to Alison Strohr of [Dr. Coys](#) (NF4 graduate, Media Cube) healthfoods whose nutritional chocolate bar 'Vanilla Crisp with a blueberry twist', which was perfected exclusively for Frank and Honest Coffee, is currently being launched in 350 Frank and Honest Coffee stations nationwide. Alison was a runner up in the Start-up category at the 2017 IMAGE Businesswoman of the Year Awards and is currently delighted to be a participant in the Going for Growth Programme, which is sponsored by Enterprise Ireland and KPMG. Definitely a 'Cubist' to watch!

Introducing – John Cogan and Dion Swanepoel – New NF 12 Hotdeskers!



A big welcome to John Cogan and Dian Swanepoel who have moved into the New Frontiers hotdesk Room. Their business [iotCara](#) provides complete end-to-end IoT solutions for SME's, enabling the SME to focus on their core competencies. John and Dian are looking forward to spending their NF12 Phase 2 time at the Media Cube and joining the NF11 hotdeskers and Cubists at all of the fun events! We will soon be welcoming some more new Phase 12 and Phase 13 hotdeskers in the coming months! So do introduce yourselves to them at our next networking event!

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NEW FRONTIERS AND THE MEDIA CUBE

New Frontiers 13 – Now open for applications!



For the last few years the Media Cube has delivered the [New Frontiers programme](#) and mentored some exciting businesses, including Your Smile Direct, MyDealDoc and Mummy Cooks! If you know someone who is considering the option of making their business dream a reality, the team at the Media Cube would be delighted to assist! The deadline for applications is 23 February!

COMPETITIONS

Bolton Trust Awards – Now open for applications!



Calling all graduates of New Frontiers 9, 10 and 11 ... the Bolton Trust Innovation Awards (Previously known as the Docklands Innovation Enterprise Awards) are now open for applications! These awards seek to identify the strongest investment proposal from recent participants in the DIT/IADT New Frontiers Programme. Three selected finalists will pitch to a panel of investors and industry experts on the 18th April at a prestigious evening event kindly hosted by PwC. Previous winners of the €10,000 prize include Graham Byrne of YourSmileDirect (2016) and Adrian Walsh of Checkventory (2015). So start polishing up your business plan! The deadline for receipt of entries is 5pm, Friday, 9 February!

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EVENTS

Digital Dún Laoghaire Meetup – 14 February 2018



Digital Dún Laoghaire will be holding its next breakfast meetup on 14 February. The theme of this meetup is **High Growth Strategies for Your Business - What Works?** To sign up for this meetup, click [here](#).

FUNDING

Enterprise Ireland Competitive Start Fund – now open for applications!



The Competitive Start Fund welcomes entries from difference sectors, including manufacturing & internationally traded services, Internet, Games, Apps, Mobile, SaaS, Cloud Computing, Enterprise Software, Lifesciences, Food, Cleantech and Industrial Products. If you would like to submit an application, Ann Marie would be delighted to assist. To find out more, click [here](#). The closing date for applications is 6th February!

Social Enterprise Development Fund – now open for applications!



The Social Enterprise Development Fund, is now open for applications. The objective of the fund is to find and support social enterprises which add to the social and economic fabric of communities by way of social impact; creating a national pipeline of social enterprises. Click [here](#) for more information!

FUNDING

Commercialisation Fund for 3rd Level Researchers – closing date – 16th February 2018



The purpose of the [Commercialisation Fund Programme](#) is to fund the creation of products, services and technology being developed in Higher Education Institutes and Research Performing Organisations. If you would like to make an application, Ann Marie would be delighted to assist you!

Small Business Innovation Research Fund



The [SBIR fund](#) is an interesting opportunity for any start-ups engaged in technologies that effectively assist in the efficient provision of public services. Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Ireland is the national innovation pre-commercial procurement initiative administered by Enterprise Ireland. SBIR Ireland's aim is to drive innovation across all sections of the Irish Public Sector via robust engagement with technology rich companies and organisations, through competitive challenges. SBIR itself is underpinned by a sharing of both risks and benefits between Contracting Organisations and Suppliers. Enterprise Ireland has established a dedicated fund to co-support innovative and competitive Challenges in partnership with Irish Contracting Authorities.