



# Apply for 2013 businesswomen's awards now

**Peter Horgan**



Judges Edel Clancy, Director of Communications and Corporate Affairs for Musgrave Group, Yvonne Barry, Partner **Quintas**, Joan Walsh, Partnership Europe/Happy Tours, and President of Network Cork, Deirdre Waldron, Fuzion Communications. **Photo: Darragh Kane**



**Businesswomen are being encouraged to apply for the annual Network Cork women in business awards for 2013, launched this week in Hayfield Manor hotel.**

The awards, which will be held in May this year, will see over 100 businesswomen gather in Hayfield Manor to find out which have been awarded Cork's top businesswomen of the year. Guest speakers will be Dragons' Den judge and Secret Millionaire Ramona Nicolas of Cara Pharmacies and Network Ireland President Julia Lynes.

The awards, which is organised by Network Cork, is part of a national organisation for women in business, profession and the arts, is one of the main highlights of the organisation's calendar.

"The Network Cork business awards have proved themselves an excellent platform for women in business to highlight their work and the businesses they are involved in," said Network President Deirdre Waldron.

"As women in business we need to take advantage of opportunities to promote ourselves and our businesses - getting out of our comfort zone and letting everyone know what great jobs we are doing. Often, we as businesswomen are not that great at saying just how good we really are. Through the awards, businesswomen in Cork can access a national platform as the three Cork finalists represent the region in the national awards and every year since the inception of the awards, someone from Cork has gone on to win

one of the overall awards."

"I urge all our members to take this opportunity and put themselves or their colleagues forward into one of the three categories."

### **Opportunity**

Joan Walsh, the Network Cork business awards coordinator highlighted the opportunity that the awards provide to members.

"This year is going to be one of our best years yet," said Ms Walsh.

"We have received a terrific response to the awards so far. The feedback from previous winners on how the awards made a real difference to their business has had a very positive effect with

an increase in the number of applications. The judges are going to have a very tough task selecting this year's winners."

As well as receiving the prestigious award, winners will also have the opportunity of representing Network Cork at the national annual awards in October. Last year's winner, local Cork businesswoman Natasha Lynch, Essential French in Cork did her county proud by beating off stiff competition from all over the country to win Irish business woman of the year (established business).

The winners will receive numerous prizes, most of which have been generously sponsored by Network Cork members including, a bespoke Net-

work Cork trophy, exclusive business, marketing and web optimisation mentoring from a panel of experts, business portraits and hotel breaks.

Tickets for the awards luncheon are now on sale through Network Cork and are priced at €45 for members and €50 for non members. Tickets include a drinks reception, four course lunch with wine and lots of networking with some of Munster's leading business women. Awards applications should be emailed to [businessawards@networkcork.com](mailto:businessawards@networkcork.com) Closing date is Friday, 5 April, 5.30pm. For more information on the awards visit [networkcork.com](http://networkcork.com) or for tickets email [treasurer@networkcork.com](mailto:treasurer@networkcork.com).