

Leeds seminar promotes new era in trade relations



Guest speaker Eugene Ford.

PICTURES BY PETER FAWCETT

A NEW era in British and Irish trade relations was the theme of a business seminar held in Leeds.

The British Irish Chamber of Commerce co-hosted the event with O'Rourke Reid law firm and AIB.

Among the speakers was John Reid, Managing Partner of O'Rourke Reid, Michael Keaveney from the British Irish Chamber and Eugene Forde, Counsellor for Economic Affairs at the Irish Embassy in London. Mr. Keaveney highlighted the

long-standing integration between Britain and Ireland and the high level of trade between both countries.

Mr. Forde went on to discuss the similarities between Yorkshire and Ireland in terms of size, population, GDP, economy and commerce.

It was also highlighted that three-quarters of businesses in the region do not consider exporting, mainly due to perceived difficulties such as language.

Mr Forde also spoke about the success of businesses through partnership from both Britain and Ireland during the 2012 London Olympics.



Matthew Fannon and Marie Forde, both AIB Leeds; Philip Adams, O'Rourke Reid litigation manager and Dominick O'Grady, AIB regional manager.



Finton Hughes, Forever Thoughts Limited; Eamon Fox, DTZ and Rose Kelly, Forever Thoughts.



Lawrence Brophy and Martin Grundy, Cardale financial manager.



Michael Collins, AIB London; Eamon Darcy, Torque Logistics Limited and Peter Newman, KPH Plant Hire Leeds.



Emma Farrell, O'Rourke Reid, John Reid, Managing Partner O'Rourke Reid with Mike Shaw, Ellis Bater Insurance brokers Ltd, Harrogate.



Jon Lowe, Barclays Bank Leeds; Orla McGivern O'Rourke Reid and Phil Middlebrough, Barclays Bank Leeds.



Hugh Kelly, AIB UK; Michael Keaveney, British and Irish Chamber of Commerce; Eugene Ford, Embassy of Ireland and Michael Collins, AIB London.

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