

# **The Kerry's Eye**

## **Skillnet Opens in Dingle**

Thursday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008

An Gaeltachtaí na Mumhan Skillnet Training Initiative was officially launched by an Ceann Comhairle, John O'Donoghue at the Dingle Skellig Hotel on Friday. The launch formed part of the annual Féile na Bealtaine which was taking place for the fourteenth year in the town.

Gaeltachtaí na Mumhan Skillnet Network was set up in the Gaeltacht areas of the province earlier this year with a view to enabling both new businesses and existing enterprises to avail of specialised training. The initiative is funded by Skillnets, the support body for these training schemes and the Dingle one is promoted by Comharchumann Forbartha Chorca Dhuibhne (CFCD), in Baile an Fheirtéaraigh.

At the launch, companies in the region (outside the Gaeltacht area as well) were invited to make applications to take part in the courses. Representatives of 25 companies from the five Munster Gaeltachtaí were at the launch, each taking the opportunity to operated a stand at the event. Also in attendance were Eamon Ó Neachtain (regional manage, Údarás na Gaeltachta), Antaine Ó Sé (ceo of MFG), Alan Nuzum (ceo Skillnets) and Tomás MacGearailt (cathaoirlaeach CFCD).

A number of courses are already in place and more will be developed in the coming months. To date, over 50,000 employees have taken part in training organised by Skillnets which was formed 1999.