

PRESS RELEASE

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Derry Clarke at Sodexo 1916 Lunch at GPO

Traditional Irish fare was at the heart of the 1916 Commemorative Lunch organised by Sodexo Ireland at the GPO, Dublin on Wednesday 13th April 2016. The An Post staff restaurant was packed as hundreds of customers happily enjoyed complimentary coddle, boxty cakes with handcrafted bread, heritage apples and Irish farmhouse cheeses served by chef and TV personality Derry Clarke and the Sodexo team.

The Lunch was organised by Andrew McGinley, account manager and Julianne Forrestal, executive craft chef. The lunchtime menu also included some nostalgic Irish dishes dating back over a century; Irish beef stew with dumplings, Guinness battered fresh fish with hand cut fries in newspaper, and glazed ham with cloves with curly kale.

Afterwards, Derry and some members of the Sodexo staff visited to the GPO Witness History museum for a photocall inside the immersive and engaging exhibition that puts the visitor right inside the GPO, the focal point of the Rebellion, during Easter Week 1916.

Andrew McGinley said, *“The events of Easter Week 1916 shaped our history and the GPO was at the centre of it all. We wanted to do something around food in the An Post staff restaurant that commemorated the event. We were delighted with the wonderful response we received from our customers. There was a fantastic atmosphere that day and they all loved meeting and having the ‘craic’ with Derry.”*

Sodexo Ireland delivers services that improve the quality of life to clients in business and industry, education, financial services and healthcare. It employs approximately 2,000 staff in 200 locations across Ireland, serves 90,000 people daily and spent €21 million on local Irish food in 2015.

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About Sodexo

Sodexo in the UK and Ireland

Sodexo employs around 34,000 people, and delivers services that improve the quality of life to clients at some 1,850 locations in the corporate, healthcare, education, leisure, justice and defence sectors.

With an annual turnover of more than £1bn, Sodexo delivers a range of services ranging from catering, cleaning, reception to asset management, security, laboratory and grounds maintenance services, enabling clients to focus on their core business.

Sodexo Benefits and Rewards Services in the UK provides benefit and reward services such as SayShopping vouchers; public benefits; and employee benefits such as childcare vouchers and engagement surveys.

Sodexo Group

Founded in 1966 by Pierre Bellon, Sodexo is the global leader in services that improve Quality of Life, an essential factor in individual and organisational performance. Operating in 80 countries, Sodexo serves 75 million consumers each day through its unique combination of On-site Services, Benefits and Rewards Services and Personal and Home Services. Through its more than 100 services, Sodexo provides clients an integrated offering developed over nearly 50 years of experience: from food services, reception, maintenance and cleaning, to facilities and equipment management; from Meal Pass, Gift Pass and Mobility Pass benefits for employees to in-home assistance and concierge services. Sodexo's success and performance are founded on its independence, its sustainable business model and its ability to continuously develop and engage its 420,000 employees throughout the world.

Key figures (as of August 31, 2015)

19.8 billion euro consolidated revenues

420,000 employees

19th largest employer worldwide

80 countries

32,000 sites

75 million consumers served daily

12.6 billion euro in market capitalisation (as of November 18, 2015)