

PWSAI Conference 2010

PWSAI confirm that the conference will take place on Saturday 24 April 2010. As previously stated this year's theme is "Education". It is hoped to invite a representative from all education providers as detailed by you in the information forms completed at last year's conference.

The venue will be the Red Cow Hotel, Naas Road, Dublin. PWSAI will fund an overnight stay on Friday 23 April to include accommodation and breakfast for the PWS person and their parents/carer's. Rooms available will accommodate parents and PWS person or one parent, one carer and PWS person. Unfortunately this year it is not possible to cater for other siblings.

On conference day, Saturday 24th, we will commence at 10am and finish at 4pm. PWSAI will fund a three course lunch on the day.

We hope that while the conference is taking place, enough carer's will be provided to take the PWS people by coach to the Zoo and to the Ark (Temple Bar). A low fat lunch (sandwich, drink and a low calorie yogurt) will be provided or you can provide your own lunch if you prefer. We would ask that you provide any other snacks required by your son or daughter throughout the day. The snacks can be held by the carer's and distributed according to your instructions.

We have been working hard to establish a library in our office in the Carmichael Centre, with PWS leaflets, books, DVD's and other reference material which people can access for further information on all aspects of PWS. A selection of these publications will be available to purchase or rent at the conference.

We recently acquired a new DVD / Handbook for Educators. It has been reviewed by a number of Parents, SNA's, Teachers and Resource Teachers. All were very impressed and again DVDs are available for hire.

Ann, Maria and Don had their third meeting with Minister John Moloney on 19 January 2010 . While there are no significant developments to report at this stage, we believe that each meeting is bringing us closer to an improvement in our residential and respite facilities. Our next meeting is scheduled for 21 April 2010. We will keep you up to date as matters progress.

Being in regular contact with parents, I am delighted to hear of the special achievements of our PWS children. With the permission of the parents, I would like to share one or two with you.

Danielle Cantwell successfully passed her Junior Certificate in June 2009 with 2A's, 4B's and 2C's. **Martha Jones** also passed her Junior certificate with 2A's, 4B's and 3C's.

**Well done to both girls,
it was a great achievement!**



Please send or e-mail me any stories or photos for our next news letter due out in May 2010.

It has recently come to our attention that Holiday Breaks are available through PWSUK for our over 18's. Anyone interested must bring their own carer. It is a great opportunity to meet new friends. If any further information is required, please contact PWSUK directly.

We would like to thank those who have fundraised and made donations to the Association throughout the year. Some of the recent fundraising achievements were

Marie-Rose O'Connell's Nana who raised a massive €5000 holding a coffee morning and Colin Grassick's uncle who with one of his colleagues in the Irish Aviation Authority completed a channel swim and raised €3000.

Our aims currently are to enhance our website to improve information/communication, to assist in the provision of respite/residential care for persons with PWS and to enable us provide on a more professional level advice and assistance to parents and provide training for medical and educational professionals when required.

Please **download** the booking form for the 2010 Conference from our website, which should be completed and returned by 19th March by post to PWSAI, Carmichael Centre, North Brunswick Street, Dublin 7 or by email to annglassick@iol.ie

Ann Grassick
PWSAI Administrator