



## **WNA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & SIX MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING**

On March 24<sup>th</sup> the WNA held their second Annual General Meeting along with the six monthly meeting at the Urdd Cardiff. 22 members were present.

### **The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE elected for 2010/2011 is:**

Chair:	Kevin Thomas	MND Association
Vice Chair:	Joseph Carter	MS Society Cymru
Treasurer:	Don Read	CMT UK
Secretary:	Gill Gleeson	Cerebra

### **Executive Committee Members:**

Buddug Williams:	Genetic Interest Group
Margaret Read:	CMT UK
Carol Smith:	Parkinson's UK
Ann Sivapatham:	Epilepsy Action
Kate Thomas:	ASBAH

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

In presenting the Annual Report Kevin reported that 2009 had been an exceptionally busy year. There was an increase in the membership, an increase in income, and that more new Local Alliances were established during the year.

The Annual Report has an excellent forward presented by James Steers.

Projects worked on, and all actions taken during the year, are well recorded in the Annual Report. Some projects are ongoing and there are new projects forthcoming so members can look forward to another busy year ahead.

Please share the Annual Report with your members so that they can see the various areas of work the WNA are involved in.

Kevin thanked Judy Rhys for her contribution as Chair during 2009. He also thanked the EC for their work and support during the year.

## **GOODBYE**

Kevin extended special thanks to Carol Thomas-Wyllie on her retirement. Carol had been involved with the WNA since its inception and she was thanked, not only for the work she had done, but also for the support she had given to others. Kevin made a presentation.

## **NEUROSCIENCES REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION GROUPS**

### **North Wales**

The WNA were very active in the N Wales implementation group. The WNA were represented on all four workstreams. Issues raised in the WNA North Wales Patients' Priorities Report were accepted and addressed in the final recommendations. We are awaiting Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to appoint an Implementation Board to put the recommendations in place.

### **Mid & South Wales**

The WNA have continued to be fully involved in both the workstreams and the Project Group of the Mid and South Wales Implementation Group. The project is being led by senior directors in Abertawe Bro Morgannwg Univeristy Health Board and Cardiff and Vale University Health Board. The immediate priority for the group is to complete the neurosurgery move to the University

Hospital.

The challenge for the WNA is to ensure that neurology and neurorehabilitation stay on the agenda and are restructured according to the Implementation Group's recommendations. At the moment there is both political and professional support to implement all of the recommendations.

### **Task & Finish Group to develop Care Pathways for Long Term Neurological Conditions**

A draft paper from the James Steers Group is now available and it is hoped the final report should be out within the next two months. The group is developing a standard care pathway for long term neurological conditions, as well as a number of individual condition pathways.

There was some confusion at the AGM as to how the Care Pathway would be compatible with the individual condition pathways developed at LHB level and the UK Department of Health's Map of Medicine. Concern was also expressed that Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists and other professionals involved in rehabilitation had not been involved in the development of the Pathway.

Joseph Carter and Kate Thomas will take up these concerns.

### **WHEELCHAIR SERVICES REVIEW**

The WNA have now been invited to have representation on the Posture and Mobility Review, Phase 2, Project Board. We have accepted the invitation. The first meeting of the Board will be held on 30<sup>th</sup> April.

### **SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT STUDY DAYS (SMSDs)**

The pilot day took place on February 19<sup>th</sup> at Swansea University. There should have been 31 delegates present but two could not get there because of the snow! Judging from the evaluation forms most delegates found it very informative and learnt quite a bit. One presentation – Personal Perception – was very well received and delegates considered this session particularly helpful. The final report has now been completed and will be presented at the next Executive Committee.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The accounts for the year ending 31 December 2009 were presented at the AGM. They showed a fairly healthy financial position thank to generous donations from some of the larger member organisations.

### **WEBSITE**

The application to Awards 4 All was successful and £4,500 was awarded for the website. As the money has to be used within one year discussions as to how to proceed have now started. A small subgroup has been set up to take this project forward.

### **FUNDING**

The EC continues to search for possible sources of funding. If any member knows of a funding outlet to which WNA could apply please let them know.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

The WNA membership at the end of the financial year was 26. Subscriptions for this financial year are due and we would be grateful if those organizations who have not yet paid could send your subscription to Don Read as soon as possible. If you have mislaid your invoice please contact Gill Gleeson for another one – [gill@cerebra.org.uk](mailto:gill@cerebra.org.uk).

If any member should know of a neurological organisation which might be interested in joining, check with Gill Gleeson if they are already a member. If not please send Gill their contact details and an information pack can be sent to them.

**MEMBERSHIP REVIEW as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009 – 26 members**

Alzheimer's Society, Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, Ataxia South Wales, Brain and Spine Foundation, Cerebra, Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, CMT UK (Charcot-Marie-Tooth), College of Occupational Therapists, Different Strokes, Dystonia Society, Epilepsy Action, Epilepsy Wales, Genetic Interest Group, Guillain-Barre Syndrome Support Group, Headway Wales, Huntington's Disease Association, Myasthenia Gravis Association, Motor Neurone Disease Association, Multiple Sclerosis Society Cymru, Muscular Dystrophy Campaign, Myotonic Dystrophy Support Group, National Tremor Foundation, Parkinson's Disease Society, Progressive Supra Nuclear Palsy Association, Stroke Association, Tuberous Sclerosis Association, WAMES (Welsh Association of ME & CFS.)

**MER 13/04/2010**