



Successful AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Cork Network of PwDI was held in the Ambassador Hotel on Monday 24th May 2010. The meeting was addressed by Mr Morgan McKnight who has been seconded from the Department of Justice to act as the



Chief Executive Officer. Morgan spoke of the need for PwDI to be a strong voice on behalf of the service users in the disability sector. He also spoke of the need to make linkages with the National Disability Authority (NDA) and the importance of PwDI building a high public profile as representatives of people with disabilities throughout the country. Morgan made a presentation of a carriage clock to longstanding member Cathryn Duane who has retired after thirteen years involvement with PwDI. Cathryn's stepping down is running parallel with the retirement of her husband Tom from the

workplace. We wish Cathryn and Tom every happiness in the future. The election of the officer board followed the presentation of the Cork Network accounts. The whole officer board of the Cork Network of PwDI was returned unchanged. Our thanks in particular to PwDI member Orla O'Sullivan for the wonderful piano recital on the evening.

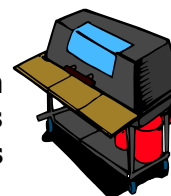


Wheelchair Accessible Taxis

From June 8th all newly licensed taxis must be wheelchair accessible. Taxi drivers will also be getting new identification cards and taxis will also have to display a colour sign which will identify the licensed operating area for the driver. June 8th also sees the introduction of a new category of wheelchair accessible hackney car. A recent survey reported that there are 26,483 PSV licences nationally. 19,406 of these are taxis, 1,535 are wheelchair accessible taxis and 1,244 are limousines. The question that is regularly asked across the country is where are the wheelchair accessible taxis when you want one ?. The Commission for Taxi Regulation says the situation will improve significantly with the new Commission Action Plan. Time will tell !

Rehab Care BBQ

A BBQ is taking place on June 22nd at the Rehab Care facility in Cork in Bruach, Bachelors' Quay, (next to the Gate Cinema) A donation of €5.00 is requested for the BBQ which will be hosted by a chef from Curran's Restaurant. If you require further details contact Rehab Care at 4907610.



Get a European Health Insurance Card

If you are travelling to Europe you should definitely carry a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC). This card allows you to access public healthcare services if you become ill or get injured when visiting European countries. It doesn't cover private treatment or the cost of repatriation to Ireland. The countries covered by the card are the 27 member states of the European Union and the three other members of the EEA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) The card is also valid in Switzerland. You do not need it for a visit to the UK if you can show that you are ordinarily resident in Ireland. You can apply online at www.ehic.ie if you already have a medical card, GP Visit Card or Drugs Payment Scheme card. Otherwise you can download an application form from www.ehic.ie or get it from your Local Health Office. You will need to provide your name, address, date of birth and Personal Public Service Number (PPS No.) You should apply for the card a month before travelling if possible. If you have any questions relating to this topic you can also contact the Citizens Information Phone Service on lo-call 1890 777 121



'Mind Your Head'

Mind your Head is a new HSE South and Youth Work Ireland resource to help those working with young people talk about mental health issues. The project was launched by the Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr. Dara Murphy on Friday 21st May 2010. It was designed specifically for youth workers, youth leaders, peer educators and others working with young people. 'Mind Your Head' was conceived three years ago as a response to particular needs expressed by young people around self harm and mental health. The document was compiled by Stephen Murphy, HSE South Community Health Worker, Gurrabraher Health Action Zone and Diane Mackin, Youth Work Ireland. The involvement of young people in this initiative proved to be highly effective in ensuring the final product is user friendly and relevant to young people. Initiatives such as 'Mind Your Head' play a vital part in encouraging discussion, raising awareness and supporting effective responses to mental health issues in young people. The document was designed with the assistance of art tutor Charlotte O'Donovan from the North Side Community Health Initiative.

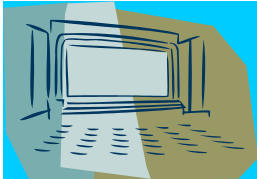
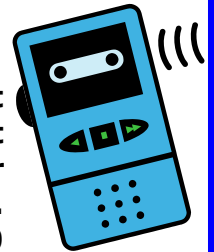
Get Connected with Sector Connector

Explore Ireland's new online hub for the community/ voluntary sector. The Sector Connector is a new interactive space where anyone involved in community, voluntary and charitable activity can exchange advice and information with others in the sector. You can post a question for any other user to answer, or a notice which will be displayed in the Sector Connector window on the homepage of The Wheel website. You can also answer other users' questions or respond to their notices. Post a question or notice on Sector Connector, It's quick, free and anyone can join the conversation! For more information check out www.wheel.ie.



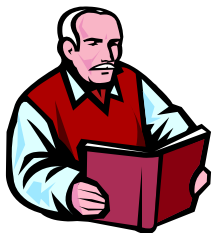
audio book service

NCBI Library is unlocking the world of reading to people with sight problems. Check out their new downloadable audio book service at <http://ncbi.lib.overdrive.com> You can now listen to books on your computer, transfer them onto your mp3 player or disc within minutes. All you need is an Internet connection. There are about 100 downloadable titles available for you to loan and their listing will be expanding each month. If you have a problem with your sight and would like to use this service call them 01 8642266.



Historic Moment for Deaf Community in Cork

The Reel Picture Cinema in Blackpool recently became the first Cork cinema to show a mainstream film that was subtitled for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. 150 Deaf and Hard of Hearing people attended the screening and also enjoyed a celebratory wine reception on the evening. The Reel Cinema screened a subtitled version of Tim Burton's 'Alice in Wonderland'. It was a very special occasion for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Cork, who have until now been excluded from participation in a basic form of entertainment that hearing people usually take for granted. Susan O' Callaghan, a member of the Deaf Community and Advocacy Officer with the Cork Deaf Association said "as a Deaf person I have felt very excluded by the lack of subtitles in Cork cinemas. We have waited such a long time for this development and we're so happy that the Reel Picture has become the first Cork cinema to provide this service." Tom O' Connor, who is the owner of the Reel Picture said he was delighted to usher in a new era for Cork Cinemas. 'We're thrilled by the positive reaction of the Deaf Community to this important development and we hope to continue bringing subtitled films to Deaf and Hard of Hearing people in Cork'. Stay up to date with all the latest information on subtitled films by subscribing to subtitles@yourlocalcinema.com. Alternatively contact the Cork Deaf Association on (021) 4505944, text/fax (021)



Free Book for Seniors

Home Instead Senior Care has announced the publication of their second Pensioner's Handbook. The book is a resource for seniors, their families and caregivers and provides practical information and advice on a range of senior care issues. It also boasts a directory of older person's organisations and other useful contacts for older persons. The Pensioner's Handbook is an essential resource for senior citizens in Ireland. It is a valuable and easy to read handbook specifically designed for older people. Call 1890 930 013 or check out www.homeinstead.ie

If the right half of the brain controls the left half of the body then this surely means only left handed people are in their right mind. Does'nt it ?





Sports Ability Day

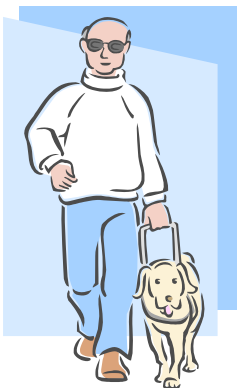
Cork Institute of Technology Sports Hall

Saturday, 10th July 2010

12.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.



The Cork Local Sports Partnership is showcasing a variety of activities that are available in the Cork region. They want people to come out and participate, make new friends, have fun and compete. There are many different sports to participate in such as soccer, wheelchair rugby, wheelchair basketball – and they are all available right here in Cork. The Sports Ability Day promotes sport and physical activity to people with a disability in the Cork Area. This event will provide the opportunity to try out a wide variety of sports and physical activities. The event is open to everyone including people with a disability, coaches, special needs assistants, parents, youth club leaders, carers, facility managers and anyone with an interest in promoting sport and physical activity for people with a disability. For further information on the event or to register your attendance please contact Sinead Costello on 021 – 4665085 or 086 – 7947923 or email scostello@corksports.ie



Making a Difference Awards

Making a Difference Awards aim to give those who make a difference to people with impaired vision the recognition they deserve. You can nominate a volunteer who has given their time to assist a blind person. You can nominate any person who is not paid for providing services to people who are blind or vision impaired. Any business such as a restaurant, grocery shop, entertainment venue, or a leisure centre which has provided an outstanding service to people who are blind can be nominated. You can also nominate a local authority, public body, school or community centre. Contact 01 8373635 to complete a nomination

form or Email: info@visionweek.ie All nominations before 11 July 2010. The awards will be presented on World Sight Day, October 2010.



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