



**CEREDIGION  
UPDATE**  
*May*  
**2014**

## **News and Developments**

## **DATES & EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **Ceredigion Parents & Carers Forum Meeting**

**Wednesday 18th June**

**At 18:30 (6.30pm)**

**Feathers Royal Hotel  
Aberaeron.**

**Speaker: Gill Davies**

Assistant Director of Mental  
Health & Learning Disabilities  
Hywel Dda UHB

+++++

### **Contact a Family Cymru**

#### **Free Family Fun Day**

Aberystwyth Arts Centre  
Sunday 25th May 2014 11am  
Film showing of 'Rio 2' as well  
as entertainment for children  
and a quiet area. There will also  
be an information area where  
you can get 1-2-1 advice as well  
as information about local and  
national support. **To book or for  
further information please  
phone 02920 396624 or email  
[wales.events@cafamily.org.uk](mailto:wales.events@cafamily.org.uk).**  
**A light lunch will be provided.**  
**Attendance is free of charge.**

+++++

### **Carers Week**

**Monday 9 to Sunday 15  
June 2014.**

Carers Week is an annual awareness  
campaign celebrating and recognising  
the contribution made by the UK's 6.5  
million carers who look after an ill,  
frail or disabled family member or  
friend. **KEEP AN EYE OPEN FOR  
YOUR LOCAL EVENTS.**

+++++

### ***Welcome to the Ceredigion update...***

#### **Royal Assent for The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014**

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 will provide, for the first time, a coherent Welsh legal framework for social services. It will transform the way social services are delivered, promoting people's independence to give them a stronger voice and more control. It will also encourage a renewed focus on prevention and early intervention and introduce equivalent rights for carers so that people who care for someone such as an elderly or disabled relative or friend would get similar rights to the people they care for.

If you require further information on this there is a useful link on the AWF website: <http://www.allwalesforum.org.uk/>

It was a great shame to hear that the Mencap 'Planning for the Future' seminar which was to be held in Aberystwyth on the 6th of May had to be cancelled. I have heard that these, free, two-hour seminars are well worth attending. They offer vital, specialist legal advice giving parents and families a much needed opportunity to get answers to those difficult questions about writing wills and setting up trusts for the benefit of a loved one with a learning disability. I have contacted Mencap to see if another date could be arranged and am pleased to say they have shown a very positive attitude to do so. Consequently it is now up to us. We need to have a number of Forum members to show a strong interest in attending a seminar. If we get the numbers needed then this may very well happen. Could I therefore please ask all members who really do want the chance to attend a 'Planning for the Future' seminar to make contact with me. I will then sort out some date options with Mencap and let you know what those options are.

At our last Forum meeting, Sue Darnbrook, Head of Adult Social Care Services, spoke of the need to develop a Ceredigion LD Strategy, as identified by the CSSIW (Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales). The LA will be asking for help from Forum members in producing this strategy. This is great news and so I hope you will all start giving this some serious thought.

***Best wishes, Roger***

## AWF

### All Wales Forum of Parents and Carers of People with Learning Disabilities

Elliot Buildings  
21, Cardiff Road  
Taffs Well  
Cardiff. CF15 7RB  
Phone:  
02920 811120  
Email:  
roger@allwalesforum.org.uk

### Promoting the interests of Parents and Carers of People with Learning Disabilities



### Other news...

#### Ceredigion Regional Development Officer

I am pleased to say that funding has been secured for a further year for my role with the All Wales Forum. In short I am here until the end of March 2015(at least) so if there is anything you would like to discuss or issues you would like raised please do let me know.

#### Eiriolaeth Ceredigion Advocacy

No longer exist. On the 1st April this year they merged with Mental Health Advocacy Providers, Pembrokeshire (MAP). (Registered Charity No 1068440.) MAP have now taken over responsibility for managing the Independent Advocacy Service for those with LD here in Ceredigion. John Stacey is the lead and can be contacted at: The Liberal Chambers 4, St Mary's Street, Haverfordwest SA61 2DR. Tel: 01437 762935. e-mail [john@mapadvocacy.org.uk](mailto:john@mapadvocacy.org.uk) The advocacy service is currently run on a part time basis but MAP are looking to further develop the service.

#### SNAP Cymru

As the biggest overhaul of the SEN system of the last thirty years is taking place I thought you should know that Christina Bufton is the Family and Young Person Officer for Ceredigion. Tel: 0845 120 3730 or e-mail: [headoffice@snapcymru.org](mailto:headoffice@snapcymru.org)

### ITEMS OF INTEREST

### Ceredigion Parents & Carers Forum

**Respite Survey** The Adult Social Care Service are looking to undertake a survey of the Respite / short break service provision in county. We heard at our last meeting that both Gelli Lon and Brynsiriol are currently under review. However this survey will be asking service users and parents / carers of their views and experiences. They will also be giving out information on a range of various options that you may wish to consider. They will want to hear your views not only on the respite / short break provision as it is now, but also on what you would like to see in the future. I believe it is important that those to whom this survey applies take a keen and active part in it.

**Carers Allowance** I mentioned in the January newsletter that you can apply on line. Now, I am told, you can do so in Welsh too.

[www.gov.uk/carers-allowance](http://www.gov.uk/carers-allowance)

#### Forum Meeting Date 18th June 2014

I do understand how difficult it is for many of you to get to our meetings because of your caring role and with this in mind the May meeting has been put back to the 18th June. A number of meetings that parent representatives attend on your behalf are not taking place until the end of May or the beginning of June so the Rep's would have had little to report back on. The fact that your Forum is represented at these various meetings will be of increased importance as money gets tighter. I would like to thank all our parent rep's for the commitment and support they so freely give on your behalf .

#### All Wales Forum

**Carers Development Officer Ceredigion**

**Roger Colman**

E-mail [roger@allwalesforum.org.uk](mailto:roger@allwalesforum.org.uk)

Telephone 01545 580232

Join us on Facebook Ceredigion Parents & Carers Forum