

## **AUTUMN 2005**

Friday 10th June was a real summer's day and everything looked good. It was perfect for our spring conference in Swansea. Nearly 100 delegates attended, representing a cross section of mental health professionals in Wales. The meeting had a real buzz and clearly delegates were enjoying the day. The formula of papers in the morning and workshops in the afternoon worked well.

Tom Riordan's presence, the first treasurer of the WPS, was a bonus and it was good to see him in such good form. We were sad to hear that just before the conference John Hughes of Newport had died. He had been a pivotal figure in psychiatry in Wales. He was the medical superintendent of St Cadoc's and had been chairman of the WPS and the Welsh Division of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

### **Autumn Meeting Friday 11th November, Llandudno**

By now you will have had details of this meeting. Again we have the same formula of papers in the morning and workshops in the afternoon. One of these is devoted to developing a fuller professional life by establishing a medico-legal practice. I have been keen for the increasingly academic content of meetings to be balanced by contributions, which are more closely connected with day-to-day professional practice. Llandudno is a beautiful resort, I am sure that the meeting will be rewarding and I do hope that you will be able to join us.

### **Links with Brittany**

During the summer Huw Bevan Jones and Keith Lloyd met up with colleagues in Rennes. At the beginning of November, Thursday and Friday 3rd and 4th, there is a big conference in Rennes and we are invited. It was not intended that this would be a joint meeting, however it was hoped that some of us would be able to attend and our visit would be a component of the congress.

Naturally the language of the meeting is French; fortunately Huw and Keith will be participating. For the majority who are not able to speak French there is a dinner on Friday evening and a joint meeting with translation on Saturday morning. We are responding with plans for our officers to attend. This will give a clear signal that we are enthusiastic about maintaining our special link with continental Europe. Our aim is to use this opportunity to explore the pattern of future meetings. Colleagues here are interested in learning about psychiatric services in France so that it is possible that a future visit will be in the form of a study tour. For the remainder of the weekend Bruno Millett, the conference organiser, and his wife Christine will be organising a social programme for us.

If you would like to come on this trip, please let me know as soon as possible.

### **Joint Meeting with the Welsh Division – Spring/Early Summer 2006**

The Society is in discussion with the Division about this function but as yet the plans have not been finalised.

Don Williams  
Chairman  
69 Cherry Grove  
Swansea  
SA2 8AU

Email: [donwilliams@osduk.com](mailto:donwilliams@osduk.com)  
Tel: 01792 202606