



IASW

Irish Association of Social Workers  
Cumann na hÉireann um Oibríthe Sóisialta

# November Newsletter



November 2015

## Dear member



October was a busy month for many different areas of social work practice! The recent biennial National Child Protection Conference in Cork was a great success, with many inspirational speakers and fascinating symposia. It afforded all those who attended the opportunity to reflect and take stock of the progress we have made over the last hundred years, the lessons we have learnt as well as discussing what the future of social work with children and families will be. Congratulations to all those who organised it!

The IASW, on behalf of you it's members, lent its support to the recent petition by Mental Health Reform calling on increased funding for the mental health services. The petition was presented to Minister Kathleen Lynch outside the Dail the week before Budget 2016, and it achieved a very positive result!

The IASW was recently asked to make submissions on proposed legislation and members of the Probation SIG made a submission to the Joint Committee on Justice, Equality and Defence and members working in the addictions' services even made an oral submission to the same committee. Social workers, through our experience and knowledge can influence policy and legislative change so my thanks to all the members who have and continue to rise to this challenge.

Following their recent AGM the New Social Workers SIG hosted an evening for student social workers and recent graduates. It gave people a great opportunity to connect over pizza! The Social Workers in Disability also held their AGM this month with an excellent CPD event. Our thanks to those on the outgoing committees. Your time and commitment ensures that we have a vibrant and relevant professional body that enhances the profession! Welcome also, to the incoming committee members.

*Dónal O'Malley, IASW Chair*

## Research Connect is Live!

Research Connect is a new online service linking social work researchers and mentors. Research Connect was launched on 2nd October by Dr Declan Bedford, Chairperson of the Health Research Board who highlighted the many benefits of the service to the profession and to the individual mentors and mentees involved. Click [here](#) to view the service and maybe upload your own profile!

*Sarah Donnelly, Chair of Practitioner Researcher SIG & Carmel Halton, UCC at the launch*



## FREE Fitness to Practise Legal Expenses Cover for IASW members

The IASW is offering superior insurance coverage to each member in the following categories: Full-time; Part-time (20hrs or less); 1st and 2nd Year Post Qualification. The coverage available to IASW members is the best Fitness to Practise coverage available to social workers. Click

## IASW Upcoming Events

To secure your place at an IASW event, **you need to book and pay online**. You can do this by visiting the relevant events page on the website, clicking on the **Book Now** button at the top of the page and completing the booking form.

**To avail of the member rate for events you need to use the e-mail address you used for your IASW membership details.**



## The Data Protection Acts/ Relevance of the

[here](#) to find out more. You can direct interested non-members to the [Join the IASW](#) section of the website to find out more about all our member benefits.

### National Child Protection and Welfare Social Work Conference 'Cherishing All the Children of the Nation Equally'? 100 Years and Beyond



From left to right: Prof Kirsten Sandberg, Prof Gillian Ruch and Dónal O'Malley

Those of you who missed the fantastic Cork conference might be interested to know that some videos and Powerpoint slides will be available over the next six weeks from <http://swconf.ucc.ie/>. Videos from 2011 and 2013 are available to view at <http://swconf.ucc.ie/videos/>. And members who missed the IASW sponsored @SWCONFUCC full day seminar with David Shemmings, can watch his 2013 keynote at <http://swconf.ucc.ie/videos/2013vids/>

Conference organising committee comprising a partnership between UCC, IASW and Tusla



### IASW Update on Professional Supervision

In response to requests for clarification for members, an information sheet on CORU registration and supervision has been compiled. Click [here](#) to download a copy.

### Social Workers in Disability Special Interest Group

Social Worker in Disability (SWID) is a special interest group for social workers with an interest in the area of disability services. SWID represents issues for social workers in physical and sensory, ID and neurological conditions and crosses acute to community services. The next meeting of the group is on Friday, 13th

**Office of the Ombudsman to Social Work**  
**Friday, 6th November from 9.00 - 12.45**  
**St Andrew's Resource Centre, 114-116 Pearse St, Dublin 2**  
**€5 members/ €15 non-members**  
This double bill event will provide an overview of data protection legislation and its implications for social work practice and recording. It will also provide social workers with an understanding of the relevance of the Office of the Ombudsman to the social work role.

**THIS EVENT IS NOW POSTPONED**  
**CPD - Responding to Registration**  
**Wednesday, 18th November from 6.00 - 7.30**  
**St Andrew's Resource Centre, 114-116 Pearse Street, Dublin 2**  
**Free but booking essential**  
Cliona Murphy, Professional Development Coordinator with the IASW will present this seminar on the CPD Requirements of registration. **Discussion will focus on how to meet the CPD requirements of registration when not specifically employed as a social worker.**

**Practice Ethics and Professional Boundaries**  
**Wednesday, 18th November from 1.00 - 3.00**  
**Clonbrusk Primary Care Centre, Athlone**  
**€5 members/ €15 non-members**  
How can practitioners in both urban and rural settings successfully manage client relationships to avoid ethical problems? Dr. Jeremy Carney, Professor of Social Work at Minnesota State University Moorhead, will explore these issues and the ethical implications involved.

**Taking Time, Taking Care: an Introduction to Mindfulness Practice**  
**Thursday, 19th November from 9.30 - 1.00**  
**Mardyke House, Cork**  
**€5 members/ €15 non-members**  
This half day workshop introduces the practice of mindfulness meditation and ways to embrace a compassionate approach in the art of building resilience and nourishing ourselves as social workers.

**Safeguarding the Vulnerable Adult: Implications for Mental Health Social Work Practice Social Workers in Adult Mental Health Conference & AGM**  
**Friday, 20th November from 10.00 - 4.00**  
**Ashling Hotel, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8**  
**€10 members/€20 non-members**  
Social Workers in Adult Mental Health (SWAMH) have organised this conference to inform the profession on key issues relating to the safeguarding of vulnerable adults and to explore the implications for social workers in adult mental health.

**FULLY BOOKED Finding Spaces: An Introduction to Mindfulness & Meditation**  
**Tuesday, 24th November from 9.30 - 1.00**  
**The Sanctuary, Stanhope Street, Dublin 7**  
**€5 members/ €15 non-members**  
An introduction to how mindfulness (and meditation) can nourish and sustain our role as social workers.

November at Stewart's Hospital, Palmerstown and open to any social worker with an interest in the area. Click [here](#) to find more details about SWID.

### Writing for Publication eLearning module on HSELand

The latest CPD resource from HSELand can be found by going to the My Learning section of the homepage and entering 'publication' in the search box. The resources of HSELand are available to all. Click [here](#) to sign up for an account.

### Drug & Alcohol Research Evidence

In 2015, the staff at the HRB National Drugs Library developed an online resource to facilitate practitioners to more easily use drug and alcohol related research in their CPD. The resource was developed in consultation with the IASW and other professional bodies and the HRB would now like feedback to inform the further development of the resource. Click [here](#) to view the resources and a short survey.

## Understanding Children, Loss & Bereavement

**Wednesday, 25th November from 9.30 - 4.30**  
**Education & Research Centre, Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross, Dublin**

**€20 members/ €40 non-members**

The Irish Association of Social Workers and Social Care Ireland are coordinating a second conference on 'Understanding Children, Loss and Bereavement'. See website for full conference programme and speaker details.

## Mindfulness and Resilience

**Friday, 27th November from 9.30 - 1.00**  
**Clarion Hotel, Sligo**

**€5 members/ €15 non-members**

This half day workshop will draw on a variety of mindfulness meditation practices currently being used in healthcare and workplace settings in the US, Europe and further afield.

Representing Social Work in Ireland since 1971  
A Member of the International Federation of Social Workers

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