

## SUCCESSFUL AGM HELD IN GALWAY

Our AGM that was held in Galway was a huge success. The night kicked off with the presentation of awards to survivors who have made a significant contribution to our organisation and to the cause of survivors in general.

Right of Place Second Chance now supports survivors and give due recognition for their/our achievements despite the horrible history of institutionalism. Next year we intend to make this a very special stand-alone event.

Congratulations to all who were awarded beautiful pieces of Penrose Waterford Crystal. They were well deserved and long overdue. The main award went to Jack Dooley (Kilkenny) for his contribution in exposing the double payments illegally taken by some solicitors. Jack as humble as ever dedicated this award to all those present and to every Survivor who could not attend. Congratulations to those who have worked tirelessly on behalf of survivors and



Jack Dooley pictured with well wishers receiving his award at the Galway AGM.

who were recognised at our AGM. (photos included in this newsletter). Now we know that it was not possible to recognise all the achievements and contributions by all survivors, but this was a start and next year it will be even more expansive.

A special word of thanks to Val Groarke who

organised this event and ran it very professionally. A great Galway welcome was afforded to all who attended. The sing song afterwards went on until the late hours. A fantastic time was had, and many survivors made the occasion very memorable by singing or reciting prose and poetry.

## BITS AND BOBS OF INFORMATION

- Our **Annual Mass** for deceased members who have passed on to their eternal reward will take place in Limerick this September. Exact details to be announced.

- A get together afterwards with some food and music is also being organised and again, the exact date in September will be available in any of our offices.

- **Busses will be running from Cork, Waterford and Galway** (depending on demand) so if you would like to be part of this day out then put your name down by ringing or talking to any member of our staff in any of these cities.

### Contact details:

Cork / Kerry: 1890 200 709  
Waterford / Eastern: 051 841 819  
Galway / Limerick: 091 757 130

- **Board of Directors met in Waterford** and passed the annual audited accounts for 2012. They will be up on our website shortly for anyone to view.

- **Quality Matters** have been tasked with the responsibility of devising an Organisational Review and Development of a Strategic Plan for Right of Place Second Chance for the next five years.

What this effectively means is that we are getting an independent company to come in

and examine all that we do and enable us to more effectively achieve better results for those we help and to provide better services for both our company and survivors.

### Memorial Design/Plan

In our Waterford Centre, you are welcome to come in and view the magnificent plan/design for the memorial to survivors. We know that there are differing views on this plan, but we are fully behind this beautiful piece of art dedicated to us! Come in and have a cup of tea/coffee and relax for a few minutes in a comfortable and friendly environment.

### Office for Limerick

Behind the scenes, negotiations are taking place for an office in Limerick. Tom Wall is working hard to make this happen, and to ensure that when it does happen that it will serve the survivors of Limerick in a professional, effective and sustainable way into the future.

### HSE Meeting in Dublin

Staff of Right of Place Second Chance met with officials from the HSE in Dublin and reviewed our plans for 2013. This was a very positive meeting and both parties expressed overall satisfaction with the level of cooperation and success our partnership is continuing to achieve.

It is also important to know that we have developed very good relationships with the counselling service Towards Healing who offer expert services for survivors and they can be contacted on freephone: 1800 303416. Right of Place Second Chance have signed a memorandum of understanding with them and this enables survivors to easily access their services if they wish to do so.

The State counselling service can be contacted on 01 8657400



### USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

**Cork/Kerry:** Head Office  
Lo call: 1890 200 709 • 021 4551399

**Pat Sheehan VEC re Education:**  
Cork Office • 021 4907100

**Waterford / Eastern Office:**  
Office • 051 841819

**Galway / Limerick Region:**  
Office • 091 757130

**Towards Healing:**  
Counselling • Freephone 1800 303 416

**Connect**  
Counselling • Freephone 1800 477 477

NATIONAL  
NEWSLETTER  
SUMMER 2013



Healing and Awareness  
through the Arts -  
Supporting Talents  
through Adversity

## Residential Institutions Statutory Fund (Formerly Trust Fund)

We waited for as long as we could to see if we would be able to give you all the precise details as they apply to you, and, what you can access with this Fund. Regrettably, we are unable to detail the criteria by which you can apply to this fund, due to the slowness of all the pieces being put in place. Some call it red tape or bureaucracy, we call it unacceptable. It would now seem that this Fund will not be up and running until the end of the year at the earliest and possibly by the start of the new year.

However, the CEO of this fund Mary Higgins visited our National Healing and Training Centre in Waterford in July and met with a group of survivors and Right of Place Second Chance staff. Approximately twenty four individuals spoke with Mary Higgins and brought some of their concerns to her attention. The concrete information we have are as follows....

(1) The Board is finally in place. The Residential Institutions Statutory Fund Board has established their own website, which will, into the future, contain much information about its workings and development.

Currently on the site is a copy of the Press Release that was issued when the Board was established and it is hoped that as the official workings and information becomes more developed this will be put up. Any useful/important information that is shared will also be put up on this site. If you need any assistance or further information, as always please feel free to contact Right of Place.

Additionally to this, I hope you understand that as the Board (Residential Institutions Statutory Fund) have only had the occasion to meet once a month since their appointments, it will be some time before information that is more concrete is put up. Whilst the Contact details have been agreed & Website, the exact nature of their supports, how to apply etc have not yet been established. As such any application that you may send to the address and details will not be accepted as applications to the New Fund.

It is envisaged the application process etc will take a number of months to be established & agreed, which is understandable considering the importance of the Fund, so please be conscious of this.

(2) A Chairperson is announced: Her name is Sylva Langford.

(3) A new CEO Mary Higgins has been appointed by the Minister Ruirí Quinn

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## ICAP (Immigrant Counselling and Psychotherapy)

Are things getting you down? You are not alone, ICAP can help. This is a wonderful service provided by some of the most skilled in people in England. ICAP launched their annual report in Bushwell's Hotel in Dublin called - "Coming home to ourselves", and the Minister Francis Fitzgerald opened the programme. A lot of us will still have family and friends living in Britain and this is a valuable service for anyone who is isolated or in need of support.

ICAP is an English based support group and if you are in England or have friends or relatives who need support then get them to contact ICAP (02072727906) or email them info@icap.org.uk This group is based mainly in London and Birmingham.



Michael Walsh Chairman (ROPSC), Joanne White (HSE), John Cleary and Patrick Cleary (ROPSC)



Right of place  
second chance

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 14581

WWW.RIGHTOFPLACE.COM



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