



# Caerphilly People First *Newsletter - Spring 2013*

## All Wales People First Conference

The All Wales People conference 2013 was recently held in Llandrindod Wells. The theme of this year's conference was 'The Next Generation'. A number of members and staff from Caerphilly People First attended the two-day event, which consisted of guest speakers, group work, and debates. On the first day, Joe Powell, the new Director of All Wales People First talked about the changing culture for people with learning disabilities. This was followed by group discussions on what makes the perfect member, and perfect support worker.

Day two included a discussion on how young people want to engage in People First (something Caerphilly People First is very committed to, with our Youth Project), and a presentation from the University of Glamorgan's 'Looking Into Abuse' project. As usual, the conference was a great opportunity to meet up with old friends, make new friends, and talk about the future of People First.



# County Meeting

At a recent County Meeting – the first to be held in Bargoed YMCA - we asked members what they thought of the meeting. Here are their responses:



**Chris Evans:** It was brilliant! It gives us a chance to talk about problems, and Joe Powell, the guest speaker, was fantastic.



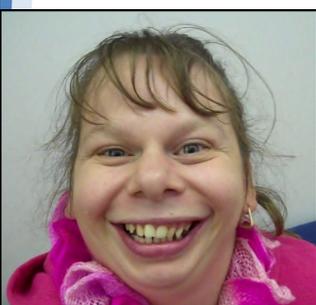
**Ray Dummett:** I like to talk about different issues, and I'm looking forward to being part of the new day services review.



**Wendy Parry:** I really enjoy the Caerphilly People First meetings and I really like the new venue. We talked about the Gateway project.



**Gareth Walters:** It was interesting and I really liked the guest speaker, Joe Powell.



**Sian Lewis:** I really enjoyed it. I enjoyed the buffet, and most of all, talking to people. I think everyone who gets the chance to attend the meeting should come.

# Quick News

Caerphilly People First is currently facilitating Learning Disability Awareness courses for the Welsh Government, Aneurin Bevan Health Board and the Caerphilly Equalities department.



Working in partnership with the Caerphilly day services team, we have put together a survey to ask people what they think about the day services they use. Every single person attending day services will be asked what they like and dislike about the service.



We are working with Rhiannon Thorn to facilitate courses on abuse. We are also working with the training department and Caerphilly County Borough Council POVA team.



Caerphilly People First is working with the makers of the learning disability strategy. This strategy will enable the whole of Gwent to have a plan about how services should work. A group called the Strategy Makers Forum, made up of people with learning disabilities, will help to decide what changes are made to services.



Glayne Walker has rejoined our team and will hopefully become a facilitator in the training that we are carrying out.



## Future Events



**17th April 2013:**

Learning Disability Awareness Training, Ty Penallta

**18th April 2013:**

GAVO Upper Rhymney Valley Forum Meeting

**7th May 2013:**

Learning Disability Awareness Training, Ty Penallta

**9th May 2013:**

Caerphilly People First Management Meeting

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