

WSI Chairmans Report for 2024

1st Feb 2025

Welcome all to our AGM and weekend away.

2024 was a great success in large part due to our wonderful hard working ladies on the committee the wonderful assistance of members of WSI. A huge thank you to them all.

Hopefully 2025 will be as good or better if that is possible.

I must mention the '7 walks for Williams' which not only led to active exercise for so many, but was also really enjoyed by all. In addition the event proved to be a great fund raiser and no doubt Dearbhail will let us know how much raised by 7 Walks along with other fundraisers throughout the year to date.

Clonfert Pet Farm was visited in May and the event also provided the colourful finish line for the Walks. It was a pity that the rain, which fell just after lunch, spoiled what was a great day. However, no one complained and it was obvious that everyone had great chat and plenty of laughter.

A follow up this year is already booked.

Thank you to Dearbhail for the 'Elsie with the great smile' booklet presentation at Dun Laoighre Libraries. Perhaps we should make this available with 'Wishes' for our new families as well.

Alan Keady invited us to the exhibition in Rathmines of wonderful art done by Alan and his colleagues/friends from Galway. Held in the old Fire Station it was wonderful to see and meet some of the artists and teachers----well done to all.

I'd like to our appreciation to Chanel College for the wonderful Coffee morning in June to raise funds for WSI.

Our weekend away in Lough Lanagh County Mayo was very successful. The event held in September was a hoot along and most enjoyable. A huge thanks to Dearbhail and the crew of helpers for doing a great job. This event was also attended by International visitor, Filippo, who volunteered his help along with his sister Elisa. Elisa also attended Alan's exhibition.

One of my highlights for the year was the Christmas Party in the Rochestown Park Hotel for the Adult WS members. What a spectacle of manoeuvres on the dance floor. Great thanks to Pauline. It was wonderful that our Italian friends Simona whose son Gerardo was a valued friend to many of our WS family, and her brother Nicola came and enjoyed the weekend.

Eoghan, Eoghan, Eoghan again with his now famous 'Tractor Run', now seems like an annual event not to be missed. Thank you Eoghan and your wonderful supporters. (including your family). Special Olympics Ireland, Ardee Hospice and Williams Syndrome Ireland are the equal recipients of the funds from this years events.

Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine Ireland based in Cork have been raising money for WS and continue to do so. Their input has been tremendous and is of immense importance to the association. We are deeply indebted to them and all of their staff. It allows us to comfortably organise events for our WS members and all at Johnson & Johnson should be aware of the great work they are doing and how important it is to us. Our heartfelt thank you to Pa and Patricia Daly for instigating this wonderful fundraising.

Dearbhair we appreciate the hard work you put into the Charities Regulator regulations etc that we must comply with and also the extra over work you do.

Please note the Bursaries for Therapies will be done for 2025

Many thanks to the committee for their work throughout the year.

It is hoped you can all continue this year and with a little luck maybe some new helpers might come on board.

Stephen Langton,

Chairman 2024