

## Appendix 1

# Time Line

Significant dates in the development of PPA in Wales:  
1961 to 1987

### 1961

In August Belle Tutaev wrote the letter to 'The Guardian', which began it all.

### 1962

The National Association of Pre-school Playgroups was formally constituted and registered as a charity.

Throughout the rest of the decade more playgroups opened and local Branches were formed. Some Branches obtained Local Authority grants enabling them to employ part-time Area Organisers.

### 1966

Brenda Crowe was appointed first National Adviser (England and Wales).

### 1967

The name of the Association was changed to 'Pre-school Playgroups Association'.

The PPA logo was designed.

### 1968

The first Welsh County Association was formed in Flintshire.

### 1973

The first grant was received from the Welsh Office to fund the salary of a National Adviser for PPA in Wales.

Myfanwy Edwards was appointed first National Adviser for Wales, with an office at Newport.

The North Wales Association was formed.

### 1974

Mother and Toddler Groups started to spring up all over Wales.

The first All Wales Conference took place in Llandrindod Wells and was addressed by Belle Tutaev. At this meeting there was a proposal to set up a Wales Region of PPA and subsequently the Wales Region Working Party was formed.

### 1975

Three part-time Development Officers were appointed to cover the whole of Wales.

The first Foundation Course syllabus was designed and Clwyd took the lead in providing courses for volunteers and paid workers at all levels.

The South Wales Association was formed.

### 1976

Wales Regional Committee was formed with volunteer representatives from each county. Its first meeting was chaired by Marjorie Dykins and later in the year Ivy Webster became the Chairman.

The Welsh Office granted £18,000, which paid for the Wales National Adviser and contributed to paying the running costs of the Region.

Myfanwy Edwards retired and became President of the Wales Region of PPA. Marjorie Dykins was appointed National Adviser in her place.

The Regional Office was moved to Cartrefle College, Wrexham and

the Newport office became The Resource Centre.

Sub-committees were set up to deal with Finance, Personnel, Training, Emergencies (to make decisions and take action if necessary, between full Regional Council meetings) and WaPPA (a newsletter).

The first issue of WaPPA was produced.

An All-Wales Conference was held in Cardiff with Lady Plowden as the special guest and speaker on 'A new look at pre-school provision'.

### 1977

The Welsh Office grant was £28,000.

The Regional Committee was re-named The Regional Council.

Five part-time Development Officers were in post sharing the work of the eight counties.

Sub-committees were set up to manage the two offices.

Thoughts on independence from England, were voiced.

The First Annual Meeting of the Wales Region was held in Aberystwyth, with speaker Mr Raymond Clarke of the Personal Social Services Council.

### 1978

The Welsh Office grant was £36,000, but later in the year an additional £20,000 was awarded, £15,000 of which was paid out directly to playgroups in need.

The Regional Office was opened by Mr Barry Jones, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Wales.

A Regional Communications and Media Sub-committee was formed.

Three Foundation Courses ran in North Wales.

The Annual Meeting was held in Newtown, with speaker Mary Bruce, General Secretary of PPA.

## 1979

The Welsh Office grant was £43,000.

The Annual Meeting was held in Cardiff, with speaker Minette Gee, one of the PPA National Advisers.

## 1980

The Welsh Office grant was £57,000.

There were now eight part-time Development Officers in Wales, one for each county.

One day per week of Field Staff time was dedicated to training.

A Regional Special Needs Sub-committee was set up.

The North and South Wales Associations were disbanded.

The Annual Meeting was held in Wrexham, with speaker Mr Barry Jones MP.

## 1981

The Welsh Office grant was £70,000.

A fourth Foundation Course was validated.

A working party reported on discussions on independence for PPA in Wales.

The Region created a link with the Hong Kong branch of PPA, whose founder came from Wales.

Wales Region hired a stand for the first time at the Royal Welsh Show.

The Annual Meeting was held in Newport, with speaker Mr Neil Kinnock MP.

## 1982

The Welsh Office grant was £82,000, £8,000 of which was to fund additional time for Development Officers to devote to Special Needs.

It was the 21st birthday of the Pre-school Playgroups Association and HRH Princess Diana agreed to be its Royal Patron.

A Regional Mother and Toddler Sub-committee was set up.

The Annual Meeting was held in Llandudno, with speaker Gillian Pugh of The Children's Bureau.

### 1983

The Welsh Office grant was £86,000.

Wales Region hosted the PPA AGM and Conference at Llandudno; representatives of all counties were involved in arrangements for the impressive occasion which was attended by 1600 delegates. The opening address was given by Professor Jerome Bruner.

The Annual Meeting was in Brecon, with a Question and Answer session chaired by Professor Roger Webster.

### 1984

The Welsh Office grant was £92,450.

The Presidency of the Wales Region passed from Myfanwy Edwards to Ivy Webster.

The new Regional Office at 2a Chester Street, Wrexham, was opened officially by Mr Wyn Roberts, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Wales.

PPA held a Parliamentary Reception in Westminster.

The Annual Meeting was in Cardiff with speaker Tom Crabtree, educational journalist of 'The Guardian'.

### 1985

The Welsh Office grant was £97,300.

The Mother and Toddler Sub-committee was disbanded and its work taken over by Development Officers.

The Annual Meeting was in Wrexham, with speaker Professor Donald Court.

### 1986

The Welsh Office grant was £104,000.

PPA celebrated its silver jubilee and Wales Region of PPA its 10<sup>th</sup>

anniversary. A 10 years reunion buffet supper was held in Cardiff with Lady Plowden as a special guest.

Two Teddies took an Incredible Journey through Wales starting in Holyhead and Tywyn, ending in Maindy Stadium, Cardiff and visiting every PPA branch on the way.

A new working party was set up to consider the implications of independence from England; later in the year all counties backed a proposal for independence.

The Annual Meeting was in Caerphilly, with Chairman Mr Kenneth Hopkins, Director of Education in Mid Glamorgan.

## **1987**

The proposal for independence was taken to the PPA AGM in Birmingham where it received approval.

The Inaugural Meeting of Wales PPA Cymru took place in Aberystwyth on 4<sup>th</sup> July.

Marjorie Dykins retired in August and Wendy Hawkins was appointed National Adviser.

The Deed of Transfer was signed in November and Wales became independent.