



West Sussex Mediation Service External Newsletter

Fond Farewell

Issue No: 65
St Patrick's
Edition 2014

Yvonne is hanging up her mediation boots at the end of March, as we close our reporting year. Yvonne joined the charity as a part time Caseworker in 2007.



It would be right to let her go without a proper send off. We are therefore organising a Leaving Do as follows:

Date: Wednesday 9th April 2014

Time: From 6.30pm till late.

Venue: 1st Floor of the Lintot Pub, Lintot Square, Southwater, RH13 9LA (we will have **private use** of the upper floor).

Dress Code: Casual.

Food: You can order from an extensive menu on the night, if you wish to munch. (They do 2 main meals for £10 if you crew up with someone). If you sign up for their mailing list online, you can even get a free drink voucher!

Follow this link, where you can view the menu -

<http://www.lintotsquarepub.co.uk/>

The invitation is extended to anyone with a connection with WSMS, plus partners.

If you need any further information about the event or how to get there, just contact the office.

PLEASE RSVP. We hope to see the place full !

Read about Yvonne's story in the next newsletter.



<--- Lintot Pub
Southwater



External Edition

*Published for the
Supporters and
Funders of the West
Sussex Mediation
Service.*

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Getting the word out

At WSMS we don't like to see our volunteer mediators being idle, so to encourage more referrals to our service, we need to spread the word more and increase awareness. With the help of our volunteers we have been in contact with a number of W.I and other groups across West Sussex, to provide information about the charity and to offer to give talks.

We are also contacting Housing Associations to offer training to Housing Officers on how to best utilise our services. Often, with staff changes, we can fall off their radar.

If you know of any marketing opportunities, do let the office know.

Let's make 2014 a busier year for our core work – community mediation.

Local Market Place

There is a great web based initiative helping to promote local independent businesses in Horsham with a charity giving angle to it as well.

**LOCAL MARKET
PLACE RH12**

HORSHAM, WEST SUSSEX

If you are a Horsham resident or make the occasional visit to the town/environs to eat out, visit a local garden centre or pub, please see if you can help WSMS use this as a fundraiser. WSMS is registered on the website:

www.localmarketplace.biz/horsham/puzzle

The site incorporates a puzzle game, similar to a jigsaw. You earn points on completing the puzzles and can progress through various levels. Points equate to votes for your chosen charity. If we lead the points table by 31st July 2014, we could earn £1,000. At the moment we are at No.9 after Nick's initial efforts. Each individual who signs up, also has the chance to win cash prizes, up to £750. If you keep receipts from local businesses and submit copies within 7 days, it generates more points. We could do that under Nick's account to gain a higher ranking.

If you can help, let Nick know.



**Raise funds for us when
you travel this Summer**

Just by shopping online at giveasyoulive.com





Referrals



We ended February with **23** referrals. Family mediation referrals remain buoyant, which will keep Robert very busy during March and beyond.

Subjects for referrals included Trees, Noise, Pets, Harassment, Communal Area, Boundary, Smoke/Fumes, Family and Intergenerational. With the continuing downturn in community mediations we only have 14 mediators currently assigned to cases.

It looks like we will end the year with a slightly lower total referral figure than 2012/13. We ended February on **258** against last year's **287** for the full year. It would have to be a very busy March to beat that record year.

Did you know?

More answers to commonly posed questions about WSMS.

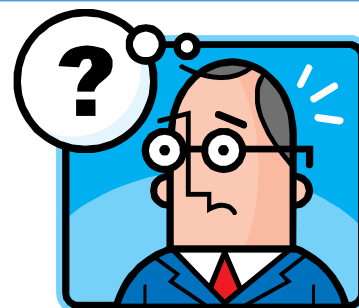
Q. Does our Mediator Supervisor hold any qualifications?

A. Jassy is now an official College of Mediators Professional Practice Consultant - which means that any mediators who register with the College can use her as their supervisor within the college requirements. This may not be relevant to many of you at the moment. The College has confirmed that if

mediators have had any supervision with Jassy, in the past, these can be counted.

Jassy has also undergone City & Guilds Assessor Training – Level 3. She has a wealth of experience in mediation— having trained in Community and Workplace Mediation.

There is a lot more in her CV than would fit here.



Q. Has the charity managed to balance its book again this year?

A. We still have a couple of weeks to go before we can give an accurate answer to that question but it looks like we will suffer a deficit of several thousands of pounds.



<http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/wsms>

Support Meeting



Our thanks go to Bob for being a great host for our Support Meeting for mediators on 19th February in Ashurst. The gathering included Pam, Nick, Uschi, Hazel, Susanne, Gerry, and John.

We managed to have a meaningful discussion on co-mediating and briefing/debriefing which took up all the session, alongside partaking in some lovely food and drink, kindly provided by Bob.



Events



We may have an opportunity to have a stand at this year's **South of England Show** at Ardingly Showground on 6th, 7th and 8th June.

<http://www.seas.org.uk/education-homepage-2/summer-show/>

This is a big event and would give WSMS huge exposure to the public. We would therefore need the help of a band of willing volunteers to help us staff the stand for the full 3 days. If you would be willing to volunteer some time, please let the office know. We have yet to confirm full details of how we are going to make best use of this great.

During **Noise Action Week**— (w/c 19th May) we hope to do some promotion of our work, as noise nuisance is our number one topic of referrals. Nick is currently looking for possible venues to attend — may be large supermarket foyers. Do pass on any ideas/contacts that you have.

Irish Proverbs

“Drink is the curse of the land. It makes you fight with your neighbour.
It makes you shoot at our Landlord and it make you miss him!”

“Patience cures many an old complaint.”

“If you want an audience, start a fight.”

