

Milestone

Issue No: 78

Mother's Day
2015



External Edition

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Supporters of the
West Sussex
Mediation Service.*

Inside this issue:

Milestone	1
Snippets	2
Small Charity Week	3
Quotes	3
Elder Mediation	4
Funding	4

More next time



We are happy to announce that at the start of March we took our 3000th referral. The referral was a neighbour dispute over repairs/damage between two flats.

We think that the numbering goes back to our very early days when the charity operated from the Lower Octagon, Chart Way, Horsham. In 2003/04 we took 157 referrals. By the end of this current financial year (31/3/15) we expect to have taken 290 referrals in the one year. That matches the previous year. A number of those referrals will have been family mediations so in 2015-16 we are keen to increase public awareness of our community and Intergenerational Mediation services – our core charitable work.

If you become aware of any opportunities for us to talk about our work or venues where we can place our exhibition stand and pop up banners stands, do let the office know.

Many of those statistics translate to lives changed through the use of mediation in conflict situations. Our volunteers are keen to help others who may be in need of their skills.

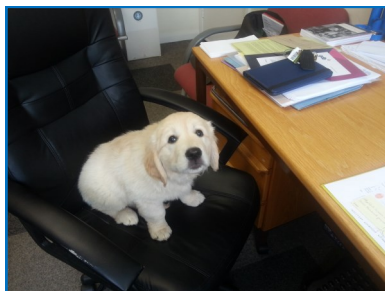


0300 200 0025

Our new generic phone number



Snippets



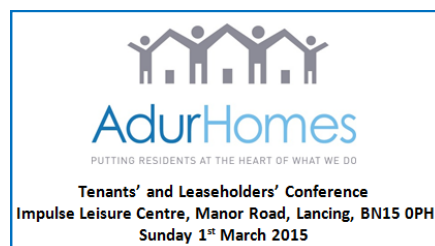
> Does anyone remember this little chap, sitting at Nick's desk in our office? (Issue 66 Easter 2014). This is Manny, Nicks' 2nd Golden Retriever. Manny is now 13 months old and on 5th March (Gundog Day) he went to Crufts Dog Show at the NEC in Birmingham as an entrant in the Junior Golden Retriever class. On the previous

Sunday Manny came 1st in the Southern Golden Retriever Championship Show at Guildford, in the same category. Manny didn't get shortlisted at Crufts but a good time was had by all. Manny has already qualified for next years' show.



> Our thanks go to Hazel for volunteering to facilitate two workshops at the Adur Homes Residents Conference on 1st March on the subject of Good Neighbours. Here is the feedback we received after the event.

"Paul Cooper and I would like to thank you for coming along to yesterday's conference and for directing your two discussion groups..... the feedback received so far has been very positive, with residents saying they really enjoyed and appreciated it. I hope you also found it to be a useful opportunity to explain what the mediation service can offer in respect of neighbour disputes and that residents responded well to your suggestions. Once again, many thanks for your contribution".



> We are moving closer and closer to the launch of our new database. The office has been given online access to the server in order to practice using it. There is a bit more formatting to be done and then we should be able to go live. We hope to roll out some training for volunteers in the near future, as mediators will be able to sign in remotely to update their casework.

Shopping for Mum?

Did you know... that no matter what you're buying, or who you're buying for this Mother's Day, you can raise money for us just by shopping online through Give as you Live?

Please support us when you shop.

Give as you Live®

www.giveasyoulive.com/join/wsms

Small Charity Week

Plans for this year's **Small Charity Week** eBay Auction are already underway. This includes an extra **£2,000 cash prize** to be won by one small charity.

The auction will be particularly exciting this year as PayPal Giving Fund has pledged to match the price of the two items that go for the most, up to the value of £2,000 – so someone could be getting double for your item!

As in previous years they are looking for eye-catching items for the auction – it has to be something a little bit special. Examples of previous top-selling items are;

A breakfast, lunch or dinner with Simon from The Inbetweeners.

A high profile internship at a top PR company.

A signed Lionel Messi shirt.

Tickets for the X Factor Final 2013.

A signed Manchester United shirt .

Can anyone connected with WSMS come up with a great Auction prize ,through their connections, that will attract some interest?!

All items need to be registered by the **8th of May**; the auction itself will be launched on June 19th.

SMALL CHARITY WEEK
15TH - 20TH JUNE

Mother's Day Quotes

"If evolution really works,
how come mothers only have two hands?"
Milton Berle

"God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers"
Rudyard Kipling

Elder Mediation

By 2020 the number of people aged over 80 will double. Across Horsham District, between 2003 and 2013 the percentage of those aged 85+ years **increased by 45% and by 31.4% for the 65-84 year olds.**

All this potentially means that there will be a growing market for mediation within families over issues such as health care for the elderly, powers of attorney, wills, inheritances, accommodation and the ending of driving careers. In America this is categorised, in its own right, as Elder Mediation.

WSMS wishes to provide our existing mediators with knowledge and skills in this area of work so that we can respond to the changing demographics of the communities that we serve. Nick has applied for some funding for training and has identified a specialist in this area of work who is willing to hold a workshop for us. Nick has already spoken to one Care Provider, based in Crawley, who are very keen to use such a service with their clients.

Sixteen mediators have shown interest in the training at present.

Funding

We are on the final stretch to our year end. Our thanks go to recent funders who include Viridian Housing, Worthing Homes, Southern Housing Group, Saxon Weald, and Chichester City Council.

We have also had successful bids to the Chanctonbury & North Horsham CLCs (County Local Committee) for £500 each.

Recent disappointments include Bognor Regis Town Council.

We hope to announce a substantial grant shortly, but this had not been ratified by the time we went to press. If confirmed, and the money reaches our account before 31st March, we will have reached our budget target for 2014-15.

Again our thanks go to all our funders and anyone else who has earned income or fundraised for the charity this financial year.

