



# West Sussex Mediation Service External Newsletter

## Year End

**Issue No: 79**  
**St George's**  
**Day 2015**

Another financial year has drawn to a close and we are able to see how the books balanced. Again a lot of hard work has been put in to bringing in sufficient income to meet all our outgoings (April 2014 to March 2015). We are pleased to announce that it appeared we have done so, this time round. We are grateful to the following individuals who are assisting the charity with its finances –



1. Mike Payne ,our volunteer Bookkeeper, who attends our office every Wednesday to pay invoices, tally the books and undertake the payroll on a monthly basis, including HMRC payments.
2. Allan Gee our Treasurer (also a volunteer) who keeps a strategic overview of the finances, budgets and accounts and reports to the Management Committee.
3. Sushma Clark of **Your Accounts Team** ([www.youraccountsteam.com](http://www.youraccountsteam.com)) who has volunteered to externally examine our accounts this year, at no cost, before submission to the Charity Commission and publication in our Annual Report. In previous years we have had to pay for such a service.

### External Edition

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

Total income for 2014-15 was £80,820 with expenditure of £80,859.

### Inside this issue:

Our thanks go to all our funders, whether it be through major grants or just small donations. Full recognition will be made in our 2014-15 Annual Report, to be published shortly.

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More next time



# Elephantastic!

The Elephants are coming to town (Horsham)!

Elephantastic is a follow up to the hugely successful Giraffe Trail which ran in autumn 2013, in Horsham. It is planned to have about 100-150 Elephants scattered throughout the Town/surrounding Countryside over a 5 week period starting on 25th July and concluding on 30th August. The aims of the event are to promote:

- > Horsham and surrounding countryside, and bring visitors from far and wide to see and participate in this fantastic event. As a result, to improve circulation throughout the Town Centre and increase turnover for all shops and cafes along the route.
- > Raise awareness of the individual locations, businesses and organisations that host the elephants.
- > Promote art and local artists.
- > **Raise funds & awareness for many charities that are active in Horsham District**
- > Raise funds for the Born Free European Elephant Sanctuary.
- > Create a fantastic community spirit by involving as many local organisations and people as possible.

Elephantastic is organised and managed by The Rotary Club of Horsham, supported by the Town Business Partnership, Horsham Unlimited CIC Ltd, and Horsham District Council. In addition local charity Born Free is a partner to the overall event and will receive approx. 25% of the overall proceeds of the event. There will be a website for the Event and an ELEPHANTASTIC Facebook page.

**WSMS is actively seeking a sponsor for one of the Elephants**, which come in three sizes, or as a 'family'. We are hoping to go large with a metre high one. The Elephant will be painted/decorated and displayed in public. If you know any local business who would like to partner with us, please get in touch (**end of April deadline**).



# Snippets

> Nick and Hazel turned out for a Worthing Homes event at Carnegie Green,



Worthing recently. Also present were Albion in the Community to organise some football fun and other agencies. Nick was judge for a children’s poster competition, with Easter Eggs as the prizes.

< - - - Here is Hazel with her very creative placard showing a bubbling pan reaching boiling point and overflowing at the top, to act as a talking point and illustrate how a dispute can start off just simmering, but quickly boil over— unless you **call in our skilled Mediators**, like Hazel and her fellow volunteers!

**Remember we are here to help – so use our skills.**

> Our Trustees met this Monday for their regular quarterly meeting. WSMS is keen to recruit further Trustees to the Management Committee and we were pleased to welcome three new faces, who came to observe proceeding and see whether they would like to be involved with our charity. With three existing trustees are standing down at our AGM in September, we are still looking for even more enthusiastic individual to help to oversee the smooth running of the service.

If you are interested, or know someone who might, be, do get in touch with Nick on 01403 257800 for further information. It could look great on a CV and enhance your skills, whilst ‘giving something back’. Volunteering is good for your health also!

**Adopt an Elephant  
and get creative!**

**We are looking for local Horsham businesses to adopt our model Elephants, prior to the BIG Safari in July this year.**

If you are interested in adopting and decorating one of our model Elephants, please contact:  
**horshamrotary@btconnect.com**



In association with



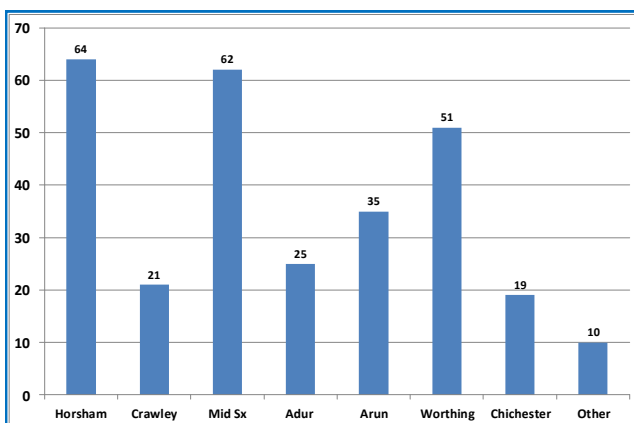
## More News

> We had previously been given the certificate, but we are now in proud possession of the FabVorg trophy (Friendliness Award for Best Voluntary Organisation) awarded to WSMS by the Mid Sussex South Council for Voluntary Service. This is in recognition of the care and service provided to our volunteers.



> Nick's bid to organise a Charity Curry Night has been resurrected and he is currently in negotiation with a Restaurant in Crawley to arrange such an event. Further details will be published in due course. If anyone has any other ideas or would like to help organise Fundraising/Awareness raising events, do let the office know.

> We finished 2014-15 on 287 referrals, which showed a small decrease on last year (290). We are keen to maintain, or indeed increase, the number of community



mediations we handle. We would love to take any opportunity you can offer to increase public awareness of our services. Please flag them up with the office.

**Horsham** was our busiest District.

**Worthing** Borough showing the biggest % increase over last year.

**Crawley** Borough showed the biggest drop.

## Quotes

“Stress is an important dragon to slay - or at least tame - in your life.”

Marilu Henner



“Challenge is a dragon with a gift in its mouth...

Tame the dragon and the gift is yours”.

Noela Evans

## Advert on behalf of Mediation+



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TO BECOME A MEDIATOR?**

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**Our next course starts 16 May 2015.**

**MEDIATION**

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