



West Sussex Mediation Service External Newsletter

AGM

Issue No: 96
**Summer
Hols 2016**

We have set our 2016 AGM for Thursday 29th September in The Wicker Room, Park House, North Street, RH12 1RN. Start time will be 6.00pm for 6.30pm. We will be confirming our guest speaker, shortly.

All our friends and supporters are welcome to attend. We will be laying on some light refreshments and offering a 'guided tour' of our new offices on the 1st floor, to anyone wishing to partake. We hope to see you there. An early RSVP, either now or upon formal invitation, would be much appreciated.




External Edition

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

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More next Month



working for agreement

THE TRUSTEES
of
WEST SUSSEX MEDIATION SERVICE
have pleasure in inviting you to the
15th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
to be held
on **Thursday 29th September 2016**
(Arrival 6.00pm for 6.30pm)
in the **Wicker Room**
Park House, North Street, Horsham, RH12 1RN

Guest Speaker
To be confirmed

Light refreshments

RSVP to:
Nick Handley
West Sussex Mediation Service
Park House
North Street
Horsham
RH12 1RN
Tel No: 01403 258900 Email: info@wsms.org.uk

News

Sparks in the Park — Nick turned out for this event on 10th June. Unfortunately the weather was not that great for most of the afternoon with some rain and wind until the sun finally broke through. As a result, sales of the homemade lemonade that we had on offer were not huge but we had a number of people showing interest in our work who hadn't heard about us previously. Nick was assisted by our new fundraiser, David Owen.



Antisocial Behaviour survey -

We have been asked by a student at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, who is carrying out some research into Antisocial Behaviour, to circulate a brief survey. There are not too many questions and there is a **chance to win a £150 M&S Gift Card**.

I have tested the link and confirmed it is not a scam. If you would like to take part, follow this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ASBS-SCENARIO1>

(Closed on 31st August 2016)

Curry Night —

Our thanks go to the 46 guests who attended our charity event on Wednesday 20th July at the Haldi Indian Restaurant in Southwater, despite the hot weather. The food, quiz, raffle and good company were all well received and we raised **£308** for WSMS. We are most grateful to Mr Zaman and his staff for looking after us so well.

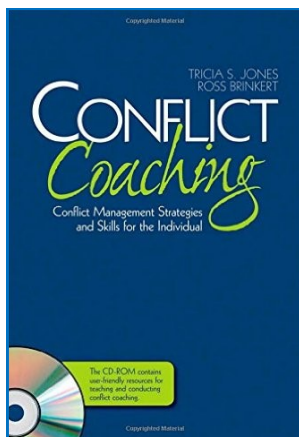


He has promised to host another similar event, at his other premises (The New Curry Centre in Horsham), so watch this space!



News

Meet Meg — Meg has just completed her second year of a Psychology degree at Bath University. She recently approached us and offered to volunteer some time in our office during her summer break. Meg will also be volunteering for another charity in London. You might hear Meg on the end of a phone on certain days of the week, through August and possibly into early September. Meg lives in the Mid Sussex district and is the daughter of an old colleague of Nick's.



Conflict Coaching — Our second workshop is taking place on Saturday 17th September in Billingshurst. We have a couple of spaces still available to fill, so if anyone, (**even if unconnected with WSMS**) who has not booked a slot previously, would like to join us at this very interesting training session, let the office know as soon as possible.

We have purchased one copy of the book that the training evolved from. It is available for loan to anyone interested and includes a DVD with various resources on it.

Just as a reminder, if you have previously borrowed any books on Mediation from the WSMS library and have finished reading them, **please could you return** to the office so other can enjoy them. We seem to have a few outstanding!

Staff Changes — Anna, our Administrator, is dropping down to two days a week (Thursdays & Fridays) as she pursues an internship with a charity in London for the remainder of the working week, to broaden her experience. Meanwhile, Hazel, who co-ordinates our Family Mediation cases is reviewing her work schedule.

If anyone would be interested in becoming a **Family Mediation Case Co-ordinator**— at our main office in Horsham — Monday to Friday - (10am to 4pm), with a degree of flexibility, do speak to Nick on 01403 800182. We are getting busier and busier with family mediation cases and need to keep on top of the work so as not to impact on our core activities.

It may be possible for the post to involve some remote working as our Case Management System is cloud based and emails can also be viewed online.

Referrals

We keep rewriting the script for the history of West Sussex Mediation Service.

Referral figures continue to go through the roof. July was yet another record busting month. We took more referrals in July than any month in our history. The number totalled a colossal **45**.

Horsham District was the chart topper with 22 referrals followed by Worthing with 6 and Crawley & Mid Sussex on 5 each.

Referral topic includes: Noise, land access, Antisocial behaviour, rubbish/smells, dog barking, boundary, intergenerational, hedge/trees, verbal abuse, workplace and family cases. 34 of these were self referrals.



Funding

We have just been unsuccessful with our bids to the Austin & Hope Pilkington Trust and the Masonic Charitable Trust but currently have grant bids outstanding with six other Trusts & Foundations. We are considering another bid to the Awards For All programme which is part of the Big Lottery.

Our thanks go to Chichester City Council, North Horsham, Yapton, Bersted, Horsted Keynes and Rudgwick Parish Councils for their grants, either received or pending formal award.

We have carried out several successful Workplace mediations in recent weeks, which has brought in some important income for us. We have helped a Membership Society, a Housing Association and a Commercial Dealership in recent times and have referrals progressing with several other diverse types of organisations. We are happy to offer advice and quotes to anyone who feels that mediation in the workplace can help avoid grievances, and other problems such as sickness due to stress, or poor morale/productivity. <http://wsms.org.uk/2014/workplace-mediation/>

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If you are spending out, this summer, on holidays, trips out, summer clothes, sporting/leisure equipment, BBQs, car hire, travel insurance, etc (**online**) then why not earn some pennies for us:

www.give.as/charity/wsms

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A small contribution or offer of help in kind is all it needs.

Speak to Nick on 01403 258900.