



# West Sussex Mediation Service External Newsletter

## Record Breakers

Issue No: 103

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2017



### External Edition

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

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We are now well into February and the end of our current financial year (31st March) is fast approaching.

2016-17 has proved to be a record breaking year in terms of Mediation referrals. At the time of going to press we had attracted 319 referrals which beats our previous all-time record of 290 back in 2013-14. We had five consecutive months back in 2016 between May and September which all beat past events and therefore boosting the grand total to a new high.



We have increased our involvement in the **Family and Workplace Mediation** markets but still see a strong demand for our **Community Mediation**— tackling neighbour disputes and the like.

**Intergenerational Mediation** referrals have increased by 34% over the last year.

We are continually making improvements in our processes to accommodate the extra work and all our mediators are keen to do the work, so keep sending the referral our way.

Tickets for the gdb Charity Challenge Raffle are selling well. If you would like your name on one, do get in touch with Nick on 01403 28900 or email [nick@wsms.org.uk](mailto:nick@wsms.org.uk)

Gatwick Diamond Business

**gdb Charity Challenge Raffle**

2 x Return Tickets from Gatwick Airport to Dubai with Emirates  
 2 x Return tickets from Gatwick Airport to Boston with Norwegian  
 2 x Return tickets from Gatwick Airport to Europe with Norwegian  
 1 x Full afternoon tea for two at South Lodge Hotel  
 1 x DBB for two incl half day use of the Spa at Crowne Plaza Felbridge Hotel  
 1 x "The Roffey Experience" for up to 6 delegates at Roffey Park  
 1 x 4 ball & Wine Tasting at Mannings Heath Golf Club & Wine Estate  
 1 x 4 ball at Farleigh Golf Club & Restaurant  
 1 x Afternoon tea for two at Farleigh Golf Club & Restaurant  
 1 x Case of wine from Search Consultancy

To be drawn on Friday 5th May, South of England Event Centre, Ardingly, RH17 6TL  
 Promoter: Mr. Jeremy Taylor, 14 Bessington, Metcall Way, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 7XX 01293 440088  
 Registered with Crawley Borough Council      Proceeds in aid of:

Ticket  
**£10**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

## News

> **Funding** - We are pleased to say that we have now received grant funding from the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner for the current financial year together with our Sussex Mediation Alliance partners. We are already starting the process for the forthcoming financial year 2017-18.



We want to make a **big SHOUT OUT** for our fantastic supporters at **Crawley Borough Council** who have shown unstinting support for the work that our charity does for Crawley residents. They have come up trumps again with grant support across the **next 2 years**.

CBC is one organisation that 'get's it' and understands the worth of using an independent mediation to help resolve neighbourhood issues in their local community. Our particular thanks goes to Craig Downs, the Funding & Commissioning Officer at the Council.

Similar praise goes to **Horsham District Council** who will support us with a grant again in 2017/18.



£69,004



£68,892



Income v Expenditure

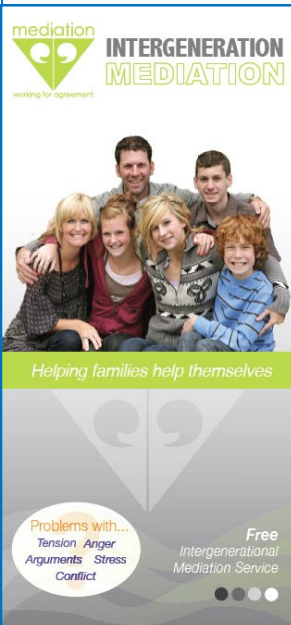
< - - - This is the state of play regarding our balance sheet for this year. Both figures are well below budget. With just over a month to go, we will hopefully break even at the end of the full year.

> **Cheap as Chips** — We are currently reviewing our pricing structure for our Family Mediation service. We are one of the least expensive providers of this service across the region. As this income is becoming more important for the future of the charity, and with overheads costing more all the time, we feel that we must adjust our prices upwards. These will activate at the start of our new financial year (1st April). We are still likely to remain cheaper than other providers. The fees for our Workplace Mediation skills are likely to remain roughly the same.

Demand for our Family Mediation service continues to outstrip supply. We would love to attract more trained family mediators who could offer some pro bono hours, our to recompense us for work we pass over to them.

## More News

> **Funding** - We are currently awaiting the outcome of a funding bid to the WSCC



Small Grants Fund in order to update our service leaflets relating to Intergenerational Mediation. We originally adopted the title 'Time to Talk' for this service, as this is what is used in East Sussex, who introduced us and trained us in this discipline. The problem was that 'Time to Talk' is used in West Sussex for the NHS Mental Health talking therapies, which has caused some confusion with the public.

< - - - - The grant will fund the reprinting of our leaflets as per this image (left)

As highlighted on Page one, demand for our Intergenerational Mediation service is increasing and we have therefore applied for yet another grant in order to pay to train more of our existing mediators in this additional skill.

> **Vacancies** — Our current Treasurer, Allan Gee from Worthing, will be standing down at the end of the current financial year (31st March). Allan was elected in the post in September 2013 and we thank him for all his efforts since then. This is a voluntary commitment and we are currently on the look out for a suitable replacement. It entails becoming a Trustee of the Charity. For further details do contact Nick, or pass on to anyone you think might be interested. Experiencing in accountancy and fundraising of some sorts would be ideal.



Also sadly, we see Anna (our Administrator) leaving us at the end of February. Anna is looking for a new challenge having served us well since joining us in February 2016. Anna wants to remain in the Charitable Sector and has a desire to work in London and 'fly the family nest'. We wish were well for the future.

Nick is currently looking at the office staffing situation. Christine W has agreed to work a second day a week alongside Pam and Christine H. We may consider taking on someone via the Horsham District Council Work Experience scheme, as that is how we came to employ our previous Caseworker — Louise. More news on this in the next newsletter.



## Barn Dance

Plans are well advanced for our forthcoming Barn Dance event on **Friday 7th April** at Sullington, as previously advertised in our Special Edition Newsletter.

Our caterers are in place (Nick has tested their food which he says is great).

We have been kindly donated a 20 litre Polypin of 'Thistly Cross Whisky Cider' which sounds a bit heavy but just means the cider

was fermented in old whisky barrels and apparently is 'a lovely cider'. There will also be Hepworth beers, wine and soft drinks.

Nick has applied for a Temporary Events Notice to allow us to sell alcohol.

You won't need to be dancer to enjoy a great evening as you can soak up the atmosphere and the music whilst having food and drink with friends or family. All ages are welcome. Children under 16 years are 1/2 price.

Please tell all your friends about the event.

Tickets should be booked in advanced because of catering, etc. Call Nick on

01403 258900. You can also book online via : <http://guestli.st/events/446097>

(No fees incurred by us if you pay in cash or by bank transfer however)



West Sussex Mediation Service

# BARN DANCE

Friday 7th April 2017  
7.30pm to 11.00pm  
Sullington Manor Farm, RH20 4AE

Cash Bar/Real Ale/Hot Food/Raffle  
Tickets £15 (includes food) 01403 258900  
Book Online: <http://guestli.st/events/446097>  
Music/Caller by 'Tight Squeeze'

Charity No: 1084592

## Initial Training – Community

Sandy Horvath is running an Initial Training course for Community Mediation in Dorking for Surrey Services but has some spare places. If you know anyone who would like to become a Community Mediator and is willing to travel to Dorking—here are the dates:

**4th/5th March, 18th/19th March, 25th/26th March.** It means given up 3 of the four week-ends in the month which is quite a commitment but the fees for the accredited training will get you on the Mediation 'ladder' at a very reasonable cost.

If someone was willing to show a long term commitment to volunteering with WSMS we may be able to sponsor/part sponsor that individual. To discuss further, get in touch with Nick, as soon as possible as the dates are very close now.