



West Sussex Mediation Service External Newsletter

Year End

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External Edition

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

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This newsletter is going out as Easter approaches and we expect to get a large number of email autoreplies saying, 'I am now on leave or out of the office until'!

It also coincides with us being able to announce how the charity has fared over the last financial year in monetary terms.

Provisional figures suggest that we have achieved a small surplus for the year. This is in line with our achievement in the previous financial year.

Much of this year's success is down to the hard work of our Family and Workplace Mediators who have jointly achieved £21,167 in valuable income. Our sincere thanks goes to our Family Mediators, Robert Savage and Heather Foster plus all our Workplace Mediators, who are all volunteers. This money accounted for a quarter of our total income for the year.

Fundraising and donations amounted to just over £2,000.

Our thanks go to all our funders, benefactors, and of course all our volunteers, who have supported our work throughout the year. We look forward to another fruitful year in 2017/18.

Our total number of referrals for 2016/17 was **357** against 271 the previous year. This was a huge **32% increase**. Our busiest District was Horsham which accounted for 34.5% of our total workload. Self referred cases accounted for over 63% of our work. Referrals from the Police picked up this year following the introduction of the Resolution Centres.



Escape to the sunshine...

Even if it's just for a week!
Raise **FREE** funds for us when booking your holiday and travel plans online

Partners: Expedia, Booking.com, flybe, Hotels.com, BRITISH AIRWAYS, trainline, lastminute.com, Thomson, Vtrains, Thomas Cook

Give as you Live®

https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/wsms/_travel/summer

Barn Dance

Our Charity Barn Dance on Friday 7th April was a roaring success. Over 90 guests, of all ages, attended the event, which was well received by all.

We wish to thank the Kittle family who kindly hosted the event in their wonderful Tithe Barn and helped us prepare the venue ahead of time.

Having paid our overheads of the Band/Caller, caterer, etc we have calculated a profit of around £500. The Hepworth ale and a polypin of cider (kindly donated), both went down very well, resulting in bar takings of £341. Due to everyone's generosity we achieved £170 through the raffle. Top prizes were a £50 Meal Voucher for Bill's Restaurant, Horsham and an evening Boat Trip for up to 12 people on the River Arun between Littlehampton & Arundel (return), thanks to Tony Hows.

We would also like to thank Dave Powell (lpgphotographic.co.uk) who volunteered his skills to record images on the night. Also Hazel Imbert who showed her excellent creative skills by producing some great props for our free Photo Booth (see below).



The full gallery of photos can be viewed via this link:

http://lpgphotographic.zenfolio.com/wsms_barn_dance

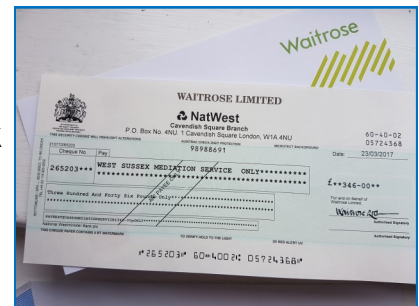
Nick can provide a password for free downloads upon request. However, you can order prints online so Dave gets to cover some of his costs, which is only fair.

News

> **Introducing** — Edwina ‘Eddie’ Willsher, who has joined us on work experience and should hopefully join us as paid staff on a part-time basis. Eddie lives in Horsham and is able to ‘commute’ on foot, across Horsham Park. Eddie had experience across a wide variety of fields in her previous working life, including as Cabin Crew with Easyjet, Aviation Conference Manager, Graphic Artist and even Assistant Air Traffic Controller, whilst in the RAF. Eddie has been a little coy and has not offered up a photo of herself!

> **Funding** — We have recently received some great news of our continued funding by the Police & Crime Commissioner, for 2017/18. A grant has been offered to the four Sussex Mediation Alliance partners which fund referrals received via Sussex Police. As disclosed on Page 1, direct Police referrals were on the increase over the last 12 months, rising from 33 to 43. Many more cases were referred indirectly, following signposting by Police Officers and Support Staff at Sussex Police.

> **Waitrose Community Matters**— We recently collected a cheque in the sum of £345 from the Horsham branch of Waitrose following inclusion in the scheme back in December. The original cheque had been lost (not by us) which resulted in the delay in it arriving in our lap.



Remember to nominate WSMS for the scheme at any other Waitrose branches near to you. I am told one recently opened in Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath.

Guess Who



Can you name the mysterious character skulking on the right hand side of this photo?

The big giveaway might be those famous yellow boots!

Answers on a postcard.

It's a Knock Out

WSMS will be attending the gdb Charity Challenge, 'It's a Knockout' event at the South of England Showground at Ardingly on Friday 5th May.



This is open, **FREE of charge**, to the general public to come along and enjoy the spectacle, so do spread the word to friend, family and colleagues. Alongside a number of other member charities, we will be setting up stall and would very much **welcome some helpers on the day**. We will set up at about 11.30am and be there until about 6.30pm. All the charities will be organising additional fun activities.

At the conclusion of proceedings, the draw for the GSB Charity Challenge Raffle will take place. We will get to hear who the lucky recipients of all those great prizes are, including the flight tickets to Boston, Dubai and Europe. If you are quick, you may still be able to buy a ticket from Nick on 01403 258900. Only 2,000 tickets were printed but nothing like that number have been sold so far, (despite the best efforts of Nick) so the odds of winning a great prize are pretty good.



More than a dozen teams, comprising of eight individuals from local businesses and organisations, will be competing against each other with trophies to be awarded to the winners.

Catering is being provided by 'Paella Fella' plus one additional vendor. We hope to have a Radio Station there to commentate and broadcast from the event.

