



West Sussex Mediation Service External Newsletter

New staff member

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2018



External Edition

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

Meet Karen Trushaden, who joins our office team following the retirement of Pam Chatterton.



Karen is settling in well. To assist her in her role as Case Administrator, she has volunteered her own time to attend an Initial Mediation Training course in Dorking with our usual trainer, Sandy Horvath. The heavily subscribed to (six day) course, which was commissioned by similar services to ours, in Surrey, will conclude on 25th March.

Karen will be working flexible hours, according to our workload but you are likely to hear from her on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Karen came to us from a role as a Commissioning Support Officer with the NHS and a career in Housing within a busy London Borough and elsewhere.

Fundraising

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Our sincere thanks go to the Dog & Bacon Golf Society, associated with the pub in North Parade, Horsham.

We were chosen as their charity of the year by the outgoing Captain, Peter Portlock, who just happens to be Nick's neighbour!

We received a cheque for £600 from their treasurer, Steve Pennington, at our offices

recently. The money was accumulated for fines imposed on players, during the course of the year, for indiscretions, bunker shots, etc and from an annual raffle.

We would love to be charity of the year for other organisations in 2018 and beyond, if anyone can make nominations on our behalf.



News



> **Fundraising** – Our involvement in the Waitrose Community Matters scheme in the Chichester branch in January has resulted in a £290 donation, the cheque for which has arrived and safely banked. Our thanks go to the staff at Waitrose who facilitate the green token scheme and to those customers who placed their tokens in our tank. We look forward to being nominated in another branch sometime in 2018. Former Mediator, Michele, is determined to get us in the Burgess Hill branch next.



> **Networking Event** - We held a very successful GDB 'Elevenses and Pastries' Networking event on 8th February. It was very well attended with some very positive feedback with one person saying it was the best networking event they had attended in a very long time! We used the ground floor Wicker Room at Park House. Nick was unable to attend but our Trustee, David Chubb, stepped in to make a welcoming speech to the guests, who totalled over 40. The office staff also did a sterling job circulating with guests and attending to their needs. Unfortunately we don't have any photos of the event.



> **Referrals** - January proved to be a crazy month, with a total of **45 referrals** to our service. 27 of those were for family mediation, 6 were for intergenerational mediation and 12 being community disputes. It equalled July 2016 as our busiest month on record! Busy months are normally reserved for the summer. Both the two previous Januarys only produced 24 referrals. We would dearly like to increase the balance of community mediation cases, but the income from family mediation is crucial to our survival. We had **27 referrals** in February.

> **Website** - You may notice a few changes to our website (www.wms.org.uk) as some work has recently been carried out, behind the scenes, by our excellent webmaster, Brian Creasey. Brian was tasked by the trustees to maximise our SEO (Search Engine Optimisation). It is a constant battle to stay ahead of the 'competition' in terms of Google ranking. Of particular interest was our profile in terms of Workplace and Family Mediation as these are now vital funding streams for the charity. We have noticed a decline in enquiries for Workplace Mediation. Enquiries via our website now account for the majority of our workload, so some investment in this area is justified.



I Love Small Charities Day – 18th June

This annual hashtag competition is back to help charities to engage with new and current supporters and a chance to win a donation for your charity.

To be in the chance of winning £450 all our supporters need to do is tell the world why they love us!

How to enter:

Take a photo of yourself holding up a poster that reads:

“I love (West Sussex Mediation Service) because (why you love us)”.

Or you can take a video of yourself with the poster, shouting out loud about why you love our charity or you can simply post a message of love.

Then simply post it to either Twitter, Instagram or the Small Charity Week Facebook page (<http://smallcharityweek.com/i-%E2%99%A5-small-charities-day/>)

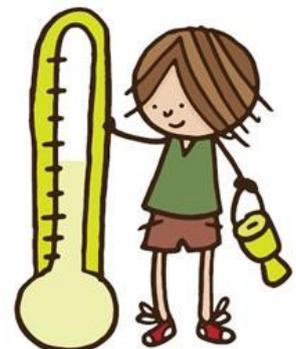
Visit this website for details on how you should enter their messages, poster templates, supporting toolkits and the full rules.

In previous years, the secret to winning this competition has been to start early! Even though the competition is officially open on **Monday June 18th**, it is a good idea to start building your plans now.

Year End

With just a few days until the end of our financial year, it would appear that we have just about managed to balance the books and avoid a deficit of income over expenditure.

The full picture will be revealed when our Treasurer has had time to crunch all the figures. At the start of the year we anticipated achieving £86,000 in income and a spend of about £91,000, with an anticipated small deficit. We in fact have achieved over £87,000 in income and underspent by about £5,000. Our thanks to all our funders, supporters, donators and fundraisers for all their efforts.





Barn Dance



It's back by popular demand! If you didn't join our Barn Dance event last year, don't miss it this time round. We have moved deeper into the summer so should avoid the chilly evening that we experienced last April. Thanks to the Kittle family, we are able to use the same fantastic Sussex Barn. We will see the return of our favourite caterers, Pig & Jacket and have also secured the services of the same band/caller.

Book early to avoid disappointment

West Sussex Mediation Service

BARN DANCE

**Friday 15th June 2018
7.30pm to 11.00pm
Sullington Manor Farm, RH20 4AE**

Cash Bar/Food/Raffle/Photo Booth
Tickets £15 (includes food) 01403 258900
Book online: <http://guestli.st/events/501537>

Charity No. 1084592

Gdb Charity Challenge Raffle

Gdb Charity Challenge Raffle

Gatwick Diamond Business

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- Canon SX620 HS PowerShot from Canon UK
- Half day Driving Experience at Porsche Experience Centre, Silverstone
- Full Afternoon Tea for two at South Lodge Hotel
- Nyetimber 'flight' for two at British Airways i360
- Bed & Breakfast for two at Hilton Hotel London Gatwick
- Family Footgolf at Gatwick Footgolf
- Champagne Afternoon Tea for two at Brighton Harbour Hotel
- Hospitality tickets for four at Crawley Town Football Club
- Bed & Breakfast for two at Hartsfield Manor
- Dinner for two at the Holiday Inn Gatwick Airport
- Sunday Lunch for two at the Old Ship Hotel
- Family Ticket for The Hawth Pantomime, Aladdin

Ticket
£5

To be drawn on 10th May 2018, South England Event Centre, Ardingly, RH17 6TL
Promoter: Mr Jeremy Taylor, 14 Basepoint, Metcalf Way, Crawley, West Sussex, RH11 7XX 01293 440088
Registered with Crawley Borough Council

Proceeds in aid of:



Tickets now on sale. Have you bought yours yet? Get in touch with Nick if you would like to buy a ticket(s) or are willing to be a reseller.

(Nick sold the winning tickets last year!)

He recently challenged local Estate Agents, via social media, to see who could sell the most tickets and prove their worth as great sales people. Several have taken up the gauntlet so far—

Leaders Letting and Estate Agents in the Carfax, Horsham and Guy Leonards & Co., who are just up the road from there. No sooner had Nick delivered 2 books of tickets to Leaders, they Tweeted, within a few days, to say that they had sold out and requested more books! Nick has duly obliged. The Twitter hashtag for the topic is #whocansell18. Nick also did a Press release and email campaign to all the major Estate Agents in the Horsham area.

The raffle is a great way to support 13 local good causes, including WSMS. Proceeds will be equally divided. Nick happens to be the co-ordinator of the raffle this year, on behalf of **Gatwick Diamond Business** who are the official promoter and originator of the Raffle which happens alongside the Charity Challenge — **'It's a Knock Out'** event which takes place on **10th May 2018 at the South of England Showground**. This event is **FREE** for spectators to attend. It will be great fun watching various teams, from local corporates, compete in a variety of crazy activities. Here are some of them:

- Inflatable Human Table Football.
- Inflatable Beach Volleyball/Inflatable Dodgeball.
- Inflatable Obstacle Course.
- Record Breaker; an addictive catching/throwing game.
- Team Turn; Communication & strategy challenge.
- Wacky races to include Giant Skis, Space Hoppers, Caterpillars and Drainpipe Run
- Mental challenges/puzzles.



There will be 14 teams of eight. Food will be available and small 'on the day' raffle — with more prizes, including a meal for 4 up the Shard (worth £200).

Call Nick for more details on 01403 800182.

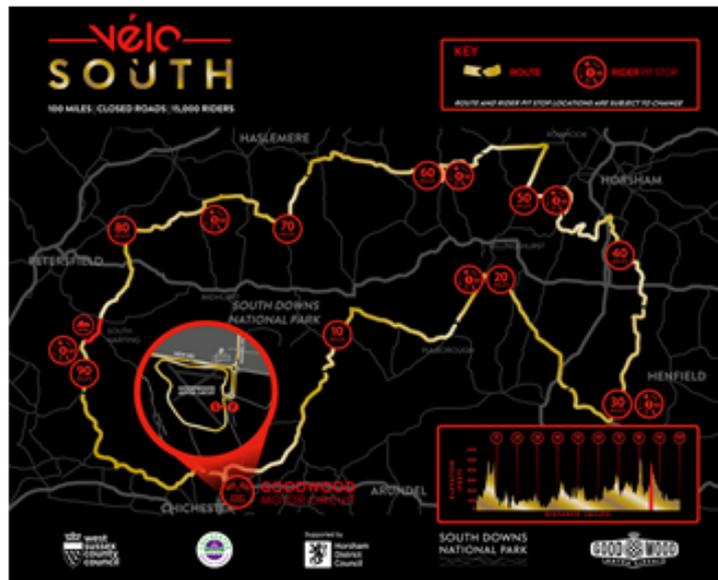
Calling any Keen Cyclists

West Sussex Mediation Service

—vélo— SOUTH

Sunday 23rd September 2018

Did you miss out on a General Entry to
this **(SOLD OUT)** Fantastic Event?!



- then call Nick for a Charity Slot

07768 872676

<https://www.wsms.org.uk>

(Registered Charity No.1084592)

Further details for the event via this link:

<https://www.velosouth.com/>