



West Sussex Mediation Service External Newsletter

World Cup Fever

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World Cup

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External Edition

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

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It has long been suspected, and more recently been proven, that incidents of domestic violence increase during major football tournaments. Hopefully the 2018 World Cup won't add to that pattern.

According to one Chief Constable, "Many people drink, there is the emotional stress of the game, and there is a whole issue around competitiveness and testosterone levels. Most people will watch the games and will never do anything violent but a small minority will become deeply aggressive."

Researchers at Lancaster University studied incidents of domestic abuse during World Cup matches in 2002, 2006 and 2010 and found a 38 per cent rise on days when the England team played and lost, and a 26 per cent rise when England won or drew.

It is not surprising, therefore, that police forces have tried to put measures in place to minimise the risk. During the 2014 World Cup there were billboards in Blackpool, Blackburn and Preston urging fans to, "Leave the striking to the players."

Hopefully neighbour disputes won't be on the increase either. We like our work but we don't wish problems on anyone.

We have yet to see a summer surge of referrals due to more outdoor living in the fine weather – BBQs, parties, drinking, trampolines, hot tubs, children playing, ball games, etc.

We are currently receiving far less referrals, for the month of June, than we did in both 2017 (30) and 2016 (42). We do hope that our traditional referrers are not forgetting us. If you know of any circumstances where you think we may be able to help, do run things by us. Our Caseworkers, Christine and Karen will be happy to have a chat and consider whether a situation is suitable for mediation.



News

> **Work experience** - We will soon be saying farewell to Viktorija, who has been visiting us on a regular basis, on Thursdays, to complete some work experience. Viktorija studies Business and Law at Chichester College and has recently achieved the highest marks possible in her BTECH exams – a Starred Distinction! Well done to her.



As Viktorija leaves, so we will say hello to Ethan, a Year 10 student from Forest Boys School in Horsham, who will be doing a one week work experience placement with us.

> **Park House** – we are hopeful of a continued tenancy at Park House following a conversation with a member of staff from another tenant of the Council owned building. We hear that they have recently negotiated a 10 year lease on their particular offices. That would seem to suggest that there is no intention to sell off the building, any time soon. We are very happy here and, subject to being able to afford it, we would hope to maintain our residency.



> **Cancelled Event**— regrettably, we had to cancel our Barn dance scheduled for 15th June. The event didn't attract the advanced ticket sales that we managed last year. This was despite giving it equal publicity. This was a real shame, as last year was very well received and quite well attended. The danger was that we would be paying a fair chunk of money for the band and bar stock, etc and end up losing money. Luckily the band only charged us a minimal cancellation fee.

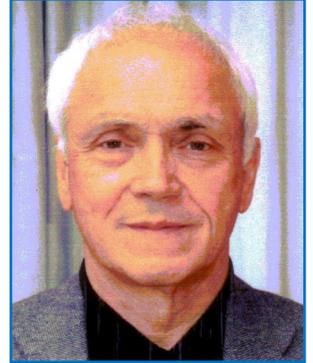
Sullington Manor Farm is such a lovely venue but is quite remote, which may have been a factor. The owners have kindly offered it to us in the future, should we wish to organise anything again.

We will need to come up with some other fundraising events if we are to reach our fundraising target for the year, which (combined with donations) is £3,000.

We remain desperate to attract some community fundraisers as Nick struggles to do it all on his own. If you know anyone who would be interested in filling this volunteer role, do send them in our direction.

More News

> **Farewell** – we are sorry to announce that Tom, a Mediator of 6 years standing as a volunteer with WSMS, is standing down due to family commitments and a desire to be more ‘retired’. Whilst Tom lived slightly across border into Surrey he willingly travelled across West Sussex to take on cases for us. Tom was often given some of our more challenging ones. He will be greatly missed.



> **Crawley Volunteering Fair** – Nick, supported by former trustee, David Chubb, attended this event at Crawley Library on the 13th June. Our hope was that we might have been able to recruit some community fundraisers as well as other volunteer positions within the charity.

We had a lot of interest in the services we provide, including agencies who would like to signpost clients to us, but no firm commitments. We were vying for volunteers with numerous other causes. The room was a bit cosy and table space was also a bit restricted.



The England Football team visited an orphanage in Russia yesterday.

"It's heartbreaking to see their little faces with no hope" said Vladimir, aged 6.

[#EnglandSquad](#)



Hopefully this image of our England football team won't be true and they won't be laughing stock after the elimination stage of the World Cup.

Thankfully they got that late winner against Tunisia and followed it up with a great win over Panama. Fingers crossed that they can move on to greater things in the next round.



Training Course

Reluctantly, for a variety of reasons, we have decided to run a training course for new mediators in late September 2018.

We are currently experiencing significant gaps in availability, particularly to the west of the county, in Chichester and Arun Districts and the coastal strip.

Proposed dates are: Sat 22/9, Sun 23/9, Sat 29/9, Sun 30/9, Sun 7/9. The venue is yet to be fixed. Please spread the word.

West Sussex Mediation Service



WSMS is seeking to attract

Volunteers to train as

COMMUNITY MEDIATORS

Training - Late Sept into early Oct 2018

Are you a good listener & communicator?

Can you be non-judgemental & impartial?

Live in Chichester or Arun District?

Able to travel & have time available?

Enquire here:

Tel: 0300 200 0025 Email: info@wsms.org.uk

Web: www.wsms.org.uk