



West Sussex Mediation Service External Newsletter

Trustees

Issue No: 133

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2019



External Edition

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

Inside this issue:

Trustees	1
News	2
More News	3
Giveasyoulive	4
AGM invitation	5

**JOIN
TRUSTEE**
And improve your skills

WSMS is actively seeking to attract more good people to become trustees of the charity. We currently have five trustees following the recent resignation of John Steele. John felt that he no longer had the time to dedicate to the role. John served with us for 4 year having been elected as a trustee in September 2015.

We are always happy to have representation from our volunteer mediators on the board of trustees. A number have taken up the dual role over the years.

We could certainly do with individuals skilled in marketing/PR, fundraising and the corporate world.

Volunteering is proven to bring health & wellbeing benefits. It can also look great on a CV and help individuals to develop skills that can be transferred to the workplace.

Our Trustees meet four times a year in January, April, July and October plus our AGM in September. They may also join sub groups for particular activities and take on other responsibilities, as required. Speak to Nick if you require more information or ask to speak to one of the existing trustees.

See the invitation to our **AGM** on Page 5



News

New Mediators — We are always happy to integrate existing mediators to our fold, who have trained elsewhere and have good experience. We say hello to Malcolm and Charlotte who approached us recently to offer their services.



Malcolm, who lives in Chichester, trained with the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR) and the Open College Network (OCN). He also trained as a coach with the Academy of Executive Coaching as part of project with East Surrey Mediation Service—along the lines of our Conflict Coaching. He was a mediator with that service between 2011 and this year, when he moved to our area. Malcolm was also a facilitator on Restorative Justice courses, accredited by the RJ Council.

Prior to retirement Malcolm spent 40 year in the Civil Service.

We also introduce Charlotte, who also joins us fully trained. She is a Human Resources Manager at the University of Chichester. More on Charlotte next time.

Online Mediation — to keep up with the modern world, Nick, our Service Co-ordinator, is currently researching to see what training providers are out there who could provide suitable training to equip some of our existing



mediators in the skills required to conduct Online Mediation. We often get approached by clients who are geographically distant from each other. We hope to attract grant funding to pay for this training. It may provide opportunities for the charity to create more income. We would ensure that there was no conflict of interest with our Pan Sussex Mediation Alliance partners. If any external mediators would like to purchase a place on any course that we organise, do let the office know.

Intergenerational Mediation Training — we are considering possible dates this autumn for a three day course (5th, 6th, 12th, 13th, 19th or 20th October are options). The course may be open to external mediators, if numbers allow.

We did hold a very successful course in 2018 with 11 attendees.

In 2018/19 we received our highest ever number of Intergenerational referrals. The figure has risen consistently each year since we started the service.

Referral figures has risen consistently each year since we started the service.

More News

Website development — next month will see the arrival of a new page on our website entitled 'Vacancies' or 'Join Us'. It will be a WordPress plugin so will allow us to add and delete entries as necessary. Whilst we have no staff vacancies at the current time we will be posting all our volunteering opportunities there. This will include the call for trustees, fundraisers and event organisers.

Join our team

Christmas Markets — as of 21st August there are only 125 days until Christmas!!

We hope to do some fundraising for the charity, in the lead up to Christmas, by having stalls at a variety of events, across West Sussex. If you know of any low cost events for charities, do let the office know.

Nick has started to sign up for events and would welcome volunteers to help out or offer to take on stalls at other locations. We take delivery of some new Christmas stock in September from our favourite supplier, Bollywood Christmas.

Anyone will be welcome to visit our offices to browse our wares and purchase items.

Right now, there are
125 days
until Christmas 2019!



Family Mediators — our search continues for a replacement for our longstanding family mediator, Robert who will be retiring in the not too distant future. WSMS is prepared to sponsor an existing mediator to undergo conversion training as a family mediator and support ongoing costs such as registrations, supervision sessions, training, etc. In return we are looking for some pro bono work on at least two days a week. This could be at an outreach location in West Sussex. We do forewarn that this is quite a commitment. Anyone who might consider it can speak to either of our existing mediators to get a full insight into the training and role.

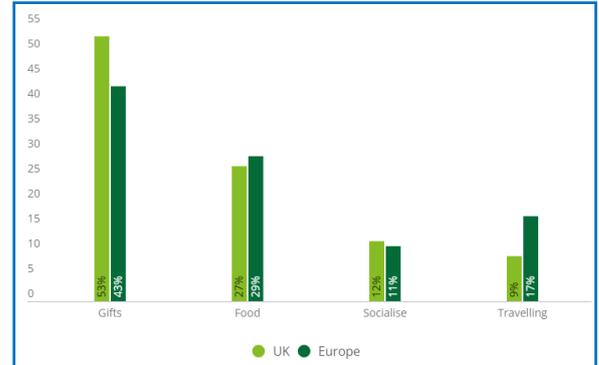
Family Mediation remains a **vital** income stream for the charity.

family
mediation
council

accredited
mediator

Giveasyoulive

Giveasyoulive — You see mention of it nearly every newsletter, so it is very sad that a recent audit of our fundraising through this platform reveals a very disappointing story. Only three supporters have been active since the start of our new financial year (1/4/19). One was Nick our Co-ordinator and another Monica Hill, one of our trustees. The third person remains anonymous. Giveasyoulive has the potential to be a ‘good earner’ for our charity, particularly in the run up to Christmas when a considerable amount of money is spent shopping online. Online retailers will take 42% of UK consumers total Christmas spending . UK consumers are by far the most active online spenders in Europe, and are planning to spend 42% more online compared to the European average. Much of that shopping will take place in November.



Christmas day spending exceeded £1bn for the first time in 2018 amid an online shopping boom. One in four adults will shop on websites on the 25th of December, research shows, with 70p in every pound spent on mobile phones as consumers shun family activities in favour of bargain hunting.

Savvy shoppers seem to be waiting until Christmas day to buy things, when they know prices will fall. Spending peaks at 11am, after gift (including vouchers) are opened, and at 5pm, after afternoon movies and before TV specials in the evening!

Here is our link in case you have missed it and are willing to help improve our bank balance by a few pounds: <https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/wsms>

Shop at over 4,200+ stores

Clarks. M&S EST. 1884 WHSmith George. next MATALAN Tu

Back to School

AGM



THE TRUSTEES

of

WEST SUSSEX MEDIATION SERVICE

have pleasure in inviting you to the

18th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held

on Thursday 26th September 2019

(Arrival 6.00pm for 6.30pm)

in the Wicker Room

Park House, North Street, Horsham, RH12 1RN

Light refreshments

Networking - meet the staff, volunteers and trustees

plus take a tour of our facilities

RSVP to:

Nick Handley
West Sussex Mediation Service
Park House
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RH12 1RN

Tel No: 01403 258900

Email: events@wsms.org.uk

