



# West Sussex Mediation Service External Newsletter

## Reminder

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### External Edition

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Funders & Supporters  
of West Sussex  
Mediation Service.*

**AGM** — our 21st Annual General Meeting is going ahead on Thursday 29th September at the Park Barn, North Street, Horsham, RH12 1RJ.

Expect to arrive at 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start. We will be providing drinks and a few nibbles which can be enjoyed before or at the end of proceedings.

We are fortunate enough to be welcoming The Duchess of Norfolk to the event, plus the Chair of Horsham District Council and mayoral representatives from various Town & Parish Councils across the county.

We are happy for anyone to join us, if they would like to hear more about our work during the financial year 2021/22.

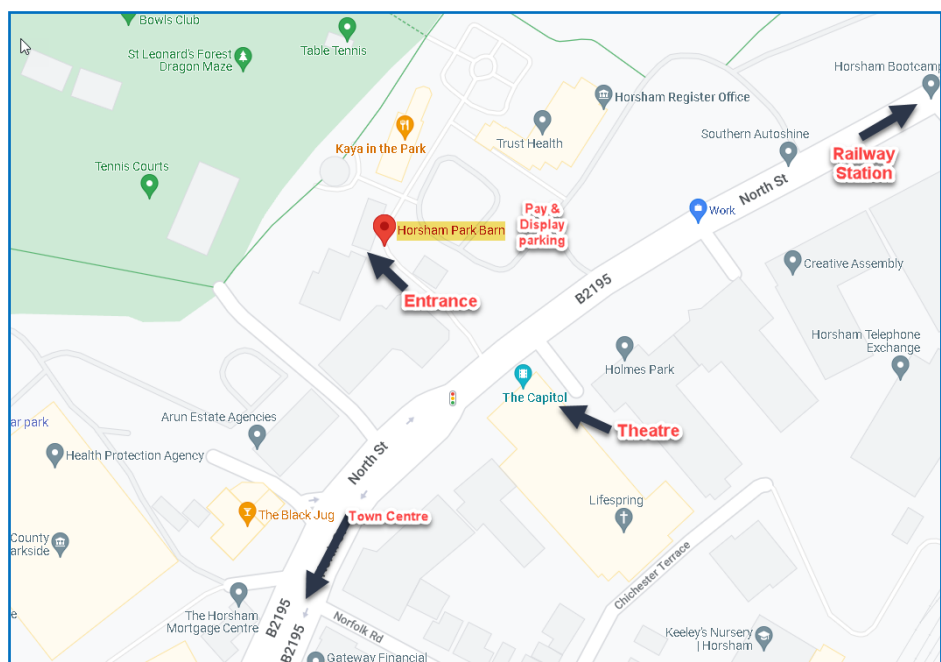
Attendees are also welcome to view our offices, which are a stones throw away from the venue, in Park House.

We will be selling tickets for our Grand Raffle, which has been very well supported by local businesses, resulting in a list of 16 great prizes to be won, including a hotel B&B, numerous meal vouchers, Wine & Cheese tasting and much more (see Page 4).

If you have any difficulty in finding us on the day, please call Nick on 07768 872676.

### Inside this issue:

AGM Reminder	1
News	2
More News	3
Raffle Prizes	4



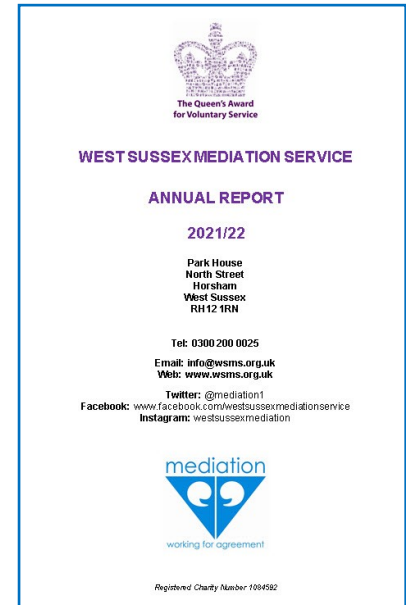
# News

## Annual Report

Our report for the year 2021-22 will be released to coincide with our AGM. It will be posted on our website where it can be viewed or downloaded alongside all past editions. It follows the format of the past few years and includes our externally examined accounts. We are grateful, once again, to Sushma Clark of 'Your Accounts Team' for carrying out that task on a *pro bono* basis.

Once the accounts are formally approved at our AGM, they will be submitted to the Charity Commission.

If anyone requires a hard copy of the report we will be happy to provide one. Overall, we are saving on costs by not having copies professionally printed. There will be some copies available at our AGM.



## Funding

Recent project funding has been received from The Yorkshire Building Society Charitable Foundation, Warburtons Community Grants and the Sussex Community Foundation. We also received £500 from the Tesco Community fund (blue token scheme).



Unfortunately, our bids for funding to The Fore, The Hilden and Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trusts were unsuccessful.

## Conflict Coaching Training

This training recently went ahead as planned. The training, provided by Kathy at Brighton & Hove Independent Mediation Service, (BHIMS) was well received. For those who couldn't make the second session, we have arranged a 'mop up session' with Kathy.

Our next proposed training on the subject of Mental Health 1st Aid. We have been in touch with a specialist in this area of work who will be able to

## More News

**New Charity Director** — A formal announcement of who is to replace Nick Handley at the WSMS helm will take place in the coming weeks. Those attending the AGM may be able to meet Nick's incumbent, who is reaching the end of our recruitment and vetting procedures.

**Family Caseworker** — As you may have been notified previously, our Family Mediation Caseworker, Karen, is reaching the end her time with WSMS. She is preparing for a new venture, with her husband, in Bulgaria.

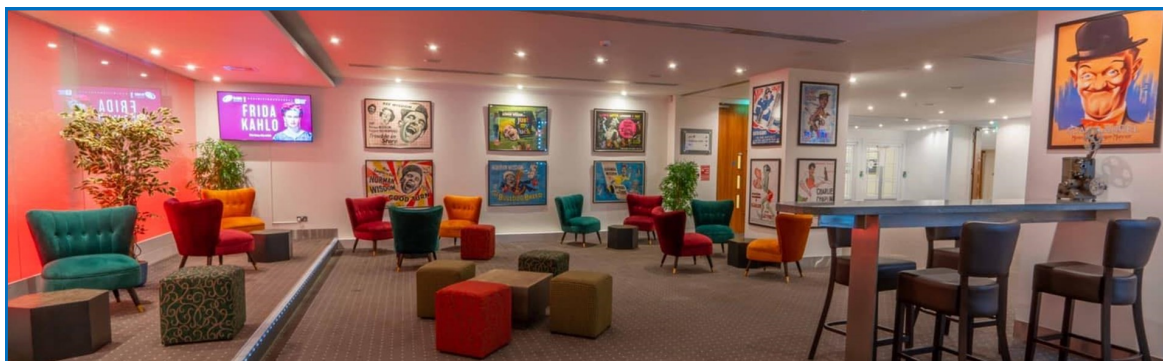


Karen joined our paid staff in January 2018 and has done a fantastic job, co-ordinating all our family mediation cases for our two volunteer Family Mediators, Heather and Sarah (and previously Robert, before he retired). She will be greatly missed.

On the subject of family mediation, we have made the difficult decision to suspend the intake of any new family cases, whilst a review of its workings and viability is undertaken. Further decisions will be made, following discussions between the trustees and the new Charity Director, when that person is in post.

**Nick's Retirement Event** — Nick had previously circulated a 'Save the Date' email for his intended 'Leaving Do'. If you have that date in your diary, ignore it! The event **will now take place on Friday 18th November 2022** at the Capital Theatre between 7pm and 10.30pm. Anyone connected with Nick or the charity is very welcome to attend. The event will also see the drawing of our Grand Raffle prize winners. If there are any tickets left, you would be welcome to buy some on the night and have them added to the tombola barrel for the draw. We will have exclusive use of the reception and bar areas on the ground floor of the theatre.

Nick would like to know who might be attending for staffing and catering purposes, so if you can make it, even briefly, do let the office know.



# Grand Raffle

Tickets (at only £1 each) are selling well for our very first 'Grand Raffle'. We hope to sell all 1,000 tickets!

**Here is a list of the great prizes that have been kindly donated:**

1. Bed & Breakfast for two at Stanhill Court Hotel, near Charlwood
2. Wine & Cheese Pairing for four at Mannings Heath Golf & Wine Estate
3. £50 meal voucher for lunch or dinner at Wickwoods Country Club, Henfield
4. Afternoon Tea for two at the Nutfield Priory Hotel & Spa, Redhill
5. £50 meal voucher for any Bill's restaurant
6. £50 Gift Voucher for Sakakini Jewellers, Carfax, Horsham
7. £30 meal voucher at the Akash Restaurant, Horsham
8. £30 voucher for the Wimpy restaurant in West Street, Horsham
9. Mixed case of beers from the Firebird Brewery, Rudgwick
10. £30 worth of One Stop Convenience Store vouchers
11. Art Print and T Shirt courtesy of Juliette Goddard (BA (Hons) Fine Art MA (RCA)
12. Round of golf for four at Slinfold Golf & Country Club
13. Box of Montezumo's chocolates
14. Bottle of House of Commons whisky
15. Goody bag of six hair & body products from The Hair Company
16. 2023 'My views of Scotland' calendar by Landscape Photographer, John Pow