



SCMC NEWS

#5 SEPTEMBER 2010

The Scottish Community Mediation Centre Newsletter

WELCOME!

Welcome to the September edition of our newsletter and we have now moved to our new premises in 29 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 3QN.

New Office

THE SCOTTISH COMMUNITY MEDIATION CENTRE – namely Ian, Andrew, Eileen and Robert and Edinburgh Community Mediation Service – Christine, Rachel, Joan and Julie share the basement at 29 Albany Street.

SCMC has kept its original phone number:
0131 624 9200

Edinburgh Community Mediation has changed its phone number from **0131 557 2101** to **0131 624 7299**. Can you please update your records.

There are eight desks in the basement and a small meeting room, a kitchen and 'patio'. There is also a very spacious training room (below) off the ground floor and we look forward to seeing you there some time.



From the old to the new

ROBERT put together an inventory of surplus office furniture from Abercromby Place. Eileen circulated the inventory to Sacro staff first then to EVOC (Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council) and Edinburgh Volunteer Exchange and we used personal contacts to let people know what was available.

We were very happy to see our desks, chairs, tables and filing cabinets go to good homes and to the following organisations:

- > The Craigmillar Adventure Project
- > Subud, Perth
- > The Rape Crisis Centre
- > Cyrenians (Edinburgh and their Farm in West Lothian)
- > CHAS – the Childrens Hospice in Perth
- > Edinburgh Furniture initiative

Our lovely plants and pictures came with us and the décor group are deliberating on the hangings and lighting



Weblinks

Learn Direct Scotland

www.learndirectscotland.com

Courses can be found by the following steps:

- 1) select 'COURSE SEARCH' on left hand side of screen
- 2) enter 'sacro' and click on SEARCH

ILA Scheme

www.ilascotland.org.uk

For more details on this scheme and how to apply for your account, see:

<http://www.ilascotland.org.uk/ILA+Homepage.htm>



Update on accreditation

A FURTHER three mediators and one service have been accredited since the last newsletter came out. These are: Sue Williamson, Pam Wardlaw and Mary Macduff together with the Dundee service. The scheme is now open to individual applications from mediators; previously portfolios were submitted in batches by each service. For further information, see the website where the standards for the schemes are available. There are now 13 services either accredited or have submitted portfolios for accreditation. Five more assessors were trained in May.

What's new in the Training Calendar

THERE has been some demand for a refresher course for people we have trained but have not had the opportunity to practise their skills much so we have put together a two day Refresher Course for £100 for people who completed the basic five day course in the past two years. The first course (in Edinburgh) is on 7 and 8 October. To find out what is in the programme check out the details in the Training Calendar on our website at www.scmc.sacro.org.uk. or call us on 0131 624 9200. We are offering open courses and dedicated in-house courses at different venues.

Another new development is a one day course introducing Environmental Mediation run jointly with Roger Sidaway the author of *Resolving Environmental Disputes – From Conflict to Consensus* (ISBN 1-84407-013-1). Roger is an independent researcher and mediator who teaches and leads courses at the University of Edinburgh.



We are re-running our Selling Your Service on 24 November 2010 plus a new extra CPD course on Effective and Efficient Case Management on 19 November 2010.

As our most recent five day course was in Glasgow so our next five day course will be in Edinburgh – that's on 25 and 26 November and 2, 3 and 9 December. Where does the year go!

Scottish Community Mediation Centre

THE Scottish Community Mediation Centre has a national and international reputation for high quality training and consultancy work in the field of Community Mediation and constructive conflict resolution. The Centre, which is managed by Sacro and funded by the Scottish Government, has provided services to a wide range of national and local government agencies as well as other bodies such as charities, social housing providers, police and Ombudsmen.

We provide a comprehensive service of training, consultancy and practice advice on all aspects of community mediation, as well as acting as the administrative base for the Scottish Community Mediation Network and its accreditation schemes.

We are able to offer a range of resources on all issues around constructive conflict resolution in neighbourhoods. Training, advice, guidance and assistance are available to mediation services, social landlords, and all other agencies concerned with neighbourhood conflict.

Assistance

- > Information and advice on Community Mediation and constructive conflict resolution.
- > Training courses on all aspects of constructive conflict resolution.
- > Assistance to social landlords in the provision of quality, accredited conflict resolution services to their public.
- > Assistance with the introduction and maintenance of rigorous standards of service delivery in the areas of neighbour mediation and neighbourhood conflict resolution.
- > Design and delivery of good neighbour initiatives in conjunction with Scottish local authorities and Housing Associations.
- > Publications and promotional materials on community mediation in Scotland.

Centre News

ILA – Individual Learning Accounts

WE have submitted our application for funding and hope to have news for you about applying for and using Individual Learning Accounts in the next edition of our newsletter.

Our website will shortly be updated to highlight Accredited community mediation services. There are also several new articles being added to the website and work continues to set up a message board/practice forum. Do keep checking our website and the "What's New" section for updates.

Mediator Development Folders

WE have produced a very professional zipped folder for mediators to file information about cases and training at cost price for £15.00. Each section includes SCMN accreditation requirements, a template and sample evidence. We have also included post-accreditation sections on practice issues, further training and action points for career development.



Mediators who have handled these folders think they are very good value.

We will bring a sample to SCMN meetings and training events for you to see them for yourself and you can arrange collection/payment/postage with Robert.

News from around Scotland

WE asked for your news and here is a summary of what is happening around Scotland:

ABERDEEN & ABERDEENSHIRE

The homelessness mediation pilot ends this month. The evaluation of the pilot has been submitted to Aberdeenshire Council. It is hoped the service will receive further funding.

EDINBURGH

Our volunteer force has stabilised at 20, which includes the Scottish Centre three mediators as well as Tracy, who was the intergenerational mediator.

We also support the three Amber mediators who are Sacro mediators in the Cyrenian managed project. These are: Edinburgh, East and West Lothian. In addition, there is a Landlord/Tenant mediator – again a Sacro mediator in the Cyrenian managed 'Homelessness Prevention Project'. We are now experiencing more demand for this service as people are not paying rent having lost jobs.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

Our 'celebratory' seminar marking 10 years of Neighbourhood Mediation in West Dunbartonshire is being held on 15 September 2010 and we have guest speakers from the SCMC, Strathclyde Police, Clydebank Housing Association and ASBOF.



The current and previous editions of this newsletter can be obtained from our website – see details below. If you wish to contribute to our next edition (due out in January 2011) please do drop us a line. Photos particularly welcome!

Contact us at the Scottish Community Mediation Centre:

By phone: 0131 624 9200
By email: info@scmc.sacro.org.uk
Or visit our website: www.scmc.sacro.org.uk



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