

2021 in brief

The Mint House network



We **hosted 8 events** on topics ranging from restorative justice and sexual violence to restorative prisons to restorative practice and the climate crisis.

Attendance ranged from 19 to 178 per event (average 71) with more than twice as many registrations and participants from around the globe. **Our network distribution list quadrupled.**



Since mid-September we've asked event participants how engaging they found the event, how likely they were to discuss what they had heard with others and (where relevant) anything they took away from the session and planned to act on. 55% of those responding so far gave a 9 or 10/10 rating for engagement and 60% gave a score of 9 or 10 for the likelihood of discussing what they had heard with others.

Participants shared many examples of things they planned to act on.

I want to think more deeply and practically about how to facilitate greater listening to those more impacted by climate change in our community...

To explain what 'Restorative Justice' is and to write a blog about it; to link with organisations to widen my network and offer insights as an exoffender by speaking at events where relevant.

Supporting the roll out of restorative practice across the county's children's workforce



We **trained 99 members of the county's children's workforce**, including 5 trainers, 18 new practitioners and 31 managers.

10 participants in the early courses shared feedback some weeks later, reporting what had changed for them. All either strongly agreed or agreed that the training had improved their engagement with children and families they worked with, given them skills to manage challenging conversations and helped them feel more confident when there was conflict involving the children and families they worked with.

We **hosted 8 reflective practice sessions** where colleagues from across the children's workforce shared insights and approaches. Topics explored included: dealing with denial; weaving restorative questioning and concepts into assessment processes and responding restoratively to other professionals.

Restorative practice in higher education

We produced **400 packs of Conversation Cards** designed to help students get to know each other better and introduce restorative practice and the Mint House, distributing packs to 5 Oxford University colleges & to Oxford Brookes.



Thank you so much for providing the conversation cards... We shared the packs amongst freshers, ensuring different households all had access to them, and students used them among themselves. We liked the format of the cards and the fact that the simple prompts could act as good conversation starters to encourage further conversation.



We provided 10 staff working in HE with **introductory training** in restorative practice. Participants shared examples of where they planned to use what they had learnt, such as building restorative approaches into a new flat dispute process and using them during investigative interviews.

We joined with others in the newly formed network on restorative justice in higher education facilitated by Warwick University's International Higher Education Academy (WIHEA). With Dr Jane Bryan, Fellow of WIHEA, we **co-presented a session on restorative justice/practice in higher education at the Restorative Justice Council's annual conference**, gathering many useful insights on promoting wider use of restorative practice in higher education.

Our website and social media presence

We **redesigned our website and grew our social media presence**, allowing us to better present our work and network with others via online spaces. We posted regularly on **our blog**, encouraging discussion on different aspects of restorative justice and practice, for example forgiveness and restorative justice, communicating restorative practice, restorative justice and racial justice and using drama to explore restorative justice.









And finally...



We convened **informal thematic networks** on Restorative Cities and for communications specialists working in restorative justice, creating spaces for peer support and information exchange.

Trustees contributed to development of 'Just Oxford', a project by New Road Baptist Church aimed at using restorative approaches to support a more just approach to homelessness and housing poverty.



We developed our research agenda and gave evidence to the newly formed **Restorative Justice All Party Parliamentary Group.** We also applied to the Restorative Justice Council to become a **registered training provider**, hearing just before Christmas that we had been successful.