

Signing up to the second wives club

AS Heather Mills-McCartney would testify, second wives are often a popular as mobile phone users on public transport, but one fed up lady from the Ceiriog valley has battled to remove the 'Wicked Stepmother' image.

Linda Robertson of Erwgerrig Country Cottages, near Glyn Ceiriog, decided to fight back by setting up the British Second Wife Club (BSWC), after experiencing first hand the stress and tensions they can suffer from first wives fuelled by jealousy and money.

Despite the constant support of her finance Richard, the constant legal battle between himself and his first wife eventually drove Linda to breaking point. Not wanting to burden her partner with any of her extra stresses she scrolled the internet for help, but found their was nothing.

In March 2005, Linda decided to set up the BSWC, in order to offer help to the countless number of second wives like herself - the society now has over 600 members, including a handful from overseas.

Attitude

Linda Robertson explained how the "I don't want him but neither are you getting him" attitude of many first wives, has ruined the lives of countless families.

"Through the BSWC we find a large number of women suffer at the hands of ex-wives, because they are wrapped up in jealousy and do not want to see their previous partner with anyone else. Everyone makes choices throughout their life and unfortunately some people opt to take the bitter and twisted route."

She also revealed how there are huge problems with financial settlements in this country, where an ex-wife can receive a large sum of money for doing practically nothing.

"Spoucel maintenance payments are ridiculous, we have one member who is being ordered to pay something in the region of £1,500 a month to his ex-wife," she added.

"This lady is in her early 30's, the children are in school and the house she lives in is paid for by him, but



because at the time of the split his company was turning over good money the settlement was made on the basis of a few financial figures - how can this be fair?"

With everyone high on emotion at this time of year, Linda explained why the Christmas period is an especially difficult time.

"This time of year everyone wants to have family get together and have a good time, it only takes one person to say no and everything can just blow up.

"I have known incidences where the first wife will destroy her childs Christmas presents from their dad and his new partner, out of a rage of jealousy."

The BSWC are now aiming to expand and try to work closer to the like of their local MP, in a bid to bring their awareness up to speed.

For further information about the BSWC log onto their website at www.thebritishsecondwivesclub.co.uk