



Catalyst wins Best Grant Giver in East Anglia Award

The Colchester Catalyst Charity has won an award for Best Grant Giver in the Institute of Fundraising's East Anglia Committee's Awards. We were nominated by Colchester Hospitals Charity. Here is a photo of Rodney Appleyard, the Charity's Development Officer, receiving the award on behalf of Catalyst at the Imperial War Museum at Duxford. Rodney is pictured with Caroline Bates of the Colchester Hospitals Charity.



Opening of Sensory Room at Foxburrow Grange



David Thomas – Chairman, Angela Rippon and Penny Taylor Chief Executive in the Sensory Room at the opening of Foxburrow Grange in July 2013.

Outlook Care have recently opened Foxburrow Grange, a new nursing home in Colchester. Foxburrow Grange is equipped with the most innovative nursing facilities available to bring first class dementia and complex nursing care together. There are 66 en-suite bedrooms. On the ground floor there are bedrooms for residents with dementia and all of these rooms are fitted with the latest Dementia Safe system. All rooms have their own terrace and open on to beautiful secure gardens. On the first floor there are more bedrooms for nursing home residents – each of these rooms has a view of landscaped gardens. Foxburrow Grange is also a community hub with an all day café that welcomes local people, residents' families, schools and voluntary organisations. Other services on offer include a mini gym, cinema, internet café, sensory room, assisted bathing and pampering and a beauty salon.

In June 2013 Catalyst made Outlook Care a grant of £9,201 towards the cost of a Sensory Room. The Sensory Room at Foxburrow Grange is fitted out to deliver 'Snoezelen' services. Originally developed in Holland in the early 1980's as a concept of recreation and relaxation for adults but is now used in therapy, education, stimulation, calming, interaction and treatment. A 'Snoezelen' environment provides freedom from pressure to achieve, an improved client/ care giver relationship and the best available approach to enhance quality of life. Staff, volunteers, residents and families will be trained to utilise the facility. Both residents and members of the local community will have access. The use of the facility will form part of Foxburrow Grange residents' care plan, specifically in relation to reminiscence, stress management, health and well-being related activities.

Special Car Seat for Edie

Catalyst have recently part funded a specialist car seat for Edie Pearcey-McDaid which the family received in June. Ms Pearcey reported that “it has improved Edie's safety and security and also improved our peace of mind knowing our little Houdini cannot escape from the shoulder straps. We'd just like to give you our very heartfelt thanks knowing that Edie will be safe and sound travelling in the car for years to come”.



Mistley Kids Club



Children from the Mistley Kids Club enjoying a day out in Danbury last summer funded by a grant from the Catalyst Charity.

Success continues for Wheelchair Charity

The Colchester Wheelchair Loan Charity was set up five years ago by Bartholomew Walsh with only a few second-hand wheelchairs and a grant from the Colchester Catalyst Charity. From this small beginning it has grown to become one of Colchester's most important front-line facilities for the free loan of wheelchairs to those who need one for a short period of time. This may be to enable a patient's release from hospital after an operation or accident, to take an elderly or frail relative on holiday or, perhaps, a special day out. Regardless of the need the Charity will provide wheelchairs on free loan for periods of up to three months.

Bart Walsh, whose hard work has ensured the success and significant growth of the Charity during his time in charge, reports that the stock now stands at over 130 lightweight, folding wheelchairs. Almost 3000 people have borrowed wheelchairs since the facility started with figures for 2013 showing record numbers out on loan. However, this year he is standing down and Sally Cheves, another volunteer who joined the charity a year ago, will be taking over the day to day administration with the support of the other dedicated volunteers.

Wheelchairs will still be available Monday to Thursday mornings, 10 - 12, from the base in Newcomen Way on the Severalls Business Park in Colchester, Telephone 01206 518524. **Interested in becoming a volunteer? Then please phone or drop in during opening hours.**

Tell us about your News

Please remember to recommend the Catalyst Charity to those in need as we have noticed a downturn in the number of special individual needs applications we have received recently. For further information please visit our website at www.colchestercatalyst.co.uk

The Catalyst Charity is always interested in hearing how various projects are developing and your future plans involving our local caring organisations. If your group has an interesting story to tell, or you need to advertise future developments, please drop us a line. Articles and photographs should be sent to the Administrator at the Catalyst offices at Catalyst House, Newcomen Way, Colchester CO4 9YR or by e mail to info@colchestercatalyst.co.uk.

Some of the major General Grants given recently

For more information check out our website: www.colchestercatalyst.co.uk

Colchester Hospital Charity	£10,000	Furnishings Radiotherapy Centre CGH
Colchester Hospital Charity	£ 7,000	Patient Hoist Radiotherapy Centre CGH
Leonard Cheshire Disability	£ 5,000	Lift at Seven Rivers Home