

SHAW TRUST, UK

Croydon Cemetery scoops national award for innovation

Croydon Cemetery has been announced as winner of a Special Award for Innovation by Green Flag. This national accolade follows on from a previous award presented by them last month for the outstanding benefits the site has made not only to their site but the local community. This national award recognises parks and green spaces which are inspirational in their commitment to continuous improvement.

The site won the national award for management due to the special nature of the partnership formed between the borough and Shaw Trust. This social firm partnership is the first of its kind

for their area and has produced significant achievement in providing employment opportunities for local people and cost savings for both partners as well as an improvement in horticultural standards for the bereavement services.

David Osbourne, Project Manager at the Croydon site said: "I put forward Croydon Bereavement Services & Shaw Trust for developing an in house social firm project as an example of innovative social procurement. I'm absolutely delighted they recognise our achievement and we have gained the innovation award."

The contract formed by Shaw Trust and Croydon Borough Coun-

cil prioritised the involvement of local disadvantaged residents and provided them with real working experiences in a community setting.

Paul Todd, Manager, Green Flag Award Scheme, said: "It is fantastic not only to see the increase in the number of sites achieving the Green Flag Award and Green Pennant Award, but that many are seeking to improve the park or green space to meet the needs of the local community."



Green Flag Award

INTEGRACJA, Poland

Integracja welcomes their new General Manager

Integracja are pleased to announce the appointment of their new General Manager, Elżbieta Mądra from the 1st of September. Elżbieta has an extensive professional background and experience in human resource management, and her appointment is seen as a real milestone in the future vision of the organisation. Elżbieta graduated at the Faculty of Biology at University of Lublin, Management Study at Poznan School of Banking, and Postgraduate Study of Consumer Behavior Psychology at University of Warsaw. Since 2005 she has been a licensed coach in programs of Leadership Management Interna-

tionally.

Having worked for some well-known manufacturers of medical equipment (Bayer, Roche) for the last 15 years in different positions such as sales and marketing, as General Manager she launched the renowned medical brand Radiometer into Poland; building the structure, team and sales strategy behind the product. Since 2006 she has worked in various areas of leadership and strategic management.

Elżbieta started working with us, understanding our organisation and all its departments to build internal procedures and relations with partners. She is also under-

taking a review of the strategic and operational activities that the organisation needs to align itself to its mission and purpose.

We are confident in Elżbieta's ability to build financial security and strengthen the market position of Integracja and look forward to working with, and supporting her, in the future.



Elżbieta Madra

INTERWORK, Australia

Interwork caught Polly Burnard Maxwell's attention after she read an advertisement in the local paper. Polly immediately contacted Interwork as she felt she required additional support at work after having a tumour removed from her spine.

The laminectomy surgery had a big impact on Polly's personal and working life. Polly was no longer able to sustain full time hours in an administrative environment, as she suffered from chronic back pain and was not able to sit or stand for long periods of time. At this time she was working two days per week and this was a struggle both physically and emotionally for her.

Interworks, Western Employ-

ment Service Manager, Leigh Russell met with Polly at her workplace and registered Polly onto Interworks 'Job in Jeopardy Programme'. With support from Employment Consultant Rebecca Dunning they identified an ergonomic saddle seat that would reduce sharp movements and maintain correct posture. The saddle seat was a big improvement for Polly but she was still limited to sitting for long periods of time.

Rebecca continued researching other means of supporting Polly and came across a company in Melbourne that manufactured electric desks. With support from Job Access Rebecca was able to purchase the workplace modification and now Polly is able

to work both standing and sitting, and has since increased her working hours to five days per week.

Rebecca and Polly are now brainstorming more ideas around ergonomic office furniture that will assist Polly in her administration role and further assist her with pain management and a comfortable working environment. Interwork would like to thank the staff at Polly's workplace Mission Australia for their patience and look forward to working cohesively in the future.



Polly with her new desk

MOTIVATION, Romania

Motivation Camp

In August, Motivation Romania organised, close to the mountains in Prahova County, peer group training through 'Retea pentru Incluziune' (Networking Project). Ten wheelchair users participated, along with six family members. Alexandru, a quadriplegic, aged 23, was one of them.

When Alexandru was 18, he jumped into shallow water. Motivation team met him at his home in June 2010. He says, "from 1st-6th August 2010 I took part in Motivation camp in Prahova County, at Hostel Agatha Christie. There I learned many things, which I should have learned straight after the accident; how to prevent pressure sores, sitting correctly, wheelchair use, and so much more. I interacted with other wheelchair

users, many quadriplegics, like me. I learned that I can be independent."

For Alexandru, the period after the accident was one of isolation, staying in the house, doing nothing and just going to medical rehabilitation occasionally. He told the Motivation team that the camp gave him courage again and he started thinking that he can be himself. After the camp, he started to practice what he'd learned.

The main lesson for him was that he can have a normal life and he wants to change his environment. "I want to move from the village to a town to have

a more social life and get a job." For us at Motivation, Alexandru is living proof that we should be thankful more often for having the chance to help.



Alexandru

Don't forget to send your good news story through every month for the next edition of the Shaw Trust group update.