



Helen Barrow (centre) and Noel Chilton from Chaseley receive the award as the MS Society's 'Preferred Provider' from Sarah Phillips, Chairperson of the MS Society.

HRH The Prince of Wales was just one of many high-profile artists to exhibit at a stunning new art exhibition which took place earlier this year at the Chaseley Trust in Eastbourne.

The exhibition included over 100 paintings and drawings - the work of professional and amateur artists, including many of Chaseley residents.

Art is a popular hobby for many at Chaseley, and this community venture not only strengthened links with the local arts community, but it also provided some real inspiration to explore new media, methods and subjects.

The Art Exhibition was just one of many highlights that took place over the busy summer months for the residents of

Chaseley.

In August, the RAF's elite Falcons Parachute Display Team took time out from their hectic 40th Anniversary schedule to pay a visit to residents and staff at Chaseley during Eastbourne's annual Airborne Spectacular.

August also saw Chaseley's Garden Club awarded a silver medal in the annual Eastbourne in Bloom competition, under the communal gardens category. The Award

Charlie Charms Chaseley



Sue Wyatt, chief executive, The Chaseley Trust (pictured on left) with Mitch Kerry, chairman of The Friends of Chaseley, and Simone, Kate, Wendy, Debbie and Martin of the Activities team. The Activities Team were named winners of Chaseley's Department of the Year 2005.



The RAF's elite Falcons Parachute Display Team visited residents at Chaseley. Sophie Allsobrook, granddaughter of Chaseley's Estates Manager Geoff Wilding, was invited to join the team for a group photo.



HRH The Prince of Wales: one of many high-profile artists to exhibit at a new art exhibition (left) at the Chaseley Trust in Eastbourne.

follows extensive work carried out earlier in the year to create raised flowerbeds for residents to plant themselves, and a raised sense and sensory garden. Within a few weeks of winning the silver medal at the Eastbourne in Bloom competition, Chaseley volunteer Graham Broom travelled to Dublin to collect a highly commended award on behalf of the Chaseley Garden Club for the Sense and Sensory Stimulus Garden. The award was given as part of the Rehab Council Innovations Awards 2005.

Further awards for Chaseley this summer included being named by the United Kingdom MS Society as a Preferred Provider. This prestigious award is given to independent care homes and domiciliary care services that are able to demonstrate their ability to provide high quality respite care services to people with Multiple Sclerosis.

Finally, the residents and staff of Chaseley nominated candidates for awards

of their own, with the announcement that the Activities Department within Chaseley had won the Department of the Year. Psycho-Social care manager, Kate Shepherd was named as Employee of the Year, while Margaret Cumming was recognised for her tireless work for Chaseley residents by being awarded with the Volunteer of the Year Award.

Congratulations to all the winners for all their hard work!

The huge success of Haven Products has been recognised through two major awards in Scotland

Haven Products, Momentum's social enterprise division, has been awarded two prestigious awards in recognition of its impact on business and on society in Scotland.

The company picked up the two awards at the Scottish Business in the Community dinner earlier this year. The first was an Award for Excellence - also known as a Big Tick - in the category Impact on Society, awarded to companies that are able to demonstrate an outstanding responsible business practices.

Haven also received a second surprise award in the Inspirational Small Company Award in the Community Company of the Year Awards.

Haven operates factories in Greenock, Hillington and Inverness and picked up the awards for its innovative Twenty One Programme, which promotes employment and development opportunities for disabled people in a commercial environment.

Since its introduction in July 2003 the Haven Products' Twenty One programme has seen the firm increase its disabled workforce to 110 employees - 86 per cent of its total workforce. In the same period Haven Products has accumulated an impressive customer list, which includes IBM, Playtex and the Edrington Group.

The organisation offers manufacturing services to a range of sectors including the automotive and whisky industries and operates as a commercially viable business - the difference being that it reinvests all surplus in creating employment for disabled people.

In July 2004, the company decided to increase employment opportunities to disabled people and took the radical step of switching to a mainly disabled workforce,



Stairway to Haven

working 21 hours per week. This move was accompanied by increasing investment both in staff training and in equipment and led to the proportion of disabled employees rising from 50 per cent to 86 per cent and also to the firm's production and client base increasing significantly. In September 2004, Haven moved to bigger premises in

Hillington to cope with its growth. These were opened by Maria Eagle, Minister for Disabled People.

Haven Products also made the UK final shortlist for the National Business in the Community Awards.

David Whyte, managing director of Haven Products said: "These awards are



The Haven team pictured receiving their award from Samantha Barber, chief executive of Scottish Business in the Community.

great news for us and recognise the growing focus on responsible business practice in Scotland. Since introducing the Twenty One programme we have significantly increased revenue, with our Hillington operation's revenue rising to £250,000 for the year to December 2004, from a zero base when the new operation started in July 2003. We have also won a number of contracts from other organisations, such as John Dewar & Sons & William Grants, as well as our inaugural customer at Hillington, The Edrington Group.

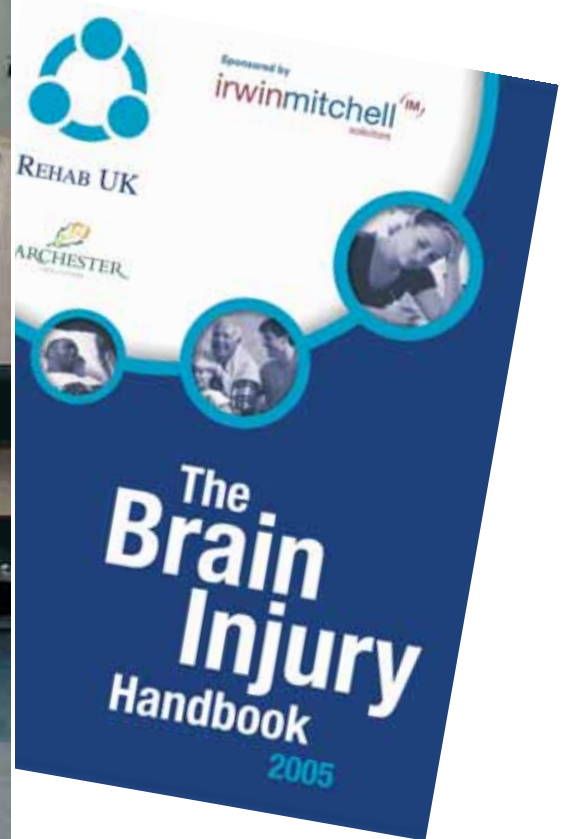
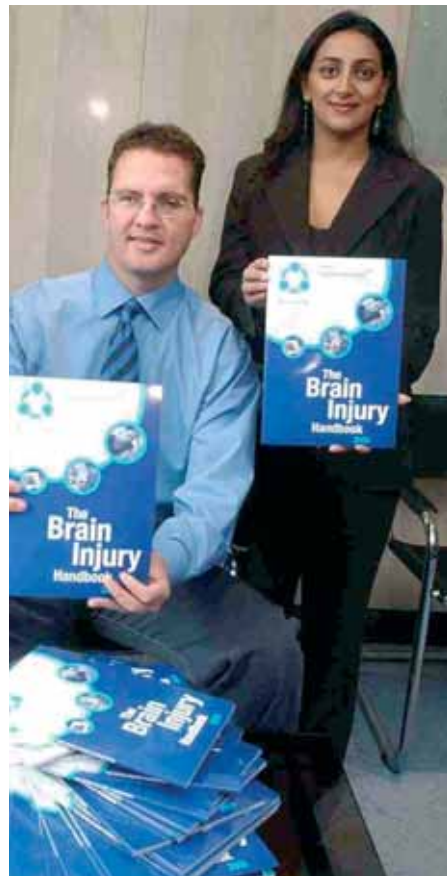
“The age of twenty one is associated with coming of age and independence. The Twenty One Programme provides that independence - allowing disabled people to earn proper wages, develop skills and become active members of their community. The programme has significantly benefited the community by providing opportunities for many disabled people to earn a wage for the first time and, by working alongside international and blue-chip companies, Haven makes an important contribution to the way business in Scotland perceives disabled people's work and value and indeed the work and value of the social economy.”



Employee at work at Haven's Hillington premises.

Rehab UK has launched a guide that is bringing new hope and knowledge to victims of brain injury and their families

Editor of the Brain Injury Handbook, Jonathan Smallman, pictured with Geeta Nayar from Irwin Mitchell Solicitors, sponsors of the publication.



A Helping Handbook

A new Rehab UK publication is set to play an important role in helping people to face up to the trauma of life after sustaining a brain injury.

The 'Brain Injury Handbook' is an essential guide, not only for people with an acquired brain injury, but also for their families, carers, and all those involved in the recovery and rehabilitation process.

In the United Kingdom alone, more than one million people attend hospital each year due to brain injury – usually as a result of road accidents, but also in falls, assaults or sporting accidents.

“One of the most chilling factors of brain injury is its indiscriminate nature”, says Jonathan Smallman, editor of the handbook. “Having suffered a brain injury I know that it can happen to anyone, anytime. It usually occurs without warning, and can lead to confusion and an overwhelming state of shock and helplessness about what the future holds in both the short and long-term.

“My accident had a devastating impact on my life. I was reaching the end of my training at Sandhurst to become an officer in the army when it happened. I suffered severe

brain injury and was unconscious and on a ventilator for two weeks. When I came round I had the mental capacity of a young child – it took me years to come to terms with the crash. I needed both physical and brain injury rehabilitation.”

Jonathan eventually managed to rebuild his life and four years ago discovered Rehab UK.

He said: “I had completed a media & drama degree in the mid 1990’s but knew that I wouldn’t make it as an actor, so I looked to use my media skills in other ways.

“After doing some research I found out about Rehab UK. The charity helps people who have suffered brain injuries find their confidence. It helps them rebuild their lives, gives them a sense of identity and independence, and helps them to find employment.

“The Handbook will bring vital hope and knowledge to victims of brain injury and their families,” he added. “Rehab UK has Brain Injury Centres in London, Birmingham and Newcastle where specialist rehabilitation teams provide the training programmes that enable people with disabilities caused by brain injury to return to work and education, helping them to become socially and economically independent.

Ms. Behjat Hurren, Centre Manager at Rehab UK London, said the Handbook is a valuable source of advice and reference sur-

rounding brain injury and rehabilitation.

She said: “We have tried to make sure this Handbook, available freely thanks to our sponsors Irwin Mitchell, covers everything that patients, their family, carers and friends might need – even the professionals involved in these cases will find it relevant.

“The structure of the Handbook reflects the progressive nature of a brain injury and the recovery process. It looks at the definition of brain injury and how the brain works, the injury itself, likely consequences, recovery process, rehabilitation and return-to-work.

Divided into sections, the handbook offers practical help to support someone with a brain injury. The 2005 edition also includes an updated national listing of services as well as a section on compensation and legal claims.

All the information included in the handbook has been drawn from detailed research, from Rehab UK’s own working experience, from the personal experience of people with an acquired brain injury and their families, and from clinicians specialising in brain injury.

For further information, or to receive a free copy of the Brain Injury Handbook, please contact Christina Read, email: christinaread@rehabuk.org (postage and packaging charges may apply).

David Ward recently passed the most gruelling test of his life – thanks to a big heart and a little bit of help from his friends in RehabCare

RehabCare service user David Ward proudly displays his medal having completed the Longford mini-marathon. Also pictured is RehabCare care worker, Olivia Summer, who ran the thirteen and a half mile race with David.



A Marathon Achievement

Running a mini-marathon is an achievement for anyone. But for 27 year-old David Ward, crossing the finishing line in the Longford mini-marathon earlier this year was something that people who know him could scarcely have imagined a few years ago.

David is autistic and attends RehabCare's Highfield House on the outskirts of Longford Town. The centre, which was opened three years ago and was one of the first residential care units for people with autism in the Midlands, has a warm and friendly atmosphere and is home to David and three other adults with Autism.

To the layman, autism is best described as 'sensory overload'. Essentially, those with autism find it extremely difficult to deal with any changes in routine or patterns and unless dealt with properly, these changes can be upsetting and unsettling.

So for David to have completed the mini-marathon and to have dealt with the large crowd, and the traffic and tension of the day, was a truly outstanding achievement. David's success not only highlights the huge progress he has made since moving to Highfield House, but also the important role that staff there have played in the development of the residents.

Olivia Summer, a care worker at Highfield House, worked closely with David, preparing him bit by bit for the marathon challenge. She, and two other care workers - Helen Kelly and Olivia Corr – ran alongside David for the duration of the marathon. Not surprisingly, they were all delighted at David's achievement.

As too were his proud parents, John and Mary Ward from Moydow in Co. Longford. They were waiting for David as he crossed the finish line having completed the thirteen

and a half mile course. According to his mother Mary, David has made remarkable strides over the past couple of years. "David has made great progress. He's so much calmer and happier now. We can communicate with him like we couldn't have before."

According to Edel Kane, co-ordinator at Highfield House, every day presents new opportunities for David. "David can do most things himself with little prompting. He helps around the house and in the garden and of course he even fundraised himself for the mini-marathon – collecting for a reclining chair for the unit." Ms Kane is confident that David will continue to surprise everyone with his progress.

"We certainly didn't see the day three years ago, when David would take part in a marathon," she said.