

**Newsletter
July 2013**

Where we are

Unit H,
The Paddocks,
347 Cherry Hinton Road,
Cambridge,
CB1 8DH

Contact us:
01223 576535

Website:
www.cambridgereuse.org.uk

E-mail:
donate@cambridgereuse.org.uk

Volunteers

We have been lucky enough to sustain our 50% rise in volunteer numbers from 2010, with 35-40 people giving their time each week.

A big thank you to our dedicated team for all their hard work.

Support

We thank you for your support in the past and look forward to continuing the relationship.

Page 1

cambridge
re-use
community re-use for social need



25 year anniversary



Cambridge Re-Use will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the charity on Friday 20th September at the warehouse. Yes, the origins of Cambridge Sofa were back in 1988! At the celebration anniversary there will be refreshments, and displays including the history of the charity.

The Mayor of Cambridge will be attending as well as agencies, other charities, customers, volunteers and donors. We will be sending invitations later but for now pop the date in your diary. It would be great to see everyone there.



Volunteer Reviews

We conducted our volunteer reviews in April. 97% of volunteers rated their experience at Cambridge Re-Use as very good or good. When asked what they feel they have gained from volunteering, answers included improved self-confidence, learning new practical skills, improved employment prospects and improved social skills. In reply to the question "what do you like about volunteering with us?" a high number put companionship alongside helping people in need and being in a relaxed atmosphere.

Seetec

We welcome our new volunteers from the Seetec programme. The programme is for people on JSA and is a mandatory placement, it helps those that have been out of work build their work



related skills. It involves the volunteer doing 5 days per week with us for four weeks. We would like to thank Linda from Seetec for her help and Ben, Robert, Rebecca, Angus, Nick and Dominika who joined us on this programme.



Newsletter July 2013

Events

August 11th -

Summer Buffet for volunteers

September 20th -

25 year anniversary

November 11th -

Grafton Centre stall

Thank you

Thank you to Ridgens for letting us permanently parking our van on their site.

Call us on 01223 576535

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Goodbye

We sadly had to say goodbye to Sasha as she looks for work. Other volunteers that have left after finding work are Ben, Maria and David. We wish them all the very best.



Hastings Insurance

This year we were nominated as a charity partner for Hastings Insurance in Newmarket and will enjoy this status for two years. Already their support has been invaluable, they are constantly fundraising for us which means we can make improvements on the warehouse which we all benefit from, and we are able to take new marketing initiatives that we have never been able to afford before. The staff are also keen to come and work for the charity for the day. We look forward to the months ahead with Hastings and are extremely grateful for their support.

Easter Buffet

Our volunteers enjoyed an Easter Buffet with our traditional chocolate Easter egg hunt, we had quite a few volunteers who couldn't make it, luckily for the rest who came as they left laden with chocolate eggs. Nothing like chocolate overload!



Customer Survey

We conducted a customer survey throughout February and March. When asked how shopping at Cambridge Re-Use improved their life, answers included making them more relaxed (94%) and less anxious (75%), making life less stressful (92%), making them happier (92%) and more secure (86%) with increased self-confidence (78%). Some comments from the survey are -

"The amazing staff and helpful attitudes has helped me so much! Made my life worth living again, after a terrible time. Can't thank them enough"

"Great communication and support - also cheerful so always go out with a smiles on our faces! Great items at reasonable prices. Love coming here"