



Welcome to the April update from Essex Community Foundation

Small charities eclipsed by big brands

Speaking at a regulators meeting earlier this month, the chair of the Charity Commission, William Shawcross, said that smaller charities "don't get as much time and attention as they should because they have been eclipsed by big brands".

Giving to large, well-known charities may seem an easy and obvious choice, but it is not the only option for people who want to give something back and keep their giving local.

ECF offers a tailor-made service to help individuals and companies connect with local voluntary and community organisations. We can work with you, your family or staff to address the issues that you care about and you can have the confidence that your money will make a difference.



To find out more about the many ways you can work with us, click [here](#) or call Steve Mackenzie on 01245 355947.

What kind of Essex do you want?

This was the question posed by Jonathan Minter DL, the Foundation's chairman, to 100 invited guests who attended our annual Spring reception at Ingatestone Hall earlier this month.

Jonathan spoke about what motivates him personally to give and asked those present to think about their experience of Essex, what kind of Essex they want the next generation to inherit and importantly, what more could they do?



Guests also heard inspirational talks from two local charities, City of Chelmsford Mencap and Southend Blind Welfare Organisation. To listen again, click [here](#).

New High Sheriff of Essex is appointed

Simon Hall was appointed the 837th High Sheriff of Essex at a ceremony held on 3 April.

As well as being involved with all aspects of law, order and community safety during his year of office, Simon will be working with ECF to forge links with the voluntary sector in Essex. He will also be organising a number of events which will raise money for the High Sheriffs' Fund, which is managed by ECF.



To read more, click [here](#).

Comic Relief funds available

Comic Relief Community Cash grants of up to £1,000 are now available to small organisations working in Colchester, Tendring and North Braintree that are doing great work to help local people living tough lives.

To apply, please use the specific application form which can be found [here](#). The deadline for applications is 5 May.

Please read the guidelines in advance of applying to ensure you are eligible.

If in doubt, please call the grants team on 01245 356018.



Turncole Wind Farm - Grants available now

Voluntary and community organisations in **Southminster** and **Burnham-on-Crouch** in need of a funding boost are being given the chance to apply for grants for local projects and activities.

The Turncole Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund was established to support social, environmental and educational projects that will benefit local people.

To read more and to apply, click [here](#).



Phone-In Funding Surgery - 10 May - Uttlesford

Voluntary and community organisations working in **Uttlesford** district are invited to call us on **10 May** to discuss funding requirements for a project or core costs.

We would like to hear about the great work you're doing to improve the lives of local people in your community and our grants officers will be on hand to guide you through the application process.

If you would like to participate, call us on the day between 10am and 12 noon on 01245 356018.



More information

If you would like more information about any of the stories featured in this update or about Essex Community Foundation, please contact Kate Cornish on 01245 355947 or email kate@essexcf.org.uk.

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