

Ingatestone Hall

Spring Reception



Thank you for joining us for our Spring reception at Ingatestone Hall.

We hope you enjoyed the evening and were inspired by our speakers who shared stories about their involvement with ECF and how our grants are helping local people.

What kind of Essex do you want?

At this year's reception I challenged you to think about your giving, your experience of Essex and what kind of Essex you want your children or grandchildren to inherit? And, importantly, what can you do?



Essex Community Foundation can help you to answer these questions.

Through a tailor-made service we can work with you to fulfil your charitable aims and wishes, either during your lifetime or as part of a legacy.

Each year we award around £2 million in grants to support the work of local voluntary and community organisations. With your involvement we could do a lot more. There are many ways you can start to work with us:

- **Individuals or families** can establish a Named Fund, giving them a flexible and cost-effective alternative to setting up their own charity.
- **Companies** may wish to engage their staff in fundraising and awarding grants by establishing a Fund in the name of the company.
- **Charitable Trusts** may wish to transfer the management of the Trust to ECF, but existing Trustees can remain involved in the grantmaking.

If you would like to have an initial discussion about your thoughts or any of these areas of work, please call Caroline, Jo or Steven on 01245 355947, who will be happy to help.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Minter'.

Jonathan Minter, DL

Thank you to our speakers

ECF Trustee and Fundholder, **Peter Blanc**, explained how the Foundation has helped him and his wife, Sue, to see Essex from a different perspective.

After visiting a number of local organisations and projects, Peter has learned how just a few hundred pounds can often make the difference between an organisation continuing its vital work or closing, leaving those who depend on its services at a loss.



Peter and Sue look forward to engaging their children with ECF and the grantmaking from their Fund. In this way, they hope to increase their understanding about local issues and that not all children live in fortunate circumstances.



City of Chelmsford Mencap described the support they give to people with a learning disability.

Sabine leads the Working Out Programme which helps students to increase their skills, confidence and move towards independent living.

Michael, who has Down's syndrome, explained how this programme allows him to be creative, learn to cook and meet new people.

David Hurst, Chairman of the **Southend Blind Welfare Organisation (SBWO)** spoke from the heart about how difficult it is to raise funds to enable them to continue supporting local people. What he had not appreciated, until he was involved with SBWO, was the importance of receiving grants which would contribute to core running costs.

SBWO provides a range of activities and services for people who are blind or visually impaired, helping them to feel supported, safe and able to go on with their lives.



www.essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk

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