



French Fancy

Now that the long, August embargo on building work in Collioure is over we can once again start to move forward with our holiday property, L'Origine.

We are in the process of finalising the actual building work and we are starting to look at furnishing the apartments, choosing hoists and other specialist equipment and

putting the final homely and practical touches to both the upstairs and downstairs apartments. We anticipate completion of the apartment will now be early Spring 2008.

Upstairs is a self contained apartment that sleeps 4+ whilst downstairs we have a specially adapted, wheelchair accessible apartment that sleeps up to 4.

This means you can take a holiday with just your immediate family plus PA or rent both apartments and have a lovely holiday with all your family. Separate access to both apartments means optimum independence.

We are hoping to start taking bookings for next year from Christmas onwards. If you are interested in taking a holiday with us, drop us an email and we will send you details once we have confirmed a completion date.



From London to Geneva...On 2 wheels!

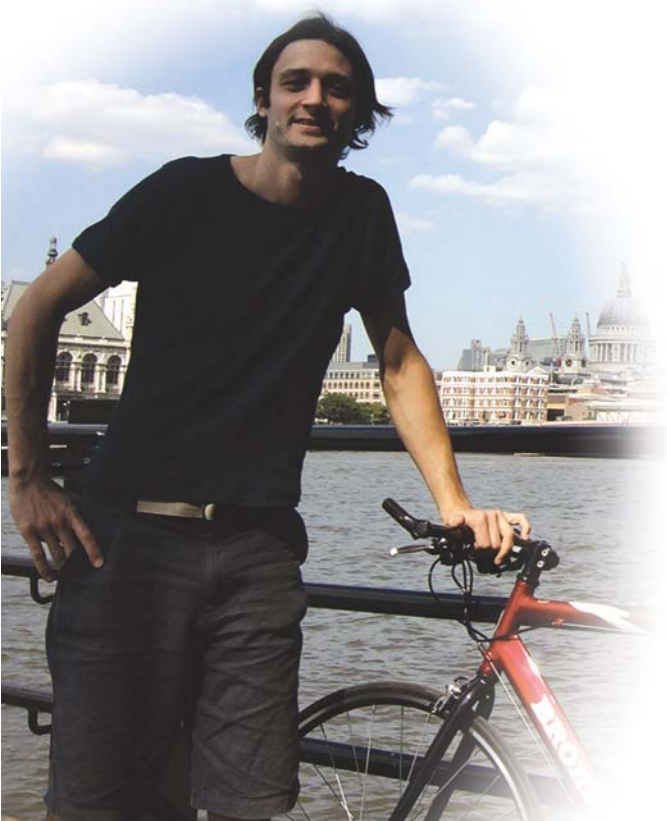
Cedir Searty, an Origin PA, recently set himself the daunting challenge of cycling from London to Geneva in less than 10 days. That's a distance of 650 miles!

Despite lots of rain and with encouragement from family and friends, Cedir completed his challenge and arrived in Switzerland on the 4th July, 7 days after he left London.

Cedir's passion is cycling and he is often setting himself crazy challenges like this one, only this time he decided it would be a good idea to try and raise some money for charity too.

Cedir's chosen charity was Save the Children and he has so far raised an impressive £1,180!!!

Well done Cedir from all the team at Origin! Cedir's photographs show the agony and ecstasy of the long distance cyclist!



'Keep On Running!'



The BUPA Great North Run is one of the great sporting challenges in the UK, with some of the world's best athletes such as Haile GebreSelassie, Paula Radcliffe and wheelchair athletes Ernst Van Dyk and Shelly Woods taking part as well as thousands of amateur athletes and fun runners.

This year Origin were represented in the Great North Run by Richard Fish, one of our longest serving PAs. A keen sportsman, Richard put in hours of arduous training between shifts in preparation for the 13 mile event.

With over 50,000 participants the race has a great camaraderie amongst runners and here at Origin we watched the race on TV trying to spot Richard, wearing his Origin T shirt, amongst the fluffy bunnies, jesters and serious contenders. Richard was running for charity and completed the race in 1 hour 45 minutes so well done to him.

Rogues' Gallery

If you haven't had the opportunity to meet everyone at Origin, yet, take a look on our website to find a short 'Who's Who'. Put a face to a name and find out what we all do, that way when you have a question you can direct it to the person most able to give you a comprehensive answer. If you are ever in Lancaster and would like to pop in to meet us, you will be made most welcome. We can always rustle up a cup of coffee but unfortunately the biscuits tend to be a little more illusive!

PA's Get Together

A number of PAs mentioned that when they went on their placements they missed the camaraderie of their training course and despite meeting other carers at shift changeover asked if there was any opportunity to meet up with their PA colleagues. In response, Lewis and Lorraine organised the first Origin PA meeting in June.

Held in a hotel in Watford, the meeting was a great success. PAs got the chance to chat about aspects of their work, some of the challenges they had come across and how they had coped and also the various trips home they had made, to say hi and to catch up with family.



Topics for discussion ranged from recent research into treatment for spinal injury to aspects of moving and handling and the realisation of how difficult it was to shave a face other than your own!

Everyone thought the meeting was a resounding success and suggested that further meetings be arranged. As soon as this can be done we will contact PAs with details of date and venue.

How to get the best from your PA

At Origin we pride ourselves on delivering the best service to our clients. One area we particularly focus on is providing our clients with all the information and advice they may need when working with a new PA.

The relationship between client and PA can be a difficult one to get right, combining the intricacies of employer, friend, companion, etc.

That is why we have created an on-line guide on 'How to get the Best from your PA'. The guide contains advice and information on everything from meeting your PA for the first time to going away on holiday with them!

Visit our website www.origincare.com to view the guide. We hope you find it useful!

If you have any comments or additions that you think may be of help to others please pass them on and we will try to include these in regular updates to the guide.

