



ORIGIN RECEIVES ST★R TREATMENT

Origin are pleased to announce that following a recent Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI) in August 2006, Origin have been awarded an excellent rating for the quality of their services. This is the highest rating and means Origin services are considered to have 'exceeded standards'.

Origin are inspected by the CSCI to assess whether the services they offer meet the needs of the people who use them. This involves an unannounced inspection by CSCI inspectors who look at areas such as personal care, health and safety, personal rights and dignity, selection and training of staff and day to day paperwork and organisation. Opinions are sought from clients, PAs and office personnel and procedures are rigorously investigated during the assessment which takes a few days. The care services are then given a rating, with four being the highest 'standard exceeded' and one being 'standard not met'.

Reports of all domicillary care agencies are accessible on line for anyone wishing to see how well Origin or any other care agency performs: www.csci.org.uk

Well done to all the team who have worked so hard to maintain the very highest standards.



HOLIDAY UPDATE

Following positive feedback and details of your very specific needs in terms of holiday accommodation for you and your family, Origin have invested in a holiday property in France. Plans have been drawn up for the total refurbishment of the property and the building work necessary to make it suited to spinal injury needs, has started. Two of its four bedrooms are designed specifically for wheelchair access and incorporate many of your valued suggestions and 'wish list' items.

The property is in Collioure, which is a charming fishing village on the French, Catalan coast, near Perpignan. The little town is steeped in history, has a number of very good eating places and enjoys some of the best French weather.

Planning and building works never progress as quickly as anyone hopes and in France things move at an altogether different 'Mediterranean' pace! We will keep you informed with the developments, but we anticipate completion of the apartment in May 2007. If you would be interested in taking a holiday 'chez Origin' drop us an email and we will send you details next year, once we have a confirmed completion date.

As you will see from these photographs Collioure is beautiful, unfortunately the apartment is (as yet!) a building site! C'est la vie!

Recommend & Reward

Earn £100 without getting out of bed! Origin are devoted to recruiting top class Personal Assistants, just like you, and would like to hear from anyone you know who could support young adults with spinal injuries within their own home, enabling them to live full and independent lives.

Simply recommend that your friends start working for Origin and for every one that is accepted as Personal Assistant you will pocket £100! For more information contact Linda.



Back Up Birthday Ball

This year's Ball was even more special as The Back Up Trust is celebrating its 20th Birthday. As always the Ball was attended by a mixture of beneficiaries, people who have used Back Up's unique services as well as corporate supporters, generating an amazing atmosphere.

As key sponsors of the Back-Up Trust, the Origin team were there to support the Trust and joined in the fun, 'shaking their booty' and generally 'having a ball'!



Proceeds from the Ball go towards funding the charity's Winter Rehabilitation Courses which support and enable spinally injured people do unimaginable and sometimes scary things that surpass their aspirations.



Say Hello...

to a couple of new members of the Origin team.

Lorraine Rolfe joined us in May as Care Manager, having relocated to the North West from the South East in 2004. With 20 years experience in the printing and publishing industry, many of Lorraine's talents are very useful in the world of specialist care. Most of you will have already spoken to Lorraine on the telephone as she arranges individual care packages and rotas.



Lewis Noble has only recently joined us on 'retiring' from more than 20 years working as the Social Worker at The Princess Royal Spinal



Injuries Centre in Sheffield. Lewis' role is still evolving to ensure Origin make the best use of his skills and talents in the field of spinal injuries and social care. In his spare time, Lewis is keen on sailing, cycling and music.

Many Happy Returns

An increasing number of Origin PAs are returning to work for Origin after they have taken a few months off to travel, in between educational courses and after an extended visit home. Not only is it great to see some familiar faces and hear about what they have been up to when not working for Origin but it is also a real bonus for Origin to welcome back experienced carers. It means too, that PAs can quickly slot back into paid employment and pick up a job they love. We asked some of the 'many happy returns' how they felt about coming back to Origin and what they had been up to whilst they had been away.

TRISTAN

“ After working for Origin for 15 months I went travelling for about five and a half months. I'd always enjoyed the work at Origin and it was good to be able to work again for a care agency that I knew and trusted and to meet up with some of the same clients again. Origin is a good agency to work for and I knew they could give me plenty of work. ”

SOPHIE

“ I have worked for Origin for 4 years now and recently took 6 months off to travel to South America. I came back to Origin because working as a Personal Assistant fits in with my lifestyle. Returning to Origin was so easy, with no job interview or trial period I got straight back into work and earning money without the hassle of re-applying for jobs. This is a fabulous job that gives me the chance to save money as I work and I've even been paid to accompany clients of fantastic holidays abroad!! ”