

Countywide Business Awards

Pixelwork



WINNER: Business Innovation of the Year

Sponsored by Alexony

A HIGHLY innovative firm with a culture for creativity and new ideas, Pixelwork is a design and communications company.

Pixelwork has created an exciting product called Mobile Explorer that takes advantage of developing mobile phone technology to provide visitors with information and a tour of historical sites or places of interest.

After some time in the development and piloting stage, the product is about to be launched with three tours produced on behalf of Thurrock Council, Coalhouse Fort and the BATA group.

The new version is branded for Coalhouse Fort Park and has highly innovative features that have been developed with the local community including schools, clubs and members of the general public.

The opportunities for Mobile Explorer are limitless and Pixelwork currently has bids with a number of interested parties from the UK and abroad. Content for the Mobile Explorer can be developed by linking to social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook and images can be loaded via Flickr.

Mobile Explorer links to websites also developed by the company, which are highly intuitive, engaging and interesting, and the mobile app is available through Apple's iTunes.

Sunnyside House



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SUNNYSIDE House is run by Andrew Azzopardi, who is an extraordinary entrepreneur, who is not only highly successful in his business, but absolutely dedicated to the people his business serves.

Sunnyside House is an award-winning, innovative, 12-bedroom independence house, which specialises in preparing young adults with learning disabilities to move into their own homes. A recently developed two-bedroom flat has been created as a transitional step to help build confidence and independence.

Andrew and his expert team of highly trained professionals are highly creative in the way they do things and have broken the mold in this arena. Several other organisations are currently seeking advice from Andrew and his team.

Sunnyside House offers its service users the chance of an independent life, which many have either never dreamed of or have given up on.

Central to the future of Sunnyside House and key to developing is a highly innovative initiative called My LIFE, Learning Independence ForEver, which has been designed and created with careful thought and attention to detail and which guides service users along a programme of learning on their road to independence.

In time Andrew plans to develop this into a web platform that will provide lasting help to its users.

Open Road Visions



WINNER: Business Innovation of the Year

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OPEN Road has developed a highly creative approach to dealing with the problem of drug and alcohol abuse. Rather than wait for people to walk through the door, the Colchester SOS bus goes out to where problems exist.

The organisation has a culture of thinking differently, listening to service users and responding to the needs of the community.

All this activity has resulted in a reduction in violence at A&E centres, reduced ambulance call-outs and a reduction in admittances to hospital.

The model has been adopted by other areas and is being considered by others. What makes Open Road special is the ability to inspire, organise and mobilise a great number of volunteers and engage them in an innovative way in order to support the community.

The organisation has qualified for Investors in Volunteers and has recently achieved Investors in People at gold standard.

The commitment of everyone in the organisation, from the management team to volunteers, to help others is inspiring and this is an organisation where everyone can express ideas and work towards changing lives.

The number of initiatives coming from the organisation is continual and the desire to develop the services to a broader region underpins the overall culture of continuous improvement.