

# Dr. Garuth Chalfont PhD ASLA - Curriculum Vitae

## FOCUS

Dr. Chalfont aims to design and implement socially, ecologically and financially sustainable living environments, integrating people and place, providing hospitality and care, and enabling aspirations and quality of life. His academic work is enlightened by involvement in the care of older people, and through practice interventions in care environments for public, private and voluntary sector clients. His current activities include design, research and training across a broad spectrum of care settings with a focus on the needs of people with dementia, their supporters and care staff. He is widely published and acknowledged internationally for his expertise on dementia care environments.

## EXPERTISE

- Design – Landscape and architecture of care environments
- Training – Transformation of care culture and evolution of services
- Research – Observation and environmental analysis to assess and improve care
- Publications and Appearances – Promoting and educating about good practice

## HISTORY

2006 - Owner - Chalfont Design, Sheffield, UK  
2003 - 2006 Research Associate - School of Architecture, University of Sheffield, UK  
1989 - 2002 Owner - Chalfont & Associates, Greenbelt, Maryland USA  
1988 - 1989 Landscape designer - Behnke's Nursery, Beltsville, Maryland USA  
1980's Musician – Fairfax and Alexandria Symphony Orchestras USA  
1980's Music Instructor – St. Stephen's Boys School, Alexandria, Virginia USA  
1976 - 1980 Restaurant & Night Club Owner - Capitol Hill, Washington, DC USA

## PROJECTS

- **Practice Interventions and Training for Staff**

*SheffCare* – Worked with staff, residents and families to determine potential for and to initiate normal daily activities and social events at Cotleigh (July-Aug, Sept-Oct 2009).

- **Research**

*Age Concern* - Investigating and reporting on the needs of carers for holiday breaks as a preliminary feasibility for the commissioning of a carers hotel in Central Lancashire; including research with carers in the four resource centres in Sheffield (currently).

*University of Sheffield* – Independent Project: EPSRC funded 3 year project to investigate, design and trial assistive technology for people with dementia to improve quality of life. Conducted research on-site at Park Grange and Springwood with residents, families and staff (2003-06).

- **Architectural Analysis and Environmental Assessment**

*BUPA* – Analysed floor plans for prototype dementia care home in the preliminary stage of building design, prior to planning consent, and advised on architectural barriers and limitations to providing a good quality of life for residents (2005).

- **Landscape Design**

*Four Seasons, Care Aspirations, Caring Homes and Hammond Care* – Designed exterior landscapes.

*SheffCare* (Deerlands, Paddock Hill, Roewood, Primrose View and Springwood) – Designed and oversaw the installation of external areas funded by Sheffield City Council, Dignity in Care.

*Department of Health, Arena Housing, Central Lancashire PCT & Lancashire County Council* (Extra care Housing Scheme, Ormskirk) – 111 apartment scheme, enhanced dementia day care, health and well-being centre and bistro; designed garden areas for social, recreational and horticultural activities to bring health and therapeutic benefit to residents and the local community.

*Hampshire Partnership NHS Trust* (Parklands Hospital, Basingstoke) – Investigated and developed a sketch scheme design for Beechwood and Elmwood secure gardens for older people with dementia.

- **Design, Service Development and Staff Training**

*Caring Homes* (4 new-build care homes) - Ongoing training of staff to instruct and ensure newly installed garden areas are being used to benefit the residents (2006-9).

*Central Lancashire NHS PCT* (Charnley Fold Community Mental Health Resource) - Advised on building renovation to maximise daylight, views and access into the gardens of this innovative health resource; designed gardens to support and reinforce rehabilitative interventions and therapeutic activities; currently conducting periodical training presentations and workshops to enable staff to develop the service provided and the outdoor areas, to further benefit the service users.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Chalfont, G. E. (2010). Charnley Fold: A Practice Model of Environmental Design for Enhanced Dementia Day Care. *Social Care and Neurodisability*, (upcoming).

Chalfont, G. E. (2008). *Design for Nature in Dementia Care*. Bradford Dementia Group Good Practice Guide. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

Chalfont, G. E. (2008). 'The Living Edge: Connection to nature for people with dementia in residential care.' In Froggatt, K. A., Davies, S. & J. Meyer (Eds.) *Understanding Care Homes: A Research and Development Perspective*. pp. 109-131. London: Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

Chalfont, G. E., & Rodiek, S. (2005). 'Building Edge: An ecological approach to research and design of environments for people with dementia.' *Alzheimer's Care Quarterly, Special Issue - Environmental Innovations in Care*, 6(4), pp.341-348.

Chalfont, G. E. (2005). Creating enabling outdoor environments for residents, *Nursing and Residential Care*, 7, pp.454-457.

*(For a comprehensive list of publications, presentations and projects, please visit the website)*

## **SCHOOL**

2006 PhD in Architecture

University of Sheffield, UK

1995 Master of Arts in Geography

University of Maryland, College Park, USA

1980 Bachelor of Music

Catholic University of America, Washington DC

## **DETAILS**

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