

Safe Bathing at Buckingham Lodge with Active Bathing Bath Range



Buckingham Lodge in Aylesbury is one of the latest care homes in the UK where residents and staff are benefiting from the Compact bath from Active Bathing. Part of the Anchor Group, a not for profit charitable organisation, Buckingham Lodge was opened in April 2015 and, as part of the construction, a total of six baths were installed over three floors.

Home Manager Wendy Luck explains, "At Anchor, we are always looking for the best possible solutions when specifying equipment for our homes. Buckingham Lodge is primarily for people living with Dementia and we were looking for equipment that has been designed for this condition, which would allow them to bathe as independently and safely as possible. The Compact bath from Active Bathing met all our requirements".

The Compact bath has been designed with the residents and staff in mind and this was a significant factor for Wendy and the team at Anchor.

Wendy stresses, "Our aim is to keep our residents living as independently as possible for as long as possible and the Compact bath helps ensure this. The chair lift offers a very

safe and smooth transfer into the bath and once the resident has been lowered into the water, the design of the chair and bath means many do not even realise they are still in the chair and can bathe themselves, depending on their level of mobility, which is excellent for their confidence and dignity.

"The Compact bath provides a very relaxing experience for our residents; in the past I have worked in care homes which have spa baths and these often left the residents feeling unnerved and even scared by the noise and sensation of the jets in the water. From a staffing point of the view, the Active Bathing baths are very easy to operate, clean and maintain and offer exceptional value for money."

Peter Deverson, Technical Director, Active Bathing, adds, "The lifting mechanism of the Compact bath is manufactured from 304/304L stainless steel for a number of reasons, the main one being corrosion resistance. Stainless steel is used in areas of the bath which come into regular contact with water or humidity - in these conditions mild steel would corrode and weaken, thereby reducing the lifecycle of the product. Another reason for the use of stainless steel is its strength and stiffness compared to mild steel, resulting in an increased load capacity of up to 150kg/25stones and prolonged lifespan, which combine to offer added value for the customers."

Also available within the Compact bath range is the Compact DC which is available in two bath lengths of 1600mm and 1700mm and with an extensive range of features, the Compact DC is the only specific Dementia bathing solution available in the UK. With standard features including a WRAS

approved Showersafe gantry system which prevents the backflow of the contaminated water to Category 5 level and an auto fill system that fills the bath to a pre-determined maximum limit as well as a digital temperature



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readout, all of which incorporate the 'failsafe' auto cut out system that is unique to Active Bathing.

The Compact DC can also be used with any floor or ceiling hoist system and is without doubt one of the safest bathing solutions for Dementia settings and in addition to the residents and carers, it offers peace of mind to relatives who know their loved ones are being cared for in a safe environment.

Wendy confirms, "As a company I have found Active Bathing excellent to deal with. They recently carried out an annual review of the baths as part of the warranty agreement and provided us with a very thorough report, which we require to ensure we meet CQC standards. I would not hesitate to recommend Active Bathing."

From the initial enquiry through to installation and after sales support, Active Bathing believes in putting the customer and its residents first to ensure the right bathing solution is provided.

Sales Director Anthony Kilgarriff explains, "Unlike some manufacturers, we will take a bath to the client for a free product demonstration so the staff can see the benefits first hand. As well as providing free CAD drawings, we can offer free advice on the design and layout of the bathroom in which the equipment will be installed. In addition to our own product range, our team of engineers are qualified to service products from other manufacturers and offer full LOLER testing when required."

Established in 1993, Astor-Bannerman has built an exceptional reputation within the Social Services and Local Authority Sectors where it is held in the highest regard. Active Bathing is proud to be a part of the Astor-Bannerman (Medical) Ltd group of companies and of its reputation. Building on the success of Astor-Bannerman, Active Bathing is fast becoming one of the key providers of assisted bathing, showering and patient transfer systems in the long term care sector today.

For details about the range of bathing solutions available www.activebathing.co.uk/info

Or call 01242 820820.