

# 'New scooter has given me back my freedom'

## Charity steps in after TIMES story

Kirsty Hough

THE victim of a mobility scooter theft has his faith in humanity restored after a charity secured him a new one.

Vincent Scales, 60, of Cowpar Mews, Braintree, was left trapped in his house after thieves stole and wrecked his mobility scooter on July 10.

After reading about the theft in the Braintree & Witham Times, trustees of the CSS Charitable Trust, which aims to provide assistance for worthy causes in the Braintree district, decided to help.

Liam Gleeson, chief executive of CSS Recruitment and Training, which runs the charity, said: "This is exactly the type of thing the charity

was set up to do. There are many charities to raise money for big things, like cancer, but we wanted to help with the smaller, every day things within the Braintree area.

"After seeing the article in the paper about Vincent's plight, we got the trustees together and decided we wanted to buy him a new scooter."

They approached Braintree-based firm Market Mobility, owned by Darren Bugbee.

He agreed to sell them a discounted scooter to give to Mr Scales, and also gave him three months of free insurance.

Mr Bugbee said: "It's good to help out. Rather than just fix the old one, I thought it would be nice to get him a brand new one."

The £850 scooter was handed over on Friday. Mr Scales, who can't walk more than ten metres unaided, said: "I was gobsmacked when the charity got in touch.

"I absolutely couldn't believe it.

"I felt like my freedom had been taken from me when the other one was stolen, but this has given it back to me.

"I am delighted with the new scooter - it is fantastic.

"This has restored my faith in humanity."

**HELPING HAND:** Vincent Scales receives his new mobility scooter from Liam Gleeson of CSS Recruitment and Training. Also pictured are Darren Bugbee from Market Mobility and Vincent's friends Dorothy Lait and Gill Carter.

Picture: Seana Hughes C0109010-04

