

CSR NEWSLETTER

Issue 24 February 2018

Welcome to the February edition of the CSR newsletter!



We have combined the January and February issues this time and it is great to see our target has gone to 76%! Final push, lets see if we can get to over 100% like last year!

We also had a team walking Snowdon during March which we will be sure to tell you all of the details in the next edition, we will also be able to upload the final total raised. But I wanted to

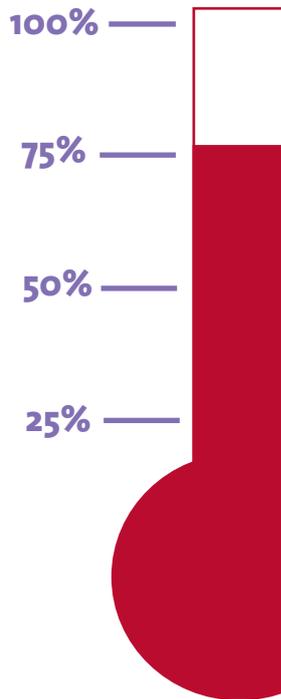
say well done to the team, we have heard you had a tough time with the weather. [Here is the team link](#) where you can sponsor.

I would also like to turn your attention to page two where we talk about our values as part of Making a mark together and how you can use those values as part of your CSR efforts.

Pete Forshaw
Head of CSR

Firmwide CSR

Our firmwide fundraising target



Our goal

£17,600

Total raised

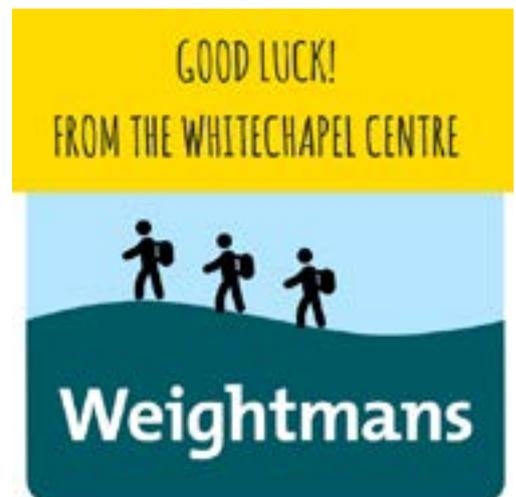
£13,398

Snowdon trek!

Our Snowdon walkers will be setting off on their trek on 14 March! The team have already raised over £3500! Here is a good luck message from The Whitechapel Centre:

“So far you have raised £3532 for The Whitechapel Centre which will have a huge impact on the lives of people we work with. It’s enough to keep our day centre open for almost an entire week, or can provide 7060 cooked breakfasts in our centre (last year we served over 10,000!). It could also provide 282 hours of support for a vulnerable adult. How amazing is that?! Thank you!”

The team will have walked by the time this issue is released but we will tell you all about it in the March issue!



Making a mark together

We wanted to explore each of our values in this edition of our newsletter and how they tie in with our corporate social responsibilities.



Enterprise

Our value behaviours for enterprise are to have a firm first mind set, be entrepreneurial, understand our and our clients' markets, and to always learn and improve.

In CSR, we are always thinking of new ways to develop our CSR activity, supporting our local communities, and those charities, social enterprises, and individuals, in need of our help. As a result, our CSR work includes:-

- office charity partnerships,
- charitable working for the benefit of our clients' preferred good causes,
- pro bono legal and business skills,
- the right to read program in schools,
- donation of equipment to deserving causes,
- mentoring at law clinics,
- community volunteer days,
- working with Prime and other organisations to support access to the legal profession for those who would otherwise struggle,
- working with the Law Society and others to improve diversity in the workplace and legal profession;
- International outreach via Isaacs House

We are always keen to do more so if you have an idea, please let us know.

We remain committed to supporting our staff through funding and CSR days to help them undertake charitable work – whether that be fundraising activities, investment of time, or acting as trustees.

Each office also has a pot of money which can be used to fund charitable activities you have outside of work. We record the total amount spent, and also capture the total amount you raised too.

We will highlight our pro bono work more in the next issue but pro-bono is a great opportunity to provide benefit to the community that might otherwise not be available. You have legal and other skills that are in short supply and are in great need... Good quality pro bono work will certainly help you develop as a lawyer and a person.



Teamwork and respect

Many of our successful fundraising events have required a team effort, and what better a reason to come together?!

We have also had the opportunity to collaborate with clients on CSR projects, most recently Royal Mail Group with their Suited and Booted campaign. We are teaming up again to try and collect 2018 t-shirts to donate to homeless shelters.



Radical transparency

Sharing your achievements is our favourite thing to do which is why we introduced this very newsletter, which we think is pretty radical if we say so ourselves. We also share your successes and CSR achievements with clients on our social media and in tenders too. It's why we publish what we raise and donate not just in our newsletter but in tenders too. It's also why we have CSR reps in each office representing the views of our staff. These reps help shape our CSR policy which is available to all, which is reviewed annually to ensure it remains fit for purpose, and which guides all the CSR work that we do.



London

WeKnit for Charity



Wednesday lunchtimes in the London Office will never be the same again, as the big breakout area is transformed into a hive of crafting activity.

Keen knitters, both old-hands and beginners, are getting together to make simple projects for charity. Carmel from the Regulatory Department who began the group, is herself a keen knitter. She says "I love knitting for so many

reasons, it's a great thing to become addicted to – it reduces stress; lifts depression; is meditative; improves motor function; great for the joints if you have tendonitis/ arthritis.

It also gives you a sense of achievement to create something beautiful for yourself or others. At the moment we are knitting squares which can be sewn together to make small blankets.

These are going to be donated to Battersea Dogs & Cats Home. The more adventurous among us are knitting baby hats for UCL Neonatal Baby Unit. It's great that those who can already knit are teaching those who have never knit before and I'm so impressed with the progress they're making.

We are all loving it!

Everyone is welcome to come and can continue their projects at home. Now we just need some men to join – why not? I will keep you posted about that one!"

London

Weightmans Volunteers at the Whitechapel Mission

At Weightmans London we enjoyed collaborating with the Royal Mail Group in the Breakfast and Clothing Challenge at the Whitechapel Mission.

The early shift started at 5.30am and involved preparing and serving breakfast to as many as 200 of the Whitechapel Mission's clients. The remainder of the day was spent sorting donated clothing to prepare for distribution.

Thank you to the team: Amber Jeral, Sarah Julian, Tim Lang and Ola Smuklerz. It was a great and insightful day!



Leeds

Coast to Coast for Martin House

Fancy going on a cycling adventure with like-minded individuals? Then here is your chance. The event will take place between Fri 11 May to Sun 13 May 2018.

The 140 mile Coast to Coast route takes in the beautiful Lake District and the wilds of the North Yorkshire Moors and promises to be a fun yet challenging event spread over 3 days.

Day 1. Workington to Penrith. Distance = 55 miles. Terrain = Steady.

Day 2. Penrith to Rookhope. Distance = 40 miles. Terrain = Hilly.

Day 3. Rookhope to Sunderland. Distance = 45 miles. Terrain = Easy Riding.

Places are strictly limited to 10 (a full minibus) and are on a first come, first served basis.

The total cost is £150 and you must pay a non-refundable deposit of £ 50 before the end of March 2018 to guarantee your place. This covers your travel and accommodation costs.

If you would like to donate - you can [here!](#)

Manchester

Emmeline Pankhurst statue pro-bono project



Congratulations to the 'Our Emmeline' team who secured planning permission for Manchester's Emmeline Pankhurst statue recently, as the country marks 100 years since the Representation of the People Act. Sarah Walton from our Manchester office is part of a legal team advising on the project.

We are delighted to be part of this piece of history!

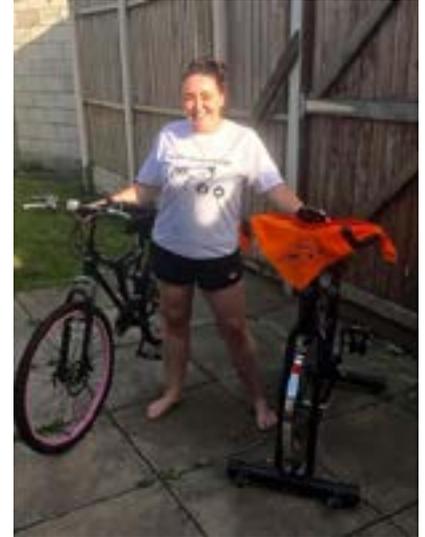
Becky's getting on her bike for homeless dogs!

Becky Hughes from the Liverpool Facilities team is cycling from Vietnam to Cambodia later this year to raise money for Love Underdogs, a dog rescue charity.

Becky will embark on the 10 day, 400km trip in November to raise much needed funds for Love Underdogs, who rescue and rehome Romanian dogs in the UK. Becky is heavily involved in the charity, having adopted three of her own six rescue dogs from there, voluntarily worked in their Romanian dog shelter, trekked the Great Wall of China to fundraise for them and also through monetary and supply donations and kennel sponsorship.

Becky said: "This will be a big challenge for me. I am not a "natural" cyclist, having only ever been on fun bike rides on summer weekends. I will need to increase my fitness levels and gain my confidence in long distance cycling, as I'll be cycling for between 4 and 9 hours each day of the trip. It's certainly not going to be easy, but I will do it for the dogs!"

Becky has already raised £2,500 of the £3,100 minimum. However, she would be extremely grateful for anyone who may wish to sponsor her to help give a final push for the last few hundred pounds she needs to raise. If you would like to help Becky get to her target, you can sponsor her on her Just Giving page:



www.justgiving.com/fundraising/becky-hughes11