

## Communities

Taking our Stewardship value seriously means acting with a social conscience whilst also considering social, environmental and ethical matters. We have been proactive in 2022 in finding ways we can positively impact our local communities.

From volunteering to sponsorships and fundraising, we have supported our national and local partnerships through a variety of events and initiatives.

### How we have helped

In 2022, we raised over £220,000 for charitable causes through donations, fundraising, fund-matching, our good causes fund and Pennies from Heaven initiative.

Our colleagues are encouraged to use their annual volunteering day to make a difference for a cause close to their hearts, and in 2022 310 volunteer days were logged across the Group. Volunteering opportunities varied, from helping out in charity warehouses, mucking out animals, and decorating hospices, to lending a hand at soup kitchens.

### Our UK national charity partner for 2022 Campaign Against Living Miserably (CALM)

CALM is leading a movement against suicide through raising awareness of mental health, fighting against stigma, encouraging people to talk and signposting support available.

We supported the cause through bake sales and Halloween fundraisers and highlighted awareness through webinars and supporting suicide prevention day. Our May-ke a Move for CALM step challenge saw over 5.5 million steps logged across the Group.

A CALM representative said: “What we have already, and will achieve in the future, is only possible with the support of organisations such as OSB Group. Together we can continue to show everyone struggling that life is always worth living and that CALM will always be there for them.”

### Our community and charity partners UK

#### Demelza Children Hospice, Kent

Demelza provides clinical care, therapies, specialised activities and practical support across Kent, South East London and East Sussex.

We are proud to have been supporting Demelza Children's Hospice since it was founded in 1998. Funds raised through our Children's savings accounts were supplemented by various fundraising initiatives and donations. These funds are vital to the hospices and help to pay for trained, specialist nurses.

In addition, our employees used their volunteering days to help out in Demelza's retail warehouses, hospices and at a variety of events.

Two such events happened in 2022: Little Warrior in June and Bubble Rush in July. Little Warrior was a new event sponsored by the Group including runs and challenges and Bubble Rush which took place in various locations throughout Kent, saw nearly 3,000 participants taking part in the final race in Maidstone. These two events raised funds to help Demelza continue to support terminally ill children and their families.

As well as helping out at Bubble Rush and Little Warrior, our colleagues also assisted in the Demelza warehouse, helping to sort through donations which are sent out to various stores across Kent. We also introduced Demelza donation stations in our offices and two branches as a trial, to collect clothing for the charity's slowing down 'fast fashion' campaign.

#### XL@Football. Kent

Kent Reliance sponsors the senior, youth and coaching teams at XL@Football, a Kent-based women's football academy. In 2022, we launched the Kent Reliance Scholarship, offering places to players who are financially vulnerable and/or exceptionally talented, to help them develop to their full potential.



## Social matters continued

### Communities continued



We have gifted the logo placement to Demelza Hospice Care for Children, our local charity partner, to create a three-way partnership to help raise awareness and fundraising opportunities.

#### Coventry Rugby Club

The Group supported Project:500 camps held during school holidays, where disadvantaged children attend a 3-day event to play sports and learn about nutrition and wellness. The children are given a hot meal each day and take home a hamper of fresh food to feed their families for a week. Our colleagues also attended the Christmas camp to help with packing the food hampers, serving the meals and providing support wherever we could.

Through our partnership with Coventry Rugby Club we also donated to the Reading for Pleasure Zone at Colmore Junior School in Birmingham, and supported grassroots Wolverhampton Rugby to deliver a coaching night to 100 children in the junior team.

#### Wolves Play Café, Wolverhampton

Our support helped this community organisation, which delivers 'stay and play' sessions to children under 7, pay for new uniforms, provide safeguarding training and purchase vital online technology.

#### The Haven, Wolverhampton

The Haven delivers vital support to families affected by domestic violence or homelessness. In June, our colleagues cycled 175 miles on a static bike to raise funds and in August a team of colleagues decorated two new temporary homes at the refuge.

#### Happy Pants Animal Ranch, Kent

Happy Pants Ranch is a safe haven for unwanted and abandoned animals. In 2022, colleagues used their volunteering day to make a difference at the ranch by shovelling muck, collecting metal waste for recycling and sorting through donations.

#### India

##### SOS Children's Village, Bangalore

The Group has been a consistent partner to SOS Village over the last six years, providing warmth, care and the bare necessities to orphaned and marginalised children.

SOS Children's Village provides opportunities for the holistic development of orphans, women and children in vulnerable families. We provide funding to support education, food, clothing and housing for orphans in Bangalore and children in Hyderabad.

##### HBS Hospital, Bangalore

A non-profit hospital that provides critical healthcare to those unable to afford the care they need.

The Group has been a consistent sponsor of monthly dialysis sessions for individuals who live below the poverty line. We also donated two dialysis machines that can provide over 11,000 dialysis sessions over five years.

##### Civil Hospital – Kolar Gold Field Hospital

In 2022, the Group worked closely with the hospital providing funding for renovation and we are discussing an opportunity to provide the hospital with surgical equipment.

#### Group's sponsorships and donations

over  
£220k