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**Photo attached: Benefact Group volunteers**

**6 February 2023**

**Benefact Group staff make a difference in local community**

**An army of volunteers from Gloucester-based specialist financial services group, Benefact Group, have supported charities to make a difference in the local community.**

From cooking breakfast for Gloucester Feed the Hungry, helping to take children from Milestone School on a school trip, to doing laundry and painting fences for Teckels Animal Sanctuaries, Benefact Group volunteers have supported a wide range of causes in the local community.

All Benefact Group employees are encouraged to volunteer for at least one day a year and are given paid time off to do so. In total, staff across the Group spent 3,759 hours volunteering in 2022.

During the past year, Benefact Group volunteers have painted garden furniture and a summer house for Longfield Hospice, built a woodland trail for Scrubditch Care Farm, and assisted with an archaeological dig for The Cotswold Canals Trust, as well as many other good causes.

Each year, all Benefact Group employees are also given £100 to donate to any charity of their choice which is then doubled if they volunteer for a good cause. In 2022, 124 Gloucestershire charities have benefitted from a share of £22,000 thanks to employee grants.

Chris Pitt, Group Impact Director at Benefact Group, said: “We’re passionate about encouraging and enabling all of our employees to give time, money, and kindness to help support causes they care about and make a difference in our local community. Benefact Group is the fourth largest corporate donor in the UK and has an ambition to be the biggest. Owned by a charity, all of our available profits go to good causes, and the more the Group grows, the more the Group can give. As a company whose purpose is to contribute to the greater good of society, charitable giving is at the heart of what we do.”

Benefact Group staff gave over £500,000 to good causes in 2022 through personal grants and matched donations for fundraising and payroll giving as part of the company’s ‘MyGiving’ scheme.

To learn more about Benefact Group’s unique purpose and the causes it helps visit: [www.benefactgroup.com](http://www.benefactgroup.com)

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**About Benefact Group**

1. ​​Benefact Group is an independent, specialist financial services group that exists to give all its available profits to charity.
2. Owned by a registered charity, Benefact Trust, Benefact Group’s family of businesses provide specialist insurance, investment management and broking and advisory services in the UK, Australia, Canada and Ireland.
3. Benefact Group is the fourth-largest corporate donor to charity in the UK, according to the UK Guide to Company Giving 2021/22. It has donated over £100m to charity since 2016 and is aiming to reach its target of giving £250m by 2025.
4. Many businesses say they are different. Benefact Group really is. Find out why here [www.benefactgroup.com](http://www.benefactgroup.com)
5. The Benefact Group family of brands includes:
	* Ecclesiastical UK
	* Ecclesiastical Canada
	* Ecclesiastical Ireland
	* Ansvar UK
	* Ansvar Australia
	* EdenTree Investment Management
	* SEIB Insurance Brokers
	* Ecclesiastical Financial Advisory Services
	* Ecclesiastical Planning Services Ltd
	* Lycetts Insurance Brokers
	* Lycetts Financial Services
	* Lloyd & Whyte