Fundraising & Community Support

Our work directly and indirectly affects the way the wider community lives, behaves and develops and we firmly believe that our business should make a positive contribution to the society in which we live.

We support and encourage our employees to help local community organisations and activities in our regions, particularly our employee chosen charities, and we are very proud that many of our employees take part in a wide range of volunteering activities across the country.

All members of the firm are encouraged to participate in charitable fund raising events and, over the years, we have supported numerous charities with local, national and international aims, objectives and interests.
Annual Bike Ride

The annual SW Charity Cycle Ride has become a real highlight in the firm’s calendar. Over the last 13 years, the rides have involved a total 252 SW participants cycling routes totalling 2,478 miles! Putting it another way, the SW staff have collectively cycled over 48,298 miles on their Charity Bike Rides (that is equivalent to twice the circumference of the Earth!!) – raising over £43,700 for various worthy causes in the process!
2019 cycle links three SW offices

25 Sanderson Weatherall property experts from across the network offices have completed the 2019 SW charity bike ride – a route which connected three of SW’s northern offices.

Setting off from either SW’s Leeds or Manchester offices, the two groups of cyclists headed towards the Yorkshire Dales and their first nights stop-off at the Grassington Bunk Barn. It was relatively slow going for both teams, with the Manchester contingent battling the elements, cycling through a torrential downpour and with the Leeds group facing a number of mechanical issues before they’d even completed the first 20 miles! However, all arrived safe and well and were greatly appreciative of the BBQ supper prepared by Nick ‘the grill King’ Heap (with some assistance from young Mr Humphreys).

Day two and the sun well and truly shone on the team, boosting morale as they set-off deeper into the Yorkshire Dales. The smiles didn’t last long as the cyclists were subject to one of the toughest days cycling of any previous SW rides, incorporating the infamous climbs of Fleet Moss, Buttertubs Pass, Tan Hill and The Stang – four notoriously difficult uphill sections totalling over 6,500 ft. To say it was a relieve for the team to arrive at the Morritt Arms would be an understatement!

The final day was comparably flat as the cyclists rode from the Morritt in Greta Bridge down to their final stop of Newcastle Quayside. Unfortunately the weather gods had other ideas and turned the last half of the day in to a battle against the wind and rain – hence 25 very wet cyclists pictured!

Stuart Avery, organiser of this year’s trip commented, “All in all, and despite the hills, the rain, the burnt sausages, the snoring...and the punctures... it was another fantastic trip and certainly by far the best organised ride in SW living memory. On behalf of the team, I would like to say thank you to everyone that has donated – it’s an incredibly worthy cause and it really does make all the hard work worthwhile.”

This year the team were fundraising for Macmillan Cancer Support, and in particular the Leslie Bessant Tribute Fund, after sadly losing colleague Les Bessant last year. An especially fitting tribute, as Les used to work in the Newcastle office – the ultimate destination for the trip. The team’s efforts raised a fantastic £4,160

October 2019 - Gemma Watson, from our London office ran Royal Parks Half Marathon in London to raise money for The Prince’s Trust. The Princen Trust, founded by HRH The Prince of Wales, looks to give young people the attention and opportunities they deserve.

This was Gemma’s first half marathon in London and she ran it in a fantastic PB of 1h44, all very exciting milestones raising a total of £350 for a worthy cause.
November 2018 - Surveyors from our London office took part in this years Movember challenge. Alongside bake sales across our offices we’re delighted to have raised over £530 which was donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.

November 2018 - A group from our Leeds office ran the Abbey Dash, a 10k race from Leeds city centre to Kirkstall Abbey and back. The team ran in support of our chosen charity, the Les Bessant Macmillan fund.

October 2019 - In spite of injury, Rob Cohen, partner in our Leeds office, made it round the full length of the Yorkshire Marathon that wound through the streets of York and stretched out into the countryside beyond. Raising £455 in support of Mind, the mental health charity.

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April 2019 - Jacques, a graduate from our London office completed the ultramarathon race that he undertook in Sri Lanka from 15th – 19th April 2019. Along with two friends Jacques team spent five days running varying distances through tea plantations, forests and rivers around the country covering around 250km all in aid of Seashell Trust. The team were delighted to present Seashell Trust with a cheque for £9,597 to support children and young adults with profound disabilities and additional communication needs.
London to Brussels Charity Ride

19 of our property experts have completed the annual SW charity bike ride which this year saw the team cycle 220 miles from London to Brussels in just three days.

The team cycled in support of Marie Curie, the UK charity providing care and support to people living with terminal illness, and their families, bringing light in their darkest hours.

Following a fantastic fundraising push from the team the total raised stood at an excellent £5,175.

About the ride

This year's ride began at Greenwich Park, home to one of the most iconic views of London and the River Thames. Having cycled from London to Paris a few years ago, the team knew to expect a busy ride out of London and after around three hours of stop start cycling, they were all relieved to arrive at Chatham for a lunch break overlooking the docks. In the afternoon, the traffic cleared and the team were able stretch their legs as they followed signs for Sustrans Route 1, a long-distance cycle route that connects Dover and the Shetland Islands. Following a tough first day the cyclists were relieved to arrive at their accommodation for the first night, in two town houses on campus at the University of Canterbury.

Having stayed 20 miles outside of Dover it was an early start and a race for the 10-o’clock ferry to Dunkirk. Upon arrival in France the team set off in over 30-degree heat, keeping the sea on their left and heading for Bruges. Despite the high temperatures the team were able to keep a good pace and despite multiple stops to top on water they made it to Bruges in time for Belgium’s world cup clash with Brazil!

The third and longest day, provided more of the same picturesque countryside, as the route wound alongside the canals between Bruges and Belgium. Following a much needed lunch break in Ghent the team had a decision to make, push on to try and make it the final 45 miles to Brussels and possibly risk missing the football, or stop halfway to watch the game. Taking into account the high temperature and number of miles already in their legs they took the sensible route and stopped in the typically Belgian town of Aalst. Following England’s win the last 20 miles flew by, with a jubilant mood throughout the team as they rode into Brussels en masse.
April 2018 - A team from our Bristol office have signed up to do 10 Brecon Beacon peaks in just 10 hours this June. The challenge raises money for the Youth Adventure Trust, a brilliant cause that believes learning in an outdoor environment is vital to a child’s development and is something that all young people have access to.

The team is made up of Jo Williams, Owen Pike, Mark Sheridan and Chris Howell.

April 2018 - Last week our Bristol office hosted pupils from Kingweston School for a work experience and confidence building morning.

Located in an old manor near Lawrence Weston, Bristol, Kingweston School is a school catering for children and young people with a wide range of needs, including Asperger’s and Autism, Severe Learning Difficulties and complex needs.

Nine year 10 children from the special needs school visited our Queens Square office to see the working environment, talk to the team about work as a chartered surveyor and work life in general.

Following a morning speaking to our Bristol team we then arranged for them to go to a client’s office to experience work in a tech and PR environment.

April 2018 - SW have continued their support of the junior section of Knutsford RFC, as a shirt sponsor of the clubs now locally renowned ‘pink-flashed’ tour shirts. All age groups within the junior section were represented at this year’s Cheshire Cup Festival – an annual event which is held at various clubs throughout the region.

April 2018 - A team from our Teesside and Newcastle offices recently attended The Children’s Foundations bowling event, which raised over £1,000 for the charity.

The team was made up of Liz McLoughlin, George Penrice, Graham Blenkarne, Gavin Richardson, Linsay Waugh.
December 2017 – This year in lieu of sending Christmas cards to our clients we made donations to both Shelter and St John Ambulance.

Shelter help millions of people every year struggling with bad housing or homelessness through their advice, support and legal services. St John Ambulance is the UK’s leading first aid charity, their work helps educate and train hundreds of thousands across the country to provide health and safety support in their communities.

December 2017 – On Friday 15th December 2017 our Manchester office celebrated National Christmas Jumper Day in true festive style.

The team in Manchester donned their Christmas Jumpers to help raise funds for Save the Children.

Pictured are Kate Woolhouse and Kris Taylor who picked out the same jumper for the day!

March 2018 – On Friday 20th March, staff from across our offices dressed down in support of Sport Relief.

The charity provide support and aim to improve the health and wellbeing in schools around the country and between our offices we raised over £200.

During 2017 our London office was awarded a Gold Recycling standard by First Mile recycling.

With a 100% recycling rate, our team recycled 3,040 KG, helping to save 4,320 KG of CO2 contributing to the 60,000 tonnes of waste recycled collectively by First Mile users.
Valuation of pub to assist with community led takeover

We have recently provided valuation advice to assist a community led initiative in purchasing The Prince of Wales, Foxfield – a popular pub that was due to close.

The Prince of Wales is located in Foxfield a small village on the west coast of Cumbria and is currently run by a couple who have operated the pub for 21 years who have now decided to retire.

The pub is well known in the local area and among real ale enthusiasts as it prides itself on its ever-changing selection of beers, including a range from the connected Foxfield brewery.

A small steering group has been set up to create a cooperative where members of the community can buy shares in order to help keep the pub alive and they have also received backing from The Plunkett Foundation, a charitable organisation which specialises in community led schemes.

Lawrence Pinder, valuer in our Manchester team completed the valuation and commented, “A member of the steering committee approached us knowing that as a firm we had the expertise to provide them with valuation advice. As soon as we heard that the project was to be community driven and in part funded by a charitable organisation we offered to complete the work on a ‘pro bono’ basis.”

“It’s a really interesting project and it’s great to think that we have played a small part in trying to save a well-loved pub from closure and I wish them all the very best of luck!”
Eighteen SW property professionals from across our offices completed the 180 mile ride from Walney Island on the East Coast to Whitby on the West Coast.

This year’s charity of choice was Core the team’s fantastic efforts raised over £2500 for the charity, which is committed to fighting a range of digestive diseases across the UK.

About the ride
On a long ‘weekend’ of 29 June to 1 July 2017, 18 Sanderson Weatherall staff set off on the W2W as the charity bike ride for the year.

This is the second time the firm have undertaken the W2W – the first time being in 2009 – when we opted for the shorter and slightly easier Wearside ending. This time, the group chose to do the alternative Whitby end to the route.

The team assembled at Walney Island for the obligatory photo and wheel-dip on the Thursday morning, eventually setting off at circa 11.00am. Despite the forecast of prolonged heavy rain, it was dry and cloudy at the start and remained pretty much that way until the end of the day.

Coast to coast cycle ride 2017

Eighteen SW property professionals from across our offices completed the 180 mile ride from Walney Island on the East Coast to Whitby on the West Coast.

This year’s charity of choice was Core the team’s fantastic efforts raised over £2500 for the charity, which is committed to fighting a range of digestive diseases across the UK.

September 2017 - Next Friday three of our property experts in the North East will be taking part in the Buccleuch Property Challenge, a gruelling six-hour adventure race.

The event involves multiple stages, including mountain biking, running, orienteering and ‘secret activities’ and the SW team comprised Graham Blenkarne & George Williams from our Teesside office and Dan Matthews from our Newcastle office.

This year the event raised a fantastic £14,000 for Jo’s Cervical Cancer Trust and Ovarian Cancer Action.
For Day 2, most of the riders got back to the route fairly easily by heading east from Brigsteer, down the hill and crossing the A581 – picking it up at Natland (although some of the purists re-joined at Levens so as to ensure none of the official route was missed out!). The weather brightened and a few blue gaps in the clouds started to appear. This was the day everyone has been bracing themselves for - about 70 undulating miles and the ascent of Tan Hill before tea. The Lune Valley is gorgeous (you are hardly aware of the 6 carriageways of the M6 to your left!). We took in a short, mid-day stop at the Chocolate Shop in Orton, and had lunch at Kirby Stephen. The actual ascent of Tan Hill is quite unusual – as it's not particularly steep - just circa 7 miles of energy-sapping incline. The bonus of reaching the top is, of course, (apart from the pint in the pub) the free wheel down towards Barnard Castle - which those in the group on a mountain bike particularly enjoyed (although those on road bikes got a bit shaken-up!). Luckily, most were down the hill before the mist and drizzle set-in!!

For the start of Day 3, from the hotel we needed to cycle just a couple of miles north east to meet up again with the route - which is numbered 165 at this point. Weather was good, with plenty of blue sky and the wind that there was to our backs. The terrain for the first part of the day was far less undulating, so the group moved at a good pace through the pretty countryside and villages of Teesside, stopping off for refreshments in Hutton Rudby and Great Ayton. After this, though, things changed as we hit the North Yorks Moors. As you would expect, there is a fair amount of steady climbing, but this seemed all too-cheaply given away in rapid down-hill bits. As such, the up/down/up/down nature becomes very noticeable and tiring. This continues almost all the way to Whitby – so the average pace over the last 25 miles or so dropped considerably from what we had been doing earlier in the day. Nevertheless, the entire group successfully reached the Whitby ending, with various levels of relief, to dip their wheels in the North Sea and gorge themselves on Fish & Chips. We stayed the night at the YHA, which is in a great spot on the hill next to the Abbey and they are well set up to deal with large groups.

Our group comprised a range of people with varying cycling abilities (from people having undertaken a couple of LEJoG’s, to those that were only used to the occasional trip out on their mothers shopping bike) and all the riders successfully completed and thoroughly enjoyed it. The Whitby ending is longer and definitely more strenuous than the Wearside ending (albeit that this is more than made up by the quality of the scenery etc). The entire route is very well sign-posted throughout (although note that it changes from Route No.70 to Route No. 165 at Barnard Castle).

The money was raised following the girls all completing the Pretty Muddy 5k obstacle course at Temple Newsam on Saturday 3rd June.
February 2017 - The Alan Shearer Centre Hydrotherapy Pool, which opened last year, has won a Gold SPATA award for ‘Special Requirement Pool of the Year’.

The Alan Shearer centre, which is located in Newcastle, is a specialist respite, residential and social facility for people with complex disabilities and acute sensory impairments.

Our building consultancy and architecture teams designed and developed the luxury hydrotherapy pool facility for the centre, working alongside specialist pool designers and occupational therapists.

March 2017 - In support of our client, the Co-op, we’re asking all staff to sign up to their new membership card - it gives 5% cashback on purchases and donates a further 1% to a local charity.

March 2017 - We sponsored Tynedale U8s Rugby Tour of Yorkshire. The team took 23 players and parents, including coaches to Morley RFC and Malton RFC across a weekend in March.

March 2017 - On Friday March 24th we held a dress down across our offices in support of Red Nose Day, a biennial event organised by Comic Relief.

We raised a fantastic £490 for the charity with the company-wide dress down day, a cake sale in Leeds and a raffle, quiz and all-day buffet in our Newcastle office.
November 2016 - On Friday 18th November we held a dress down day across our offices to raise money for the BBC’s charity, Children In Need.

Across our offices we raised over £220 from staff donations to the charity that helps disabled children and young people throughout the UK.

December 2016 - This year in lieu of sending Christmas cards to our clients we donated to Mind, the mental health charity.

Mind provide advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem. They campaign to improve services, raise awareness and promote understanding of mental health issues.

December 2016 - Surveyors in our Leeds office provided a local homeless charity with a generous donation of clothes, toiletries and food.

The donation was made by Louise Wagstaff from our accounts team to St George’s Crypt, a charity offering support for the homeless, disadvantaged and vulnerable people in Leeds and the surrounding areas.

December 2016 - In 2016 we provided property and valuation advice on a 'pro bono' basis to the Scout Association Trust Corporation (SATC) on behalf of the 35th South West Cheshire Scout Group, to enable the local group to restructure the terms of their existing leasehold interest, which (in turn) will facilitate the construction of the new headquarters at the Wistaston site, for which planning permission was obtained in 2013.
July 2016 - 11 individuals from across our offices completed the Northern Property Triathlon an event consisting of a 750m swim, 20km cycle and a 5km run. The team raised a fantastic £2,220 for Ronald McDonald House, a charity that provide families with a free 'home away from home' which enables them to stay close by while their child is in one of Ronald McDonald’s partnered children’s hospitals.

June 2016 - Congratulations to Chris Dixon, partner in our Newcastle office who has once again been recognised for his volunteering contributions towards MHA. MHA is charity that provides care, accommodation and support services to older people across the UK. In particular, Chris has been recognised for his efforts in supporting Rowlands Gill Live at Home Scheme.

September 2016 - On Friday 23rd September, staff from across our offices wore jeans to support the Jeans for Genes day charity. The charity provide support to people with genetic disorders and between our offices we raised over £200.

July 2016 - Linsay Waugh and Gillian Smith in our Newcastle office successfully completed a Pretty Muddy 5K to raise money for cancer research. The pair raised a fantastic £400 for the charity.
Sixteen SW property experts and staff have completed a demanding 215-mile cycle ride from London to Paris in just three and a half days to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation.

Setting off from SW’s office on Great Titchfield Street, Fitzrovia, the team struggled through the hectic London traffic on what turned out to be a whistle-stop tour of the capital’s major attractions – passing Trafalgar Square, 10 Downing Street, the Houses of Parliament, the London Eye, Tower Bridge and the Tate Modern – before joining Sustrans route 21 at Greenwich for the 90 or so mile journey south. A strong headwind; the odd mechanical malfunction; a team record number of punctures; and news of left luggage in Leeds, tested the team’s spirit to its limit – a veritable text-book exercise in crisis management and disaster recovery! However, the encountered difficulties only served to galvanise the unity of the team further, as they pushed their way over the North and then South Downs before arriving to catch the 11.00pm ferry at Newhaven, on England’s south coast.

The team’s overnight ferry docked at Dieppe at 5.00am (French time), just in time for the dawn of the day. Devoid of any meaningful sleep, all were relieved that the riding for Day 2 was to be only circa 30 miles or so, along the Avenue Verte – a converted former railway that has been incorporated into the green cycleway linking London with Paris – which meant a steady section of riding without any more significant hills to contend with! After a morale boosting breakfast stop in Neufchâtel-en-Bray, the team arrived at the destination for their overnight stay in Forges-les-Eaux early in the afternoon for a well-deserved rest and a taste of ‘home-cooked’ Normandy cuisine.

June 2016 - Day at the movies for Rowlands Gill charity member
A group of older people from Rowlands Gill have enjoyed an extra special day out at the cinema in Newcastle thanks to a charity initiative. The event as hosted by our Newcastle office in partnership with the Rowlands Gill Live at Home Scheme.

June 2016 - David Fairley in our Teesside office won first place for his tart at the Jacksons Law Firm bake off. The bake off was in support of Butterwick Hospice, a North East charity for individuals suffering from life limiting illnesses.

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The winter 2015 floods were some of the worst ever seen on the region’s historic waterways and caused damage to bridges, embankments and canal walls. The floodwaters also left behind an array of rubbish and other debris as well as a coating of mud and silt.

The volunteers helped to clear the rubbish that had been left along the Aire & Calder Navigation near Fearns Wharf. They also replanted a mature holly tree that was washed away and reinstated a riverside garden that was destroyed by the force of the floodwaters.

Recca Dent, volunteer development coordinator for the Canal & River Trust said; “The Boxing Day floods were some of the worst we’ve ever seen on our waterways and they’ve left a trail of damage and disruption in their wake. “Everyone knows that there’s a bit of rivalry between Leeds and Manchester and it’s really nice to see people wanting to help out no matter where they come from.”

Simon Heather, a Partner in our Manchester office said, “this is the second time we have undertaken this type of work for the Trust – having previously crewed the Trust’s litter boat in 2013. When we heard of the damage caused by the recent flooding in Leeds, we felt compelled to respond to the call for volunteers and offer our help. Although exhausting, it was a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding day for all involved”.

The Trust has also launched an appeal to help rebuild canals in the heart of flood-hit communities such as those along the Calder & Hebble Navigation. The Boxing Day floods destroyed homes and businesses, damaged historic canals and washed away much loved stretches of towpath. The Trust’s appeal will help rebuild and reopen historic waterways helping waterside communities, where life has been turned upside down, to recover.
June 2015 - Adam Burkinshaw from our York office successfully completed an Ironman triathlon.

Adam completed the event for Parkinsons UK, who provide support for people dealing with the condition. Money raised so far is over £1500.

December 2015 - Alex Slack in our Newcastle office helped a flood affected farmer in Cumbria whose business has been decimated by the December 2015 floods, by clearing debris and taking down fences.

June 2015 - Our annual company bike ride was completed by 16 employees, who successfully cycled 220 miles from London to Bristol. The team cycled in support of two charities; MS Society and Jo’s Cervical Cancer Trust. Congratulations to Will Price, Matt Collier, Liz McLoughlin, Jessica Burke, Ian Vivian, Craig Watson, Simon Heather, Vanessa, Mashender, Tom Goode, Dominic Towler, Lawrence Pinder, Nick Heap, Richard Dunn, Aidan King, Mark Sheridan and Stuart Avery, from around our network of offices.

August 2015 - Karen Knaggs in our Newcastle office successfully completed a 5k run in order to raise money for Cancer Research UK. She raised an amazing £2000.

December 2015 - Alex Slack in our Newcastle office helped a flood affected farmer in Cumbria whose business has been decimated by the December 2015 floods, by clearing debris and taking down fences.
APC training pays off for Canal and River Trust Surveyor

Recently we have introduced an initiative to assist our clients and partner organisations in becoming full members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) too by helping them to qualify as a member by passing the Assessment of Professional Competence (APC).

Under the scheme, experts from across our offices offer pro bono training and mentoring to provide the knowledge they need to pass the APC training. Candidates prepare for the assessment by taking part in mock interviews and receiving advice from the firm on presentation and interview skills.

Partner in our Leeds office, David Rastrick, said: “As property consultants and chartered surveyors we are well-versed in the APC requirements and have had a fantastic success rate for our own graduates. However, many organisations require their staff to have APC accreditation but do not have the in-house expertise that we have – in those cases we are happy to be able to help equip them with the skills and training required to achieve this.”

So far, graduates from Greggs, SIG, Costcutter, Canal & River Trust and Town Centre Securities have benefited from the mentoring scheme, which is offered at all our offices nationwide.

Alistair Staton, commercial surveyor at Canal & River Trust, the charity that cares for over 2,000 miles of historic waterways in England and Wales, took advantage of our mentoring scheme and achieved his APC qualification this year. We coached Alistair through the latter stages of his written submission and conducted mock interviews with a panel of experts from the firm.

He commented: “Sanderson Weatherall’s mentoring was very helpful in allowing me to gain my full qualification. David and his team have a wealth of experience and plenty of advice, as well as conducting very authentic mock interviews and checking the format of my written submissions.

“At Canal & River Trust we have worked with Sanderson Weatherall on a variety of property matters, but providing this mentoring was definitely going above and beyond. I am very grateful to all those who offered their advice and would recommend the scheme to any of my colleagues looking to pass the APC.”

The APC consists of a written submission and a professional interview. These take place after acquiring at least two years’ relevant experience and completing a structured training programme, which provides a broad range of experience across different disciplines and departments.

APC training pays off for Canal and River Trust Surveyor

July 2014 - For the 2014 annual charity bike ride, a hardy SW team undertook a Coast to Coast Ride in three days over 19th - 21st July 2014 following the ‘Reivers Route’ - a northern coast to coast cycle route from Whitehaven to Tynemouth, skirting across the top of the Lake District with the occasional foray into Scotland and then through Northumberland and Kielder Forest, totalling approximately 173 miles.

The 2014 team comprised: Aidan King, Lawrence Pinder, Stuart Avery, Adam Marshall, Simon Heather, Tom Goode, Adam Burkmarshaw, Corinne Travis, Will Price, Vanessa Masheder, Neil Leech, Nick Heap, Matthew Clarke, Andrew Wilkinson, Liz McLoughlin, Lesley Channon and Linsay Waugh. The team raised over £2,000 for the three nominated charities, Steps Charity (www.stepscharity.org.uk), Martin House Hospice (www.martinhouse.org.uk) and 4Louis (www.4louis.co.uk).

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APC training pays off for Canal and River Trust Surveyor

30th March 2014 - several members of the Newcastle office zipped their way across the River Tyne from the Baltic (Gateshead) to the Quayside near to Malmaison.

The weather unfortunately was very misty and therefore the views were not quite as spectacular as they would have liked. Team members included: Alex Slack, Gillian Smith, Linsay Waugh, Mark Convery, Sue McLean, Shona McLean, Lee Baxter, Charles Higgins, Will Price, Laura Fletcher, Bob Fletcher, Liz McLoughlin, Money raised so far is £3,664.
June 2013 – Basking in Manchester’s infamous liquid sunshine, a team of 8 hardy souls from SW’s Manchester office descended upon Salford Quays to participate in a highly competitive Dragon Boat race organised by Peel Holdings. The event involved 14 teams including various property and media businesses from the North West region. Paired up with DTZ in a boat of 16, the SW team progressed through the various heats and into the final, where they were ultimately narrowly beaten into second place (by less than 1 second!!). The SW team raised sponsorship for Peels nominated charity, Sparks (www.sparks.org.uk), with the total buoyed by a contribution from SW Partners. Sparks are a registered charity dedicated to funding and championing pioneering research into a range of conditions affecting babies, children and mums-to-be. SW Team members were Rory Dillon, Nick Heap, Mark Crow, Tom Town, David Murray, John Goodchild, Michael Greenbank and Stuart Collier who proudly collected their runners-up medals before heading to the BBC bar for a well-deserved complimentary glass of something (or other)! For further information, contact Nick Heap (0161 259 7000).

July 2013 – This year’s SW charity bike involved a 220 mile ‘tour of Yorkshire’, starting off from York Minster before cycling to Beverley in the former East Riding, and then heading up the coastal cycle path to Whitby, via Bridlington. The final day involved a route across the moors up the infamous Rosedale Chimney Bank (which the 30°’s+ of heat didn’t make any easier!), back to York via Castle Howard. The 2013 team comprised Neil Leech Bob Fletcher; David Haugh; Nick Heap; Andrew Cromack; Adam O’Neale; Andrew Wilkinson; Nick Heap; Richard Scott; Robert Wilkinson; James Paut; Richard Dunn; Jessica Burke; Liz McLoughlin; Robert Patterson; Corinne Lee; Simon Heather; Tom Goode; James Gibson; Aidan King and Adam Burkinshaw. The group was raising funds jointly for ‘Breakthrough Breast Cancer’ and the ‘Yorkshire Air Ambulance’ and a fantastic total in excess of £5,300 plus gift aid was achieved.

20th September 2013 - Richard Dunn, Partner in SW’s Leeds office and 5 other members from various offices of Sanderson Weatherall are entered in the Wellington Place Cycling Sportive Event. Starting from Grassington and the breath taking scenery of the Yorkshire Dales, they will saddle up for 75 kilometers of thigh bursting cycling adventure. The team will be raising funds for two charities - The Leeds Community Foundation (www.leedscf.org.uk) and the Kinetics Foundation (www.kineticsfoundation.org).
February 2013 - the Manchester office of Sanderson Weatherall continue their longstanding relationship with the Manchester Royal Exchange Theatre by renewing their corporate membership - for the 12th consecutive year. The Royal Exchange Theatre is a registered charity and provides support to not only ‘up and coming’ actors and actresses but also actively promotes many opportunities for young people looking to begin their writing and performing career and also heightening awareness of the role and work of the Trust in the community.

March 2013 - Sanderson Weatherall is a long-standing sponsor of concerts organised by the Darlington Music Society. This year’s concert was performed by “Pure Brass”, a great success enjoyed by an audience of 200 at Darlington’s Central Hall. The Darlington Music Society organises 10 first-class events every year and SW have already signed-up to sponsor a concert by Lucy Wakeford in February 2014. For further information, please contact Chris Noble on 01642 426 912.

April 2013 - Having previously undertaken a building and measured survey for Bath & District Samaritans, our Bristol office has now secured an instruction to help them find new office premises. This work is being undertaken by SW’s Phil Harcourt on a pro-bono basis on behalf of the charity. You can read a bit more about the great work the Samaritans do by following the link to their website (www.samaritans.org). For further information, please contact Philip Harcourt 01373 831 311.

June 2013 – Chris Noble, Partner in SW’s Teeside office helped jointly organise fund raising and drinks party event for the ‘great and good’ of Darlington in aid of the Clervaux Trust, that raised over £6,000 for the charity, whilst also heightening awareness of the role and work of the Trust in the community.

The Clervaux Trust is a registered charity that works with some of the most disadvantaged and disenfranchised young people in the North East, including those excluded from school and those needing long term care due to learning disabilities, mental health issues or complex social needs. The Trust provides care and training using a practical life skills curriculum and providing experiences that make young people feel valued, useful and skilful. Chris has been directly involved with funding raising for the Trust for a number of years.

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January 2013 - David Richardson, of SW's Leeds office and formerly one of the senior shareholding Partners, has been appointed Trustee of the Charity of Thomas Wade and others (Wade's Charity) - a Leeds based charity whose principal objectives include the provision of open space for the citizens of Leeds. Wade’s Charity owns approximately 30 open spaces varying in size from 1/2 an acre to 300+ acres, in and around Leeds area, as well as various income producing property investments. The Charity also directly supports (by funding) the activities of other smaller Leeds focused charities. For further information, visit the website (www.wadescharity.org) or contact David Richardson 0113 221 6000.

Feb 2013 - Partner Andrew Ellis and Senior Surveyor Luke Barrett attended a career’s evening at Greenhead Sixth Form College, Huddersfield. With careers material provided by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors they were able to explain the various careers and routes to qualification across the construction industry. This work was undertaken in conjunction with the YORConsult Tender Framework which encourages members to undertake Employment & Skills Training. Work placement positions are also being provided to those young adults who expressed an interest. For further information, contact Andrew Ellis on 0113 221 6040.

2013 – As a way of helping the Canal & River Trust celebrate their first birthday in 2013 a team of volunteers from the Manchester office of Sanderson Weatherall LLP joined staff from the Estates Department of the Canal & River Trust for a ‘clean-up’ day of part of the Manchester canal network. Crewing the Trust’s Litter Boat, the group set off to clear litter and general debris from the Ducie Street Basin, located just behind Piccadilly station, before moving on to clear stretches of the canal and tow path of the Rochdale and then Ashton Canal’s up as far as the Etihad Stadium.

SW’s Bob Fletcher celebrates his 10th year as an unpaid Trustee on the Board of Tyneside Cinema. The Tyneside Cinema is an independent cinema and Registered Charity based in Newcastle upon Tyne. It is the city’s only full-time independent cultural cinema, specialising in the screening of independent and world cinema from across the globe. The Tyneside’s patrons are filmmakers Mike Figgis and Mike Hodges, and musicians Neil Tennant of the Pet Shop Boys and Paul Smith of Maxïmo Park. Alongside its core programme of cultural cinema, the newly refurbished Tyneside Cinema holds daily free screenings of archive newsreel footage and guided tours. The cinema also allows budding producers and digital artists to network and present their work. A £7m restoration and renovation project occurred between 2006 and 2008, and the venue now boasts digital projection and 3D facilities alongside traditional film projection. For further information, contact Bob Fletcher on 0191 269 0103.
November 2012 - Nick Heap and Simon Heather - 2 members of Sanderson Weatherall’s Manchester office, together with former SW employee, Kate Twizell - took part in the first ever Tatton Half Marathon in Cheshire, raising funds for a range of local and national charities, including ‘Help for Heroes’. The 13.1 mile race started and finished in the picturesque setting of Cheshire’s Tatton Park - and all three of the runners achieved personal best running times. For further information contact Nick Heap on 0161 259 7000

November 2012 - Newcastle SW staff raised £332.40 for the BBC’s Children in Need appeal via a competitive bake-off, with the judges determining Associate Partner Liz McLoughlin’s rather fine ‘orange and rosemary sponge cake’ as being worthy of first prize. Shenanigans in the Leeds office raised a further £242.60 for the same cause and the total raised from all the SW offices was just over £1,000. For further information (or to commission a cake for any occasion!), please contact Liz McLoughlin on 0191 269 0129

December 2012 - Chris Noble, Partner in Sanderson Weatherall’s Teesside office carried out Valuation work on a Pro Bono basis for the Society of Friends on properties in Darlington, Cotherstone, Great Ayton and Osmotherley. For further in information, please contact Chris Noble on 01642 426 912.

Movember 2012 - James Wall, Matthew Midwinter, James Paul and Peter Clayton of SW’s London office took part in the moustached madness that is the month of Movember - collectively raising over £875.00 for the Prostate Cancer charity. For further information, contact (the now de-moustached) Matthew Midwinter 0207 851 2137
February 2012 - The IT department of Sanderson Weatherall have gifted the firm’s surplus and redundant computer and other IT equipment for recycling, refurbishment and potential future re-use to Airedale Computers (www.airedalecomputers.org.uk). Airedale Computer Recycling is an award winning social enterprise and is the trading arm of the organisations registered charity: Chrysalis Youth & Community Project Limited. ‘Chrysalis’ provides an alternative education program for disadvantaged young people who can earn OCN vocational qualifications in practical rather than academic subjects. For further details, please contact Neil Leech (0113 221 6000).

June 2012 – SW Newcastle office Partner Richard Farr, his wife Sue, SW Associate Partner Liz McLoughlin and former SW employee Anthony Tubbs hiked up the Hoher Sonnblick Mountain in Austria, raising funds for charity. The hike was over 3 days starting from Kolm Saigurn, where the team climbed up to the Naturfeundehaus Neubau 2175 m (7,177 ft) hut where they spent the first night. Day 2 they climbed to the summit Hoher Sonnblick 3,105 m (10,246 ft), spending the night on the summit before descending back down via a glacier route. As some of you may know, Anthony and Sarah Tubbs had a baby boy called Austen in 2011 who was born with a rare chromosome abnormality which affects 1 in 50,000 babies. Richard asked Anthony which charity Austen could benefit most from and he chose ‘Tabithas Toys’ - a County Durham based charity which was set up in memory of Tabitha who was a little girl also born with a rare genetic disorder. ‘Tabithas Toys’ offers a loan service of sensory toys and equipment to children who are disabled and have complex needs. The expedition is delighted to have raised over £2,250 for the charity.

June 2012 - Aidan King and Nick Heap, both of the Manchester office of Sanderson Weatherall, cycled unsupported from Lands End to John O’Groats in 10 days to raise over £1,000 for charity Asthma UK. Nick and Aidan were greeted at John O’Groats by the Newcastle office’s, Bob Fletcher - who had recently completed a similar ride for charity some months earlier. Bob said “after 970 miles and 10 continuous days on the saddle, these guys smell a bit - but they’ve obviously got hearts of gold! Well done to both!”. Asthma UK is the country’s leading asthma charity dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of the 5.4 million people in the UK whose lives are affected by asthma (see www.asthma.org.uk).

July 2012 - the annual SW charity cycle ride involved 25 strong team of Sanderson Weatherall ‘volunteers’ (the largest group we’ve had so far) heading to the wilds of northern Scotland, with a grueling 220+ mile route, past loch and through glen from Inverness to Glasgow - in total, 3 long hard days in the saddle! The 2012 team comprised: Sarah Oakland, Neil Leech, Kathy Nicholas, Richard Dunn, Corinne Lee, David Haugh, Tom Goode, Robert Wilkinson, Adam Burkinshaw, Adam O’Neal, Michael Greenbank, Nick Heap, Simon Heather, Aidan King, Kate Twizell, Dan Brown, Liz McLoughlin, George Penrice, Will Price, Lee Sanderson, Richard Scott, Kenny Hiles, Richard Farr, Andrew Wilkinson and big bad Bob Fletcher. The chosen charity was Barnardos. You can read a bit more about the great work the Barnardos organisation does by following the link to their website (www.barnardos.com).
September 2011 – SLAM DUNK! SW Sponsor Rossendale Raptors Basketball Club for the season. The ‘Raptors’ are a Lancashire club that provides basketball opportunities for men, women and children of all levels and abilities. The Club’s first team plays in the England Basketball National League, but the club runs weekly practices for all age groups across Rossendale and Accrington and has teams competing in various different leagues and competitions. They have Clubmark accreditation which is recognition of the excellent way the club is run, the quality of their basketball sessions and their commitment to providing a safe environment for everyone to participate in.  GO RAPTORS!!  Yay!  For further information, contact Neil Simpson (0161 259 7000).

April 2011 - brave members of staff from various offices of Sanderson Weatherall took part in a white water rafting event at the Holme Pierrepont National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham. The ultimately bedraggled team comprised Michael Greenbank, Mark Crow, Richard Dunn, Frank Taylor, Phil Coombes, Kate Twizell, Thomas Tawn, Neil Leech, Nick Heap, Aidan King, Louise Wagstaff, Stuart Collier and David Murray - who collectively raised over £1,000 for Asthma UK, the UK’s leading asthma charity (see www.asthma.org.uk).

October 2011 - The ride involved a 20 strong team of volunteers upping the stakes on the previous outings by adding an international dimension to the firm’s annual charity bicycle ride with a London to Paris excursion that involved four long days in the saddle! The 2011 team members were: Liz McLoughlin, Tom Tawn, Michael Greenbank, Craig Newton, Corrine Lee, Lauren Atkinson, Mark Roole, Simon Heather, Adan King, Paul Toolan, Dan Brown, Emma Parsons, David Murray, Adam O’Neale, Kate Twizell, Nick Heap, Kathy Nicholas, Mark Perkins, Bob Fletcher and James Wall. The riders raised valuable funds for the chosen charity, which was Macmillan Cancer Support, and the Team is absolutely delighted with the total of £4,702, plus gift aid. You can read a little more about the excellent work Macmillan do by following the link

September 2011 – SW London office’s ‘man of action’, Peter Atkinson raised over £1,197 for the charity ‘Caudwell Children’ by jumping out of a plane with his partner, Verity, dressed as everyone’s favourite superhero - SW MAN! (Peter, not Verity, that is!). Caudwell Children transforms the lives of sick and disabled children across the UK. The charity provides equipment, treatment and therapies to individual children. Their ‘Destination Dreams’ program provides an organised holiday for children fighting life threatening conditions. The Charity has changed the lives of children with over 160 different medical conditions. See www.caudwellchildren.com.
April 2010 - Stuart Collier of SW’s Manchester office raised £1,600 for the Spinal Injuries Association by running the London Marathon in 3 hours 26 minutes with the support of Sanderson Weatherall. The Spinal Injuries Association is the national organisation for people affected by a spinal cord injury. They offer support to individuals who become paralysed, campaign for improved medical care relating to spinal cord injuries and work to create an understanding of the causes and consequences of spinal injuries. Stuart has also recently completed the Liverpool Marathon helping to raise money for Oxfam.

August 2010 - Sanderson Weatherall LLP sponsored the DUFFA Ultimate Frisbee Hat Tournament which is an annual non-profit making event supporting a local outreach programme. The ‘Hat’ tournament took place over 2 days in the summer with around 300 competitors playing from across the UK and Europe. Stuart Collier from the Manchester office plays regularly for the club who take part in charity events and the outreach programme.

September 2010 - 16 Sanderson Weatherall volunteers yet again crossed the country as part of the SW annual charity bike ride - but this time on the brand spanking new 170 mile ‘Way of the Roses’ cycle route; from the east coast resort of Bridlington in Yorkshire to Morecambe on the west coast of Lancashire, on what were 3 very long days in the saddle! You can learn more about the route they took by visiting http://www.wayoftheroses.info. The 2010 team members were: John Goodchild; Richard Farr, Robert Patterson, Matt Clarke, Bob Fletcher, the boy Tubby, Dave Murray, Nick Heap, Simon Heather, Liz McLoughlin, Sarah Ross, Jonny White, Lee Sanderson, Chris Grose, Claire Coyne and James Reynolds. The riders raised money for The Alzheimers Society. You can read a little about the good work they do by visiting their website (www.alzheimers.org.uk). For further information, please contact Simon Heather on 0161 259 7000.

November 2010 - As you may already be aware, November is a special month for men around the world. For the next 30 days, blokes will be united in their attempt to emulate Tom Selleck and festoon their face with hair, all in the name of charity. That’s right; it’s Movember, a chance for all men to change their appearance and the face of men’s health, by growing a moustache to raise awareness of prostate cancer. The first annual Movember event was held in 2003 and has become a tradition in the UK, US, Canada, New Zealand, Ireland, Spain, South Africa, the Netherlands and Finland. In 2009, global participation of ‘Mo-Bros’ and ‘Mo-Sistas’ climbed to 255,755, with over one million donor raising £26 Million for Movember’s global beneficiary partners. The ‘Mo-Bros’ of SW included Phil Coombes, Peter Atkinson, Mark Weston, Simon Heather and Richard Towler, who together raised over £325 for Prostate Cancer.