

Media release
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PEDAL POWER: MATLOCK TEAM'S IN-BRANCH BIKE RIDE TO RAISE TOY AND BOOK FUNDS FOR LOCAL HOSPITAL

Colleagues at The Nottingham in Matlock are looking for sponsorship support as they prepare to 'pedal' their efforts into an in-branch event to raise money for Whitworth Hospital in nearby Darley Dale.

On Wednesday 8 December the team will swap business clothing for sportswear and take it in turns to static cycle throughout the working day, to raise money for the Matlock Hospitals League of Friends charity to buy toys and books for children visiting the hospital's minor injuries ward.

Increased infection control throughout the pandemic led to young people being allowed to take home items they had played with or read at the end of their stay.

However, there is the ongoing cost of replacing the toys and books – and that's where The Nottingham decided to step in and help.

Matlock branch manager Shannon Goldsmith says: "We heard about the children being able to take home toys they've played with and books they've enjoyed reading whilst in hospital, and how the brilliant team at the hospital are looking to continue doing that with the charity's help.

"We got our thinking caps on as to how we might be able to assist and landed on the idea of a sponsored static bike ride. I've even told the team I may dress as the '118 man', so I'll probably have to stick to that now too!

"It is hoped that as many of our customers and members of the public will give what they can to support this, so that we can help ensure that any children having to go into hospital this Christmas or New Year can have something to make the experience a little better."

Shannon's wife Fliss is a children's author and is also supporting the fundraising efforts by holding an hour-long book signing session in the branch on Bank Road at 10am on the same day.

As well as autographing 20 of her books to be donated to the hospital, Fliss will sign copies for people who want to buy them – with £1 from every sale also being donated to the ward.

Fliss adds: "It's brilliant that the entire branch team are taking part in the cycling event to raise money for the hospital and shows, once again, how much The Nottingham cares about people in its community. Their energy and enthusiasm inspired me to get involved too.

"It's all very exciting and hopefully the good people of Matlock will give generously, so we can make as much money as possible for such a great cause."

If you would like to support the fundraising event too, please visit [this link](#).

Photo caption: *Customer Services Assistant Karen Griffiths-Brown gets some practice in for the bike ride, watched by Branch Manager Shannon Goldsmith.*

ENDS

Notes to editor

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About The Nottingham

Founded in 1849, The Nottingham is a mutual building society owned by its members with a long and proud history of doing the right thing and helping communities prosper. Today, The Nottingham is a top ten building society operating online and via a network of 40-plus branches across nine UK counties. The society is well known for providing a safe and secure place for people's savings and helping its members into their own homes. In addition to mortgage and saving products, it offers a variety of additional services through expert partners including mortgage advice provided by Mortgage Advice Bureau, estate agency and lettings provided by Belvoir Group and much more including funeral planning, financial advice, and home insurance. Its range of services, alongside its commitment to providing expert advice, support the society's purpose to help its members save, plan for, and protect their financial futures. www.thenottingham.com