

For Immediate release

Green-fingered Henley charity receives a £2,000 boost

Employees at Reading based savings provider ING Direct have brought cheer to local charity Greenshoots by presenting them with a cheque for £2,000.

Staff at the bank's headquarters have organised a number of feel good fundraising events to raise cash for the charity – which provides horticultural training for adults who are recovering from mental illness or who have learning disabilities.

So far more than 300 employees have got involved in events including dress-down days, raffles, book sales and sponsored walks, raising a total of £2,000 this year and more than £5,000 since they partnered with the charity last September.

Eight green-fingered staff, including ING Direct CEO Richard Doe, literally got their hands dirty when they visited the charity last week, constructing and filling a 16 meter raised soil bed in an afternoon which will significantly increase the yield of vegetable crops for the charity, which are sold locally to raise funds.

Richard commented: *“We chose to support Greenshoots because we identify with their desire to help people to reach their full potential. It's a pleasure to be able to help them continue the excellent work they do.”*

Greenshoots is part of the Ways and Means Trust, which aims to provide safe environments where people are able to build or rebuild their skills, confidence and move into full employment.

Frances Hill from Greenshoots added: *“We're thrilled to receive this financial boost and to have the ongoing commitment of ING Direct staff, who do really valuable work for this Charity.”*

We'd like to thank everyone at ING Direct for their efforts and continued support."

Ends

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About ING Direct:

- ING Direct is the world's leading direct savings bank, with over 22 million savers worldwide. It was launched in the UK in May 2003 where it has over one million customers
- The savings bank has won a number of accolades for its customer service, website and UK-based call centres, as well as being highly commended at the Moneywise 'Most Trusted' Awards
- ING Direct is authorised and regulated by De Nederlandsche Bank (the Dutch Central Bank) and subject to limited regulation by the Financial Services Authority. It is also a subscriber to the UK Banking Code
- Deposits are covered by the Dutch Deposit Guarantee Scheme to the level of €100,000
- Interest calculated daily and paid monthly. Must be UK resident, 18+. You will also need a touch-tone telephone in order to operate your account over the phone. We may record or monitor calls.

ING Direct. 410 Thames Valley Park Drive, Reading, Berkshire RG6 1RH.

www.ingdirect.co.uk

About Greenshoots:

- Greenshoots is based at Manor Farm, Rotherham Peppard, Henley on Thames, RG9 5LB
- Greenshoots is the horticultural therapy unit of The Ways and Means Trust and was set up 14 years ago
- The Ways & Means Trust is a registered charity formed 40 years ago, specifically to provide rehabilitation and training for adults recovering from mental illness or with a learning disability