



NEWS RELEASE

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BARBON SPONSORS BIRTHDAY BASH FOR INNOVATIVE HOMELESSNESS CHARITY AT THE HOUSE OF LORDS

Terry Waite CBE was among the guests at a 20th Birthday Party held at the House of Lords for Emmaus UK, one of the key charity partners of leading European residential and commercial property insurance broker Barbon Insurance Group Limited (www.barbon.com; tel: 01420 488288), who sponsored the celebration.

The anniversary party marked two decades since the charity was established to create homes, work and opportunities for homeless people to rebuild their lives in supportive communities around the UK.

Barbon representatives, Martin Oliver, CEO, Richard Cox, HomeLet, Richard Walden, HR Director and Catherine Shaw, Corporate Communications, attended on behalf of the organisation. They were welcomed to the House of Lords by The Lord Speaker The Rt Hon Baroness Hayman and Lord Foulkes of Cumnock.

During his speech to the gathering, which included relevant Government Ministers and MP's from 11 constituencies, Martin Oliver said: "Barbon is delighted to have entered in to a long-term partnership with Emmaus and to be here today to help celebrate its 20th anniversary. We chose Emmaus because we felt we could make a real difference and allow them to help more people in real need of support to achieve much faster."

He continued: "My team and I have been extremely impressed with the work carried out by the charity and humbled by the results that they achieve with minimal resources."

President of Emmaus UK, Terry Waite, who spent five years as a hostage, much of the time in solitary confinement, and who has experienced first hand the feelings of misery, isolation and depression similar to those felt by people on the street, said: "I feel very proud of all that Emmaus has achieved. It is an organisation like no other in the way that it restores in people who have been marginalised a sense of their own worth and potential. It is no exaggeration to say that Emmaus changes lives. In the twenty years that Emmaus Cambridge has been open it has helped hundreds of homeless and unemployed people to find new purpose."

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David Chenery, Acting Director of Emmaus UK said “We are delighted that Barbon Insurance Group is supporting Emmaus and look forward to a rewarding partnership, giving us the opportunity to support even more former homeless people”.

Barbon’s support of Emmaus UK is part of its new Corporate Social Responsibility strategy, announced recently, that aims to help a number of homeless charities around the country, donating the equivalent of one per cent of its profits over the next three years.

Barbon’s market leading brands are Keelan Westall, Cadogan Keelan Westall, Deacon, Cadogan Hanover Park (SaifInsure, TruckInsure, Plastech, Performance Media and CareAssured), HomeLet, Rentshield, Letsure, Zennor, BIBALet and Farr.

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About Barbon Insurance Group:

Barbon Insurance Group Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. It has a gross written premium of more than £150 million and is committed to delivering innovative insurance solutions, as well as risk management and consultancy services. It has built an impressive reputation through knowledge, experience and a commitment to understanding its customers’ businesses.

Barbon Insurance Group Limited is wholly owned, through Caley Limited, by leading banks HSBC and Lloyds Banking Group.

For press information or images please contact: Emma Hulse, ELH Communications, Red Cottage, Dorney Wood Road, Burnham, Berks SL1 8PT tel: 01628 665593 mob: 07801 869938 email: emmahulse@copperstream.co.uk

Emmaus UK

Emmaus Communities offer homeless people a home, work and the chance to regain self respect in a supportive community environment. Residents work full time on the Community business, renovating and re-selling donated furniture. Communities aim to become self-supporting through their business, with any surplus used to help others in need. www.emmaus.org.uk