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NEWCASTLE BUILDING SOCIETY CELEBRATES 1ST ANNIVERSARY OF FLAGSHIP GIBRALTAR BRANCH

One of the UK's largest building societies is celebrating the first birthday of its flagship branch in Gibraltar's centre.

Newcastle Building Society's Main Street branch welcomed staff, its members and local dignitaries, including Mayor Olga Zammitt, to the celebratory champagne event.

The occasion was marked by more than 200 people, including 17 dignitaries, who visited the branch on the day, as well as a cheque donation from the Society to Helen White of Lady Williams Day Centre (cancer relief) for £1000.

Stephen Maloney, Gibraltar senior branch manager, Newcastle Building Society, said: "We are really proud of this branch and the positive impact it's had on the services provided to Gibraltarians over the last 12 months.

"We were the UK's first building society to provide a full range of investment, housing finance and insurance services here, when the doors of our first branch opened in 1990.

"This fact makes the first anniversary of our flagship branch even more special as we're celebrating the heritage the Society has on the territory and how we've been able to grow and develop our services for our members.

"The economic climate has been tough for us all over the last year and we're glad we were able to support our members during this time."

Over the last year the branch has acquired more than 650 new members, which means it now has approximately 30 percent of the population on the Territory as members. The branch also launched a number of popular products including its structured product, which was well received by its members due to its guaranteed capital and potential returns.

Staff and management commemorated the occasion by donating money to a local charitable cause close to the community's. Helen White, from Lady Williams Cancer Support Centre, was presented her cheque from Mayor Olga Zammitt, who said: "It is an honour to celebrate this event with the Newcastle who, as an organisation, has been a part of our Territory for 20 years. The Society has also shown commitment and dedication in developing its services for our residents.

"As well as this, the generous donation to the Lady Williams' charity is a great way of thanking the local community for its support."

It was also announced this charity would be the branch's charity for the year, which means each month its staff will look to raise money via collection boxes in the branch and each staff member donating £1 for each dress down day.

Helen White, of the Lady Williams Day Centre, said: "We are absolutely thrilled with our donation and extremely grateful to Newcastle Building Society for helping to support us in this way. It also topped the day off nicely when we heard they had chosen us for its charity of the year too."

For more information about the service and products on offer at the branch please contact (00 350) 200 41143.

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