ADVERTORIAL: Team Bank North are taking on the Great Manchester Run for Great Ormond Street Charity

A team of 14 employees from Bank North are taking on the <u>Great</u> <u>Manchester Run</u> on Sunday 22 May, for the Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity. It's part of a year-long drive to raise funds for the charity after they provided life-saving surgery for Regional Managing Director for the North West, Rebecca Owen's son, Harley, at birth.

Now a thriving four-year-old thanks to the specialist care he received, Rebecca and the team want to give something back. Bank North, a start-up challenger bank focussed on supporting regional SMEs, is based on Portland Street with offices overlooking the start line of the Great Manchester Run.

Jonathan Thompson, CEO explains: "The 10K is a fantastic event for us to take on as a team. The company was just founded in 2019, but is growing rapidly since our banking licence was granted last year.

"We first entered a team of six into the event in 2020, but obviously the pandemic meant that didn't happen. When we took part in the rescheduled 2021 staging it was such a great way to get back together as a team after such a long time working remotely.

"Now we're returning to hybrid working, it's especially important we have a shared goal, outside of our day-to-day operations that we can all work towards together. With fourteen of us taking part this year, there's already some lunchtime training runs scheduled and it's a great way to break up the working day as we all get used to being back in the office.

"There's a huge range of abilities taking part, from first timers to marathon runners, but we're all planning to celebrate together, with our friends and family, once everyone has crossed the line. There's definitely a bit of inter-office rivalry going on, but the most important thing is we're all taking part for a great cause!"

Bank North are taking part in the <u>Team Challenge</u> at the Great Manchester Run on Sunday 22 May. It's a great opportunity for businesses to encourage a healthy outlook for staff, engage in all-important team building and focus on charity fundraising.

Your team must have a minimum of four people, but there is no maximum number of team members. The finishing times of the fastest four members of your team will be used to calculate the overall team time and the winning team will receive a Great Run Team Challenge trophy. A special prize will be awarded to the largest team for each even

If your business or organisation would like to take part visit www.greatrun.org/team-challenge, or for more information about the Great Manchester Run visit their website.