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 **Naturewatch Foundation’s chance to win £1,000 festive boost**

**Naturewatch Foundation is calling on supporters to get behind its bid to win a £1,000 boost as part of specialist insurer Ecclesiastical’s annual ‘12 days of giving’ Christmas campaign.**

The specialist insurer will be giving 120 different charities an early Christmas gift of a £1,000 donation, with 10 winners announced each weekday from 5 to 20 December.

It’s quick and easy to nominate Naturewatch Foundationonline. Nominations are open from 5 November to 19 December and you can vote for Naturewatch Foundation (registered charity number 1039679) at <https://www.ecclesiastical.com/movement-for-good/12-days/>

Winners will be drawn at random and the more times Naturewatch Foundationis nominated, the more chance it has of being selected.

Gloucestershire-based animal welfare charity, Naturewatch Foundation, is currently running a campaign to raise awareness of puppy farming through veterinary practices, council offices and motorway services (some people collect their new puppy from ‘convenient’ car parks, unaware they are being conned). A donation from Ecclesiastical would support and expedite this targeted campaign, making the general public more aware of the horror of puppy farming as Christmas approaches. The charity hopes that when the demand for farmed puppies dies, this barbaric industry will follow suit.

Naturewatch Foundationis encouraging everyone to use their social media channels to ask people to vote for them to give the charity the best possible chance of winning.

Sarah Carr, Campaign Manager at Naturewatch Foundation,said: "Everyone loves cute and cuddly puppies, but this Christmas, spare a thought for the mums of pups kept imprisoned in hideous puppy farming 'factories'. At Naturewatch Foundation, we campaign to get cruel puppy farms banned. We also operate a confidential puppy farming phone line and email for the public to report individuals suspected of puppy farming or poor dog breeding standards – our #Hotline4Puppies. Naturewatch Foundation highlights that there are thousands of dogs waiting at animal shelters to be rehomed, as well as licensed or registered dog breeders, as opposed to illegal puppy farms.”

Mark Hews, Group CEO of Ecclesiastical, said: “As a company whose purpose is to contribute to the greater good of society, charitable giving is at the heart of our business. Our annual 12 days of giving Christmas campaign will help charities change lives for the better and we know that for many charities, £1,000 can make a real difference. We’re encouraging everyone to nominate a cause close to their hearts this Christmas to be in for a chance to win a festive financial boost.”

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**Notes for editors**

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**About Naturewatch Foundation**

* Naturewatch Foundation is a registered charity that has been speaking out on behalf of animals for over 25 years by:
	+ Campaigning peacefully against animal abuse
	+ Lobbying to improve animal protection legislation
	+ Raising awareness through education
	+ Supporting the World Animal Day movement to raise the status of animals around the globe
* For more information, visit naturewatch.org

**About Ecclesiastical**

1. Owned by a registered charity, Allchurches Trust, Ecclesiastical is a specialist insurer of the faith, heritage, fine art, charities, education and private client sectors
2. Ecclesiastical is one of the UK’s top five company givers to charity according to the 2017-18 UK Guide to Company Giving. After donating £50m to charity in three years, Ecclesiastical launched a bold vision in 2016 to raise £100m for good causes by the end of 2020. In August 2019, the Group announced it had already raised £70million towards its target. Find out more at [www.ecclesiastical.com/ourstory](http://www.ecclesiastical.com/ourstory)