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## Ripple Retreat opens for families battling cancer

Cundall is proud to be supporting the Edinburgh based charity 'It's good 2 give!' by helping build Ripple Retreat, their recently opened respite house for young people with cancer and their families. Cundall has supplied mechanical, electrical and sustainable engineering services in the construction of the beautifully serene £1million retreat on the southern bank of Loch Venachar, Callander. Cundall undertook dynamic thermal modelling of the building to ascertain the potential thermal comfort performance of the spaces using natural ventilation via external window openings.

To aid the sustainability of the facility the heating and domestic hot water is provided from an Air Source Heat Pump utilising a reverse refrigeration cycle of condensation and evaporation of a liquid/gas, with an electric pump compressing the gas to create heat energy. Cold water is provided from a localised bore hole with water treatment plant within the building.

"It's good 2 give!" is a registered charity that raises money for local young people with cancer and their families in Scotland and Ripple Retreat is their purpose-built respite house which will allow families to escape and spend a short break together in a restful, safe place.

Designed by architects the Kettle Collective, the 260m<sup>2</sup> three bedroom house features a distinctive ripple shaped roof with large glass windows providing stunning views across the loch. Inside, elegance and luxury are combined with fun and colourful elements to create a modern space that is full of light and the reflections of the Retreat's stunning surroundings. More than 40 families are expected to use the retreat each year for short breaks of up to a week long.

Cundall was approached to deliver pro bono services to the Ripple Retreat by Tony Kettle of Kettle Collective Architects and Ian McNicoll at "It's good 2 give!"

Explains Graham Thomson, Associate at Cundall: *"Cundall has previously worked closely with Tony Kettle of Kettle Collective Architecture. We were asked to provide building services designs for the Ripple Retreat which we undertook as part of our campaign to volunteer 40,000 hours for our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.*

*Working alongside Tony and his team on this iconic building, the "ripple retreat", we developed the building services to compliment the architectural philosophy. Our services were tailored to suit the remote location, which included an air source heat pump, providing a sustainable source of heat to the building whilst limiting the impact on the natural environment. We freely contributed our time and expertise to this project, with the aim of providing a world class retreat. It is for the benefit of families that have suffered some form of loss of a loved one to cancer. It has been a truly rewarding experience to have been personally involved with this project; and to deliver what is quickly becoming a truly unique and bespoke building created by volunteers led by Lynne & Ian McNicoll of "It's good 2 give!"*

Says Lynne McNicoll, who founded the "It's good 2 give!" charity: *"The Ripple Retreat will be a lifeline to families struggling with the devastating effects of a child's cancer diagnosis. Families are quickly thrown into despair having their child endure the ordeal of chemotherapy and the ravaging effects of this cruel disease. Our gift to these families is the Ripple Retreat. A luxurious and peaceful living space for a short break to relax, reflect and hopefully, enjoy time together."*

**ENDS**

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**Images**

Hi-res images are available on request. Please credit Murdoch Ferguson.

**Note to Editors:**

**Cundall: 40 years of clever, friendly engineering**

**Cundall** is an international multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy with over 750 staff and offices in 11 countries across the globe.

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2016 saw Cundall (Cundall Johnston and Partners LLP) celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Established in 1976, Cundall's founding partners shared a common vision that the practice would become a leading multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy built on sound ethical principles. For 40 years, Cundall's engineering expertise, coupled with creativity, innovation and a deep-rooted understanding of people and communities, has allowed the business to develop the best possible solutions for clients' projects. We are Clever, Friendly Engineers.

Harkening back to the founders' roots, sustainability is integral to our approach. We provide our clients with practical advice and solutions, which reduce the environmental impact of developments, and provide better spaces for building users and occupiers, as well as for the wider community.

Cundall is the world's first consultancy to be endorsed as a One Planet Company. As a business, Cundall has implemented a number of sustainable initiatives on projects around the world, as well as in our offices and homes. For example, Cundall's new London office at One Carter Lane is the first building in the UK and Europe to achieve WELL Certification through the WELL Building Standard™ (WELL), a goal intended to put the health and wellbeing of the occupants at the heart of building design.

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