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Staff at Gloucestershire business Omega Resource Group depart for 800km charity bike ride

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Staff from Gloucestershire firm Omega Resource Group head off for an impressive 800-kilometre bike ride next week to raise around £5,000 for charity.

The 14 employees will cycle from Omega's head office in Stonehouse to St Emilion in the south west of France.

They are raising the money for Hop Skip and Jump's Cheltenham centre, which provides fun play spaces, support and respite opportunities for thousands of children with special needs and their families.

Andrew Hopcraft, charity cycling veteran and managing director of Omega Engineering Services, part of Omega Resource Group, said: "We must be mad, but we're looking forward to the challenge and raising lots of money for this fantastic charity."

He said an Omega team last year cycled 425 kilometres from Stonehouse to Paris and raised more than £11,000 for Bristol Children's Cancer Unit. This year they will ride twice the distance but in the same time.

Jeanette Bates, foundation coordinator at Hop Skip and Jump, said she was "absolutely thrilled" Omega had nominated the charity for the cycle ride.

"It really is an epic challenge and we are so grateful for the team's hard work," she said.

"We will support them every step of the way, and every penny they raise will go towards helping children with special needs and disabilities at Hop Skip and Jump in Cheltenham."

To make a donation, visit justgiving.com/teams/

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