

## U.S. SHELTERBOX RESPONSE TEAM DELIVERS LANDMARK AID

By Janice Chambers, Rotary International News - 17 Sept. 2007

On her first trip delivering disaster relief for ShelterBox, Trannie Lacquey encountered Maoist guerillas,

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The Shelterbox that marked 500,000 people helped by the program was delivered to Jagadeo Argairiya, who has a family of 10, including five young children. crossed swollen rivers on foot, and hiked miles in a remote, tension-filled corner of Nepal.

But the toughest challenge, says the grandmother of five, was clearing customs at the airport for 410 ShelterBox relief kits, which would help hundreds of families trapped by the monsoon floods that swept Nepal in August. It took 10 days.

“It was tedious and very frustrating. We knew people were waiting,” she says.

Fortunately, extensive training at a ShelterBox Response Team training camp in Cornwall, England, paid off, she says. Lacquey and her husband, John, members of the Rotary Club of Branford, Florida, USA, and Gary Boe, a member of the Rotary Club of Lewis River, Washington, USA, were the first U.S. ShelterBox Response Team members sent on a disaster relief mission.

They also made history, as they delivered the ShelterBox that marked 500,000 disaster victims aided by the Rotarian-sponsored non-profit.

Shelterbox started as a small project by the Rotary Club of Helston-Lizard, England, in 2001, but it took off quickly. To date, it has raised £15 million and delivered aid in 33 countries. Recently, the Duchess of Cornwall, Prince Charles’s wife, Camilla, agreed to serve as president of ShelterBox. She is believed to be the first Royal Patron of a Rotary club project in the United Kingdom.

Each ShelterBox costs about US\$1,000 and is intended to help a family of 10 survive for six months. It contains custom supplies that typically include a large tent, blankets, water purification and cooking equipment, basic tools, and a multi-fuel stove. Rotary clubs provide more than half the funding, and private donors contribute the rest.

The effort also depends on energetic volunteers like the Lacqueys, who arrived home 1 September after three weeks in Nepal and are now repacking for a weekend in Blackwater River State Park in Florida, where they’ll help train more response team recruits.

They’ll also tell stories from their recent trip. “The rice paddies were still flooded,” John Trannie recalls. “People lost everything. They were living under tarps in the rain. The living conditions were just horrible.” But through it all, he says, “People would help their neighbours. It was a very humbling experience for us.”



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# The Four Way Flasher

Rotary Club of  
MeadowRidge Newsletter

Vol. 14 Issue 32  
February 7, 2008

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## January is Rotary Awareness Month

### INVOCATION

Feb. 7	Kevin Nosworthy	Feb. 12	Patrick O'Brien
Feb. 19	Mina Park	Feb. 26	Brett Paskar



## This week's ShelterBox Special

TODAY'S PROGRAM: ShelterBox 'Cold Night in the Park' Fundraiser

NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM: Gary Slavin - President of R.M. Minor Ball Hockey Assoc.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Feb. 5: Robert Goodrick Feb. 7: Maureen Goodrick Feb. 7: Brett Paskar

### CALENDAR OF CLUB AND DISTRICT 5050 EVENTS:

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Feb. 15 - 17		Shelter Box: Cold Night in the Park	M.R. Memorial Peace Park
April 12		District Assembly	Kwantlen University College, Surrey, BC
May 15		2008 District 50/50 Conference	Holiday Inn, Pine Street, Everett, WA

*Today's 50/50 proceeds going to ShelterBox!*

**50 / 50 draw - Jackpot at \$564.00 + 1/2 of today's sales, 29 cards left, Jackpot on "Queen of Hearts" only!**

## ShelterBox, a unique solution

Our solution to disasters is the ShelterBox – a tough, green plastic box containing a **10-person tent** and ancillary equipment designed to enable a family of up to 10 people survive for at least six months.

Made to a unique design using high quality materials, our tents are suitable for a wide range of conditions. Other items may include insulated groundsheets, thermal blankets, a multi-fuel stove, cooking equipment, tools, mosquito nets, water containers etc.

Exact contents will depend upon local conditions and what is most needed.

ShelterBox works directly with local organisations in countries where disasters have occurred, in partnership with other aid agencies and through the international Rotary network.

Our volunteer teams often oversee the distribution of boxes to individual recipients – making sure aid gets direct to those people who **need it most**.



## THE BOX IN DETAIL

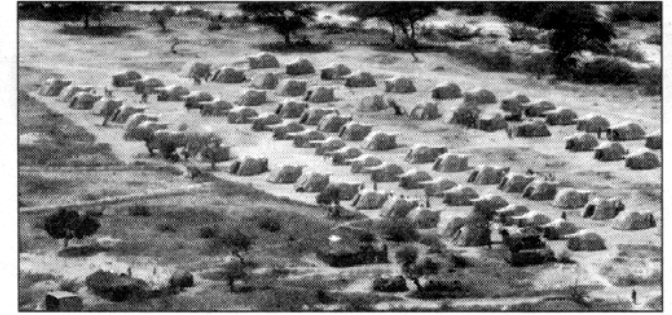
Each ShelterBox normally holds a 10-person tent and a range of other equipment, such as:

- Thermal blankets, insulated ground sheets & insecticide treated mosquito nets
- A wood burning stove, or
- A multi-fuel stove that can burn anything from diesel to old paint!
- Cooking pans, utensils, bowls and mugs
- Collapsible water containers and water purification tablets
- Basic tool kit –hammer, axe, saw, pliers, hoe head, trenching shovel, rope etc
- A small, children's pack containing drawing books, crayons, pens etc.



ShelterBoxes are delivered to flood victims in North Korea after heavy rains left around 300,000 homeless.

*Photo courtesy of Mark Pearson/ShelterBox*



Shelter Box 'Village' in Kenya, 2007

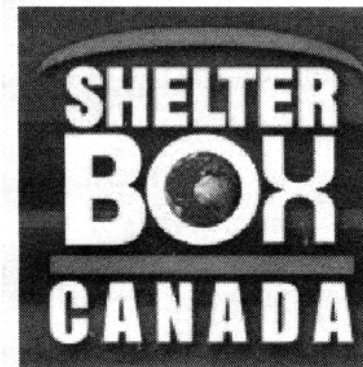
## Your donation can provide shelter for a family...

Not many of us have experienced a natural disaster that has left us homeless and our community in ruins. Most places around the world have nowhere near the ability to respond to such events as we do here in the developed world. With this reality in mind, a Rotarian in 1998 began a program aimed at being the first response to such disasters and they called it "Shelter Box."

Shelter boxes are large plastic supply totes that are stored in warehouses around the world ready to be flown, shipped, trucked or dragged to disaster sites. Each tote has a ten-person tent, sleeping bags, water containers and other essentials to give victims the power to stay alive until more help can arrive. These boxes have been deployed in the Sumatra Tsunami, Hurricane Katrina, and many other places around the world.

The Meadowridge Rotary club is undertaking a fundraiser to buy at least 10 of these totes (\$1200.00 each) by having a small taste of what it might be like to need a shelter box - in our winter! The clubs will be pitching a shelter box tent in the Memorial Peace Park west of the Swimming Pool in Maple Ridge and calling friends, family and business colleagues to pledge support. If they don't raise \$200.00 each, they'll be spending some cold time in the tent between February 15th and February 17th. Come down to see the tent and to join us raising money for the boxes and to connect the citizens of Ridge Meadows to disaster victims the world over.

The Rotary Club welcomes other groups-schools, businesses, churches, unions et al to get involved and to challenge each other to support this worthy cause. The Haney and Meadowridge Rotary clubs have challenged each other to see who is able to provide the most shelter boxes. Let the challenge begin!



**For more information please contact**

**Patrick O'Brien  
Meadowridge  
Rotary**

**1-800-563-1128**

**Dick Drew  
Haney Rotary  
604-467-1590**

**Drop by and make a donation!**

**7 pm Friday Feb. 15th to 7pm Sunday Feb.17th  
Memorial Peace Park west of the swimming pool**