



# ONE VOICE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2009



**DISASTER RELIEF**

www.shelterbox.org  
 Donation Hotline:  
 0300 0300-500

Sumatra, Indonesia

## DEAR FRIENDS,



October has been another momentous month for ShelterBox with a number of firsts for us on a whole host of fronts. Our response teams in Sumatra went to extraordinary lengths to reach earthquake survivors in remote areas who were in desperate need of emergency aid. Through the generosity of the US Navy and the Royal Australian Air Force, our response teams were able to airlift

ShelterBoxes to villages that had been completely cut off and no one else was able to reach. In another first, ShelterBox shipped ShelterBoxes from Newquay Cornwall Airport – an incredible achievement and effort from all involved. Our Young ShelterBox project is also making fantastic headway with the launch of our new resources for teachers. This will ensure the next generation are fully aware of what happens when disaster strikes and, more importantly, what we can do to help. On a personal note, I travelled to ten Canadian cities in just ten days, spreading the word about ShelterBox, and was met with the warmest welcome from our hosts. The support we are receiving at this moment in time, from Rotarians, from Scouts, from schools, from ordinary people doing extraordinary things, leaves me deeply humbled and incredibly grateful. With my very best wishes for the coming month,

**Rotarian Tom Henderson, Founder & CEO**

## COUNTRIES AND BOXES 2009

Month	Region	Location Country	Boxes Sent	Disaster Type
Oct-09	Asia	Pakistan	400	Conflict IDPs
Oct-09	Africa	Burkina Faso	250	Floods
Oct-09	Asia	Indonesia	624	Earthquake
Oct-09	Asia	Philippines	600	Typhoon
Oct-09	Oceania	Samoa	80	Tsunami
Sept-09	Central America	Mexico	48	Hurricane
Sept-09	Africa	Niger	700	Floods
Sept-09	Asia	Indonesia	874	Earthquake
Aug-09	Asia	Taiwan	324	Typhoon
Aug-09	Asia	Philippines	334	Typhoon
Aug-09	Asia	China	50	Typhoon
July-09	Asia	Pakistan	400	Conflict IDPs
Jun-09	Asia	Sri Lanka	200	Conflict IDPs
May-09	Asia	Bangladesh	200	Cyclone
May-09	Asia	Pakistan	1062	Conflict IDPs
May-09	Asia	Philippines	100	Typhoons
May-09	Asia	Sri Lanka	448	Conflict IDPs
Apr-09	Europe	Italy	294	Earthquake
Apr-09	Africa	Namibia	530	Floods
Mar-09	Asia	OPT (Gaza)	200	Conflict IDPs
Mar-09	South America	Colombia	52	Floods
Feb-09	Asia	Australia	79	Bush Fires
Jan09-Feb09	Asia	OPT (Gaza)	200	Conflict IDPs

**TOTAL**

**8049**

# FROM THE WARHOUSE TO THE FIELD – SHANE REVILL’S STORY

Shane Revill (UK) joined the ShelterBox warehouse team in May 2007 and has since become an integral part of the ShelterBox team. Shane works closely with the warehouse volunteers, always has a smile on his face and always has a kind word to say. He has been a ShelterBox Response Team (SRT) member since November 2007 but since then has only been deployed once, to Bangladesh after Cyclone Sidr. All that changed in October.



Shane was one of four SRT members who were first on the scene after the 7.6 magnitude earthquake in Sumatra. This is Shane’s story:

‘After spending the first part of the week packing boxes with our passionate and committed volunteers, I got the nod to say I was selected to be part of the first team to go out to the disaster zone.

‘Furious packing, paperwork and many phone calls later and I was on my way with fellow SRT member Becky Maynard (UK).

From TV, internet and radio reports I felt I had a good idea of what to expect, but the level of destruction that met us was way beyond anything I had prepared myself for. We came to realise that our efforts would be focused on the poorest villages lying to the north of Padang. In one village alone more than 870 houses were destroyed and, due to the remoteness of the village, no shelter had reached them. This situation repeated itself again and again.

‘In total, by the end of the second week we had managed to distribute more than 200 ShelterBoxes. But more importantly, we had done the groundwork for the next two SRTs who eventually delivered in excess of 800 ShelterBoxes to the people who really needed them.

‘It’s been a personal pleasure to have a small hand in each part of the chain. From packing the boxes and loading the trucks to eventually handing the boxes over to those families who need them most. After seeing the whole process from start to finish, I now realise why ShelterBox is such a triumph. The fantastic support we receive from our donors, the amazing work done by our volunteers and the commitment and hard work by all our staff combines to make what we do possible, and to make it so successful.’

## SHELTERBOX SOARS IN SUMATRA



The world was left reeling with the scenes of chaos that came out of Sumatra, Indonesia after two earthquakes struck near to the capital, Padang, with just hours between them. While the world’s eye was trained on the shocking scenes of people trapped beneath buildings in the city, tens of thousands of people in the remote villages surrounding Padang were in desperate need of help. ShelterBox was one of the first aid agencies to reach these people and provide them with much needed, emergency aid.

The ShelterBox Response Team of Mike Greenslade (UK), Andy Holland (UK), Shane Revill (UK) and Becky Maynard (UK) were able to secure the services of both the Royal Australian Air Force and the US Navy

to ensure ShelterBoxes were delivered to the people in most need. The US Navy provided Puma and CH-53 helicopters in order for the SRT to assess the situation from the air and then deliver aid to villages which were completely cut off.

Becky Maynard said: ‘Although we’d seen huge amounts of destruction from the road, nothing could prepare us for what we saw from the air. Houses could be seen hanging from the edge of hillsides and more were smashed at the base of a landslide – it was tragic to see. We only hope that by providing shelter we managed to bring some small hope to the survivors of this tragedy. Our immense gratitude goes out to the US Navy who helped us achieve this.’



# PHILIPPINES AID REACHES 15,000 PEOPLE

Since the start of August, the Philippines has been ravaged by four typhoons and its worst flooding in nearly 40 years. In total, more than 900 people lost their lives in these storms and reports say more than 9 million people have been affected.

ShelterBox has been in the country since Typhoon Morakot in August and has now delivered more than 1,500 ShelterBoxes, providing emergency shelter to people who, through no fault of their own, have lost everything. Six ShelterBox Response Teams have been on the ground at different times delivering emergency aid right across the country – from the outskirts of Manila to the remote north.

In a letter handed over to ShelterBox Response Team member Rachel Simpkins, the Mayor of Atok, a town in the province of Benguet located on the northern most of the Philippines' islands, said: 'Your solidarity and compassion in this time of adversity made a big difference to those who were hit hardest by the typhoon. We greatly acknowledge your most profound generosity that exemplifies the ideals of giving and sharing for the sake of others. Rest assured that your contributions will long be remembered by the beneficiaries, the people of Atok and the people of all the Philippines.'



## BREAKING NEWS – LATEST DISASTER RESPONSE

At the time of One Voice going to press, ShelterBox is responding to the latest set of disasters right across the globe. ShelterBox Response Teams are on the ground in El Salvador, responding to floods and mudslides caused by the tail of Hurricane Ida and in Indonesia, after another earthquake hit the country. Alongside this, ShelterBox's Mark Pearson has been working on the ground with local agencies in South Waziristan, Pakistan, making sure aid reaches the thousands of people who are fleeing the fighting between the Pakistan military and the Taleban. As he has done many times before, Mark put himself into an incredibly hostile environment in order to make sure the innocent victims of an armed conflict receive aid.

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**Coming soon: ShelterBox  
Netherlands & ShelterBox Norway**

## WHO WE ARE

ShelterBox is an international disaster relief charity, specialising in emergency shelter provision. We instantly respond to earthquake, volcano, flood, hurricane, cyclone, tsunami or conflict by delivering boxes of aid. Each box supplies an extended family of up to ten people with a tent and lifesaving equipment to use while they are displaced. Every box bears its own unique number so as a donor you can track your box all the way to its recipient, via [www.shelterbox.org](http://www.shelterbox.org). Highly trained ShelterBox disaster response teams distribute boxes on the ground, working closely with local organisations, international aid agencies and Rotary clubs worldwide. Since 2001, ShelterBox has provided shelter, warmth and dignity following over 90 disasters, in more than 60 countries.

## KEEP IN TOUCH

If you've got news you want to share, please email us on: [pr@shelterbox.org](mailto:pr@shelterbox.org) contact ShelterBox in your country or write to the address below.

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