



ShelterBox

Disaster relief

eNewsletter April 2020

ShelterBox is proud to be a Project Partner of Rotary International



Cyclone Harold has caused devastation in Vanuatu. The COVID-19 crisis has complicated any humanitarian response but we are determined to help those made homeless by the disaster. Our last response there was to Cyclone Pam in 2015

Dear Rotary President,

I hope you and your family are keeping healthy, safe, and sane in these challenging times. For ShelterBox, the COVID-19 crisis has made a difficult job even more so. The need for families to self-isolate or practice social distancing has made the need for emergency shelter even greater.

As you will read below, despite the extra restrictions caused by the Coronavirus, we are still managing to respond to disasters around the world by working in partnership with other organisations. None of this is possible without your support, so thank you!

With many people confined to their homes, we've launched some new initiatives, such as our Book Club. I've signed up myself, my New Year's Resolution word was 'read'. The book club has inspired me to fulfil that resolution and I'm thoroughly enjoying our first book, "The Beekeeper of Aleppo". Perhaps you'd like to virtually join me and the other members from around the country?

I'd like to finish with some good news, our short film, 'Kunyumba: The Story of Home' won in its category at the Charity Film Awards in the UK. If you haven't watched the film yet, I can thoroughly recommend it.

[WATCH THE FILM](#) 

This month's quote comes from Martin Luther King, "*Only when it is dark enough, can you see the stars.*"

Many thanks for your support



PS. We know that some of you have experienced problems with the online donation form. We have installed a temporary fix and are working hard to improve the donor experience. Please bear with us.

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Vanuatu - Cyclone Harold



The devastation caused by the cyclone on Vanuatu's Espiritu Santo Island. Please credit: Dr. Christopher Bartlett/VBRC.

On April 6, Cyclone Harold made landfall in Vanuatu as a Category 5 cyclone, bringing devastation to communities in the north.

The provinces of Sanma, Malampa, Torba and Penama are most affected. It is estimated that up to **90% of buildings and houses** in Sanma are either damaged or destroyed. Communications are still down in most areas and, coupled with the remote nature of many communities, the full extent of the damage or casualties is still unclear. **160,000 people are thought to be affected.**

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, access to the country is extremely difficult right now.

Despite the challenges, we are currently working to find local partners who will help us get much-needed aid to families who are the most vulnerable. We are looking to support families with shelter kits, tools, tarpaulins and other aid items.

Cameroon - Conflict



Our partner IEDA Relief offloading ShelterBox aid that has arrived in Cameroon in preparation for distributions.

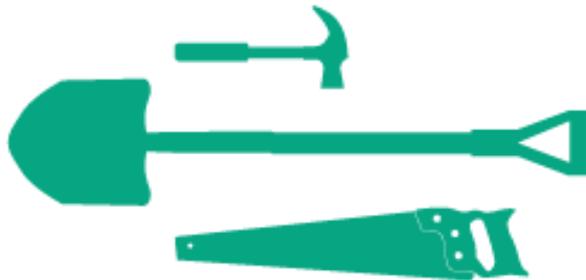
The first two shipments of aid have now arrived in the Far North region. A shipment of AMG (Relief) Tents is due to arrive in **Douala** this week, with the remaining shipments due to arrive by the end of April. Discussions have been held with IEDA Relief on how to ensure distributions and project activities can be carried out whilst ensuring the safety of the IEDA Relief staff and the beneficiary community. The IEDA Relief team have been protecting themselves and the communities they support by wearing face masks and gloves, and using hand sanitiser. Working in partnership with IEDA Relief, we've helped nearly **8,000 families in Cameroon**.

Syria - Conflict



Aid for our next project with NZ-based ReliefAid has arrived in Idlib

Aid importation is now complete for the Idlib project with **ReliefAid**. Distributions started yesterday, and discussions have been held with ReliefAid around ways to limit any risk of transmission of COVID-19. The decision was also made to include soap and a basin with the aid package for this project to help provide some mitigation against the spread of the virus. Across in the NE of Syria, our project with **Bahar** has been delayed as stock is currently in a warehouse in Iraq, waiting to cross from Iraq into Syria.



Support families affected by disaster and crisis. Please

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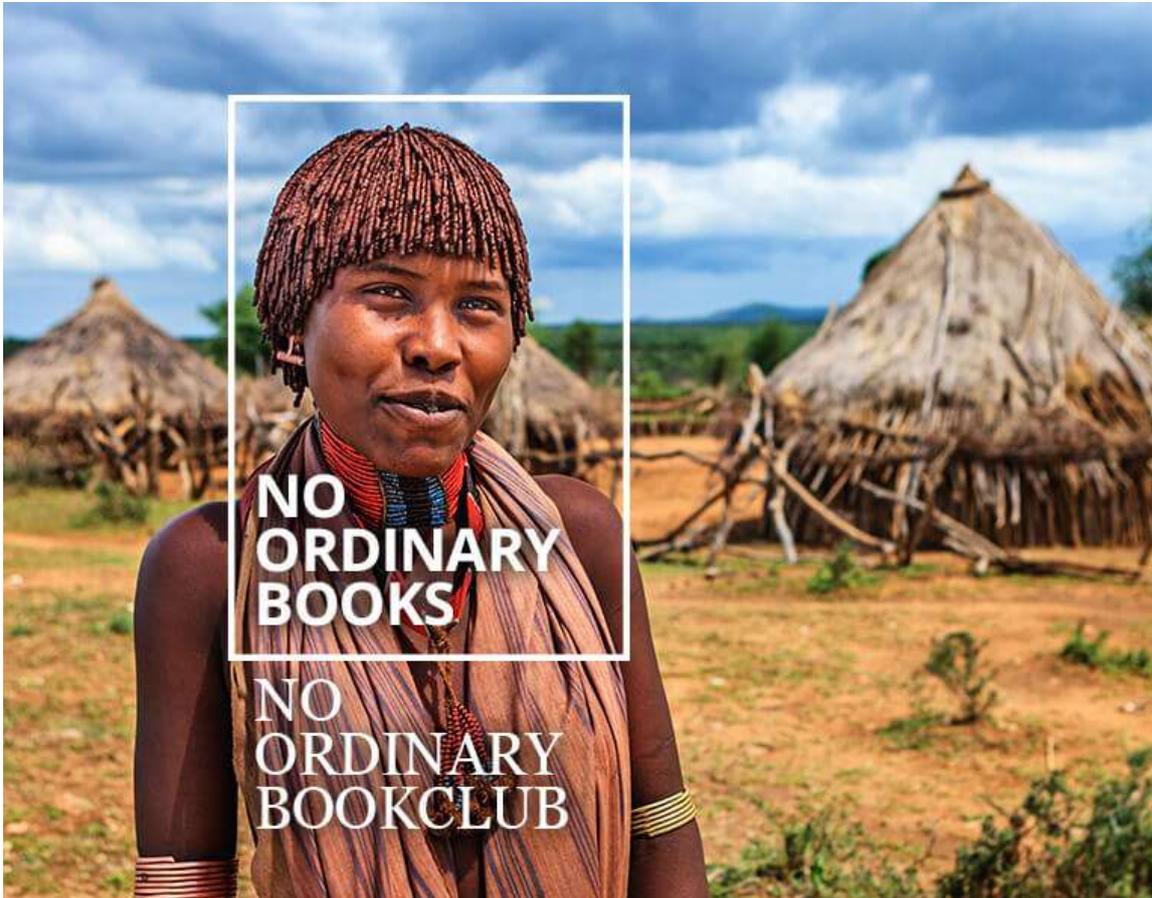
DONATE NOW

EFT: Bendigo Bank: ShelterBox Australia: BSB 633 000: Account no. 166 780 163 (please email sbaoffice@shelterbox.org.au to notify us of your donation and receive your tax receipt).

Cheques can be mailed to: ShelterBox Australia, PO Box 254, Parramatta, NSW, 2124

All donations above \$2 are fully tax-deductible

Join The ShelterBox Australia Book Club



Introducing ShelterBox Book Club – a unique community membership designed for Australians who share the love of a quality read.

Each member can vote on the next book – a shortlist of 3 books carefully selected by our Head Bookworm, who is always on the lookout for compelling stories from around the world and strong characters with depth.

Join the ShelterBox Book Club community today with a monthly payment to ShelterBox, and you can look forward to delving into a new, exciting book every 6 weeks. Read along at your own pace and join the discussion online, via our private Facebook group.

And with every story you read, you'll be transforming the lives of disaster-hit families around the world.

[JOIN TODAY](#)

"The Beekeeper of Aleppo", our first ShelterBox Book Club book, a great choice. Yesterday, it was chosen as the winner of the 2020 Aspen Words Literary Prize'. Bronwyn Klar -Book Club member.

Tasmania Trek November 2020 - Places Filling Up Fast



With our Kokoda Trek postponed until next year, the Tasmania Trek is currently still going ahead, sign up with confidence as bookings are guaranteed.

Have you always wanted to take on a challenge for a worthy cause? ShelterBox's Tasmania Trek could be your next adventure...

We're excited to announce our latest adventure, the **ShelterBox Tasmania Trek 2020**. On this incredible adventure, you'll trek through the rocky mountain peaks, buttongrass moorlands, glacial lakes, waterfalls and the dense rainforest of **Cradle Mountain** and its beautiful surroundings.

To top it off, you'll also be raising funds for ShelterBox Australia to **provide emergency shelter for families who have lost their homes to disaster**, enabling them to rebuild their lives.

When you sign up, you'll join a team of other passionate ShelterBox Australia supporters who will trek with you and we'll give you all the guidance you'll need to start your fundraising journey!

Find out more



7-11 November 2020



5-day adventure
5 challenge days



Moderately challenging

Register your interest



Rotary



ShelterBox Australia is a registered charity with DGR 1 status. ShelterBox Australia is recognised by the ATO as a Public Benevolent Institution and endorsed by DFAT's Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme. ShelterBox is a Project Partner of Rotary International, independent of Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation.

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