



ShelterBox



York Ainsty consistently responds to disasters wherever they occur.

Before Christmas we raised funds for six ShelterBoxes (£3,600) to be sent to the Philippines and have recently made contributions to the flood relief appeal in support of the devastating flooding in parts of Southern England.

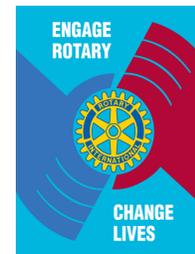
ShelterBox is one of Rotary's major international efforts and assists whenever a disaster occurs e.g. floods or earthquakes. These boxes provide resources and shelter to support those made homeless. A ShelterBox is tailored to a disaster but typically includes a disaster relief tent for a family of up to 10, thermal blankets and groundsheets, water storage and purification equipment, solar lamps, cooking utensils, a basic tool kit, mosquito nets and children's activity pack.

Sand Dams



The Sand Dams project is one that is supported by many Rotary clubs. It provides an innovative method of solving water shortage for whole communities.

Polio Eradication



Polio cases have declined rapidly since 1985, but the fight isn't over. Polio is a crippling and potentially fatal infectious disease, and for as little as \$0.60, a child can be protected against the virus for life. If we don't finish the fight right now, more than 10 million children under the age of five could be paralyzed by polio in the next 40 years. Since 1985 over one billion children have been immunised. Through the 'Thanks for Life' campaign, Rotary is driving to eradicate Polio through its fundraising.

Rotary
York Ainsty



Giving Something Back Changing Lives!

Welcome to the Rotary Club of York Ainsty (RCYA) and thank you for your interest. This leaflet gives an insight into our Club and the projects that are currently underway supported either through fundraising or the investment of people's time through 'volunteering'.

I hope that if you are personally or corporately wanting to 'Give Something Back' through involvement with one or more of our projects, then it will stimulate and excite you to make contact with me and the RCYA.

Jim Murison - President

WE'RE FOR COMMUNITIES

ARE YOU?



Ways in which you can get involved

Through volunteering we are inviting people, with a variety of skills, to work with others to give something back to the local community.

The background being to facilitate local people, who are potentially time poor, to get together and focus on a project that is personal to them and improving the lives of others at the same time.

We are looking for people who are passionate about York. What could look better on your CV than charity and leadership roles in your own city, which in turn could raise essential funds for local community projects?

To find out more about volunteering with the Rotary Club of York Ainsty please contact **Jim Murison** in the first instance on **01904 704666**

email: jim.murison@sky.com

York Ainsty's website can be found at: www.rotaryclubbyorkainsty.org.uk

The club secretary can also be contacted by email at: rcyorkainsty@gmail.com

About the Rotary Club of York Ainsty

The Rotary Club of York Ainsty ['RCYA' or 'York Ainsty'] is a small part of the world-wide Rotary Organisation. Men and women volunteer their time and talents to serve their communities, locally, nationally, and even internationally, and in doing so enjoy the friendship and fellowship of other like-minded individuals.

Today some **1.2 million** Rotarians support more than **34,000** Rotary clubs in **200** countries.

RCYA, through its 40 current members, provides fundraising, volunteering and support to the local community, nationally and internationally. In 2013 York Ainsty members gifted over **2,000** hours towards these activities. We have strong links with retail and commercial businesses within the York area and appreciate their continued support. In the last ten years we have raised over **£100,000** and that figure continues to grow.

In addition to historic ventures supported by York Ainsty, there are some exciting new projects which extend our service and those of others who want to give something back – which might perhaps be you?

We want to attract more people to be involved with RCYA through volunteering to help with our various community and other projects. Some of these have been set up as individual 'satellite groups', meeting regularly to progress a specific project.

In the following pages, you can read about a number of these projects which specifically benefit the local community and others that complement National or International initiatives. There are also projects where local actions or fundraising allow a York-based team to focus effort, have fun and provide fellowship, but where the resultant benefit is overseas.

WE'RE FOR COMMUNITIES

ARE YOU?

SPECSORT



For many years we have been running **SPECSORT**. The objective is to provide free spectacles to those who need them in different parts of Africa - Restoring sight to Africa's rural poor. To date York Ainsty has provided many pairs of free spectacles with over 1000 on the last visit alone.

The process starts with a team sorting hundreds of pairs of unwanted and discarded spectacles, which are washed, measured and individually labelled so that they can be reused. Ruth Perrott, from Vision Care Optometry, in Acomb and a fellow optometrist, fly the spectacles out, hold eye clinics "in the bush" to check vision and, where possible, distribute free spectacles to the villagers. The joy on people's faces when they have clear vision again, often after many years, is very rewarding.

Wilberforce Trust



For a number of years we have provided decorating and gardening support to The Wilberforce Trust which traces its roots back to 1833, when the Yorkshire School for the Blind was opened in York. Wilberforce now strives to adhere to its original aims – to provide a proactive service to assist tenants and other clients to maximize their capabilities, their independence and their lives in the community. York Ainsty is currently exploring other ways that our volunteering can support the Trust's aims.

Door 84



We provide financial and other support to 'Door84', a youth centre in Lowther Street, whose doors are open to those aged 8-17 years. There are currently over 300 young people from all over York coming together to take part in a wide range of activities and community projects.

Youth Support

York Ainsty has always been keen to support a variety of youth activities to stimulate the leaders of the future; involvement includes hosting a 'Youth Speaks' (public speaking) competition in Poppleton Road Primary School, running an annual schools' technology tournament in the Railway Museum, providing Usborne Dictionaries for a local Primary School in York, sponsoring candidates for the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) and providing mock interviews for students leaving school.

Days For Girls



Days for Girls ["DfG"] works in 21 countries on five continents to provide washable feminine hygiene kits overseas to those that would otherwise go without.

This is coupled with teaching women and communities to create their own kits, raising public awareness, providing education regarding AIDS and preventable disease - all of which help to save lives and allows girls to stay in school. Over the last six months our local team of volunteers has manufactured 100+ hygiene kits to send over to India where our future President recently met our contacts.

Giving Something Back Locally



A major source of fundraising is at Christmas when our Santa, his many helpers and 'sleigh' go around York villages collecting for local Rotary projects and charities. We are supported by Friends of Rotary and Cubs/Scouts. Over a two week period we raise some £6,000.

We are also fortunate to receive financial sponsorship from DE Ford, Insurance Brokers, in York, who help us identify and support local charities and projects.

Last year we supported the vital work of the Yorkshire Air Ambulance through a £1,000 donation. On an ongoing basis we support Yorkshire Cancer Research's work on Prostate Cancer at the University of York. The development of the 'Cancer Care Garden' in York Hospital was a further project York Ainsty supported and we continue to maintain the garden and keep it tidy. We also support St Leonard's Hospice, which was founded in 1985 and is a registered charity caring for people with life-threatening illness.