



SERVICE PROJECT SHEET Rotary Aquabox



Ref: /Int/Aquabox/Mar 2006
First published by RIBI: pre-1999/2000

Project name:

Aquabox. Administered by the Rotary Club of Wirksworth under the Registered Charitable Company "Aquabox". (Registered Charity 04774277)

Project goal:

To provide in the wake of both man-made and natural disasters a rapid response provision of safe drinking water and welfare aid items.

Rotary service type:

Can involve funding only, organised collections or a combination of both within clubs or in joint participation with local community groups (e.g. schools, churches, youth groups etc.).

Unique selling proposition:

An inexpensive (under 1p per litre) easily transported and simple to operate method of purifying and providing safe drinking water thus helping to minimise the outbreak of disease.

Description:

Standard AQUABOX: Costs £50 and comprises the container (approximately 600x400x400) of 75 litre capacity, provided with 4 survival bags, 1 large box liner to protect goods from water damage, 1 filter and tap, 1 pack of 14 pre-packed pairs of bespoke water purification tablets being sufficient to supply 1100 litres of purified water (75x14) and filling, dispatch and return instructions. It is designed for Rotary Clubs, Inner Wheel Clubs, churches, schools, youth organisations and other community groups to fill with added welfare aid items – as identified on the Aquabox brochure/order form but excludes foodstuffs (to avoid sell-by date problems), drugs and medicines. Boxes are available on request using the official order form and the cost includes the cost of delivery to you and return to the Aquabox depot at Wirksworth to await call-off by Aid Agencies.

DONATIONS can be made for discretionary allocation or specifically to sponsor Aquaboxes to be filled by some other club or organisation. A donation of £32 sponsors a box to be filled by someone else arranged by Aquabox. Boxes can be made available for filling at a cost of only £32 if the sponsor collects and returns the box/es from and to our depot at their own cost. Boxes sponsored by other clubs and organisations are frequently available, with no charge for the box and contents, although a payment of £18 is required for transportation costs. "Free" boxes may, from time to time, be available with no transportation costs if collected and returned to the Aquabox depot by the "filling" organisation.

AQUABOX 30: Costs £250 and comprises one container, as for the Standard box, but is filled at the Aquabox depot with 30 filters, taps and 30 sets of purification tablets. These boxes are **not sent to sponsors** but are held at the Aquabox depot to await call off by Aid Agencies to back up Standard welfare boxes already in use overseas and also for immediate dispatch following any natural disaster such as earthquake, hurricane, etc.

Every Aquabox is numbered to uniquely identify it to a specific sponsor. A Fact Sheet listing all despatches overseas is constantly updated and can be viewed on the website www.aquabox@plusnet.com. Reference to the date of the return of a filled box to the Aquabox depot and the date of box despatches gives an indication of the destination of returned boxes. All returned filled boxes are checked that all items are tightly packed inside the plastic liner bag provided for protection and to avoid damage by movement inside the box when in transit.

Background:

Launched in 1992 by the Rotary Club of Wirksworth in Derbyshire, the Aquabox project is administered by the Registered Charitable Company "Aquabox" having formerly, from inception, been managed by the BARRIE GRIFFITHS ROTARY TRUST named in memory of one of its former members and DG Elect, Rotarian Barrie Griffiths. Over the years, since inception, It has provided some 65,000 Aquaboxes to over 30 countries. Its enormous and sustained growth between 1998/99 was a direct result of the 'Hurricane Mitch' initiative when over 1000 boxes capable of purifying in excess of 22 million litres were shipped from the UK in under 3 months thanks to over £230,000 raised within RIBI. This growth was, however, minimal compared with the tremendous sponsorship generated in early 2005 following the devastation in the Far East by the Tsunami Earthquake. Subsequent to 26th December 2004, over 19,000 boxes capable of giving humanitarian relief and producing almost 100 million litres of water have been dispatched overseas.

Though the project remains a stand-alone operation administered by the Directors and members of the Aquabox Company, all of whom MUST be members of the Rotary Club of Wirksworth, there is growing and active support from other clubs, Inner Wheel clubs, churches, WIs, schools and youth organisations and individual Rotarians both from within D.1220 and further a field. The first parallel project has been in operation by the Rotary Club of Eltham, Victoria, Australia for the past 5 years and it is anticipated that Rotary Clubs in Stratford, Canada, and also in Arizona may shortly also be emulating the project.

Benefits to the club:

Aquabox can be a simple and inexpensive project involving club members in 'hands-on service' and offers an ideal opportunity to involve and forge links with the many community groups and others in your area.

Feedback from clubs:

Indicates that once involved both Rotary Clubs and outside bodies maintain support and promote the growth of Aquabox on an ongoing basis.

How to find out more about Aquabox:

Internet: Everything you need to know about Aquabox can be accessed by visiting our web-site on: **www.Aquabox@plusnet.com**

PLEASE NOTE: It is now possible to download and print an order form/contents list from our web-site but it is not possible to place an order via the Internet or by e-mail. All orders must be on the official form and mailed, with payment to the address below:

Aquabox, PO Box 5398, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 4ZP.

Aquabox Helpline: Tel: 01629 825178. (from outside U.K: +44 1629 825178)

E-mail: Aquabox@plusnet.com

General Manager of Aquabox Management Committee Gordon McGlone (E-mail: Gordon@mcgloneg.freemove.co.uk)

Enquiries also via your District International Service Chairman.

Promotional material:

A 20 minute promotional video and PowerPoint presentation disc incorporating feedback from overseas are available at a cost of Video £6, PowerPoint Presentation £2, inc. P&P.

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland has adopted this statement of policy for its work with children, the elderly, the vulnerable and those with disability. The needs and rights of the child, the elderly, the vulnerable and persons with disability take priority. It is the duty of every Rotarian to safeguard to the best of his or her ability, the welfare of and prevent the physical, sexual or emotional abuse and neglect of all children, the elderly, persons with disability or otherwise vulnerable persons with whom they come into contact in their Rotarian duties. Rotarians should refer to the detailed "RIBI Protection Policy" when planning events and activities.