

## Superyachts to the rescue: how you can help in Nepal and beyond

YachtAid Global is calling all Nepalese yacht crew who have concerns for their families and friends back home following the recent earthquakes. The charity has people on the ground in Nepal helping with the reconstruction effort and would like to help Nepalese crew in any way they can.

Yacht Aid Global is a charity dedicated to facilitating aid and assistance from yacht owners and crews to the less fortunate around the world, working in disaster relief and development aid. Following the recent earthquakes in Nepal they have aid workers there who wish to assist Nepalese crew in helping their families recover.

This isn't the first time YachtAid Global have come to the rescue; YAG believe that yacht crew are well equipped for aid work, given their extensive skills, problem solving abilities and caring attitudes, and that belief has been well proven in the wake of recent natural disasters as yacht crew and owners have rushed to help.

When Cyclone Pam ripped through the Pacific island chain of Vanuatu in March, the owner, captain and crew of 73m motoryacht Dragonfly raced to offer their assistance with the relief effort. The first outsiders on the scene, Dragonfly's crew delivered 62 000 litres of water and 6 tonnes of medical and food aid to the devastated island nation, as well as treating 250 casualties and clearing debris.

The outstanding efforts of Dragonfly's owner and crew have (quite rightly) brought much media attention to the charitable side of the superyacht industry. Yet it's not the first time a yacht or the wider industry has pitched in to help local communities in trouble after natural disasters. In fact, far from it: the yachting industry has a long and respected history of disaster relief and charitable work.

Other notable yachts that have participated in recent disaster relief are Richard Branson's catamaran Necker Belle after Hurricane Gonzalo hit St. Maarten, and the yacht Big Fish, which helped a small island off Chile with recovery efforts after Cyclone Evan destroyed schools and hospitals. Motoryachts Calex and Seven J's pitched in after Hurricane Odile, while MY Seljm donated much- needed aid to Syrian refuges. Vava II is another yacht with an inspired crew, with funds raised from their efforts during a circumnavigation being donated to an autism charity in the Maldives via YachtAid Global.

The good works of yacht owners and their crews can make immense and enduring differences in people's lives around the world, from donating goods to Nepal to helping villagers on the ground in Vanuatu.

For more information on getting involved in charitable work or disaster relief as a yacht crew or an individual, or if you are Nepalese or know any Nepalese crew, please contact the C&NI Crew Coach or visit YachtAid Global.

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