

YACHTING GIVES BACK



Nick Entwisle writes:

Dear Islanders,

I am writing this article to invite you to support our GoFundMe campaign to raise funds to help feed Palma's increasing number of people in need.

SUPPORT OUR HEROES AGAINST HUNGER

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/1xm2p6502o>

In the current crisis, with most hotels remaining closed for the time being, there has been a huge increase in the number of people who need our help and who will continue to need it for quite some time.

However, although the situation is still desperately serious for so many people, as the lockdown rules are slowly being eased and more people are allowed to return to work, it is perhaps an opportune moment to explain the many ways in which you can help us to help more people get through this crisis.

GO FUND ME

Firstly, thanks to the great support of the Islander, other local media and our own Facebook campaign, and the great generosity of the wonderful companies, yachts and individuals who have donated, our GoFundMe campaign has reached its initial total of €10,000. We would now really love to have your help in reaching our new target of €15,000 and beyond. All the GoFundMe donations will go to Asociación Tardor to help them buy provisions to feed the needy. Any donation, however small, will make a difference to people's lives.

DIRECT CASH DONATIONS

We have also been delighted to receive some very kind direct donations whether from companies such as Master Yachts and Precision Marine, yachts including Vava, Mirage and Paraiso, the wonderful Foggies Golf Society and many individual donations, some of them anonymous but all of them from kind, thoughtful people who simply wanted to help other people less fortunate than themselves.

At this point I must also say a heartfelt thank you from all of us at YGB, and also on behalf all of the tireless team of volunteers at Tardor, to a very special person who leapt into action a couple of weeks ago and simply went round every yacht or company she knew (and I dare say some she didn't) and politely, but perhaps firmly, requested a donation. This was a resounding success and she shared the very impressive result between YBG, Tardor itself and also bought provisions to support Jan Richards (see below). I understand from Simon Relph (as staunch a supporter as a small charity start-up could wish for) that she is also writing in this month's Islander so I shall leave it to her to thank her many kind donors and simply send an enormous thank you and a massive virtual hug to the amazing force of nature that is Danielle Kennedy – a true Heroine Against Hunger!

FOOD DONATIONS

As we are now able to open our STP/YGB container (just before the fire engine near the main STP building) we will be delighted to receive any food donations you can make – unopened and in date please. Standard items such as pasta, rice, pulses, tinned tomatoes, olive oil etc are ideal and jars of baby food will be especially welcome.

We have recently had massive food donations from Lindsay Dalton of Empire Yachting and Sofia McGrath and her friends Leo and Natalie from the Avocado restaurant in Cala Mayor.

Many of the people waiting patiently in the long queues outside Tardor do still have a roof over their heads but simply lack the money to buy food for themselves and their families and so we have been very glad to receive several large bags of food ready to hand out. Top prize in this category goes to MY Blue Bird of 1938 who have made regular donations of 20 large "bags for life" full of very well thought out selections which can feed a family for a week.

NON-FOOD DONATIONS

Personal toiletries are also always a great help including shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste,

razors, deodorants, tampons etc etc.

Summer clothes (tee shirts, polos, shorts, flip flops etc) are also needed for the homeless shelters.

We can take a certain amount of bedding but have limited space for mattresses. We will need these in the future, as we will be involved in helping to furnish a new homeless shelter in due course, so if you can manage to store them that would be a great help and naturally the same applies to bulky winter clothes for the time being. If in doubt, or if you have to get rid of things urgently, please contact us and we will do our best, as we hate the thought of anything going to waste!

COOKING FOR THOSE IN NEED

As Tardor can no longer operate as the social dining room it was before, they have been forced to transform themselves into a combination of food bank and takeaway. They were therefore delighted when a number of restaurants in Palma offered to open their kitchens and prepare cooked meals ready to be delivered directly to people in the homeless shelters and to those waiting patiently in the long line outside Tardor.

Naturally here was a perfect opportunity for the yachts to get involved with their first-rate chefs and galleys. First to spot this and get the ball rolling was the wonderful Jan Richards of SY Panthalassa with great support from her captain and the rest of the crew. Very soon Jan was joined by Julia on MY New Waves and Seanna of SY Kealoha who were quickly followed by a strong team in Marina Port de Mallorca led by Karine Lautru on MY Explora and including Alex and Fedra on SY Kenora, and Maira and Vivi from SY Tilakkhana.

Meeting all these lovely new people and collecting all their meals every morning has been one of the great pleasures of my job but, by a happy coincidence, the next phase involved a different pleasure in re-connecting with some of my oldest friends in yachting.

We obviously wanted to get some of yachts in the Club de Mar involved and who should step forward but:

Captain of MY Pacific, David Broome, (RYA Yachtmaster Instructors together at Britannia Sailing 1987/88).

Captain of MY Tilac, Danny Graham, (neighbours in Portals when Danny was on Schooner America and I was on SY Astral Dancer 1989), and his chef Kristy Austin (chef on MY Pari with me on Atlantic crossing in 1993)

Justine Masters, Danny's sister (worked on Astral Dancer 1989) and her husband Richard, of Master Yachts (long-term Pinmar clients, Pinmar Golf Sponsors and both of whom have been very generous supporters of YGB) who in turn brought on board their very good friend Beatriz Alonso (COO) and Xisco Notario (Operations Manager) of Evolution Yachting.

As a result of this collaboration, we have

had well over 200 meals prepared by Kristy, supported by the mighty Tilac, and by Luca the wonderful chef on the even mightier Pacific (or "Tender to Tilac" as Danny calls it!) together with donations of large bags of oranges, lemons, apples, carrots and onions. These were then whisked off to Tardor by Evolution's drivers Borja and Miguel but not before Evolution had added their kind own donation of 100 litres of milk.

Collectively all the chefs and yachts above have prepared over 1000 meals to date and continue to do so at the rate of several hundred a week.

WHAT ELSE ARE WE DOING?

Although we have obviously been concentrating our recent efforts on donating food and funds to Tardor, we are still doing our best to help out in other ways where we can.

We have been delivering spare bedding to Llar Inge, Tardor's centre for homeless people, much of which will be used to help furnish a new centre to be opened by Tardor as soon as conditions permit.

We have been helping Mallorca Sense Fam with food and logistics and delivering items for their own charity shop which we hope they will be able to reopen before too long.

We have been collecting summer clothes for the Shambhala youngsters and would love some more tee shirts, polos and shorts – unwanted crew uniforms are ideal.

We have recently delivered two carloads of kids' clothes and toys to JoyRon Foundation.

WHAT'S NEXT?

It is very hard to predict at this stage what may yet be salvaged from our plans for this summer but I am pleased to say that the TP52 fleet has returned to its Valencia base, and their World Championship in Puerto Portals is still planned for September.

And, much sooner than that, the Radio One Mallorca Radiothon will go ahead, on 19 June. YGB are very proud and grateful to have been chosen as one of the beneficiaries of this brilliant annual fundraising event.

The Yachting Gives Back container inside the STP shipyard is open again on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 0930-1030 to receive donations of food, toiletries, bedding, toys, cleaning materials etc.

A huge thank you to those who have already donated and also to those who are just about to:

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<https://www.gofundme.com/f/1xm2p6502o>

Go on, you know you want to!

Keep safe,
 Nick Entwisle

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