



M&S welcomes ShelterBox to Truro, and names the disaster relief agency its 'Charity of the Year'

ShelterBox has been named 'Charity of the Year' by M&S Truro ahead of the disaster relief agency's office move to Truro in mid-July.

Cornwall's disaster relief charity ShelterBox has secured support from one of Truro's best-known retailers, M&S. The store and its staff have named ShelterBox as their 'Charity of the Year', which means it will be the focus of fundraising events and promotions across 2016/17.

M&S employees have a long history of supporting ShelterBox. Most recently, Food Section Manager Sarah Gallagher was a medal-winner in the Tuff Enuff World's End challenge on 27 May, taking part in the gruelling event for ShelterBox. Tuff Enuff Races are extreme obstacle course races designed by military experts to test strength, stamina, fitness and nerve.

ShelterBox moves its HQ to Falcon House in Truro on 18 July, so will be a near neighbour to M&S Truro. Some M&S staff have volunteered to help with the move.

Store Manager **Gill Tripp** aims to help ShelterBox settle in to the Truro business community as much as possible. Gill is also a member of the city's Business Improvement District group, a business led initiative that gives local organisations the power to raise funds locally, to be spent locally.

Gill says, **'Our team is really excited about the opportunity to support a charity that works internationally yet is founded and based in Cornwall. We feel really proud to be working with Shelterbox and to welcome them to the Truro Community. We look forward to establishing a strong partnership for the future.'**

ShelterBox is moving most of its staff, and its operational HQ, to Falcon House, a Truro city centre office complex. Among exciting future plans for the building is a new disaster relief exhibition centre that will be open to the public. The charity's warehousing, aid packing and transport operations will remain in Helston, where they have been since 2000.

ShelterBox's Community Fundraiser **Lucy Holden** says, **'This association with M&S is a really friendly welcome to Truro for ShelterBox – the first of many I am sure. M&S staff have always supported our work, and now as Charity of the Year we will be able to use their great resources and their employees' enthusiasm to help us reach out to even more displaced families worldwide.'**

NOTES TO EDITORS

- The photos above show (L to R) Sarah Gallagher with her Tuff Enuff medal. Falcon House, soon to be the new HQ for ShelterBox.
- Find out more about [Tuff Enuff events](#) here.
- Find out more about [ShelterBox, and how to donate](#), here.
- Find out more about [Truro's Business Improvement District](#) here.
- Spark Something Good is M&S's way of helping customers and colleagues make a real difference. Whether it's getting involved in the community through Charity of the Year activity, shwopping old clothes or helping M&S's efforts to beat cancer (with Breast Cancer Now and Macmillan). It encourages customers to join in and spark something good. Spark Something Good is an important element of M&S's Plan A – its sustainable business plan which focuses on protecting the planet through sourcing responsibly, reducing waste and helping communities. Find out more here: <http://corporate.marksandspencer.com/plan-a/get-involved/spark-something-good>