

FINAL 12th JANUARY 2005

ANSBACHER BACKS THE AQUALUNG PROJECT

Ansbacher, the private banking group, is pleased to announce its support for the Aqualung Project – a venture in which lung cancer sufferer Nick Baker intends to sail the Atlantic single-handed in order to raise funds for a number of charities.

Nick is a senior yacht broker at Camper & Nicholsons International and despite being a non-smoker he was diagnosed with lung cancer three years ago. He aims to sail from the Canaries to Antigua in a Bowman 48 and with the support of organisations, friends, colleagues and associates raise considerable funds for the Magpie Cancer Centre Campaign, The Institute of Cancer Research, Encompass and Merlin.

Ansbacher is acting as banker to The Aqualung Trust, which is a registered charity that has been set up to administer the project and the fundraising activities. Additionally Ansbacher has advanced the funds for the purchase of the boat and its subsidiary company, Sarnia Yachts, has handled the registration services for both the boat and its corporate ownership.

Nick Baker says of the project:

“The project is based around my illness, my wish to do something unique, challenging and difficult in the time available and make something positive come of the situation. The support I’ve received already has been exceptional and I’m really grateful to Ansbacher and all the companies, organisations, associates, friends and complete strangers that have made this possible.”

Ansbacher’s managing director Hugh Titcomb commented:

“We are very proud to be associated with this inspiring project and hope that as many people as possible will support Nick and help him raise substantial funds for these four charities.”

Donations can be made by bank transfer to:

Account name: The Aqualung Trust Current Account
Account number: 28003991
Sort Code: 70 - 15 - 70

Further information on The Aqualung Project can be found on www.aqualungtrust.org and Ansbacher's web site at www.ansbacher.com

Notes to editors:

The **Institute of Cancer Research** is one of the world's leading cancer research organisations and is internationally renowned for the quality of its science. The Institute's commitment to newly emerging fields of research is reflected by plans for a specialist Genetic Epidemiology building with cutting-edge facilities.

www.icr.ac.uk

The **Magpie Cancer Centre Campaign** is a cancer centre in Winchester that purchases medical equipment for the investigation and treatment of patients in the Winchester Health District. The centre also has resources to further research, education and care.

Merlin is a UK-based international humanitarian organisation dedicated to providing emergency health-care to millions of vulnerable people affected by wars, natural disasters and epidemics. It is currently heavily involved in the relief effort following the recent Tsunami disaster in Asia.

www.merlin.org.uk

Encompass - The Daniel Braden Reconciliation Trust was set up following the death of Daniel Braden in the 2002 terrorist bombing in Bali. In an effort to build on relationships between young people from different ethnic and religious backgrounds, it brings them together to crew and sail tall ships around the world.

www.encompasstrust.org

The **Ansbacher Group** provides tailored financial solutions to high net worth individuals and institutional clients worldwide. The Group's services span private and specialist banking, wealth management, investment advice, fiduciary and fund services. The Ansbacher Group operates from the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Cayman Islands, the Bahamas, Switzerland, and Dubai.

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