

As a voluntary charity we are keen to spend as little as possible in this country so we can spend more in Moldova. Over the years we have been very fortunate the beneficiaries of generous landlords who have allowed us to use our store with no rent. This obviously saves us a great deal of money.

Once everything has been sorted and packed we arrange for the truck to be loaded – This is not an easy task. Our volunteers come after work and as everything has to be carried by hand from the store to the truck, everyone is exhausted by the end of the night. These huge articulated lorries take a huge amount to fill!

Seeing a truck crammed full of these Christmas boxes is so gratifying, every box represents a very happy child, (or Granny/Grandpa). It is so wonderful to send such a valuable truck filled with so thousands of Christmas boxes.

Please do support us with this appeal



Christian Response is proud to be a totally voluntary charity whose roots go back to 1990.

In addition to the Soup Kitchens, Medical and educational projects, family support etc. each year we have our Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

We invite people to pack a Shoebox with new items suitable for a child or an adult, or even fill a much bigger box for a complete family.

Once there is no room for anything else in the box please seal it, wrap it in Christmas Paper and mark very clearly on the outside "Boy" or "Girl" with an appropriate age range, for example, GIRL age 4 to 7 or BOY age 12 to 15., or if applicable "GRANNY" or "GRANDPA".

**We need all the completed shoeboxes at our store
The Old Kindergarten, Spiders Lane, EXMOUTH
EX8 5DS by Saturday 28th November 2020**

christian
response
to
eastern
europe



Christmas Shoebox Appeal

*Little Maria is very excited that the
Christmas Truck is in its way.*



For more details call Hugh on 07970 204506

Email: mail@cr2ee.org.uk

www.cr2ee.org.uk

**Giving shiny love and new hope in a shoebox.
What it means and how to do it.**

Please, for one moment, imagine you are a young child from a very poor family. Christmas is coming and although you know you will not be receiving any gifts you are still very excited. Imagine now you are a child in one of our Soup Kitchens. It is Christmas time and after a special meal, Father Christmas appears and starts to give out beautifully wrapped Christmas boxes.

Imagine the anticipation when given a Christmas Shoebox. (For many this will be the first "proper" Christmas present they may have had in their lives).

Whilst waiting for your turn you look across the room and watch your friends open their Christmas Shoebox. All the children, indeed everyone is very excited and eagerly, (but carefully so as not to rip the paper), open the lid to reveal a box totally stuffed to the brim with lots of lovely new things: some practical, some to play with, some to wear. The joy, the excitement, is overwhelming.

Your imagination is running wild as a beautifully wrapped Christmas box is passed to you. Initially you just look at it imagining what delights lay inside. Carefully you cut the sellotape and open the lid. Inside, this prettily wrapped box is half filled, not packed to the top, not the same as the others.

Inside lies a well-loved, possibly over loved teddy, a few used crayons with a partly completed colouring book. The best things in the box are a small packet of sweets and a toy given in a Kiddies box from McDonalds. All your excitement has fallen to your boots. You fight to hide your disappointment. Your friends excitedly ask "What did you get in your box?" Fighting back the tears you hold up the few crayons and say, "These are great, I can still use them and the colouring book has some unused pages left".

To fill a box with lovely new things for a child can be expensive, about £15 to £20 and if this is too much why not get together with friends or neighbours and between you make one lovely box brimming with new things.

These children live such grim lives but despite this they are really lovely, as are most of the people in Moldova. They deserve the best we can give. It is so emotional for anyone witnessing the children, (and grannies and grandpas), opening these Christmas boxes. Seeing a child shout with excitement, their eyes filled with tears of joy, is a sight never to be forgotten. These Christmas Shoeboxes are filled with love and give hope to those who receive them.



We do not have a list of items we want you to put in your Christmas box but rather we invite you to decide if you wish to do a box for a girl or boy, or even a granny or grandad. Then look around and find things you feel would be suitable and pack the box. The only thing we do ask is that everything in the box is new.

If you are looking for ideas the list below may be helpful.

Just a few ideas if you need any

For any age you could consider

Hats	Gloves	Socks / Tights
Underwear	Tee Shirts	Cuddly toy
Tooth Paste	Tooth Brush	Shampoo
Hairbrush	Soap / Shower Gell	Deoderant
Calculator	Cheap watch	Jigsaw puzzles
Chocolates	Sweets	Biscuites
Paints boxes	Crayons	Colouring books
Pencils	Exercise books	Calculator

For Girs

Dresses
Tights
Dolls
Friendship bracelets
Beads
Jewellery
Glow Sticks
Hair Clips and slides
Lip gloss
Purse
Jewellery

For older ladies
Hand cream
Head Scarves
Perfume

For Boys

Lego bricks
Toy cars
Wallet
Torch
Glow Sticks
Touuch
Magnifying glass

For older boys
Pen knife
Razor / shaver
Shaving cream

For older gentlemen
Aftershave
Mini tools
Coffee



If you have any used clothing or toys of excellent quality or indeed any other suitable items we would like to take these to Moldova on our Christmas truck, (or one of our other Aid Trucks), but not in the Shoeboxes. We collect items for our humanitarian aid trucks throughout the year and aim to send about three trucks annually.