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Children Of Honduras Trust

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LOADING DAY 18TH MARCH 2006

Although we were blessed with a dry day it was also very cold. So much so that our helpers deserved to be commended for their fortitude, good humour and commitment in staying as long as they could to ensure a successful conclusion to the job. As it turned out, this year's event can be considered among the most successful packs that we have done. The two 'south' vans were closed up about 4.00pm. Closure of the 'north' van was delayed for an hour or so because additional material was needed. This was drawn from the pool of goods we expected to roll over till next year, which had to be dug out, labelled etc and packed, as it became available. At the end, everything to hand was sent and nothing remained to be rolled over. The available stuff precisely filled the vans to capacity in circumstances where we were predicting a 20% overspill. It is encouraging to know that the Lord can get it right, even if we can't! This meant that we could move to our new premises without having to organise people and



- CHILDREN RECEIVING WORMING TABLETS -

vehicles to shift stuff from Rotadata up to the new facility at West Hallam.

What did we send this year? We sent more than 1000 chairs and 200 tables. These were loaded into the containers on the Friday night. We also had our usual mix of clothes, shoes, toys, educational supplies, paper, emulsion paint, rice, milk, oats, mixed foods and medicals.

A FOND FAREWELL TO ROTADATA

In the early days CH Trust began its work with small parcels. Later shipping was done by air cargo (very expensive by both volume and weight) and then by container. Thirteen years ago, Rotadata offered the Trust the facility to load at their yard and subsequently store and process goods there. Neither party at the time realised how pivotal a role these facilities would play in the development of the Trust.

Previously storage and processing was limited to borrowed garages and in the home, which considerably limited the scale of work. The development of facilities at Rotadata, over the years, enabled the Trust to progress from one container per year to three in recent years. Combined with other storage facilities it was possible to dispatch four containers in 2005. Without Rotadata's contribution CH Trust would not exist, as we know it today. Now that we have moved on it is foremost in our thoughts to thank Rotadata for the great blessing they have conferred on the work of the Trust. We pray that the Lord will continue to richly bless them in recognition of the time, patience, tolerance and faithfulness they have invested in our work. In spite of the inconvenience of receiving deliveries on our behalf, the disruption annually inflicted on their operations and our continual seeking of favours, the staff have always honoured us with maximum friendship, help and encouragement.

The Lord has now blessed CH Trust with new accommodation, which enhances the capability of our mission. However, we leave Rotadata with a host of fond memories and the knowledge that it was virtually our second home for thirteen wonderful years.

HELLO TO THE NEW FACILITY

It is a great delight to inform everyone that the Lord has provided the new premises He promised to us nearly two years ago. Fantastic! Praise to His name.

Following Loading Day 2004, you may recall the owner of the land, where we have packed and loaded our containers for 13 years, advised us that he needed us to find other accommodation for our storage containers. Over the years the company had grown from 70 employees, when we arrived, to over 200 at the present time. He now needed the space that we occupy. In one sense this was good news since we have always prayed for the prosperity of our host, the provider of our base and facilities. However, had we overdone it?

No. The news was accompanied with a great sense of peace and a whisper from the Holy Spirit saying, “upgrade time”. The Lord had heard our earnest request to move from the cold winter rigour of outdoor packing to an indoor facility where we could pack through the year in more sensible conditions. Wonderful news! In faith we started to apply to the large firms in the area. As one turned us down we sought another. We then considered smaller locations. However, the need for a large amount of storage area and a big yard to facilitate Loading Day seriously limited our options.

A year passed without any sign of a breakthrough and, in January 2005, we found ourselves packing outside in the cold and rain again! Lord, we are getting older and we need to be inside for packing week! As you know, the Lord supplied us with the scout hut behind Newmount Methodist Church. We packed under cover right up to Loading Day. Praise God! But we knew that this was not the Lord’s full provision.

We finished up sending four containers in 2005. This enabled us to completely empty our storage containers, ready to move. We again sought the Lord for our new location. In the event, we spent another 10 months applying to various firms without success. Throughout all of this the Lord assured us that He had a location for us and when the time was right we would be given it. The Lord also said that it would be bigger than I expected and I was already dreaming big. Big and inside was my definition of an upgrade!

Many ‘just right’ times seemed to come and go but we seemed to make no progress. January 2006, another Loading Day was looming. Time to move location was fast disappearing with no sign of any immediate possibility. Once again, with some trepidation, we decided to ask Rotadata if they would permit us to use their yard to load the containers. They have been so good and very long suffering. We thank the Lord that they said yes. They also said that March 2006 must definitely be the last Loading Day on their site.

Help! Contingency Plan A. In fairness, we felt it important to arrange to move our containers from the yard soon after Easter. One of our options was to approach a local storage depot to rent parking space for them. This place had come up in conversation several times as a place to rent a warehouse. Needless to say, the rental for a place of the required size was several orders of magnitude greater than what we could possibly afford, approximately equivalent to our annual budget! Nevertheless, we were rather desperate to find somewhere to park the containers, temporarily, whilst awaiting the location the Lord had for us.

Thus, we duly arrived at TDG Logistics at West Hallam and asked to speak to the person in charge. He turned out to be very nice and extremely accommodating. Far beyond a bit of parking space, he offered us permanent storage in one of their warehouses, space for our containers and the facility to pack and load on their site. Remember, I was thinking big. The warehouse in which we are now accommodated is absolutely enormous! The Lord was right when he said it would be bigger than I expected. Even more staggering, the offer is not only permanent but also free of charge! Another bonus is that the site is located only four miles up the road from where we live. We will no longer have to worry about traffic problems, which occur when the Rams have a home football match or fighting the rush hour traffic through the centre of Derby. The Lord has been so good to us. Praise His name. He moves very quickly when the time is right! God provided His solution to our problem within five days of Rotadata's request that we move in the near future.

We moved into the new facility during April 2006. There was much to plan and consider. The warehouse environment offered the prospect of vastly improving the way that we operate and organise the packing process. The Lord has given us the best part of a year to think our way through this and prepare for next year's Loading Day event. We were extremely fortunate to be given a large quantity of commercial racking, which has been used to good advantage in the design of our new operating environment. One of the Trust's helpers generously contributed insulated wood flooring for the processing area within the warehouse. This, together with a building already benefiting from high duty insulation has proved to provide a cool working environment in hot weather and, we anticipate, comfortable working conditions in the winter. We have a lot of learning to do but, with the Lord's help, I am sure that we will be successful. We shall certainly be dry and indoors! Isn't God wonderful? We are already enjoying the benefits of the Trust's new home. Thank you Lord, also the Management Team of TDG



- FRIENDS OF CH TRUST AT THE NEW TDG WAREHOUSE -



- INSIDE THE NEW WAREHOUSE -

and the individuals who have contributed much time, energy and resources into commissioning the facility.

The official opening ceremony took place on Thursday, 23rd May 2006. It was indeed a great privilege for CH Trust that Ivan Romero, Head of Mission, at the Honduran Embassy in London performed the ceremony. This took place in the presence of Mike Walis and Margaret Wain, Mayor and Mayoress of Erewash, Mario Seguro, Congressman of the Honduras Government, Mario Rodriguez, Director of the Honduras Coffee Association, Adrian Foulke, TDG Contracts Manager and Simon Bateman, TDG General Manager. It proved to be a memorable occasion and a fitting beginning for our new era at the TDG Logistics Warehouse.

THE BUREAUCRATS STRIKE AGAIN! __

This year delivery of the containers in Honduras has been accompanied by some problems. Part of this was caused by important importation document originals, entrusted to the care of the Royal Mail recorded delivery service, taking over a month to arrive at their destination. They were, in fact, presumed to be lost. This necessitated creating a duplicate set of documents, another visit to the Notary Public and a painful £64 fee for courier delivery by DHL. We were later informed that the Royal Mail and DHL document sets arrived on the same day! The problem was further aggravated by officials of the newly appointed government taking longer to process the paperwork. As a result \$9000 of charges were incurred to secure release of the containers from the docks. This was initially met by a loan from a benefactor in Honduras whom we do not know. We are very grateful for that timely gesture, because it permitted an interval during which CH Trust were able to marshal the necessary funds. A third of the bill is associated with a deposit (set against our paperwork in lieu of potential taxes). This should be returned in due course. The remainder consists of haulage charges and dock charges (demurrage) incurred through late removal.

The opening of our new facility was attended by a senior minister in the new Honduran Government. He is currently working on our behalf to retrieve as much as possible of the 'extra' costs we suffered. He is also seeking to exempt CH Trust from any import taxes and the requirements for dispensas etc in future years. These matters are still ongoing as we go to print. Your prayers for a successful result will be gratefully appreciated.

Finally, we thank the Lord that the containers have been successfully delivered, unopened, to their legitimate recipients and the contents distributed to the benefiting ministries. In spite of the difficulties and frustrations, the children in Honduras will be blessed as the Lord decrees.

SUCCESS WITH THE SOUP KITCHENS

The Naranjal kitchen, which opened last year, now provides a meal, three days per week, for 120 poor children between the ages six to fourteen. The tables we provided came out of a local laundry canteen and the chairs came from a school. Naranjal is a very poor rural area near the capital Tegucigalpa. The local church runs this kitchen with unpaid voluntary help. They provide as much locally grown food as possible. However, 120 children take a lot of feeding. We send as much food in as possible since the more food the church has, the more children they will feed. We send milk, oats, flour, spaghetti, oil, tomatoes, tuna, etc.

Pastor Ricardo wrote:-

The response to our effort topped our expectations. Not only a nutritious meal but medical attention is being provided by my wife, a registered nurse, who is being ably assisted by the wife of one of our Pastors, also a qualified nurse. Our congregation is involved in some of the cooking, others are attending to the janitorial responsibilities and those that have land give the fruits and surpluses of their harvest. The success of this project has fired up our other two churches to build feeding stations in their own areas.

One of these, our church in Pedrigal, has already raised funds to assist in the building of a proper kitchen for their feeding station, which is now in construction. Our La Via church urgently desires to get out of its rented property and is currently raising funds for the purchase of a site to build on. They piloted a meal programme for two days and were astonished to have over 100 children in attendance. This impressed them with the urgency of the task.

More supplies have arrived from England to help equip these other feeding stations. A special thank you to the Children of Honduras Trust, who are helping to meet this great need. To all who have contributed to the feeding programme, we pray that the Lord will bless you a hundred fold.

Again thanks for all the hard work. It is paying off. Good things are coming from it. God Bless.

VERONICA'S 'FIRST HAND EXPERIENCE'

Veronica, one of the Trust's supporters, visited Honduras early in 2006 and experienced a day at the Naranjal Children's Kitchen. The following is her account of how she came to be there.

It all started with a Christmas card in 2004. I was writing a note to a friend thanking him and his family for all the supplies they had provided for Children of Honduras Trust. "...I should go one day," I wrote and the seed was sown. Why don't I? Following a discussion with my husband and a call to a friend who I thought might like to come, 'the train had left the station' and I was starting to plan when and how to pursue the adventure.

I arrived in Honduras on Saturday 21st January 2006. Jenny and her husband Raoul met me at Tegucigalpa airport on a warm but overcast day. After about a week in Valle de Angeles I met Ricardo. He took me to see the work he was doing in Naranjal, Pedrigal and La Via de San Francisco. Jenn Cox had asked me to gather info specifically on the children's soup kitchen in Naranjal. On my first visit to the soup kitchen I was able to look around the building and see what Ricardo and his team had achieved. In my mind I kitted it out with children sat quietly in anticipation, meekly and shyly waiting to be served. My second visit popped that balloon fairly swiftly. I had hoped to take photos and have time to look around, talk to children ... About one hundred children descended on us long before we were ready. School had finished early and they were there, hungry and ready to be fed! Three women were beavering away in the kitchen, the site supervisor was checking that the tables all had chairs, that the fans were working and there was a vain attempt to keep the children out until the staff were ready! The pastor's wife from Pedrigal had turned up to take the details of the children and to weigh those who were considered malnourished. I wanted to help out but the time passed quickly and the hall began to fill up, the noise level rose and little disputes broke out between children jockeying for particular tables, chairs or a favoured location! Before I knew it I was caught up handing out food, adding tortillas to plates, plonking spoons onto plates, serving juice, collecting empties and tidying up! It was like a tornado had swept into town and out again. I had hoped to find some sponsored children for someone I had received e-mails from, to update her - no chance! The tornado of children disappeared quickly and we were left to clear up and prepare for the next onslaught.

Ricardo had placed the logo of The Children of Honduras Trust above the entrance to the hall. I told him he'd get serious 'Brownie' points from Jenn, it did look good.

Well that was that, I didn't get another chance to return. I hope to return very soon on another visit and see how things are going. Ricardo is doing a very worthwhile and essential job. There is a great need there, as there is across Honduras. It was humbling to see the impact that supporters of CH Trust were making in this very poor area.



- RECEIVING SPONSORSHIP UNIFORMS OUTSIDE SOUP KITCHEN -

HELP FOR HOSPITALS

The dire circumstances of hospitals providing care for the poor have been brought to the notice of CH Trust from several quarters. This year we have been asked to help a minimum of three hospitals.

The first is located in Orica, a remote country village in the east of Honduras. This is a small Christian hospital, serving an area twice the size of Derbyshire, currently supported and financed by a group of churches in the area. The area is rural and poor. The people have limited means of paying for their treatment or medication. The one doctor who services this hospital is also Pastor of a church in the capital, four hours away by bus. The hospital possesses some very basic equipment but is very limited by the fact that they do not have a working stand-alone anaesthetic trolley. They also lack plastic covered mattresses for their beds. We have already managed to send in a sterilising unit as theirs was not working. They are very short of all consumables such as plastic gloves, dressings, tablets

etc. There is a DVD about the hospital if you would like a copy (It will also play on a computer with a DVD drive). It is very sobering to glimpse the reality of medical care available to those lacking resources in our 'Hi-Tech' age.

The second hospital is newly built and has nothing at all! This is again in the east of the country in a district called El Paraiso. Although it exists as a building it otherwise needs **everything**, starting with beds and bedding.

The third is the state hospital in the capital, Tegucigalpa. Even though the need gets greater as one moves into the rural areas, the need at the state hospital is still very severe. The only way to access hospital treatment at the level we here in the UK would expect is in the very expensive private hospitals available only to the relatively well off people in Honduras.

At the state hospital in the capital, patients have to queue all day to see a doctor. At the end of the day they may or may not have achieved, as there are more people seeking help than can be seen by the doctors. There are also few beds for those who are lucky enough to gain admittance. All of these hospitals are very short of consumables. One pair of plastic gloves will have to be used for three patients. There is not always soap available for the doctors to wash their hands. It is difficult to imagine how they cope.



- DOCTOR DISPENSING MEDICALS SENT BY CH TRUST -

Can we help? They do not worry too much about dates on things. Two useful sources of help are local doctors' surgeries and businesses/companies.

Local surgeries are now encouraged to use disposable single use instruments rather than to sterilise their own equipment. As a result they may have both sterilising units and instruments which are now surplus to requirements. Industry has first aid posts that have to stock bandages, which have an expiry date on them (strange but true). Is it possible to intercept these perfectly good items at replacement time?

We are also happy to receive surplus items that have been used in the home for nursing people. All items returned to the chemist have to be destroyed but we can use them much better in Honduras.

Wheelchairs are also in great demand.

THE SHARP END (MANCHESTER AIRPORT)

Manchester Airport has, for more than a year, donated to us the sharp items confiscated from passengers' hand luggage. Veronica and John collect sort and raise money from these items. It has allowed us to send scissors to all the schools and Sunday schools with which we have contact. We also get an assortment of other items ranging from a crowbar and other hand tools to fishing scales. Lots of cutlery comes from this source as well as medical scissors, which we give to doctors in Honduras. All the items are much appreciated in Honduras. The money raised has helped to send the containers and to support the water and feeding projects.

Virgin Airlines gave us some red (end of line) bags, which the children can use to carry the books they must use for school. Thank you to everyone.

SHOE TIME

An ongoing great need is new and second hand shoes. Shoes for many are a luxury their parents cannot afford to buy. Black shoes allow a child to access state education since they are a mandatory part of school uniform. School is only 'free' as long as you can afford the school uniform. Black shoes are a very expensive item for the ordinary people in Honduras. We send as many shoes as we can collect. We also buy black school shoes locally for £3 a pair. They are usually leather. These allow many extra children to attend school.



**- IT'S A ONE HOUR WALK HOME
WITH THE DONATIONS FROM THE CONTAINER -**



- WE'VE MADE A GUITAR -



- RECEIVING A BAG OF CLOTHES FROM THE CONTAINER -



- TWO POOR CHILDREN WHO WILL RECEIVE OUR HELP -

ONE-OFF SPONSORSHIP

The other project we run is school sponsorship or as the Hondurans call it scholarship. Fifty pounds pays for the uniform and shoes, manual, rucksack, pens etc and provides sufficient equipment for a child to attend state school for a year. (There is a £25 half-sponsorship option also available where CH Trust matches two sponsors to provide a child with a full year of education).

Once again the scheme has proved very popular both here in the UK and in Honduras. When first introduced in 2003 we were able to help 20 children. In this, our fourth year, with your generous support, enough funds were sent out to Honduras for 95 children to be fully equipped to attend school. With the Pastors' help, this was actually increased to 135 children in seven areas around the country. Without your financial support all of these children would not have access to even basic schooling. In the UK we take education very much for granted but for the Honduran student this is not the case. Education is not compulsory. In the state school it is free but only if the child has all the necessary uniform, shoes and educational tools to attend. A pair of shoes can cost an average week's wage and the textbooks are expensive.



- GIVING OUT SHOES AND CLOTHES IN THE STATE SCHOOL -

All the ministries taking part in the scheme have sent their sincere gratitude to all our kind and generous donors. Without exception they have expressed the view that without this input many children would not have the opportunity to go to school at all.

At this time of year we are considering sponsorship for 2007. The earlier we can send donations to Honduras, November at the latest, the more time the pastors and their wives have to source and make up the necessary fabric for the uniforms, fit the youngsters with shoes and purchase books, stationery etc. This means a long trip to the city for many of the families. Sadly, there is no Tesco or BHS within easy reach! The question to our readers is "How many children can we help in 2007?" If any group or individual would like to sponsor the education of a child we would love to hear from you. The contact details are on the front cover of this newsletter. Please can any cheques be made payable to "CH Trust"? The two options available are sponsorship for a full year, cost £50, or a half-year option for £25.

CLEAN WATER

This year we have undertaken two new projects to improve the health of the children. These are to help provide clean drinking water and also to send tablets to treat the amoeba that many children have.

Many children suffer with diarrhoea caused by drinking contaminated water. A large number of families in the poorer areas of Honduras receive their water straight from the river without any purification. It is difficult to imagine what this is like and the illness it causes.

The few sterilising tablets we sent last year, as an experiment, were received with enthusiasm and more were requested. We have sent a large quantity this year and expect them to make a marked improvement in the health of many children and their parents.

This year, we have spent £575 on water sterilising tablets. One tablet costing just under 5p will sterilise a whole water butt of water. Many families cannot access that quantity of water during the dry season and collect a bucket of water once or twice a week from the tanker. A scheme has been devised to enable economic sterilisation of small quantities of water. Although treatment with tablets is a fairly inexpensive way to clean water it soon adds up when you multiply it by

several hundred families, schools etc. We will have provided 115,000 water butts of clean water this year.



- RIVER WATER BEING DELIVERED BY TANKER -

The other item sent this year were tablets to treat the amoeba that children get from drinking contaminated water. These cause diarrhoea and stomach cramps. They need to be treated twice a year. As with all these things, you need to treat the whole family not just one child. The amoeba tablets cost us £680. The high cost is because of the large quantity. We bought 100,000, as each child needs about 24 tablets, twice a year depending on age and weight. These are most needed in the very poor areas where the water is so bad.

Water sterilising tablets are not a very glamorous thing to spend money on but I think you will agree that the benefits will be enormous for those that we reach with this aid.

RECEIVED WITH THANKS (THE PASTORS' COMMENTS) _

Below are some of the early acknowledgements that have come back from the receiving ministries in Honduras. Those that have missed this newsletter will be included in the next issue.

JULIO PAVON (SAN PEDRO SULA)

Unloading of the Container at Lima.

This year more people have helped with the unloading operation because of the threat from rain. However, it remained a threat only. As we unloaded, we marveled at how the brothers from England were able to use their grace to exploit every centimeter of space in the container. Pastor Carlos (Siquatepeque) and the warehouse guard, Oswaldo Ramos, took care of the delivery on the day of arrival and the following day. They and others helped to clean up the area after the job of distribution was completed.

After unloading, WOOOW!!! The women from Cristo Centro, led by Pastora Angela begin to sort the goods and prepare a small parcel for each member of the church. The work is finished with sorting of the shoes. The sorting has continued regardless of the time. Day or night, we have worked with the blessing.

Finally we give thanks to God for the goods received from you, our brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ from England.



- THE NORTH CONTAINER BEING UNLOADED -

On Sunday, 4th May, we organised a special celebration. The particular occasion was to give thanks to God for blessing Cristo Centro with people like you and for His blessing of the children and their parents.

Thank you, thank you, very much. Pavon

PASTOR FRANCISCO (CHOLOMA)

Dearly loved Brothers,

Once again we give thanks to God for your lives and your work for Honduras. Our churches, especially our children, are very blessed by your help. Thanks to God, the container arrived at a convenient time. We met it at La Lima at 2:00 PM with some brothers from my church and the church of Pastor Pavon. The container was opened and we proceeded to discharge the contents into different groups for each church. Our Church carried away its consignment that same night but the following day we decided to support Pastor Pavon with the consignments for other Pastors since not all of them were present on the day.

We are working to bless the aid to families in Choloma. Also, we have begun another work in the district of Copán. This is a new group. Already there are many families attending. This year we have many people included in the churches and the groups.

In Choloma, 30 Families, 75 Adults and 62 Children.

In El Ceibón, 10 families, 25 Adults and 25 Children.

In Copán, 12 families, 30 Adults and 55 Children.

THE PASTOR OF THE FRAT CHURCH

To beloved brothers John and Jennifer and everyone who makes possible the provision from God to bless our community here in Honduras. May the Lord richly bless each one of you. From here, I send greetings in the name of Jesus from all the people who need you. We receive with thanks the many blessings that the Lord has sent.

Pastor Preserando Saucedo of Church Fraternity

PASTOR ROGER RIVERA, PENIEL

I pray that the Lord will abundantly bless your life, that of your family and all the CH Trust team. God has sent such a large blessing through you, a billion thanks!! I am very grateful for the love that you give to us. Heartfelt thanks come from every member of my family, church and also my country. I have already started to sort

the things. I have begun to distribute them to Cesar's church and the clinic in Orica. (It has started to rain heavily in this region but on Friday I am going to deliver all the things you have sent). The doctor of the Orica clinic is called Mr. Rigoberto. He is also the pastor of a church here in Tegucigalpa. He and his team are very grateful for your help. In due course I will send you a report about all of this. Karla (Roger's wife) and a team from church are sorting the items sent. It is now our turn to do our part. We are doing it with great joy knowing that many people, children and families will be greatly blessed.

E-MAIL COMMUNICATION

We have experienced a number of e-mail and web site problems this year. The trust works with several web addresses. Messages received by one of these became invisible to us without our knowing. This was only realised when people complained that I had not responded to their e-mails. The problem occurred during January/February. Towards the end of July our three e-mail addresses and the web site have been lost from view. It seems that the company hosting our domain name have run into problems. We are still addressing this issue as we go to press. Please phone if you are having difficulties. We still exist!

WHAT IS NEEDED?

PLASTIC BEAKERS, DISHES AND PLATES

Several of the churches are asking for plastic beakers, dishes, plates and forks and spoons. They are looking for the sturdy plastic rather than the disposable. These are used for giving the children 'Merienda' snack or meals. They need to be able to wash and use them again and again.

Umbrella and Sun brollies are being asked for as the main form of transport is on foot and an umbrella against the sun or the rain can be very useful.

CHILDREN'S SHOES AND CLOTHES

These are still in great need and greatly appreciated. Each year we reach more and more children and this is the greatest need.

New Children's Socks and Pants are always a favourite as well.

TOYS

Toys are in great demand. This is because we try to help a very large number of children. It is great to be able to hand to many of the children we support a toy of their own to keep. Some are given out when the containers arrive.

Other Pastors keep them to give out at Christmas or on the day of the child in September. Here are a few ideas if you are going out looking for items to purchase: Skipping ropes, yo-yos, marbles, cars, dolls, footballs, basket balls, **colouring books and crayons** etc, basic games like drafts, ludo. (NB we don't send complicated games, as they cannot read the rules. The children are Spanish speaking.) Balloons, up to 100 piece jigsaws, MacDonaldis toys and any small second hand toys. We are still looking for **dressed dolls and those needing to be dressed** to send out.

Children's books in Spanish are very valuable, especially primary reading books. These can be bought in many corner shops in Spain. The reading age is displayed on the back cover. Anos is the word for years.

LARGE CATERING PANS

This is a request we are receiving for many churches. Catering saucepans are needed by many churches to provide a snack type meal for the children in their care.

BEDS

The older type of bed is required i.e. ones with a head and base board and a frame in between. Those with drawers underneath take up too much room in the containers. Bunk beds have also been requested.

MATTRESSES

The hospitals and clinics are asking for mattresses. The best are the proper hospital plastic covered mattresses. However, we are prepared to send ordinary mattresses.

NB. One of the hospitals asking for help is treating children with aids but they have almost nothing to work with. We would also be interested in any related items that could be used in this context.

COLOURED PACKING TAPE

Each church or area that we supply has to be identified by a piece of coloured sticky packing tape. We are now sending to over 26 different destinations and the number is growing. We are running out of different tapes. One or two companies have donated several rolls of their named factory tape for which we are very grateful. Are there any other uniquely identified rolls of tape that you can furnish us with in order to help make our job easier both in England and Honduras. We put a strip of about 3-4 inches on each box. We load and they unload using this

system of identification.

PRINTER INK CARTRIDGES

If you change your printer and find you have a spare ink cartridge we would appreciate it. Last year we sent out several printers and we were able to equip them with ink cartridges that had been donated. Cartridges are expensive and I do not like to spend our funds on them.

RUCKSACKS

Every Pastor asks for these, as each child who goes to school needs one to carry their books, school supplies and a drink with them. Many are walking a considerable distance to school and a rucksack is a necessity. We are happy to receive new and used rucksacks.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Each child has to provide all materials for their schoolwork. The school itself provides nothing. We send pens, pencils, rubbers, rulers, compasses, crayons and exercise books. Exercise books are becoming more difficult to buy and can be expensive. We have been told that the notepad type are often on sale, buy one, get one free, and are just as acceptable. This way we could buy more with the money we spend. Each child needs two black, two blue and two red pens for school.

The State schools have navy blue uniforms. Any jumpers, sweatshirts, shirts and trousers in these colours would help a child access school. White polo shirts are also needed.

Sweatshirts are requested as they wash well and are needed by those who live in the mountainous areas in the colder months.

FOOTBALL BOOTS, KIT AND BALLS

Any football related items are in great demand by the boys. As in all developing countries all the men folk are mad about football. They even get excited when they pass two goal posts in a very uneven field when you are travelling with them. To have real football kit is a real bonus and will be much appreciated. They also need the ball to kick.

NB Places to Acquire Things

Lost property at schools and gyms. Collections of shoes and football boots at schools (plenty of notice needs to be given to parents for this). Charity shops,

which do not sell shoes.

FOOD

Basic foods such as sugar, oil, milk, oats, pasta, plain flour (this is short dated and must have a date after July 07). Catering tins of carrots, peas, corn, tuna, tomato paste, soup (chicken is their favourite).

Sugar - we are sometimes asked why we send sugar? This is because churches, feeding centres and families use it with the oats and milk we send to make their merienda snack. The oats, milk and sugar are boiled together. Because the amount of oats used is small the result is more like a drink than a pudding. It tastes good, rather like rice pudding.

Juice to dilute and drinking chocolate make a good treat. In the case of drinking chocolate buy for quantity rather than named brands. Sweets, please remember they have to travel a long way and some can go very sticky.

Breakfast cereal is wanted, to put with the milk we send, to provide a quick nutritious snack for children. This is needed where there are no facilities to provide a cooked meal. Again we are looking for quantity not quality. Stores own brands are often the cheapest. Weetabix type, cornflakes and rice crispies.

CARPENTRY AND DIY TOOLS

TOWELS AND BEDDING

TOILETRIES

SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER, NIT COMBS, COMBS AND BRUSHES

We are waging war against head lice in Honduras. This is a big problem. A number of the churches will spend a Saturday morning washing and checking children's hair. This is what the shampoo is needed for. They also use the nit combs to check the children's hair. Conditioner helps the comb to pass through the hair and also helps to release the lice. We are also putting together knit combs with instructions in Spanish detailing how to keep heads clean. To do this they need to thoroughly comb or brush the hair daily. This can only be achieved if they have combs and brushes. Can you help?

SOAP, TOOTHPASTE, TOOTHBRUSHES

These are needed for inclusion in the family bags as well as distribution in other areas.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES AS MENTIONED EARLIER IN THE ARTICLES ABOVE

CURTAIN WIRE AND POLES

Please do NOT send ordinary curtain rails.

ELECTRICITY GENERATORS

Towards the start of the rainy season it is usual to have severe electricity shortages when the dam becomes dry. A generator to keep basic lighting etc would be welcomed by nearly every establishment.

For those who have no electrical supply at all it is even more valuable. They also appreciate storm lamps. The domestic electricity supply in Honduras is 110volts and 60Hz.

KNITTERS

We are still happy to receive knitted jumpers and cardigans for babies and primary age children. The state school uniform colour is navy blue. If you do not find knitting a dark colour easy, make one for general wear.

ITEMS NOT WANTED THIS YEAR

This year we are **NOT** wanting adult clothes, computers and monitors or toilets and sinks, bikes, furniture, (large toys like play kitchens), large soft toys. We have sent many over the last two years, more than enough to meet the current needs.

MONEY MATTERS

Yes, we collect money as well. I am sometimes asked how the work is financed. We have no church or organisation that underwrites our work. The Lord is our sole guarantor. The money we receive comes from individuals making donations from £5 upwards. We also receive gifts from churches and groups of people that will hold a coffee morning or event to raise money for our work. The source of our income is slightly different each year. Recently a small number of people have begun to give regularly into our bank account. This is a blessing, as I know that there is regular income, which I can depend upon each month. We also get a good cheque from the Inland Revenue as a result of people Gift Aiding their donations.

If you want more details ring or e-mail us. All cheques for donations and sponsorship should be made payable to C H Trust.

To people who have so little, receiving clothes, shoes, food or medical supplies out of the containers helps them feel loved, remembered and brings a sense of hope for the future. Without the things to send and the money to transport we cannot provide for the children. In this way you are an integral part of the process of bringing help and hope to underprivileged children many miles away.

Thank you for your gifts and prayers. Together we are making a difference.

PACKING WEEK

10th - 17th February 2007 (excluding Sunday).

LOADING DAY

Saturday 10th March 2007.



- YOUNG PEOPLE FROM THE CHURCH SHAMPOOING HAIR -