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# Children Of Honduras Trust

## Newsletter August 2015

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### A NEW ERA

This is the first newsletter from the Trust in its new form. As you might expect, hard on the heels of the container import experience, things are in a state of transition. The new project funding scenario demands that we review and consider how to organise the Trust to best effect and assemble projects that attract funding and deliver maximum impact in Honduras. I hope this process will evolve successfully over the coming months and years. It is vital that we offer our supporters a way forward that is satisfying and rewarding to you as contributors to this work. Some of the ideas and funding needs are presented within this newsletter for your consideration.

I am very aware that the cessation of our hands-on collection and packing operation is a significant loss to many. However, the change is demanded by the practicalities of the times. I hope that you, our supporters, can make the



- PASTA FROM ENGLAND AT MACUELIZO SCHOOL -

adjustment along with us at CH Trust, so that together we can continue to help relieve the poverty and suffering of the poorest families in Honduras and to bring them hope for a better future.

### LIFE AFTER LOADING DAY

2015, the final year of containers to Honduras, has been a very different experience. Normally on Loading Day we prioritize the loading and any remaining items are rolled over to the following year. This could not be done this year. As we have little control over what arrives to be sent, this could potentially have presented a big problem. Would we be able to load the second half of the blue bins we had collected the previous year, which would be used to collect and store water? If offered chairs and tables how many could we accept? Over the years, as each Loading Day has arrived, no one has been able to estimate how much would fit into the containers even though we have all tried. Last year, we thought everything would be loaded but we had half a container load of items left. This year was critical, so we especially asked for the Lord's wisdom as what goods we could accept and what we should turn down.

We anticipated that five 40' containers would be needed in this our final year, a decision which was taken at the end of spring 2014.

The Lord, as always, did a fantastic job and we managed to pack everything into our five containers. After Loading Day, the next task was to empty and return our one and a half warehouse units back to the site owners, Norbert Dentressangle. We agreed to return the larger of the two units on the Monday following Loading Day, as they had a customer waiting. Although we agreed to this, the task proved to be a bigger job than planned. We had expected a larger number of people to attend Loading Day than actually turned up, because it was thought that many would be there because it was the last year. However, even though it was a nice day, just the usual faithful helpers came. I am grateful that a good number of people stayed right up to closure of the last container at about seven o'clock. This made available some additional manpower to enable the larger warehouse to be cleared. The other containers had all been closed before six but the loading team of the last container took their time in order to pack in as much as they could of the remaining goods.

The fifth container had already been loaded on the previous Tuesday. This was necessary because space restrictions dictated that no more than four containers could be loaded simultaneously. Thus all five were locked and sealed ready for

shipment. They left on Monday morning for Tilbury docks.

Following Loading Day weekend, we still had the smaller warehouse unit to clear. This now contained all the debris from both units, in the wake of nine years at the storage depot. Thus we faced up to a big shed-clearing project. Unit 50 is now empty! It took all day and a lot of hard work by our great team but we succeeded. Thanks to everyone, especially those who did the tip and metal runs, which cleared the unit of all the things that we did not manage to sell or give to other people. The CH Trust team rose to the challenge and after two Tuesdays of very hard work the unit was clear. The team were wonderful and worked so hard. A big thank you as clearing up is never the most popular of jobs.

We managed to sell the shelving, tower collars and the bander. We also received donations for items taken by others. In total, £525 was raised from sales, donations and sale of metal. This money will be used to feed children at school.

So, thank you my brilliant team (I have already had offers for you). You are and remain the core of CH Trust.

People keep asking me ‘what will you do with all your spare time?’ I will tell you if and when I find it! I have many months of thank you letters to write and the next phase of CH Trust is to launch and promote the ‘new look’. CH Trust has not finished, it is just changing. We will be sending money to Honduras to purchase food to feed the children at school as well as food bags for families in crisis etc. The school sponsorship continues as does the house building and other smaller projects. Honduras remains a desperately needy country, which we will continue to support to the best of our ability.

### THE CONTAINERS FINALLY ARRIVE

All five containers have now been unloaded and their contents spread across Honduras. This task was only achieved with great difficulty.

After a lot of hard work by our helpers in Honduras, permission was finally granted to only open the containers at the place where they were to be unloaded. This was a big favour, as the Customs have a legal right to open the container holding food at the docks. Sadly, if the containers are opened at the docks, one can expect a large amount of stuff to be stolen, as we experienced last year. If the containers are opened at the unloading destination, all of our people are present and nothing can be easily stolen. However, it was necessary to obtain the favour



### **- 5 CONTAINERS WAITING TO BE OPENED -**

of someone very high up in the government to get this concession. Thank You Lord.

The containers arrived at the Valle de Angeles park at 12 noon. However, they could not be opened until the customs agents came. They finally turned up around 3pm and unloading did not start until 3.30! This only gave two and a half hours of daylight.

Normally we open the two 'south' containers first, as these contain things for the churches that have furthest to travel home. Travelling after dark in Honduras is very dangerous, especially with goods, as the gangs all but rule the country. When the 'south' containers depart the two 'north' containers are then unloaded. This year the customs agents decreed that they would decide which containers would be opened first and no explanation would change their minds.

Large signs are made for each ministry to identify the area in which to collect their things. Every item is allocated and marked here in England, ready for collection and loading into each ministry's vehicles. This has worked very well over the years.

The customs would not permit this. They demanded that all 8000 items were unloaded onto the grass adjacent to the containers and nothing moved. This meant that everybody had to try and find their boxes and other items in the dark, after a

long and frustrating day. There was no electricity and no lights. Power cuts in the Valle have been a problem for some time. Most vehicles were loaded in the dark and everyone went home in the dark.

I have not yet heard of anybody experiencing problems getting home but I am only just receiving reports from Honduras. I think it has taken them several days to get over that unloading day.

Pavon writes, "it was possibly the longest day in memory but it was mission accomplished. Our blessings and greetings to the countless people who have always been ready to help in the collection, sorting, and packaging of the many blessings to Honduras."



### - UNLOADING ALL THE CONTAINERS -

### THE EXPENSE OF IMPORTING CONTAINERS

After arriving at the docks in Honduras, it took six weeks to release and get them unloaded. Thankfully, we were allowed 21 free days before incurring charges for keeping the containers. This had been negotiated with the shippers by a CH Trust member. This was greatly needed, as we eventually received a bill of £23,500.00 in total for taxes, keeping the rented containers over time and charges for having the containers in bonded yards for six weeks.

Part of the delay resulted from the situation that we were unable to obtain a dispensa, a license to import without taxes, as we have done in all previous years. This only came to light at the last moment. Because we could not get the dispensa we had to pay taxes on the contents of the five containers. This came to £5772. The time delay in changing from import with a dispensa to a tax paid import cost us another £1000 in storage charges on the containers.

Altogether a sad story and another reason why sending containers is no longer viable.

## **OUR LAST IMPORT COMPLETED!\_\_\_**

I have to confess that I will not miss this part of the operation.

Many people have asked why we have stopped sending containers. The reasons are several. The cost of importing has become ridiculous over the last few years and very stressful. Also my team, as well as myself, are getting older and less physically capable. Working through the cold winter months in the unheated warehouse is now becoming more of a challenge. It was decided some five years ago that a planned finish in 2015 was the right way to go. Events have proved that the time is right. No one has joined us that could take over and continue the ministry into the future while sending containers. I have grown with the task over 42 years, learning as I have gone along. To ask someone to take over that role is a very big ask, especially as no wage is paid and no expenses granted. The new phase of CH Trust, which is based on money received and sent, can be run from home. In addition it is not burdened with the great responsibility that containers and running a group involves. I hope that in its modified form CH Trust may continue after I am no longer able to do the work.

## **SOME OF THE ITEMS SENT THIS YEAR\_\_\_**

### **BLUE BINS**

Three years ago our council decided to combine the collection of tins, bottles, card and paper into one large blue bin. So, they collected the small blue bins and replaced them with larger ones. We were fortunate in being given 200 of the small bins to send to Honduras to collect and store water. They are ideal as they are a cast bin with no seams which would eventually leak. This makes them better than a water butt. They also have a lid which can be closed keeping the water clean and prevent mosquitoes breeding in the still water. We sent them out over the last two years and they are very popular. Water collection is very

important in Honduras but without something to collect the water in this cannot be done.



**- FAMILY RECEIVING A BLUE BIN -**

### **TABLES, CHAIRS, TOILETS AND SINKS**

After years of planning, a local secondary school at Chaddesden, in the next village, had a new school built. The former head teacher was very supportive of our work and asked the builder to remove the toilets and sinks carefully, before demolition of the building, so that we could send them to Honduras. These will now be given a second life in a home or school. We also received items out of the school kitchen which are no longer used plus about 100 tables and some laboratory stools. We also acquired bits and bobs of all sorts from their redundant items. Thank you.

### **OFFICE EQUIPMENT**

Our local newspaper, the “Derby Evening Telegraph” moved from its premises in the city. In the process we were allowed to have some filing cabinets, chairs, fridges, fans and other useful items left behind in their old building.

### **FOOD**

A food gift we received took the form of two pallets of catering tins of vegetable ravioli. The tins had their labels removed as they had water damage due to a roof leak. However, the contents will taste delicious to the children in Honduras.

## **IBCs AND BARRELS**

We were given extra barrels and IBCs this year as it was our last year. These are so useful as they collect and store water. The amount of water that can run off a short piece of roof during the rainy season is phenomenal. However, you do need to have something in which to catch it for storage. The IBCs are large and used in the schools. Sometimes the mountain schools have to close for a time, during the dry season, as they have no water. This year we also had a large amount of small, cute barrels with lids. These were fought over at the unit as they were a lovely size and easy to work with. These went to individual families.

## **TOILETRIES**

Two years ago we were given 20 pallets of toiletries. These were small individual items that are found in hotel rooms. These have now been dispatched along with twenty seven thousand individual toothbrushes!



**- TOOTHBRUSHES FROM THE UK -**



**- JEANS SENT FROM ENGLAND-**

## SCHOOL TROUSERS AND SKIRTS

During the year we spent about £1000 on school trousers, shirts and a few blouses from a warehouse up north. This was organised by one of our dedicated supporters, Sylvia. The company eventually decided to empty their warehouse and reduced items to £1 each. As a good customer the Trust was invited to purchase some of this reduced price stock. One of our best negotiators took a hire van up to the warehouse where he was met by our supporter. They negotiated individually with the owner of the business. Initially, one of them got him down to 50p per item, the other wore him down to 40p. In the end the owner threw his hands in the air and told them that we could have everything free as it was for a good cause and we had been a good customer. The van duly staggered back to Derby stuffed to the gunwales. Sylvia also filled up her car to capacity and still there was more. We were therefore invited to go back the following week to pick up what was left!

Altogether, we received two full van loads consisting mostly of trousers and skirts. Many of them were in teenage sizes, which we always have difficulty obtaining. The second load contained a lot of polo shirts and t-shirts. A very good haul indeed!

## SOCKS GALORE

The other large item gifted to us consisted of 18 thousand pairs of girls quality white socks! These came from 'Giving World on Line', a charity in Leicester, which passes on surplus items from manufacturers to other charities.

We also received boxes of new white T-shirts in a variety of sizes from a supporter in Derby.

## KEITH MARKHAM'S TRIP TO HONDURAS – JANUARY 2015

Keith has been brought up with the knowledge of the work of CH Trust as his parents have been loyal supporters for over thirty years. He became interested in our house building project.

Keith writes:

*"I visited Honduras in January 2015 on behalf of CH Trust, (self funded and speaking fluent Spanish). What follows is my report of the many things that I saw while I was there.*

*I arrived on the Saturday to be greeted by Cesar, who was carrying an enormous sign of welcome with an England flag on it just in case I didn't see him standing there.*

After five minutes of conversation we agreed that 'Keith' was not going to work too well for reasons of pronunciation so we decided on 'Juan', which is my second name and this stuck for the rest of the trip.

We then wound our way through the sprawling chaotic mess that is the capital city of Tegucigalpa and about thirty minutes later we began to climb higher and higher towards the cooler, greener slopes of Valle de Angeles, my destination for the week. I stayed in a house belonging to Ada (Adalicia (Cesar's sister)) and Luis and was well looked after by Lourdes (another sister). With my jet lag I understood that Lourdes was married to Cesar but that was soon put right!

On the Sunday we visited the 'La Berea' church in the morning and then visited the 'house on stilts' which was just being completed. This house was being built for Mayra and her family who did have a house of their own but were forced to move out by a relative who owned the land.

We then had lunch in Valle de Angeles, which at the weekend is full of visitors from the capital. The streets were teeming with people eating out or browsing the small shops selling local produce including leather goods. Once you get used to the military police carrying large machine guns it is possible to spend an enjoyable few hours there.

On Monday we attended a meeting with the Mayor, Wilfredo Ponce, who expressed his thanks to CH Trust for all the hard work that has been undertaken. He described the operations of CH Trust as 'well managed' and 'transparent' which is a tremendous compliment in a country where corruption is rife and aid agencies often don't do what they say they will.

We then visited a series of houses. At the time of my visit 40 houses had been completed and at the date of this newsletter a further 5 have been completed and another 6 are underway. We also met Santos who is the main builder responsible for their construction. He used to be an alcoholic but since getting involved in this project he has completely turned his life around and now is extremely committed and hard working. With his trademark cap worn backwards and with his tape measure strapped to his belt he is an excellent help for Cesar.

On Tuesday we visited the site of a proposed house in a remote location. Located in an area of outstanding natural beauty, nothing could prepare me for what I saw when we arrived. I can only describe the family's living conditions as being 'squalid'.

I spoke with Jennifer and we agreed that CH Trust would build a house for this family as soon as possible. Their new house took three months to build and is now complete.

Of course theirs is not the only story and it was a privilege to visit a total of 28 houses over the course of the week and to speak to many of those whose lives have been transformed by the security of a 'techo digno' (a 'proper' or 'worthy' roof) over their heads. All those I spoke to were extremely grateful to those who had made this possible and I was encouraged by seeing the difference having your own place makes. I heard stories of families now being able to educate their children as they no longer have to pay the rent, of women starting micro-businesses from their new homes, of no longer having to worry about what the children did or didn't touch because they do not have to go cap in hand to the landlord. Above all else I heard the word 'security' used time and again by women and children who previously had never experienced what this meant.

What also impressed me was the fact that the great majority of people who had benefitted from houses had taken steps to improve their houses either by extending them, or enclosing the open cooking area or by painting them. There is a real sense of pride taken in their new homes.

Later in the week I visited a number of primary schools which although they were closed for the school holidays were open for special (delayed) Christmas meals. I managed to attend three such meals in the villages of Chiquistepe, La Sabaneta and El Macuelizo. These meals are sponsored through CH Trust and consist of chicken, rice, tortillas and beans together with a banana and fruit juice. For many of these children it is one of the few times a year that they get to eat meat as they usually exist on a diet of tortillas, rice and beans. The children enjoyed themselves hugely and not much food was left over.

I was greatly impressed by the teachers that I met. Each one seemed dedicated to their work and you can read some of the comments that they made to me on CH Trust's website. I was particularly taken by one slogan on the wall of a classroom in La Sabaneta which simply read 'We are studying so that we can make Honduras a better place'. In Chiquistepe, pride of place on a classroom wall was given to examples of how to show respect to other people. There seems to be a genuine desire to educate the young people in their care and to make them better citizens who can play a full part in their society. A number of children at these schools also benefit from sponsorship and from free school meals all through the work of CH Trust.

On the way to the airport, on the last, day I stopped off to see the work done by Luis (Adalicia's husband) at the secondary school where he works in Tegucigalpa. Luis is involved in cultivating fruit and vegetables and also keeps chickens and the food produced is used to feed some of the disadvantaged children who attend the school. Luis works very hard to maintain all of this on top of his usual responsibilities. He is a highly regarded teacher and recently received an award from the Minister of Education for all his hard work



**- LUIS GIVING OUT SCHOOL SUPPLIES FROM ENGLAND -**

After an exhausting week I was left with many different thoughts and impressions. On the one hand the grinding poverty made a deep impression and at times led to a sense of helplessness when faced with so much need. However, on the other hand I was impressed by the resilience of the people that I encountered and their desire to improve their lives and those of their children if only they had the chance. I was challenged very much as to what I would do to help provide such opportunities for the people I met and countless others like them.

One thing I am sure of is that the work of CH Trust over all these years has impacted many lives for the better and it is my own desire to continue to contribute to the success of this work for many years to come. I encourage you to think about how you can also be part of this.

Perhaps the best example of this is a lady called Carla. She was so keen to move

into her new house she did so before it was finished and Santos had to politely ask her to leave again so that he could finish the floor. Since moving in she has extended her house and also painted it in vibrant colours. She has also started her own microbusiness selling tasty snacks to local children. The snacks are prepared in and sold from her home and this is only possible because she now has her own 'techo digno'. Seeing someone work so hard and with a desire to improve her situation was a great encouragement and I trust that we will see many more stories like this in the future.



**- CARLA PREPARING FOOD TO SELL FROM HER NEW HOUSE -**

More information about my trip can be found on the CH Trust website. I also hope to share some of my experiences with you on the next Honduras Evening in Spondon, 7th September.

If required, I can make myself available to speak to Church groups about my experiences.”

Jennifer Cox is also available to speak at venues local to Derby.

**EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIP**

We shall continue with educational sponsorship and thought you might like to read about one of the older teenagers benefitting from the scheme. It is wonderful to see them making the most of the opportunity they have been given.

16 year old Susan is a teenager with a responsible attitude towards everything that life might bring. She is the youngest of three children. She has always studied hard and she likes to get good marks and is a good example to others of her age.

Since she was in kinder, she has always been known as the best student in the class and as someone who helps others in school when they have difficulty with the subject. Her parents are very proud because she is a good and affectionate child.

She started in the CH Trust sponsorship programme in 2008. Since then it has been a great help to her parents, because she could get everything that she needed over the years. In 2012 she started secondary school and successfully completed in 2014. In 2015 she is in the first year of her (A level) technical diploma in electrics and is achieving good results.

In 2017 she will finish her studies and hopes to continue her dream of going to university, where she would like to study electrical or civil engineering.

The help from CH Trust has been a great blessing. She says that she prays and gives thanks to God for your lives and that God may greatly reward you and your families for all that you do for others, because all that you sow you will certainly reap. She also says this of you. She hopes that you will always know there are many families in Honduras who remember you with love and affection and that you hold an important place in their hearts

Sponsorship is due in November/December and remains at £50 per child for a year.

### **THE KEITH PLAMPING MEMORIAL FUND**

CH Trust has created a new emergency education fund named after CH Trust's secretary who passed away early on in 2014. This fund will be called the Keith Plamping Fund and will be used by two of our most trusted personnel in Honduras. It will be available to buy a manual, a piece of uniform or exercise book in order to enable a child to continue with their studies, rather than drop out of school. It seems incredible to us that a child could lose a year of schooling because they do not have an exercise book, pencil or manual but without available funds this can happen in Honduras. The schools and colegios (secondary education) provide nothing. If you cannot do your classroom studies and your homework you will fall behind. If the student cannot pass the exams at the end of the year they have

to retake that year again without their friends. For the sake of a few pounds we cannot let this happen. I am creating a £5 gift card to source this fund but any amount can be donated at any time, just let me know.

## HELP FOR THE SICK

This year I bought, as usual, medicines for the children, antibiotics, multivitamins, pain killers, and basic cream for athletes' foot. We supply many clinics and ministries who take these medicines to the poor who cannot afford a doctor or the medicine prescribed. This is surely the love of God in action.

One ministry we supply takes brigades of doctors and nurses into mountain areas where there is no medical aid. The teams go for about three days. They also take along people who can hold Sunday school, preach the gospel, cut hair and check teeth.

Bringing this help in the name of Jesus is not easy. Some of these villages are very hard to access. The latest brigade took three hours by bus and then they had to transfer to a convoy of 4x4 vehicles in order to get up the high mountains. Even with a 4x4 it is not easy. The mud roads are very difficult to travel and the trucks often get stuck and need to be given a tow to pull them out of particularly deep mud. This takes extra time so that when the team arrives and have unloaded their supplies, they are tired and ready for sleep. I will not say go to bed as I doubt that beds will be available.

The next day will see people starting to arrive and soon long queues of people are waiting to see the doctors. Many will have walked long distances, often carrying a little one, to seek this help. As you look around you wonder where they have all come from as there are only a few homes visible. What a ministry! It is an honour to be able to send them medicines. They are celebrating the fact that they have done 48 brigades over the years.

“Each brigade event costs us, on average, £3,700 as they have to buy food for the team, sometimes they have to rent another bus and also buy gasoline for the bus. Everyone taking part also gives some money to help to pay for the expenses.

For each trip, we spend about £330 on medicines for children, like cough syrup, antibiotics, parasite medicine, shampoo for the treatment of lice, creams for skin problems. Each child receives on average £4 in medicine.

This helps the families as they don't have money to pay for medicines and the government health care clinic do not give medicines. Recently, some medicine given to us was passed on to a health care clinic, because they did not have anything at all."



**- BAGGING VITAMINS READY FOR THE STUDENTS -**

### MEALS

For the past five years we have been feeding the children in five rural schools in the Valle area. This is where a lot of our pasta and tinned tomatoes are used for the main part of the meal. Our flour is used to make the tortilla, which is eaten with a meal instead of bread.

In England, if a family is too poor to feed their children, they get help from the government and free meals at school. In Honduras, if the family does not have money to buy food, the child goes hungry. Some children will go up to two days without food due to lack of money, especially when the rent is due. Rent arrears are not tolerated. In default, a family will literally find themselves on the streets. Renting of even one room is very expensive and must come before food.

We are aiming to feed as many children as possible through the schools and Vicente (senior school) where we have trusted personnel. Previously we sent food in the containers, now we need to send funding to continue the work.



**- WE GOT FOOTBALL BOOTS FROM ENGLAND -**



**- RECEIVING FAMILY BAGS -**

For many children this meal at school will be the principal one and sometimes the only food they will receive that day. The provision of food also encourages a child to attend school and the parent to send them to school rather than have them look after a young sibling or work in the fields. Children can walk up to four miles each way to school.

£30 will allow a child, in one of these schools, to have a free lunch each day during the school year. It will provide them with rice, red beans and flour for tortillas each day, plus a piece of fruit three days a week. The fruit will be either a banana or one of the many varieties of oranges. Even though much fruit is grown locally, most families cannot afford to buy it.

We will need £13,140.00 to provide free school meals for five rural schools in 2016.

### VICENTE

We provide a meal each school day for 150 to 200 pupils at Vicente Colegio. The pupils fed are those most in need of a meal due to their economic situation and the fact that they are not receiving help from any other organisation. At Christmas, it was distressing to hear Luis tell how students will come and seek him out at the weekend and offer to do any job in order to be given food to eat, as they have not eaten since their last meal in the dining room at Vicente. This is why I need to be able to send money to continue feeding these students and have also created a fund so that these students in food crisis can be fed. Some students have to choose between their bus fare and eating at lunchtime. They have to take the bus as it is too far to walk and may even be dangerous because of the gangs.

### FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY

We are now moving into a new phase of CH Trust, where we need to raise extra funds in place of the food donations we have previously sent in the containers. Of the various projects, the main one is to continue to feed the children through schools and colleges and feeding the poorest families in four different very poor areas, including the Lenca tribe.

£13,140.00 to provide a very basic meal for 438 children throughout the school year. These are in poor rural communities.

£4,500.00 Vicente College meals for 150 of the most needy students through the school term.



**- A MEAL AT GUANACASTE SCHOOL -**



**- EATING FRUIT GROWN FROM TREES BOUGHT BY CH TRUST -**

£4,000.00 This will provide a food bag near Christmas time for 800 families situated in six different very poor areas.

£650.00 the cost of the Christmas party (meal) for the 500 children we help. These are the children in the schools we support plus their younger brothers and sisters. This is a very special day.

Grand Total £22,290.00

The other one-off projects are:

- £1,300.00 cost to build a house for a family in need.
- Money Requested for Educational Visits (2015)

£193 is the cost of taking 85 young people from different villages in the Valle De Angeles area on a trip. This will pay for transport and entry to the museum of Honduras History and Culture and afterwards some food. These are the students who attend IHER, Education by Radio. This is undertaken by students who need to work during the week to help feed their families and who receive their education over the radio during the week and attend classes at the weekend.

£116 is needed to pay for 30 children from Buena Vista and 20 children from Guayabo to go into the mountains and join together for a fun day, described as a day of blessing. The money will pay for a meal consisting of rice, bread and chicken. The latter is a rare treat for these children as both villages are in very poor, rural areas.

£181 pays for 90 school children to visit Chiminike Recreation Center in Tegucigalpa the capital. Due to poverty many of these children will never have visited a park or any place of recreation. It will be a great learning experience. Even going on the bus to the capital will be exciting. Unfortunately all this excitement and a little fear does not make these children good travellers on the bus. The money will pay for the transport, entry and food prepared and taken from their school.

£58 will pay for the children of Marco village to enjoy a day of fun and happiness playing traditional games and inventing others. Parents bringing small children will also have the opportunity to participate. Many parents will never have had the opportunity to play games as children. The money will buy sweets for prizes and a meal for the school age children.

Total for visits and fun days - £548 (less than £2.50 per child)

There are also three schools visiting the zoo but these have already been financially sponsored.

These projects are priced per visit but small amounts of money can be given against any of the above until the visit's total cost is reached.

### **SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTIES**

I have mentioned the School Christmas Parties. These are the schools we are hoping to provide for:-

Guanacaste	130 children
Sabanaeta	80 children
Chiquistepe	60 children
Macuelizo	120 children
Retiro	60 children
Aldea paso del ganado Valle de Angeles	50 children

These numbers include children from the villages not just the children attending the school.

### **ALTERNATIVE GIFT CARDS**

The cards currently available are listed below:

A bag of food for a needy family at Christmas	£5
Free school meals for a child for seven weeks	£5
School manuals for a senior school student for two manuals (four are needed per year)	£5
Emergency Education Fund Card to help a student who lacks an essential item such as an exercise book, or bus fare (donation into fund).	£5
Two trees and some fertiliser for a school	£5
Fruit to be given to children at school (buys 60 pieces of fruit, usually an orange or banana)	£5
Two chickens and a cockerel for a family	£15

## CALENDARS

We will again have photo calendars of the children in Honduras £5. Postage is extra, £1.17 for one and £1.48 for two or three.

(This may be the last year for calendars).

## HOW TO DONATE

I am finding it quite difficult to make the adjustment from buying food to making a donation instead. When out shopping each week it was easy to buy a few extra items for Honduras without any impact on the overall bill. However, putting aside the money in lieu of the goods is another matter.

### **STANDING ORDER**

One suggestion to make this easier is the option of setting up a standing order in favour of CH Trust to transfer the money you usually spend on the shopping. An amount as small as £2.50 a month would provide a child with a meal each school day.

For 'one-off' donations to CH Trust you can simply give by sending a cheque made out to CH Trust. Send this to myself, Mrs J. Cox, 20 Chapel Street, Spondon, Derby DE21 7JP. You can also donate, by bank transfer, directly into the bank account.

### **BANK TRANSFER**

To make a donation into our bank account

HSBC

Sortcode: 40-19-37

Account number: 61589865

Account name: C H Trust

## Standing Order



I wish to support CH Trust for

£

Monthly  Quarterly  Annually

Starting on  /  /  and thereafter until further notice

**To the Manager Bank/Building Society**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

**Your account details**

Name of Account Holder(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Your Account No.

Sort Code

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## MyDONATE

Donation through MyDonate (<http://mydonate.bt.com/>)

Where it says “Donate to charity”, type in “Children of Honduras Trust” in the search box for charity name.

You can go to the page directly here:

<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/childrenofhondurastrust>

Of all the charity online fund-raising sites, myDonate charges the least. The only charge is that of the debit/credit card, which is unavoidable. There is no charge by BT themselves. It is also possible to Gift Aid with myDonate and CH Trust gets the Gift Aid.

The card fees are per donation:

Credit Card Processing fee 1.3%

Debit Card Processing fee 15p

If you are donating larger sums, debit cards offer the best value.

## GIFT AID

If you are able and willing to grant to us Gift Aid, please complete the authorisation form below and send it with your donation.

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I would like Gift Aid to be authorised for:-  
(please tick all boxes you wish to apply).

Today   
Back dated for the last four years   
For the future

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax each tax year.  
I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1

Signature

Date

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Please notify the charity if you decide to cancel this declaration or change your name or address or no longer pay sufficient tax.



**- RECEIVING NEW SHOES -**

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