

Children Of Honduras Trust

Newsletter August 2005

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Charity No. 1075562

Published by

RIISING TO THE CHALLENGE

The past year has been truly blessed by the Lord and culminated in a successful conclusion to the annual task of providing relief and help to many children in Honduras. One of the challenges was how to handle the influx of donated goods during the February Packing Week. There was neither storage room nor adequate space to work since both our storage containers were full to bursting. Packing Week had all but arrived and we were still outside! We have found it increasingly difficult to pack outdoors during the months of February and March. The last two years have been very cold and our work force is not getting any younger. We said to ourselves please, Lord, surely we do not have to endure Packing Week outside in the cold and wet again. In fact the issue is not confined to just one week but nearly every day up to Loading Day in mid March.



- THREE VIEWS OF THE WORLD -

The Lord did indeed rescue us. The Thursday night prior to Packing Week we were offered the use of an unused scout hut belonging to and located behind Newmount Methodist church, Littleover. What a blessing! Indoor packing and storage facilities just right to meet our needs. There was even carpet on the floor! The first Saturday of Packing Week still saw us sorting and packing in the rain as we had not had time to inform all of those making deliveries to us about the move. Thus Monday was the actual start of receiving and packing under cover. What bliss, what a blessing! Our God is good. Even the BBC1 East Midlands team came to film our work.

Loading day also presented many challenges. Three containers to be sent to two separate destinations, every item to be identified, directed and logged onto the correct container. In addition around a third of the supplies were off-site, resulting in late availability of items to the container packing teams together with unexpected deliveries on the day. A larger packing team was also needed in circumstances where we never know who will turn up on the day. You can imagine that there is plenty of scope for things to go wrong! However, the Lord greatly blessed the event, even to the weather.

Loading Day promised to be dry and for that we praised God. With three containers to load and at least one and one half containers of supplies off site it promised to be a hard day! About one hundred people helped in different capacities to make the day the success that it was. From the catering team, to the packers in the containers, and all those that collected and moved the supplies around the yard. Everyone worked hard and made it a pleasant as well as a very successful day. A big thank you to everyone who took part in any capacity.

This was the first time that we had packed three containers for some years. Compared to the previous occasion, the situation was complicated by more things stored off site, which had to come in on the day, and much more complex sorting/recording requirements. This gave us great logistic problems. By lunchtime we were shocked to find that the containers were two thirds full. You may think that this should have been good news. In reality it meant that the loading teams had packed lots of buckets and boxes but failed to take on many of the large and difficult items to load. Many of these items did not manage to get onto our containers at all, even though they were high cubes. (A high cube means that they are 18 inches higher than normal containers). However, each container was filled to capacity and sealed ready for transportation. Overall, a very successful day.

On the following day came the question of what to do with all the supplies that we did not manage to get into the containers. There was nearly three-quarters of a forty foot container left, a large amount to keep until next year. We had the added problem that we have been asked to move our storage containers from Rotadadata as they need the space we are occupying. When we find a new location it will be a big enough task to move our storage containers empty. Moving them with contents would be something else! So we took the decision to send another 40ft. container to Honduras. This meant that we had to call in some extra supplies to completely fill it. As usual, we overdid our efforts and finally had to order another high cube! Those who heard about the need for a 4th container volunteered to help pack it on Saturday 16th April. On this occasion only a small team was needed. It turned out to be another lovely day with the sun shining and excellent workers. It was a slow but very tight pack. There were many awkward items to pack and little in the way of soft items or small boxes to fill the spaces. However, our experienced packers know we do not pay to send fresh air and used their skills to the full in packing the container very tightly, leaving no spaces.

So this year the Lord has provided goods and finance to fill four 40ft. high cubes, a record for any one year. Well done everyone. At one time we had three containers at the docks in Honduras and the fourth container at the docks in Felixstowe. There is so much paperwork that at times I lost track as to whether I am importing or exporting! It is quite a challenge to remember all the different forms and information that the different parties require from me. Never the less, I am spurred on by the knowledge that the Lord has been so good and gone before us in so many ways. Praise the Lord!

NORTH AND SOUTH. WHY TWO DESTINATIONS?__

This year we decided to have one of our containers unloaded near to where the ship docks. Four of the churches we supply are located north of the central mountain range in Honduras. We felt it was wasting money to road haul all our supplies over the mountain range to the capital Tegucigalpa, in the south, when around a third of them would have to be carried back up North again by the receiving ministries. So one container was unloaded at Lima, near San Pedro Sula, under the supervision of Pastors Julio Pavon, Carlos and Francisco. The other two containers journeyed south, as usual, to the Valle de Angeles near the capital. The unloading of these were supervised by pastors Alberto and Norma.

The three containers were all unloaded and the supplies sorted by name and colour code for each specific church or ministry. The recipients were then informed so

that they could collect their supplies as soon as possible. The operation must happen very quickly as such a large amount of supplies presents a great security risk.

Each box, bucket or item we send has to have a number, receiver name and colour code. We have to declare for customs what is leaving the UK and what is entering Honduras. The name and coloured sticker denotes what ministry the supplies are destined for. This year we supplied 23 different ministries, both large and small. Each has its own colour and number range. These have to be tallied onto each container. The numbers are then re-entered into the computer and the lists created which are then printed and sent to Honduras for customs, shipping and checking purposes.

At this stage our task here in England is nearly complete. When the paperwork has been notarised by a lawyer and forwarded, then it is over to Honduras to start the legal work required to obtain a dispensa. This enables the items to enter the country with minimum tax. Again each item of our cargo is itemised and translated into Spanish. During this time much prayer is needed to secure a rapid and easy passage through customs. If the containers get held up at the docks it costs us a lot of (wasted) money.

The two containers for Valle de Angeles arrived on the 27th April at 11 o'clock. With a team of almost thirty men they had both containers unloaded by 3pm.

All the Pastors, in the name of the children and families say thank you. Two inspectors of finance came to verify the donations and visited the following ministries: Peniel, Valle and Cristocentro. These are three of the largest churches we supply in and around Tegucigalpa. The inspectors were very pleased with what they found and issued the dispensa. More good news is that we did not have to pay any tax this year.

It would be remiss of me not to recognise the excellent job performed by those involved in the process of importing our containers into the country.

Afterwards I received the following communications from Honduras.

Pastor Alberto Cruz wrote for the south:

Thanks to everyone in CH Trust for the blessing of the donations. This year was very favourable to receive the containers. (All three containers had their paperwork

processed in Tegucigalpa by Dina of Cristocentro). There are always difficult situations when the 'enemy' wants to disrupt the import, but God is omnipotent, Hallelujah. We now know who makes the decisions and we have assembled a good team with a lawyer and a Christian customs agent.

Pastor Julio Pavon for the north wrote:

At this point we can say in the name of Jesus : My Lord, we accomplish the mission with the north container. However we need to find some items that are dispersed in other churches but we are in communication for to make the adjustment.

Let me tell you, something: My wife, the leadership and every man and woman involved in "England Operation 1" are very happy, and ready for a new commitment with the Lord. For all of us, this operation was a challenge; we can say, please count with us, in the name of Jesus.

As some of you know, things did not go as well for the fourth container. Pastor Alberto writes:

The introduction was very difficult. The container was in Port Cortes for 9 days. The problem was with a Supervisor that did everything possible so that the container did NOT enter into Honduras. They opened the container. They emptied all the buckets containing clothes and food because they wanted to SEE what was inside (Seeking Drug, cocaine. ...They found nothing). Sadly many clothes, mattresses, furniture were damaged because it rained a lot in every part of Honduras and things were left outside the container. They freed the container, but we are seeing the possibility to Demand Legally to (claim against) that supervisor.

It appears that the outcome of the above enquiry is that they are unable to take legal action because it would be difficult to prove whether the many missing items were taken by the port authorities or the drivers delivering the container to the Valle. Secondly, such action could cause difficulties with future imports. Unfortunately the docks are a law unto themselves, as it was in the UK not so long ago. However, steps are in place for next year that can hopefully improve the situation. We have been advised that about 10% of the contents were damaged by rain and significant but unquantified losses have been incurred, presumably due to theft.

In retrospect, I can understand that we were vulnerable to this kind of attack since we had little prayer cover for this unexpected fourth container. We did not anticipate there would be a problem because the inspectors had written such a

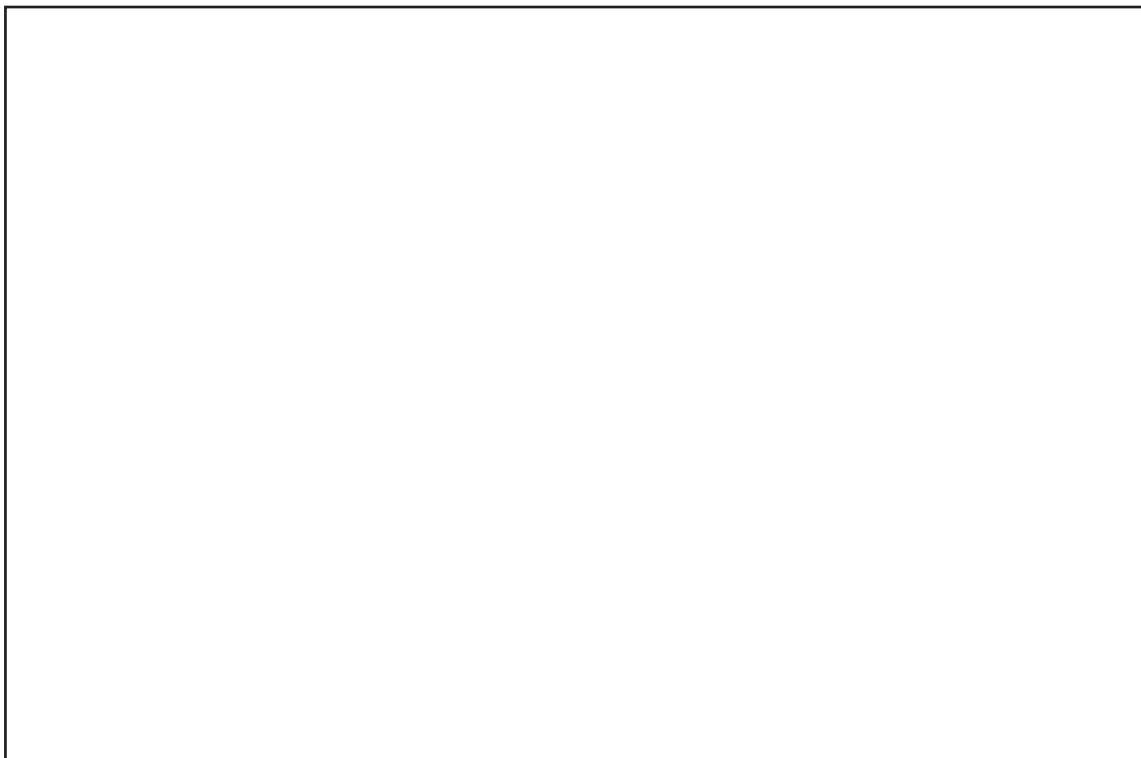
good report about our previous shipment of supplies. In fact we expected that importing the fourth container would have been much easier. However, we will be better prepared next year, with prayer beforehand as usual! The enemy will not steal from us easily if we all work together.

In spite of this disappointment, the good news is that the best of our supplies were sent in the first three containers. The losses were however substantial and very annoying. The loss of some items will also be very painful to those expecting them.

WHAT DID WE SEND?__

It is hard to imagine how much is needed to fill four containers. It is even harder to imagine how little each individual ministry receives out of them. The Lord blessed us with a good supply of everything. The quality of things was also good. Each year seems to see an improvement in what is donated.

This year, virtually all the ministries in Honduras requested stacking chairs and tables to furnish new schoolrooms and other facilities. They need to be the stacking variety as space is at a premium in both the containers and the buildings in Honduras. To help put things into perspective, when we send out say 100



- BUCKETS CONTAINING FOOD, TOYS AND OTHER ITEMS -

chairs, it only provides five for each establishment. In reality we sent several hundred. On Loading Day an entire yard area had to be devoted to marshalling and marking up the tables and chairs. It appeared on the yard plan as the 'Table Farm'.

Although we did not receive a large amount of food in the form of donations, we did have sufficient funds to go out and buy. We bought:

Two tons full cream butter milk (80 sacks)

Three tons oats (120 sacks)

Two tons spaghetti (4000 x 500g packets)

Added to this was catering size tins of meat, tuna, tinned vegetables, tomatoes, drums of oil, squash and rice.

SOUP KITCHEN

We have now sent the equipment to set up the second soup kitchen. The first kitchen was set up in the village of Naranjal. This is up and running. The other kitchen will be in Pedrigal, a neighbouring village. We have also sent food for this project.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

We spent a portion of our finances on medical supplies. These included 15,000 antibiotic tablets, 600 bottles of antibiotics, 365,000 multivitamins and 22,000 worming tablets. Inhalers, creams and dressings were also included. We also sent stethoscopes and blood pressure monitors for several of the clinics.

EMULSION PAINT

We received photos from two churches of gleaming newly painted walls. Such was their delight at receiving emulsion paint for the first time from England. Thank you to Sheila and all at Kalon who provide this valuable contribution.

FAMILY BAGS

This year also supported a cottage industry creating Family Bags. These came from all over the country. Some made by Linkway, some by a junior church and many others. Jill and Eileen put together more from donated items and, in total, gathered and allocated 800 bags. Well done everyone. They bring a lot of joy to those who receive them.

(The Family bags have proved to be very popular. A cloth bag with a drawstring is filled with a towel, soaps, toothbrushes, tooth paste, comb, pen, pencil, sewing kit, petroleum jelly and a small toy. If you like the idea you can create your own bag or send items so that we can put them together in Derby).

BUCKETS AND BARRELS

Honduras has a tropical rain pattern. From Christmas the temperature gradually rises to peak in April. Tropical rains generally start in May and go through to September. The heaviest rain is usually in August. The country then becomes greener, fresher and cooler up to Christmas again.

This year it has been very hot from Christmas onwards. This has caused even earlier and more severe water shortages. We managed to collect 21 large used plastic barrels and 7 new ones. We have also obtained 25 smaller blue barrels. The barrels will enable people to store water when it is available. On occasion, during this year, some people have only had water supplied one day in ten. Each area has been affected differently but all have had shortages. 50 new water carriers have also kindly been given which are suitable for carrying drinking water. ('Drinking' water for most people comes straight out of the river with little treatment).



- A FAMILY RECEIVING BARRELS -

1600 large commercial buckets with fitting lids were supplied by Mathew Walker. These were filled with clothes, spaghetti, shampoo etc. They will also be useful for storing water. Alternatively, food or clothes can be stored in them to protect against insects and animals. We hope to send more again this year. The bakery departments of large supermarkets have helped by saving the smaller buckets for us.

The remainder of the container contents included a large amount of children's clothes, school supplies and equipment, a couple of table tennis tables, household goods, an assortment of hand tools, tents, toys etc. In summary, 170 banana boxes of shoes, 488 buckets of clothing, 188 tables and 497 chairs were sent, not to mention the kitchen sinks and everything else!

REPORTS FROM OUR COLLEAGUES IN HONDURAS

DINAS REYES REPORT ON BEHALF OF IGLESIAS CRISTOCENTRO DE TEGUCIGALPA, THE IMPORTERS

Dina writes Cristocentro is a group of churches who work together with CH Trust in England to enable their network to reach out and better help needy children. She explains how the churches have been blessed by all the things that we send and how people are selected to receive gifts from the containers.

After receiving their donations each one of the churches organises itself to give things to people in most need. They give to the children who attend church first, then all of the single mothers, then family groups. Then they go into the community surrounding the church looking for needy people among those living in the small houses that are falling down. If there is anything left they look at communities around other small churches who do not receive help from anywhere else. They also try to support the schools, kindergartens and nurseries. Although it is not usually a lot, they try to give something to the local orphanages as well. It is worth noting that not all churches receive the same amount of donations. They will have a list from CH Trust of what they should receive. They know they might not get all the same but they always know what they are going to get from us. From the list they work out how to share it out and where it will go. The churches also try to give help of their own by using a portion of their church offering to buy food, etc to donate to other people and needy churches.

Dina explains that every so often CH Trust go to visit them to see how everything is used. They meet some of the pastors and are shown what they do with the things. "Hopefully you will see how your love and everything given helps the families inside the church and outside as well."

Dina has sent a small report for each of the churches too.

CENTRO, TEGUCIGALPA

This is Dina's church, which is the biggest that benefits from CH Trust's work. It receives fewer donations than the other ministries because it is supported by some 'better off' church members. As a result they, themselves, do not need so much and are in fact able to help other churches. Outside of the city there is more need and churches are smaller. They are usually given paper, schoolbooks, office supplies and Sunday school supplies. They sometimes receive some food for the poorer people in the congregation. Thus milk, oats, pasta, rice, family bags and buckets are given to families in the church. This year the donations were given out on May 8th, celebrating the Day of the Mother in Honduras. We gave food, shoes and things for the home. Big families received two pairs of shoes and the rest had clothes. 150 families benefited from what was sent.

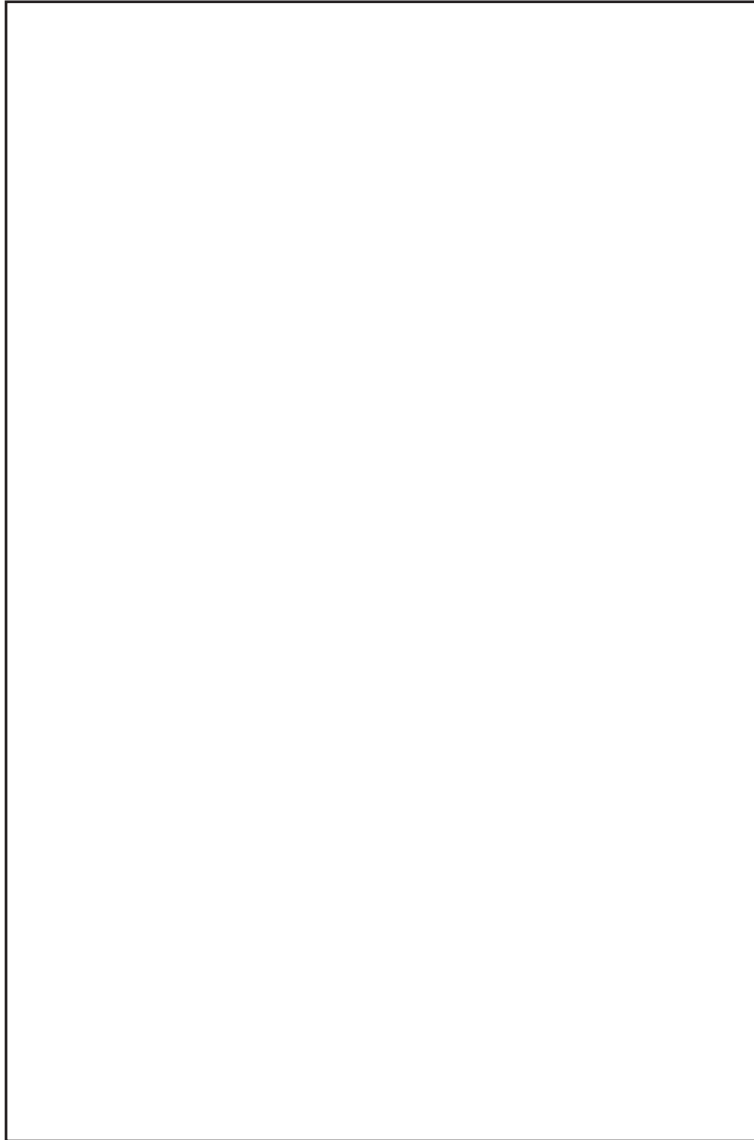
Afterwards, the Pastors got together to discuss how things went and reflect whether they have helped the people that most needed it.

Dina continues:

Some of the churches are trying to help their community. I think they are using some of the food and other things to bless very needy families or children. In our case, our Women's Ministry has made individual packages with the baby clothes you sent, plus diapers and milk bottles. These they took to the maternity work area of the Public Hospital of Tegucigalpa and gave them to poor women with newborn babies. We think to bless the poor people, because many babies come in to the world. In the hospital they don't have any clothes to dress the babies, because the mothers are extremely poor.

We sent a few things for Dina herself. This is what she said:

I want to finish with all my thanks for the nice things you sent to my family and me, all are a blessing for us. But I want to talk you about something special: when we opened the boxes at home, I get out the things one by one and so, when I saw the wonderful doll, I cried: look Andrea!! She saw her and said "is pretty" but down the box there was a pair of black patent shoes for her. When she saw them, she simply



**- GIVING OUT FOOD AND OTHER ITEMS
ON DAY OF THE MOTHER -**

cried and cried and hug and shout. Do you believe this? She joined the arts ministry in the church two years ago and she loves to dance for the Lord. Her dance shoes broke and were put on garbage some days ago. I only can say THANK YOU for make us happy. If there is a payment for my work for the Lord, is this. DINA

PABON AT SAN PEDRO SULA

Letter to CH Trust from Julio.

Greetings in Jesus' name. Sending information about the children and churches that have benefited from your loving work. Distribution of food, clothes, shoes, toothpaste, soap and buckets. Tools, I asked the people to explain why they needed them so I could decide who to give them to . . . **Julio also explained what was kept by the church and why. This included tents, sewing machines and some tools.**

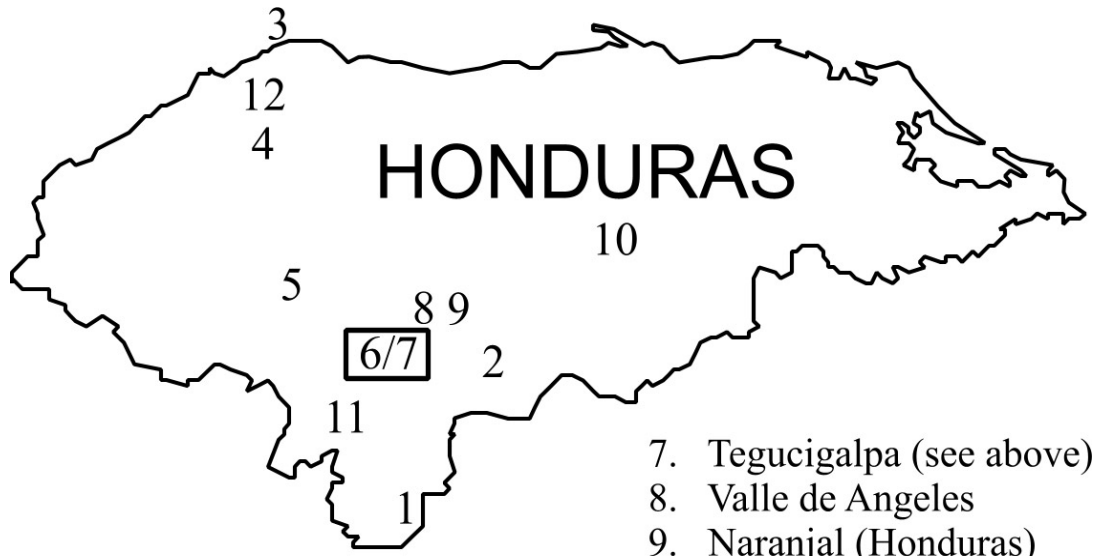
Julio reports that:

Things were given to families in most need. Food, shoes, clothes, shampoo and soap. The church runs courses to help the women learn new skills like making clothes, cooking and art and crafts lessons. There are also classes for children's art and crafts and computer classes. All classes are free and open to the community. Every now and then, about once a month, medical people give advice and hand out vitamins. This is very popular. Medicines and equipment from England are used to support the above activities. The church received paper and school supplies. 100 families benefited along with 60 children.

CAM , COMAYAGUELA

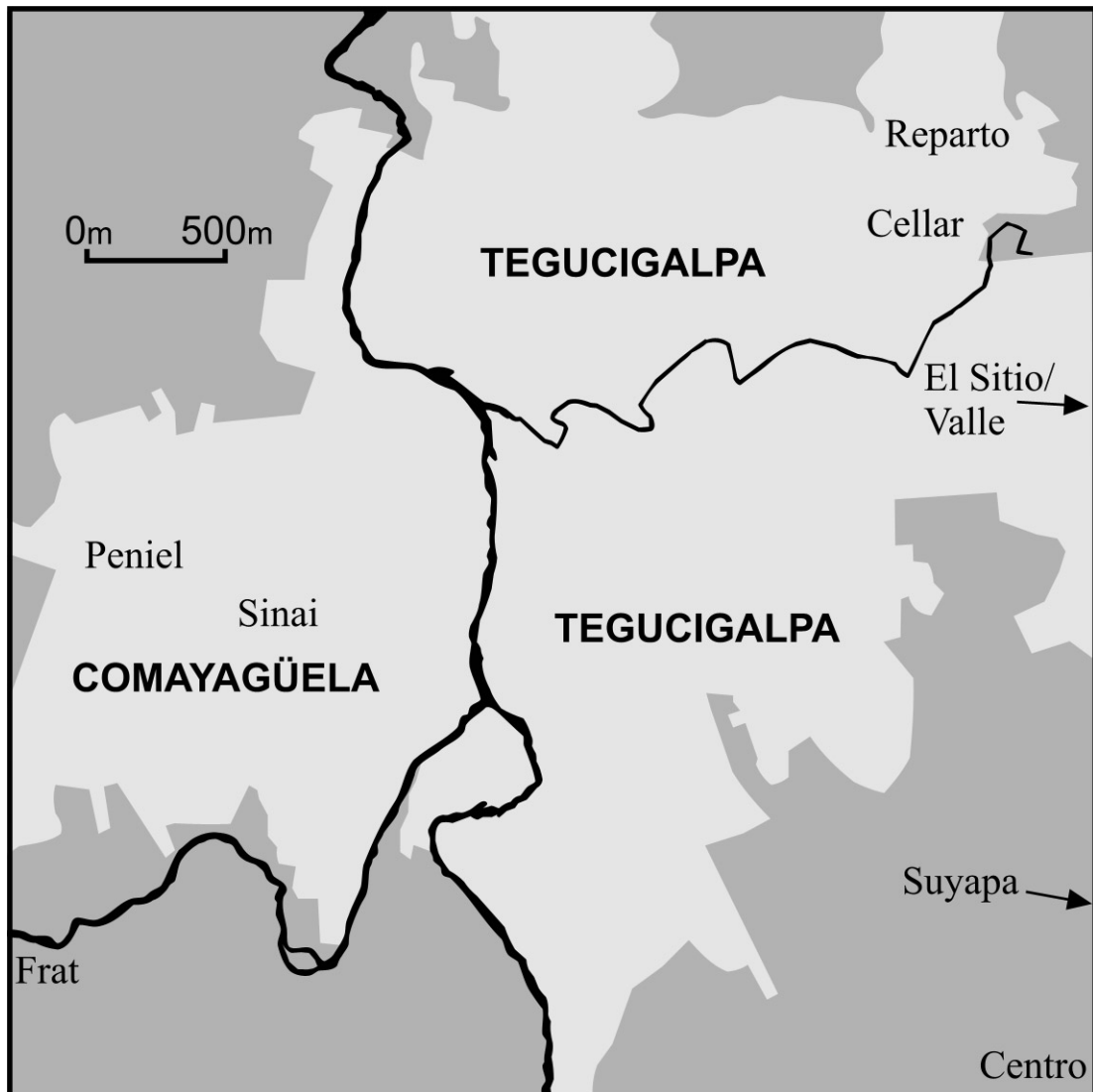
Distributed all the things, it has benefited members of the church. They come from a very poor area. They have been given shoes, clothes, food, bedding, towels, toys, shampoo and soap. They wanted to let you know they have been blessed with the family bags. These have been given to the mother of each family on Mothers Day in May. Some of the things have been left for the use of the church e.g. paper, books for Sunday school, sewing materials and machine to teach sewing and craft classes. Also computer for church.

Most families who benefited were from very deprived areas. Every Sunday morning there is a Sunday school for children and young people. They have a free meal, like a snack, made from food sent by CH Trust, like porridge oats. People who help to prepare the food eat with the children. Paper and school supplies go to Sunday school. Altogether 80 families have benefited along with 100 children.



- | | | |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Choluteca | 4. San Pedro Sula | 10. Catacamus |
| 2. Danli | 5. Siguatepeque | 11. Alubaren |
| 3. Puerto Cortés | 6. Comayagüela | 12. Choloma |
7. Tegucigalpa (see above)
 8. Valle de Angeles
 9. Naranjal (Honduras)

- LOCATIONS OF SOME OF THE CHURCHES -



SINAI, COMAYAGUELA

The church is located in a very poor area. It is a very difficult decision as to who is the poorest. Food and family bags were given to families from the church. Toys given to children from the Sunday school, rest used in Sunday school, which also received supplies and paper. 58 families received help (232 adults and children). Bikes were left in church to be used for errands. Cups and cutlery used by church for occasions like Day of the Mother, Day of the Child and church anniversaries. Big barrels great help. Where church is located they often have no water and no electricity supplies. They can collect rain in barrels for hygiene purposes. Wash basins will be installed in church. Vitamins have been given to some of the church members.

VALLE, ALBERTO AND NORMA

This report also includes the daughter churches at Albaren, Choluteca, Catacamas and Choloma.

Each one of these churches has been blessed. They have given to the families who attend the meetings and they have looked to help the most needy in the area. Clothes, shoes, food, shampoo were given to these families. The churches have also given to other institutions.

Pastor Alberto says:

My Words 'CH Trust friends ... many, many families of Honduras are very happy for your helps - maybe the food (you sent) is on the table when a family needed more. One woman, mother of 5 children, cry when she opened the family bucket and see inside oats, milk and pasta. She only say "Pastor Alberto, today I don't have anything for my children to eat. My husband has problem with his heart ... God bless these people (CH Trust) and your church."

"I am a man of 72 years. Five years ago remain prostrated in bed by problems of desviacion of my colon. I was resigned to leave not again from my house, angry with God, my family and all the people. I said because God does not love me. And they came, the shepherds of the church, to visit me from Vision Cristiana, Alberto-Norma and the sister Isabel. They spoke to me of Christ. They prayed for me and they told me that with FAITH God would get me up. Then I believed to accept God. Six months ago I gave thanks to God and the aid that hit upon me, a chair of wheels. Now I am mobile. Now I share in the room and dining room with my grandchildren and my daughter and together we go to the church to praise Jesus. Thanks to the friends in England for helping me, my grandchildren and my daughter through the

church and also to the shepherds and brothers of Vision Cristiana here in Choluteca, Honduras. (CH Trust provided the wheelchair).

There are many testimonies, where the people give thanks for the aid. As the shepherd, I give thanks for your aid because, exactly, it is part of the projection of the gospel to the community in Valley of Angeles. Again, new Thanks to All.

We decided to give food and clothes out in the special buckets to families during the last two Sunday Schools. 180 families were helped. ¡¡¡FUE (it was) MAGNIFICENT!!!! THE PEOPLE THIS HAPPY. One say -- IS A STUNNING SOCIAL AID. It help many in the VALLE.

A total of 500 families and some 1200 children have been helped by Vision Cristiana.

REPARTO, TEGUCIGALPA

This church has a lot of poor families. Food, clothes, shoes, shampoo and soap were given out to church members. Every Sunday they run Bible schools for children. A free meal is given from our supplies, usually rice or oats. The church has kept paper and school materials for the Sunday school. They have been able to help 30 families and 200 children.

FRAT, COMAYAGUELA

This church is located in a very deprived area. The need is so great that it is difficult to know where to begin. They try to bless as many poor families as they can. Clothes and shoes are given to the families. Paper and school supplies are used in the Sunday school. 60 families and 300 children have been helped.

PENIEL, COMAYAGUELA

Because of its location the Peniel church is close to lots of areas of extreme poverty. They have also found it a problem to bless everyone because they are all so poor. Having to choose is difficult for them. They try to find the poorest. The church runs a project funded from the United States for the children who are really poor. The children attend the project three times a week. They receive a meal and participate in crafts, computer classes, cooking and sewing lessons. The church funds a project of its own called "Centro de Desarrollo Infantil Peniel". This gives help for the families. Here they receive food, clothes, and shoes. The paper and materials we send are used for the activities in the project. This year, 200 families and 175 children from church got help. On top of those children a

further 270 children received help through the project. Living very close to the church are 50 adults who survive by getting their daily food from the rubbish dumps. Peniel tries to help them by giving food. (Comayaguela is the poorest area in the whole of the country).

Roger (Pastor of Peniel) sent us this note:

Dear Friends,

It is a blessing to be able to greet you and share with you God's blessing. I wish you lots of blessings upon your lives ... Thank you for all your love and support for our ministry. I know God will bless your lives richly ...

CALVARIO, SIGUATEPEQUE

At this church, help is given to the poorest families. Every Sunday morning there are bible classes. A free meal is given to those who attend. Members of the church donate food to help with this. Paper and school supplies are used for activities in church as well. 50 Families and 100 children benefit from our help.

DANLI

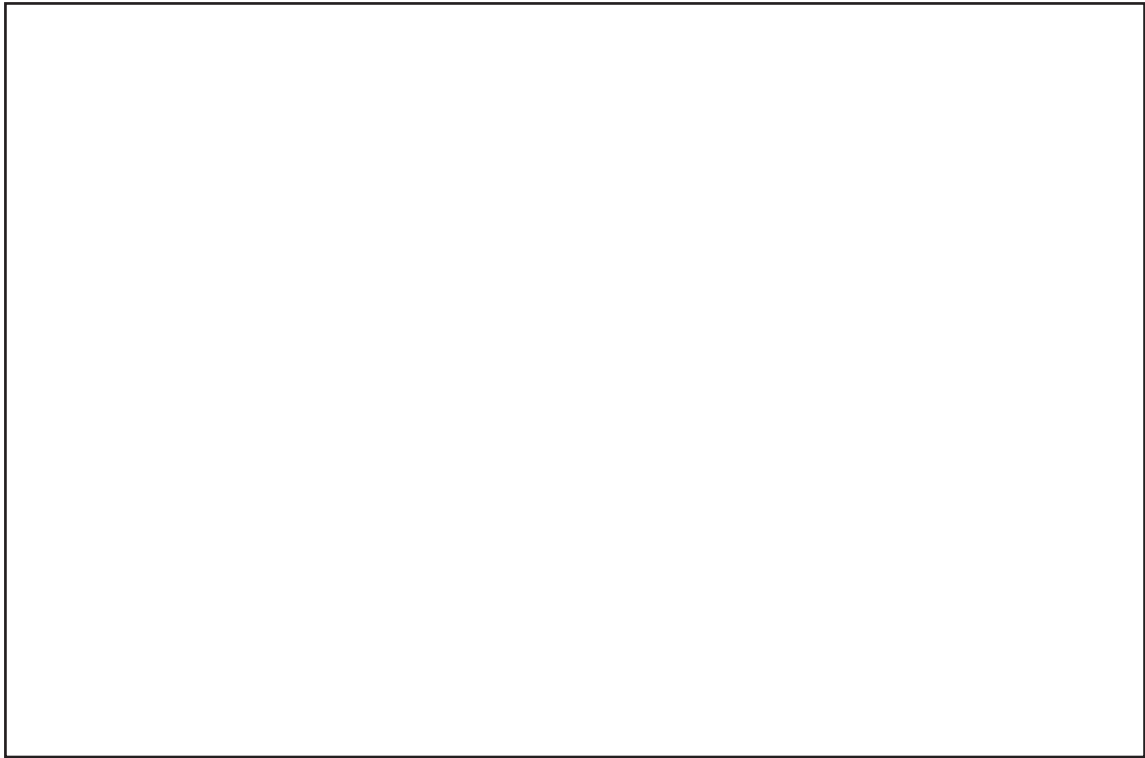
This church exercises the same philosophy as the others. Clothes and shoes go to poorest families. Paper and school materials are used in Sunday school. They are currently involved in the process of constructing a new church building. 30 families and 75 children have been helped.

Raul (Pastor of the church) sent the following communication:

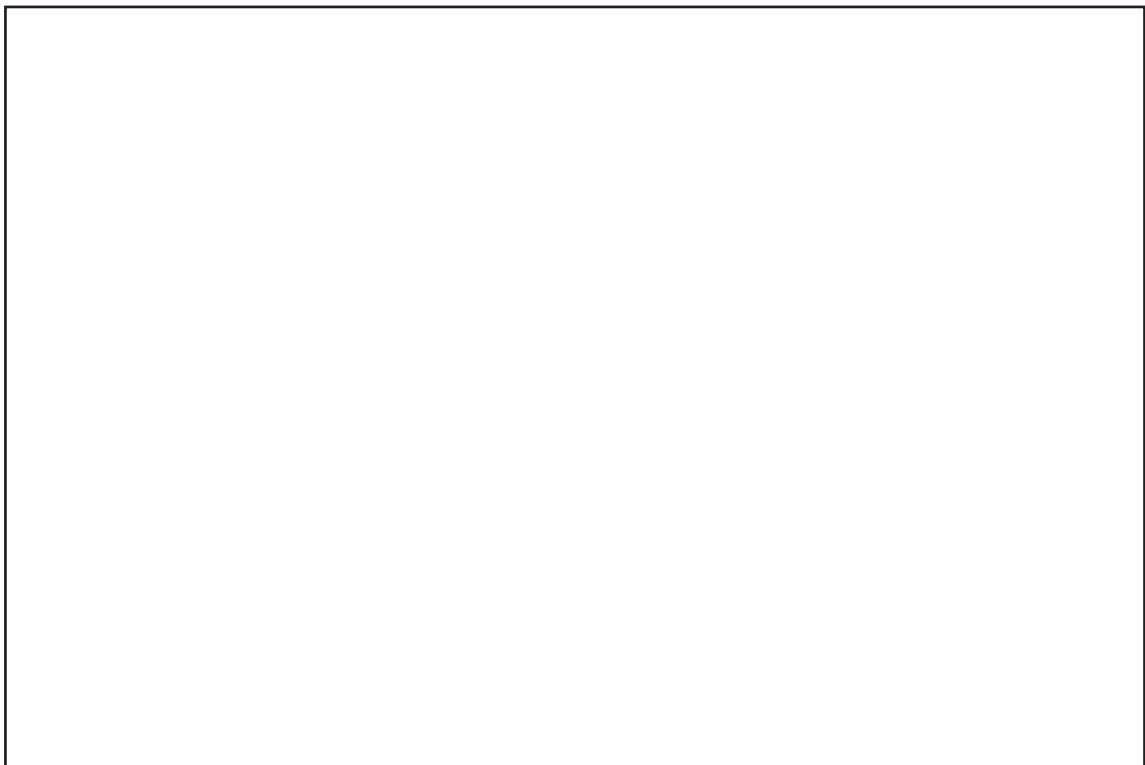
Many people have come to know the Lord because of all the help they have received from CH Trust. You cannot imagine how many people can not afford to dress their children. Your help makes parents smile to see their little ones with food and 'new clothes'.

One young woman became a widow with five small children. We met her and found out about her problem. We helped her with food, clothes and footwear for her and her children. Now this lady is part of our church.

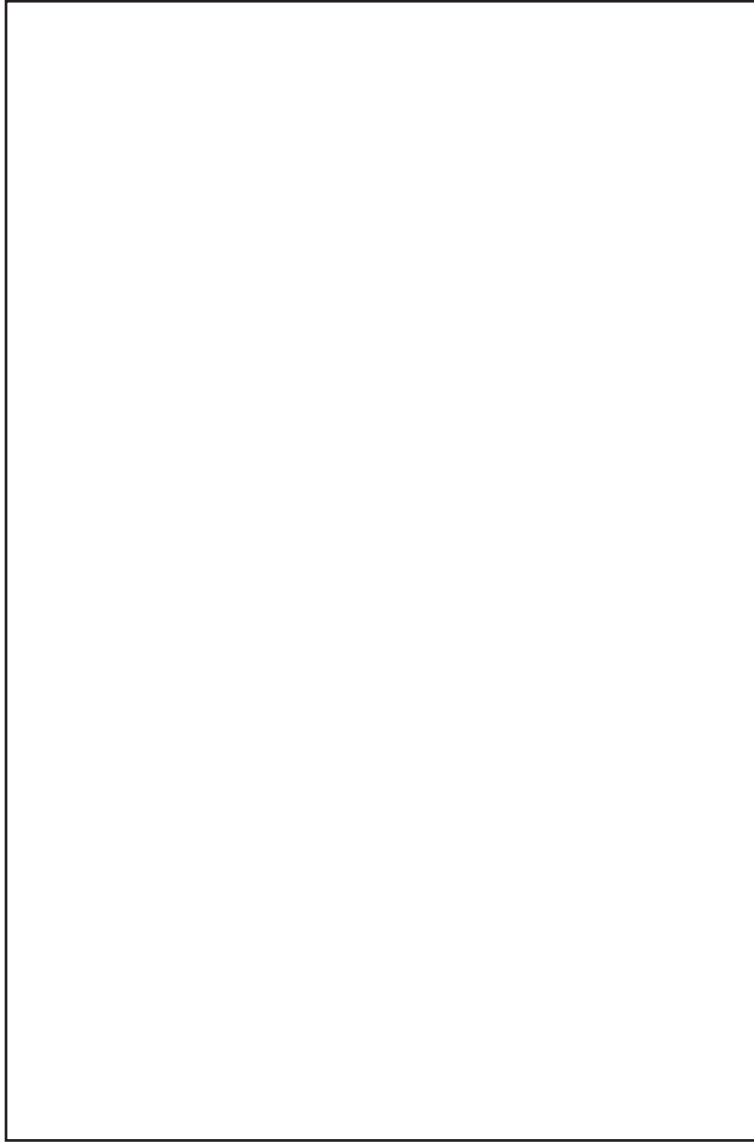
A little girl was very pleased to receive clothes and footwear and she says "Thank you very much to all of you. Hello to everybody in England." Thanks be to God that through you it has been made possible.



- WASHING IN THE RIVER, JUST LIKE MUM -

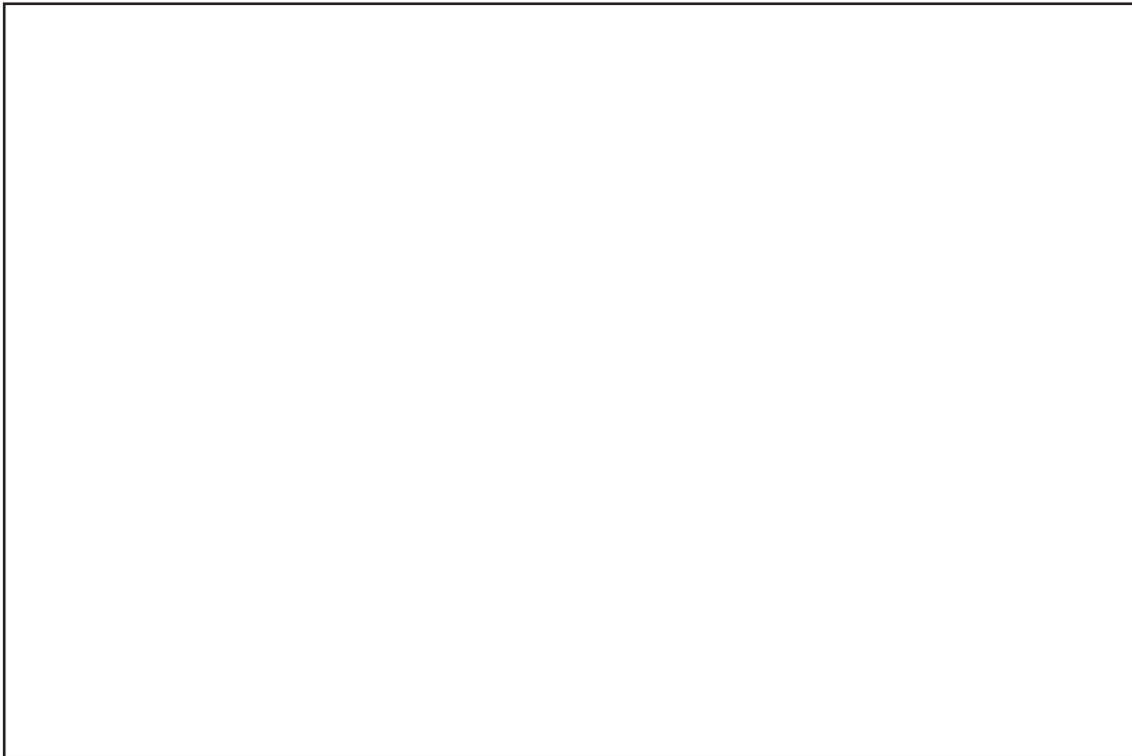


- READING BOOKS IN SPANISH SENT FROM ENGLAND -



- GIFTS ON CLASS GRADUATION -

Dignabel is a mother with two children. Her husband is dead. She received donations from us such as footwear, clothes and food. She said, "I never imagined to receive such excellent food." She sends her appreciation. (The food, sent by CH Trust, came from the basic range retailed by our local supermarket).



- DIGNABEL RECEIVING SHOES, CLOTHES AND FOOD -

CELLAR, REPARTO, TEGUCIGALPA

A thank you letter from Manuel to CH Trust tells us that donations were given to children from the church and the rest will be given out in the next few days to the community. Some money that we sent to them in 2003 enabled them to install electricity in the new classrooms. They were also able to buy a nebuliser for a child suffering with breathing problems. The child was having asthma attacks and his mother had to take him to hospital in middle of night. The mother was very grateful for the help. Many of the other parents have also expressed how grateful they are as well.

EL SITIO, TEGUCIGALPA

Have received many different things which have been used to help their community. They have donated to some of the members of their church. Toys given out to children, some toys and school equipment for Sunday school. Paint was kept for church. Four chairs and tables kept for church. Bike was donated to the Pastor's family. (To be used as the church's main form of transport). 63 families received help and everyone is grateful to CH Trust and to God.

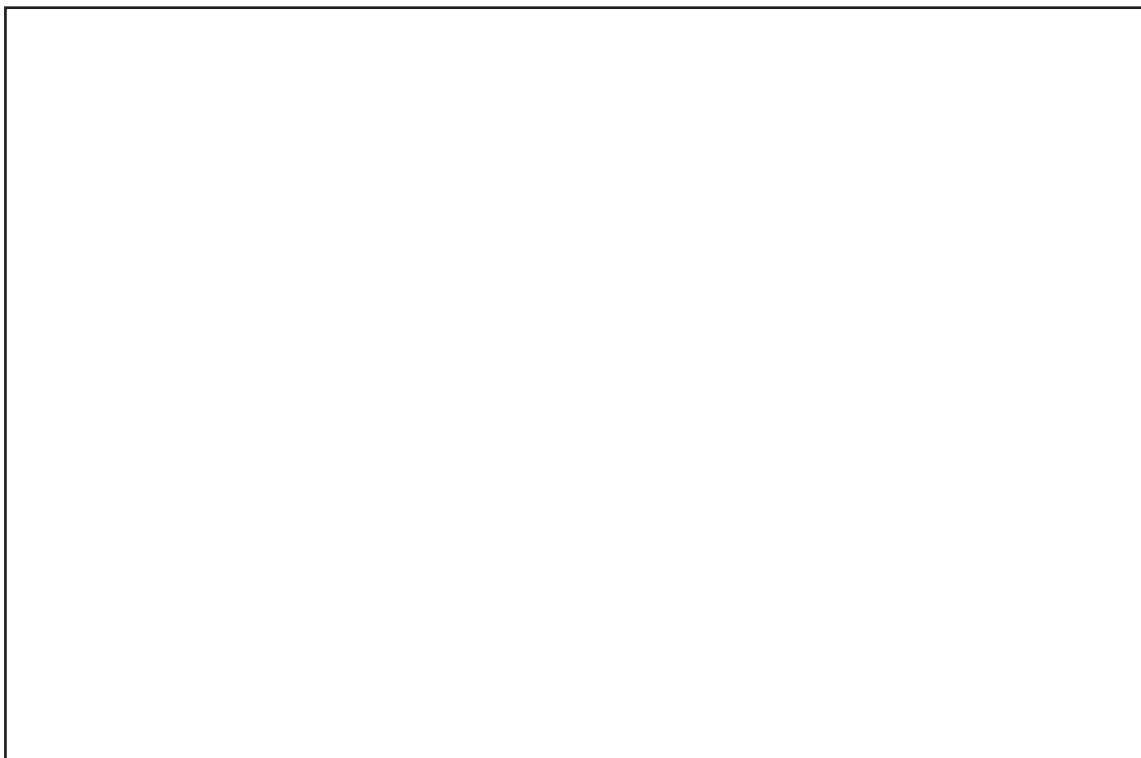
RICARDO AT NARANJAL

I am very happy and tremendously blessed. By the way, not sure if I mentioned this, but I opened a third church in La Via. It has 30 people with 50 Sunday school children. So some of the items will be distributed to them. They do not have a building yet, so the items will come in handy. They are renting for now. Anyway a big thanks and God Bless. Give our thanks to all those who worked on the containers. Ricardo.

SPONSORSHIP FOR THE VISION CRISTIANA SCHOOL

In January, sponsorship at the Christian School in the Valle de Angeles entered its sixth year. The school now has 150 students, 31 with sponsorship. Pastor Alberto Cruz and Norma Ramirez, joint pastor and school administrator, write:

“Hello to our friends in the UK, receive a greeting and a hug from all the children of our school in Honduras. We are very glad to see our children return to their classes; thinking that each year of sponsorship offers much blessing and knowledge for all. It cheers us to know that all the children have sponsorship. We pray it may continue. Thank you for the aid to our children in Honduras.”



**- SPONSORED CHILDREN RECEIVING BUCKETS
FROM THEIR SPONSORS -**

THE ONE-OFF SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

The £50 sponsorship (£25 half-sponsorship option also available) provides a child with uniform, shoes, school bag, school manual (in Spanish) and sufficient equipment to attend a state school for one year. 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 third year, with your generous support we have been able to provide education for 91 children in various locations around Honduras.

As always, feedback from the various ministries has been excellent. Different churches have responded in different and, often, innovative ways. All churches have sent photographs and some have sent little thank you notes. My personal favourite came from Cristo Centro in Tegucigalpa where, in true school fashion, the older students have produced a project folder including a letter, photograph and uniform design sheets complete with receipts for their school items!

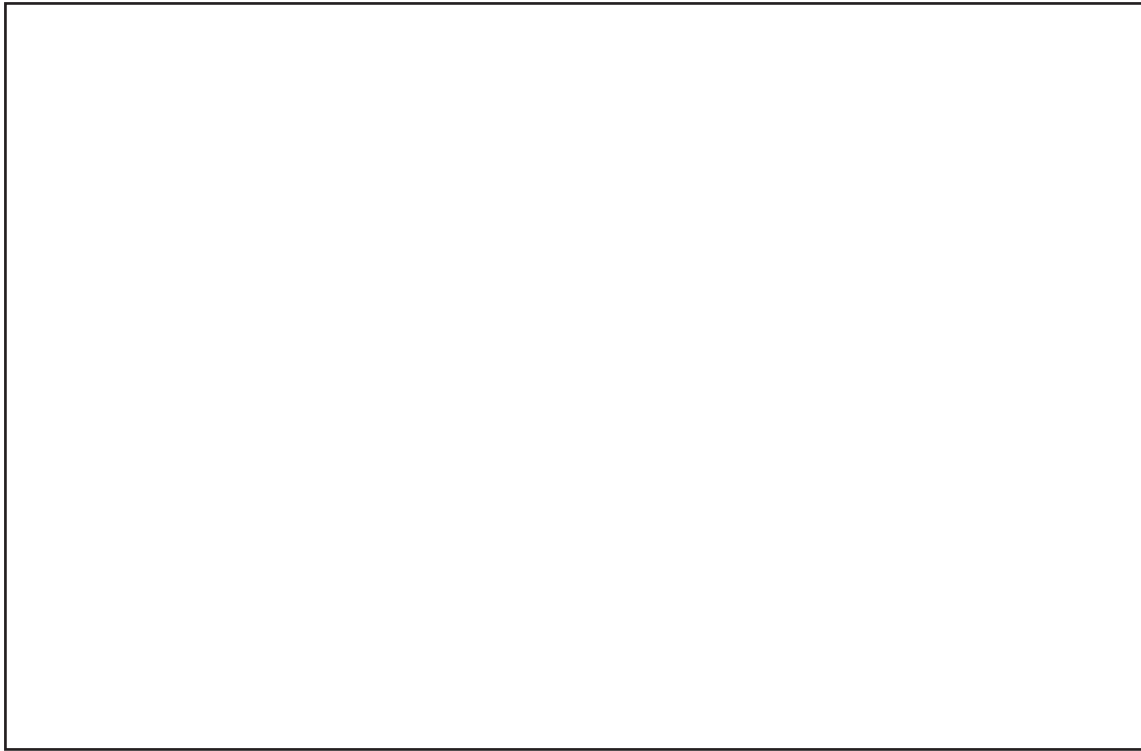
All the churches taking part in the scheme have sent their sincere gratitude to all our kind and generous donors and without exception have expressed the view that without this input many children would not have the opportunity to go to school at all.

Sponsorship Feedback from the Pastors:

Julio Pavon, pastor of San Pedro Sula church, has equipped 15 children ranging from 2nd to 9th grade students. He bought black shoes, white trainers, uniform material to be made up at home and school equipment. He says, "It was hard to decide who to help the need is so great but I feel I have met the needs of a lot of people with money you gave me."

Raul, pastor of Danli church writes, "Mario is 13 years old and an orphan. He does not have any parents for support and all the help you have sent will help him finish primary education ..."

Roger from Peniel writes, "The schools require the family to buy all school supplies including uniforms, shoes, school curriculum manual. There are a large number of children who go to work, some as young as six, to help the family to survive. Sponsorship allows us to assist the poorest of these families to educate their children ..."



- CHILDREN SPONSORED VIA RICARDO -

At this time of year we are considering sponsorship for the next academic year. The earlier we can send donations to Honduras, December 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. The question to our donors is how many children can we help in 2006? If you 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. Can any cheques please be made payable to “CH Trust”. There are two options available, sponsorship for a full year, cost £50, or a half year option for £25.

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE HELP THOSE IN HONDURAS

We have been receiving increasing amounts of aid from various schools. They have collected new and used clothes, shoes, toiletries, school supplies, harvest foods such as rice, spaghetti, oats, sugar and oil. The older pupils have raised money from various events. One school raised £1200. They decided to use half of it to sponsor children in education and the remainder to purchase food and medical supplies. As if in competition, some special educational units have determined not to be outdone. They have provided both items to send as well as funding for transport. Over the last five years, one unit has sponsored the education of a little girl, Jana. Each year the new intake of pupils has raised the money required for the sponsorship.

Some of the schools have been supporting us for over six years. Well done young people and staff. We are very grateful for all your help. How about some photos of yourselves this year to send with your supplies? They love photos in Honduras and will mount them on the wall.

DEED OF BRAVERY

We were donated the reward money presented to someone we have known for many years for an act of bravery in which he foiled a gang of men engaged in the act of stealing money. The reward amounted to £100, which he has kindly donated to CH Trust.

BUSINESS TIME!

What are they needing next year? In some respects it is too early to say as they are still processing the items they received in May.

The on going need is, of course, for children's clothes, shoes and food. The food we have sent will already have been eaten and the children will have worn out or grown out of their clothes and shoes by next May.

Honduras is a hot country but in the mountain areas the temperature drops at night. We would still say it is hot but it is the drop in temperature that the locals feel. They therefore have need of jumpers or better still, sweat shirts, that launder better. Several ministries have also requested blankets this year.

SHOES

The one item we send, which everyone needs and wants more of, are shoes. These are so expensive that many children and adults do not have shoes to wear. We are therefore looking for as many second hand and new shoes as we can get. These include flip-flops, wellingtons and walking boots. Black shoes provide the richest prize, as these are needed for a child to attend state school. School shoes can be bought for £5 from either Wilko's or Woolworth's.

The Hondurans take their football very seriously and many home-made football pitches can be found all over Honduras. Therefore any football boots are greatly appreciated by the children.

From time to time, Pound type shops have been found to stock new shoes for a pound or less. Since they are not always in stock, it is a case of calling in to check it out. Can you keep your eyes open for these in your area? We can fund but can not always find, (if you find some shoes we may be interested in, please get in touch with us, contact information can be found on the front of this newsletter). Girls go up to adult size 6 and boys to 8.

Some charity shops do not sell children's shoes, while others will have shoes that have not been sold in the allotted time. Can they be saved for us? Our local charity shop is very good to us.

CLOTHES

These are the next priority item. All children's and baby clothes are needed. New pants and socks are always greatly appreciated.

To Those of You Who Sew

We do not get enough small boys trousers. Can we make some? Pull-up trousers, with an elasticated waist, would be greatly appreciated by many mums with small boys. If the material you have is unsuitable for boy's trousers then don't worry, the girls wear trousers too. Failing this, a little skirt would be appreciated.

Knitters

The young children and babies still wear knitted cardigans and jumpers.

BASIC FOODS

Basic foods are a necessity. Rice, oats, oil, sugar, pasta, plain flour (do not buy before the New Year, please check the dates. The date needs to be after June 06). Tuna. Fruit squash.

Canned food we have been asked for the following. Hot dogs, tuna, rice pudding, evaporated milk, fruit salad. (Quantity is needed rather than quality).

FOOD BUCKETS

These comprise basics foods such as pasta, rice, oil, sugar, oats and plain flour (the flour can only be purchased in the New Year since it is very short dated). In the case of perishables a good date after arrival in Honduras is needed, not just good at the time when we send. (i.e. June 06 minimum).

DRIED MILK

Dried milk is something we would like to collect this year. This is an expensive

item in Honduras. Fresh milk is not an option in a hot country with limited refrigeration. When available, mothers use dried milk with oats or rice to feed their children. As a substitute, many mothers will soak breakfast oats or rice in water overnight. The liquid is decanted and sugar added to it. The resulting drink is fed to the baby instead of milk. Can we improve on this? Dried milk of any type would be welcome.

RICE

Rice is one of the basic foods in Honduras but it is not cheap and not always of good quality. This year we aim to send as much as possible. We have found a source of broken basmati rice at £2.50 for 20lbs weight. Can anyone do any better?

DRINKING WATER COOLER

Does anyone know of an office water cooler that is going free? There are people in Choluteca area who could sure use one! Cool water in a hot climate comes close to being heavenly.

TWO BURNER BOTTLE GAS STOVE

This is the main form of cooking and is portable.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

Any unused dressings, inhalers or painkillers would be much appreciated by the doctors in Honduras.

READING GLASSES

We have sent a few pairs of reading glasses from the £1 shop to the Honduran clinics that we support. These must be useful to those who will never be able to afford prescription glasses. We could use more. However, we do NOT want old prescription glasses as we do not know anyone who can match the correct glasses to the right person.

TOYS

Toys that can be given to individual children are still wanted. MacDonald's type toys are good. All toys need to be of a small size as space is at a premium in both Honduran houses and on the containers. Soft toys, less than twelve inches tall, can be sent but larger soft toys are not appropriate. Cars are always a favourite with boys. We have several thousand children who would like a toy. Locally we have some ladies who are making dolls clothes but have currently run out of bare babies and Sindy dolls to dress.

MATERIAL

There is a sewing group in Honduras looking for dressmaking materials and material for making into sheets and curtains. They also need cutting out scissors.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Blankets, towels and sheets are always needed.

Sleeping bags

Tilly/storm lamps and torches are needed. The village of Alubaren has no electricity. This is typical of many other villages around the country.

Toothpaste and brushes are always on the request list. Soap, shampoo, petroleum jelly, hand cream or body lotion. Family funds do not run to such luxuries but a bit of cream on sore skin can be just the thing.

Plastic beakers and dishes.

FAMILY BAGS

These contain a towel, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, sewing kit, petroleum jelly and a small toy. If you are interested in filling such bags please get in touch for a complete list.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Exercise books, pencils, pens, rubbers, pencils sharpeners, wax crayons and pencil crayons are needed by all school children. Older children, in addition, need protractor and compass. Pencil cases.

The schools ask for masking tape and sugar paper.

Colouring books are a great favourite but they are becoming scarce in England.

Stacking Chairs, preferably the type with plastic seats and metal frames/legs in both adult and children's sizes.

Black and white boards

Tambourines, any musical instruments including recorders

RUCKSACKS

Rucksacks for school are an ongoing need. Each child requires a rucksack to carry their books, pencils, etc. to school each day. The state schools do not provide any school supplies or equipment. Drinking water is also not provided and so each child needs a water bottle.

COPIER PAPER

Several of the churches now have photocopiers sent out by us. They are often used to produce pictures for the children to colour and to make school worksheets.

Books are few and far between. Copier paper would be much appreciated since it is extremely expensive in Honduras.

KETTLE LEADS

We are often given computers that lack any type of leads. We would therefore appreciate any spare kettle leads that are available. Otherwise we have to purchase them. We also have to purchase four-way extension leads and surface mounted plug sockets. We send these for our English appliances so that there is no mix up with the 110 and 220 volt supplies in the buildings.

UMBRELLAS

Umbrellas are always welcome for the rainy season when it is too hot for macs and for protection against the sun during the rest of the year.

GAZEBO'S

Gazebo's help to protect outside gatherings from the hot sun.

COLOURED STICKY TAPE

Some of you will know that we use two-inch wide coloured sticky tape to identify the items we pack in a way which helps the sorting process in Honduras. There are now so many receiving groups that we are having great difficulty obtaining an adequate variety of different tapes. If you know of a company or business that has changed its logo and is discarding redundant packaging tape then it could be very useful to us for marking. Similarly, part reels of distinctive tape etc.

FOR YOUR INTEREST

POWER POINT PRESENTATION

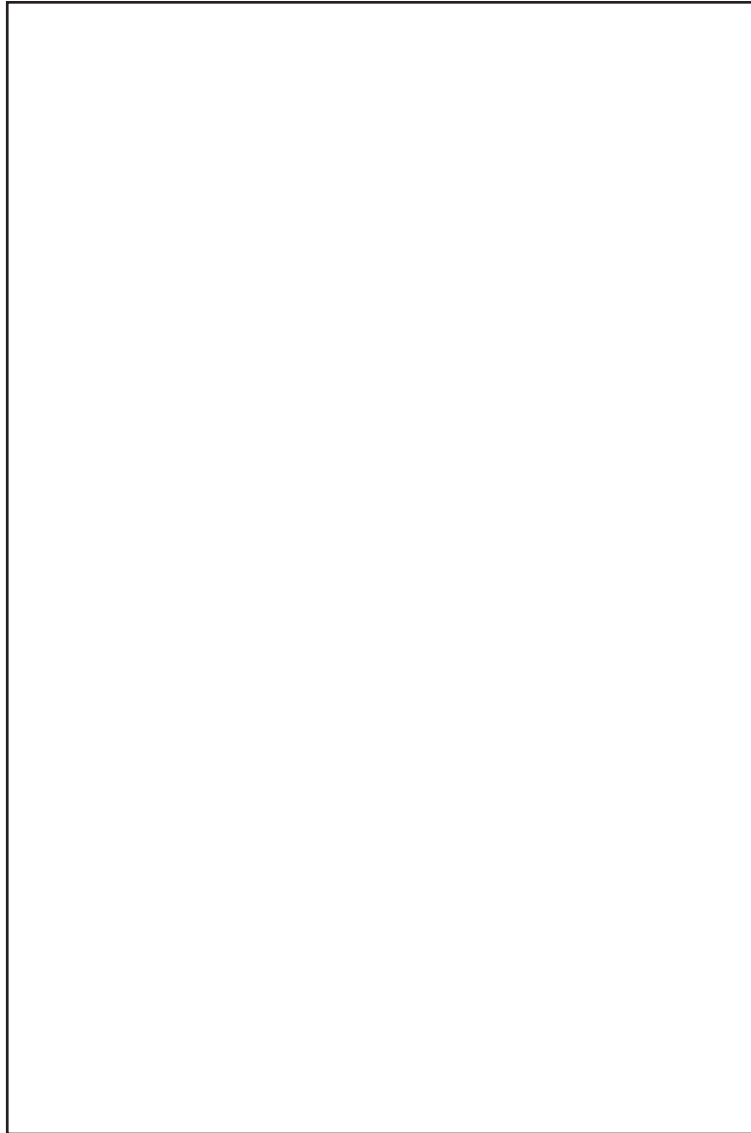
Pastor Alberto has produced an excellent power point presentation of unloading the containers in Honduras. This is available for people to borrow.

VHS VIDEO CASSETTE

We have a half-hour video of loading day last year (March 2004). Copies of this can be purchased at £5. We also have a copy that can be borrowed.

CALENDAR

A 2006 calendar is to be printed for us that will show a selection of 12 different pictures taken from Loading in Derby and of children receiving help in Honduras. The price is £5. (Plus £1.50 postage and packing, if required).



- THE JOY OF RECEIVING A DOLL OF HER OWN -

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Packing Week: Saturday 11th February - Saturday 18th excluding Sunday.

Loading Day: Saturday March 18th 2006