



Children Of Honduras Trust

Newsletter August 2001

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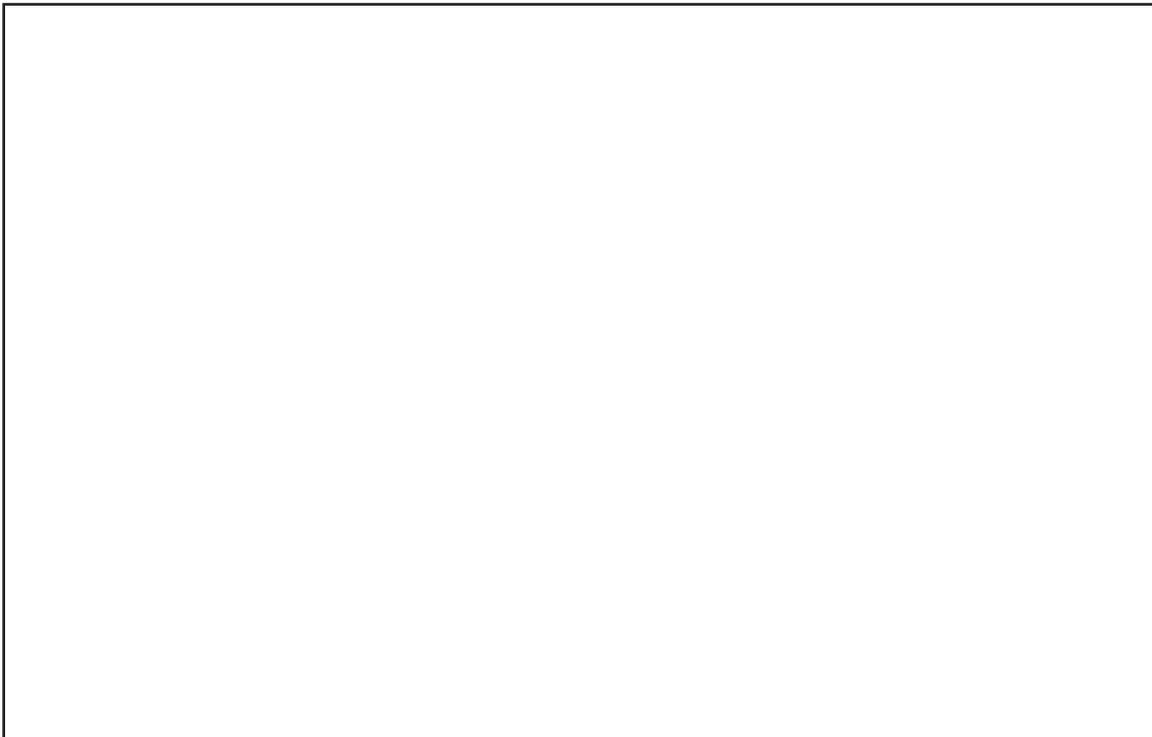
Charity No. 1075562

WE REMEMBER IT WELL

Packing Day, morning of the 17th March, greeted us with a snow shower. Not quite what we had in mind! This paled into insignificance when we arrived at the yard to find that the empty containers had not been delivered.

This represented a major problem since they should have been delivered the previous evening. The businesses associated with container freighting are of course closed on Saturday (our packing day). After some fervent prayers, a few frantic phone calls and some favours called in by Ron (who provides our free transport of the containers to and from Birmingham) the containers were eventually extracted from the closed P & O depot in Birmingham and delivered to us at 11:55am, four hours late!

As it happened, the morning turned out to be dry and not too cold. This enabled



- CHILDREN -

us to use the time to organise the emptying of the storage containers onto the yard in a way that eased the subsequent packing of the containers.

We are very grateful to our packing team, many of whom rescheduled their day to provide the extra effort needed to complete the task. The container doors were closed and sealed by about 6:30pm (about an hour or so behind our usual completion time). So, praise the Lord, in the end the day went really well and we returned home very tired but well satisfied with the day's achievements.

The containers left Derby on the Monday morning and sailed from Felixstowe on Thursday of that week. They arrived at the coast of Honduras on Good Friday with the expectation that they would be delivered to Tegucigalpa on the 20th April, after the Easter holiday. The stage was now set for the next scene in the drama!

Can we please thank all of you that helped us out of the packing day crisis. We hope that everyone managed to keep their evening commitments without sleeping through them!

DUNCES OF HAZARD?

Last year we were very grateful to receive a large donation of gloss paint. On the strength of this we decided to engage in a paint project and accumulate sufficient quantity to justify a 'hazard' container. (Gloss paint cannot be shipped without special arrangements). Thus committed, we then sought instructions from the shippers and others as to what was needed. The advice we received was DON'T! We did not believe the Lord would supply the paint without the means to ship it so we persisted. We spent ten months trying to ascertain what was required without significant success, that is till only one week before packing day! We were finally advised that the paint would have to be packed in a certain type of box and it would be necessary to declare the number of tins, the weight of the paint in each tin and its chemical composition! This information would normally be provided by the manufacturers, as would the packing. However, our paint had been gathered from a number of sources, including Kalon who gift to us each year. Many phone calls and helpful advice later we appeared to have obtained the relevant stickers and a means to proceed which would hopefully ensure our shippers were happy. With good reason, shippers are not comfortable about amateurs freighting hazardous goods. Had they been dissatisfied, the shipment could have been stopped, the containers unloaded sufficient to remove the paint and the cost of this charged to ourselves. This high risk (may I say hazardous)

scenario demanded a good deal of prayer in respect of getting the containers through the docks onto the ship and off to sea without hindrance. What we did not appreciate at the time was that these prayers were needed equally to get the powdered milk aboard ship as well!

A FOOT IN OUR MOUTH

You might well think what has Foot and Mouth got to do with us? Nothing we thought, incorrectly unfortunately. One of the major items in the containers was four tons of powdered milk! This is perhaps one of those occasions when the phrase ‘the Lord works in mysterious ways’ takes on a new dimension. The story started to unfold shortly after the containers were at sea. One morning we received a letter from the Intervention Board informing us that they would not be refunding the E.E.C tax on the milk since the claim we had submitted did not comply with the new regulations that had been introduced earlier in the year and which we had not been informed about. During the course of taking advice from our friendly customs man at Felixstowe he commented that he was surprised that we had not been asked by the shippers for a ‘Certificate of Health’. “A what!”, we asked? Some research on the Internet revealed that the import of milk had been banned by many countries, including Honduras, without a MAFF certificate of health. We also found out that the movement of milk products around the UK was banned on the same day our containers were on their way to the docks. This all came as something of a shock. We had been far too busy packing boxes and organising packing day to register the fact that ‘Foot and Mouth’ would have any implications for us. As a result we had four tons of milk at sea without a certificate and lost about £1000 on the tax refund! What were we to do?

FUN AT THE DOCKS

Two months and more fervent prayer later the authorities in Honduras began to question the paperwork associated with the milk! They had observed that the date of issue of the milk ‘certificate of analysis’ exactly coincided with their cut-off date for UK milk imports. Not surprisingly, they were suspicious. This precipitated a number of phone calls and e-mails between Honduras, ourselves and Dairy Crest, who supplied the milk. Praise the Lord! It turned out that our milk had been produced on the 3rd January, up front of the cut-off date. This information had to be confirmed in writing by Dairy Crest directly to authorities in Honduras to satisfy them. Another obstacle out of the way! We can’t imagine what the implications would have been, in the absence of this outcome.

We also finished up with some mitigation on the loss of the milk tax. The rules have been changed such that the refund is now dependent on the fat content. We eventually received about £400 back from the Intervention Board. Much better than nothing, but still a large hole in our budget, £1000 less than we had anticipated.

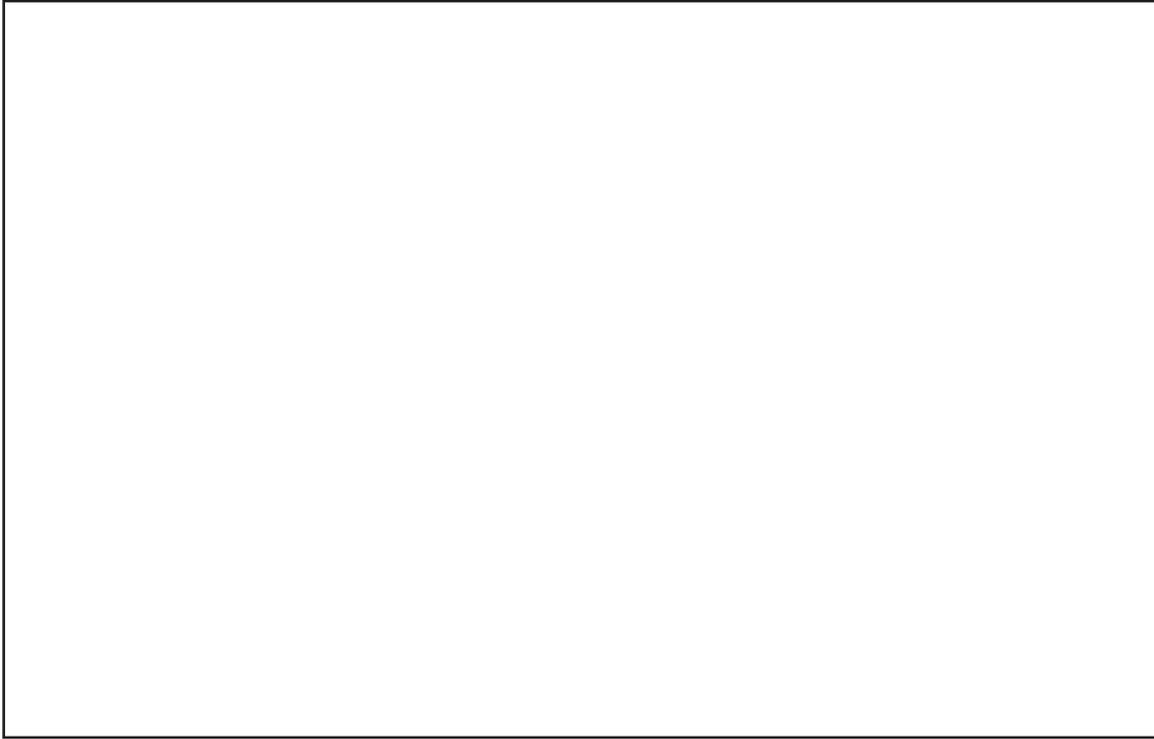
AT LAST!

Contrary to our expectation that the containers would be delivered to David Dominguez on 20th April they actually arrived on Tuesday 22nd May, a month late! David wrote to us “We are very thankful to the Lord for the containers safe arrival and for patience throughout the process. The past month has required much more extensive communication with customs than anticipated. Things have changed since the more open policy for container receipt after Hurricane Mitch and so we have cause to be especially grateful, both to the Lord and yourselves at CH Trust, as together we have completed the necessary work.”

As a result of the delays David has incurred about £2657 of demurrage charges. It is our wish at CH Trust to help him absorb this unplanned cost by offering him a donation towards it. However, it is not possible immediately since our own funds are in deficit.

David informs us that for container unloading day a team of about 30 helpers were assembled from the districts of Nueva Suyapa, Valle de Angeles and El Picacho. They were organised into groups for unloading the goods and then dispersing and packing them into the pre-designated storage areas. The containers arrived at El Picacho on Tuesday evening to the accompaniment of a heavy rainstorm that prohibited them from starting to unload.

Some of the team spent the night guarding the containers until unloading commenced at 5:30am Wednesday morning. “There was a great spirit of camaraderie among the team with everyone pitching in. All the materials were unloaded by noon. The rest of the day was spent organising everything into their respective storage areas here at El Picacho.” We received this photo of the unloading.



- UNLOADING THE CONTAINERS -

What the picture does not reveal is that the containers are parked on a bend in the very busy road running down the steep hillside on its way to the city! Randall commented, “Even with many helping, I can tell you from a personal angle, that many of us got a very good physical all-day work out, moving and organising boxes and materials.” David concludes, “Now we can look forward to the many blessings and practical help that these materials will bring.”

We thank the Lord for success in our mission. As you can see, sending containers manages to generate new problems each year. This year was certainly no exception. Even so, we really didn’t expect Foot and Mouth to be one of them! We are also mindful of David’s difficulty. As well as incurring heavy cost, he has also had to endure some trauma in importing the containers into Honduras. He has done this on behalf of Ministerios Vision Cristiana as well as for the needs of his own ministries. For this we are very grateful.

A REMINDER OF WHAT WAS SENT

Apart from the four tons (£6000) of milk and the ton of paint already mentioned we sent a wealth of other materials. In the area of food we were able to include 2 tons of oats and much in the way of packet food such as flour, rice and pasta, etc.

The main focus has been education. We have been able to supply a good number of school desks, tables and chairs for the various schools that need equipping. We were also able to obtain a number of blackboards, whiteboards and notice boards, all of which will be useful to cover some of the bare brick walls predominant in most of the Honduran schools. In the area of educational consumables we have sent including pens, pencils, crayons, paper, exercise books, etc.

This year we were able to provide some support to their catering needs in terms of stainless steel kitchen tables, catering size cooking pans and trays, a freezer and other kitchen equipment which will all be very helpful.

This year we have again been fortunate to send out a substantial quantity of surgical equipment. We have been able to acquire this as a result of the progressive transition from reusable instruments to the 'once only' disposable type. This is not the kind of thing that we could possibly finance on a purchase basis but does provide the medical teams in Honduras with highly valued equipment.

Following our request in the last newsletter we have received a spectacular donation for next year's containers! The Lord has blessed us with a hydraulic dentist's chair together with a wealth of dental equipment, the use for which we prefer not to think about! Thank you so much.

As per usual we have sent out about £3000 of their most needed medicines. Finally in the area of family support, we have again sent out a large number of family bags containing toiletries, a towel and also a quantity of children's clothes and shoes.

The contents of the containers have been divided between the two ministries headed by David Dominguez and Norma Ramirez according to their particular needs. At the time of writing we have not received much feedback from them since the business of dividing the goods and emptying the boxes has only just started to take place.

NEWS FROM THE MINISTRIES OF DAVID DOMINQUEZ

CHOLUTECA OUTREACH

The work in Choluteca has consistently progressed since the first relief trips made in the wake of Mitch in 1998 and has now developed into an outreach ministry and a source of encouragement to us all. We've seen that with good

organisation and consistency, relationships can be built at the community level and lives blessed as a result of it. The Lord is at work through the weekly trips that are made to the area where we first became involved more than two years ago. This past weekend a combined team from Nueva Suyapa and El Picacho went down under the direction of Mr. Enrique Sibrian, who works in the print shop here. This weekend focused on a recreational sports activity time and the church services. We also noted that there were new visitors to the service this week.

Two weeks ago Dr. Salgado from our clinic and another medic made the weekend trip with Mr. Sibrian and saw a total of 53 patients who received medical attention at that time.

An earlier communication informed us that on one of the Choluteca visits the medical team treated 180 patients. Please pray for the doctors and their helpers in what must be a very exhausting day of work. The five-hour journey is accomplished on the back of a truck, followed up by working in primitive conditions through the blistering heat of the southern Honduras day.

“ONESIMUS” PROJECT

Nueva Suyapa is home to 30000 people beleaguered with more than their fair share of poverty aggravated social problems. The area is built on the capital city's (Tegucigalpa) rubbish dump of twenty years or so and houses a largely forgotten community. David focuses much of his time, effort and prayers into ministering to this hostile place. His vision is to see Suyapa developed into a thriving community where its inhabitants enjoy self-respect and an ‘obtainable’ degree of prosperity achieved through their own efforts.

David describes the “Onesimus” Project:

“... he was useless to you, but now he has become useful, both to you and to me ...” Philemon 11

This project will be named Onesimus, with faith in the Lord to do in Nueva Suyapa just what Paul through the Gospel accomplished, namely, making what had previously been useless to become useful. The same experience can be repeated here in multiplying form.

The experience that we've already lived and acquired, makes us sure that this

work is already a reality, although the task that we'll have before us will be enormous and not without a few battles. We, however, are counting on the inexhaustible grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who without doubt will help us to carry out this work in His name.

We step out in faith, since at present we don't have more resources than the land that has been acquired. We are planning to construct the following facilities there:

- A school for secondary teaching and workshops, so that the students can simultaneously learn a trade with which they can begin to earn some money to help their families and their younger siblings to continue school.
- A training centre for the trades and crafts for young people, female heads of households, men and those advanced in age.
- A sports centre with volleyball, basketball, and fast soccer courts, as well as table games for all ages.
- A housing area for MCM personnel that work in Nueva Suyapa.
- A teaching area for the development of family produce gardens and raising rabbits and chickens in limited spaces.

This project will have several objectives, but the first in importance is to get children and youths off the streets and away from bad company, offering them useful training for life. This will involve keeping their minds and bodies occupied with wholesome activities and having the opportunity to share the Good News with them and focus on development in spiritual life.

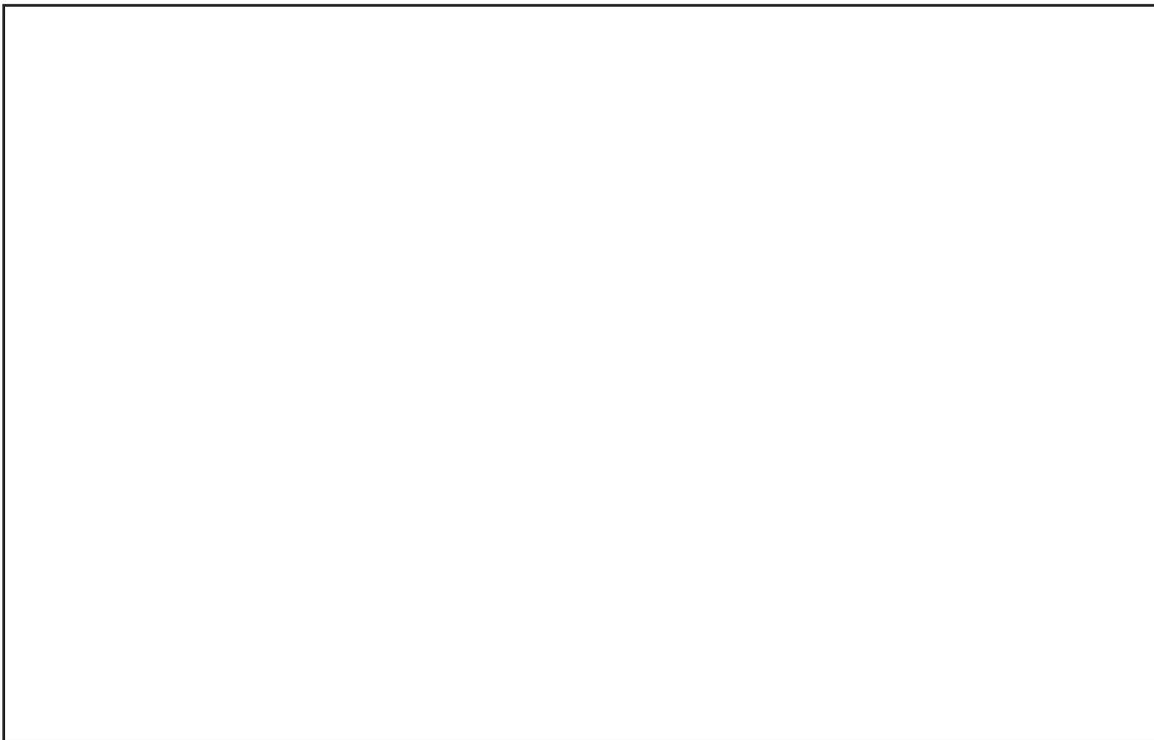
In spite of the program's 100% usefulness in a place as conflict-ridden as the Nueva Suyapa community, where very few programs have been attempted by the government and practically all have failed, we don't have and don't expect any government support. This has been our experience in all our programs up to the present.

We are sharing these things with you understanding that you are praying for us and that these items will be reason for thanksgiving to the Lord and perseverance in intercession for this work in which we have the privilege to be joint participants with you.

CHILD DAY-CARE HOMES

The child day-care homes have gotten under way well. Along with those already operating, we hope to eventually have 12 functioning, all to be located in Nueva Suyapa. These homes will be the means to help the children and also their mothers, many of whom need to work outside the home to support their families. The homes have various capacities in terms of the number of children each serves, ranging from ten to fifteen children each. The homes serve children from 1 to five years old and children from 6 to 12 years old, both before and after school, while their mothers are working.

This ministry seeks to meet the needs of the most needy children, and so need is the main criterion for attendance. The cost to the parent is about US \$6.00 per week per child, although this does not cover all our expenses in providing this service. Also, not all those having their children attend have the means to pay that amount. We own one of the houses used as a day-care home and the others are property of other individuals who we have worked out an agreement with to offer this service. In all cases, the houses have been appropriately equipped and accommodated for this purpose.



- CHILD DAY-CARE HOME -

Along with opening the homes, work was undertaken with regard to organising a training plan for the mothers who will be providing day care. Additionally, several community-level meetings were held with the mothers participating in the child day-care service. Also materials were distributed for appropriately equipping the care facilities.

The children's day-care centres have progressed well, and last month I had the chance to visit one of the centres. It was exciting to see that it had been painted with a brilliant scene of Noah's ark on the interior walls and to know that it will be a refuge for the children who will receive the privilege of being served there. I will forward further details on this project as I receive them.

NUEVA SUYAPA HOUSING PROJECT

During the period from October 1999 to the end of year 2000 a total of sixty houses were constructed. The current number is now 75. They are all located in Nueva Suyapa.

NUEVA SUYAPA YOUTH CAMP

The youth group is growing and now reaches out to about 100 young people. They have organised a basketball tournament as an outreach to other young men in the community and it's going well. The Gospel is shared with the other non-church teams from the community and they have a good time of recreation together. The tournament league consists of six teams. The youth group's team is called "Onesimo", carrying the idea that the Lord Jesus can renovate a person's life, making it useful and fruitful for Him.

EASTER CAMP

Since the beginning of this month (April) we have been very busy, especially with preparations for the celebration of the 25th Youth Camp that began on April 8th and ended this past Sunday, the 15th.

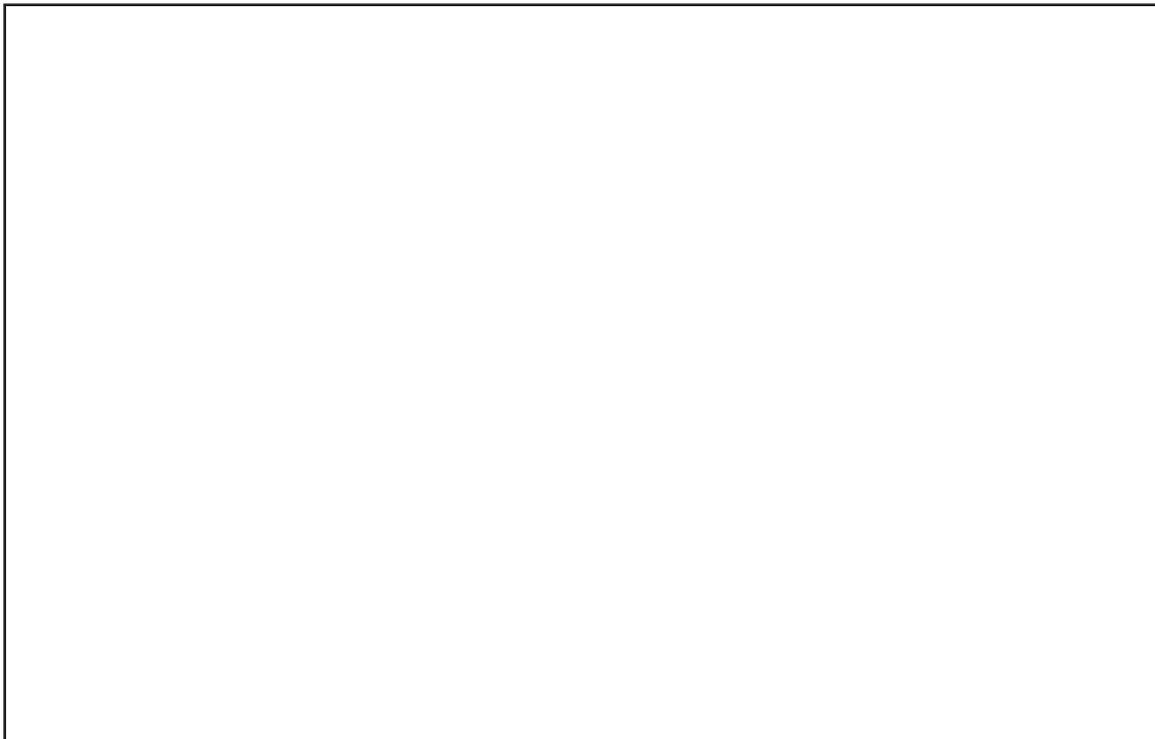
Thanks to God everything went according to plan and we had sound Bible teaching.

The orderliness and good behaviour among the campers contributed to the festive atmosphere which lasted the entire week and wasn't diminished by any accident or unexpected incident.

The total number of campers was 502 and we had a total of 39 on staff that worked in the kitchen, maintenance, and at other various tasks.

We believe that this has been one of the best camps since we began this work among the youth 25 years ago. It's impossible to describe to you what all this special camp entails and only by being present and participating can one understand how exciting the week really is.

We're very grateful to those who are praying for the Lord's work in Honduras and can guarantee you that your prayers have been and will continue to be answered.



- EASTER CAMP -

TWENTY FIVE YEARS IN THE SADDLE

To honour the twenty-five years of service and ministry in Honduras by David and Lourdes, their friends, family and MCM staff gathered at two separate events held on the 1st and 2nd of July. Following a general tour of Central America in 1975 to evaluate ministry opportunities in the region, the Dominguez family arrived to start work in Tegucigalpa on the 2nd July 1976. Over the past quarter century they have seen the Lord bless their work. Today this includes youth and teaching ministries as well as social services to many who find themselves living in desperate conditions. Congratulations from all here in the UK.

NEWS FROM NORMA RAMIREZ (MINISTERIOS VISION CRISTIANA)

THE CHURCH'S VISION

Our vision is big. We want to plant churches in the four cardinal points of Honduras. La Ceiba, Choluteca, San Pedro Sula and Olancho. The central church is located in the centre of the Valle de Angeles village, home to about 7000 inhabitants. It has a membership of about 300 people and works with 20 groups scattered across the local suburbs and hamlets in the mountains. Twenty-five leaders are involved in this work for God's kingdom.

The church is involved in a number of projects. The main project is the evangelistic school devoted to the poorest children in the community and the 'Saturday Club' named "Amor y Frutos" (Love and Fruits). Alongside the school a new project is soon to be launched to help those dependent on drugs and trapped by alcoholism.

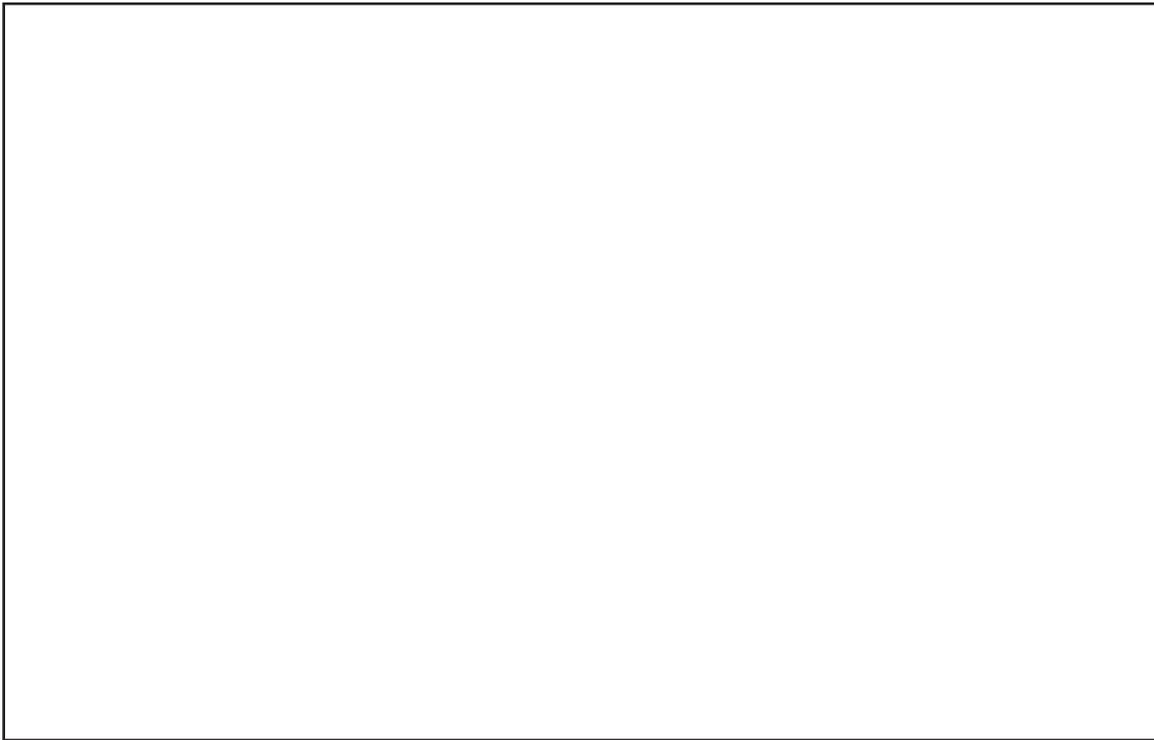
EL CDI (CENTRE FROM CHILD DEVELOPMENT)

The school's mission is to help marginalised children from Valle de Angeles by giving them the opportunity to totally change their lives and become good, highly useful men and women. This demands a major change of view towards a helping attitude, achieved by discovering and developing their individual capabilities, preparing themselves to overcome problems and find physical, emotional and spiritual well being.

There are 158 pupils between the ages of 3 and 11 years in their school. The teachers are committed to securing the best possible quality of life for the children, Valle de Angeles like the rest of Honduras suffers cruelly from poverty, malnutrition and illiteracy.

In the health area they have been attending to a lot of children suffering from coughs, flu, allergies, asthma, stomach ache, colic, nausea, malnutrition, injuries and tonsillitis. Recent climate changes have adversely affected the children's health. We are working to help the parents keep their children in good health.

The school additionally provides classes for slow learners, social development programmes, and medical as well as nutritional care for the children. Although the school has only been in operation for about two years it has flourished. The time has come when they need to provide additional classrooms. The constraints of



- TREATING THE CHILDREN'S MEDICAL PROBLEMS -

their site are forcing them to construct a second level over the existing buildings. Funds permitting they hope to begin this work in November (during the Honduras equivalent of the UK school summer break). The school expansion plans also include a kitchen and mission house. The adjacent picture shows the existing kitchen which is a small inadequate wooden construction. (Incidentally, the large cooking pans were sent out in our containers from the previous year). They hope, in the longer term, to build more solid improved facilities on land at the rear of the church. Their construction programme reads as follows:

1. Construction of the second level of classrooms on the left side of the church
£1410
2. Construction of the first and second levels for library, clinic, computer room and office for the school.£4267
3. Construction of a basketball and play area. £469
4. Construction of a retaining wall at the back of the church. £3760
5. Construction at the rear of the church where we will locate the kitchen, dining room and accommodation for visitors.

The majority of the work is currently unfunded but needs to be accomplished over the next three years. They are therefore requesting prayers and financial support to turn these projects into reality.

AMOR Y FRUTOS

This ministry is an outreach to any child in the village. It offers Saturday morning fun where all the school facilities are available to them. A meal is given along with medical checks, which include treatment for intestinal worms and headlice.

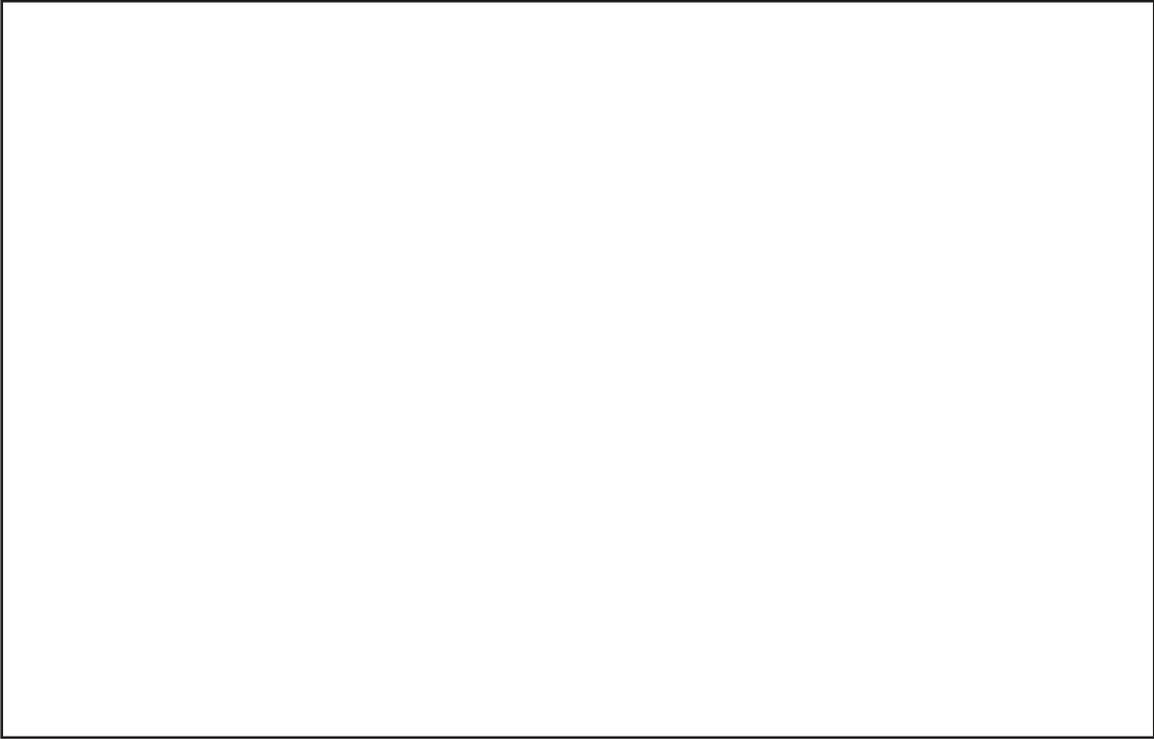
COMPUTERS

The computers received from England have been a great blessing. It can be seen from the photo that they desperately need the additional machines in this year's containers to help reduce the queues. As well as providing IT training for the children, evening classes are organised for the adults.

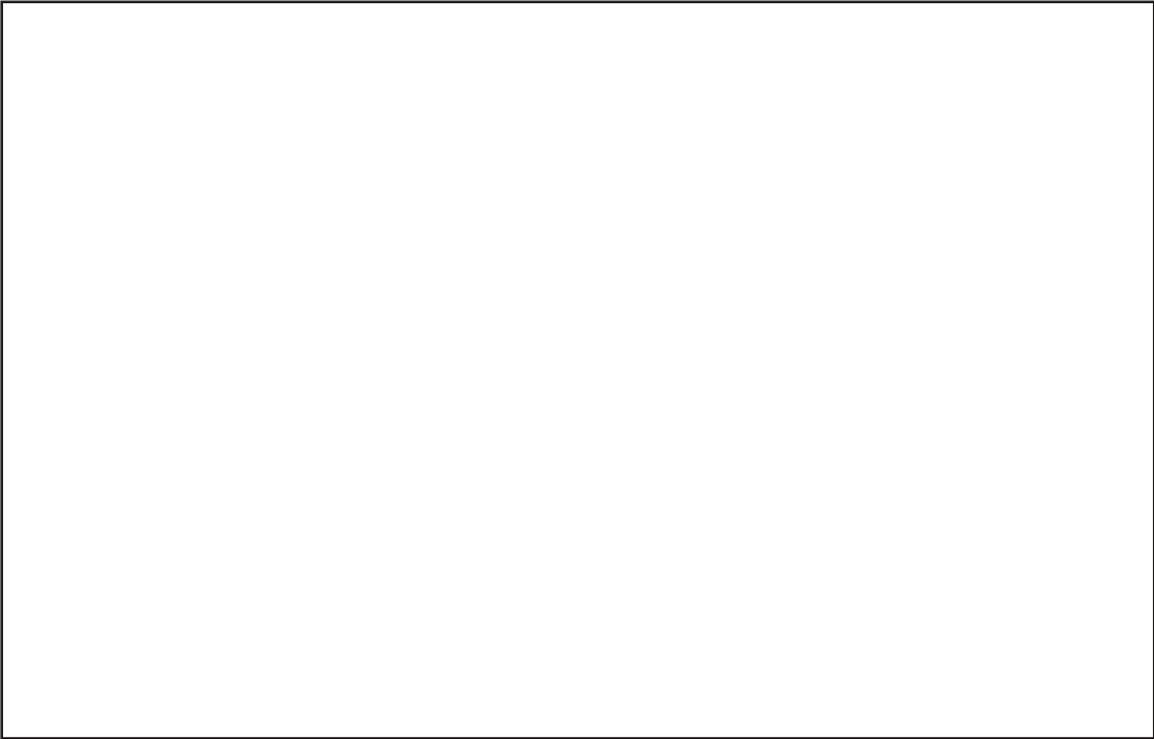
THE NEW CHURCH IN SAN PEDRO SULA

Some months ago Reinaldo and Elizabeth, members of the Valle de Angeles church relocated to Cerro Verde, Chaloma, which is near to San Pedro Sula in order to take over the running of a shop. They started a house group that has rapidly increased to some 25 members. Presently they meet in their house. However, it is far too small and the shop permits them little time to attend to the Lord's work. The church in Valle de Angeles has recognised this as an opportunity to start a church and thus implement a part of their ministry vision. To achieve this they have provided help to Reinaldo and Elizabeth to move to a larger house. Each week, leaders from the Valle de Angeles church visit to help with the services. Because of their other commitments the Valle de Angeles church are struggling with the financial burden this imposes, but are determined to succeed in launching this work.

The current plan is to send Alberto (under minister at the Valle de Angeles church) to pastor the new church after he and his wife Wendy have completed their training at the Bible College in Guatemala. (There isn't one in Honduras). In the meantime the church is going to send Francisco and Blanca who married earlier this year. They too, will be going to the Bible College for training in January 2002. It is the intention of the Valle de Angeles church to send at least one of their developing church leaders to Bible College, each year, to prepare them for ministry. By this means they hope to have the personnel to enable them to open other churches in Honduras.



- COMPUTERS -



- KITCHEN EQUIPMENT -

A NOTE ABOUT ALBERTO CRUZ

We first met him in 1994. He was part of a small group of believers who were looking for sponsorship to enable them to participate in a Bible correspondence course. We were touched by their enthusiasm and provided that sponsorship. On completion of his course he ultimately progressed to become the under minister in the Valle de Angeles church with Norma. We met him again in this capacity during our last visit to Honduras. Earlier this year he married Wendy. Some of you will have met her whilst she was staying here last year in England. They are now close to completing their year of study at the Guatemala Bible College. He will return as a fully qualified pastor, ready to take on the new church in San Pedro Sula.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

Escuela Vision Cristiana has much appreciated the financial support offered by the sponsorship scheme. With our help the school has been able to increase the number of students on the register to 158. Of these, 60 of the children are in need of sponsorship for this academic year and, as many of the sponsors have continued for a second year, we have been able to transfer sufficient funds to help 48 of these students attend school.

This leaves 12 pupils without sponsorship for this year. The cost to the school is £112 per pupil per academic year. Our sponsors here in the UK donate £60 of this, Ministerios Vision Cristiana contributes £28 and the parents of the child pay the reduced rate of £24. If anyone would like to sponsor a child's education at the Escuela Vision Cristiana please complete the form at the back of the newsletter and details will be sent to you.

All 50 pupils sponsored by us last year are in the process of receiving a gift box or bucket shipped on the March containers.

GIFT AID DECLARATION

Since the introduction of the Gift Aid Declaration last year we have been able to reclaim over £1400 in tax on donations received by us under this scheme. This has proved a tremendous help in financing the shipment of the containers this year. Would anyone else like to join the scheme?

As a charity CH Trust are exempt from income tax on its income – this includes donations given by individuals under the Gift Aid Declaration. We are entitled to

recover any basic rate income tax which has already been paid on donations or sponsorship. CH Trust only has to show that the amount came from you which is done by a confidential numbering system and you can cancel the Declaration at any time.

If you would like a Gift Aid Declaration form please complete the slip on the back of the newsletter and return to the address on the front cover. We would be pleased to send you a form.

WHERE DID THE MONEY GO?

Our biggest items of expenditure this year have been milk, medical supplies and the freight of two forty foot containers.

We spent over £6000 on four tons of buttermilk powder and £500 on two tons of oats. Despite our best efforts we were only able to recoup £400 from the Common Agricultural Policy refund. This represented a short fall of over £1000 on previous years. The milk and oats are a valuable addition to the children's diets in both Norma and David's ministries. We are told by the ladies who visited last year that the milk powder, oats and sugar make a delicious and nutritious drink, which the children look forward to.

Medical supplies amounted to £3000 and included many items which are difficult to source in Honduras. We included antibiotics, cough medicines and vaccines.

Freight for the two containers came to £4500, about the same as last year. However, due to a reorganisation in the shipping company, we had to pay two additional costs that were previously included, rail freight and the global fuel tax.

We purchased sugar-paper, glue and blackboard markers as these were items requested by the schools.

WHAT ABOUT NEXT YEAR?

David says 'Any sports equipment that can be sent will also be a great blessing, and will be able to be utilised as the various programs of the Onesimus Project get underway. For example, badminton rackets and set, and soccer balls. Really any sports equipment.

Also there are emergent needs, such as band equipment for marching in civic parades, since we now have a music teacher who is teaching the students on the few flutes that we have. We would like to be able to present a drum and flute marching band at El Verbo for the Independence Day parade and other special occasions. We have noted much enthusiasm on the part of the students to form and participate in a marching band. It's a great way to teach civic and community values while forming an enhanced sense of school unity and pride.'

Colouring books

Colouring books are a great boon with the teachers in the school, as rewards to students for academic excellence and best behaviour and for use during their free time when they have completed their tasks in lesson time. They can use more than we receive. A good source is 'Wilkinsons' at 25p for a colouring book. Also 12 wax crayons at 29p, 12 pencil crayons at 29p and 49p. Paint pallets for under £1.

Buckets

We are in constant need of buckets with lids. We use these to pack various vulnerable items for safe transport. They are also very useful in Honduras as storage containers, safe from insects, etc. and for carrying or storing water. These buckets are mostly ones used by the big stores and other bakeries. We collect them and wash them out for use but have difficulty keeping pace with demand for them. Can anyone help in this area? If so could you please get in touch, since we will be needing them to start packing in November.

Books

The picture shows quite a quantity of books on the shelves. These, although much appreciated, have limited value as the majority are from our containers from England and are in the English language. We have been able to acquire some Spanish books, mostly as a result of people on holiday spending time and effort looking for ones suitable for us to send. So, if anyone will be visiting a Spanish speaking country perhaps you would consider the possibility of purchasing a few books suitable for school, to be sent in the next container.

Shampoo and Soap

Shampoo and soap are always required as there is a constant need, particularly since that purchased in the U.K. seems to be of higher quality than that available locally. Shampoo and conditioner are important in the treatment of head lice, which is a constant problem. 'Tea-Tree' shampoo we are told is particularly good

in this respect and is often no more expensive than ordinary shampoo. As you collect for next year, please DO NOT pack any shampoo into your boxes. We will need to pack it into buckets in Derby. The bottles are mostly quite fragile and need this protection to ensure their safe arrival.

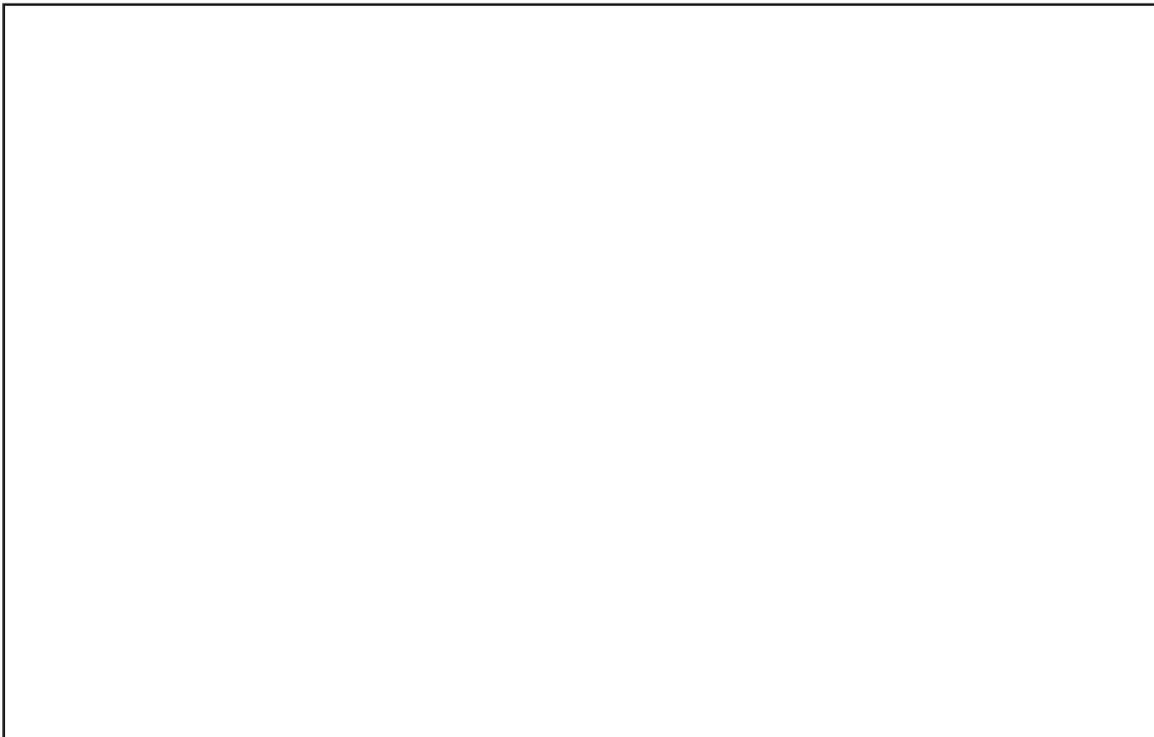
Fridges, freezers, chest of drawers. Cutlery, large and small are requested.

Education will still be a major item in the coming year with schools opening and expanding as well as supplying existing classes. We have been asked for tables and stacking chairs for both schools and Sunday schools. Adult stacking chairs are also in demand and can be used by all. Schools and colleges are a good source for these as they down size or refurbish, chalk can sometimes be acquired from this source as white boards are becoming more common.

Bookshelves, cupboards, lockers and filing cabinets are also needed in the classrooms.

Family bags and school starter bags are always popular but, if you feel the need for a different project this year, we are also suggesting food boxes/buckets.

It is suggested that the following items would be very useful. 3lb. PLAIN flour 9p, packet dried spaghetti 13p, 2lb. Sugar 54p, 500ml cooking oil 45p, tin of



- BOOKS -

tuna, cornedbeef, or ham. Tin of evaporated milk or dried milk plus anything else that fits.

We would like to send these in plastic buckets with fitting lids. These are so useful in Honduras after the food has been eaten. As you will have read they can often be collected from catering and baking departments but we struggle to get sufficient. If these are not available could you please pack your items in a plastic carrier bag lined box. However, do not pack the oil because, if they split, they can damage a lot of the supplies in the container. If they are brought to Derby we will pack them in a way that will ensure any leakage is contained. The same applies to bottles of shampoo, which are vulnerable in the same way.

WHEELIN'THE WORD!

Norma (minister of Vision Cristiana) has challenged us with a rather unusual request. She asked if we could help fix her up with a motorcycle so that she can more easily reach her congregation members, many of who live up in the mountains. The sort of thing required appears to be a Japanese manufacture (for spares) trail bike with knobbly tyres, preferably with a 125cc engine or similar. The bike will be used on ungraded dirt roads with many steep hills. In other words, a hard life. Any offers?

HALF TERM

February 16th –23rd 2002

PACKING DAY

March 16th 2002

Please send me (delete as appropriate):

- Details of the Sponsorship Scheme
- Gift Aid Declaration Form

Name:

Address:

Postcode: