



Operation Christmas Child

A shoe box which makes a difference

Samaritan's Purse is a Christian charity meeting critical needs of victims of war, poverty, famine and natural disaster while sharing the Good News of Jesus. Every year in the autumn, as one part of its activity, the charity organises a nationwide collection of shoeboxes. Not just empty shoeboxes, but boxes replete with all sorts of goodies for children living in poverty around the world. These recycled boxes are delivered to the children at Christmastime and are always received with great joy. It's incredible to think that just by filling an old shoe box wrapped in Christmas paper we can bring happiness to children suffering unimaginable hardship. Full details are available on their website: www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk



Last year around 50 filled shoe boxes were given to the appeal from residents of Hunsdon, Widford and Wareside. This year we are again coordinating efforts with the village schools in Widford and Wareside, so we hope to bring a smile to the faces of even more children. In our experience children love selecting gifts to put in the boxes for the children at the other end, but you don't have to be a child to send a box; adults can equally well select appropriate gifts. And it's worth noting that the charity provide a number of simple knitting patterns for hats and puppets which are fun to make so that people can contribute in this way too.



If you are interested in helping this year, please contact the Rector by phone or shoeboxes@hwwchurch.org.uk and we will provide you with an information-pack explaining how the system works. (This includes some restrictions on what is allowed to be sent and the final date for submissions.) If you are interested in seeing what is achieved by these small gifts, we have a short DVD which we would be very happy to lend you.

Thank you very much.