

August 2009

Children from the Bethlehem-Creche Sri Lanka say thanks" photo from December 08.



After school feeding program for plantation children run by Father Bede Silva from the Galle Diocese—Sri Lanka



Father Bede with some of the children in a plantation. They live a hand to mouth existence!



These boys are so happy to receive a gift for the first time

Photos of the 2008 distribution can be viewed on : www.flickr.com type the words 'Christmas gift poor kids Sri Lanka' in the search bar - you will see 2 photo albums by matrixstar19. Enjoy!

'Ripples' Network Heaven News

Here's your opportunity to bring some Christmas cheer to a poor child in Sri Lanka

This project commenced in 2001 with sending Christmas gifts to children at the Bethlehem Creche run by Sister Florella—a Carmelite nun. All of the children come from disadvantaged backgrounds where the family income is less than \$3 per day.

With the hike in the cost of food many struggle to survive on a daily basis. These Mum's work on building sites, sweep streets or work as domestics. There is **no** income when Mum gets sick or has to care for a sick child. This is something we in Australia cannot even try to comprehend.

Sister Alex from the Sisters of Charity works with the tsunami victims and other disadvantaged groups in Galle— 90 miles from the capital—Colombo. There is no social security system in Sri Lanka. So, life is grim if you happen to be born into a poor family.

Over the years many disadvantaged children in Orphanages, Plantations and tsunami victims have been included to receive a one-off Christmas gift.

With the end to the civil war in the North of Sri Lanka after almost 30 years it is planned for 150 individual gifts to be distributed amongst the many child war victims. There are 300,000 displaced people in camps at present.

A total of 550 gifts are needed this year. Gifts are distributed to children of **ALL** nationalities without discrimination.

At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Our Saviour Jesus—please spare a thought to bring some joy into the lives of one of these children.

The gift put together is very practical.

It includes a new set of summer cotton clothes and undies, school items,

Do you have a teddy bear or doll collection in excellent condition? Why not consider donating it to be shared amongst one of these children!



Kids from a plantation experience a Christmas gift for the first time!

toiletries together with a small toy and lolly bag. **You may select a child from the list. Contact Anne to get a name. Alternately you may want to purchase misc items** ([please read guidelines on reverse side of the page](#))

'To Sri Lanka with Love'
Help put a smile on their faces
.... You can make a difference!



To Sri Lanka with Love 2009

Do **NOT** gift wrap your parcel — this is done when the goods are packed

What is needed:

Summer Clothes 1 set of new clothes and 3 pairs of cotton undies per child. Must be light cottons to suit hot climate, **Dress or skirt and top for girls (no shorts, minis or straps)**, **Drill shorts and shirt for boys. (no jungle patterns please)**. Underwear needs to be 100% cotton and modest (**g strings are not appropriate**).

Stationery Textas, coloured pencils, pens, crayons, water colour box with lid, highlighters, rulers, sharpeners, maths sets, stickers, pencil cases, template shapes—alphabets etc

Toiletries Fragrant soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, talcum powder, face washers, hand towels, safety pins and nappy pins

Hair Accessories & Trinkets Hair Clips, brush and comb sets, rolls of ribbon, handkerchiefs, bangles, chains and earrings, hair bands etc

Novelty items & Toys match box cars, balls, marbles, soft toys, skipping ropes, small dolls, small games, hats, tennis balls, hand held mini puzzles, packets of farm animals (mist be small)

Craft Items beads, craft scissors, glitter glue, duplo, craft paper punches, stamps, stencils etc

Sweets & Chocolates—A luxury item but loved by all. Packets of individually wrapped sweets are preferred to make up lolly bags. Please check use by dates

Other Back packs, kids raincoats, folding umbrellas, light summer fabrics, sewing kits, band aids and first aid items, white singlets for girls size 12-14, Underwear is needed for ladies size 10 and girls age 8 to 14 and boys Age 8 to 18.

Note: All goods are cleared and distributed direct by Our Partners in Sri Lanka. **There are no 3rd parties.**

Do you have any of these used items in good condition?

- Light electric typewriters
- Transistor radios
- Digital cameras & mobile phones
- Small scanners
- Guillotines for craft
- Sarees of any type

These items are most welcome by Individuals to setup a business, Orphanages, schools and other educational institutions.

Donations towards freight, bulk stationery and toiletries can be made by cheque payable to: **'Network Heaven'**

C/- Frenchs Forest Baptist Church
P O Box 198, Frenchs Forest
NSW 1640

Lollies and chocolates are an absolute luxury. If you can throw in a packet when you go to the supermarket we will have enough to make 550 lolly bags. **Individually wrapped sweets are more hygienic and travel well in the heat.**

Some ideas:

Fantales, Red skins, Sherbies, M & M's, Chuppa chups, Min-ties, Starbust Chocolate and Coffee Eclairs, Lifesavers etc,



'We can do no great things. Only small things with Great Love' — 'Mother Theresa'



Need ,more information?



Contact **Winsome** on 9451 6097 or **Anne** on 9451 0906, M 0409 329 096 after 7pm or by e-mail at anne_salvador@yahoo.com

Do you have access to obsolete 'Corporate gifts'?

We are looking for **shirts, pens, caps, stationery, mugs, bags** of all sorts including calico, non-woven, **satchels, back packs, umbrellas, clocks, calculators, thermos flasks and cups**— anything practical to include as gifts for poor families. There are many groups who will benefit from these— Elders Homes, Orphanages. AA, families of Prisoners, Refugees etc.

Companies often dispose off items where there's been print errors or branding changes or are simply obsolete.

These items are welcomed by those in the 3rd world. If you have any items you are unsure about contact Anne or Winsome.



www.networkheaven.org