



“Ripples” Network Heaven News



This group of children live in a tea/rubber plantation where there is a lot of hidden poverty. The family income is around \$3 per day. This happy group of kids so appreciate your love and support. Their happy faces tell the story!

To Sri Lanka with Love 2012

Your gift will mean a lot to one of them ...



Each year 'Network Heaven' sends a Christmas parcel to poor children in Sri Lanka whose family income is under \$3 per day. They can't afford a celebration of any kind because survival is a daily struggle. The children selected are from all races & religions. Children at the Bethlehem Creche are in the 0 to 5 age group. Others are older and from orphanages, plantations, victims of

war, children of prisoners, children of cobblers and HivAids+ children who just happen to be born poor. It is very difficult to break the poverty circle they live in. This year we plan to provide 1,000 children with a gift pack. We already have names and ages for approximately 700 children. Each child needs a new set of clothes, 3 pairs of undies, school and

toiletry items from the list, (see reverse) a small novelty toy or trinkets and lolly bag. Would you consider helping one of them? We are truly blessed with so much and Your Gift to one of these children would make a huge impact not just at Christmas, but throughout the whole year.



This little girl pictured on the left has only ever known war and poverty for all of her little life! She attends a school in the former war zone in the North of Sri Lanka. Last year she received a Christmas parcel for the first time! She'd never seen a doll before!



Do you have any of these sitting in a drawer? We can put them to good use!

- **Mobile phones**(must be in working order) ~ they can help tuk tuk drivers & others
- **Small transistor radios** for people in an Elders Home
- **Fisher Price Toys**—suitable for use in a pre-school
- **Indian sarees or salvars**

Going to school can make a world of difference! These children are from a plantation

Did you know? Sri Lanka is an independent country just below the tip of India. It has a population of around 22 million. Whilst the 30 year civil war has come to an end, progress is slow and there are thousands of widows with children in the North and East. Since there is no social security system many war widows find it hard to survive.



School packs include items like exercise books, pens, coloured pencils, lead pencils, water colours, highlighters, math sets, rulers, pencil cases, sharpeners and erasers, to name a few. See sample below.



What is needed ... All gifts need to be in by 12 September 2012



A special request from
some of our students ..

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. \(no jungle camouflage patterns please\)](#). Underwear needs to be 100% cotton and modest ([g strings are not appropriate](#)).

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

Toiletries Fragrant soap, tooth-paste 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 ear rings, hair bands etc

Novelty Items & Toys match box type cars, balls, marbles, soft toys, skipping ropes, small dolls, small games, hats, tennis balls, hand held mini puzzles, packets

of farm animals (must 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 - check use by dates

Other

Back packs, kids raincoats, folding umbrellas, sewing kits, band aids & first aid kits, any practical unwanted gifts



We will gladly accept 2nd hand items (clocks & watches) but they must be in working order. Battery operated alarm clocks are also acceptable.

If you can help [contact Anne](#) on 9451 0906 or [Winsome](#) on 9451 6097 after 7pm or e-mail:

anne_salvador@yahoo.com

Bethlehem Creche—Sri Lanka



The Bethlehem Crèche is run by Sister Florella from the Carmelite Order. The children age 0 to 5 yrs attend this Day Centre whilst their mums or guardians go to work. Many work as domestics or in casual labour intensive work for which they earn around \$3 per day—barely sufficient for their survival let alone feed and house the children. Each day has its own worries.

Sister Florella goes begging into the business district and bazaar area to collect goods in kind & cash to feed the children and staff each day. Many of the girls who work at the Crèche have come because of poverty since their parents cannot afford to keep them. For this reason they are included to receive gifts as well.

Please see the instructions if you are clothing a child. It would be good to take 5 minutes to check on what is suitable.

Pictured at left—a little group of youngsters from the Crèche. They seem happy and stable enough all wearing their Christmas 2011 gifts, but many carry scars of trauma, hunger, malnutrition, sickness and even abuse. Their homes are just a small make-do shanty that is often just one room. They use the 'common street tap' for washing and showering, and often carrying water for cooking. The Crèche is their little oasis—a place where they are lovingly cared for by Sr Florella and her staff.

Donations ~ Tax deductible donation is available via SimAid for bulk Stationery & freight. Please make payment to SimAid Project 90202 and post it to :

Network Heaven
C/- Frenchs Forest Baptist church
P O Box 198,
Frenchs Forest 1640

(please provide name, address and contact phone number for receipt)

If tax deductibility is 'not' required: please make payment to : 'Network Heaven' and post to Frenchs Forest Baptist Church.

Your donation will be gratefully received and it will be a blessing to so many who live in poverty over long periods of time—even generations!

Christmas ~ a time when we celebrate Jesus Birth. Let us give generously to those in need during this time.



Sewers?? We "urgently" need your help to make dresses for girls aged 8 to 18.



Pattern, fabric and sample dress is provided. Please contact either Winsome or Anne. Phone number (s) provided top right of page.

www.networkheaven.org