



Lisa's story...

Lisa is eight years old and lives in a small village in the north of Crimea, an autonomous region of the Ukraine.

Two years ago, Lisa was diagnosed with leukaemia. Right now, she's doing pretty well although her liver is not in a good condition, due to a blood infection that happened while she was having chemotherapy.

The OCC team actually visited Lisa at her home to deliver her shoebox, as she wasn't able to go to the shoebox distribution in her village. She beamed a proud smile as she opened her shoebox, putting on the hat, gloves and scarf that someone in the UK had lovingly packed.

"You know, we appreciate these gifts very much," said Lisa's mum, summing up the feelings of both Lisa and her sister, who also received a shoebox. "Children only need a few things to make them happy. These gifts are more than enough to make our children happy."



The power of a simple gift

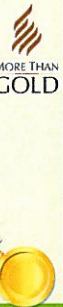
Suggested gifts to pack

Yes please!



- **Toys:** Bear, soft toy, finger puppet, jigsaw, yo-yo, building blocks, small musical instrument. For boys trucks and cars, for girls dolls, clip on earrings, etc.
- **Educational supplies:** Felt pens, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, eraser, colouring book, notepad, picture or puzzle book, chalk, pencil case, stickers, etc.
- **Hygiene items:** Toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips, bar of soap, flannel, etc.
- **NEW! Sports items:** Tennis ball, skipping rope, baseball hat, small football, inflatable beach ball, stop watch, sweat bands, toy medals (let's celebrate the 2012 Olympics by sending sports items to needy children!)
- **Other items:** Sweets (sell by date to be at least March of the following year), gloves, scarf, sunglasses, hat, bangles, necklaces, etc.

All gifts should be new, please include items from each category.



No thanks!

- **No food** especially chocolate. Only exception, non-chocolate sweets.
- **No medicine** or vitamins of any kind.
- **No war related items:** Toy guns, soldiers or knives of any kind.
- **No clothing** other than listed above.
- **No fragile items:** Glass containers, mirrors.
- **No liquids** including blow bubbles, shampoo, bubble bath, toiletry sets or aerosols.
- **No dangerous items:** Sharp objects, scissors or razors.
- **No novels.**
- **Nothing of a political nature.**
- **No hand-knitted stuffed toys without a CE mark.**

The small print

Due to import regulations, all gifts should be new and comply with the conditions listed above. Please make sure your gifts are age appropriate and that you do not send items in a shoebox (intended for a small child), which might be swallowed or mistaken for sweets. Should you inadvertently include any item that is not suitable or might be regarded as dangerous for the intended child, Samaritan's Purse reserves the right to remove that item and use it for the benefit of the charity. Occasionally we have to change some contents to meet specific country requirements or change the shoebox to meet our approximate dimensions.

UK Charity No. 1001349. Scotland SC039251. Company No. 2462257

OUR SHOEBOX APPEAL...

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project, bringing joy into the lives of underprivileged children since 1990. Last year, nearly 1.2million shoeboxes were packed with gifts and goodies and sent from the UK to children who need them most in some of the toughest parts of the world, including Haiti (where the little girl on the front cover is from).

Discover the power of a simple gift for yourself – reminding a child in need that God loves them and that they have not been forgotten this Christmas.

FROM YOUR HANDS INTO THEIRS...

Giving a shoebox gift is really quite simple. You wrap and pack it, we check and send it, and our in-country partners deliver it. It starts in your hands and ends up in theirs.

In the UK, we have an army of dedicated volunteers who give their time freely to ensure your shoeboxes get to where they need to go.

Overseas, we work with local churches and other Christian partners to ensure that your shoeboxes are given to the neediest children. We always give shoeboxes to children based on need, regardless of their background or religious beliefs. It's an unconditional gift, asking nothing in return.

Where appropriate, our local partners will also distribute a booklet of Bible stories – including the story of Christmas, the birth of Jesus – to children receiving shoeboxes. As a Christian charity, we would also encourage you to pray for the child receiving your shoebox.

www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk