

Christmas Shoeboxes 2020



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Sadly, this year, because of the virus restrictions and difficulties, we were unable to process the Christmas shoeboxes at the church.

We therefore decided to move the whole operation to our home on Hayling Island. This meant that although we really missed our usual willing band of helpers, many needy children in Eastern Europe would still get their boxes.

We cleared out the rooms, rearrange the garage, set up tables, sorted our extra fillers and waited!

Sure enough, on Monday morning we received our first load. 141 brightly covered boxes from the school and village in West Harting. After that boxes arrived



from two more schools; Copnor Primary school gave us 81 and the Royal School in Hazlemere brought another 57. Several churches and many individuals delivered either boxes or extra fillers and the pile of boxes ready to be put into cartons for transporting, grew.



Altogether, 488 were checked, packed and finally loaded in a large van on Saturday, ready for their journey, firstly to

the warehouse in Wrexham and then, together with those collected from other parts of the country, on to be given into the hands of thousands of very excited children from poor families in places like Romania, Moldova and Bavaria.

We cannot stress enough how thankful we are to those who gave so generously, especially in this very difficult year. One lady even brought hers all the way over to us from Portsmouth, saying 'it wasn't much effort, compared to the happiness it would bring'.



So, thank you once again and let's hope and pray that we'll be back in the church next year and the number of boxes we can send will be even bigger.

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