



## Christmas Shoeboxes appeal 2021

The United Benefice of Orsett, Bulphan and Horndon-on-the-Hill churches has once again registered to support the Link to Hope Christmas shoebox appeal. Orsett, Bulphan and Horndon-on-the-Hill Primary Schools are also supporting this charity. If you would like to fill a shoebox please look at [www.linktohope.co.uk](http://www.linktohope.co.uk) to find out how to pack a box, what you need to include and you can download a label for your box. In September each of schools will have a number of leaflets for those people without printers at home. One important thing is the charity asks that we use regular size shoeboxes to make packing in their lorries easier. Details about collection dates will be sent out in September.

### There are two options



The **Family Shoeboxes** of gifts are given to families who often have to make a choice between buying food or fuel at Christmas time – buying presents is just not a priority. Many of these families do not have running water, heating or electricity. Some live in appalling conditions, often living in just one or two rooms, and life for them is a real struggle to survive.

A shoebox for a family means that everyone receives a gift. A scarf for the mum, a tape measure for the dad, toys and games for the children as well as stationery and coloured pens. Also toiletries, toothpaste, shampoo and soap to keep everyone clean and free from the germs that make them ill. And of course sweets and chocolates for everyone – a family favourite.



Due to the number of elderly people that are now being left alone due to their families leaving to work away, they have launched the **Elderly Shoebox Appeal**. The boxes are similar however the children's games and education materials are replaced with a wind up torch, sensory items, candle and holder etc.

Boxes get sent to **Romania, Bulgaria, Moldova and Ukraine**. The charity is small enough that they have a personal relationship with all the key contacts in Eastern Europe who distribute your Shoeboxes and we do spot checks to ensure that your boxes are received by the correct people. Link to Hope is **Christian charity** who believe in distributing love to those in need regardless of background, colour, creed or religion.