

What a very uncertain and unexpected year 2026 is proving to be! For us in Mustard Seed the war in the middle east and rising cost of fuel and transport means that with very great regret we have to ask that the donation for transport with each shoebox needs to be a minimum of £3-00 for a standard size shoebox.

We know it is a big increase but last year's £2 per box did not cover transportation & distribution costs meaning we had to use our reserves. So before the war started we knew we must ask for a small increase but the recent increase in fuel etc means we have no alternative but to ask £3 per box. To send your shoebox we really rely on that transport money.

Please don't let that increase and the increased cost of contents deter you from packing a Christmas shoebox ~ maybe work collaboratively in a group to reduce costs. **With the universal rise in costs the poorest people in both Romania & Ukraine need a Christmas shoebox more than ever, so please do help.**

If you want to allocate your shoebox to either Ukraine or Romania then we must have received your shoebox at our packing depot by **October 15th** clearly labelled with your requested destination as well as the age group.

General Closing date October 29th

Our age groups remain the same:

3-6 6-11 12-16 Man and Woman

Ideally all child boxes should be unisex.

REPLY SLIP

If you wish to, please use this reply slip or create your own.

Please note: if you pack more than one box you need only fill in one reply slip

I have packed shoeboxes
minimum £3.00 for transport per box £.....

I give an extra donation to be used
where most needed (pack extra boxes,
purchase food, bread, winter fuel,
help with medical needs, etc) £.....

Please pack shoebox for me
Minimum donation £25 per box £.....

Total donation £.....

**I have made my donation by BACS to
40/25/41 71135333**

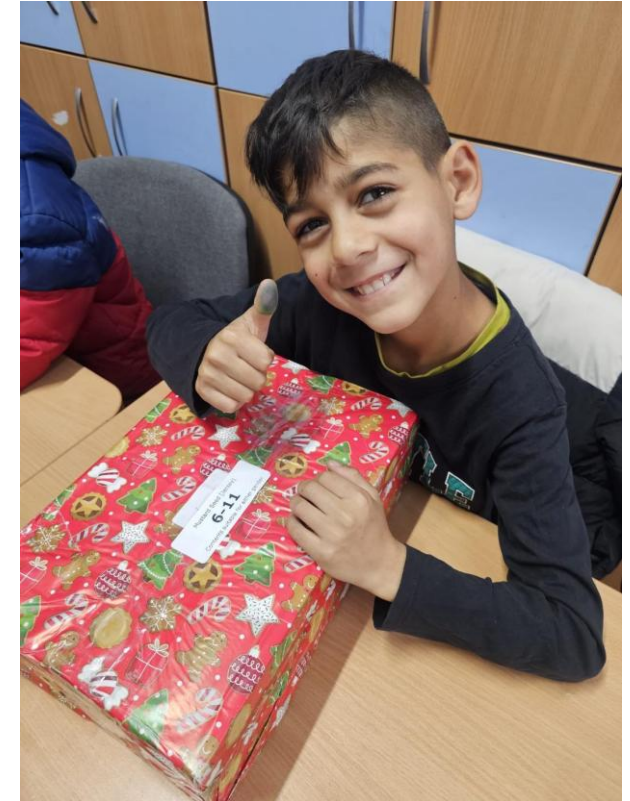
OR I enclose Cash **

OR I enclose Cheque

**** if cash please help us & place in sealed envelope inside the box. Please do not stick money on the lid or put coins loose in the box!**

Mustard Seed Jersey,
Cardiff House, La Ruelle du Coin Varin,
St Peter, Jersey JE3 7EJ.
Tel 01534 482637 (answer-phone)
Email: mustardseedjersey@yahoo.co.uk
Or rose@mustardseed.org.je
Website: www.mustardseed.org.je
Facebook: www.facebook.com/mustardseedjsy

Please spread the Christmas cheer and pack a Christmas shoebox this year!



Help Mustard Seed Jersey bring joy in both Ukraine & Romania for Christmas 2026

How To Pack A Shoebox

DECIDE on age group. Our age groups are: Child 3-6 or Child 6-11 or Young Person 12-16 or for Adults;; Man or Woman

PURCHASE CONTENTS: Please refer to our list of suggested contents.

GET A SHOEBOX: max size shoe size 10 / 44 please [Larger boxes can cause bad feeling / jealousy]

DECORATE the base and top separately (maybe with Christmas paper).

ARRANGE CONTENTS in shoebox.

YOUR REPLY SLIP should be placed inside the box on top of the contents.

Sort out your TRANSPORT DONATION either using BACS or included in an envelope with the reply slip on top of shoebox contents.

Put **LABEL on lid** to indicate intended recipient. Labels should read 3-6 or 6-11 or 12-16 or Man or Woman ~ children's boxes should be unisex.

SECURE box with rubber band or string – please do NOT seal with cello tape.

DELIVER TO COLLECTION PLACE - the Parish Halls, Les Quennevais Sports Centre and St Helier Methodist Centre (St H Meth Centre open am Mon-Fri).

Closing date for shoeboxes: Oct 29th

If you want to hear about the distribution of the shoeboxes, food parcels, etc in Ukraine and Romania, please look on our website for our next newsletter. www.mustardseed.org.je We hope to have it online by mid January 2027 . To receive a paper copy of our newsletter please supply a stamped addressed envelope with NEWSLETTER written on the back.

SUGGESTED minimum CONTENTS

Contents should all be new or as good as new. Suggested clothing is socks, hat, gloves, scarf & should be appropriate size for age group. PLEASE ENSURE the best before date is well into 2027 for both TINNED FOOD & SWEETS – we would suggest smaller bars of Chocolate and soft sweets for the smaller children

We try to find the best balance between ENJOYMENT and USEFULNESS. All age groups would like a torch with batteries / solar powered

No Toy Guns / War Related Toys

Child 3-6: 3+ toys: soft toy, toy car, ball, etc
Toothbrush & Toothpaste & small soap

For kindergarten: paper, pencil, wax crayons.

Clothing: 2 or 3 items TIN of Food & Sweets

Child 6-11: 2+ Fun items: possibly puzzle, ball, toy car, soft toy. *For School:* paper, pencils, rubber, sharpener, pens, crayons or felt pens.

Toothbrush & Toothpaste & small soap. Clothing: 2 or 3 items. TIN of Food & Sweets

Young person 12-16: priority: schools supplies

For School: assorted pens, pencils, notebook, calculator, etc. Toiletries: Toothbrush & toothpaste, & body wash (well sealed). Useful items & items to bring enjoyment: 1 or 2 of both.

Clothing: 2 or 3 items & TIN of Food & Sweets

Adult Boxes priority: food & toiletries

*3 or 4 TINS or airtight robust packets of Food
Toiletries 2 or 3 standard size items (liquids well sealed). 2 Useful items: (shopping bag, small tool set, sewing set, torch, etc) Clothing 2 or 3 items*

In 2025 we sent 3437 Christmas shoeboxes from Jersey ~ in 2024 it was 3657.

How many will we send in 2026?

That is up to you.

Again you can donate money to buy FOOD, WINTER FUEL and provision for MEDICAL NEEDS for the most vulnerable in Ukraine and Romania. If desired please indicate if money is for something specific when you make the donation.

Due to bank charges, it is better for us if you can **please make the donation online direct to our bank account:**

Mustard Seed Jersey Appeal

Sort Code 40/25/41

Account No: 71135333

Please add the reference CHRISTMAS.

Out of the moneys donated we will pay the shoebox transport & distribution costs, add any missing items to boxes, pack extra boxes and purchase food / bread, winter fuel and provide for medical needs. We will understand that any unallocated money paid into that account at this time is for our Christmas appeal and it will be used accordingly.

If not using BACS and your donation is under £30 please use cash. Cheques need to be written in BLACK ink and made payable to Mustard Seed Jersey.