

Dear Supporters of Mission Without Borders,

As we approach Christmas, with the celebration of our Saviour Jesus, know our field countries are preparing to celebrate this special event with wonderful plays and concerts. However, as Europe continues to tremble and fear for their economic future and stability, our six field countries of Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania and Ukraine are also filled with dread. If Greece and Italy are shaky, surely their relatively new democratic systems and economies will falter also. . .

In amidst this uneasiness we are doing what we can to meet the urgent needs and build capacity for future self-sufficiency. Thank you for the part you have played this year. Every dollar donated, every prayer prayed every item lovingly created has made a difference. As the end of 2011 approaches, if you can afford to give one more financial donation, we would be most grateful!



Our Gift Catalogue is still available and has been very popular! Alternatively, there is one more field project we must mention, as it forms a vital part of the support we must provide to the poor we serve each winter... "Operation Winter Rescue". What is it and why is it needed. . . ?

As the harsh Eastern European winter grips our field countries despair is etched on the faces of children, their carers, families and the elderly. . . their pleas can be heard far and wide. . . "Daddy, Mummy, I am so cold, I can't get warm enough. . .", "But Daddy, Mummy, I know I don't have a good coat and winter boots, but please can I still go to school?", "Daddy, Mummy, please can we play outside. . . ?"

Mothers and fathers lament the crippling poverty that has once again put them under incredible stress and only enjoy fitful sleep as they ponder how their family is going to survive the harsh winter. Many children abandon school for months on end as they don't have adequate boots or warm clothing to walk to school. The luxury of flicking

on a switch to enjoy constant, reliable heat is out of reach for most families and elderly. For many of those whose houses are equipped with this reliable heat, they don't contemplate using it because the price of electricity, gas and heating are now prohibitive.

For Children's Homes, the dormitories are often harsh, cold rooms and heating is extremely difficult. Buildings are old, windows often let the harsh weather in, bathrooms are drafty, and hot water is not reliable. Directors are often forced to make difficult decisions between choosing to adequately heat buildings, purchase nutritious food or medicines – the budget never stretches to cover all needs. Despite it being at or below freezing for half the year, many children

are unable to venture outside for long periods as they share winter boots and coats with their fellow students.

It may look like a bleak, hopeless picture, but there is hope and help during the long harsh Eastern European winter for the poor we serve. After Operation Christmas Love parcels are delivered and Christmas parties are enjoyed we launch our next vital project, 'Operation Winter Rescue'. Operation Winter Rescue will provide warmth for those that need it most. Wood, coal and peat for heating will be delivered alongside warm winter coats, coats and knitted items in their thousands from supporting countries like Australia. As we swelter through our long, hot summer and many of us dread the unrelenting heat, the poor we serve give thanks to God they are not forgotten in their time of need.



As I look back over 2011 my mind drifts back to our 2011 Sponsor Tour. The families who were simply trying to survive in simple dwellings are on my mind. But there were also those we visited who have enjoyed great support through our Family-to-Family program, with Special Projects making great improvements to their lives. How wonderful they can face this winter with more warmth and more hope!

For the Tuchyn Children's Home, I am reminded of the extraordinary changes that have transformed this Home. . . In 2003, 160 children lived in dormitories of 25-30 children with no walls separating the rooms, beds were shared, there was no hot water and the bathroom was only fit for animals. Our visit earlier this year revealed great bedrooms for 6-8 children, solid windows that ensure the cold can no longer seep in, constant hot water in the renovated bathrooms and happy children who wore brightly coloured scarves, beanies and beautiful blankets adorned each of beds. . . This is the proof and blessing of partnership!

As we prepare to deliver the items once again this winter, your financial donation this month, only if you are able, will be used to purchase firewood, coal, winter boots and coats for thousands who are relying on our assistance for their survival. As we meet their overwhelming needs, pray for wisdom as we distribute finite resources to those who **need it most**.

Saying thank you!

Operation Cover-Up, which is our Australian supporter's efforts of providing hand-made items to cover up the poor with warmth, form a critical part of Operation Winter Rescue deliveries. Our worldwide 'Gift in Kind ministry', of which, Operation Cover-Up is a vital part, is meticulously organised. This ensures we can track when the items arrive in our field countries. We also love to receive feedback and would love to encourage you with some gems!



"Dear Sponsors, Your gifts remind us the world is not without good people! Thank you for the beautiful blankets which will be so useful for us as the winter is long and cold. They will warm us at night and remind us that someone cares"
Director Nimerenco, Moldova.



"We are very happy for the knitted socks you have sent us. I have never owned such beautiful socks before! They are so warm, our feet won't freeze anymore!"
Alemon, Romania

"Thank you for the help you have offered my family. Our children were so happy to receive the jumpers, scarves and beanies, which are so beautiful and warm. This warm clothing will now allow them to go to school."
Daniel, Romania.



"Thank you for the beautiful knitted items you have sent us. Our kindergarten children are aged 3-5 years. Up until now, the children often got sick because their clothing was inadequate. These beautiful beanies, jumpers and socks have solved this urgent problem. You will now find them happily playing outside in the snow!"
Simina, Romania.



"Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the knitted scarves we received from you! They are very warm and very useful for us as it is so cold for so long! Although we warm the inside of our home with wood, we cannot afford enough wood for heating the entire winter, so the scarves are most appreciated!"
Constantin, Moldova.



"The administration and children from Klevan Children's Home thank you very much for your kind-hearted care and the beautiful jumpers we received from you! The children were so excited to receive these gifts and will enjoy wearing them. We express gratitude to you and to the Lord, who moved your hearts to participate in meeting children's needs."
Director Malynovskiy, Ukraine.



"My name is Constantin and I live with my 3 children. We live in one room and I am only able to find occasional work. The hard conditions we live in convinced my wife to leave us 4 years ago and she has never returned. I struggle every day to offer my children a decent life, so thank you for the beautiful, warm blankets!"

Fabric and Haberdashery items are also included in each container and our field countries are thrilled to receive these useful items!

"On behalf of the staff and children of Zbarazh Home for children with tuberculosis, we would like to express deep gratitude for your kind care in your recent donation of fabric and haberdashery items. We were thrilled to receive them and they were taken immediately to the tailoring workshop where the girls learn to sew. They have been able to make clothes for themselves as well as hone their skills for a future profession. Thanks so much!"
Ukraine



"My name is Dorica. I would like to thank you from the bottom of my soul for the haberdashery items I received! I was speechless when I opened the box and saw so many threads of different colours. Knitting is the way I earn my living and therefore I remain stunned because of all I received from you! Thank you so much for everything!"

"Thank you so much for the wonderful wool I received. I had promised to knit 24 jumpers for the orphans in our village but could not afford to purchase the wool. With this help I was able to keep my promise – the children were so happy! Thank you from the bottom of my heart!"
Vitan Florica of Romania

Dates for your Diary

- Please note the Sydney Office/Warehouse will be closed from Friday 23 December and will re-open on Wednesday 11th January, 2012
- The Melbourne 'Workshop' in Dandenong will have their last packing day on Friday 16th December and will reopen each Friday from Friday 3rd February

Upcoming Events in 2012

Melbourne - Sunday 5th February

Working Together - An Invitation from Mission Without Borders in Melbourne

Give God thanks for 2011, seek His blessing on 2012 and hear about the work of MWB

Church Service 10am - hosted by Mulgrave Church of Christ –

44-60 Jacksons Rd. Mulgrave (Stirling College – formerly CCTC). (Mel. 80K3)

A light lunch will be served following the service.

Open Afternoon at The Workshop, 1.30 – 3.30 pm - 8 Birch Avenue, Dandenong Nth.

We would really love your company on this day.

Further information: - Jenny Grainger ph 03 9795-6141

Canberra - Saturday 11 February

Mission Without Borders lunch starting 12:30pm

St James Uniting Church, Curtin – 40 Gillies Street Curtin

RSVP by February 3 to our Sydney Office on 02 9647 2022 or via email: australia@mwbi.org

2012 Supporter Tour – Romania & Moldova

Departs Sydney March 17 and returns April 5

Total Cost: \$6,000 for twin share, \$6,500 for single room (includes all travel, accommodation and meals).

Date to remember:

- **Due dates for confirmation of interest**
January 13, 2012 (with \$250 deposit plus photocopy of passport for visa application)
- **Due date for airfare portion of tour**
January 31 \$3,000 required.
- **Due date for remaining costs 29th February**
\$3,250 for twin share or \$3,750 for single room

- Please contact Michelle Dorey if you would like to discuss this wonderful opportunity to tour our projects, meet many of the beneficiaries and get to know some of the wonderful Mission Without Border's staff who are the Lord's hands and feet! Call our office on (02) 9647 2022 or email: australia@mwbi.org.

'Gift in Kind – Operation Cover Up' Update



Thank you so much for all your contributions in 2011! We are currently overwhelmed with beautifully created items that have been delivered from around Australia. We have just sent a container from Sydney and have enough for another one, which will be sent as soon as time permits. Your beautifully knitted items have been combined with some fantastic stock from companies. We are so thankful for the premises we can use to sort, pack and organise these items for shipment. Our warehouse in Sydney is a wonderful facility and our workshop in Dandenong (Melbourne) has been bursting at the seams.

With winter descending on our field countries every item sent is appreciated and will be used to keep the poor warm. With companies recently donating huge quantities of stock (one company recently donated 52,000 pieces of clothing!), it is hard for us to give you advance warning of containers being sent as it is hard to predict. Just know we are packing and organising the containers as quickly as we can handle them!

We would like to say a special thank you to every volunteer who has collected for us around Australia, every group leader who has spurred on their group to get knitting and contribute as much as possible and every volunteer who has come to our warehouse in Sydney or our Workshop in Dandenong, to sort, pack the items and load the containers – we could never dare to dream as big as we have and could never attempt all we have. Thank you so much for your generous contributions!

We know some will put down their needles over the hot summer months or at least slow down, but know we send the container year round, so keep them coming as you are able. Please note the list of items requested, with size and pattern suggestions.

Knitted, Crocheted and handmade items:

• **Blankets – the minimum size of blankets requested is 1.6m x 1.4m**

- These can be knitted by: Size 8 needles, 8-ply yarn, 40 stitch x 80 rows to make 56 squares.
- If you can only contribute a few squares, please send in the squares or talk with a friend about sewing together enough squares for a large blanket.
- If your blankets are smaller than this new size, do not finish them off with an edging, they may be able to be joined with other small blankets or knitted squares.
- If you are able, sewing a backing onto the blankets will provide added warmth.

- **Jumpers** – the older children, teenagers and adults are in greatest need and crew neck patterns are best.
- **We do not send the 'AIDS jumpers'.** These are not suitable for Eastern Europe.
- **Scarves, beanies, and bed socks**
- **Knitted Teddy Bears**
- **Patchwork quilts**
- **All items for sewing, embroidery, knitting and craft activities** - material, wool, needles etc.

ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW (CUSTOMS REGULATIONS WE MUST ADHERE TO)!

COORDINATORS AND COLLECTION POINTS

Please contact our office, or your nearest collection point listed below, to organise getting your donated goods to us in Sydney or Melbourne.

God bless,

Michelle Dorey

Michelle Dorey

David Turner is the Australia-wide Coordinator

Sydney Office:
10 Stubbs St, AUBURN NSW 2144
PO Box 7533 SILVERWATER NSW 1811
Phone: (02) 9647 2022
Email: dtturner@mwbi.org

Geelong, VICTORIA

John & Hermina Thierry:
24 Coulter Street NEWCOMB VIC 3219
Phone: (03) 5248 7437 or 0407 502 733

TASMANIA

Carlene Irwin:
114 Sheffield Rd SPREYTON TAS 7310
Phone: 03 6427 3113

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Debbi Wilson:
Unit 4/110 Matheson Rd
APPLECROSS WA 6153
Phone: 08 9316 2466
or
0417 926 695
Email: deb7543@gmail.com

Jenny Grainger is our Victorian Coordinator:

3 Exner Drive DANDENONG VIC 3175
Phone: (03) 9795 6141
Email: jenn.mwbvic@internode.on.net
Workshop: 8 Birch Avenue,
DANDENONG VIC 3175
(Open Fridays 9am-3:30pm)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Leila Lydeamore:
33 Ina Close CRAIGMORE SA 5114
Phone: (08) 8255 0092
Email: leila@chariot.net.au

Brisbane, QUEENSLAND

Yasmin Scott:
*** Please note Yasmin's new address for drop-offs.
45 Randall Rd, WYNNUM WEST QLD 4178
Ph: 0402 232 259
(Yasmin requests that items be delivered in boxes wherever possible)

Please Note: You are no longer able to just drop off your donations to Debbi's home!! Please contact her to arrange a time for drop off (now only possible weekends or weekday evenings).



Street Address: 10 Stubbs Street AUBURN NSW 2144
Opening Hours: 9am-5pm Monday-Friday
Postal Address: PO BOX 7533 SILVERWATER NSW 1811
www.mwb.org.au **Phone:** (02) 9647 2022

Michelle Dorey
National Director

email: australia@mwbi.org