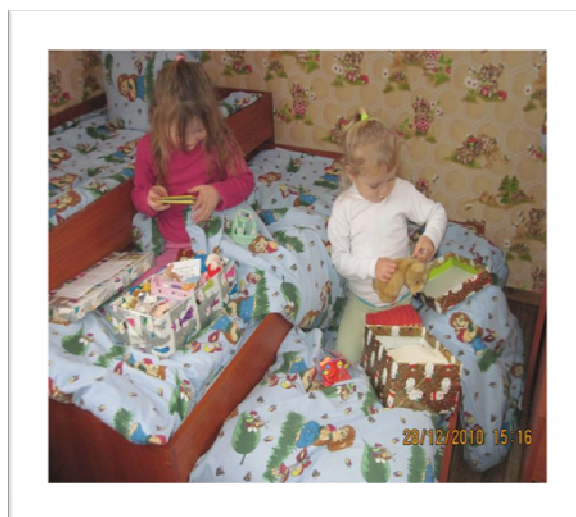


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January 2012

Christmas is over, the New Year begun and 2012 lays before us as a blank canvas ready to be filled with an array of new experiences, happy events, hazy summer days, family celebrations, and for Blythswood Care many more opportunities to bring relief and help to those in need in this country and abroad.

In looking back at last year's shoebox appeal, December 2011 saw Blythswood Care bringing its year to a close by giving away a fantastic 123,000 Christmas Gift Boxes to the poor in Europe, India & Pakistan. From this particular depot 16,790 filled shoeboxes were packed and sent out. We extend our thanks to everyone who gave of their time, energy, talents, organisational skills and finance as their contributions. Every aspect is vital to bringing success and you have all given so generously, for which we are most grateful.



A visit that stood out for our chief executive at this time was to a small village, and seeing a young boy so excited by a small pack of toy cars. His face lit up with a beaming smile and he waved the pack around, showing everyone the treasure he had found. As James drove away from the building he passed the lad with his mother, and he was still waving the pack around with great delight! This is such a small thing but it highlights how important the shoeboxes are and how much pleasure the simplest of things can bring. As usual books and calendars were on offer to adults and children to have if they chose. A picture story book of Saul for the youngsters, 'Reach Out for Him' for teenagers, and the ever popular calendars for the older folk.

Thank you so much for joining with us in bringing some joy and happiness to peoples' lives over the Christmas period. May you too know God's blessings in your own lives as this year unfolds.

With best wishes

June

June Tottman
Regional Administrator