



# Winter Newsletter

2009 VOL 10: Issue 1

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[www.cartyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.cartyorkshire.co.uk)

Reg. Charity No. 803686

President G.G.Tompkins

Secretary: Tel.01484 461800

*A Very Happy New Year to you All.*

## **25 years old ~ CART reaches its Quarter Century**

As has been recorded several times, CART started with an appeal to relieve poverty in Ghana to which Jean and Guildford Tompkins responded by sending a box of goods which cost £80 to transport. They were so touched by the response they received that they were motivated to continue.

From then on CART mushroomed. More goods were collected and sent; cheaper routes & methods of transport were chosen and CART's contacts abroad widened. It outgrew Guildford's garage and green houses; it outgrew Eric Schofield's chicken hut; ...

*"Whilst He blessed 5 small loaves and 2 fishes and did such wonderful work with them. He's doing the same with this old chicken hut down at Lepton."*

Guildford Tompkins,

CART founder and President

**2005** - Guildford assists the Mayor, Cllr Margaret Fearnley, to open the shop extension.



... and finally it outgrew (or was forced by canal renovation to move from) Bates's mill; and CART's current Summer Street, Lockwood warehouse was purchased. It is still the base for the warehouse, shop, office and is the starting point for most of the containers to Africa or India.

The truth is that CART did not simply grow. Its expansion came about by others joining Guildford: others who were touched by the plight, poverty and needs of the people in parts of Africa; others who wanted to help the places other

agencies were not reaching. The others were from churches, schools and individuals who just wanted to make a difference to the lives of those less fortunate.

CART's expansion involved a lot of hard work, careful organisation, a lot of fund raising and much prayer and trust & faith in God.

*"We are now in 2009 and I am totally amazed at how the charity has grown, it is impossible to arrive at a figure for the number of helpers, who give all the time voluntarily, but it must be in excess of a 100 who are involved with the Summer Street operation with very many more out workers. The work is God's work, we are conscious of His mighty blessings and we give our thanks and praise."*

Guildford Tompkins

There will be a celebratory event in May or June 2009 – details later.

A poem what I wrote

I'm glad that I have played a part  
In furthering the work of CART  
To know that what we've done for folk  
In Africa has eased the yoke  
Of hunger, poverty and care  
But I am also well aware  
That CART has done a lot for me  
It keeps me active physically  
And also helps my mind engage  
Now that I'm retirement age!

Gordon Dawson,  
Former Secretary

**During the past 5 months Trustees have been discussing what kind of vision should shape the Christian African Relief Trust as it moves forward into its next 25 years.**

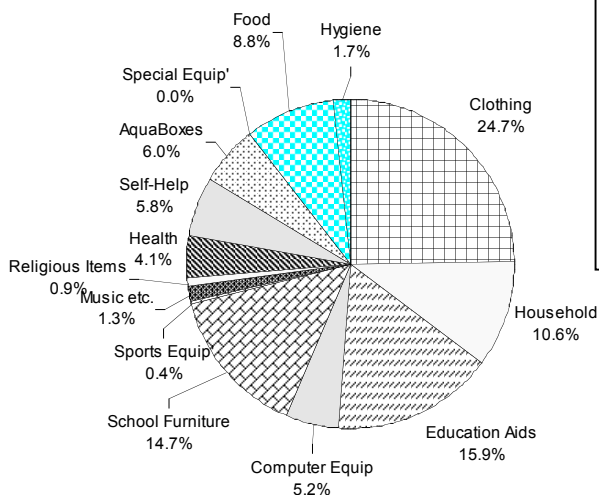
Use of the word Christian in our name indicates our intent and guides our actions. The need to support the poor and needy in Africa and India is still there and is likely to continue in the foreseeable future but staying still for CART is not an option.

CART's Policy remains to distribute goods free of import duty, as far as is possible; through Christian Ministers and other bona fidi organisations; no salaries are paid to volunteers either in the UK or overseas; goods are distributed regardless of caste or creed in either Africa or India for the relief of poverty, to enhance life prospects and, where possible, demonstrate or promote Christian values. CART tries to ensure there is no undue financial burden rests on its distributing agencies. In countries where excessive charges are raised alternative means of support through special projects are to be investigated. Where no reports or inadequate reports are received CART will cease to supply goods.

CART aims to be more effective and efficient by ensuring the goods it sends are suitable. Requests from our consignees lean towards development / vocational training aids and medical items rather than relief although there is still a need for some shoes and clothing in some places. Thus, better "targeting" of goods is seen as a high priority. This may result in CART sending fewer containers but being assured that the goods sent are wanted and not "dumped". It may be that CART thus funds more sustainable projects e.g. boreholes & tree planting, but large capital projects are deemed unwise, unless an experienced project manager can oversee completion to time and budget. If CART aims to source and send more tools, bicycles, typewriters some effort should be made to refurbish /service these rather like our volunteer deals with sewing and knitting machines. Thus, a priority is to attract volunteers for these specialist tasks as well as general duties to ensure continuity.

Future planning is constrained by unpredictable income and as costs rise CART must increase its regular income and appeals to its many supporters to continue their giving in this time of financial uncertainty. The key is to balance expanding fund raising with sending goods where needed and supporting selected projects. Consideration has been given to the issue of paying any staff. However, it was felt that this would change public and supporter perception of CART's nature. A Professional fund raising agent on a percentage commission might be a solution for special projects funding, although no decision has been taken on this matter. Recruitment of UK volunteers is noted as an ongoing priority but equally important is the issue of succession within recipient organisation to ensure continuity and sustainability.

**Goods Sent in 2008 by Type**



The pie chart opposite gives an indication of the **goods sent on containers** in 2008. CART is attempting to ensure that the money and goods donated are purposefully and usefully deployed. There is a distinct shift towards educational & self help projects. People still need clothing, blankets & food etc. but if CART helps with sustainable projects and sends goods to assist this it leaves a much more lasting legacy.

**Educational equipment & furniture**  
 1999 – 14.9%  
 2005 – 32.3%  
 2008 – 40.6%

Number of items/boxes	Item
3865	Clothing
1656	Household
2491	Educational aids
806	Computer equipment
2294	School furniture
59	Sports equipment
204	Music & musical equip.
145	Religious items
646	Health related
904	Self help
932	Aqua boxes
1	Special equipment
1370	Food
265	Hygiene
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,636</b>

An extract from a letter from a donor in Devon ~ January 2009  
*Please find enclosed a cheque as a donation toward your continuing work. I have always tried to donate to one of the major Christian Charities ... but have become increasingly sceptical about how much actually reaches those in need. So refreshing to find a charity such as yours where from the website it can be seen that so much good is being done with little or no cost to donors.*

**Updates and Appeals**

**Harvest Appeal 2008**

The 2008 CART Harvest Appeal brought a most generous response which helped greatly to alleviate the poverty and suffering in the countries CART supports. **4 containers** left with the **food, medical and educational items** you donated: their destinations being Malawi, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone and Eritrea. Cash donations of **£4000** helped to finance the transportation.

**Tree planting** This is a new project and **£3247** has been given towards it. Several countries had put forward bids and proposals and the money is being divided among 3 of them. 1. Moshi in Tanzania with which Huddersfield New College students will be able to assist; 2. Luchenza in Malawi; and 3. Upper Shire in Malawi.

So once again *Thank You to the many churches, schools and individuals who*

**Thanks** must also go to all those who gave harvest talks; delivered or collected donations; and sorted & packed the donations. Thanks to the Greenhead College students who were welcome extra pairs of hands. And thank you to Vanessa for producing the Powerpoint CD for schools and churches to use.

The CART Harvest is real team effort.

**School & University Sponsorships in Malawi**

Sponsor numbers have risen again by one to 40 who support 49 students.

For more details or to join the sponsors contact **Cynthia** 01422 357739 Thank you. ><>

**School Sponsorships in Liberia & Kenya**

Thank you to all sponsors for their continued support of 28 children in Liberia, 12 in Kenya and 3 in Cameroon.

For further information, please contact **Brigitte** on 01484 687353

**Sponsorship**

For any of the sponsorship schemes **all donations**, whatever their size, are **greatly appreciated**. All unspecified monies are pooled together to send a child to school.

**A projector wanted**

Cynthia Feather who gives many talks on behalf of CART and especially about Malawi is in need of a new projector.

*"Please - has anyone out there got a projector they could give me? My old one (now broken) is an AGFA CS reflecta diamatorAF (if that means anything to our readers). Some old projectors are not compatible with mine as I have discovered. My slide cases are long rectangular ones."*

If you can help please contact Cynthia 01422 357739

The **2008 Christmas Fayre** at Huddersfield Parish Church raised **£167**



**Quality goods ~ regular new stock**

at the **CART shop**

Open Mon. – Fri. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Tel: 01484 423453**

**Kenyan Crafts**

We still have Kenyan crafts for sale, ideal for presents for all occasions.

The crafts also make an interesting stall at coffee mornings.

Anyone interested, please contact Brigitte Matthews (01484 687353).

**Churches Together in Lindley (CTIL)**

The retiring collection at the CTIL's united service at the end of the week of prayer for Christian Unity produced a further **£150** towards the tree planting appeal. Thank you CTIL

Grateful thanks to **Kirklees College** for the reproduction of this newsletter.

**A review of 2008 from the Treasurer**

The year 2008 proved to be very successful for the Trust.

In this newsletter you will find details of the containers sent during the year and the amount raised by the Charity shop. We could not have achieved this without the support of the volunteers who turn up on Saturday mornings to load the containers and manage the shop on a daily basis.

We are very grateful to all our supporters: schools, churches and other organisations who support us with financial help and encouragement. This year we are concerned about the effect that the “Credit Crunch” may have on our income. The cost of sending containers has increased considerably in 2008 and seems to set to increase even further in 2009. With this in mind it would be helpful to us if you could review your donations – just a pound or two added to a monthly donation would be most helpful.

We pray that you will continue to support the Trust in its important work to help relieve poverty and hardship to those in need in rural Africa.

With best wishes to you all for 2009.

Alan Sims - Treasurer

**In 2008 a total of 22 containers were sent to Africa or India**

	Date	Destination	Shipping costs	Additional costs
1	26.1.08	Sierra Leone	£3850	
2	16.2.08	Liberia	£4500	£545
3	1.3.08	Nigeria	£3600	£4640
4	15.3.08	Zimbabwe	£6050	
5	19.4.08	Malawi	£5685	£1202
6	26.4.08	Ghana	£5000	
7	26.4.08	Ghana 20ft	Financed	by Mission Marts
8	10.5.08	Ghana 20ft	Financed	by Mission Marts
9	17.5.08	Uganda	£7750	£7560
10	31.5.08	Malawi	£5300	£2340
11	14.6.08	India	£2050	£1384
12	26.7.08	Eritrea	£5100	
13	30.8.08	Ghana 40ft	£5000	£820
14	30.8.08	Ghana 20ft	£3700	
15	14.9.08	Ivory Coast 20ft	£1960	
16	27.9.08	Zambia	£4600	
17	11.10.08	Tanzania	£5320	Not yet known
18	18.10.08	Gambia	£3500	Financed by Ann Prince
19	25.10.08	Malawi	£6000	Not yet known
20	15.11.08	Zimbabwe	£6400	
21	29.11.08	Sierra Leone	£4150	
22	13.12.08	Eritrea	£3750	
			<b>£93,265</b>	<b>£17,671</b>
<b><u>In</u></b>	<b><u>lieu of a</u></b>	<b><u>container</u></b>		
	2.6.08	Ghana	£4700	Towards cost of securing land
	23.6.08	Uganda	£2497	Borehole – Nkonte Widows
	14.11.08	Uganda	£1520	Borehole – Medical Aid
	7.8.08	Malawi	£556	Waters of Life Church Roof
			<b>£9,273</b>	

**Shop Sales ~ 2008 total**

The 2008 shop takings were **£54,869**. This is a shortfall of £3,436 on 2007.

However it is still a wonderful total which helps to keep CART functioning and enables goods to be sent to Africa.

Grateful thanks go to the shop managers and staff for all their hard work in making the shop so successful. *Thank you all.*

It is also a further testament to the quality of your donations – thank you

Dear CART members

I recently heard about CART and all the wonderful things you are achieving via a staunch supporter of yours, Jean Bland.

The same day as Jean told me about the work you are doing in Africa and India, I went to teach an EXTEND exercise class at the Clayton Village Hall and suggested that I would organize a raffle and provide the prizes at our Christmas dinner and it would cost them nothing. However, I asked them to bring some bandages, antiseptic cream, Elastoplasts, etc. as a voluntary contribution to take part in the raffle. I was totally amazed at the number of things they brought – all of which have been forwarded to you.

Then Jean mentioned that people in Zimbabwe were experiencing difficulties with light because of the lack of electricity so you were accepting stubs and bits of candle. I mentioned this to a few people and asked one lady to speak to the priest at her church about left over candles and could we have any they didn't want. Again, I was thrilled when she rang me and said, "Can you come and collect them because there are too many to bring on the bus?" The convent and the church provided lots – all of which are blessed.

I was very pleased to be able to initiate this contribution from my class members and will discuss with them in the new year about us collecting items and having another raffle next Christmas. Jean Bland came to the class yesterday, gave a little talk to the members about CART and took away the bandages, etc and the candles. She will be bringing them across to you shortly, I'm sure.

The 35 ladies and gentlemen from the EXTEND class have done all the hard work and shown great compassion; and I think it has been an eye-opener for them too when Jean talked about what goes to Africa and India and how you have assisted people to grow their own food, set up co-operatives and provided hospitals with basic necessities.

You must be very proud of what you do; and you should be because it's marvelous.

Very best wishes on behalf of the Clayton Upstanding Citizens EXTEND class.

*Sarah Warner*



**We continue to collect** any bits of old candle – whatever their size – they will be put together, melted down and made into new candles  
Of course whole candles are needed too!!



*First Aid kits are still needed*

Bandages; plasters; antiseptics; ointment; lint; soap; cotton wool; non prescription drugs; etc.

If you need a small box please contact the shop (01484 423453).

We are continuing to collect sanitary products to send to Africa (Zimbabwe in particular). A single packet can cost half a week's wages as they are regarded as a luxury and heavily taxed.

### URGENTLY WANTED for 2009



School desks and chairs; educational aids; workshop tools; bicycles; and basic medical items.



**CAN YOU HELP?**



#### Newsletter publication dates

The next newsletter will be published after Easter 2009. It will be a birthday edition. If you have any thoughts on your involvement, memories or ideas please send them to Irene at the CART address (see page 1) or e-mail [cart@cartyprkshire.co.uk](mailto:cart@cartyprkshire.co.uk)

Attached to this newsletter is the annual appeal for donations. If it is at all possible for you to increase your donation it would be much appreciated.  
**ALL DONATIONS ARE USED TO FUND PROJECTS OR TO SEND GOODS TO AFRICA OR INDIA.**

**NEWS FROM AFRICA**

**Ghana ~ Wa**

I would also like to take this opportunity to give a huge vote of thanks on behalf of VSO and the education office staff for the hard work and kind donations of everyone at CART, IT Schools Africa and their donors.

Without CART the proposed Education Resource Centre (ERC) project would not have happened. Not just because of the specific resources to be used directly in the relocated centre but also, and much more importantly, because of the impetus and momentum that the donation has provided. It has not only helped to motivate individuals within the office, it has provided extra opportunity for collaboration between volunteers, education staff, head teachers and other NGOs in the community. Already a profound effect is apparent.



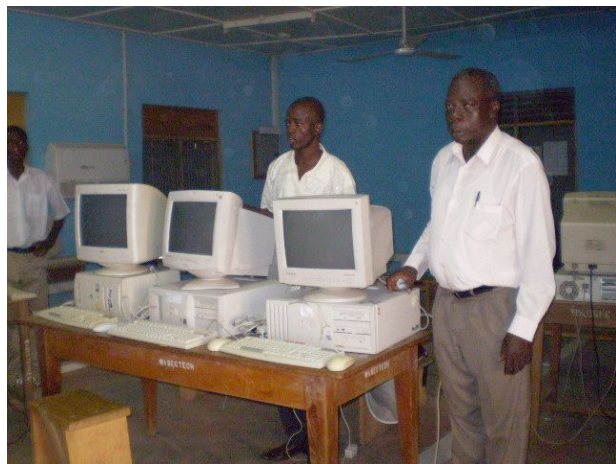
Unloading Begins

- ❑ Aquaboxes were delivered to ALL primary schools in district, many in very rural areas
- ❑ The ITSA computers are installed in the new ERC
- ❑ CART PCs have been shared amongst Senior High Schools and MEO departments
- ❑ Books will be shared between the ERC and local schools that have library/storage facilities
- ❑ Medical supplies were delivered to Rural Clinics and toys and clothing to rural communities and kindergartens

All the resources have been put to good use and it is important, given many negative assumptions about 'misallocation' or customs processes to note that the entire process has been honest, fair and transparent. It is true that for this delivery, the onus has been on VSO to manage the process but it is absolutely apparent that the MEO and the Management Committee are more than capable of organizing and managing future consignments.



A second meeting of the ERC Management Committee...



...Allocates some of the PCs to Senior High Schools

With good management the outcomes of the work CART does are multiplied by many times when the resources can be used to support new learning and new ways of thinking.

The needs of this community are so great and the challenges the district faces so large, that in order to not lose further ground on the much more prosperous South, the Northern region schools need all the support they can get.

CART has achieved an incredible feat that members of the community in Wa appreciate unreservedly. We hope it is only the beginning of many such gestures that can have real impact on communities living in abject poverty.

With many thanks  
**Robin Bone**, VSO, Wa

Any newsletter mailing list amendments please ring Irene 01484 318206

**Ghana ~ Ho** Extracts from a Report of a monitoring visit to Ghana

A visit was made to Ghana between the 22 November and 5 December 2008 by two trustees of Ghana Outlook (GO), Richard Galliford (Secretary) and myself, Marie Galliford (Chair). The aim of the trip was to evaluate the effectiveness of the majority of the projects carried out over the previous ten years, i.e. the life of the charity. A third member of the group was Joseph Achana, NGO and main agent resident in Ghana.

The monitoring undertaken included:

- Schools
- Distribution of books, educational materials and children's clothes
- Water boreholes
- Distribution of aqua boxes



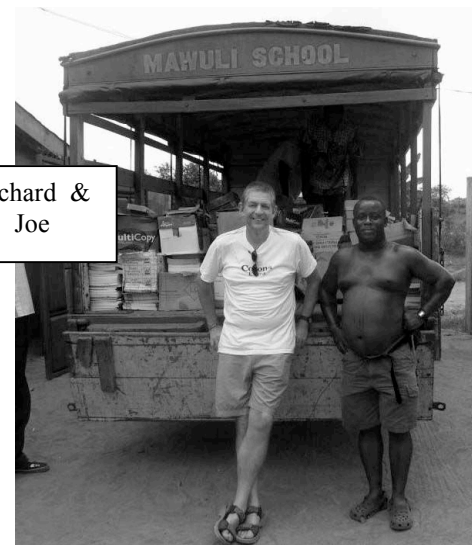
Something for all

Over the past ten years GO has, with the support and financial assistance of Christian African Relief Trust (CART), shipped over one million books and a vast quantity of educational materials (including IT equipment), children's clothes and household goods. These resources have been used to furnish and equip schools (both GO built and other), libraries, computer centres, community centres: the children's clothes and household goods are distributed mainly via the schools, clinics and village communities.

It was very obvious that the resources, and particularly the text books, were appreciated and eagerly awaited, whether larger secondary schools or smaller village primary schools. There is a quite obvious dearth of educational materials, particularly at primary level. We witnessed one small village school that literally had no equipment whatsoever.

Other items that we felt were beneficial were:

- Baby clothes and equipment, particularly in the rural medical centres
- Basic medical equipment
- Crutches and other disabled aids
- Sewing machines for workshop type co-operatives



Richard & Joe

A major part of our trip was concerned with the distribution of Rotary Aqua Boxes, which are regularly shipped by CART to Joe for distribution.

GO quite obviously has a good reputation in Ghana and it was heartening to witness this. Joe, as representative of GO and CART, is also held with high regard and we were, as always, impressed by his hard work, integrity and commitment to his people.

The containers shipped to Ghana have a huge impact on the rural communities and are eagerly awaited.

**Eritrea** Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2008

Dear Vanessa,

How are you and every one at CART?

I was in Eritrea about three weeks ago. I do not have words to express how much our people are grateful to CART. You are on everybody's lips, including children!! I asked many children from where they got the clothes and shoes they were wearing. All of them said CART bought it for us!

Oh Vanessa I was in tears, I do not know why I became emotional.

Bicycles and men's clothes are very popular among men. All of them are riding bicycles and they love it.

They also informed me that the food kept them going for eighteen months; you will be pleased to know that.

They asked me to say, "A BIG THANK YOU TO CART".

Lydia Dheressa  
UK representative OROMO Relief Association

Greetings Tue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2008 **Zimbabwe**

Prayer is now needed for our safety and the safety of the ministry staff families and ministry goods. Civil unrest is breaking out. The soldiers are fed up with not being able to access their money from banks, and it is worthless anyway as no goods are being sold for Zim\$. So they have taken to the streets robbing people for whatever money they are carrying, and then beating them up saying that they must "Demonstrate against Government", because as soldiers they are not allowed to demonstrate. How typically cowardly is that? The police are standing by doing nothing, saying they are also fed up. The people are running away in droves when they see soldiers coming.

No water at all in the city yesterday. This is the Government's solution to the cholera, as made by statement in the Government newspaper. Nurses are refusing to treat cholera unless US\$ or Rands are put in their hands by the patients.

Please pray for our containers coming in.

Blessings ..... Bryony.

**Malawi ~ from K & B Foundation**



Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

On behalf of all parents/widows/orphans and guardians of K & B Foundation I, the director, would like once again to say thank you very much for all the support your organisation donates to our school.

Yours in His service  
Charity Sandra Yabu, Director.

I, Gabriel Katimba, orphan of K & B Foundation, would like to say thank you very much for all CART donates to our school. This is the third time, thank very much, please continue, we really appreciate it. Although we are orphans we promise our donor that we are working hard in class. We want in future to stand and depend on our own.

Sir, if possible remember for us an organ, filing cabinet, educational materials, food, soap, bicycles, books etc.

Yours faithfully,

Gabriel Katimba on behalf of my fellow pupils.

We children from K & B Foundation would like to thank CART very much for your assorted donations to our school. May Almighty God bless you all and all those who send this support to poor **Malawi**.

Yours on behalf of fellow pupils,  
Chimango Mindondo

December 17<sup>th</sup> Zimbabwe

Hello again ..... this is a poem written by a friend of mine, which pretty much says it all for our Christmas season here.

Blessings ..... Bryony and Team

**Zimbabwe**

Christmas time is here again  
This year has run its course  
We wish you joy and blessings  
And happiness that lasts.

Here in poor Zimbabwe  
Life's not at its very best  
Still the flame lily blooms  
And the weavers build their nests.

Despite the woes and the weariness  
No Government here at all  
Christ is still the ruler of our lives  
And He is our all in all.

We have food upon our table  
(The green back is the norm).  
We are grateful for rich blessings  
Despite the on-going storm.

Christ the Light still draws us on  
And the darkness cannot hide Him  
He, our gracious Lord and King  
Will surely guide and lead us in.

So from our land, Zimbabwe  
Come our wishes good and true  
That you are blessed this Christmas  
And the coming year all through.



**Final footnote from Zimbabwe – 31.12.08**

The Year 2008 continued to bring enormous challenges to the ministry of DESTITUTE CARE. It was indeed a difficult year. Shortages of basic commodities increased throughout the year, and finances were stretched to capacity. Never has the struggle for survival been so great for the poor of Zimbabwe. However, there was not a day where we were unable to feed those on our ever increasing feeding list, nor to clothe those in dire need of clothing. We saw the amazing power of God to provide where no man can, and take care of the most difficult of problems. All groups received clothing and blankets from time to time, from the containers sent from the UK. These brought the much needed clothing, soap, candles, food, blankets, shoes, sewing machines, kitchenware and a host of other items. The people whom we are serving depend on these goods. Thank you, many times over CART !