



## Darius' Story

Darius is 5 years old and lives in a one-roomed house made from mud and sticks, without running water or electricity. Darius is one of 7 siblings living with an alcoholic and abusive father. On Christmas Eve last year Darius' mum gave his father the little they had to try and buy a Christmas tree and a few sweets for the children (the only Christmas present they'd receive) but he returned drunk with nothing. Darius told us he started to cry knowing it would be another sad Christmas for his family but then they had a knock on the door and the shoeboxes arrived. "If in the morning I cry because I am sad, now I cry because I'm so very happy. Thank you for making Christmas real for me and my family."

**"People say 'it's just a shoebox' but it isn't. It tells that child someone, somewhere, has done this for them; that someone cares about them."**

Dave Cooke Founder

[www.teams4u.com](http://www.teams4u.com)

# Changing lives, one box at a time...

## What to do:

From your hand to theirs – each shoebox is given to a vulnerable child or family in Eastern Europe bringing joy and excitement into an often bleak existence.

- 1. Find an empty shoebox** – preferably medium size. Wrap the lid and the box separately in Christmas paper.
- 2. Boy, Girl or Home?** Choose who you'd like your box to go to and indicate on the attached donation slip. **Labels are also available to download online.**
- 3. Personalise your shoebox** – take a look at the list of gift ideas in this leaflet. Please do not include anything from the NO list.
- 4. Make your donation** – please complete the attached form in this leaflet and enclose it in the envelope provided along with the recommended donation of £2.50 and place inside your shoebox. **You can also make your donation online at [www.teams4u.com](http://www.teams4u.com).** Your contribution will help us to deliver your boxes to the children so please don't forget this crucial donation, thank you.
- 5. Drop off your shoebox** – please close your box with an elastic band and take to your nearest collection point. Please remember to check the collection dates in your local area.

For information on appeal dates and drop-off points please either visit our website or ring **01978 310110**.

### Please insert your gift and seal securely – Thank you

Your £2.50 helps get your box to Eastern Europe this Christmas. Anything else you feel you can give will help our ongoing work with these children and their communities.

## I would like to help change children's lives

I enclose my donation of £     -   Please make cheques payable to Teams4U and write your name and address on the back.

If you choose to donate online please write your donation reference here:

Title:

Forename:

Surname:

House N°:

Street:

Town:

City:

Postcode:

Make every £1 worth 25p more and Gift Aid your donation (e.g. a £2.50 donation becomes £3.12) \*you must have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax &/or Capital Gains Tax for the current tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and CASCs that you donate to will reclaim on our gifts for the current tax year. Be aware that other taxes such as VAT & Council Tax do not qualify.

Yes, please Gift Aid my donation  (Tick) *giftaidit*

Signature

Please tell us who your shoebox is for:

BOY  GIRL  HOME  (Tick)

2-7 8-14 2-7 8-14

Once you have filled your shoebox, please pop this form together with your cheque/cash in the envelope and attach it to the inside of your shoebox lid. Please do not seal your shoebox. Take your shoebox to your nearest drop-off point and we will do the rest, thank you!



The shoebox appeal is only one part of the life-changing help offered by T4U. From pre-schools in Romania, medical treatment in Uganda, holiday camps for orphans in Belarus and the distribution of sanitary wear and education on Menstrual health to schoolgirls in Africa, T4U are continually invested in making a difference in the lives of children and their communities.

Give a little to change a lot! Whatever you can give more than the recommended donation of £2.50 will make a practical difference in the lives of the children and families we work with.

**Thank you!**

**Important:**

Please attach this envelope to the inside of your shoebox lid, Thank you.

## What can go in my shoebox?

Please choose a selection of items from the ideas below – this is not meant to be an exhaustive list but please do not include anything from the ‘NO’ list.

**For boys or girls:**

Toothbrush & toothpaste, hair accessories/brush, soap & face cloth, stationery & paper, gloves, hat & scarf, new socks/underwear.

**Please also include:**

A soft toy, game, puzzle, small musical instruments, toy vehicles, small rubber ball/inflatable ball, sweets (use by date from June), a photo of yourself.

**For the Family/Home:**

Candles, cooking utensils (no knives), \*plastic containers, \*small saucepan, t-towels (preferably decorative), hairbrush, plastic utensils, bowls & cups, small Christmas decoration, small decorative item, soap, washing up cloths, clothes pegs.

\*Remember items selected have to fit in a standard sized shoebox. Please only choose items from the above list for this box.

**Please DO NOT include:**

Food (only exception is sweets), medicines, war related items (such as toy soldiers/tanks/guns), fragile items (such as glass/ceramics), aerosols or anything highly flammable, sharp items, novels.



Please ensure all items are in good condition and undamaged. Please do not put anything in your box that might be mistaken for something edible (i.e. playdough/ plasticine/bubblegum etc.). All shoeboxes are checked and we reserve the right to remove any unsuitable items. Sometimes we may have to change a shoebox to meet our packaging requirements.



Please be aware each area has its own collection dates and drop-off points. Please drop off your box here by the date given:

*Schools/Groups please write/stick your deadline and drop-off point here:*

Otherwise visit our website or call our office on **01978 310110** for a list of your local drop-off points and the collection dates in your area.

**www.teams4u.com**

Teams4U is a registered charity No. 1114131.

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**T4U**

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**T4U**

real people making a real difference

**GIVE LOVE IN A BOX THIS CHRISTMAS**

[www.teams4u.com](http://www.teams4u.com)

Watch our DVD on [www.teams4u.com](http://www.teams4u.com)