MY CHRISTMAS WISH REPORT 2025

11TH YEAR!

Wow, each year we are more blessed and amazed by the kindness of so many people and organisations who are determined to demonstrate how much they care for others, wanting to make sure that local children have Christmas presents. We are very grateful that once again we were able to use the premises of the Phoenix Resource Centre to store all the collected toys, meaning that we could spend more time during the week unpacking, sorting and choosing gifts for the each child at a more leisurely, better organised pace.

SO IN CHRISTMAS 2025 WE SUPPORTED: 147 FAMILIES

- **A bag of presents** *(for each child: a main present, a soft toy, a book, a selection box, a board game for each family, plus a few little things and sometimes knitted items/clothes age appropriate)* were delivered to a total of **314 children!**
- **In addition 83 x £10 Primark vouchers were given to children 11 years and over, coming from monetary donations received of £1315,** amazing!
- Many thanks to **Nicky Wilson and her Mum Carol Dallas** who had been knitting all year for us and produced the most beautiful knitted sets of clothes for babies and toddlers, gift wrapped in cellophane and gift bags complete with selection boxes and sets of baby toiletries. They were stunning and very much appreciated.
- **Rushden Salvation Army and High Street Wesleyan Church** donated all the toys from their annual Toy Services this year, adding to those donated in our drop-off points.
- **Rushden & Irthlingborough Libraries plus Simpson and Weekley Estate Agents (Rushden & Wellingborough offices)** were drop-off points for donations, thanks for all concerned.
- **4-Mation Fitness and Denfield School** also collected and donated toys
- **147 Free Family Swim Vouchers** were provided by Freedom Leisure to use Splash Pool, Rushden
- **8 Christmas Dinner Hampers** were also delivered, this year on 23th December, donated by a very caring group of people who wish to remain anonymous. What an amazing job they do, providing a stunning array of high quality locally sourced food items, not to mention additional lovely treats, all tailored to the size of the family they were given to.
- **Baby Basics** - based in Wollaston/Northampton who support struggling new mums. Surplus baby, knitted clothes and toiletries were delivered.
- **Surplus gifts** - some were distributed to late referrals and also Phoenix Resource Centre were able to add some of the leftover toys to shipments going to schools in Africa.

WE NETWORKED WITH:

- **Local churches, schools, health visitors, businesses, East Northants Child Contact Services (CIC), Service Six, Daylight Centre** and anonymous donors.

We are so grateful for everyone who helped in any way and for the people of Rushden and the area who were once again so generous in donating the most beautiful gifts for us to pass on. Each year we are even more amazed and awestruck by all that is achieved. We have so many stories that we can share with you about people's responses of gratitude and tears when we visit. We are especially grateful to the army of volunteers who helped us choose and deliver on the day to so many, we couldn't do this without you.
Christmas 2026 planning is very much under way, see you there!

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you so much!

Mark and Danielle Weekley *(Wesleyan Church and Simpson and Weekley Estate Agents)*
Jeanette Maddams *(Wesleyan Church and East Northants Child Contact Services – CIC)*

Organised by: Independent Wesleyan Church
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In association with Simpson & Weekley Estate Agent
and East Northants Child Contact Services-CIC

the WES church

East Northants Child Contact Services-CIC

Simpson & Weekley