CONVOY TO CALAIS – DONATION LIST

Donations will be given to L'Auberge des Migrants and Care4Calais for both the Calais and Grande Synthe (Dunkerque) Refugee Camps.

PRIORTY NEEDS

Food

Both charities are running very low on food supplies. Material food donations are much more sustainable and logistically easier to arrange, so if funds are available they could possibly purchase the below in Calais: 1I UHT milk; fresh fruit and veg (including salad and fresh herbs); 1kg sugar; onions and garlic; red lentils; potatoes; carrots; 1I oil; 1I olive oil; 1kg rice; tinned fish (tuna, sardines, mackerel); biscuit packets; tinned goods (tomatoes, chickpeas, kidney beans); tea and coffee; 750g salt; dried fruit and nuts; tinned fruit and veg; vegetable stock cubes. Please bring ring pull tops. Make sure everything is in date!

Clothing

Both charities are currently oversupplied with children's clothes and toys, however are experiencing a shortfall of teenage boys (13-17 years old - see below).

Women

Boots/ shoes up to size 39 (no heels!); smaller cup size bras (up to 36C); socks & underwear; warm, waterproof coats (s & m); waterproof trousers; trousers jeans and tracksuit bottoms (S, M, L); long-sleeved tops, jumpers and hoodies (S, M).

Men

Trainers especially sizes 41 to 43, and ideally black; waterproof walking boots high ankle especially sizes 41 to 43; gloves; small trousers (size 28 and 30); small and medium jumpers; waterproof trousers; waterproof coats; tracksuit bottoms (S, M); long-sleeved tops, jumpers and hoodies (S); socks & underwear.

Youth (boys)

Tracksuit bottoms (ages 12-17); jeans (ages 12-17); underwear (ages 12-17 or men's size small); hoodies (S,M); trainers (ideally black) sizes 40, 41, 42, 43; socks & underwear.

Hygiene items

Saline solution; toilet roll; razors; shaving cream; deodorant; baby wipes; shampoo; conditioner; moisturiser; tissues.

Other

Back packs (small for grab bags, large for possessions); 130l strong bin bags; thick rubber bands; fire extinguishers; goody bags of hats, gloves and scarves; volunteers, especially if they can stay more than a day or two; foil blankets (to go underneath sleeping mats); blankets; sleeping bags; tarpaulins; camp mats; firewood; wind up/ solar torches and lanterns; flat pack cardboard boxes (size 60 x 40 x 32.5 or 90 x 60 x 48); building materials - especially pallets.

Sorting guidelines

Please note that donations MUST be sorted - if any items are damaged, soiled or inappropriate for the camp, they will create an enormous amount of waste, which delays vital aid reaching the refugees. They cannot accept deliveries that are unsorted, as volunteers will be snowed under the mountain of unsorted donations. Please try to only bring 3 or 4 types of items in deliveries. Understandably this is not always possible. To efficiently sort your donations separate them into type eg blankets separate from clothing. Clothing and shoes will need to be separated (and then packed and accordingly labelled) by gender, size and type. For instance men's M jumpers separate from the S. Women's size 39 boots separate from women's size 40 trainers, waterproof coats, separate from non-waterproof coats.

This will save incredibly hard-working warehouse volunteers so much time and allows us to get the donations to the refugees considerably more quickly and more efficiently. They are currently sufficiently stocked up for quite some time with women and children's items, except for the items mentioned in the priority list.