

NEWS FROM AURORA CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, VULCAN, ROMANIA – JULY 2011

Romania's only hope for the future is her children and their education!!

Financial help is needed for the ACA school which will take children with special needs, that have up to now not been able to go to school or have dropped out because they have learning difficulties. It will recommence in September as God has so faithfully given us a teacher. She is Irene and comes from Reading, and we are sure that she has the calling of God to work with us in ACA at this time. She will live in Casa Betel. Here is a little of her testimony.

Hi, my name is **Irene Mahoney** in September 2011 I will be going out to Vulcan to work with the children in the Gypsy School. I am a qualified nursery nurse with 15 years post qualified experience of working with children aged from birth up to 16 years old. I have worked in private day nurseries in the UK with under fives. I have also worked for 3 years in an orphanage in Romania with children with special needs and HIV/AIDS and I worked in a special needs school in Bulgaria for one year. I am a committed Christian and have been part of Brookside Church in Reading since I became a Christian at the age of 13 years old. I have been involved in youth and children's work for many years. More recently I have been responsible for co-ordinating a group within the church of people interested in and supporting overseas mission.

Since the age of 16, when the revolution occurred in Romania, I have had a heart for the country and went into childcare to make a difference in the lives of children that have been abandoned, rejected and marginalised. Over the last 2 years I've felt a real stirring in my heart to go back overseas but wasn't sure where. However last Autumn I was speaking to Rachel Clare, Christine and Malcolm's daughter. She suggested I spoke to Christine, and after that I arranged to visit Vulcan last October. As soon as I went and saw the needs of the Gypsy children and understood what ACA is doing to help them I knew that this is where God wants me.

On the 28th June I will visit Vulcan for 2 weeks to meet the children and families. This will give me time to prepare for September. I am so excited to be part of what ACA is doing in Vulcan and look forward to seeing how the Lord will transform lives.

Once again we thank you all, and ask you to continue to pray for us in this necessary work in this forsaken, corrupt EU country where so many suffer, and no-one sees or cares. Bless you all for all your commitment, we so appreciate it, as do all those that we serve in Romania.

Our next visit will be at the end of September for 2 months.

Malcolm, Christine, Paul and Anna

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2 Cor 9 v. 5-15. Verse 10 reads 'Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness,' and v.12 'while through the proof of this ministry, they glorify God for the obedience of your confession to the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal sharing with them and with all men.'

Once again we bring you greetings from Romania and from all the dear ones that we are enabled to help through your prayers and generosity. We are so aware that the ministry that God enables us to fulfil in His name, is entirely by His grace and through your support. We are constantly amazed, and give glory to God for the working together of the Body of Christ – His Church, as we actually see Him fulfilling so many needs.

Above all this, is the joy of seeing these dear gypsies that we are called to work amongst, coming to Him and trusting Him as their Saviour and Lord, and then their lives being radically changed as a result. This is indeed the real work of God. May He have all the glory. First a report of all the positive things that have been achieved by the grace and help of God in these last few months through ACA.

Sebi and Leta and family have moved into their new house. They have two rooms finished, and looking lovely, with a third to complete as they are able. They have water and electricity, and all taxes for the land and completion of the house are paid up. This is indeed a miracle, and Sebi and Leta say thank you in a letter to all who helped them achieve this. They say that they do not have words enough to thank God for all His goodness to them, and now they want to help others as they can. All that really remains for them to finish, is the outside toilet, a good fence, and insulation in the roof and of the outside before winter.



Two little girls, Esmeralda and Damaris, have been helped with eye tests and new glasses to correct severe sight problems, and many others have been helped with hospital and medical treatment.

Cornel and Lenuta have been very helped with alterations to their house and there was enough money to buy them all their winter wood, and some food, which is a real miracle for them.

Ionut and Mihaela [Misu and Oita] have completed a second room on their house, and put in a secure metal door. At present they have not been so hassled by the drunken father, to buy the land their house is on. This is still a real need but we wait the Lord's time and provision.



Buckets of Love and Bibles a gift from Blythswood Trust have been distributed to those who needed them. **Many have received necessary aid,** especially some wonderful brand new mattresses which we received from a firm simply because the plastic around them was marked. We also were able to give many families and old people some food because of a generous gift of food from a chapel in Wales. A BIG thank you to all concerned and praise to our faithful Lord, for all this generosity and help.



As always in these days, the needs in Romania increase, as the poor are so poor and have no recourse or help from anywhere. Corruption on every level is rife, and medical, social and legal help is almost impossible to find. There is little, or no, state help for widows, single mothers, or those suffering with 'special needs' or sick relatives. Most have large debts at the local shops, as shop keepers take pity on starving children and give bread and essentials on 'tick'. Eventually they are put on 'stop' and then put under legal pressure to repay quickly, which they cannot do, and thus it goes on. All costs and prices in Romania are almost the same as in UK, and most salaries for the unskilled remain at between £90 and £130 a month. Many families are almost starving and at best very badly nourished, have very bad teeth, physical problems and are constantly sick as a result. There are hygiene needs, renovation needs, school needs, and much more in so many families, and as God lays them on our hearts one by one, we try to help them. Through this necessary help, their hearts are opened and we can tell them about the only One who can really change their lives, JESUS CHRIST, GOD'S SON.

Now a little about those who have desperate needs at present.



Bianca is a sad soul whose 'man' is a very lazy drunkard. She has 3 sweet children, terrible home conditions, and a one room house that is falling down around her. She works as hard as she can picking fruit or cleaning ditches, just to provide food for her children. How can we help her? It is a difficult situation, which needs much wisdom.

Esmerelda (front page & April newsletter) & her 'father' loan, have been broken into several times, and had their stove & bedding stolen. They must have a new stove before winter. Esmerelda will be one of the students at the ACA school when it re-starts in September, as she has never been to school.

We have mentioned **Piersida** before. She a single mother struggling to feed 6 children under 10, and a 14 year old son. One of the children is her granddaughter, left with her by an older daughter. Piersida's house was built by ACA some years ago, as until then she lived in a tiny shed. The family have a desperate need for regular support for daily food, and to help to keep the two older children at school. She is an amazing testimony now in the village, as has recently yielded to the Lord Jesus and her life has been radically changed. Another main need in this family is to put the electricity in before winter, as without it the children cannot do homework or see at all after about 4.00pm. Please pray for her and her desperate needs.



We have also mentioned **Nicolai and Mihaela** in a previous newsletter. They are a desperate couple. Mihaela is still only 24 and they have 5 children, 3 boys and 2 girls, one of which is severely mentally and physically disabled. Their one roomed 'house' is falling down around them and irreparable. The floor is mud, there are just 2 beds a stove and a table, all very dilapidated. They have no income apart from what Nicolai can earn on a daily basis in the spring, summer and autumn in the fields. Their need is immense and as yet we have not been able to help them apart from a small food parcel and a few clothes from time to time. They also need money for hospital visits and treatment, if there is any available, for their little girl.



Financial help is also needed for those who will go to the 'Second Chance School' that will commence in the existing school building in the village. There are 28 normal children that we have found, who want to go back to school. They have all started schooling and then not been able to continue, usually because they had no money for clothes, shoes, a lunchtime snack or the various books that are essential for them to buy. School is compulsory as in all EU countries, but many children cannot attend because of finance. There is no help from the state. In Romania now they will be unemployable unless they have finished 8 years of schooling and gained the necessary certificates. In the 'Second Chance School' they will have smaller classes and will do 2 years schooling in one year, and also receive the necessary documentation at the end. These children will need help with books, food, clothes and shoes, if they are to be encouraged to attend school regularly.