

Aurora Christian Association News from Vulcan, Romania - September 2017

Praise Points:

- * Completion of house for Lumi, and the room in Gabi's house
- * For finances to build a 2nd room for Gabi's family
- * Medical sponsorship for on-going life threatening medical needs
- * Provision of the container and its goods from Australia
- * Safety for all workers during the fiasco of unloading the container
- * Seeds planted in young lives during the holiday clubs
- * For all the young people who came from the UK to help with the holiday clubs

Prayer Points:

- * Wise distribution of the items in the container and all aid from UK
- * Satisfactory resolution for Eugenia's 'husband's paperwork
- * Pray for all the children who attended the holiday clubs
- * Continued wisdom for all workers
- * Pray for Irene & Jo as they return after being in the UK for the summer, and for Ame as she seeks the Lord's will for her life
- * Finances for on-going projects

On-going Needs:

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| • Household size packets or tins of food | • Towels, duvets, bedding | • School Shoes (sizes 10-7) |
| • Babies, children's, and teens clothes | • Soup or cereal bowls, large plates, mugs, cutlery | • Simple Medicines (Paracetamol & Ibuprofen) |
| • Toiletries | • Good saucepans, NOT too small | • Bicycles |
| • Baby milk powder, baby bottles, dummies, baby cream | • Prams, Buggies, Cots | • Sponsorship (canteen, workers, school bus money, school books etc) |
| | • School Requisites | |
| | • School Uniforms | |

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"Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart. I am so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God's Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears." Phil 1 v 3-6 (The Message)

This verse is so true both ways, we thank God for each one of you receiving this newsletter, and also for all our friends in Romania. Our prayer is that each one will 'keep on' in the faith until He comes again.

We realise it's been some time since we sent an update, for which we apologise.

Container—all the way from AUSTRALIA!!

Some exciting news is that ACA received a 40ft shipping container FULL of brand new items, packed and sent with love all the way from Australia, from Foundations World Wide. Their founder, Ford Pratt and his wife Joyce, are both in their 80's and this is the 11th container they have shipped to Romania over the past 9 years.

The container left Australia in June and spent 7 weeks at sea, was collected from UK docks and travelled by road to Vulcan. All preparations were in place to off load the container—a new concrete base to rest it on, a crane was hired and all the men were called! No-one could foresee the crane sinking into Casa Betel's garden and getting stuck! Tractors were called to try and pull it out, tractors subsequently lost wheels and got stuck! Romanians are not easily fazed and always seem to overcome problems. The lorry drivers were on a tight schedule and so the container was off loaded into the street. It was then pushed & dragged with a JCB and tractors, rolling on metal poles into position on Nelu & Miki's side. The crane managed to lift the container over the wall into Betel's garden and it was sited ok. What a drama! A job that was meant to take a couple of hours, took all day! Irene was running a holiday club at the time, and had to think of other activities as she could not use Betel's garden with a big hole in it!!!! The garden was sorted the next day!

We are **SO** grateful to everyone in Australia who gave items, packed the container and also financed sending the container to Romania. ACA get to keep the container which will be great for a dry & secure storage facility for aid sent from the UK in the future.



Being 'pushed' through Nelu's yard ↑

Container in place at the back of the garden ↓



Being craned over the wall between the 2 properties into position! ↑



Building Projects—Updates from March newsletter & new projects

We are pleased to report that the new house build for Lumi and her family is complete.



New Sorba

We highlighted the dreadful conditions we found an old couple living in. Eugenia had had a stroke and her 'husband' was caring for her. They live in a tumble down shack, and had borrowed a sorba (fire & stove). Through the gifts we received, we were able to purchase them a sorba straight away. ACA would love to be able to build a small house for them, and are keeping the rest of the gifts received aside for this

project, but as with most things in Romania it is not straight forward! Our administrator has found out that the couple are not legally married and he originally comes from Moldova, which creates a few complications regarding the land. ACA will not start a build without all the necessary paperwork in order, so we are working to get these issues resolved over the winter, so we can start to build in the spring, God willing.

Just after the newsletter was sent out, Irene visited the homes of one of the girls who regularly attends the homework club. Gabi has 3 siblings and the family of 6 were living in awful conditions. There had been a fire in the house, and the walls were covered in black sacks, and cockroaches. They had no furniture and no sorba. Amazingly (God's timing!) the team from the Christian Fellowship School in Liverpool were visiting Vulcan at the time, and were shocked by what they saw. Shortly after this some more visitors from the UK, from the Rainbow Project in Plymouth visited.

Both groups immediately allocated and sent some funds to assist with a new roof, plastering the walls, and laying a proper concrete floor. We were able to send out furniture on the next lorry. Rainbow have now raised some more funds to be able to build a 2nd room for this family. This work will commence next spring.



↑ Gabi and her Dad & siblings, Andreea (mum) was at work on this day. Newly plastered walls and chest of drawers.
← New roof



We also mentioned Nelu & Ramona who had started building an extra room onto their house, but Nelu had suffered a very serious back injury and was finding it difficult to finish.

Thanks to your gifts we were able to help them finish the room, and purchase the large items—a boiler and the bathroom suite. Nelu has now been able to return to work full time and Ramona helps Irene out when needed. They are a really lovely family, and their 2 eldest children (Angelica 17 and Marius 16) were baptised at the Baptist Church in August.

Angelica was also part of the team of young people that helped with the holiday clubs earlier this year. We are so grateful that this family are really deepening their relationship with God.

School Uniforms & Books etc

As in previous years, we have collected items necessary for school throughout the year, so we are able to distribute at the beginning of the new school year (September). We also save funds specifically given for school books, to enable us to purchase them (directly with the school) for poorer kids. The school uniforms have just been given out, and we were able to kit out 100 children. This is an on-going project and we are happy to accept school uniform, shoes (black), pens, pencils, rucksacks etc all year round. We also have a specific fund for the Romanian text books, if you would like your gift to be used for this, please mark it 'school books'. The cost per child is £25. Thank you.



Homework Club, Girls Clubs & English Classes

All clubs will resume at the end of September. Irene & Jo have seen a marked improvement in all the children's education who regularly attend the daily homework club.

There have been new contacts made with families whose children attend the English classes. There are currently 2 girls clubs, 9-11 year olds & 12-14 year olds.

Ame, a friend of Jo, has gone to Romania for 3 months until December. Ame has no particular agenda, but wants to seek the Lord and be open to what He might want her to do in the future. Pray for Ame as she settles into life in Vulcan, and explores possibilities of where God might be able to use her.

Holiday Clubs

Irene, along with leaders from UK and Romania, has been able to run 2 holiday clubs this year, with teams from The Christian Fellowship School in Liverpool sending a team over Easter, and another team in July, made up of ex CFS pupils and adults from various churches in and around Liverpool. Both clubs were well attended, with about 50 children regularly attending. It is an opportunity to teach the children Bible Stories and a personal relationship with Jesus through games, fun, craft, activities and singing. There is an intention to run another club before Christmas, for 12-14 year olds, as they are now too old to attend the holiday clubs, but it is an opportunity for Irene to stay in contact with the kids.