

GOOD NEWS FOR ROMANIA - UPDATE ON THE WORK IN & AROUND BARLAD.

9th May 2007.

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that we are in May already, but it's good to be able to say that the work of Good News for Romania, with your invaluable help, continues in and around the town of Barlad.

First of all, some good news is that the village Church in Dealu Mare is now in place and almost completed. The inside of the building is not totally completed because of lack of funds, but it is wonderful. With the help of supporters, GNFR was able to provide funds for the foundations and everyone in Dealu Mare passes on their love and sincere thanks. The ROSCA family continue to live in grim conditions and the struggle of getting birth certificates for their children so that they will have a small income each month continues. Dad was very happy when he got work in Bucharest, but after working for one month, his employer wouldn't pay him, so he had to come home again empty handed, so he continues the struggle of looking for a job. With the help provided by GNFR, they have food, clothing and gifts which bring them a lot of joy and the three older children all now attend the new Church in Dealu Mare, making new important friendships. Both MUNTEANU families in Dealu Mare continue to work hard and their involvement in the Church there is wonderful. Although they are very poor themselves, their love and encouragement to those extremely poor families around them is good to see. They continue to receive help from GNFR and they share, what they call, 'their blessings' with other poor families in need.

For the BAGU family, life continues to be very hard. Dad is seriously ill and isn't expected to live. This means that Simona and Oana will not only lose their much loved Dad, but life will become even harder. All the family now have to work the fields to have a means of survival, and their 'home' continues to need major repairs. Money was kindly donated so that they could get rid of the debt they had incurred from repairing part of the roof that had collapsed, but there is still much more work needed. Please remember this family at this difficult time.

Unfortunately, for the PANTEA family, things are not so good either. The children's mother, who had left the family home, was told by the court that she no longer had any rights to her children. She was very angry so went to the family home, took 8 yr old Romica, tied him to a bed and set fire to clothes in the middle of the floor. She then left taking 10 yr old Gabriela with her. Fortunately, neighbours saw the smoke and rescued Romica but it has left him traumatised. The next day, mother came and took away Ana-Maria too! Claudiu and others have tried to get the children back, but unfortunately, 'child protection' hasn't been any help, their mother lives in a gypsy area so its very difficult even to go there, please pray for them.

Romica then had a serious medical problem, bleeding from his eyes, nose, mouth etc and needed to be in hospital for around 5 weeks. Because of the trauma he had gone through and the fact that his body was riddled with infection, he needed intense medical care, so GNFR could help financially and he is back at home now and much better. His life is not wonderful as his 3 sisters are now away from the family home, and he and his brother Vasilica have to help to run the home and work the fields with their father. The CRISTEA family continue to care for Bianca, Romica's youngest sister, and she is doing really well. They would still like to have her siblings to live with them, but space and finances are difficult. They too receive financial help from GNFR.

For the VICOL family, life in their tiny apartment struggles on. Mum, Maria, still suffers from ill health but Bogdan and Oana, with our help, support their mum as much as they can.

Our very important helpers in Barlad, the ROSCA family had a very exciting time when they came to England just after Easter. We felt it was important for them to come and meet some supporters here and we apologise to those who we didn't manage to see. Time was too short really, but they visited both Canon Slade and St Peter's school, St Peter's Church and a few supporters, they were touched and amazed at how supportive everyone was. They managed to see many places in England, London, Portsmouth, Hampshire, The Lake District, Bolton, Manchester and St Annes, all in beautiful sunny weather! They asked us to take this opportunity to thank you ALL for the love and support you give to us and to the children in need in Romania, THANK YOU!

WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW?

The work of GNFR continues and all being well, on June 17th, a group of 'our children' and helpers will go on a much needed camping holiday in the beautiful mountains of Romania. The children really look forward to this time as it is the only time when they can get away and forget the daily struggles of life. Claudiu has lots of toys and games that we have provided previously, and we pray that we will be able to give them a time of fun, laughter, fellowship, relaxation and a healthy diet! All being well, they will go away for 1 – 2 weeks depending on how long the money lasts, please remember the children at this time. Please pray for safety in everything they do and that the leaders, helpers and children will all have good health and the best time imaginable.

All being well, Kath, and hopefully Lynda, will go out to Barlad again at the end of October.

There are so many needs there in and around Barlad, it's difficult to list them all, but Claudiu and Ada continue to do day to day work for us, helping families by buying food and clothes etc with money sent by us and we thank God for them. Please remember all our families there and if you feel you can help in any way, do please get in touch with us. Thank you again for all your love and support, we couldn't do it without you all!

Love and thanks,

David & Kath Richardson

Our next coffee morning won't be until around September time as Kath goes into hospital at the end of May. We will of course let you know this date when it is arranged.