



Update from Romania – June 2023

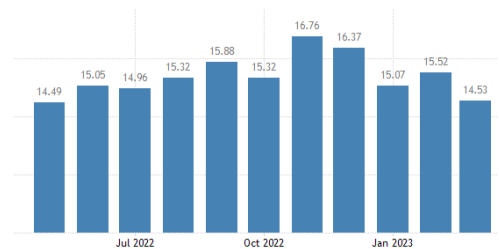
Dear friends

Lynn and I have just had the privilege of an extended period in Romania (7 weeks) and seen first-hand the work of the charity and circumstances we are working in. Probably like many charities I do want to make an urgent appeal but more of that later.

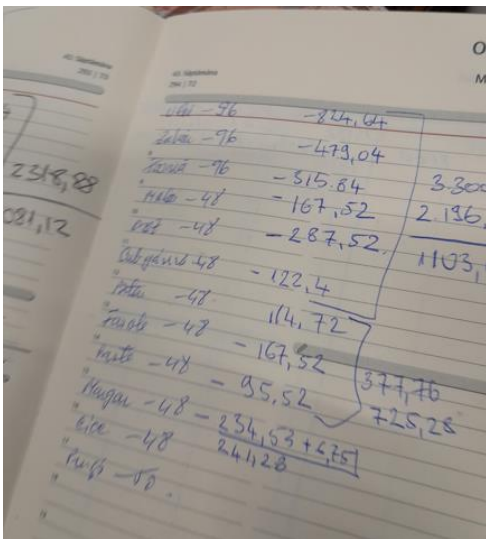
Recently the unpredictable weather has meant periods of cold, occasional flooding and also periods of drought. A week ago Sarah was in their boiler room and she suddenly heard and saw all the pipes rattle. Later that evening sitting on the sofa they felt a second rumble and ornaments shake. They had just had two minor earthquakes around 4.6 on the Richter scale, the epi centre of which was around 30km away. There were several minor aftershocks, and they are reporting there may be more this year. There was no major damage in the area, but this was obviously unsettling and was Sarah's first experience.

While Lynn and I were there it became obvious how supportive they are of the community at large. Several times a week they might run someone to a town, or large city, or Danny would be called out with the Jimni 4X4 or tractor to pull someone out of the forest. Much of this done is at their own or charity expense. Today their car has over 220,000 miles on the clock.

We have still much to be thankful for. The inflation rate has been over 15% but there are signs that this is falling to just over 11%. While this has impacted the 'Adopt a Friend' (AoF) purchases, thanks to astute shopping and literally calculating



every product as we go round the shop, we are still able to buy cooking oil, flour, sugar, polenta, rice, pasta, margarine, baked beans, a tin of meat, a packet of biscuits and if very lucky a bar of chocolate (depending what is on offer).



We were fortunate to meet many of the families in the 'AoF' scheme and could really see how necessary these few supplies supported the people. We will be doing an online meeting to share more information and pictures (see later for details) and hope you will be able to join us.

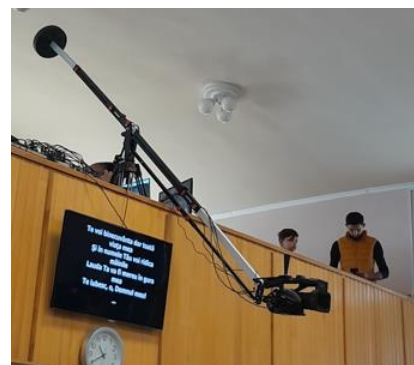




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The church continues to develop and the charity was able to buy a camera to support their online streaming of services. With many of their congregation somewhat aged and some out of the country to find work, this ministry continues to provide essential teaching. Danny is currently working through Matthew's gospel with the underlying theme of 'Recalibrate', continually asking how do we/they need to recalibrate our lives if we are serious about the gospel message. While we were there we were delighted to see Danny formally elected as the Senior Pastor of the church. Regrettably because the church does not have over 100 members they are not recognised by the Pentecostal Association for support, so are fully



reliant on their own ability to raise funds and the Community Action Romania. One of their hopes this year is to renovate the church. By law they are required to remove much of the wood from inside the church as this is regarded as a fire hazard, but they also need to change the windows, hopefully lay carpet, and replace some of the damaged chairs. In addition, they are having problems with streaming their services effectively as the mixing desk is unable to cope with the channels needed and microphones are limited (they only have one wireless mic). Having said that the church continues to develop and only the other week there were baptisms and there is a marriage being prepared for the summer. In addition, we were able to be a part of the church picnic which was held in the local forest. It was very impressive with drinks being cooled in the stream, while the women prepared salad and potatoes and the men of course built the fires and cooked the meat and chips. It was good to see that others who did not normally attend the church also came.



In addition to all the above Danny, and Sarah in collaboration and support from CAR, are still supporting providing relief in to Ukraine. These days with border controls being tightened the aid mostly consists of food and funding of transport. The charity still has a small, restricted fund but this is likely to run out this year unless more donations are received.

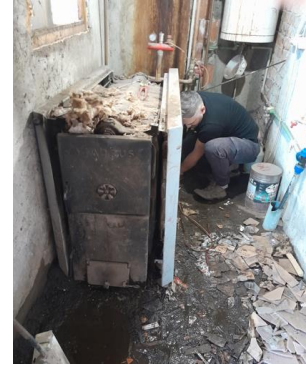
At the recent AGM of the charity the inspected accounts for 2022 were accepted, along with the Trustee report and these have now been uploaded to the charity commission website if you are interested. If you would like a mailed copy please email comactrom@gmail.com.



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Now with regard to an urgent appeal. There are several areas that the charity want to bring to your attention and we are doing this confidentially, without Danny and Sarah's immediate knowledge as our ability to help them is dependent on the response.

First, in March of this year their heating system, which is essentially a wood burner, sprung a leak. This meant water from around the fire poured straight into the fire chamber extinguishing the fire. Danny has made a very (Romanian) fix but this is temporary and has reduced the effectiveness and capacity of the boiler. They need a new boiler which is likely to cost between £5 – 6,000 and it is needed now before winter.



Secondly Danny needs an operation which is best done privately and would cost about £2,000. This may not be done till next year as they can never find time. Apparently Danny will need 3 – 6 months recovery time without any heavy work.

Thirdly, there is the car they have and while this is still alright at the moment (after some repairs) with over 220,000 miles on the clock (most of this on Romanian roads) we know this will need to be replaced at some point in the next few years. Also because of the kind of work they do they need this to be a diesel (which is much cheaper than petrol) and an estate car. Regrettably importing a used car into Romania seems unviable as there is a significant import tax to get the vehicle registered.

Finally there is the church and its renovation. We would love to be able to help with carpet, chairs and some decorating materials. The church has said they will raise finances for the windows replacement locally.

We praise God that the day-to-day operations of the charity are being met financially and we have built up a 4–6-month reserve as is required by the Charity Commission. We also have some restricted funds for Danny and Sarah and Ukraine that will help a little, but they will not cover the capital costs needed. I am sure you can appreciate the sensitivity of this appeal and why at present we are doing this without their direct knowledge. As always, they would never ask, trusting in God to provide, but the trustees and charity members in the UK felt it appropriate to let you know and ask you to pray as well. If you feel able to support this appeal in any way (by a one off donation or by monthly giving) please drop an email in the first instance (comactrom@gmail.com) with an indication of what you would like to do and what cause you would like to support. Alternatively, you can call me or one of the trustees. Their details are at the end of this email.

Lastly, you are invited to an online meeting at 7pm on Monday 19th June where we will make a short presentation of the work and answer any questions you may have, after which Danny and Sarah will join and give a personal update.

Roger Edwards is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Community Action Romania Update

Time: Jun 19, 2023 07:00 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87408199500?pwd=VU4yc3ltcEl5bXdGWHVVbkIPdGVxZz09>

Meeting ID: 874 0819 9500

Passcode: 081342



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Finally, finally if you know of others that may be interested or would like to support our work please let me know their details (with their permission) and we will add them to the email list and invite them to the online meeting.

May I wish you every blessing

Roger Edwards

Chairman, Community Action Romania

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Website: www.comactrom.com

Note: if you are interested in making a donation you can do so by clicking here on [Just Giving](#) or contacting us via email for bank account details.

For your information

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