

Autumn News 2022

Dear friends

Lynn and I have just returned from Romania. We were surprised at the unusually warm weather where most days were above 20 degrees which is unheard of as winters can get to -20 degrees.

There definitely have been some more improvements in the road system since we were last here but with inflation rocketing the prices in the shops are the equivalent or more expensive than the UK but wages are less than half of UK. For example, a teacher may be on £10,000 per year, but with 40% tax the usual income is around £500 - 600 per month. Some of the Adopt-a-Friend families may only receive a very limited amount of perhaps £50 - 120 per month. This is why the Adopt-a-Friend scheme is so vital.

Danny and Sarah are doing well and still leading the church in Carand. They have recently been doing a detailed study on Galatians both on Sundays and meeting for prayer and study on three nights each week





The chipper, which is connected to the tractor, is being used to cut branches up to 10cm into sacks which can be burned in house heating systems for Danny and Adopt-a-Friend families.

These small branches can be taken from the forest fee, where a full load of logs may cost up to £160 and familes may need 3 – 5 loads.

Beside the practical work, every penny has to be accounted for and even though technology is becoming the norm, everything has to be printed and signed in Romania before going to the accountant with all the receipts. It truly is a mountain of paperwork.





Shopping for Adopt-a-Friend has become more challenging. With continually rising prices and 35 families but with only a fixed amount to spend, Pastor Daniel has to calculate what we can afford literally as we go round the shop. Regrettably with significant inflation what we can supply has had to be reduced. We have supplied oil, pasta, rice, flour sugar, stock cubes and a tin of baked beans, to supplement a family for a month.



Autumn News 2022



Sadly, we can no longer supply on an ongoing basis, margarine, polenta, biscuits, tin of pate and chocolate. Fortunately this month, thanks to some last minute anonymous donations of around £130, we have been able to provide a full bag. We would need around an additional £4 per family per month if we are to return to what we would like to provide. If you would like to join the 'Adopt-a-Family' scheme please contact Lynn Edwards.

With the mini bus currently off the road and need of repair, we needed to use three cars to ship the supplies to the church and then it was all hands to get the food bags prepared.

Lynn will be writing to donors shortly to see if they can support a Christmas gift to their family.

Below are just some of the people we delivered food to





Autumn News 2022



Another issue was a puncture on the trailer we use for wood collection. As normal we had to improvise and use a wall and the tractor to jack up the trailer and then there was a lot of muscle required to pull off the tyre and get the inner tube out. It took four of us but it is now repaired and back in operation.

Danny also has had to rescue two people in the forest; his neighbour who overturned his tractor and trailer and another person whose tractor broke down.

We have been able to support the medical supplies into Ukraine. This may be a small package but this essential supply of insulin was worth £2000. This is now being transported to missionary doctors working in Ukraine.

Receipts from donors has dropped dramatically so we will need to review as a charity how long we can continue to support Ukraine.



The above is only a snapshot of the work since July and there are many other stories of people taken to hospital, of fires dealt with and many other acts, but hopefully this gives you at least an indication of the pressures of life in Carand.

Some good news is that thanks to a personal donation to Danny and Sarah they have bought some insulation material and have started to insulate their house. For the last 15 years their house has been single breeze block or tile and has suffered from draughts and cold in winter. They are doing the work themselves and the first step is 150 square meters so please pray for reasonable weather for them. They have also managed to buy a septic tank but this still needs installation. They hope if finances allow to build a new room outside for a boiler and install a new boiler, that might save Danny getting up once or twice during the night in winter to keep the fire going.

I mentioned previously about the rising inflation (I know we are all feeling the pinch) but we would like to try and help Danny and Sarah as they have not had an increase for over 16 months and are surviving on around £650 a month, some of which we know they use to help others. If you are interested in supporting their ministry personally please let me know.

On a different note we are delighted to welcome Tim Perks to the Charity Committee who will be taking on the role of treasurer from Evan Gough in the New Year. Evan will remain as a trustee and part of the leadership and we are grateful for his many, many years of faithful service, his integrity and wisdom. Also joining the committee is Terry Golding from Willesborough Baptist Church in Ashford.

COMMUNITY ACTION ROMANIA

Autumn News 2022

Items for Prayer

- Danny and Sarah and their leadership of the church in Carand and strength particularly as we enter one of the busiest times of the church
- Strength and good weather for Danny and Sarah to undertake the work and renovation of their house in preparation for winter.
- Repair of minibus and also the tyres on Danny and Sarah's car
- Finances for
 - o funding both Danny and Sarah
 - o The Adopt-a-Friend Scheme (please spread the word for us)
 - o Repair of minibus
 - o Ukraine aid
- Wisdom for the charity regarding the support for Ukraine
- For wood for winter for church, Adopt-a-Friend families and Danny and Sarah

May I wish you every blessing

Roger Edwards

Chairman Community Action Romania

Email: comactrom@gmail.com

Website: <u>www.comactrom.com</u>

Note: if you are interested in making a donation you can do so by clicking here on <u>Just Giving</u> or contacting us via email for bank account details.

For your information

Trustees

- Roger Edwards (Chairman)
- Andrew Golba

- Rob Foot
- Evan Gough

Committee members

- Lynn Edwards
- Tim Perks (treasurer)
- Terry Golding

- Katy Foot
- Kieran and Amy Taylor
- David Scott