



Casa Vietii Sighisoara

Spring 2009

HAPPY EASTER!

As Christians, we need to really get a hold of what Christ did for us when He rose from the grave. To think that He died for us personally, even with all our faults, even when we make mistakes and even when we try to 'help Him along' because we don't have patience any more, He is still full of mercy, grace, patience and love for us. We have to also remember that He did not "roll the stone away" because He needed a way out...He rolled the stone away so we could see that He kept His promise to rise again from the dead, to encourage us to 'stand firm in our faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13).

I held off writing this newsletter in the hope that I would be able to bring you up-to-date with the situation regarding the property here at Casa Vietii. As you know, we have been under contract with YWAM for the last year to demonstrate our ability to continue the ministry as a private charity and to purchase the property we utilize for the ministry. We met with two of the YWAM Sighisoara Legal Board for our review (which went very well) and we were hoping to be able to settle on a purchase price for the property in order to buy it from YWAM.

Unfortunately because of ill health, car trouble and even thefts, some YWAM board members weren't able to attend the annual board meeting in April and no decision was made. Now, we've prolonged our rent contract with YWAM until the end of June and by then, hopefully we will have reached an agreement. We really have to stand united in prayer on this, the enemy doesn't want this matter resolved and is throwing everything in the way. So, we are making a call to all our friends and supporters for prayer and intercession against the antics of Satan and let us all see this situation finally resolved once and for all. We know God is never late, so pray we have the wisdom and patience to continue doing those things He has set before us until the day He "rolls the stone away"!

*Now, to all the other things God is doing! As many of you know from the emails we sent out in the New Year, this year started with a new door into the paediatric hospital and we started our **Abandoned Babies Program**. Due to the overwhelming response we received from you, we were able to make two trips with aid to abandoned babies at both the children's hospital and the maternity hospital. We were also able to help another organization that took in three abandoned siblings from Sighisoara. We've now put together another load of needed items that we brought from England with us. Please keep praying, especially for the children's hospital. They haven't allowed any outsiders in there for years so this is a great opportunity not only for us to help these kids but also to share the love of Christ with the Doctors and Staff.*



*We spent almost **a month in England** travelling around bringing our supporters and friends up to date with everything that's happening here. After speaking at St Luke's (my home church) we returned to my sister's home where we were staying. Several others from our fellowship came back as it was my sister's birthday. Steve and Shelley Ward who are at Mathersey Bible College surprised us by saying that God wanted them to give us their 2004 Ford Transit van. Wow. After being unsuccessful in getting Sorin insured for it in England, Steve also offered to drive it over to Romania for us! Then Martyn (my pastor who I've waited for 8 yrs to visit us in Romania), Wayne (who had just got married the week before) and Nic (who not only is a whiz kid with the camera but also had a fantastic sense of humor) all got on board and agreed to share the driving. We then set about filling the van with stuff that we needed.*



We brought back a bathroom for the new building (bath tub, sink, toilet, shower cabinet) an air conditioning unit for upstairs in the old building, 3 fans for wherever is the hottest :), two card stands and alarm for the porcelain shop, 4 cases full of baby clothes and blankets for the hospital, new shock absorbers, paint and brake pads for the yellow van. We also had an electric guitar, dining room table, sterilizing unit for the ultrasound room in our medical clinic when we open, oven hob and several tools. We already have a kitchen for the new building, new windows for the old building and a load of timber to rebuild the stairs waiting to be collected. Okay...can everyone agree that God can do over and beyond anything we can ever imagine!! Wow! **Thank You, Lord!**



Even though we cannot register the van in Romania because it would cost us almost 4000 euros – Romania does not like foreign vehicles – we can take the van to England in September to have it's annual MOT and we'll bring the rest of the stuff then.

How exciting it was for me to have my pastor preach and teach to the people I have grown to love in Romania. The team spent most of their time in Romania praying for people. One of the many people who received their prayers was Petruta our friend who has Muscular Dystrophy. Even though bedridden, on a ventilator and blind, Petruta is one of the most encouraging and strong Christians I know. After their prayers, she actually **moved her feet for the first time in 15yrs**. She is blind and could not see them but asked us to help her reach down to touch her toes and feel them wiggle! Wow, another praise the Lord! It only made me hungry for more and now I want to see her health fully restored.

On the Saturday night just before they left, Nic mentioned that his hair had become too long to spike. So I offered to shave it for him. Then I suggested that we get people to sponsor him to raise the money for the insurance on the van and the next trip to England. He agreed so we rigged up the cameras and broadcast it live over the internet. We managed to get over **700 pounds pledged**. The lead singer from the Christian band 'Delirious' also offered his touring guitar to auction. Many thanks to Nic for parting with his beloved hair for a good cause but also to Martyn for raising the money to a higher level by having his head shaved too.....oh and Nic please forgive me for the slight slip with the clippers 😊



Ollie Hall who is the pastor at Hemsworth Christian Fellowship recently sold his violin. He then sent us the 500 pounds he received for it to buy a boiler for the new central heating system in the new building. David Hall sent us 120 pounds to buy more tiles for the new building. We wanted to mention some of the recent gifts because we want it to be an encouragement to everyone to see God at work in some many people throughout the world for this ministry. We really appreciate everyone that has contributed to the ministry of Casa Vietii and to open the new women's shelter and medical clinic. We have also **had an inquiry of interest** from a qualified Christian woman wanting to come and work at the women's shelter but she does not have support. She is praying about her support and we would ask you to continue to pray that God will raise up supporters to help support new staff members. We cannot open the new shelter without additional staff. It would cost approximately \$600/464 € a month to support a full time director (including workbook) for the woman's shelter.

We also wrote about all the **equipment for the maternity hospital** that was available in England through "Aid To Hospitals Worldwide" if we could get it to Romania. Well, the lorry full of new equipment will probably be arriving in May some time! Wow, PTL! We needed the money for the transport. St Chad's Church in Romiley gave us a cheque for 2000 pounds to go towards the other money that our friend Judy Parker had managed to raise ...

including money from a sponsored marathon which she had completed. We now have the money to cover the transport and to buy the items on the list that we did not have. Isn't God amazing? He rolled away another stone.

The "House of Porcelain" is doing well. We have been able to pay our bills, restock, and even add more items to our inventory. Our accountant said that was so unusual for small businesses during the first year and especially opening in October. Viorica, Sorin's mom, has been a great help running the shop and our good friend Tanta nela helps on occasion. We have already been able to help some of the gypsy village ladies by purchasing their crafts to sell in our store. Many of these ladies have no other income to support their families. Tourist season will start next week and we are praying that more and more people will become familiar with our shop and we will see a consistent increase of sales. We still have two main goals: raise additional funds for staff support and buy local crafts from our Christian ladies/men to help them support their families. Thank you for your prayers and support. We have not had a chance to update our shop website recently, but keep checking and we will try to have some new pictures posted soon. www.houseofporcelain.ro

One of our most exciting things this summer is to **celebrate Mia completing her college studies** from the University in Cluj-Napoca in Social Services! In Romania, we will actually celebrate at the Graduation Festival on May 16th even though she will not complete her testing until July. Some students only complete the class work and do not receive a diploma of certification if they do not complete the tests. We are very proud of Mia because many times it has been difficult to complete the studies and make all the trips to Cluj while working and caring for Betina. We join her in thanks to the churches in the U.S. (Atlanta and Huntsville) and the individuals that have provided prayer and financial support for this degree. She continues to be such an asset as the Director of Women's Ministry at Casa Vietii and a spiritual leader and encourager to the ladies in the village Bible studies and as she ministers each week. Pray for her to have wisdom and retain knowledge as she completes her testing through July. Pray that God will provide the additional support she will need to work full time with Casa Vietii in August.

Several teams are scheduled to come starting in May with a group from Huntsville, Alabama and we cannot wait to see all that God will be doing around here! A friend of mine says, "if you want to build-up your treasures in heaven, then you should invest in things that are going to heaven!" We want everything we do to be toward advancing His kingdom. He has given us a big vision, but He is a big God.

There is so much more we wish we could share with each of you. You know, it's difficult to put down in a letter how much has happened, how many plans we have, and how much we appreciate you all. God sees all that you do for the people in need here in Romania and for us and we pray sincerely that you will all be as blessed as we are. Please stay in touch...and pray for us daily. Colossians 1:9-10

Many many thanks
Jill, Sorin, and Jadyn xxx

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For donations to any of the projects or the operation of Casa Vietii Sighisoara, please contact me at jillascough@hotmail.com.

If you are in the United States, please contact Barbara Glenn at tbglenn@gmail.com or

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**Betina and Jadyn
at Easter**