



March 2017

christian
response
to
eastern
europe



Our Christmas truck was very well received and with over ten tonnes of Christmas parcels there were many very happy faces. It was a real privilege to be in Moldova for their Christmas and witness this first hand. We had some really wonderful boxes and many very excited children.

Christmas Shoeboxes may not be considered by many as essential Humanitarian Aid but having spent three weeks in Moldova around Christmas I would argue the point.

The joy and excitement with the Christmas boxes was a stark contrast to most of the other experiences of life in Moldova during the winter. Many families had little or no food. Wherever we went families and the elderly had the same problems; no food or only a mouthful or two of bread. We were able to help many but having returned to my comfortable life in England their suffering continues. Mother Drab wrote at the weekend, *"I am asking you from the bottom of my heart. Cozima Olympia family is calling me for a month and asking for you to help her because she does not have anything with what to feed her children. I did not write you because I know that you are not able to help everyone. I helped the Spița family to buy food for Sabina's child she is only two months old. For many families I gave bread, because children don't have anything to eat indeed, the situation is really difficult in our country. I am apologizing and I feel ashamed that the majority of people in our country live in such poverty and are asking for help in order to save children from hunger."* Cozima Olympia is a young mother with four children, her husband has abandoned her to care for her four girls. She is a lovely hard working mother who has such a grim life. The only light in her life is her children, she loves them dearly but seeing them suffer gives her such pain.

January was very cold, at noon the temperature was minus seventeen! In addition we had a lot of snow making getting around difficult. We visited many families who did not have wood for the fire and were trying to survive by wearing many layers of clothing, blankets etc. Being poor and hungry is bad enough but the added burden of the cold can make it totally unbearable.



Children everywhere love the snow and Moldova is no exception. We were given several snowboards and these were being enthusiastically used; much more fun than a plastic bag! Rarely did the children try to stand on them, rather, they

used them like a toboggan, normally two to a snowboard.

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Late winter and early spring are particularly difficult times for the poor and we must make every effort to fill our store and dispatch another truck without delay. They are desperate. This puts a lot of pressure on the lovely people who help in our store and those who busily collect very good quality clothing etc. for us to take. Please keep up this essential work.



There are many more photos on our website.

For more news from Hugh's visit join us at our Prayer Support meeting Monday 20th March – 7.30 at St Leonard's Church, Topsham Road, Exeter.

Thank you for your support

We are grateful to the owner of the Old Acorn Kindergarten, 3 Spiders lane, Exmouth EX8 5DS for making it available to us into 2017 to collect and sort good used clothing & bedding for Moldova

See website for details - www.cr2ee.org.uk

Open days in 2017 -

**1st Wednesday in each month
10 am till 3pm
also**

**3rd Saturday in each month
10am till 1am**

**** Except August ****

Future dates up until August:-

| Wednesdays 10am to 3pm | Saturdays 10am to 1pm |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1st March | 18th March |
| 5th April | 15th April |
| 3rd May | 20th May |
| 7th June | 17th June |
| 5th July | 15th July |

Thank you

CR2EE Management Team