



November 2018



With only a few weeks to go everyone is very busy preparing for the Christmas Truck. We never know how many Christmas Shoeboxes we will receive until they arrive and there are so many children in Moldova who deserve a Christmas gift this year. It is impossible to exaggerate the joy these boxes bring, the children are so excited.

Supporters are busy making up boxes, some with gifts donated by those who cannot make a box themselves.

So what has been happening in Moldova? The family support money has been sent along with the funds for our various soup kitchens. At this time of year there are many elderly people literally terrified at the prospect of the winter that lies ahead when temperatures can plummet far below freezing. Without wood for the winter the vulnerable may not survive to see the Spring. Each year we send money to buy wood to keep as many as possible warm and safe; sadly we cannot help everybody.

With so many old stoves burning wood, sunflower husks and even bits of cloth it is not surprising many will die of carbon monoxide poisoning. Just today, the 5<sup>th</sup> November, a sixteen-year-old girl died in the Cahul district in the south of Moldova - such cases are not uncommon. To avoid such tragedies it would be wise to put the fire out at night but very soon when it gets really cold this will be impractical. Having their stoves "serviced" is not really an option as so many are old and mainly home-made and this ignores the fact they would not have the money to make repairs. If we could acquire a supply of Carbon Monoxide alarms to take out on our trucks it would be wonderful.



Moldova continues its fight for survival, courting trade with Russia and Europe. Following negotiations with President Putin, from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019, export of wine fruit and vegetables to the Russian federation will be free of customs duty. Whether this will help the common village worker is doubtful but it may help the economy generally.

As reported in previous notes, Moldova still has huge amounts sent from nationals working abroad, this amounted to over £240million in the third quarter. Without this money families could not survive.

Enough of the cold facts of life in Moldova. Christmas is coming and when you are with your family this Christmas please spare a few moments to think of those in Moldova who will be very excitedly opening their Shoeboxes on Christmas morning. Just try to imagine their faces and we hope this thought will bring a warm glow to your heart and maybe a tear of joy to your eye.



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Thank you all for your support during this past year. It is a huge task collecting and sorting through all the clothing, medical supplies, toys etc. not to mention the Christmas shoeboxes. We are truly blessed with this and the financial support that in total enables us to help so many who have to survive in such grim conditions in Moldova.

**Everyone in cr2ee, the trustees and the Management Committee would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Very Happy and Blessed Christmas and all good health and happiness for the New Year.**

**Thank you for your support**

CR2EE Management Team

**Future 'open days' for Spiders Lane –**

<b>Wednesdays 10am to 3pm</b>	<b>Saturdays 10am to 1pm</b>
	<b>17<sup>th</sup> November 2018</b>
<b>28<sup>th</sup> November 2018</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> December 2018</b>
<b>NOT OPEN in January or February 2019</b>	
<b>6<sup>th</sup> March 2019</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> March 2019</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019</b>	

**Last Date for Christmas Shoe boxes & Family Parcels**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2018**

**\*\* If you know of anyone who would be interested in helping with loading the lorry during the 1<sup>st</sup> week in December please let Hugh know – preferably by text on 07970 204506 \*\***

Our next Prayer Support meetings will be on

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018, 7.30pm**

**& Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019, 7.30pm**

St Leonard's Church, Topsham Road, EXETER EX2 4NG

ALL are welcome –come and hear our latest reports

See website for more details - [www.cr2ee.org.uk](http://www.cr2ee.org.uk)