

heart response

... responding to the cry of the orphan and the widow



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'Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this, to look after orphans and widows in their distress..'(James 1:27)

Note from the Chairman

Well, welcome to our first newsletter! As a committee we've had a busy few months setting up the charity, but all has gone very well and with your help we're already beginning to make a difference to many children in Romania, which is wonderful.

I read recently that there are approximately 70 million orphans in the world, which is an overwhelming figure that is very difficult to fully comprehend and extremely disturbing. It's obviously impossible to make a difference to the lives of this number of children and the more I thought about it the more hopeless I felt. Then I started to think afresh about this new charity and what it's trying to achieve and it suddenly struck me that we can't help all 70 million children, but as a charity, we can help 30 orphans and many poor Gypsy children in a small corner of Romania and thus do our part to help with the national crisis. We can have a positive effect on these children and really make a difference to their lives. We've heard the cry in this area of Romania and we are responding from our hearts with financial and practical support.

May God bless you all for hearing the cry and partnering with us to help make a difference.

Thank you so very much, Tish Roberts

Good Samaritan Church

This charity currently supports the ministries of the Good Samaritan Church in Ocna Mures, Romania. These include Sanctuary Orphanage, Gypsy children feeding programmes and work with women in local prisons.

Charity Mission Statement

Heart Response is a Christian charity set up to follow Jesus' example of selfless love and support marginalised women and children.

Heart Response aims to respond practically, financially and prayerfully to Christian ministries, primarily in Romania, serving the needs of desperate women and children in their society.

Heart Response seeks to raise awareness of the people and projects they support, highlighting the difficulties, but also sharing stories of hope and encouragement.

Presents for the Orphanage

Joan Shalker kindly organised a coffee morning and bring and buy sale in August which raised £170 for the charity. The money was used to send 3 parcels to the orphanage.



Jo, Chloe and Tish spent a day packing these parcels full of your donated items. They packed clothes, shoes, toys and games.



The children at the orphanage had great fun unpacking their parcels – and have been wearing the clothes and playing with the toys ever since....



New Dormitory Floor



We sent €600/ £500 to the orphanage back in August to help with the installation of a new dormitory floor. As you can see from the photographs above the boys helped with the manual work and learnt new skills in the process.

The following message was sent from the director of the orphanage just after the work was completed:

*"We want to thank you very much for your help, now the children enjoy their new room.
You are a great blessing for us, thank you."*

Darius



This is Darius who has just joined the orphanage. He's 6 years old and has been in foster care for the past few years. He is settling in well at the orphanage and making friends with the other children. It's so wonderful to see him with such a big smile on his face considering he's had a difficult start in life.

Visit

Natasha Lillington, Davina and Tish Robberts will be making a visit to the orphanage at the end of November. They're only staying for one week but hope to give a helping hand and spend some time with the children. They're planning an English Tea Party for one afternoon and intend to play some good old fashioned games with the children, which will be fun! They're also hoping to take a suitcase full of Christmas presents for the children. Please see below for more details.

HELP US FILL A SUITCASE!

Natasha Lillington, Davina & Tish Robberts are heading to Romania for a week at the end of November to volunteer at Sanctuary Orphanage. They're hoping to take a suitcase full of gifts for the children, which they'd love you to help them fill it!

The children at the orphanage range from the age of 3 to 16 yrs and are a mixture of boys and girls.

If you'd like to make a donation, here's a list of the type of gifts they'd like to take with them:

- Colouring Pens/Pencils
- Colouring Books
- Puzzles
- Socks
- Vests
- Hair Accessories
- Lego
- School Bags
- Jumpers/Hoodies (Boys 13yrs +)
- PJ's

The suitcase will be at the Tourist Information in Dorchester until Wednesday 20th November.

Thank you!!

Special Thank You's

A massive thank you to the new committee for all their help and support thus far – it really is much appreciated.

Thanks to Joan Shalker for running an amazing coffee morning back in August, which raised £170 and has been used to send some parcels to the orphanage.

Thanks to all those who have donated clothes, toys, shoes etc. Without your donations sending parcels wouldn't be possible.

Thank you to everyone who has hosted a talk – it's been great to have the opportunity to explain to about the charity and meet so many lovely people in the process.

Thank you to all the staff at Dorchester TIC, for their wonderful support of the charity, especially John Sissons for writing the 'How well do you know Dorchester?' quiz.

Quiz for Sale

How well do you know Dorchester? £1 each. Win Plaza cinema tickets. Available from Dorchester TIC until 20th November.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the different ministries of the Good Samaritan Church, especially the orphanage and feeding programmes.

Please remember the workers involved in these ministries, who work extremely hard. Pray for energy and strength for each one.

Please pray for the older boys and girls at the orphanage as they prepare for adult lives away from the orphanage. The orphanage is great, but the children do lead sheltered lives and therefore are quite vulnerable due to their ignorance of the outside world. There are some stories of young adults leaving the orphanage and returning to lives similar to that of their parents (very poor and destructive) – it's very sad.

Please pray for heart response, that all the work we do would be for the Lord and that it would always be for His glory. Pray that we would be lead by Him with regard to the work that needs doing and that He would clearly show us the way forward.

Become a 'Friend of heart response'

If you would like to receive regular information about heart response and get involved with fundraising or donating you can become an official 'Friend of heart response'. Please contact us for more details.