

**Summary of finances for 2014:** From a financial perspective, the charity is in a healthier position than at this time last year, but this hides a serious situation mid-year which threatened the future of the work. This recovery can only be described as a miracle, and we thank God for His intervention.

Income	2014	2013	Change
Income from donations (including sponsorship)	25,275	30,870	-18%
Fund raising events (including gift boxes)	2,240	2,002	12%
Recycling and resale of unsuitable items	8,296	7,723	7%
Special projects appeals	23,856	0	~
Transport contributions	2,625	0	~
Tax reclaim and bank interest	3,947	2,086	89%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>66,239</b>	<b>42,682</b>	<b>55%</b>
Expenditure	2014	2013	Change
Transport (8 lorries funded in 2014 and in 2013)	22,327	22,762	-2%
Warehouse costs (including rent, materials, insurance)	12,762	12,651	1%
Specified family support	2,720	5,250	-48%
Publicity (including postage, stationery)	39	147	-74%
Special projects	27,121	7,022	286%
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>64,969</b>	<b>47,832</b>	<b>36%</b>
Balance of income over expenditure	1,270	(5,150)	

#### Notes

1. This summary includes figures from the locally-administered Swansea team account.
2. Transport costs include local transport of goods between Horley and Billingshurst.
3. International transport costs are linked to the price of fuel and to the exchange rate between the pound and the euro.
4. Warehouse costs include rent, services and maintenance for the Billingshurst unit; storage at Swansea is subject to a separate arrangement.
5. Special Projects includes preparing long-term accommodation for ex-orphanage boys.
6. Reduced publicity costs reflect the increasing use of email. The costs of maintaining the website and data backup are sponsored separately.

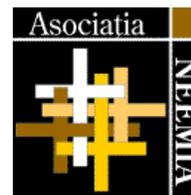
**Thank you to all those who have made donations of time, goods and money to help this work continue.**

#### The Romanian Aid Foundation and Asociația Neemia

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## The Romanian Aid Foundation and Asociația Neemia Review of 2014



The Romanian Aid Foundation (RoAF) operates from two main areas in the UK; in south Wales and in Surrey & West Sussex. We also receive significant support from individuals and organisations in other parts of England and Scotland. The charity's principal activities are the collection, preparation and transport of humanitarian aid for distribution to needy people in northeastern Romania.

During the past year the RoAF teams have sent over 86 tons of donated aid items to Romania at a cost of some £38,000. This aid has a value of some £85,000 and a report of how it was used can be found overleaf. In addition to the general aid, RoAF supporters have sponsored several special projects including a children's summer camp and a replacement vehicle for distribution of the aid items, together with designated support for specific people with special needs.

The work in the UK is undertaken exclusively by volunteers who give of their time and, often, underwrite their expenses personally. The process of sending aid includes sorting and packing donated items, disposing of unsuitable things and loading for transport. Essential supporting activities include fund raising, accounting, liaison with donors, publicity and feedback, and prayer support. More volunteers are always welcome!



As a Christian charity, we thank God for the way in which the past year has unfolded; the amount of aid sent to Romania has again exceeded expectations, and we look forward to the new year with confidence.

#### The Romanian Aid Foundation and Asociația Neemia

Working with Romanian people to bring help to the needy,

Hope through the Christian message and co-operation through joint ventures

UK Registered Charity 1060828

## Achievements in Romania

The Romanian Aid Foundation works closely with its Romanian partner charity, Asociația Umanitară Neemia (AN), which acts as its principal agent in the distribution of aid items in the Dorohoi area of north-eastern Romania. AN operates year round using the local knowledge of its Romanian staff to distribute aid where it is most effective. AN has a shop in Dorohoi which sells a proportion of the clothing received and which funds AN's activities, including warehousing, vehicle costs and staff salaries. In this way the aid distribution operation in Romania is not normally dependent upon direct funding from the UK.

During 2014, AN received goods to the value of some £85,000 from RoAF. Adding this to the stock remaining from 2013 and donations from other sources gave assets equivalent to some £106,300. Of this, just over 12% was transferred to the shop whilst clothing, food and other items to the value of approximately £73,300 were given to a total of 1,380 people asking for help. Needy households are registered for assessment and follow-up, and the team has worked well together to ensure that as many people as possible get the help they need.

The shop raised sufficient income to cover AN's operating costs plus an additional 23% which was given as cash donations to needy households, to help with rent, fuel bills, medical costs and similar domestic emergencies. This includes 20 households who receive designated sponsorship of typically £20 per month. All these cash donations are funded from the proceeds from the shop - without the shop it would be necessary to raise an additional £35,000 pa from the UK in order to maintain a comparable level of help to local people.

Through specific sponsorship, AN makes Bibles and other Christian literature available to those who request them. There has been a healthy level of interest in both adults' Bibles and children's illustrated Bibles. No pressure is put on any of the recipients but further advice is available to those who request it.

In addition to the distribution of aid from RoAF, AN co-operates with other charities and local organisations, sharing local knowledge and providing facilities and staff for special projects and joint ventures.

**Snapshots from 2014:** 12 photos that give an insight into the range of activities that Asociația Neemia has undertaken during the past year.



In **January**, winter conditions can be harsh with temperatures down to -30C. AN provides food and firewood as well as warm clothing, bedding and household items.

In **February**, the Marcu family received food and clothing from a sponsor in the UK. This family is one of many living in derelict houses, with very little hope for improvement in their conditions.



Late **March** brings a new generation of live-stock. AN can help suitable families to purchase and raise animals, offering longer term benefits and a degree of self-sufficiency.

**April** saw the arrival of another lorry load of aid items from our teams in the UK. AN's ability to help needy people depends upon these loads and there are always plenty of eager hands to help unload each lorry.



In **May** residents of a local old people's home received knitted woolen squares, to make into blankets. This provides therapy for the knitters and useful items for the residents to share.

Sponsorship from south Wales in **June** enabled some 30 children from beneficiary families to attend a camp in the mountains. We hope to be able to repeat the experience this year.



**July** brings the promise of a good crop from the land around AN's warehouse. This year, the sunflowers were pressed to provide oil for donation to our beneficiaries.

In **August** temperatures can rise to more than 40C. This is a risk for older people, many of whom have only heavy winter clothing. AN donates summer or winter clothing according to the season.



In **September**, we received a very generous donation of good quality nursery school equipment, toys and stationery. These are being shared between a number of rural kindergartens, to supplement their limited resources.

**October** saw the arrival of several tons of food from harvest festival collections, to be used to help needy families during the coming winter.



AN regularly collaborates with local charities. In **November**, we supplied art materials, toys and early Christmas presents to a support centre for children with Down's Syndrome.

A major activity in **December** is the giftbox distribution, when several thousand boxes are given out each year. Normal aid activities continue, with cold weather increasing the requests for clothing, food and firewood.

