

## Report 2004

During the early months of the year, we collected a wide range of humanitarian aid including beds, bedding, hand-knitted blankets, warm clothing for all ages medicines, medical equipment, bicycles, spectacles, toys, wheelchairs, prams and a range of household goods.

In July, we made the 4,610 mile / 7376 km return trip from Greenock, Scotland to Medgidia in the south east of Romania about 25 miles / 40 km west of the Black Sea Port of Constanta.

We had a 21-hour border delay and a further two and a half-day hold up at customs (Vama) in Constanta.

While very frustrating at the time, we are delighted to report that all the goods were safely delivered to the intended recipients. We delivered aid to be used by the local hospital and people in poor rural communities.

We also delivered Christian literature to help local churches operating in the villages.

This year saw the introduction of Austria's toll system with a similar system being introduced in Germany from January 2005. While these tolls will increase our overall costs, the reduction in toll charges in Hungary will offset this to some extent.

By sleeping in the truck's two bunk beds in the fitted cab and taking our own food and water, none of the charity's money was spent on meals or hotel bills.

## Images from Medgidia 2004



*Above: Colin Murray, the Deputy Mayor (Also a doctor in the Municipal Hospital) and Gordon Lyon discuss delivery details.*



*Above: A dedicated doctor whose devotion to duty saved the life of this pre-mature baby.*



*Above: Two babies to a cot due to limited resources.*



*Above: Local children in Medgidia.*

### **What next?**

We are currently formulating our plans for 2005 to ensure that the venue(s) to which we travel will be areas of real poverty so that we can maximise the benefit to the widows, orphans, fatherless, sick and others in need.

We have already been given a lot of aid including bedding, bicycles, warm clothing, medical equipment, prams, spectacles, toys and wheel chairs. We have also been promised further donations.

We are now seeking premises as a priority having had excellent support from Elim City Church and Struthers Memorial Church, both in Greenock. Ideally we want an industrial unit between 5,000 and 10,000 ft sq. area to allow us to receive, sort, pack and itemise our goods ready for shipment.

### **Transport Needs – problem solved**

Although we have owned and operated our own 40 ft / 12.2 m trailer now for several years, we are pleased to report that we have now identified and purchased our own tractor unit. The vehicle is a 480 HP 1998 DAF XF 95 Super Space Cab. It comes fully equipped with long range fuel tanks which allow us to travel in excess of 2500 miles / 4000 km before we need to refuel.

Having this valuable resource allows us to operate fully independent of others and travel at times and places of our choosing.

### **Thanks to All!**

On behalf of the sick, poor and needy in Romania, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who supported us by donating goods, finance and also remembering our activities in prayer.

We are privileged to be the last link in the “Logistics Chain” which allows us to see the aid being put into the hands of the needy.

We are fully aware, however, that we are only part of the dynamic team which makes the task possible.

Thank you again for your support.

Dr Gordon Lyon  
Chairman of Trustees