

Summary of finances for 2013: From a financial perspective, the charity's outgoings during 2013 have exceeded its income, requiring the use of funds which have been built up previously. Nevertheless, we have been able to send aid to the value of £98,000 to Romania during the past year.

Income	2013	2012	Change
Income from donations (including sponsorship)	31,156	28,141	+11%
Fund raising events (including gift boxes)	1,717	3,747	-54%
Recycling and resale of unsuitable items	7,723	~	~
Tax reclaim and bank interest	2,086	3,320	-37%
Total Income	42,682	35,208	+21%
Expenditure	2013	2012	Change
Transport (8 lorries funded in 2013, 7 in 2012)	22,762	16,832	+35%
Warehouse costs (including rent, materials, insurance)	12,364	13,210	-6%
Special projects (including specified family support)	6,749	7,036	-4%
Publicity (including postage, stationery)	147	255	-42%
Swansea team activities	5,523	~	~
Miscellaneous expenses	287	210	+37%
Total Expenditure	47,832	37,543	+27%
Balance of income over expenditure	(5,150)	(2,335)	

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. One additional load to Romania was sponsored separately.
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 sponsorship for the fitting out of one house and major improvements to two others, plus the cost of spares for two vehicles.
6. Reduced publicity costs reflect the increasing use of email. The costs of maintaining the website 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 Annual Review, January 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. The work in the UK is undertaken exclusively by volunteers who give of their time and, often, underwrite their expenses personally.

During the past year the RoAF teams have sent over 114 tons of donated aid items to northeastern Romania. This aid had a value of some £98,000 and a report of how it was used can be found overleaf. In addition to the general aid, RoAF supporters have sponsored designated support for specific people with special needs, and have funded several housing projects during the year.

The main reflection from the last year regarding the work in Swansea centres around the amazing generosity of people. We were able to meet all our financial liabilities, namely two and a half loads plus shoebox transport, through money raised from donations of items, whether they be worn out clothes sold to recyclers, or things sold on ebay or at boot fairs, plus we received specific financial donations for the Bibles, a contribution to a house that was built and the funding for next year's proposed teenage camp. We also received many more shoeboxes than last year, plus we received them earlier and, if anything, the quality may have been slightly better, all making our job just that little bit easier.

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.

Changes in Horley:

- The final packing at Horley Baptist Church (Brighton Rd) will be on 7th February. Packing will recommence on Friday 28th February at The Innes Pavilion, Thornton Close, Horley, Surrey, RH6 8RJ. There is a map link on the website.
- Our clothing drop box will be situated in the car park at St Francis's Church, 84 Balcombe Rd, Horley, RH6 9AY. This for clothing items - for any other items please phone in advance - 01342 842384.

The Romanian Aid Foundation and Asociația Neemia

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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. These activities, including warehousing, vehicle costs and staff salaries, are fully funded by the AN shop in Dorohoi (which sells a proportion of the clothing received). In this way the aid distribution operation in Romania is not normally dependent upon funding from the UK.

During 2013, AN received goods to the value of some £98,000 from RoAF; adding the stock remaining from 2012 and donations from other sources gave assets equivalent to some £110,000. Of this, slightly under 10% was transferred to the shop and 80% was used for donations during the year. Clothing, food and other items to the value of approximately £78,000 were given to a total of 1,550 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 20% which was given as cash donations to needy households, to help with rent, fuel bills, medical costs and similar domestic emergencies. This includes 18 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 its own activities, AN co-operates with other local organisations, sharing local knowledge and providing staff and facilities for special projects.

Snapshots from 2013: 12 photos that give an insight into the range of activities that Asociația Neemia has undertaken during the past year.



In **January**, AN was able to supply some replacement book shelving for a school library which had been flooded in 2010.

In **February**, we supplied some simple medical items to Vasilica Cozmuic. AN is not a medical charity as such but, from time to time, we can provide basic medical items and use income from the shop to help people with the costs of medical care.



In **March** we revisited a rural school where we had donated some furniture in 1994 - and found it still in use 19 years later.

April sees the beginning of better weather and requests for bicycles increase. We receive many requests throughout the year for push-chairs and also for computers for older school pupils.

In **May** a group came from the UK to refurbish the outside of AN's warehouse, and it looks much better for their efforts. Maintenance of our facilities and vehicles is essential to the running of our activities throughout the year.

In **June** AN received a bulk load of 12 tons of tinned beans. This food was used to help people through the time before the local harvest.

July is a relatively quiet month for AN as the school holidays affect even those who have no hope of a holiday, but work continues in the UK preparing for the next aid consignments.

In **August** Maria Marcu received a pushchair 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.

In **September**, specific sponsorship allowed AN to fit out a new house for Elena Balan - her first permanent home since her previous house was flooded more than three years ago.

October brings an increase in preparations for the coming winter. Firewood is stockpiled and donations of winter clothing replace the lighter wear of the past few months.

In **November**, AN distributed designated boxes sent by sponsors in the UK. Valeria Acrudoaie has cared for her invalid husband since he suffered a stroke some 28 years ago.

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.

