



NEWS UPDATE May 2017



*Reaching out with Christian love;
serving & partnering in Bulgaria*

Dear friends of Krasif Aid,

Greetings from Sliven in Bulgaria where we are over half way through another six week visit here.

NEW VISION... We are taking part in some very significant planning meetings with our key partners during this visit. You will be aware from our recent newsletters that finances for the Blue House Care Centre have become increasingly difficult since the BREXIT vote, and sadly this has meant a number of staff cuts. Although this is disappointing, we have sensed for a while that we are entering a new era and this includes looking for more ways for the work and ministry in Bulgaria to have greater financial self-sufficiency. Naturally, this is not an easy process for Director Genka who has carried the torch and so much responsibility for this work over many years.



SLIVEN BAPTIST CHURCH... At the same time, Pastor Iuri and the church have been looking at future plans for their building, which currently has the main sanctuary area in the basement. This is dark and, especially in the winter, is also damp. It is not an inviting environment for a modern church and they want to either make some major changes to the existing building or even look at moving to another location. Much of the current discussions and prayers revolve around a fresh vision for the future which fully combines the work and ministry of the Church and the Blue House, possibly in one joint facility. Much would need to happen for this to become a reality and we would all value your prayers as this is fully explored.

IN THE MEANTIME... It is "business as usual!" The nursing / rehabilitation team continue to work as normal both in the community and offering medical (physio) massages at the Blue House. The Social Integration group of men and women with learning difficulties continue to meet daily, but now under the supervision of different parent volunteers, rather than paid staff.

KRASIF CREATIONS... The Art & Craft production continues especially with embroidery and felt products. We are delighted that a number of the clients with learning difficulties have recently joined this project too. Do keep an eye on the website and our growing EBAY shop....

<http://www.krasifaid.org.uk/apps/photos/>

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FREEDOM IN CHRIST... We are delighted that the very first pilot group of this excellent discipleship course is now well underway with 12 highly motivated people from Sliven Baptists. Pastor Iuri and wife Plamena have both done a wonderful job in translating the teaching manual into Bulgarian and we look forward to seeing this becoming available widely around the country once everything is formalised with FIC International leadership. We have helped out by teaching a couple of the sessions. Please continue to hold this important initiative in your prayers too.



FAMILY SEMINARS... We have just had a fruitful weekend of family seminars, concluding with preaching Sunday morning, with our friends at the Congregational Church in Sliven. This followed on from a previous event 18 months ago, and was well attended throughout. Topics included The Father Heart of God, The Battle for Family, and Forgiveness. Another series is likely to take place in the Autumn.



CHRISTMAS AGAIN!!... And for the six ladies with learning difficulties, now settled in their new apartment free of damp and mould, as reported in our last newsletter, Christmas just happened again! Largely thanks to our Associate Gaynor Woodward and friends at Church Lane Evangelical, Stafford, we were able to oversee the purchase of a tumble drier, garden benches, coffee making machine, new pots and pans and other kitchen equipment, with more to come. Brilliant for these special ones!

HEALING NEEDED... Finally please pray for Marin, married to Vesey with two young daughters, who has skin cancer and receiving Chemo and radiotherapy. And also Maia, married to Nigel our English businessman friend here, who has many health problems and is undergoing tests due to major weight loss in recent months.



Thank you for standing with us and our many friends here in Bulgaria.

With Many Blessings,

Brian & Chris

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