



NEWS UPDATE

September 2017



Reaching out with Christian love;
serving & partnering in Bulgaria

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The summer season has flown by and our feet have barely touched the ground. Soon after returning from Bulgaria at the beginning of July we were off to Denmark to speak at another family camp. As always we had a truly amazing time. It's such a privilege to speak on these camps. We finish them physically tired but spiritually overwhelmingly filled. It is such to experience, participate with and watch, people grow in God. This is the second time we had spoken at this particular camp, and we have been asked by the leader couple if we will mentor them. After more than 20 years of our ministry in Denmark this seems a right next step, and combined with that we have managed to recruit another Danish couple as potential National leaders for the excellent Freedom In Christ Discipleship Course. This is particularly encouraging with the pilot run of Freedom In Christ in Bulgaria just coming to an end and the way forward to a national launch to follow. To be used by God to see this resource introduced to two nations is humbling but wonderful!



After Denmark we had a few weeks at home before we enjoyed a fabulous week in Devon with son Michael, Nicky, and grandsons Ronnie and Jackson. The weather was average but we managed to enjoy lots of sand and sea and some sun... We love being Grandparents and there is something beautiful about watching your children bring up the next generation. Our other son Steven and fiancé, Rachel, are full steam ahead for their wedding next May. They have had... (are having) a very busy year as Rachel's band, Slowdive, has released a new album after 22 years. They have travelled all over the world... literally – Steve is tour manager. When home they have been straight back into “parenting” mode with Jesse who has major special needs. Because of their travels we haven't seen so much of them lately but it was a precious moment when we met up in Devon and Jesse, who can't hear or speak, took me for a walk to their car and promptly got out his picture of “Nanny and Grandad Clarke”... this still brings a tear to the eye!



Another couple of weeks back home and, as we write, we are now “on the road” to Bulgaria again. It's quite amusing that the “Ricky Gervais” film that Steven and Michael were in last year was actually called “Life on the Road”... it somehow befits our Family. This picture is on our usual campsite in Hungary with owner Lazlo. He speaks No English, we speak even less Hungarian. Such a lovely man, who gives us bottles of wine on arrival, and fresh bread rolls in the morning!

from the office of Brian Clarke, Chairman, 53 Lumley Road, Walsall, West Midlands WS1 2LH
tel: 01922 278322 mob: 07990 543406 e-mail: brianchris@krasifaid.org.uk

So now to update about Eastern Europe. Yesterday we met with our good friend Ursy Botting in Slovakia and caught up on all that is happening there with her and with YWAM where we have also partnered in recent years. We are now in Romania where tomorrow we will be meeting the YWAM leaders here. We were asked if we could speak on a Family Camp in Romania this summer but we were unable to do the dates so are looking to the possibilities of next summer. We then head down into Sliven our base in Bulgaria.

We will be in Bulgaria for the remainder of September and October. The first issue on the agenda is helping our partners process the significant changes being discussed to the work in Sliven. We are certain we will have many hours of meetings! As we mentioned previously there is the possibility that the work and ministry at Sliven Baptist Church and The Blue House are now to combine and move to shared premises, which could possibly be the derelict school over the road



from the Baptist Church. The initial discussions with the authorities have been promising, particularly because the land which the school is built on has to be used for community purposes only. The Church does need major work to remain in their present building long term and the school premises would offer many opportunities for new local income projects, and also provide opportunity for growth. When the Blue House was set up as a Community Welfare Centre

15 years ago, there was real merit in keeping that work separate from the life of the Church for cultural reasons. Today in Bulgaria this distinction is not so important and combining the work fully again would have many benefits.

We value all the support, friendship and prayers, and do thank you for your partnership. Please will you pray for wisdom and discernment on our part as we help our friends establish a fresh clear vision for the future of the ministry in Bulgaria.

We also remain committed to the many children in the protected homes... those without a voice... and with this in mind we are delighted to be having an all age team joining us at half term in October to continue our involvement with them. The youngest in the team is 5... going up to 60+. We love seeing families serving God together... Please pray we have a "God centred" and fruitful week.

And this last week the BBC flagged up the future demographic crisis facing Bulgaria that we have talked about previously in Krasif News... Here is the link if you would like to read this...

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-41109572>

The next issue of Krasif News will be on the way to you in a few weeks time and until then we wish you many blessings.

Chris & Brian Clarke, and all the team at KRASIF AID

*from the office of Brian Clarke, Chairman, 53 Lumley Road, Walsall, West Midlands WS1 2LH
tel: 01922 278322 mob: 07990 543406 e-mail: brianchris@krasifaid.org.uk*

Krasif Aid is a Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in England & Wales No. 6533519; Registered Charity No. 1123948
Registered Office: 53 Lumley Road, Walsall, WS1 2LH

