

### Hello everyone.

# So we eventually got back home.

The original plan was to stay only two weeks in Belgium, but this turned out being a big three weeks. Two days before we would've drove back to Romania Rosalie started throwing up really bad, about two hours nonstop. After that a lot of watery diarrhea came out and she turned all pale with blue lips. When we held her she felt like a rag doll, her mouth hung open and was bone dry. Jessica hurried to the emergency where thy immediately searched for what was causing this. It took a while before they knew for sure what it was, so they kept Rosalie in the hospital under good supervision. Eventually it seemed that some kind of bacteria had entered her blood causing all this. The previous days she was already eating and drinking much less, so all the throwing up and diarrhea made sure she was very dehydrated. So that made us stay in Belgium for that extra week. But we can only be thankful. One day later we would've been on the road and according to the doctors, only one hour later at the hospital could've been fatal.

And thankfully we went to Belgium by car this time, if we would've been by plane it would've been a lot of money out the window. The plane tickets were very expensive so that made us choose to travel by car. But then our car broke down and we didn't know if it was still possible for it to be repaired, so again we looked to book the expensive flight. But no, a good friend heard about our car trouble and right before we were about to book the flight she came and offered us her vehicle. So again we didn't book. A few days later our car eventually did got fixed and we drove to Belgium with our own car after all. We did not understand why, but it was very clear that we had to go by car. And eventually it became very clear why. So, we can only be thankful that this was arranged so well by our Heavenly Father.





# Mixed feelings

We're always very happy to spend some time with family and friends, but at the same time it's always a very difficult period for us and especially for the children with lots of mixed feelings. One day they're handling it better than the other. Missing, longing for, looking forward to, letting go, goodbyes, ... we're constantly rushing from one place to another, it really is a heavy period. So if it's already heavy for us, how must this be for our children. But still, they're always doing it so well. We're so proud on them. Please pray for them that they can keep on handling this and stay strong. Rosalie and Marie-Lou could celebrate their birthday with family and friends. That was so nice!





#### A successful 5th event! Congratulations!!

Again we're looking back at a wonderful event. The fifth time in a row a big success! We were very curious because it was the first time we had the event on a Saturday noon instead of Sunday evening. Plus there was a cycling event going on at the same time as also carnival in a nearby city. But apparently none of this mattered cuz our event was crowded as always! We're so thankful for everyone that came and of course again for our wonderful home front team. Also so many other volunteers that came to help out. Amazing!!

His heart that is longing for equality, love, tolerance, justice, ... and that's exactly what we, together with Him and through Him, strive for.

# A very big help for us and the project!

The last weeks we could count on the help of Peter Malkin. Pete is a very good (English) friend, who brought us in contact with a lot of people, organizations,... All these contacts have been such an added value for us and the project in the past four years. It seemed that Pete's ways kept leading back to Pe Lunca. That's why he has been very committed to Pe Lunca the last couple of weeks. Because of his value to the work we do, we decided to keep him on board. So we are very happy we could finally add him to the Pe lunca-team. Because he also does everything completely voluntary, he also must see how he can survive. That's why we want to make a call through Pe Lunca for some sponsors and prayer.

If you feel like supporting Pete, you can do this on the account number of our actual, Belgian, association: "Op Het Veld", IBAN: BE29103049198064 - BIC: NICABEBB,

PayPal: www.paypal.me/pelunca

always stating: "Support Peter Malkin".



#### Who will be our next volunteer?

I also want to mention that we're ready for new EVS-volunteers. For now we received one application, but still there's no document made, so we're still in happy expectation. Anyway, room and work enough. So if you're reading this and it interests you, or you know someone that might be interested, please get in touch with us. I'll quickly explain again what EVS is about: European Voluntary Service is a possibility for young people between the age of 17 and 30, to come for a few month until one year, to voluntary help us in the work we do. This is an Erasmus+ program and as good as all your expenses are covered by the government. It costs you basically nothing.

In the beginning of March we said goodbye to our first two EVS-volunteers, Maria Cristina and Clara. It was a privilege having these enthusiastic girls with us for six months. But the good-bye will be short lived, because we can welcome them back for a few weeks during the summer.

### More information op pelunca.be/erasmus/ENG

### Next months will be fun, but busy

After the group from Holland we may also welcome the group from America again. Together with them we'll be having again a week full of children programs in Geoagiu as in Romos. With enough translators present this promises to be a wonderful time again, filled with games, plays, stories, challenges, ...

The week after that we're having camp again in Varmaga, a beautiful place in the mountains. A lot of children from 9 years and older, from Romos and Vaidei, will again have the time of their lives. Ones again a week without

discrimination where as well Roma kids as Romanian children will just play and work together. Also this promises to be awesome again. But also a very busy month.

After camp the big vacation starts and again this means lots of visitors, but also lots of work and extra children programs. We can still sleep on both our ears, we won't get bored yet.

# Donations, transports,... What a blessing!

So finally home = all hands on deck. Before we left for Belgium we prepare the walls for the further works and now we already have an enthusiastic foursome helping us to get the job done. All electricity has been renewed and in the meantime all the walls are being occupied.

We really hope to get the walls done, inside and outside before the beginning of June. Because then we receive again a large group of students from Holland to paint the whole thing as well as a lot of other work that we'll be doing together in the Roma village as in and around the building/ property. Once the building will be painted with all the chairs and tables inside, we'll finally start having different programs. We're so excited.

All the chairs and tables we have, we received from Geert and Krista from Belgium and got transported to Romania thanks to Jan and Gerry from 'Stichting Geloof Door Genade'. In addition, our dear friend Pete drove a van stuffed with baby/children stuff all the way from England to our place. These beautiful gifts were kindly donated by a friend called Ann who collected everything herself. This week we're going to buy a trailer with the money we received from some lovely people in Belgium and then we're driving to Hunedoara. There's also an organization there that received a truck from Belgium and thanks to Kitanda vzw there was also a lot of stuff for us. So beautiful to see how more and more people are taking care of His project here!







### Centru "Inima Lui"

Maybe one last announcement before I stop this letter. After a lot of thinking, praying and letting go, we're finally convinced about which name to give our building/center in Geoagiu. From now on we won't longer talk about 'the building', but about Centru 'Inima Lui'. Inima Lui means His heart. We chose this name because we strongly believe that it is His heart that is longing for equality, love, tolerance, justice, ... and that's exactly what we, together with Him and through Him, strive for.





#### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Single donation or monthly amount.

#### Support project PeLunca:

IBAN: BE29 1030 4919 8064

BIC: NICABEBB

PayPal: www.paypal.me/pelunca

#### Support family Priem:

Family Priem

IBAN: BE24 8601 1087 6638

BIC: SPAABE22

#### **PRAYER**

- for our family, dealing emotions etc., our turbulent life, but above all for a further blessed life
- That we will have enough finances to continue the renovations to our Centru Inima Lui.
- For the children of Geoagiu, that they all may find a sponsor.
- That more and more people will get to know our project and be willing to participate one way or another.
- For again a blessed time with the students from Breda.
- Also for a blessed time with the group from America.
- For the camp in Varmaga.
- For the summer, all the visitors, work, extra programs, another camp with children from two orphanages, ... .
- For new EVS-volunteers.
- For the expansion of the 'Pe lunca-team'.
- Pray for His guidance, for every day, with every discussion we take.

### PCP - Pelunca Child Program

Our newest project 'financial child adoption' also made a great start. Already 13 children found a sponsor.

This means that, from the moment our building is ready, will also will be able to start with this.

In September these kids will receive a starters packet for school (school supplies, clothes, ...), they will be followed up and receive personal guidance, ... all things together, we'll do our very best to give them a better future, breaking the cycle of poverty in which they're stuck.

#### **PROJECTS**

- Create social surveys and help with basic needs
- Pelunca Family Files (PFF): build houses, rebuild, purchase stoves.
- Pelunca Food Parcels (PFP): Compose and distirbute food packages
- Provide baby's with powdered milk
- Sort clothing and give packages to the families
- Child- and youth activities (sports, games, relaxation, biblereading
- Medical Support (Doctor, Purchase of medicines, ...)
- Social support (helping teenage mothers, provide ID cards and other papers)

#### **CONTACT**

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#### **THANKS**

- to all the people where we're welcome every time to chat, share, pray, eat, ...
- to the churches where we could go to talk about the work we do
- for all the relief goods that were transported from Belgium and England to Romania
- for all the donations we received to buy a trailer
- to Josiah and Thibo from PrintDesign, for making and taking care of our amazing website
- to all our sponsors, for us as a family as for the work. There are no words!!
- to our Almighty God for just everything!!!

Of course there are a whole lot more children waiting for a sponsor, but we believe that also these kids will be chosen by you lovely people.

If you're interested, please take a look on our website: www.pelunca.be/pcp

