

OUR NEW COOK — NINA



One of our staff members who has been with us from the beginning — Maria, has now retired, and we have been fortunate to have a professional cook called Nina join our staff in her place. She is getting used to the kitchen and has certainly been kept very busy during this summer.

Another of our former staff members was Violeta,

whose youngest daughter Alexandra (shown on right) is now helping out as a volunteer during the summer months. Ani, who runs our Social Programme and organises a lot of the activities throughout the summer, has been very busy organising the programme drawn up by Gabriela and Adrian for children having a holiday at Casa Valentin this year.

Our other staff members, Cornelia and Geta, have also been very busy with all their housekeeping and care for the children. Our thanks goes to all of them for their hard work in what has been an exceptionally busy summer. Above all, we thank God for their devotion, love and care for each child. We are sure they would echo the following scripture: *“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes.”*— Romans chapter 1 verse 16.



FLOOD CRISIS!

Just a few days before the summer intake of children at Casa Valentin some of the fifteen-year old water pipes/fittings gave way, and flooded the whole ground floor. The staff worked overtime at drying out furniture and fitting new flooring and we were very fortunate to receive a grant from the Herrod Foundation to help with the cost. We will bring you some pictures in the next issue of Sunflower Seeds.

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Sunflower Seeds

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CORRECTION!



SUNFLOWER CELEBRATION

Saturday 3rd September at 3.00 p.m.
[NOT 3.30 p.m. as in last newsletter]

at Pilgrims Hatch Mission

(20 Hatch Road, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood, CM15 9PX)

This year we are privileged to have our Manager, Gabriela, and her husband, Pastor Adrian Popa, visit us that weekend and they will be speaking to us about the work at Casa Valentin.



CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES!

We will once again be sending filled shoeboxes for every child aged 3-14 years in Cataloi village this Christmas.

HELP!

We urgently need many more empty shoeboxes.

The absolute maximum size is 30X20X10cm (12X8X4 ins),
as we cannot give large boxes to some children and small ones to other children.

If you do have any, please bring them with you to the meeting.

HOLIDAYS AT CASA VALENTIN



This summer more groups of children with special needs have had a holiday. The group below enjoy bead craft in the very warm afternoons.



Outdoor games as above, are always popular, both in the morning and evening.



Each child has been given a tee-shirt to decorate with their own hand-prints and other decorations to take home as a reminder of their holiday.

Pastor Adrian teaches each group of children the "Casa Valentin song" that he has composed. It will remind them of God's love for them.



SOCIAL PROGRAMME CHILDREN HAVE A SPECIAL SUMMER OUTING

Our group joined with a similar group for a day trip to Constanta by minibus. It was a lovely warm day.



First they enjoyed a visit to the Zoological Gardens and were amazed by all the animals and especially the dolphins.

Then they all headed for McDonalds and their 'Happy Meals' — a real treat for poor Romanian children.



At last they arrived at the seaside and paddled in the waves, as well as playing in the sand. What a wonderful day they had together! Thanks to all our supporters who made it possible.