

Trustees Annual Report

Romanian Ministries

Charity number 1159517

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019

Romanian Ministries is a charity founded on 8 December 2014. It has continued its ministry of helping Romanian Christians and the Romanian poor to the glory of God throughout the 12 months of 2019. All involved are grateful to God for the opportunity of Christian service and vastly benefitted by fellowship with our brothers and sisters in the land of Romania.

We view ourselves as a conspicuously Christian enterprise and see our work as the active service of God and done for His glory. We aspire to the continuation of operations in accordance with divine guidance as we look to the future.

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity's Principal Address: 6 Cedar Row
Park Hill
Bristol
BS110UJ

Charity Trustees: Howard Bilton
Adrian Carey-Jones
Peter Cox
Rachel Jones
James Martin
Cornel Pelea

All of the above individuals served as trustees for the full length of the period being reported on.

Structure Governance and Management

Romanian Ministries has a constitution which was submitted formally to the Charity Commission and accepted prior to the commencement of the charity on 8 December 2014.

The structure of the charity is that of a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO).

Trustees are appointed for a fixed period, varying according to each trustee, and subject to reappointment following the expiry of each term. Re-appointment must be by the existing trustees.

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the charity are the promotion of the Christian religion in Romania and among Romanian speaking people by the provision of financial or material aid, or by whatever form of support the trustees deem fit, and the relief of poverty in Romania and among Romanian speaking people by the provision of financial or material aid, or by whatever form of support the trustees deem fit.

Achievements and Performance

The year in question saw the continuation of funding partnerships with various churches and Christian charitable trusts. Donations were also received from individuals aware of our work for the Lord. We were, and continue to be, most grateful for all generosity and support. Giving during the year equalled £106,534 (2018 £101,253). Of this, £66,606 was in the form of specifically ringfenced donations (2018 £74,800). There were 452 individual donations during the year (399 in 2018).

As part of the above, £7,853 was received through contact with Fahan Presbyterian Church in Ireland, the first time funds have been received from that country. Also, Pastor Doru Decean and our land project in Aiud generated £1,650 during the year (£779 in 2018), which was passed to Romanian Ministries in November.

Once again there were five visits to Romania during the year (the same as in 2018). These took place in March, April, September, October and November. The visitors on behalf of Romanian Ministries were Adrian Carey-Jones, Cornel Pelea, James Martin and Tim Curnow.

The main projects sponsored during the year were as follows:

- we continued our involvement in **Emanuel Hospice**, sponsoring five members of staff in part or in full. Total donations for the year equalled £50,120, although amounts relating to latter months were transferred in early 2020. Those sponsored were hospice doctors, a social worker, a physiotherapist and a psychologist. The work of Emanuel Hospice continues to inspire all visitors with its selfless resolve and evangelistic impetus despite immense challenges. It has been of profound sadness to hear that one of the doctors, Dr Claudia Pele, has herself been diagnosed with terminal cancer. She entered the palliative phase of her care two weeks prior to the drafting of this report, and our warmest good wishes and prayers remain with her husband and young family.
- we were pleased to bring **paintings from Florina Pater** to the UK for sale at £100 apiece, all proceeds being returned to Florina in Romania. Florina is 20 years old and afflicted with *epidermolysis bulosa*, a severe skin disorder which has caused her the loss of both hands. Her painting abilities in spite of such a handicap are most remarkable, £1,000 being generated during the year.
- we sponsored 5 Bible college students in financial hardship at **Emanuel University** in Oradea. Expenditure equalled £4,800, £3,500 being received in the form of specific ringfenced donations.
- £8,485 was allocated to a **home for Abandoned Girls** close to the city of Constanta to assist with staff costs and also to arrange an excursion (£5,450 in 2018).

- financial gifts and material aid was given to a **home for Abandoned Children** in Beliu, The aid involved presents, excursions to swimming pool complexes and donations towards the costs of running the home. This home was originally for boys in its earlier years, but has more recently introduced a number of girls.
- financial support of a **young girl with HIV** and her adoptive mother near to Constanta
- support of a **missionary in Scornicesti**, Iosif Varan. Iosif and his church's pastor, Titus Achim, visited South Wales in June in order to present their work to a supporting fellowship, Tabor Baptist Church. Sponsorship of £6,105 was passed to Iosif in 2019. During the year he expanded his ministry to include a number of schools in his locality.
- our **land project** in the village of Radesti, close to Aiud, stood in need of investment as part of our annual activities. Two of its greenhouses were therefore extensively renovated with the aid of three volunteers from Fahan Presbyterian Church in October. £2,185 was dedicated to these repairs, an amount more than recouped by profits returned to Romanian Ministries this year and last.
- financial **assistance for a number of trusted pastors**, supplementing their salaries, which sometimes fall below subsistence level.
- a specific program to **support Christian widows** was continued, the two principal beneficiaries being Mrs Abigail Bogosel and Mrs Gabriela Maior. Both of these women had experienced a measure of poverty following bereavement. Small gifts were also made to a number of older widows in the village of Draut for the purchase of winter firewood.
- a **Roma pastor** was assisted financially in his ongoing ministry to Roma people in extremely poor settlements
- we continued our investment in **Christian book translation** through Faclia Publishing. The amount allocated in 2019 was £7,234 (£4,020 in 2018). The ringfenced funding of £2,000 received in 2018 resulted in a high-quality production of a commentary on the book of Revelation in 2019 in accordance with the donor's wishes.
- outreach among **deaf people** in the town of Arad and its surrounding area was continued by Sammy Gorgan. It was a joy to visit this ministry on two occasions and provide funding for their summer camp (approximately 30 attendees, Christian and non-Christian) and also to help with practical works (£1,000 allocated during the year).
- 2019 saw the inclusion of **sports evangelist Daniel Zaifiris** among those we support. Daniel is an ex-professional footballer who now engages in evangelistic outreach and chaplaincy roles among the top tier of Romanian football clubs.
- we also commenced support of pensioner **church planter Ghita Sarbu** in his endeavour to start a church in the village of Alunis. This village currently lacks any other form of evangelical witness. Ghita has been planting churches in Romanian villages for 30 years.
- also, we started to support Claudiu Calin in his **outreach to young people**, especially those with no church connections in the town of Arad. This ministry to adolescents and late teens is ideally suited to Claudiu's gifts and abilities, and he came to us warmly recommended by his fellowship.
- **gifts to families and individuals in poverty** were made during the year in accordance with the objects of the charity. The principal beneficiaries during the year were Cristina

Contiu (cancer treatment), pastor's wife Daniela Gherman (medical treatment) and Alex, a 21 year old man with cerebral palsy.

Grants are normally made following contact with relevant individuals in Romania and word of mouth recommendations from other known and trusted sources.

We give heartfelt thanks to the Lord for His blessing of the work in 2019 and ascribe all credit and whatever measure of success to His interventions of grace.

It seems fitting to cite at this juncture the well-known verse of God's pre-eminence in all things from Psalm 115 vs 1 *"Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to Your name give glory."*

Our aim in Romanian Ministries is to remain as work of God's grace, guided and led by the Scriptures and the Holy Spirit to the glory of God in every particular.

Financial Review

The receipts and payments account for the period in question is attached on the following page and has been independently examined by a suitably experienced and independent individual and duly approved.

The independent examiners certification is found on the page after the receipts and payments account.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature:

Full Name:

Position:

Date:

Romanian Ministries**Charity Number 1159517****Receipts and Payment Account****01.01.2019 – 31.12.2019**

	£	£	£	£
Receipts	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2019	Total 2018
Donations and Gifts	34,320	66,606	100,926	96,400
Gift Aid Reimbursements	2,567	3,041	5,608	4,853
Total Income for year	36,887	69,647	106,534	101,253

Payments

Ministry Grants / Poverty Relief	18,779	48,335	67,114	95,880
Printing and Stationery	1,476	1,677	3,153	2,348
Petrol Reimbursements	107	0	107	347
Travel costs	359		359	
Advertising	248		248	
Conference expenses	-	-	0	368
Bank Transfer Charges	558		558	500
Total Payments	21,527	50,012	71,539	99,443
Excess of Income over expenditure	15,360	19,635	34,995	1,810

Opening Funds 01.01.2019 20,510**Closing funds 31.12.2019** 55,505**Comprising:**

Bank and Cash Balances

Consisting of -

Unrestricted funds	28,680
Restricted funds	24,335

*Note to accounts – a transfer of £22,434 of restricted funds was made to Emanuel Hospice in relation to the 2019 financial year on 31 January 2020

Romanian Ministries

Charity No: 1159517

Independent Examiner's Report

31st December 2019



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
Romanian Ministries

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st December 2019

**Charity no
(if any)**

1159517

Set out on pages

2-3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2019.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: *Scott Canning*

Date: 26th October 2020

Name: Scott Canning MAAT

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Association of Accounting Technicians

Address:

10 Meadow Street, Avonmouth

Bristol

BS11 9AR

Romanian Ministries

Charity Number 1159517

Receipts and Payment Account

01.01.2019 – 31.12.2019

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Closing funds 31.12.2019

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Consisting of -

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Restricted funds	24,335

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