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# ROMANIA REPORT

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## Report from Peter Owen...

John has asked me to send you a report about the Mission Trip to Romania last week to be included in the Lantern Lite or for Sub Committee so here goes...

Mission to Romania, with support from the Lantern and St Barnabas, works with a Dutch charity Phoneo helping Roma communities in Romania. Their projects include Bread to Live (sponsoring a Roma child just like Compassion), a Bible Teaching School and community support for the Roma people (home visits, family support for medical costs and meals, Selah school and building new, safer homes for those most in need).

Jenny and Peter Owen from the Lantern, Walter Meyer from St Barnabas and Walter's son Luke joined Richard Dickson from the Lantern who is volunteering with Phoneo and others to build a new home for a Roma family. Eight people have been living in a one room poorly-built home without heat,



light or means of cooking inside. The home the team built in a week is weatherproof, insulated and will have light, a wood burner for heating and cooking. It was an answer to prayers that everyone involved in the build stayed safe, fit and there were no accidents.

During the week, we attended a lively 2.5 hour church service with the Roma people and visited the nearby Selah School which received contributions for materials from the Lantern Building Tithe Fund. Several people from the Lantern helped build the school and the outside play area. Selah School receives Roma children each weekday and prepares them for the local school with breakfast, a wash and clean clothes. The children also come back after school to do homework which they can't do in their own home. Richard Dickson is involved with building work and general support for Phoneo. Gina Forbes, known by several at the Lantern, is also volunteering indefinitely with Phoneo, with home visits, women's ministry and general welfare support. Both seem settled in what God has called them do to help the Roma people.

It was a humbling experience seeing how some people have to live and a real blessing to see how the family were so pleased with their new home, also to see lives being changed with the Phoneo team visiting and praying with the Roma families. Please see Peter Owen or John Clift if you would like more information.