

BEV'S MOLDOVA NEWS

Spring 2024



MARCH

I sat an exam earlier this month; it wasn't very enjoyable, and I awaited a result in trepidation. I passed with a 79, and was upgraded 10% to 89, it looks prettier on the paper that they should all start with the same digit and my final exam is worth 15% of the whole mark so I should finish with a merit all round. That'll do nicely; it's been a tough two years.

I arrived back in time to use the printer to print out lots of stuff before it broke and was sent away to be repaired. It has been replaced with one that only prints doubled sided by manually turning the paper, I am getting my steps in daily!

I worked through Food Parcels part one, Firewood part one, Freedom Climb end of year report, wrote a proposal for disability camp, mission camp, and summer outreach program resources and worked on some end of year stuff. Firewood part one was a lot of work acquiring invoices or other evidence that 800 people had received firewood or briquettes or support towards heating bills.



APRIL

The Dutch organisation paid us a visit and we went out to see a Rehabilitation Centre, a Day Centre and an Elderly Centre, after coming alongside a church **distributing food parcels** and other useful items to Ukrainians. I am still immensely irritated that this war is ongoing, and refugees remain in such a long-term state of neither-here-nor-there-ness. The Dutch brought their auditor with them, and it was interesting to watch him go about his tasks, with some of my own participation, in the light of the fact that I had just received an exam result in this area.

It snowed, then the following week there were two days of 29 degrees. We had a day of prayer and fasting **in the park**. Then it returned to acceptable April levels before swinging abruptly into May weather and I wrote on my list to find my summer clothing.

You may be aware that I have been experiencing some frustrations recently, this month I prayed and fasted from sugar, primarily to gain a level of understanding about what I should be doing next. I had been held back from making a decision as it would be wiser, I'm sure you all agree, to move from A to B, and I couldn't get my head round what I wanted for B, in order to leave A. I reached the conclusion that I will need to leave A for a waiting room and trust God to provide the next stage when the time is right. I therefore inform you that I will be leaving OM in Moldova end October 2024, ideally resting and healing in a waiting room until January. I have been working on understanding what it means to leave well and putting it into practice. I have already successfully handed over petty cash and my three handover manuals are at 80% completion.



Projects: Firewood, Food parcels and Food for elderly people. No introduction or conclusion required!

"Our family is very grateful to OM for their help. For us, the products obtained from OM are a very valuable gift from God!!! Now, my family is going through a difficult period, I am undergoing treatment at an oncological institute, as I am struggling with an illness. I have a small son who doesn't understand that his mother is sick and doesn't have enough money for food. Therefore, for us, this is a big gift from OM. Thank you very much for your work, for your care and help for people!!! Pray for me as I am sinful, but God gives, with his help, I overcome the disease. May God give you health and His blessing. We thank God for you. Thank you, C"

"I am in my fifties, I have been divorced for 14 years, because I spent eight years in prison. In prison I became ill and now I have problems with my back, and it is very difficult to walk, so I can't work. Since I don't have money, I can't pay for a disability certificate. Now I live with my younger brother P. He came back from prison two years ago and he's still sick, he can walk, but he still can't work. We live off what our neighbours give us and with what social assistance offers us. I want to say a big thank you to the pastor, who included us on the list of beneficiaries. Thanks to the sponsors for this help of wood for the fire. It is a help at the right time. We saw that the Lord Jesus still loves us, even though we were bad people. Thank you for helping us and showing us that God loves us. V"

"Hello! I am in my thirties. Words are not enough to express how grateful I am for the firewood that warms us in this cold season. I am a single mother of two teenage boys. It is very difficult for me financially because my salary in Moldova is not enough to cover all our needs. This cold season I was faced with a difficult choice between necessities. I decided that I would save wood so that I could make food for us. I rarely made a fire in the house and as a result, the boys became ill from the cold. Then I had to save on food but heat the house. The firewood I received is the answer to my prayers. We were out of wood and didn't know how to get through this cold season. I don't even have relatives in Moldova to turn to for help. Thank you for the wood, God bless you. With love O"

A is in her seventies. She devoted all her working life to the factory where only deaf-mutes were employed. The salary she received from the factory was not enough, so she also sold plastic packages at the market. She was widowed before she was forty years old, and raised and educated her son by herself. He grew up and made friends who influenced him negatively; he recently got out of prison and has been very unwell. Now he is not able to work even though he is in his forties, and it seemed that life is impossibly hard. A was invited to a church program and learned about the project for deaf-mute people. Since then, she has found meaning in life. Every morning she waits for the service to begin. At home she shares the good news about Jesus with her son and he wants to come to the meeting too. A is happier because her son listens to her, she has gained faith and changes are happening in the family. For a long time, she was looking for a place where she could find such joy as here. Now A has a second family, and she is thankful to God that he had mercy on her. "I feel **genuine warmth in the church**, thanks to the ministers. I feel like someone cares for me. I was often hungry, but now I am full, the food is very tasty. I thank God who supports me." She tells us.

MAY

I whipped through Food Parcels part two, and Firewood part two which was considerably smaller in size, and no invoiceless transfers were made. There was a Girls' Conference, so I dealt with that report and then raced through the Elderly Centre and Day Centre reports.

The Challenge into Mission report hasn't taken too much of my time as there were only six participants. We have spent far too much time on end of year!

I finally managed to get to a disability camp - I found it difficult to say goodbye to my involvement in this ministry.

FUTURE PLANS

There isn't much to write here since it's open like a window in a storm. I am managing the trauma with the aid of strawberry **cheesecake!**

At the end of June, I return to the UK to sit my final exam, which I review in 30-degree temperatures. At last! Then we're going to the USA for three weeks.

I will be lurking about in the UK, for the August rain rather than the Moldovan heatwave, before I return to Moldova for two months in Autumn to hand over my role/s to the new girl, who I wish the best of luck.

Please keep Moldova in your prayers, Bev x