



## Continuing on...!

Manda & Josh Pidgeon

### Family Time...

Having now moved in with my (Manda's) Mum, it's somewhat of a relief to not have to juggle two addresses. We have all our belongings in one place and are continuing to work through our boxes as we sort, scan, cull and organise what remains.

We are so thankful for all who have helped us through this transition period, including helping us clean and move from our old place. We are grateful to have had very understanding and accommodating landlords over the past four years and praise God for His provision for all our needs.

This time of transition has already also been such a blessing, allowing us to spend some extended time with family, and Isla is especially loving spending much time with Nan, and chasing her big cousins around when possible.

As we continue to wait for the green light to leave, we have made every effort to celebrate our birthdays, our 4th anniversary and Easter, and have also made the decision, now just a few weeks out, to stay for Josh's brother Sam's wedding to his fiancé Monika.

Josh is continuing to work part time and I'm doing what I can to ensure the RWN continues to move forwards. Whilst we pack and make plans for the coming

weeks and months, we continue to engage in partnership raising and work towards being ready to move as soon as we reach 100% of our ongoing monthly support.

### 22% to go...

All of that said, and as we continue to receive the same question over and over... "When do you leave?"... our answer is slowly getting closer to saying "we have a date to leave". Our ongoing monthly support now stands at 78%, and we are so encouraged by those who have come alongside us and told us they want to partner with us in prayer, encouragement, practical support, and financially.

We've also been asked in practical terms what our financial needs look like. To give a bigger picture, our ongoing monthly budget includes the need to raise our living costs, flights and Home Assignment costs, ministry costs such as petrol for travel and accommodation and running programmes, costs for both participating in and running conferences, various medical and travel insurances, car expenses, superannuation, visa, International Teams support costs, and other legal costs. All of these things included, we still need to raise a bit over \$1,300 per month to get us on that plane.

We couldn't do this journey alone, and we are so grateful to those who support us behind the scenes to help make all of

### Please Pray...

» **Pray** for our family, that we won't grow weary during this somewhat stressful and tiring time of preparation and moving, and for good health, energy and rest.

» **Praise** God for some extended time spent with family and friends whilst we're still in Australia, and **Pray** for Isla as she grows in leaps and bounds, that she will know Jesus' love for her. She is a little chatter-box and a social butterfly!

» **Praise** God for His provision so far, and please **pray** that He will raise up our necessary financial shortfall to allow us to move to Romania as soon as possible.

» **Pray** that we can continue to develop the RWN whilst we wait to get to Romania, and that we can make the most of our remaining time in Sydney.



Bringing the hope of Jesus to the Roma people in Romania

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this journey possible. We are especially grateful to several people who have offered their expertise as we get our wills, taxes and other affairs in order, and pray that we will be able to ensure everything is in a viable state to help us leave well when the time comes.

### Jury Duty...

From Josh: "Jury duty is now over. Having passed through the initial screening, the cases weren't ready to start, so all the jury personnel were sent home, having fulfilled our obligations. So, no time was taken beyond the first day, and I won't be called up again for at least 12 months. Praise God that jury duty hasn't taken up valuable packing and preparation time. This was especially significant just before we moved house.

### Less is more...

Having now moved out of the house, we are now continuing the seemingly mammoth task of further reducing our belongings. The less we have, the less that the shipping will cost. Depending on our housing after we've settled in, we may be limited in space to an apartment. In light of these two considerations, we don't want to have kept any excess possessions that aren't necessary, so each item needs to be assessed to decide whether to keep it or offload it. This has been true for furniture, clothes, everyday items, paperwork, and even digital storage. This filtering process takes a lot of time and headspace. In many ways, our plan of leaving in late March would have seen this filtering to be quite rushed, and even more draining. So we continue to wait on the Lord's timing to leave, and in the meantime, we are continuing to prepare as best as we can."

### Sharing the Vision...

We are excited to have the opportunity to share with those at Bowral Baptist Church this Sunday (28th April). We are grateful for a continued relationship and the blessing of sharing with them throughout our journey over the years and have always found encouragement from our brothers and sister there. Please pray that this time will likewise be a time of mutual encouragement and that God might use this opportunity to raise up more people to come alongside us in this ministry as we step forward in faith.

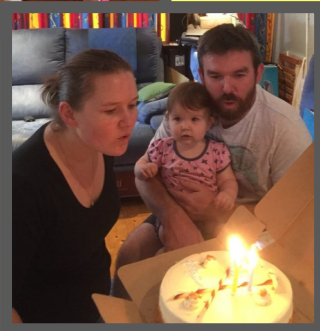
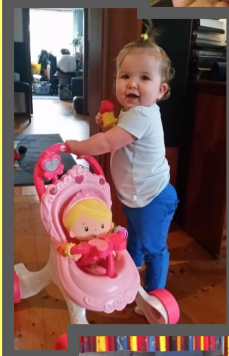
We would appreciate any further contacts you might be able to share with us regarding churches or small groups or even if you would like to have a conversation over a cuppa with us. We love being able to share the vision God has given us for the Roma people and all that God is doing in Romania among the workers, but of course we long to get there as soon as we can and covet your prayers for this to be possible soon.

### Once we get there...

Recapping from our previous newsletter as we continue to move forwards with our plans, we are also planning about what will happen once we arrive in Romania. There are the obvious personal needs like getting visas, accounts and accommodation sorted once we arrive, and Josh will start with learning culture and some intensive language lessons. There is a possibility for Josh to maybe do some applied maths teaching at a local school, but hopefully he will be able to get some Engineering work in the long run. And, we will continue furthering our current connections with existing RWN workers, and visiting new workers that we've been put in contact with but haven't had the chance to meet. We will also continue working on the new RWN website and trying to get that fully established and encouraging workers to engage with it further, as well as working on the next conference for 2020.

God really is growing the ministry to reach the over twelve million Roma across the world, and opening doors in the process, to grow the Roma-Workers Network across Romania. We have the ability to draw on a wealth of knowledge and resources from around the globe, so that whether workers have been serving in Romania for 30 years, or 30 days, together we can go from strength to strength, and be part of the global footprint to bring the hope of Jesus to this marginalised people group.

In His hands, Manda & Josh, and Isla



Photos: Moving out of our old place; Isla is loving walking! Josh & Manda's birthday.

## Upcoming Events

Speaking @  
Bowral Baptist Church  
10am, 28th April!

Hoping to leave  
for Romania  
as soon as possible!