



Connections!

Manda (& Josh) Pidgeon

It's been a beautiful sunny spring day and I am thankful to have enjoyed the opportunity to do some gardening, cleaning and Roma work. The joy in these menial tasks simply reminds me yet again, that I have a safe place to live and call home, and the privilege of serving the Lord in my work, whichever country I'm in.

Several of the workers from the Roma-Workers Network (RWN) have been serving on the front line during the recent Refugee crisis in Europe; not to mention our ITeams workers whose main ministry is to walk alongside Refugees in Austria, Athens and other places. It is an ongoing dilemma that no one has a real solution to, but yet affects so many.

One of my co-workers in Croatia wrote: "As the line was filing down the hill, I walked over to the man. "Don't worry, it will be okay," I said softly... I did not have time to convey what I meant by that... My response felt woefully simplistic for the complexity of the questions and situation. But at the moment, it was all I could do."- Melody.

Often God gives us the opportunity to provide hope for the lost and needy, but much of the time we are limited to prayer and perhaps basic solutions. As another worker, Mark, wrote: "lots of refugees coming over the border. The temperatures in the high 30s and we're buying water as fast as we can but will have to stop soon as we will all run out of money!! And we are the only ones giving out water to 2000 refugees." Please pray

for these workers, that they would be bold and have wisdom to reach out with Christ's hope and love to those who don't have a place to call home or even access to clean water.

Those who are part of the RWN come from all over the world and the group is growing. A few weeks ago Josh and I were on a Scripture Union 'Boys Ag Camp' at Cumnock, in rural NSW. We had the opportunity to share Christ's love with 17 High School Boys from around the state, as they experienced different aspects of farm life over the week, such as pulling down and installing fences, marking and weighing cattle and lambs, welding, and plenty of other fun.

I loved being able to work alongside two wonderful women, Claire (who I went to SMBC with) and Bonny, as we joyfully cooked for 38 boys and leaders, from 6am to 10pm each day. It was certainly an exhausting 8 days, with cold nights spent sleeping in tents and plenty of challenges, but we're certainly thankful that there were no hospital visits and that the Good News was imparted in those young lives. Praise God!

Boys Ag was the last place I expected to gain a new Roma-Worker, however, on the second last day, Glenn, SU's NSW coordinator, told me about a couple who have recently moved to Bucharest with Scripture Union, to work with Roma... small world! And that's just one example of how the RWN continues to grow.

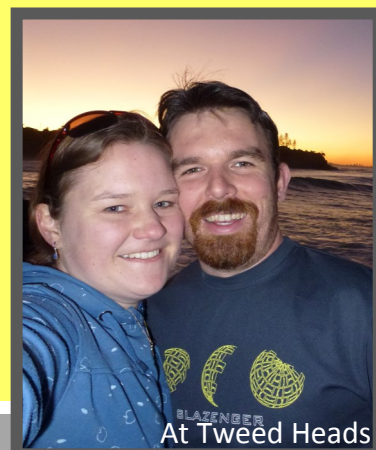
I am so excited and somewhat overwhelmed by just how quickly the

Please Pray...

» **Praise** God for His leading as we navigate the steady growth of the RWN. **Pray** that He will provide the right connections and speakers for May's RWN conference and that we won't be overwhelmed by all that needs to be done. We are still in need of a location to hold the conference.

» **Praise** the Lord that we can spend time with family and friends and **Pray** that Josh and I will know how to balance work, uni, leisure and rest.

» **Pray** that the Lord will continue to raise up more financial partners for my ministry roles, to enable us to not only live but also cover ongoing ministry costs as they arise, such as May's conference.



Sharing the love of God in Romania & Australia

E: bubbalewy@hotmail.com | W: manda.pidgeon@iteams.org | Skype: [mandaphome](#)

network is now growing. I am now collaborating with the Romania committee that was formed after last years European Rroma Conference, to put together May's RWN Romania conference. It is amazing watching God bring about the contacts and conversations, as we begin to work out the program and details.

Furthermore, I've been told that there will also be an International Rroma conference in Bekes, Hungary in September 2016, which I've been asked to attend. At this stage I am praying about whether or not to go, as the extra trip is not in my budget, and it would probably cost about \$3200 for me to fly over and attend, but my prayer is that God would open this door if He wants me to go.

There is much to give thanks to God for and my only prayer is that I can keep up with the number of Skype calls and other communication tools in my limited two days per week Rroma role. I was so excited to see the workers list tip over 50 people/teams who have now joined and I would ask you to pray that God will continue to grow the numbers, but also the depth, resources and strength of the RWN.

I am so thankful to report that God has made a way for one day's (7.5hrs) worth of my Member-Care Coordinators role to be covered financially, at least until the end of this year. Please pray that God will make it clear as to whether this can continue into next year or if He has other plans. I know God is our provider in every sense of the word, and am thankful that he has also increased my support by \$150 per month, but my prayer is that He will continue to help Josh and I to trust and walk faithfully with Him, regardless of our circumstances.

A particular project that has been initiated, is for workers within the RWN, to help raise funds for May's conference. The current dream is to see 100 people attend our first conference/retreat. The obstacle, is that there are indigenous Rroma workers who are unable to attend unless they receive financial assistance. Two weeks ago I sent out the first RWN prayer newsletter to our workers and various network supporters, which you can read for yourself and even subscribe to at <http://eepurl.com/bBIIdOj>. It will cost each worker about €100 to attend the conference. If you can help even one worker come, please go to www.iteams.org.au/give/give-once/ and click on the 'Rroma-Workers Network' project.

In addition to my daily office tasks, these past few months I have also enjoyed representing ITeams at the ReachOut Missions conference, helping at our Annual RIDE for Refugees event, for which we raised over \$90,000 for Refugee ministries around the world, finalising paperwork and sending Michele to start her ministry in Rwanda, and supporting Kim who's returned from a twelve month Internship in Cambodia, as she spoke to students at SMBC.

It's also been great to spend time with our family and friends in recent months, as Josh and I travelled up north via Coffs Harbour, Brisbane, the Gold Coast and Murwillumbah. It was great having Kez come and stay with Josh and I for a few days and especially fun to spend a day at Taronga Zoo with her. It was also a great thrill for Josh and I to take our nephew Haydn to complete the 'Wild Ropes' challenge at the zoo for his belated birthday present, and we're looking forward to sharing in our niece Emily's 1st birthday and naming celebration in a few weeks.

Two events coming up on **Sat 31st Oct**, which I invite you to join me at, include our ITeams Prayer Breakfast, from 8am-9:30am at Carlingford Baptist Church- rsvp at iteams.org.au, and secondly, a GLO Expo day at Riverstone Community Church, from 9:30am-4pm, which will include a speaker from Romania, amongst others.

Of course, for Josh, the end of year means exams- 4 to be exact, and all within 6 days. It has been a challenging semester, balancing uni, work and life in general, and he'd appreciate your prayers for the next 3 weeks of lectures and following 2 weeks until his last exam is finished on 21st November. You can also pray that God will provide Josh with a paid internship, as he needs to complete an equivalent of at least 12 weeks experience before the end of his degree. Pray also that I will support him as best I can.

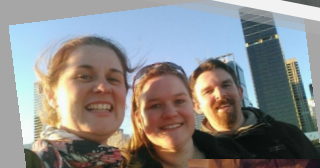
Thank you again, for standing with us in prayer, love and for those who give financially. It is your support that keeps this ministry going, even from Australia (though we look forward to the day when we can head (back) to Romania.)

In His hands, Manda (& Josh) Pidgeon.

Our New Place



Brissy with Kez



ReachOut



Boys Ag Camp



Our new veggie patch



UPCOMING EVENTS

*ITeams Prayer Breakfast
(all welcome) - 31st October
Rsvp at www.iteams.org.au*

*GLO Expo (all welcome)
31st October, 9:30am-4pm*

*SRT Family Weekend Away
13th-15th November*

*Josh exams:
16th, 17th, 20th, 21st Nov*