

# Hands of Hope Summer 2011



## Visitors

Leaving in April with a trailer load of building materials and aid it was great to have Jackie Easton driving out with us. Jackie was a tremendous help and encouragement and has written a report of her time here. Please contact us if you would like a copy.

## House Build at Cobila.

James Vickers and our son David drove out with the building materials and Amy and 3 of their Living Hope Community church home group flew. It was a very busy week, with at least a 12 hour working day, starting on site at 7am, and temperatures topping 30C on some days. Thank you to Onchan Rotary club for helping to make the house panels and also to the team from Living Hope Church who packed aid to be brought out along with the panels and other building materials. The house is now almost finished and a new family will move in next month.



## Cobila Families and Land

The families at Cobila have been working on the land and crops are coming on well. The weather was at its hottest when the fields needed weeding and the ladies would often start at 5am. Thankfully we have also had periods of rain and we hope and pray there will be a good harvest for the families to share. The hay barn is almost full and should provide enough fodder for the cow and goats through the winter.

**New Well.** It took a few weeks to get a team on site, and then they turned up late one evening and worked through the night (bar a few hours' sleep in the hay barn). Chris and I took it in turns to keep an eye on things along with the guy who works for us. It was a long night but with a good outcome and this well will provide water for homes and the future amenity centre.



---

Contact us at [info@handsofhope.org.im](mailto:info@handsofhope.org.im)  
Tel Chris and Ruth 01626 818082  
James and Selina 01624 852358



### **Fire fighters Protective Clothing**

In July Carl Hunt from Humberside Fire and Rescue Service drove to Romania with his son Steve bringing with them 500 sets of fire fighters protective clothing. We spent a few days with them in Botosani as the suits were distributed (by Col. Radu Anton chief of the Botosani county fire service) to volunteer fire fighters operating in the villages.



**House Renovation Dumeni**, for a family of 9 living in one room, block built but with broken windows, door, no insulation and an old soba (stove). We have started work and are fitting new windows doors and soba and insulating the outside walls

**House Build Dumeni** for a family of 9 living in a 2 room house but with only one room partly waterproof. When we first saw this house earlier in the year we knew we had to act fast as the house would not survive another winter. Repairs had been done to the roof, but the mud brick walls underneath were collapsing, the control box for the electrics, literally hanging off the back wall. Work started in July to build a new home in front of the existing one. We have some funds already donated towards this work and at the moment are proceeding in faith so as to finish the new home before the winter.



For many people here life is getting harder as unemployment rises, and food, fuel prices are on a par with UK and social allowances and the availability of aid have decreased. Some families only have 17p per day per person to live on. Many struggle to afford the basics of life such as food and still cannot afford to pay for fuel, school costs or healthcare.

Over a year ago many people in the town and surrounding villages lost homes in the floods. Some new homes have been built by local authorities and other charities. But most remain unfinished and families are still in temporary homes. Some of the new homes we have seen have been poorly finished with little insulation and families are being expected to fund a lot of the work themselves. For others rents and now much higher than before, also homes are further from town which gives added expense.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the work of Hands of Hope Please contact us if you would like more information about the work or would like to arrange for us to come and talk to your group.

---

**Donations** towards the work are always needed and welcome, cheques can be sent to "Hands of Hope", c/o J&S Vickers, Willow Lane, The Eairy, Isle of Man IM4 3HP or via the Pay Pal link on our web site [www.handsofhope.org.im](http://www.handsofhope.org.im)