

Alan Heavey in Cluj Napoca : 2009

LUIS PALAU 
NEXT GENERATION ALLIANCE



On the 6th May, NGA associate evangelist Alan Heavey travelled with Luis Palau mission director John Grant, to Cluj Napoca (the fourth largest city in Romania, and Romania's fastest growing city.) to undertake an Evangelistic Affinity Event outreach with a number of churches from the city.

Every event was done in the beautiful brand new five star Sun Garden Hotel, set in a nature reserve just outside of the city, and owned by a Christian, Nicu Capusan who attends one of the local churches. Nicu very generously made a major contribution towards the costs, making the outreach affordable, and rendering it imminently attractive to



the many guests who attended one of the ten meal events.....a huge vote of thanks is extended to him, and a reminder to pray for the completion of this huge project, much of which is still in progress.

Prior to the first event, a final Action Group meeting was held in the **Filadelfia Pentecostal Church** (the eleventh of seventeen Pentecostal churches in the city)this church's history was an inspiration to the outreach which is a huge faith venture at this troubled economic time, Alan having been out of work for four months, and during the course of travelling, hearing that his wife (who has a business doctorate), had been made redundant. Ghita Staniste from this church, shared with Alan and John how when he was living in the house next door to the church, he had a vision that the discotheque that was located where the church is now, would become a churchand the Lord made it happen.



Thursday 07 May



The first event , a breakfast for **Pensioners** was somewhat diminished from its projected attendance, but nevertheless saw seventy two people grace the elegant restaurant of the hotel, and enjoy the ambience over breakfast hosted by Mission General Co-ordinator Iosif Malutan. Like all the events to follow, the Cluj Committee hadn't quite achieved the targeted ratio of three guests to one believer, and the ratio was close to one to one, making it of course less of an outreach, but possibly within the constraints of the current economic situation; of the Lord. Joyfully 50% of these responded to Alan's message and ticked the box to say they had prayed a prayer with him to give their lives to Jesus Christ.



Later in the day great excitement broke out as the **Ladies** kept arriving for their supper at 17:00. Tables and chairs had to be brought in from the swimming pool terrace so as to seat 201 people into a restaurant designed for 130. As would be expected from the "fairer sex ", the programme was well organised.

Alan was amazingly well received, and more importantly, so was his message; resulting in forty ladies committing their lives to Christ.



Overflow into hotel lobby

An amusing statement was made by our interpreter, Nora Faragau, that trying to keep pace with Alan was making her dizzy! But she did a good job, as did Stefan Seuleanu, the Police event co-ordinator; a breath of fresh air and amazingly enthusiastic during the planning stages - this zeal manifested itself in the outcome of the **Police and Military Dinner**.

Attending this dinner were very influential people in many differing and strategic strata of Police and military life - important people, but Alan



preached the simple gospel which impacted the lives of at least fourteen of them - there were only fifty seven persons present, and it was estimated that probably around thirty were unbelievers (it was wisely pointed out to us again, that most Romanian people are "believers" in that they nearly all believe in God, but many do not have a relationship with him, only with the church). Throughout the events it was a joy to see so many Orthodox church attendees coming to the events to hear about how to have a living relationship with God,

Stefan handed out books written by Josh McDowell in Romanian to everyone, and invitations were given as a 'Next Step' to join the Christian Police Association 'get togethers' which Stefan runs.



Friday 08 May

What a lovely sight it was to see - many **disabled people** disembarking from their buses and spilling out into the lovely gardens of this hotel, frequenting as many did, the "Roman" Square, in the lovely sunshine, before arriving at the restaurant. The Mission General Co-ordinator, Iosif Malutan runs a centre for disabled people and has a wonderful rapport with them, leading to opportunities of witnessing and spiritual impact.



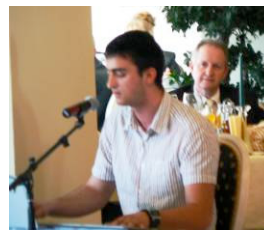
This was a really receptive audience, and Alan followed a testimony of a young man confined to a wheel chair for the rest of his life. Alan prayed that God would heal him - let's see what He does.



There was an amazing 65% response from this affinity group, which included as well an English lady from Essex by the name of Jenny Gooding, who works with Misiunea Crestina Luca - she had brought two young ladies with whom she works in an association that cares for unwed, single girls.



The **students event** was well run by Campus Crusade people, with an outstanding testimony from Adi Tanase. Music was good and appropriate, and Alan spoke well, but students are students, and the response rate was not high - yet we rejoice in one sinner that repents, so 10 would mean a ten-fold rejoicing.



One of the most organised people on the Action Group, Doctor Adrian Danciu who was the co-ordinator and MC for the **Medical event**, was nowhere to be seen as

the time for starting the dinner approached, but the organising executive took the initiative and again had to organise the importing of chairs to accommodate the excess number of people over and above the anticipated attendance. Adrian eventually arrived having been at the bedside of his niece who had collapsed into a diabetic coma - he was visibly upset by this as well as the fact that the person he had planned to bring with him was a specialist who had to remain attending his niece. Alan suggested we pray for her - the great news is that a few days later she came out of the coma and is recuperating - praise the Lord!



Saturday 09 May



Director, John Grant said about the next event "this is the very best **teachers event** I have ever had the joy of directing !" MC Viileca introduced the event declaring that, "this is a moment of history" - a time where your life could be transformed from finite to infinite. She read the most impressive meditation about Jesus; a declaration of his greatness in simple to understand language that left everybody there in no doubt who Jesus was in all his glorious immensity and power.....a perfect preparation for any evangelist, and Alan capitalised on it. Adding to this atmosphere was the beautiful singing of Ligia Ratiu, a very polished performer, but on the level that secular people would really listen to - this spiritual team had a great impact on the normally sceptical teachers, and almost half of them ticked the response box that declared, "I have prayed a prayer of repentance and given my life to Jesus!"

The Roman Square was the venue for the **teenagers event**, and the weather was kind to the band outside, the testimony and the preacher, although it was very hard work for Alan having to make eye contact with people spread over a distance of about 50 - 60 yards, in the open air, but the Lord is full of wonderful surprises and we saw 25 of these young people respond.



As many **Couples Events** are, so this one was no exception - more people arrived than was expected, and once again the Sun Garden staff rushed down to the pool, and slotted in chairs and tables where they initially were adamant that there was

no more room over and above the 120 / 130 seats - what a joy, and what a joy to see the staff listening to the gospel three times a day, hopefully we will hear stories of conversions that were not expressed as ticks in boxes on little white cards.

What a great and fruitful time this was - we must always do the Couples event; it's a great way to bring a mission to a climax, and we thank the Lord for all those believers who brought their friends along with them - let's pray they will stay with them in discipleship and spiritual growth. MC Adrian Tanase did a wonderful job leading this meeting. When the cards were analysed, it was clear that the Spirit of God spoke into many peoples lives and there were thirty three positive decisions, almost 40% of the invited guests.





Sunday 10 May

This day broke as quite the most beautiful piece of God's handiwork, and in this lovely valley, Alan and John strongly felt the presence of God - Alan had been preaching the day before about "being still and knowing the

presence of God", and the feeling that the **Business event** would be its usual tough self, and the two church services would just fit us in to their programme as a polite gesture, was swept away by the beauty of God's creation around us.

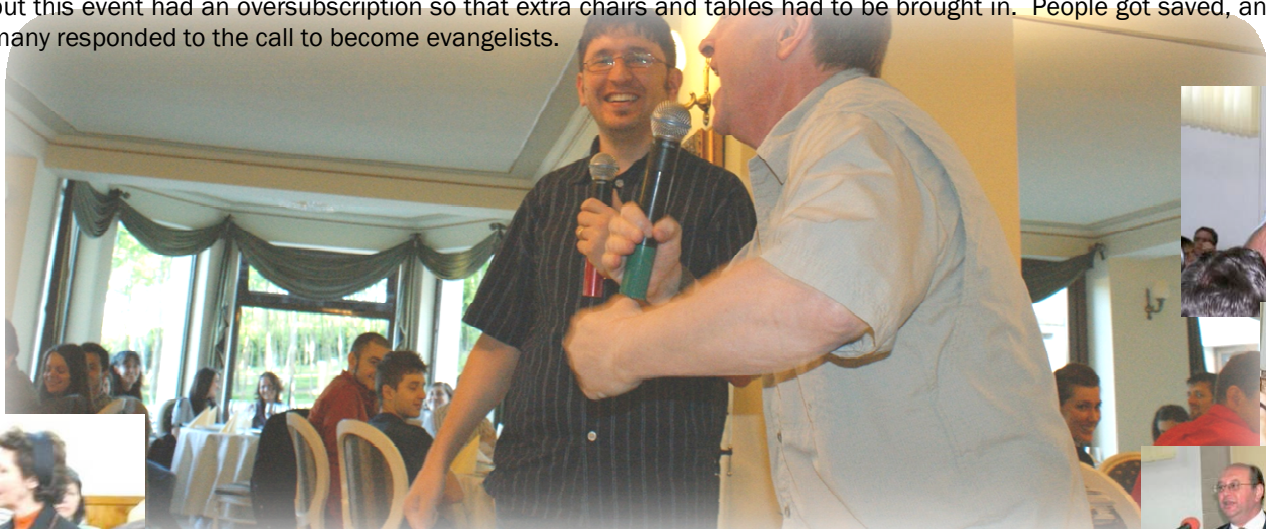
Business people arrived en masse for this Sunday lunch, none of them anxious in any way to leave, so the event had quite a relaxed feel to it. We met a recent friend from Zalau; pastor Costel Joldes for whose lovely progressive church young NGA Associate Evangelist Andrew Patterson did a Youth event. Costel has been involved in business for a long time and is making money out of the bad economic times we are living in..... a subject that would have been very close to the hearts of most all the people present. Interestingly enough, in his testimony he picked up the same theme that Alan was talking about, of giving God time in your life, of slowing down to find peace and rest for the soul. The guests enjoyed some excellent tenor music, and in all it was a good meeting - the amazing thing about it was the extraordinary 42% response.

Scrambling to do the financial sums was a bit disastrous because even though the figures for the events were agreed, the hotel costs were included twice, and the treasurer used the excess to pay some of the heavy extra over financial commitment the Action Group have made - they are an absolute shining example of faith, as they allowed us to pay just 70% of the budget that we had worked with, leaving themselves about a shade under 50% of the costs to pay

We were whisked away from the Sun Garden Hotel to travel to the **5th Pentecostal Church**, where Pastor Elijah gave the pulpit to Alan as soon as he arrived - Alan lead by the Spirit and his message roused the church folks greatly, four of them praying a prayer of repentance, and hosts of people indicating they felt the calling of God upon them to be involved in Evangelism - twas a lovely service, but we had to leave to take part in a second service, held in the **Fourth Baptist Church**, Betania where Alan had done the pre-mission motivational rally.



The service in this church was brilliant, following the suggested order of service by presenting a very good PowerPoint rehearsal of the mission, and having four testimonies of Co-ordinators who relayed amazing accounts of how the Lord had brought the guests in when it appeared as if the invitation process was not working.....particularly encouraging was the account of the Medical event guests, where it seemed just a week before that there would be less than fifty people going, but this event had an oversubscription so that extra chairs and tables had to be brought in. People got saved, and many, many responded to the call to become evangelists.



Conclusion

To conclude, we give thanks, praise and glory to our great God for what he did and will continue to do after this remarkable Mission to Cluj Napoca. We give thanks too, for a remarkable bonding together of the team from the UK and Romania to accomplish his purposes,

A special vote of thanks needs to be given to Iosif Malutan and his executive team, not forgetting the great work of translation and interpretation done by Adriana Mocan without whom this outreach would not have been possible.

To statistically recap:

- 1222 people attended the events - 1430 were projected, so a 85% figure was excellent, but included in this figure was a very high percentage of Christians - more than 40%
- 645 non believers were guests at the events
- 243 of these indicated on the response forms that they had given their lives to Christ
- In addition, nearly thirty people raised their hands in churches as a sign they had asked Christ into their lives - the total number of decisions is therefore 273
- 245 wanted more information
- 513 said they would like to attend a "similar" event or 'next step' following the first step of accepting Christ - the response cards printed out should have had just "Next Step" on them, so this is not a particularly useful statistic, but we will see....
- During the pre-mission visit, 8 people rededicated their lives to God and another 4 people had indicated God had physically healed them. One lady came to Alan on the last Sunday evening and told him that God had healed her injured arm after he had prayed for her – she then shared this with the church. We must not forget to thank God as well for lifting Doctor Adrian's niece out of the coma.



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