

The Helving Hand MAKE IT A MILLION!



The Luxury Of Hot Water

Although we hadn't asked for money for ourselves, many readers sent us cheques and asked for the money to be used where we thought it was most needed, and so the money-raising aspect of the Appeal began.

When Harrison had visited the School for the Blind in Cluj, he discovered that the hot water boiler had broken down two years previously and was beyond repair. There was no money in the budget for a new one.

The decision was easy. Imagine having to wash in freezing showers, particularly in the depths of a Romanian winter! The work went ahead. A new boiler was installed, the broken tiling and rusty pipework in the shower room were replaced, the floor was damp-proofed and shower curtains were added for privacy.







Sally Wood-Lamont turned out to be a wonderful asset. She's one of those people who has boundless energy and relentless determination. As well as her day job, running the University Medical Library and giving lectures, she organised everything for the arrival of the shoeboxes and their distribution to those in need, she hosted Harrison when he visited to see the shoeboxes being handed out, she liaised with institutions who needed help from the Fund and organised workmen to carry out the jobs. She sent pictures and updates of the work being carried out. She also managed to open Romania's first sports club for disabled people. We were as pleased as punch when Sally was awarded an MBE by the Queen in 2002 for services to young people and the disabled in Romania.

Down To Work

again have to make that heart-breaking decision.

The projects in Romania started to roll in. We decided very early on that we would target institutions and organisations where the management and staff were caring and dedicated and where our donation could be used to best effect. We had met Dr Carmen Culchiti at the Muscular Dystrophy Clinic during the shoebox distribution and had been really impressed by her dedication to her patients. So we donated an artificial feeding pump, a blood gas analyser and other diagnostic equipment, and sent Dr Culchiti on a three-month training course. As a result, the scope of the clinic was widened and renamed the Malnutrition Clinic and began treating children with a wider range of conditions that cause malnourishment. In the first six months alone, the lives of 12 babies were saved, but Dr Culchiti admitted it was hard deciding which babies would receive the help and which wouldn't. The donation of a second pump went straight to the top of our shopping list, so that Dr Culchiti would never

Meanwhile Sally Wood-Lamont had opened the Lamont Centre, a club for disabled people offering sports facilities and opportunities to learn computer skills, English and life skills. We donated computers and were able to help with expenses such as their internet costs and transport to and from the club.

