

# HAROM GALAMB (THREE DOVES) NEWSLETTER

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Autumn/Advent time 2021

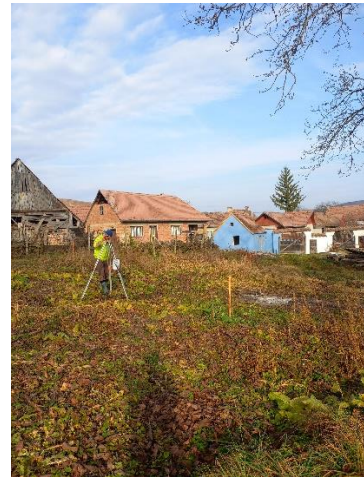
There are already two candles shining on our Advent wreath. Autumn has closed its door and sent our garden to sleep. There have been many frosty days already and even a thin layer of snow dusted our land like icing on a chocolate cake.

**Harvest:** We've been graced this year with a wonderful harvest as although there were not as many apples as last year, our plum trees were very generous to us with branches so heavy with fruit that they were about to break (we have been picking them for weeks!), and our walnut tree branches so heavy with walnuts that we filled a few sacks with walnuts. In addition, our first vegetable beds gave us beans, peas, courgettes, lots of tomatoes and potatoes and our larger herb garden yielded three different kind of mint, melissa, sage, tarragon and chives.





**Building:** Since the summer, despite taking a little longer than hoped for, the refurbishment of our little house is steadily progressing, and we are looking forward to moving in soon. We would like to express our gratitude to the Csiga Biga Foundation who took on the funding of this refurbishment and offer a special thank you to all who have contributed free of charge with their expertise to the advancing of the work: to Balázs István, for overseeing the process and doing a considerable part of the refurbishment of the wooden ceiling, windows and door of the old house, to Putz László and Putz Tamás for the plumbing and to Gubacsi Gábor for the surveying for the new house.



Just before it got too muddy to work with the soil, a digger, tractor and bulldozer arrived to prepare the ground for our future workshop building and soon our green hill turned into a muddy terrace - however we have beautiful architectural drawings to take our imagination beyond the present sight! We are very grateful to Kinga and Zsolt Varday and their team for all the many hours of considered research into the special needs of our client group, for the good listening to our needs and for their outstanding ability to shape this into a beautiful plan. At the moment we are preparing to launch a fundraising appeal for this

new building that will host our Day Centre which will provide space for two workshops and a therapy room, all to the requirements needed to become a licensed social service.



## **PILOT PROJECT PROVIDING MEANINGFUL WORK IN AN INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY SETTING**

**Pilot Project:** In September, our 'Pilot Project providing meaningful work in an intentional community setting' began. The Project benefits from a €49,937 grant from the Active Citizen Fund Romania. Already since the Project began three months ago, we have seen both a lot of positive results and learnt many lessons. Our three staff members are busy 'grounding' the Project with the aim of laying a strong foundation for the Day Centre in order that the Project can become a fully licensed social service that is sustainable in the Romanian social and economic circumstances and has the potential to grow. Having the support of the Active Citizen Fund is a tremendous strength at this pilot stage of our initiative. As part of the agreement with the Fund we must provide €6,110 co-financing from our own resources, and are very glad to share that this was kindly offered by the KVKA (Community of Entrepreneurs from Keresztur Foundation) and the Combridge S.R.L. These contributions from local businesses are a very valuable foundation in our story, as the engagement of businesspeople with such social issues and initiatives that want to make a difference in this field is a fundamental step towards the improvement of the social sector in Romania. Therefore, our special thanks to all of you involved in this.

Project implemented by Harom Galamb Association in partnership with the Clever Hands Foundation and with the Youth Association from Transylvania, with the financial support of the Active Citizens Fund Romania, programme funded by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Grants 2014-2021. The content of this material does not necessarily reflect the official position of the EEA and Norway Grants 2014-2021; for more information visit [www.eeagrants.org](http://www.eeagrants.org).

For more information about our pilot project please visit <https://www.haromgalamb.com/projects-6>.

"Working together for a **green**, **competitive** and **inclusive** Europe."

**Young adults with special needs:** While we currently have four young adults attending our activities, we continue to build connections with other families and move towards widening the group of young people who can join our programme. It is a privilege to watch them find a lot of joy in baking, weaving and working together as they learn new skills, develop in confidence, build positive human connections and simply be busy with meaningful and therefore satisfying activities. They bring so much light and joy and give us the strength and enthusiasm to do all the background work to continue developing our Centre.



**Volunteers:** We continue to receive very valuable support from our volunteers. We sadly just said goodbye to Audrey, who came from France and spent over seven months helping our young adults, working in the garden from the Spring sun through the hot Summer and rainy Autumn, helping to bake many trays of goodies, doing crafts and making the best teas and coffees for our break times. She built a very good relationship with the young people; they trusted her and appreciated her support. Sol from Spain continues to come once a week to play her guitar, beat her drum, let her beautiful singing voice fill the room and with all this make us play, dance and relax... Timi from Hungary is just growing into all these roles and has already shown good understanding for the work we need at Harom Galamb. Occasionally we also had bigger groups, who come through the Youth Association from Transylvania and the Agricultural Association from Cristuru-Secuiesc, to help in the garden or do crafts for the Advent Market.



**Advent crafts:** As Advent time has started, we invited the parents of our young adults to do some craft activities with us and prepare goods for sale at the Christmas Fair in Cristuru-Secuiesc. They were given the space to enjoy being creative, while our staff and the volunteers kept their children busy with activities. The day preceding this, we were busy with the young adults cooking and baking so they could treat their parents to a tasty meal the next day. It was a special experience to have the roles exchanged: the 'children' looking after their parents. This occasion was funded by the Bethlen Gabor Alap.





Since the craft day was so enjoyable, we decided to repeat it the following week! On these occasions we make wax wraps, baby Jesus in a nutshell, felted soaps and Christmas cards. We also had one day when a group of volunteers joined us and made more felted soaps for the Christmas Fair. This was a good opportunity to meet some of the new volunteers who have arrived at the Youth Association from Transylvania in Cristuru-Secuiesc.



and now, as the year is coming to an end and the lights of Christmas are getting stronger by the day, we would like to express our gratitude to all those many people who came towards us with helping hands, making our cause grow, get stronger and giving us the confirmation that what we are doing is important, needed and blessed. Thank you everyone!

If you would like to support our growing project, you can do so on the account below or contact

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For more information, please visit our website [www.haromgalamb.com](http://www.haromgalamb.com)

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