

# Operation Reachout - Romania

You may like to use the following websites for further information:

Google Images typing in map of Europe, map of Romania, Romanian Flag

<http://www.euro-kids.org/scotland/pages/romania/martisor.htm>

<http://www.globalvolunteers.org/1main/romania/romaniaculture.htm>

<http://www.britishcouncil.it/students/rome/EasterRomania.htm>

<http://www.gbic.org/Country%20Info/Romania.htm>

<http://www.romaniatourism.com/crafts.html>

<http://www.estcomp.ro/~cfg/home.html>

<http://www.fooddownunder.com/>

<http://hometown.aol.com/simonagscu/>

[http://www.imbromania.ro/romanian\\_holidays%20etc..htm](http://www.imbromania.ro/romanian_holidays%20etc..htm)

# 1. The Romanian Flag

- A blue-yellow-red vertical tricolour.
- Adopted 27 Dec 1989.
- The blue (hoist), is cobalt, the yellow (in the middle) is chrome and the red (fly) is vermillion.

# 2. Countries in the European Fellowship

England and Wales, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Romania

# 3. Map of Romania

There are Girls' Brigade companies in Ploiesti, Cotofenesti, Slobozia and Bucuresti known to us as Bucharest.

# 4. History of GB Romania

- The 1<sup>st</sup> company formed was Ploiesti Baptist Church in 1991
- Then came Cotofenesti Baptist Company
- Ploiesti Evangelical Company
- Slobozia Evangelical Company
- Bucuresti Evangelical Company
- Each company is part of the life of a Christian Church.

## 5. Facts about Romania

- **Population:** 23 million people
- **Capital:** Bucharest 2 million people
- **Land area:** 237 500 sq. km
- **Language:** Romanian (officially)
- **Currency:** Lei
- **Climate:** average temperature is 11C on coast and 2C in the mountains
- **Local Time:** 2 hours ahead of GMT
- **Government:** Republic
- **Religions:** Mainly Christian with a few Muslims
- **Major industries:** Agriculture manufacturing and mining
- **President:** Ion Iliescu
- **Geography:** Lies on the black sea and shares borders with Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Ukraine and Moldova

## 6. Food

- Traditional food in Romania consists of grilled pork, pork liver, grilled chicken, tripe soup and potatoes.
- Mamagliga, a hard or soft cornmeal mush that can be boiled, baked or fried is served as a main dish in many homes.
- The other mainstay of the Romanian diet is ciorba (soup).
- Typical desserts include placinta (turnovers), clarite (crepes) and saraille (almond cake soaked in syrup).
- We will be cooking some Romanian food this weekend.

# 7. GB in Romania

- Membership: Total of 139 members
- Units: Explorers Under 8 Years  
Juniors 8 – 10 Years  
Seniors 11 – 13 Years  
Brigaders 14 – 18 Years  
This is based on the age you turn on the 15<sup>th</sup> Sept
- Uniform: The girls can wear anything that is navy and white with the Girls' Brigade badge on it.
- Junior officers wear navy hats with gold braid trim
- Commissioned officers wear navy hats
- Meetings: During the cold Winter months Companies meet twice a month on Saturday mornings.
- In the Summer meetings are held weekly.
- All meetings begin with a time of prayer when leaders and girls freely participate
- The Program: This covers the four aspects of Spiritual, Physical, Educational and Service
- Girls are often taken out to the hills for physical activities
- English Language is included as an Educational subject
- National President: Marta Carcioiu Captain of Ploiesti Baptist Company
- Leadership: Christian leaders are appointed by the Church
- Chaplain, Captain, Lieutenants, Junior officers (16+) Adult Helpers

# 8. What's Cooking?

## Romanian Noodle Latkes

### Ingredients

- 1 8oz pkt fine egg noodles
- 1 Tablespoon butter or margarine
- 2 eggs lightly beaten
- 1 small apple peeled and finely diced
- ½ Cup of golden raisins plumped in apple juice
- Oil for frying
- ½ Cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

### Method

1. Cook noodles according to pkt directions and drain well
2. Transfer to large bowl add butter and mix well
3. Cool slightly
4. Blend in eggs, salt, apple and raisins.
5. Heat 1cm of oil in pan on med. heat.
6. Drop Tablespoons of mixture into hot oil, flattening each to form a thin latke.
7. Fry on both sides until golden brown and crisp
8. Do not turn until first side is golden and top is set.
9. Drain on paper towels
10. Combine sugar and cinnamon in a shallow bowl
11. Dip latkes in sugar mixture on both sides.

# **Jeleu De Ciocolata Chocolate Jello Pudding**

## **Ingredients**

300g chocolate

10 Tablespoons warm milk

½ Litre Sour Cream

150g Confectioner's sugar

Vanilla

8 envelopes gelatine

Oil

## **Method**

1. Beat the sugar with the sour cream.
2. Dissolve gelatine in some hot water.
3. Put the warmed milk, vanilla and chocolate in a pot to melt the chocolate.
4. When the chocolate is melted pour everything over the beaten sugar and sour cream mixture and mix well.
5. Add the dissolved gelatine.
6. Grease a mould with oil, fill it with the mixture and refrigerate.

# 9. Games

## Game 1. Jocul portocalelor Oranges Game

1. The players are numbered from 1 up.
2. The leader begins the game by calling any number. They will say, for example: "I need seven oranges".
3. The child whose number is called must answer at once with another number, e.g. "Why seven and not ten?"
4. To which player no. 10 must reply immediately with another number: "Why ten and not two?" And so on.
5. Those who fail to answer immediately or call a number, which is out of the game, are eliminated.
6. The game continues until one player is left.
7. To help the children, the numbers given to the players are written on cardboard at the beginning of the game and they are crossed out one by one, when the respective player is eliminated.

## Game 2. Oile si lupul Sheep and Wolf

1. All players but two are at one end of the ground. They are "sheep".
2. The "Shepherd" is at the other end, and in between is the "wolf".
3. The shepherd calls out "Sheep, sheep come home!"
4. The sheep answer desperately "No, no, we are afraid".
5. "Who are you afraid of?"
6. "The great big wolf."
7. "There is no wolf," says the shepherd.
8. "Sheep, sheep, come home."
9. While the sheep try to reach home, out jumps the wolf.
10. The sheep that is caught becomes the wolf.
11. Then the shepherd goes to the other end of the ground and the dialogue is repeated.

### **Game 3. The Doggie and the Kitten**

1. You need two balls, a big one and a small one.
2. The children sit in a circle.
3. Two children that kneel down, face to face on opposite points of the circle have one of the balls.
4. The purpose of the game is that the big ball -the doggie- reaches the small one - the kitten.
5. At a signal, the balls begin to be moved away inside of the circle, in front of the children the same way and as fast as possible.
6. The player that has the two balls meeting by his side is eliminated from the game.
7. The game continues until five children are left, and they are declared winners.

### **Game 4. Who fills Faster?**

1. The children are divided in to teams, every team stands in a row.
2. In front of every row there is a teacup and a bucket, both empty. At ten meters from every row there is a bucket full of water.
3. At the signal of the game leader, the children start the game.
4. They have to carry water with the teacup and fill the bucket at the front of their row.
5. Every participant takes the empty teacup, runs the ten meters, fills the teacup, brings it back, pours the water into the bucket then gives the empty teacup to the next participant.
6. The team that fills the bucket first is the winning team.

# 10. Crafts

## Martisors

These wonderful gifts are made to celebrate Martisor, an important day in the Romanian calendar. Each year, on the first day of March, people wish each other health and happiness and exchange a little charm or decoration tied up with red and white woollen threads; these, they can wear on their clothes, or on their wrist. Boys and girls, who like each other, also exchange these charms.

There are many tales surrounding the origin of this lovely custom, which dates back many, many centuries. One such tale involved a brave prince and a beautiful princess. The red is meant to represent the blood shed by the brave young man and is a sign of strength and life. The white represents the purity of the princess and is symbolized by the snowdrop, the first flower to appear in spring.

# Painted Eggs

- The ancient tradition of egg dyeing is still used by people of Europe and Asia, especially at Easter.
- As opposed to other European countries, where the custom vanished, in Romania it flourished, reaching the tops of art by the technique, materials, significance of the motives and the perfection of achievement.
- The belief that eggs represent a source of life led to the relation of eggs to the revival of nature and Easter.
- Romanians traditionally painted Easter eggs red and they decorated them ornately.
- Over time, other colours were used and this custom was transformed into an art form and expert skill.
- Today, real and wooden eggs are painted with intricate designs, or decorated all over with various coloured beads, and are available throughout the year.
- Romanian folklore presents several Christian legends that explain why the eggs are painted in red on Easter and why they became the symbol of the celebration of Christ's Resurrection.
- The most wide-spread legend tells us about Mary, who came to mourn her crucified son, laid the basket with eggs near the cross and they reddened because of the blood that was flowing from Jesus' wounds. The Lord, seeing that the eggs reddened, said to those who were there: "From now on, you too shall paint the eggs in red to remember my crucifixion, as I did today."
- Prior to decorating eggs, they are washed with warm water and vinegar, boiled slowly not to break their shell, and covered with a thin bed of bee wax. Then the eggs are decorated using special tools

## • Materials

- hen egg (traditional)
- vegetal colours
- bee wax

## • Tools

- goose feather
- "chisita" (special tool, made of a thin metal pipe, with very small diameter; a pig hair is pulled through it) is used for "writing" the motive.
- "brush" (a tool that is used for covering the larger spaces - thick lines, points etc.)

## • (Vegetal) Colours

- Obtain from sweet apple peel, sweet apple leaves and flowers, hip rose peel, etc.

# Questionnaire

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

What is the name of the Fellowship?

\_\_\_\_\_

When was the first Company formed in Romania?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why do Romanians paint their eggs red?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Which Company cannot be found on the map of Romania?

\_\_\_\_\_

Our Currency is the dollar what is the currency of Romania?

\_\_\_\_\_

Who is the National President?

\_\_\_\_\_

Name one main meal and one dessert that is eaten in Romania

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What kind of uniform do the girls wear?

\_\_\_\_\_

What do you do with a Martisor?

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What is the official language spoken?

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How many companies are there in Romania?

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Who is the President of Romania?

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What are the units in Romania and how old are you in each?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

How many hours ahead of GMT is Romania?

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When do Companies meet?

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What is a Martisor?

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Mark the Countries in the fellowship on your map.

Which type of leader title is different to companies in NSW?

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List the countries that make up the fellowship. Put a circle around the one we are learning about.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

What ancient tradition has flourished in Romania?

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If you were a Romanian girl which of the 4 games we have played would be your favourite?

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Don't forget to help with making our flag by gluing some coloured paper to it

I have made a Martisor      Yes No

I have painted an egg      Yes No

I have cooked Latkes      Yes No

I have played

Oranges game      Yes No

Sheep and Wolf      Yes No

The Doggie and the Kitten      Yes No

Who fills faster?      Yes No