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Dear Friends,

TT – Travelling Together' (28)

October 2011

What a wonderful late summer holiday God gave us in Lovas in Hungary! Although it was late in the season, the lake was still warm enough to bathe in. We went out for little walks and we even went to a classical concert on the wonderful Tihany Peninsula. At the end of the holiday we were invited by our friends to go on the city tour 'Budapest by Night'. All in all we were fully occupied but it was also a relaxing time!

Less than 24 hours after our return...

...Hans–Georg was back on the road, this time to **Croatia and Serbia** via **Villach**. Ursula, who originally wanted to look for a place of service in Serbia, couldn't come on the trip for personal reasons. Instead his **colleague Erich**, a member of the **BEG Foreign Missions Team** who is from Carinthia, spontaneously said he was willing to come on the journey – much to Hans–Georg's relief! Instead of concentrating on Ursula's work placement, our meetings and discussions were focused on the **Christmas Present Scheme 'Hope and Joy 2012'**. We have provisional plans to give out the parcels through the Christian fellowships in Serbia next year. This year they are going to the Ukraine for the fourth year in a row.

Unbelievable but true!

Whenever we undertake a journey of this nature, there are always small and large obstacles to overcome. This time it started with a flat tyre at the first motorway services in Slovenia and continued with two bags being stolen from the vehicle as we were changing the tyre in the early dawn. The bags contained the most important items (passports, driving licences, laptop, digital camera and two Bibles). We only noticed they were missing after we'd driven off. **What a shock!** Our first thought was that we had no option but to go back to Austria... While we were still on the hard shoulder, we had brought the whole frustrating matter to God in prayer. Then we tried to find our way back to the services, but we couldn't find the right exit. To cap it all, our 'Satnav' stopped working! We drove around the area for an hour and a half, not knowing where we were, and then we suddenly came across the services where we had originally stopped! The manager of the services called the Slovenian Police who quickly came to our assistance. The only document I still had on me was the ID card for the Burgenland Emergency Response Team, which I showed to the official. **And just imagine** – exactly at the time when we were driving along the motorway in complete frustration and without direction, our two bags were handed in at THAT particular police station near the services! If we had got to the police station earlier, the bags may not have been handed in at that point and Erich and I would have reluctantly set off back to Austria. The bags had been slit open and gone through, but besides the digital camera, nothing else had been taken, not even the laptop or the documents! We were totally amazed at God's timing and His safe–keeping, and we spontaneously thanked the LORD for such a wonderful answer to prayer! In the following days we drove via **Zagreb to Sabac, Zajecar, Belgrade, Backi Petrovac and Novi Sad** in Serbia. Very tired, but having met many new people and having been overwhelmed by the famously generous Serbian hospitality we arrived back in our alpine republic at midnight on 29th September.

Margret's results

THANK YOU for your prayers: **no malignant cells** were found and she has made a good recovery from her operation.

Busy days ahead!

We are so glad to have all your prayer support, especially last month when Hans–Georg was only in Austria for a few days. And the LORD gave us strength and joy in all our many tasks.

On the **5th and 6th October we had funerals**. We are so glad that God's Word is stronger than any barrier of hearts!

7th–10th October: We went to Denkendorf and Gerlingen. Hans–Georg was speaking in Denkendorf on 'Developments in World Mission – what are the challenges for us today?' **8th October:** Margret was the speaker at the ladies' breakfast meeting in Denkendorf. **Sun. 10th:** Hans–Georg was preaching in the Lifebase Church in Gerlingen (his home town in S. Germany).

THANK God for much joy in preparation and delivering of the message and for explicit safe–keeping on the long roads!

13th October: as part of the Christian lecture meetings here in Eisenstadt there is an **event with Martin and Elke Kamphuis** which seeks to invite the many New Age–followers to belief in the Lord Jesus Christ. The topic: '**Angels – servants or spirit guides?**' We would like to have many visitors with hearts open to the truth of the Gospel.

15th October: There will be a larger–scale **ladies breakfast meeting in Klosterneuberg** in the north of Vienna.

Together with her friend Thirza, Margret will present the topic 'Keeping in good health, that's the main thing... – or is it?'

21st October: Hans–Georg is going to an important **meeting with his Foreign Missions Team colleagues**. They need wisdom and unity for the discussions and decisions!

Our **evangelistic FORUM house group** is meeting on **6th and 20th October**. We are continuing with the life of the apostle Peter. One faithful participant is Rita, who you have prayed for in the past (breast cancer). **New secondary growths have been found in her lungs** and she has to undergo another course of chemotherapy. She sends you her greetings and would value your prayers! These are the most important matters for prayer and dates on our calendar.

We don't know what further tasks and challenges God will send our way, but we are confident that He will carry us through and we are excited about how He will help us!

We wish you confidence and God's guidance for the month ahead!



This comes with all our love,

Hans-Georg & Margret Hoprich with Annika & Manuel

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