



CHERNOBYL CHILDREN'S PROJECT (UK)
ПОДДЕРЖКА ДЕТЯМ БЕЛАРУСИ



2009
CALENDAR



Eight year old Alessia is an orphan and has spina bifida. In 2007 we brought her to Britain for a major operation at Alder Hey Hospital in Liverpool.

JANUARY

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январь

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	After wonderful treatment at the hospital Alessia was able to enjoy a holiday. She made great friends with Dean, Nathan, Becky and Lewis in Manchester.			1	2	3
				New Years Day Bank Holiday - EW IRL NI S	Bank Holiday - S	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



We have supported Zhuravichi Children's Home for many years and in 2007 we were able to employ extra staff to improve the children's care, with the support of Lloyds TSB Business Development Team.

FEBRUARY

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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Anton is one of the children from Zhuravichi who moved five years ago into our family home in Rogachev, 'Rodni Kut'. He is seen here enjoying a clapping game with a visitor from Rodney House School in Manchester



Inseparable - Ira and her sister Lilia. Ira came to live at Rodni Kut from the Baby Home in Gomel. After an operation in Exeter she had prosthetic legs fitted and is now a very active eight year old. Last year she was re-united with her mum, dad and sister and now lives with her family.

MARCH

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март

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30	31				

ST PATRICK'S DAY
Bank Holiday - IRL NI

Another happy reunion in 2007, when Ira Rozhkova fulfilled her lifelong dream of moving in to live with her family. Born with severe physical disabilities she grew up at Zhuravichi Children's Home. Now her family are able to look after her at home and Ira is over the moon.



Kyril and Tanya became the best of friends while on holiday in Sleaford and Southend. They were part of a group of children with disabilities, from Rogachev and Gomel, who came to Britain with their mums.

APRIL www.chernobyl-children.org.uk **апрель**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 <small>GOOD FRIDAY Bank Holiday - E W IRL NI S</small>	11
12	13 <small>EASTER MONDAY Bank Holiday - E W IRL NI</small>	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <small>Chernobyl nuclear disaster 23rd Anniversary</small>	27	28	29	30		

Anton and his mum Irina enjoyed a holiday in Glossopdale and a week of seaside fresh air on Anglesey. They were part of a group of young children in remission from cancer who were selected by the Minsk based charity 'Children in Trouble'.



Sasha gives a hug to Vika, interpreter for the Endon group. Eight children with learning disabilities from Ulookavye Orphanage, some of whom were very challenging, were given wonderful care by families in the Staffordshire group.

MAY

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май

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	A group of twelve boys from Svetlagorsk orphanage enjoyed a great month at Springfield House School in Knowle, looked after by our Solihull Group. The holiday gives the teenagers a boost before they move on to college.				1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	MAY DAY Bank Holiday - E W IRL NI S					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	SPRING Bank Holiday - E W IRL NI S					



Ilya, Oleg and Vlad were amongst a group of children from poor villages who stayed with Yorkshire families in our Monk Fryston group. Some of the children came from Mogilev Region where there are still many children who have never before had a holiday abroad.

JUNE www.chernobyl-children.org.uk **ИЮНЬ**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 <small>Bank Holiday - IRL</small>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

All the children who spent their summer in Leeds come from the same school in Kalinkovichi. Like all our groups they enjoyed many outings to local attractions and went home with memories to treasure.



Diabetic children staying in Buxton could hardly believe their eyes when they were entertained by Bill and his burly 'Billlettes' performing a thigh-slapping, baton twirling routine for them. They had been expecting some 'typical English folk dancing'!

JULY www.chernobyl-children.org.uk ИЮЛЬ

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Kyryl and Ghenya with their host 'mum' Julie Williams. The boys were part of a group of children in remission from cancer who stayed with our Liverpool group. The group received wonderful support from Sainsbury's in Crosby and the local Nat West and Barclays Banks.</p>			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 <small>Bank Holiday - NI</small>	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Seven year old Albert with Emma Henley, one of over 30 volunteers who travelled to Belarus this summer to help more than 100 children with disabilities enjoy a great holiday.

AUGUST www.chernobyl-children.org.uk **август**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31 <small>Bank Holiday - E W NI</small>	Christina, Sveta and Olya are from Rechitsa Boarding School for children with physical disabilities. They are joined at the Holiday Camp by children from Zhuravichi Orphanage.				1
2 <small>Bank Holiday - S IRL</small>	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29



Katya, Dasha and Sveta meet the White Rabbit at their Farewell party. Our South Manchester group hosted children in remission from cancer with their mums.

SEPTEMBER www.chernobyl-children.org.uk сентябрь

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Lisa, Tanya and Natasha with interpreter Olya, enjoy a walk round Hollingworth Lake after a mask making session. The girls, all in remission from cancer, stayed with our West Pennine Group.</p>		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



Anton and his sister Anya on an outing to Gomel park with the 'Search Club'. A group of physically disabled young adults meet at the Mayflower centre or go on a local outing every weekend.

OCTOBER www.chernobyl-children.org.uk **ОКТАБРЬ**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Children staying with our Mid Essex group were delighted to see their interpreter Ira in the stocks! The children are from Terekhovka, a village near the borders with Russia and Ukraine, where they attend a wonderful after-school centre.				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Bank Holiday - IRL



Anya, Sveta, Greesha and Liena at our Family Home 2000 where Lucy, the dog who turned up on their doorstep three years ago, has become very much part of the family.

NOVEMBER www.chernobyl-children.org.uk **ноябрь**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Bank Holiday - 5

Aliona, a psychologist at the Children's Cancer Hospital in Minsk, with one of her young patients. Aliona and a colleague came on an educational visit to Britain last autumn.



Every Christmas Anya, who lives at Rodni Kut, comes for a holiday with her family in Devon. Nineteen year old Annie looks forward to the visits almost as much as an Anya. Millie is a new addition to the family.

DECEMBER www.chernobyl-children.org.uk декабрь

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
	ST ANDREW'S DAY Bank Holiday - 5					
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
					CHRISTMAS DAY Bank Holiday - E W IRL NI S	
27	28	29	30	31		
	BOXING DAY Bank Holiday - E W IRL NI S					

A group of young mums and interpreter Ira enjoying the New Year party at the High Ash Centre in Longnor, nr Buxton. Their children, in remission from cancer, enjoyed all the magic of Christmas with local families.

The Chernobyl Nuclear Accident

On April 26th 1986 an experiment at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine went disastrously wrong, causing one of its reactors to explode with such force that 190 tons of radioactive rubble were thrown into the air.

Evacuation of those living closest to the plant began the next day and in the first few weeks a radius of ten kilometres around the plant was cleared. At first many people were moved just a few miles further out before it was realised that these villages were just as contaminated, so the evacuation zone was extended to 30 kilometres.

People who had always lived in small wooden houses in the countryside, growing their own food and keeping animals, were taken to live in high rise flats in the cities of Minsk and Kiev.

For three years after the accident it was assumed that everything outside the Chernobyl Zone was safe. People picked mushrooms and berries in the nearby forests and cattle grazed right up to the fence. Then the first map was published showing 'purple zones' of extremely high radioactive contamination, up to 200 miles from Chernobyl.

Evacuations began again. A total of 500,000 people were moved from their homes, but there are still two million people in Belarus alone living on poisoned land.



Chernobyl Children's Project (UK)

The first Chernobyl Children's Project group in Britain was launched in Manchester in January 1995. Other groups soon started to spring up and we now have more than 30 groups around the country. We have hosted more than 3,000 children for recuperative holidays in the UK and organised holidays for hundreds of children in Belarus.

Some of the children we invite to Britain come from the very contaminated parts of the country. There are still many children living in tiny rural villages, sometimes just a few miles from the Chernobyl exclusion zone. These children may not be ill yet, but their future is bleak while they live in such a radioactive environment.

A happy, healthy holiday in the Summer boosts their immune systems and gives them a better chance to resist disease. The greatest continuing damage to the health of these children is from the food they must eat every day, which is grown on radioactive soil. And in the Summer, when it is hot and dusty and forest fires are common, contamination is often spread to new parts of the country. This is the time it is most important to bring children to a clean environment for a holiday.

Children with Cancer

In the wake of the accident thyroid cancer increased by a staggering 100 times in southern Belarus and there have been rises in the incidence of many other cancers, particularly those associated with the digestion of food. About one third of the children we bring to Britain each year are in remission from cancer or leukaemia and the holiday is an important part of their recovery process.

We also respond to emergency requests from the Children's Cancer Hospital for medicines or special catheters needed for children receiving bone marrow transplants. And we send humanitarian aid to 'Children in Trouble' the Minsk based charity which organises holidays and material support for the families of children with cancer.

For those children whose treatment is not successful Hospice care is vital. We work with the Children's Hospice in Minsk and we fund a Home Hospice team in Gomel, enabling children to spend their last weeks free from pain, and to be at home with their families.



Children & Young People with Disabilities

In the Gomel Region there has been an estimated 80% rise in the number of children born with disabilities since the Chernobyl accident. Many children were abandoned by parents who could not cope and ended up in large institutions like Zhuravichi, hidden from public view. Every Summer, with sponsorship from 'Olympus KeyMed' we take more than 100 children from such orphanages to a holiday camp in Belarus.

We created 'Family Home 2000' for four young adults, three of whom had grown up at Zhuravichi and had never had the chance of an education.

Two years later we set up a home for five young children in Rogachev, who came either from Zhuravichi or directly from the Home for Abandoned Babies in Gomel. The children at 'Rodni Kut' have a foster papa and a team of 'aunties' who share their care.

We created access into a special school so that children in wheelchairs would have the chance to attend school instead of being taught at home. And in 2004 we opened the Mayflower Centre, the first overnight respite care centre in Belarus, which supports some 60 families with disabled children.

During 2008, with support from Lloyds TSB Business Team, we have been funding extra staff to improve the care at Zhuravichi, and also at homes for young disabled adults.

We would like to thank all the families who have hosted children and the individuals, churches, schools, groups and businesses who have given us their generous support. Special thanks to our greatest supporters Olympus KeyMed.

TRAINING PROGRAMME

For the last eight years we have been delivering a major training programme in Gomel, co-ordinated by Jean Holt from Skipton and involving around 20 social work and child care professionals. This has helped to get many children moved from orphanages into local foster families and has improved the quality of care within the orphanages. Recent training has included the establishment of a 'Leaving Care' programme which is helping to give young people a better chance of success in life when they move on to independent living, and a programme to help place children with learning difficulties into foster families.

HUMANITARIAN AID PROGRAMME

We have a great team, led by Mike Allison, who gather aid, load the trucks and drive out to Belarus, where we deliver about 16 truck loads a year. We are very grateful to all those involved and to the companies and individuals who so generously donate the aid which is still so much needed by social centres, family associations and institutions in Belarus.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

You could join one of our local groups, help to organise their activities and host children from Belarus in your home. We also need volunteers with relevant experience to help at the summer holiday camp.

You could make a donation or organise a fund raising event

- £50 will fund a day out in Minsk for eight children from the Cancer Hospital
- £100 will provide a two week holiday for a young adult with disabilities
- £200 will purchase medicines for a child at the Cancer Hospital
- £400 will fund a holiday in Britain which will boost a child's immune system

We are very grateful for all donations, large or small. We need your support for funding nurses and carers, providing training programmes and delivering humanitarian aid.

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Please visit our website: www.chernobyl-children.org.uk



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