



March 2010 Newsletter



Vesnitsa storm the UK!

We recently said goodbye to folk ensemble Vesnitsa and circus group Belaya Rus. The group were hosted throughout the tour by Denis Moors at his outdoor centre near Buxton. During the two week visit they performed at a total of 11 venues! They had an amazing trip and audiences were dazzled by their incredible performance skills. We didn't work them all the time though! They went to Alton Towers, Poole's Cavern in Buxton and, of course, Primark in Manchester!

The trip was jointly organised by CCP and Chernobyl Children's Lifeline. It's the first big event that we have collaborated on and we hope there will be more opportunities in the future for working together. The shows were a great success and we want to thank everyone who was involved in making it happen.



Thanks to the Persula Foundation!

We sold raffle tickets for the 'tour draw' at each Vesnitsa show and drew the winning tickets at the final show in Manchester. A very lucky member of the audience won the Toshiba 32" television, which was kindly donated to us by the Persula Foundation. We also received prizes from Xact Document Solutions and Sainsbury's.

The Persula Foundation took some interest in CCP and have since given us a grant for £5000 to enable young people from institutions in Belarus to have a sanatorium holiday this summer. We're very grateful for their help!



Educational visits

Early on in March we hosted three women from three different ministries in Minsk: Zhana Kotik from Social Protection, Chief Paediatrician Elena Nevera and Antanina Zmushko, Head of Special Needs Education. They visited Lancasterian and Rodney House schools in Manchester, the Together Trust, The Seashell Trust and The David Lewis Centre and visited homes for people with learning and physical disabilities in Stockport. We hope they returned to Belarus full of new ideas and keen to work together on improving the lives of disabled children.

The directors of Zhuravichi and Rechitsa children's homes were due to visit in April, but because of the flight ban their trip has been delayed till June.

Elena Nevero (right) visited Martin House Hospice in Yorkshire during her visit. She was deeply impressed by the calm and happy atmosphere at the hospice and it has encouraged her to give maximum support to the spread of hospice care in Belarus. Paediatric Palliative Care Consultant Mike Miller has offered our new palliative care doctor in Gomel a visit to Martin House in the autumn.



Cancer hospital needs Colomycin

In the Children's Cancer Hospital in Minsk there is a desperate need for Colomycin, a drug which combats fungal infections. Many children need this treatment after a bone marrow transplant and the intensive care department is full of children with such infections. At around £2 a vial, it is not an expensive drug, so we will be supplying as much as we can.

Aid news

The March convoy of three vehicles returned safely from Belarus having delivered almost 30 tonnes of aid. Once back work started on loading of our largest trailer with a super selection of aid that will leave on May 3rd. On this load is a selection of toiletries, pampers and activity items specifically for the sanatorium holiday in July. Other receivers will be Vikov, Zhuravichi and Rechista.



New ways to support CCP!

We recently received our order from JuteBag of 500 cotton shoppers and 250 jute bags with our CCP logo on them. They look great and are a bargain at £1.75 or £3.75 (inc p+P). Buy online on our shopping page or email us at ccprojectuk@gmail.com. They're selling fast so get your order in!

Upcoming and Past Events for CCP

May Conference for Chernobyl Charities

We are teaming up again with Chernobyl Children Lifeline to organise a conference for Chernobyl Charities in Solihull on May 15th. It will be attended by the British and Belarussian Ambassadors and the Head of the Humanitarian Affairs department. Guest Speaker will be Dr Ian Fairlie, a specialist on radiation in the environment, who will talk about new findings on Chernobyl health effects. We hope that representatives of many of our groups will attend. Please get in touch with Linda if you would like to know more ccprojectuk@gmail.com

Anniversary fundraiser

Our Craven group will be marking the 24th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster by having a Champagne and Canapes Evening at Brody's Bistro on 26th April 5pm until late. There will be a raffle, quiz and other games. A magician will be in attendance and it is hoped to raise at least £1000 for our Ulookovje project.



Tony Greenwood Big Band

Trevor and Barbara Whitely were a host family for our Glossopdale group for the first time last summer. They enjoyed the experience so much that they have thrown themselves into fund raising. In March they organised a wonderful dance at Ashton Town Hall, with the support of Clive Easteal. Participants enjoyed a great night dancing to the Tony Greenwood Big Band and almost £3,000 was raised to help bring young children in remission from cancer and their mums to Glossop this summer. The venue is already booked for next year's dance!

The Decadent Ball

Newark group coordinator Jan Baxter is hosting a ball to raise money for children with cancer. This year it is on April 24th at Thoresby Riding Court. This is the third ball she has organised for CCP and last year the group raised £12,000 for the hospice project in Gomel. We hope everyone has a great night!