

## April and May News



### Support for CCP

A fabulous event was held at Sotheby's on May 20<sup>th</sup> to raise funds for CCP (UK) and 8 other charities. The ISIS Ladies Charity Dinner and Auction was organised by **SCM Philanthropy** and was attended by over 120 successful business and society women. Amongst the amazing auction prizes were a Meal for 12 prepared by renowned chef Tom Aikens which was bought for £7,000 and an ISIS sculpture by Simon Gudgeon which raised a fantastic £35,000.

SCM Philanthropy's Founder and Chair, **Gina Miller** (pictured right) was able to announce at the end of the evening that over £119,000 had been raised to support the work of the charities.

CCP(UK) has also been given a £10,000 grant by the organisation, which has promised us ongoing support over the next three years, both financial and other resources.. We look forward to their next major fund raising event which will take place in Hyde Park in September.



### Chernobyl Charities Conference

On May 15th a conference was held in Solihull bringing together many of the Chernobyl charities in the UK, and some from Ireland. Chaired by former British Ambassador to Belarus Brian Bennett, it was attended by both the current British Ambassador Rosemary Thomas and the Belarusian Ambassador Alexander Mikhenevich. The morning was spent addressing questions to the head of the Belarusian Department for Humanitarian Affairs, Alexander Kolyada.

Guest speaker was Dr Ian Fairlie, who spoke about new findings which show the serious nature of the ongoing health effects from Chernobyl. Organised jointly by CCP(UK) and Chernobyl Children's Lifeline, the conference gave the opportunity for charities to share ideas and experiences and to begin planning joint activities for the 25th Anniversary of the Chernobyl Disaster in April 2011.

## Holiday Time

We recently were able to organise a sanatorium holiday for residents we support at Duyanovka institution, along with Lena and Greesha from our Klimovka home. This was made possible thanks to a grant from the **Persula Foundation**, specifically given to take young adults on holiday. We're very grateful for their support and are glad that everyone was able to have a lovely holiday.



## Humanitarian Aid News

The last convoy left in early May. After a difficult start to the journey, Ian and Frank made a successful delivery into the town of Rogachev with a 16 tonne load of aid. The receiver was a Belarusian charity called 'Sails over Chernobyl' which supports 100 families and many other institutions and organisations across the region. All recipients of aid are caring for sick or disabled children.



The convoy also took items for this year's Sanatorium holiday; pampers, toys, sun cream, clothes, art materials and everything needed to make sure the kids have a great summer.

Our plans for the next deliveries are on hold as we need to raise funds to continue. People and organisations in the past have been very generous with their donations of cash and time but the work goes on and without the funds future convoys cannot be possible.

## OUR LATEST TRAINING PROGRAMMES

Lindsay May and Hayley Grainger from Scarborough have recently returned from Belarus, where they delivered training to professionals on how to assess and prepare applicants interested in becoming foster carers for children with learning disabilities. Having seen first hand the services provided for children and young adults with disabilities they arrived home with a long list of training needs.

Caroline and Liz Porter just got back from their first visit. They delivered training to children's police and deputy heads of vocational schools on engaging with young people at risk of offending and those who have committed minor offences.

Training may not pull at the heart strings in the way that other projects do but it makes a great difference to the lives of the children of Belarus, particularly the thousands of children living in institutions and other forms of state care. Giving professionals the knowledge and skills to work with children and their families in a positive way has helped to close institutions, establish family based care for children and provide support to families struggling to cope. Our trainers are specialists in their field, give their time free, give up their holidays and those who return can see the positive results.

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR TRAINING TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE OF BELARUS**

## Summer plans

Planning for this year's sanatorium holiday is well underway. We held training days in Birmingham and Manchester for our volunteers. For many of them, it will be their first trip to Belarus and they can't wait to meet the children from Rechitsa and Zhuravichi homes.

Thanks to a donation from Victor Mizzi of Chernobyl Children's Lifeline, we are also able to invite some of the children and mothers who attend the Mayflower respite centre in Gomel.

This year a group of volunteers will stay at Zhuravichi to see those who are not able to come to the Sanatorium, as well as spending time at Vikov home for adults. This way we hope everyone will benefit from the enthusiasm and care that our volunteers bring to the children and young people.

## Fundraising News

The **Endon & Stoke Group** held its annual Charity Dinner and Auction around the 26th April to commemorate the Nuclear Disaster. It was extremely successful as always, with 97 people attending and raising over £5,000.

The group also held; a coffee morning and luncheon raising £470 with Barclays matching the amount, a Barn Dance, a ladies sponsored bike ride of 26.5 miles, a Pimms Party and Quiz raising £400, and on the hottest day of the year, Kevin Waters and Andy Mellor ran the White Peak Marathon to raise £2,000 between them for CCP.

Over the Whit Bank Holiday Weekend, the local Endon members were out again fundraising by holding a 'Spin the Wheel' kiddies stall then a Car Boot sale on Bank Holiday Monday, raising a total of £1000 over the whole weekend. Thank you to the Endon Group for your enthusiasm and effort!

## Suggs' Success

Suggs 'pop icon of the 80s' and lead singer of Madness showed his support for CCP (UK) when he performed live at the Irish Centre in Birmingham on May 20th raising over £3,000 for the charity.

Performing the classics from the 80s 'my girls mad at me', 'one step beyond' and 'baggy trousers', fans were ecstatic as Suggs took part in a Question and Answer session and spent time with his fans.

One fan exclaimed "I've seen him 26 times all over the world and cannot believe he is here in my home town!"



**We need your help** - We are very grateful to all our supporters who continue to fundraise tirelessly for our charity. This year in particular has been extremely difficult in this economic climate to continue fundraising at the same rate. Please consider either donating [online](#) or organising a fundraising event on our behalf. Thank you for your continuing support.