

# CHERNOBYL CHILDREN'S PROJECT (UK)

## ПОДДЕРЖКА ДЕТЯМ БЕЛАРУСИ

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Registered Charity No 1059832 ccprojectuk@gmail.com www.chernobyl-children.org.uk Winter 2010

## Make this a Happy Christmas for a Child in Belarus

When you are struggling to find a suitable present for a friend or relative who seems to have everything they need, please consider buying one of our Christmas Gifts. This will involve giving a card with a photograph and explanation of the gift on which your money will be spent. Your generosity will brighten Christmas and beyond for a child in Belarus.



£25 will provide a big box of crafts for children in an orphanage, giving them many hours of happy activity and pride in what they are able to create



£200 would help to purchase medicine for a child in the cancer hospital. Although treatment is very good in Minsk, there are some desperately needed medicines which are not available in Belarus and we often get an SOS message asking us to help with providing these drugs.

£10 would buy a Christmas present for a child in the hospital or a child in the care of our Hospice team in Gomel, helping to bring a little happiness into his life during the difficult long days of treatment.

£400 would provide a wonderful Christmas Holiday in the Staffordshire

countryside for a child once she is in remission from cancer. There are many young children in the cancer hospital, and once they are well enough to travel they can come with their mums for a holiday which they both need, and experience a traditional British Christmas.



£5 would provide transport to school for a week for a child in a wheelchair who would otherwise have to stay at home.

£100 would fund the salary for a month for a carer for children at Zhuravichi, helping to give more love and support to a severely disabled child.



You can also buy our **Calendar** which is full of smiling faces of children we support and our **Christmas Cards**, a pack of six in two designs which were made by children at the Rogachev Association of Families with Children with Disabilities.



All these gifts can be purchased through our website, where you can also see the latest info about all our projects. [www.chernobyl-children.org.uk](http://www.chernobyl-children.org.uk)

## Summer Holiday 2010

After an anxious few weeks wondering whether UKBA would give us visas for all our children (many charities had visas refused this year for the first time) all our children, teenagers, mums, doctors and interpreters eventually arrived and, as always, had a wonderful time.



Ages ranged from six year olds with their mothers, hosted by Teesdale, Glossop, South Manchester and Evesham, to the 19 year olds invited by our Endon & Stoke group. All these children and teenagers are in remission from cancer and similar children were hosted by West Pennine and Liverpool.

Buxton & Longnor host diabetic children, and we would love to find another group who would invite such children next year. Buxton families, who have years of experience in this, would be happy to advise them!

Gloucester, Rugby, Mid Essex, Monk Fryston and Catterick all invited children from villages in contaminated parts of Belarus, while Solihull hosted teenagers from Svetlagorsk Orphanage. This is the last time they will be able to do this as the orphanage has closed this summer. Some of the children have been returned to their parents or found foster families – partly as a result of our ten year long training programme – and the remaining children will move on to other orphanages.



## Belarusian Holiday Camp



Thirty volunteers from Britain coped with soaring temperatures in Belarus this summer to provide a great holiday for children from Zhuravichi Orphanage and Rechitsa Boarding School. The holiday is the highlight of the year for all the children and it makes a great impression on the volunteers too. One of our youngest volunteers, Lewis Greaves said 'It was the best experience of my life!'

Many of the children from Zhuravichi were not allowed to travel to the camp this summer, but we made sure that they did not miss out by sending volunteers to work at the orphanage, including physiotherapists and others with special skills. They then went



on to Vikov, a home in Rogachev for adults with disabilities, where old and young alike really enjoyed the time the volunteers devoted to them.

Vikov has a new director and the young people were very happy to be able to take part in creating a giant card for her birthday.

The summer activities were followed up in September when Helena Walker, a special needs teacher, went back to Zhuravichi to provide training for the staff working with children in cots and with the most autistic and learning disabled children. Director and staff were very enthusiastic about the training, which helped them to empathise with the children in their care.



## Ministry Reps on Educational Visit

In March the Chief Paediatrician from the Ministry of Health, the Head of Special Needs Education, and the Medical Director for Institutions from Social Protection, came on a visit to the UK. They visited a number of special schools including Lancasterian School in Didsbury, Rodni House in Burnage, and Inscape House and Royal School in Cheadle. They also spent time at the David Lewis Centre in Altrincham and visited a number of residential facilities for disabled children and adults in Stockport. They returned to their ministries with many new ideas, and we followed up their visit with a similar educational experience for the directors of Zhuravichi Orphanage and Rechitsa Boarding School.



## Adam's Neater Eater

Adam is a delightful little boy who lives at Rechitsa Boarding School. He was born with no arms and very short legs. As he has no shoulders it is not possible to give him prosthetic limbs. When KeyMed directors heard about him they were keen to offer their support, and they sponsored a 'Neater Eater' for Adam. This is a

wonderful device, made by a company in Buxton, which enables him to eat unaided. Adam was delighted with this when we took it out to the school in September and was soon quite expert in using it.



## Alex and Liam's Great Walk!

Alex Walker and Liam Kirkwood dedicated two months of their lives to us this summer in a marathon walk from Land's End to John O'Groats. They met lots of wonderful supportive people on the way, and Alex and Liam were great ambassadors for our work, enthusing about it to everyone they met. They arrived exhausted but triumphant in John O'Groats at the end of August, and they raised over £3,000 for us. Alex is already planning a long distance swim for us in the future!



## Thank You Barbara and David!

Barbara Cox has co-ordinated our Buxton and Longnor Group for over 10 years. Every summer Barbara and David have held a fabulous Garden Party, generally raising £5,000 and she has led the group to raise lots more funds to support the diabetic children in Gomel. She has now decided it is time to hand on the co-ordination of the group and we would like to thank them for the wonderful job they have done for so long.

## Retiring Trustees

We also owe a great debt of thanks to Mike Allison and Jean Holt who are both retiring as Trustees after doing a tremendous job for the charity over many years. Jean has led our training programme for ten years and now hands over to Eric Shedlow. Mike will continue to co-ordinate the Aid Programme which has delivered so much quality aid to Belarus over the last fifteen years.





# Anniversary Folk Tour

In April we hosted a wonderful Belarusian Folk Group 'Vesnitsa' and a group of children with amazing circus skills 'Belaya Rus'. On a tour organised jointly with Chernobyl Children Lifeline the children performed for delighted audiences in Evesham, Gloucester, Longnor, Glossop, Manchester, Matlock, Sheffield and Southall Minster.

## CHERNOBYL 25



'Casting a Shadow over Generations to Come'

For the 25th Anniversary of the Chernobyl Disaster we will get together with other charities in the UK and other European countries to raise awareness about the continuing health effects and the need for ongoing support for the children of Belarus. Activities will include a Poetry Competition for school students, fund raising events in schools; church services; exhibitions; theatre performances; 5k runs; 'Chernobyl Challenge' events; and candlelight vigils, in a '25' formation, which will take place in cities across Europe. Have a look at our website to find out more and see how you can get involved. [www.chernobyl-children.org.uk](http://www.chernobyl-children.org.uk)

*Many Congratulations to our groups who have all done such a great job raising funds this year. We are grateful to all those individuals, organisations and companies who continue to give us wonderful support.*

## Christmas Order Form

No	Gift	Price
<input type="checkbox"/>	Calendar (or 3 for £10)	£4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Christmas Cards (6)	£2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Gift for child in hospital	£10
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box of craft materials	£25
<input type="checkbox"/>	Carer for cot children	£100
<input type="checkbox"/>	Meds for cancer hospital	£200
<input type="checkbox"/>	Christmas Holiday	£400

Name.....

Address .....

.....

.....Post code.....

Email.....

I enclose a cheque for £.....

I am a tax payer.  
Please claim Gift Aid on my donation

Please return this form to:

Chernobyl Children's Project (UK)  
Kinder House, Fitzalan Street,  
Glossop, Derbyshire, SK13 7DL

Or Order online

[www.chernobyl-children.org.uk](http://www.chernobyl-children.org.uk)

### Local Contacts:

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#### Buxton & Longnor:

Tracy Ryan - 01298 687272

#### Catterick:

Jason Living - 01677 424202

#### Craven:

Suzanne - 01756 709286

#### Endon & Stoke: John & Julie Gater

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#### Gloucester & Cheltenham:

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#### Glossop:

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#### Lunesdale: Harold and Lynne

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### Totnes:

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**Consultants:** Dr. Marie Owen, Consultant Paediatrician; Peter Marks: Pharmacist

John Costello: Palliative Care Consultant; Dr. Rosemary Newton: Epilepsy Adviser;

Pat Marsh: Respite Care Adviser; Brian Bennett, Diplomatic Consultant

Ian Fairlie: Consultant on Radiation in the Environment

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