

CHERNOBYL CHILDREN'S PROJECT (UK)

ПОДДЕРЖКА ДЕТЯМ БЕЛАРУСИ

Kinder House, Fitzalan Street, Glossop, SK13 7DL

Registered Charity No. 1059832

www.chernobyl-children.org.uk

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Autumn News 2019

The teenagers visiting Solihull this summer spent their second fortnight at Lindsworth School in Birmingham, after enjoying two weeks with their host families. Both experiences are equally valuable and enjoyable.

The girls are seen here during a practice for their final party performance.



Our oldest group of visitors are invited by our Endon & Stoke on Trent group.

These 16 – 18 year olds also divide their holiday between families and staying together at Cicely Haughton School.

They were full of energy and enjoyed all their activities and outings, including a Zumba session.

Our two groups of younger children came together for an afternoon at High Ash Farm, where they met the Salutation Motorcycle Club. One group were staying in Stafford and the other in Glossopdale & New Mills, after spending their first week in Gloucester.



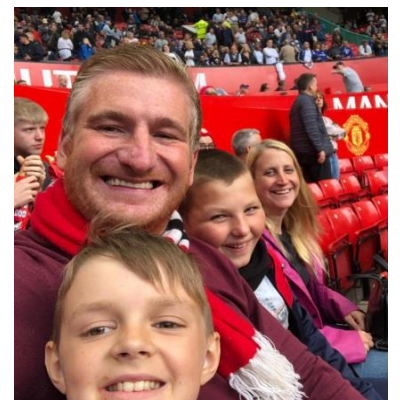
All the children are in remission from cancer. The holiday gives a great boost to their immune systems and, particularly for the teenagers, it can also increase their confidence and make them more hopeful about their future.

The experience is only possible because of the generosity of our host families who give their time and care to make sure the children have a happy time and all the other individuals and businesses who give donations, free activities, dental care and eye checks.

We had some great publicity this summer, in the wake of the Sky/HBO drama about Chernobyl. Solihull kids appeared on BBC West Midlands and Sky News; Glossop & New Mills children featured on BBC Breakfast and Radio Stoke ran a delightful interview with a host family in the Endon & Stoke Group.



*Just a taste of the fun activities
our children enjoyed this summer*



Wonderful Work by Volunteers in Belarus

We had four groups of volunteers flying out to Belarus this summer. Two groups spent a fortnight at Zhuravichi Adult Institution, also making visits to Vikov, near Rogachev, to work with young and elderly residents with learning disabilities.



One group spent time at Rechitsa, a home for children and young adults with disabilities.

The volunteers organised games and crafts and devoted lots of time to those children who were least able to join in with the activities.



They had sponsored a holiday, from Zhuravichi, Vikov, Kapatkevichi and our Family Homes, Rodni Kut and Klimovka.

We are very grateful to the **Persula Foundation** and to all those who helped to sponsor the holiday for these young adults which is so important to them.



The volunteers organised a great range of activities and threw all their energies into making sure all the children and young adults had a memorable time.

If you would like to get involved in volunteering next year have a look at our website or get in touch with lynnecm@live.co.uk



It is a very special time for the residents of these institutions as they receive love and attention from the volunteers that their carers do not have time to give.

Petya (below) cannot speak because of his cerebral palsy but is very bright. He was in stitches because the interpreter was deliberately mispronouncing words in his Russian Dictionary! He is with Lynne Murphy who co-ordinates our volunteer programme.



And two groups went to Ptich Sanatorium to work with children from Rechitsa and young people for whom we





UNICEF Project

Natasha Samoilik, who heads up all our work in Gomel, addressed a seminar last month about the results of the project to support families with children with disabilities which has taken place over the last year in

Gomel, Rechitsa and Rogachev. This was a UNICEF project and has been very successful. Plans are now under way to expand the project over the next four years to more districts in Gomel Region, which Natasha and 'Supporting Children Together' will co-ordinate, and also to other Regions of Belarus.



Amazing Angelina

Nine year old Angelina has almost no eyesight but that did not stop her having a go at everything and enjoying every minute of her holiday in Glossopdale & New Mills this summer. She came with her mum who was able to get some great advice about supporting Angelina from Seashell Trust School and Henshaws Society for the Blind. She is seen here out walking with one of her two wonderful host families and climbing, which she couldn't get enough of!



In Memory We were very sad to hear of the death of **Allan Kirke** in August. Allan and his first wife Pam, daughter Elise & son Alex were a fantastic host family for two children each summer for many years. Their beautiful daughter Elise, aged 23 tragically died from cancer. They continued hosting again until 2013 when Pam died from the same disease. Despite double tragedy, somehow Allan struggled on and he remained hugely involved in Solihull group where he had many friends. He hosted interpreters and doctors, drove the minibus and was the Solihull Group treasurer. Two years ago, during a CCP visit Allan found happiness again with group member Julie and they soon made plans to marry. Last Summer Alan was diagnosed with Bowel cancer and later Liver cancer. They married in September last year and despite the sad circumstances it was the most amazing and joyful wedding.

Local Contacts:

Endon & Stoke on Trent: John & Julie Gater 07816 842322

Glossop & New Mills: Helena Gannon – 07547 191980 **Stafford:** Margie Haslop – 01785 280080

Solihull: Kath Ruane - 0121 705 3707 **Gloucester & Cheltenham:** Helen Marcus – 01452 855890

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Volunteers Co-ordinator: Lynne Murphy lynnecm@live.co.uk (Administers the volunteers Facebook group)

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or Text '**CHERNOBYL5**' to **70085** to give **£5** (you can put in any number up to 20)

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