

CHERNOBYL CHILDREN'S PROJECT (UK)

ПОДДЕРЖКА ДЕТЯМ БЕЛАРУСИ

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Spring Newsletter 2021

Chernobyl Disaster 35th Anniversary

We have worked with Nuclear Free Local Authorities, Greater Manchester CND and Beyond Nuclear International to create an exciting event on Zoom for the eve of the Chernobyl Anniversary.

We will bring together a historian who wrote a brilliantly researched account of the health effects of the disaster; a novelist who explored the impact of Chernobyl on the lives of local people; CCP's own Director who will talk about the humanitarian response; and the wonderful actor Maxine Peake who will read some moving excerpts of personal testimony from some of those most affected. They will all be in conversation with a journalist and anti-nuclear specialist from the US and there will be a chance for the audience to ask questions. Go to our website to find out more and to register on Eventbrite for this free event www.chernobyl-children.org.uk



Living with CHERNOBYL

*Personal stories from the World's
Worst Nuclear Disaster*



Sunday April 25th 5pm

Kate Brown, Author of 'Manual for Survival:
A Chernobyl Guide to the Future'

Darragh McKeon, Author of the novel 'All that is Solid Melts into Air'

Linda Walker, Executive Director of Chernobyl Children's Project (UK)

In Conversation with

Linda Pentz Gunter, International Specialist at 'Beyond Nuclear'

With **Maxine Peake** reading excerpts from **Svetlana Alexievich's** Nobel Prize winning Oral History 'Chernobyl Prayer / Voices from Chernobyl'





New Rotary funded Minibus

In January we took possession of a fantastic new minibus, bought with a grant from Rotary International. Newport Lite Rotary had raised the initial funds; then received support from their District and finally applied for a Global Grant. Many thanks to the Newport Group and especially to Margie Haslop!

Our brand new Renault vehicle will support the Hospice Team in Gomel, the Search Club, Family Home 2000, and many of our others projects.

Natasha Samoilik, head of our partner organisation 'Supporting Children Together' is seen here with members of Minsk Rotary Club, who were partners in the grant application.

Family Home 2000

Covid restrictions are keeping us away from our friends and partners in Belarus but we still get plenty of news about how they are getting on, and Natasha continues to ensure they have all the support they need.

At Family Home 2000 in the village of Klimovka, Larissa and Sasha, our wonderful carers, have been looking after Natasha (on the left) helping her to develop independence skills before moving into her own flat. Greeshia, Liena and Ira will miss her when she goes, but there will then be space to help another young person to develop the skills and confidence they need to live an independent life.



Messages from Vikov and Zhuravichi to Volunteers

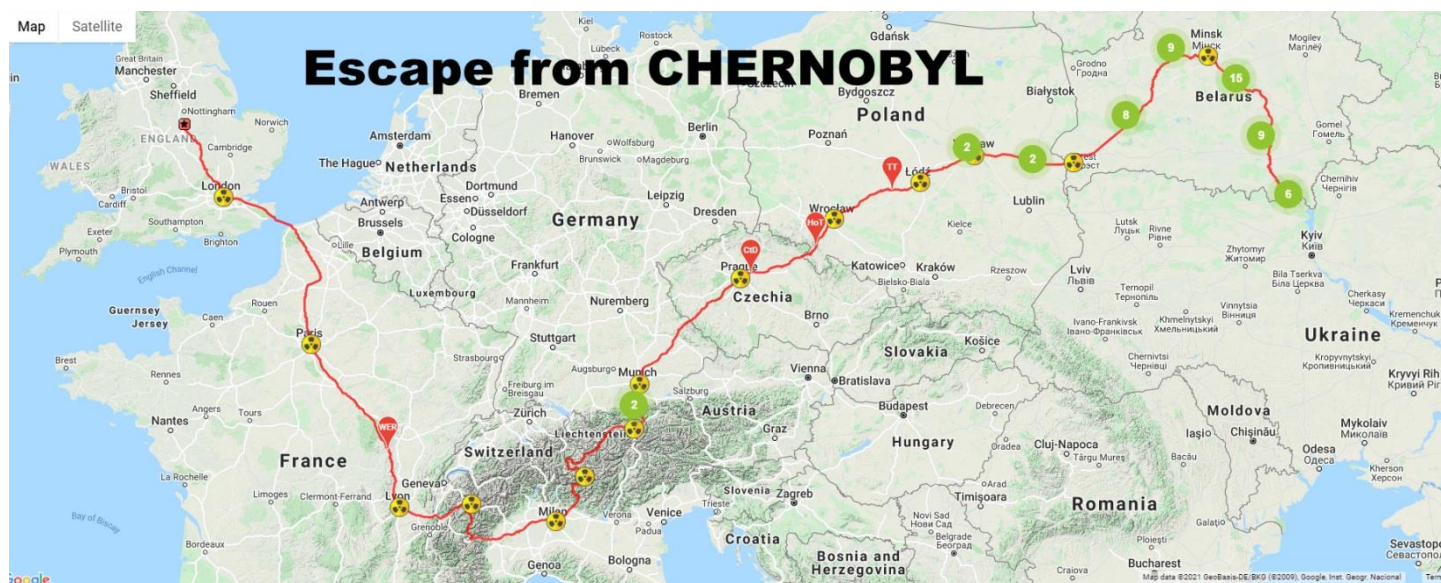


At these homes for adults with learning disabilities or mental health problems, the young people really missed seeing the volunteers last summer and are looking forward to the day when they can visit again. They sent pictures of themselves having fun in the snow, along with their love and best wishes to all the volunteers.



And this picture came with warm wishes from a cold Gomel from Special School No 5 where we hope we will soon be able to resume helping them to develop their work with children with autism.





An amazing event organised for us by Julie Raftery who has done many brilliant fundraisers for us in the past. You can run, walk, or cycle - in your own home or locally, and in a team or on your own - the 2,665 miles back from Chernobyl to home via Belarus, Poland, Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy and France. Read all about it on our website and see if you would like to join. And don't forget to get the T-shirt!

It was due to launch on the Chernobyl Anniversary but Julie had so many people raring to go that some of the teams will be finished by then! 250 people are already taking part, but there is still plenty of time to join. See if some of your friends would like to join you. It is just £10 each to take part, but perhaps you could set up a fundraiser on Facebook or Just Giving. You can find more information and sign up on our website www.chernobyl-children.org.uk



Chernobyl 35 Fund Raising Ideas

Could you.....? Donate £35 Do a Sponsored Run, Walk, or Cycle for 35 miles. Swim 35 lengths of a swimming pool
 Make 35 cupcakes to sell at school Sponsored diet for 35 days Walk 10,000 steps a day for 35 days
 Give up Chocolate or alcohol for 35 days and donate the money you save to CCP
 Wash 35 cars Do 35 dog walks for friends or neighbours for a donation each time
 Invite 35 friends to join you for an online quiz ?



We have had a **Great Summer Snail Race**, (look out for another one this year!); two super **Quizzes** and two fantastic virtual **Balloon Races**. Our next event is a **Sunflower Growing Competition!** Order your pack of seeds from the shop on our website for £5 and watch your sunflowers grow! The winner will be the person who photographs themselves against the tallest Sunflower on August 31st.





Thank You John and Julie!

John and Julie Gater have just retired from our Management Team after over 20 years of being immersed in the charity's planning, decision making and fundraising. John was Chair of Trustees and Julie spent many years as Groups Co-ordinator.

They have also led our most active group, Endon and Stoke, throughout this time and will continue to co-ordinate the group.

Endon & Stoke have hosted a group of 16 - 18 teenagers in remission from cancer every summer. Julie has always organised the young people's stay at Cicely Houghton School except for the one year the whole group stayed in John and Julie's House!

They are seen here in Minsk with some of the young people who had stayed with them in previous years.

In Memory

Sue Carlyon visited Belarus for CCP several times in the late 90s and early 2000's. She was a special needs teacher and specialist in sensory impairment. With her husband Brian, and physio Shirley Rainey, she gave advice and training at Special School No 5 and Zhuravichi Orphanage and helped select the children who would move to live in Rodni Kut. Stas made several summer visits to stay with the Carlyons and they also hosted mums and children and interpreters with the local CCP group.

Sue passed away peacefully with her family around her on March 5th



Visit our website: www.chernobyl-children.org.uk Secure Donations can be made online

We are very grateful to all the individual donors, businesses, trusts and foundations, local authorities, church and peace groups, our own group co-ordinators and host families, trainers and sanatorium volunteers who continue to give so much time, energy and financial support to the children of Belarus and who have been supporting us through the pandemic.

Special Thanks to 'Action for Disability' Trust, Godel Technologies and Persula Foundation for their ongoing generous support and to the Souter Trust for their recent grant for Rodni Kut.

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