



The Link

CHERNOBYL CHILDREN LIFE LINE (SHEFFIELD LINK)

Volume 3, Issue 2

April 2008

The children who came to stay

It's not long now until our second group of children come over from Belarus. Sixteen children and two leaders arrive on 14 July, staying in various homes in Sheffield for a month. All our host families have been identified and vetted, and are in the process of being teamed up with support families. A full programme of activities, including a trip to the dentist and optician, has been planned.

Last year's families have kept in touch with 'their' children and we thought it would be nice to pass on news of some of the them:



Masha, despite not yet being 10, writes in excellent English. She has English lessons after school, and has recently taken up basketball. Whilst in Sheffield she was introduced to Sudoku, and she's still hooked on it. The Belarusian winter wasn't as harsh this year and Masha was disappointed at not being able to ski or skate.



Alesia and her sister are looking forward to using a paddling pool in the summer which was bought with money sent from their host family. Alesia's family has doubled in size as she recently found an abandoned dog at school and persuaded her family to adopt it, and they also have two new piglets. Alesia's family regularly toast her host family's health in vodka!



Anya and her host family are in regular contact, and her host family have arranged for Anya and her father to come over to the UK in June for a week. Anya's father has not been before and he's particularly excited at the prospect of visiting London and seeing Big Ben.

Sheffield Half Marathon

Matt Shaw, Geoff Cousins and Helen Moore are all taking part in this year's Sheffield Half Marathon on Sunday 27 April. Thirteen miles is a long way to run! To keep them motivated, why not sponsor them? Matt's fundraising page is <http://www.justgiving.com/mattshaw100>, and Geoff and Helen's is http://www.justgiving.com/geoff_2008. If you'd rather sponsor them on paper just get in touch with any of the contacts in this newsletter.

Winter visit?

We are already planning our next visit for February 2009 and are looking for both host and support families - if you think you may like to get involved with this visit then please do get in touch for some more information. Contact Louise Shaw on 07908 324459 or by email at: louiseshaw127@yahoo.co.uk

Important information for host and support families

All host families should by now have received the itinerary and a booking form for this year's events by email. Please return the booking form to Louise by the end of May.

Don't forget we have two meetings lined up, both at Beauchief Baptist Church at 7.30pm on:
Monday 12 May
Thursday 10 July
It is essential that new host and support families attend both meetings, and people who have hosted or supported before will find it useful to come along to the date in May and meet the new families. All host

families (new and old!) are expected to attend in July, as we will discuss the final details for the visit in full. Any host or support families from last year who haven't got in touch and are still interested in supporting this year should contact Louise as soon as possible on 07908 324459 or by email at: louiseshaw127@yahoo.co.uk

Host families only - please remember to let Mick Ring have your letters of introduction by 9 May at the latest so we can get them translated and sent to the children as soon as we have their details. If you have any queries please call Mick on 07973 850488.



To help children suffering from the after effects of the Chernobyl disaster and economic situation

CHERNOBYL CHILDREN LIFE LINE (SHEFFIELD LINK)

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Dates for your diary

The Link raises money mainly from events held throughout the year. If you are planning to do some fundraising please let us know so we can help publicise your event through our mailing list and newsletter. We also have official collecting tins and can provide literature for you to distribute.

Here are some opportunities for you to meet us and find out more about the work of the Link:

- Friday 25 April Race Night at Swallownest Social Club, 7.30pm. Children welcome. Contact Elaine Ferguson on 07929 720997 or by email at treasurer.sheffield@ccll.org.uk for more details.
- Saturday 14 June Peace in the Park at the Ponderosa Park near the University roundabout. We are fortunate to be one of the beneficiaries of the festival this year. Further details from <http://www.peaceinthepark.org.uk>
- Saturday 28 June Summer fair at Beauchief Baptist Church, Hutcliffe Wood Road, from 1.00pm.

Did you know...

You can support Chernobyl Children Life Line on a regular basis through direct debit giving. Interested in finding out more? Contact Elaine Ferguson on 07929 720997 or by email at treasurer.sheffield@ccll.org.uk



Mailing list

Know anyone else who may be interested in the work of Chernobyl Children Life Line? We can add them to our mailing list so they receive regular newsletters and updates. Please pass names and addresses, or email addresses, to Helen Moore at secretary.sheffield@ccll.org.uk or on 07958 346783. If you would like your details removing from the list let Helen know too.



Recent fundraising events

THANKS MUST GO TO ALL OUR FUNDRAISERS WHO HAVE WORKED INCREDIBLY HARD AND HELPED TO BOOST OUR FUNDS SINCE JANUARY:

SUPERMARKET COLLECTIONS AT ASDA, TESCO, AND SAINSBURY HAVE BROUGHT IN ALMOST £2000 SINCE CHRISTMAS.

COLLECTIONS ON THE MOOR IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH RAISED OVER £400.

SWALLOWNEST BAPTIST CHURCH RAISED OVER £360 THROUGH COFFEE MORNINGS AND SELLING CRAFTS.

MOTHER OF GOD CHURCH ON ABBEYDALE ROAD COLLECTED OVER £2800 FROM THEIR CRIB SERVICE AND OTHER EVENTS.

WE ARE INDEBTED TO OUR MANY PERSONAL DONORS AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING PONSFORDS, ST GEORGES LIBRARY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD, THE DEVONSHIRE ARMS, DARENTHMJS AND THE PIKE ANGLERS CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN. SPECIAL THANKS TO BETH, GRACE AND DAISY FOR COLLECTING ON OUR BEHALF AND DONATING HARD-EARNED POCKET MONEY!