

HOPE NOW

NEWSLETTER

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November 2011



Dear Partner in Hope,

The overriding message this month seems to be one of THANK YOU! It is one year now since Vic and Sue retired from the work of Hope Now and we can thank God that the work has steadily grown, and we are receiving even more requests for help from hospitals, the Mobile Medical Unit, orphanages, Rescue Centres, families, ex-prisoners, the Church Planting Programme, new students, applications for our pre independence homes, the elderly and widowed, and of course Kompas Park.

This Christmas we are organising a special Christmas meal for many people in Cherkassy. The local churches with whom we work are seeking out local people who need help and we are taking a small team to serve them. Thank you to all those sending in small gifts for handing out at Christmas, and if you would like to use the enclosed envelope you can send a gift to our mission fund which is helping to finance this mission and other projects that have not quite raised the required funds.

I give thanks for all of you who support this ministry by praying, giving and sometimes going. There are times it can feel as if little progress is being made, and the fields are so huge. However a Word given to me whilst on holiday, telling me to look back and see the green shoots beginning to grow, was a great encouragement. Indeed as we look back we can see many areas of growth and changed lives.

The Life Cycle Tour this year was also a big encouragement. Each day the last few miles were so hard, but the thought of why I was doing this at my age spurred me on, along with encouraging shouts of "yama" (big hole) from my fellow

cyclists. The sponsorship money is still coming in and I estimate that with the gift aid we shall be approaching a total figure of £13000.00 raised this year, so another big thank you to all who made this possible.

Later this month the brand new music group "Zozulenka" will be touring churches and schools to bring a little bit of Ukraine to England. Under the tutorship of Natalia they have been practicing for almost a year now, and as you can imagine are very excited with the prospect of touring and seeing something of our country. Do try to come along with your friends to support this event. The dates are;

11th November	7.00pm Walmer BC
13th November	1.30pm All Souls Church, Eastbourne
	7.00pm Tunbridge Wells BC
14th November	7.30pm Carshalton Beeches BC
15th November	7.00pm Dorchester BC
16th November	7.00pm Cornerstone Church, Hythe
17th November	7.00pm St James Parish Church, Shirley
18th November	7.00pm Ashley BC
19th November	6.30pm All Saints Church, Milford on Sea
20th November	6.30pm Lymington BC
21st November	7.30pm St Mary's Church, Ferndown
22nd November	7.30pm Durrington Community Church
23rd November	2.00pm Andover BC
	7.30pm Hereford BC
24th November	7.30pm Tamworth BC
25th November	7.00pm Lincoln BC
26th November	7.00pm Union Church
28th November	7.00pm Spalding BC
29th November	7.30pm St Neots BC
30th November	7.00pm Billericay BC
1st December	7.00pm Letchworth BC

James writes "Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance" This past year we have faced many trials, but God has been faithful to us and we are all very excited as we look forward to another year of service together, thank you.

Jon

Cool Aid to Moshny



Delivery day

Moshny Baptist Church is a small church with 18 members. Every Sunday families with children and older people come, eager to listen to the Word of God. The church is small but active and they all share joys and problems of one another.

Lyuba Kornienko works as a laboratory assistant in a local hospital. Her first husband left her with son Sergei. She desperately wanted to have a happy marriage again and married an ex-prisoner 7 years ago. But her happiness didn't last for long. He left her, but this time with two children. Without the church she couldn't have survived, she was always supported by her brothers and sisters within the church, and Pastor Alexander Mykhailovych Marchenko takes good care of his sheep. He knows the needs of every family. During

the summer Lyuba's refrigerator burned out. It was 32C and so hard to live without a refrigerator. The pastor was searching for an inexpensive one to buy, and he came to us at the Hope Now office in Cherkassy. Of course, we helped, and the whole church is happy that Lyuba has a refrigerator.



Church family

Swindon House News



Inna Petrova has moved on now but remembers with fondness her time at Swindon House under the care of our Childcare Officer Larisa. Inna writes;

"I was taken to Swindon House unexpectedly having studied in internat but not living there. I lived with my grandmother from 2000 to 2008, then there came the time to choose a profession. I had two options, either to become a teacher of elementary education or to become a nurse. Our director of studies learned about my desire to become a nurse and offered me the opportunity to meet some people who wanted to take a girl to study and live in Cherkasy, and I agreed. After I came to Cherkasy everything changed, I started to see the world differently. There were different people with different views and

interests. They were Christians. I started visiting the church every Sunday, and to join a Bible study group every Monday. In two months I repented and became a different person. In a year I made a decision and was baptised, and now I am one with God. So Swindon House helped me to get a new life. While I was there I was involved in the children's Awana ministry, and there I met my future husband. Thanks to Hope Now Now I have God in my heart and a loving husband. I am so glad that there exists such a house for the girls as "Swindon House". It is a great opportunity to learn how to be a good housewife.

I work now at a prestigious regional diagnostic center. When I first came it was difficult, I cried when I had to attempt to get into vein. It seemed to me they didn't love me at work. But now all the patients and doctors wait for me to come. I like my job very much. I am

a nurse and have lots of opportunities to help people in their physical and spiritual needs.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my sponsors, Larisa, all the Hope Now team, and everybody who is involved in Hope Now work for changing my life, thank you."



Inna at work

Thank you for water



Our new well

Some months ago Misha introduced us to this family and with your help God answered their prayers.

"I am so grateful God sent you into our family. There is a long distance between the village of Telepyno and England. But because of God Jon came to see Vladik here. How great are God's love, power and majesty!!! Our family received such a great help from you. Now we have a well made in our yard and we have water. The water is very very tasty. And the neighbours come to take water from us. What a

happiness it is to be a child of God. In the most difficult, sad and painful minutes God is there with us. Praise be to God and to our Lord Jesus Christ.

And thank you dear brothers and sisters. You bring joy, love, and warmth into our hearts and our

homes. And Vladik tells his classmates that he has a big Christian family in Cherkasy and in far away England who supports him and helps him in difficult moments of life. And that is because of our Great and Loving God.

May God bless you with good health, joy, peace and love.

Everything the best to you.
Sincerely Vlad Serdyuk and the family"



Vlad finds another bucket



New floor and radiators

For anyone who has not been to Ukraine it is hard to visualise what village life is like – it is so different from life at home. The majority of people live in poor housing, sometimes without an indoor water supply – just a well in the garden. Most are unemployed, alcohol is often a problem, and people survive by growing their own vegetables and keeping various livestock.

It's against this background that village pastors and churches seek to reach out to their communities with the Gospel, and to bring hope and comfort to people who have very little.

Churches are unable to support their pastors financially; therefore the men also have secular work in order to provide for their families. Some are builders, some drivers or company reps., one assembles furniture, and one installs windows among other things. Many pastors also take orphans into their homes – one alone has 8 such children. Pastors' wives often need to work too, so sometimes a husband will work during the day while the wife works at night, leaving little opportunity for family life.

In spite of these circumstances pastors and their people are really dedicated to sharing the Gospel –

most churches have excellent outreach to children and young people, particularly through summer camps, various games and sporting activities and on special occasions such as Christmas, Easter and Harvest. Many have plans to extend their worship centre in order to accommodate more activities, or to make their premises more inviting by installing heating so that people will attend church in the freezing winters, and the members themselves will provide most of the labour, but this is where CP & E seeks to help by providing some or all of the necessary finance.

These pastors and people who are so enthusiastic are always very grateful for all they receive in the way of help. Let us encourage them by our prayers and giving, in order that the church in Ukraine will continue to grow and reach many more, both young and old, for Jesus Christ.

WANTED



Do you have or know of the whereabouts of an unwanted clarinet? One of our foster children dreams of playing such an instrument but the income of a

pastor cannot run to this. If you can help in any way please contact Jon at the Southampton office. Thank you.



Nice ears!

From the moment I decided to visit Kompas Park back in 2007 I have never looked back. I remember arriving at the airport that very first year with no idea of who I was meeting, what I would be doing or any knowledge about the country I was in. Now when I arrive I feel completely at home! I am able to share with other people what I have experienced and what may lay ahead.

I stepped into Kompas Park and felt God right there with me; none of this would have been possible without Him at the heart of it all. Thankfully while attending college I was able to receive some financial support. After my visit in 2010 I told myself that I had to come to terms with the fact that I may not be able to return next year due to starting a degree course, money would be tight. Little did I know God had it all planned out and I would be returning in 2011, thanks to the

generosity of my home church and the wonderful people who attend.

Having built so many fantastic relationships I was really excited when I found out I would be able to return. During the year I found out that my best friend would not be able to make it but despite this, the week was more important for the children than anyone else, I was there to serve and was still very much looking forward to it. Every year God has shown himself through the leaders and although many of the children do not believe, by the end of the week they are very accepting. Just showing a little bit of ours and Gods love every day makes them feel so appreciated, many of the children do not experience this closeness on a daily basis.

I planned an activity based on the "Sheep" theme which would involve

sewing felt ears and cotton wool balls onto knitted wooly hats in order to turn them into sheep. Not only would this have been very fun I thought it would be a fantastic idea that each child could then keep a hat for the winter. Ukraine is extremely cold. I would like to thank all of those people that made this possible through their kind giving, in money and knitting time!

I have seen Kompas Park grow and improve for the better over the years and look forward to seeing and hearing about the direction that it continues in. I hope that I will again be able to return next year and build upon the relationships started and more. It is a fabulous place and I am truly privileged. Praise Him.

Rebecca Harnett



Becky with one of her flock

Christmas is . . . getting closer!



Plans are well underway for the visit to Cherkassy to bring an English Christmas to the poor and needy people to whom Christmas would otherwise be just another day. Christmas is definitely going to mean something extra special to them this year.

It is exciting how the Lord has brought together a team prepared to

brave the snows of a Ukrainian January, to go to serve and bless these people.

But it can't be done without your help also. There are things we have been asked to take with us if possible, that cannot be bought in Ukraine but which local people there would love - Christmas cake and Christmas puddings, to name just two of them. We would also like to give some gifts as Christmas presents to these people, and are looking for small items to take, such as soaps, flannels, towels, toothbrushes, combs, brushes, socks, hankies - in fact anything thing that is small and light to pack in a suitcase! We would appreciate your help with these things - maybe if you are part of a home group you could share these

needs, we would be very grateful.

We are also looking for a loan of some costumes, such as a Santa suit, and anything else Christmassy, like elves costumes etc - all adds to the fun of the day for them.

Please be praying for this visit, and for those who will be coming, some of whom may hear the Gospel message of Christmas for the very first time.

If you are able to help in any way, we would really appreciate it. Any queries you may have, please contact us at the Southampton Office on 023 8078 0720 or email jon@hopenow.org.uk

Telepyno Blessing



During a visit to one of the villages we heard of the plight of a young pastor who was desperately trying to run a small church and find a home for his family. The village had no money so he worked as a decorator in the week, often travelling many miles and having to stay away from home. Hope Now was able to assist him in buying a small run down

bungalow which he is going to make their home. Denis writes;

"Dear friends,
Our family wants to express gratitude for your great gift of love that you have shown to us. Thanks to your help now we have our own home with good conditions for life. We've been renting homes for 10 years and moved many times but now we have the joy to live in our own home. Your help is the Lord's answer to our prayers for many years. God's majesty was shown in this situation and strengthened our faith. Purchase of the house became a blessing not only for our family but also for the local church. In their thoughts they already

were saying "good-bye" to us knowing we were moving to the town of Smila soon. We were planning to move but the Lord has shown his miracle just a few days before we were to move and our plans have been changed. Praise be to our God for his mercy and his gifts. Thanks be to you, dear brothers and sisters, for being attentive to God's call to help others. May God reward you many times as much and increase his mercy for you.

Thank you very much.
Sincerely with love in Christ

Bychkovskyy family"

		Tuesday 1st	Wednesday 2nd	Thursday 3rd	Friday 4th	Saturday 5th
<p>November 2011</p> <p>Newsletter contacts</p> <p>Editorial: Jon Budgetell</p> <p>jon@hopenow.org.uk www.hopenow.org.uk</p>		For the Christmas mission trip to provide a hearty meal in Cherkassy for many who may otherwise have to do without.	Pray for Vlad Serdyuk and his family as they enjoy fresh water from their own well, and are able to share with other villagers.	For Alla Kostyunina the Director of Kompas Park, who has had another very busy year with over 900 children enjoying the facility.	For Moshny Baptist Church and the practical support the pastor is able to give with the help of Hope Now.	Pray for Jon's mother, Charlotte, as she celebrates her 91st Birthday today.
Sunday 6th	Monday 7th	Tuesday 8th	Wednesday 9th	Thursday 10th	Friday 11th	Saturday 12th
For Denis Bychkovskyy and his family as they settle into their own home and grow the church in Telepyno.	For Misha, our Ukraine Director of Hope Now who has so many responsibilities to balance with being a husband and father.	For Frank and Lin Collier as they plan next year's Kompas Park camps with Alla and Jon and enjoy a few months relaxation after a busy summer.	For Inna Petrova and her husband, also the on-going work of Swindon House overseen by Larisa.	Pray for the safe arrival of the music group Zozulenka as they travel out of Ukraine for the first time today.	For Walmer Baptist Church as they host Zozulenka and for the first concert at 7.00pm this evening. Also for Natalia who celebrates her birthday tomorrow.	Pray for Rebecca and all the other volunteers that have been such a blessing to Kompas Park this year. May each of them have been blessed too.
Sunday 13th	Monday 14th	Tuesday 15th	Wednesday 16th	Thursday 17th	Friday 18th	Saturday 19th
For Zozulenka as they perform at All Souls Church Eastbourne after lunch, then at Tunbridge Wells BC in the evening.	For Carshalton Beeches Free Baptist Church as they host Zozulenka this evening, and in particular for Ivan the oldest member of the group.	Pray for Dorchester Baptist Church as they host the group this evening, and for Ira, who celebrates her birthday today.	This evening we are performing at Cornerstone Church in Hythe near Southampton. Please pray for the meeting and for Sergei this evening.	This evening the group are performing for the first time at St James Parish church in Shirley, pray for them and for Brenda who is organising this event.	Today we move to Jon and Ali's home church, Ashley Baptist church as well as singing at a local school earlier in the day.	Please pray for All Saints Church, Milford on Sea who are hosting the group today, and for local organisers Stewart and Libby.
Sunday 20th	Monday 21st	Tuesday 22nd	Wednesday 23rd	Thursday 24th	Friday 25th	Saturday 26th
This evening we move along the coast to Lymington Baptist Church who have supported this event for many years now. Please pray for the concert and especially for young Dima.	Today we move inland to St Mary's church, Ferndown. Please pray for this concert and for David and Valerie who have organised this one on top of their responsibilities for the Bible School and Equipping programmes.	Durrington School and Community Church are the venues today, pray especially for the children who will see this concert and for Paula who is 14.	A busy day today, at Andover BC for a community lunch before heading up to Hereford BC for a full concert this evening. Pray also for June who has organised the event here.	Tamworth Baptist Church is our venue this evening, pray for Leigh and Sue, also for Yulya whose joy is singing.	On to Lincoln BC this evening where Brenda's son Jonathan is the youth worker. Please pray that we can join in mission following this tour.	Union Church Hunstanton have supported Jon and Ali for many years now, pray that Zozulenka will bless this church this evening. Pray too for Katya today.
Sunday 27th	Monday 28th	Tuesday 29th	Wednesday 30th	<p>Contact us:</p> <p>Hope Now International Head Office Malvern Centre, Malvern Road Southampton SO16 6PY.</p> <p>Tel: 023 80 780 720 Fax: 02380 510 680</p>		
For all the village church pastors as they preach to their flocks this morning and for Jon and the music group as they take a well-deserved break today in Hunstanton.	Pray for our visits to Heacham Junior School this morning and Spalding Baptist Church this evening. Also for Irina today, whose dream it is to open a school for folk dancing.	For the tour as we head down to St Neots today, pray for stamina in these last few days of the tour, that the young people will remain strong and free of illness.	Pray for Zozulenka and the team as they perform at Billericay BC this evening, Letchworth BC tomorrow and fly home Friday 2nd. Many may have been truly blessed on this tour.			