



New Beginnings

Safe Homes for Children

Registered Charity No: 1087263

Dear friends and supporters

As you will no doubt know these are very troubled times in Ukraine. Civil war is now a reality and bringing with it the loss of life and property. What has always been a peaceful Country now has to fight against a much stronger skilled army and a neighbouring country wanting to take part of Ukraine that is not theirs. Many true Ukrainians, especially Christians, have to flee from Crimea and Eastern Ukraine as the Separatists will not tolerate their faith or patriotism. We have opened Genesis House as a refuge to some of these be-leagued people and now we must put our faith in the Lord to guide us through these dangerous times.

If someone has done you wrong, do not repay him with a wrong. Try to do what everyone considers to be good, Do everything possible on your part to live in peace with everyone. Never take revenge, my friends, but instead let God's anger do it. For the scripture says, "I will take revenge, I will pay back, says the Lord.

Romans 12:17-19

Our Village had recently become a haven for 20 refugees. They were living in a temporary shelter, which was not suitable for the winter months coming up. These refugees were Women and children. The men were off looking for work. Our Parents and children regularly took them food and clothes to help them as they had to leave their homes with what they could carry.



Sasha joined them and read the scriptures with them, which they found very encouraging. Our older boys,

Viktor and Anton taught the children Circus tricks and along with Anastasia, performed a small concert for them which they all enjoyed. They have now been able to return home to Slavyansk, one of the first towns to be liberated by the Ukrainian army.

Genesis House, Ukraine

In the midst of all this turmoil in Ukraine many changes are taking place in our house. Vova, our oldest boy has been called to the Army together with all able-bodied 18-40 year-old's. This is so worrying for us and his Sister who he is now re-united with. We all pray that God will protect him and all other brave young men.

Anton and Victor are both in residential College where they are studying for the performance art and circus academy and are now almost totally independent.

Anastasia has passed all her exams and now will enter college to train as a Social Worker, "How amazing is that"?

Only Yarik is still at home and he is doing well with his studies thanks to our Foster Mother Olena. He is a kind caring boy and helps our Grandmother with her odd jobs in the garden etc. They have a wonderful relationship and like most Grandmothers, she has much to teach him.

This brings me to a sad part of the Genesis House news. Sasha and Olena have now reached retirement age and have decided it is time to take things a little easier. Obviously, we felt they were irreplaceable and had many hours of "where do we go from here". We must put out trust in the Lord

We may make our plans, but God has the last word. You may think everything you do is right, but the Lord judges your motives. Ask the Lord to bless your plans, and you will be successful on carrying them out. Everything the Lord has made has its destiny.

Proverbs 16:1-4

The Social Services in Kiev were just as worried as Genesis House was their "Place of Excellence" in their



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training of future Foster Parents. I am enclosing a copy of the letter sent to New Beginnings from the head of Kiev Social Services when they realised that Sasha and Olena were coming up to retirement age. This shows how all our hard work over the years has formed a bond of mutual respect enabling us to learn from each other for the sake of Children in need.

Dear Patricia,

I write this letter to show my respect and gratitude for supporting the children of Ukraine.

On behalf of my colleagues, here at the Kiev City Social Services I would like to thank you for the many years of fruitful work you dedicated to establishing and supporting Genesis foster family. We are truly grateful for all your time and efforts and most of all your understanding and willingness to help our most disadvantaged children. We appreciate that all the money you raised have all gone to help the children. As a result Genesis House has helped 14 children to date with 5 of them adopted into new families, 3 re-joined with members of their families and 1 re-united with his father.

At the moment there are still 5 children remaining at the house. We know that most children that end up in foster families have various psychological issues and we were astonished to such a positive difference

In all the children even after a short time spent at the Genesis House.

You are no doubt aware that this year both foster parents will reach retirement age (Olena – 55 and Sasha – 60) and getting ready to finish their work at the Genesis House.

We hope that this is not the end of our partnership and that we can rely on your support in the future.

We are convinced that the only way to help the disadvantaged children is to provide a family environment for them to live in. This is the only way to enable them to experience family life with the help of the foster

parents. This family environment can teach them to love one another and develop their talents to full potential. Following your example we are now also concentrating on establishing and supporting foster families in Kiev and we do hope that we can carry on working in partnership with New Beginnings.

Once again please accept our sincere gratitude for all the hard work, for your loyalty, care and understanding during these, very uncertain times in Ukraine. We wish you good health and every success.

With Great Respect,

M. Kuleba Head of the Children's Social Services. Kiev, Ukraine

Pat Writes

I have never doubted that we would be shown the way to the next phase in the life of Genesis House. Just before our Foster Parents came to England for a well-deserved rest at the beginning of August, Sasha had a call from Ivan, our Pastor and Trustee in Ukraine. He spoke of a family of two parents and eight foster children who had been turned out of their home by the separatists in Crimea because they wanted to remain Ukrainian and were practising Christians. The separatists will not tolerate any faith other than Russian orthodox. Sergey and Lilianna Chernov gave up their respective professions as Doctor and Teacher after seeing our Parents on TV some seven years ago. They wanted to follow their example and become Foster Parents to children in crisis doing God's work. Their only son Philip is in Poland studying to become a doctor. The family loaded up their old people carrier and family car with everything they owned including eight children, four hamsters, a dog, and a parrot and set off on the 420 mile journey. They were given temporary shelter in Church halls, schools and hospitals and finally arrived at Genesis House on 29th July at 2.00am in the morning.



They were tired, frightened and bewildered and arrived when the government had shut off the gas and electricity (this is standard practice in Ukraine) and our water supply from the well had decided to collapse due to old age.

Sasha and Olena were already packed for their UK visit planned to give them a little respite from their worries, but as usual they fed the family, found night clothes for them all and got them to bed. The next day one of our wonderful Ukrainian business men supporters sent in a team to build a new well, make bunk beds and thankfully the gas and electricity were re-instated. Clothes were sorted, our Social Services informed and Sergey and Lilianna were told to use Genesis House as their own while our parents were away in the UK.

Let your hope keep you joyful, be patient in your troubles, and pray at all times. Share your belongings with your needy fellow- Christians, and open your home to strangers.

Romans 12:12-13

We at New Beginnings find it awesome how the Lord Guides our lives. Sasha & Olena will stay on at Genesis House for the foreseeable future as Yarik is still in their care. Yarik is so pleased to have new children in the house and after being the youngest; he is now the oldest and enjoying caring and helping the new children to settle in the house, school etc. Sasha and Olena have now returned to Genesis House and had to take monies with them as our Russian bank in Kiev has been sanctioned. They travelled with sufficient funds to replace the 10 year old septic Tank at Genesis House and meet the budget for the House and the Disabled Centre until spring 2015. It is early days yet but we all hope and pray this new family has found a safe home and the children, six girls and two boys, who all have serious health problems can start to feel safe and secure and "We may have found our replacement Foster Parents". It is amazing how two people living hundreds of miles away are influenced into a life change giving up successful professional careers to become Foster Parents to sick abandoned children after seeing on Television the work carried out by Genesis House. Then when war strikes and they are cast out of their homes, they make their endless journey to reach sanctuary in Genesis House.

Your days of grief will come to an end. I, the Lord will be your eternal light, more lasting than the sun and moon.

Isiah 60:20

Borispol Disabled Centre

You may remember from our last newsletter that Valentina, the founder and director of the rehabilitation centre for disabled children in Borispol had been diagnosed with cancer. Sadly, Valentina passed away after a surgery to remove the tumour and months of treatment and we were so worried as to who would carry on her wonderful work. Our prayers were answered when Valentina 2 as we call her stepped forward. She was trained by Valentina and is doing a wonderful job keeping up the good work and with the help of a new Director paid for by the Borispol Region has extended the centre to accommodate some of our

older young men and women. One of the young men being the late Valentina's son who she was so worried about when she became ill.

Again, we are fortunate to have friendship and support from the local government and can work together in partnership. We all miss "Our Valentina" so very much but our tribute to her is to aid everyone carrying on the work that meant so much to her.

Genesis Shelter, Malawi

We took a big step for New Beginnings in 2012 by electing to become responsible for financing the building of a hostel for 80 – 100 girls to allow them to be educated in safety. Previously girls had been raped on their way to and from school with five pregnancies in one year being reported. Some of these girls were walking 20km to and from school each day and this in turn gave families the excuse to keep girls at home to work.

We at New Beginnings believe, as we have reported previously, that educating the future Mothers will empower them to crave education for their children which is the only way forward for any civilised Country.



The building is now finished!

It is even more splendid than we anticipated. At the moment there are only 30 girls in residence as they had a shortage of beds. We have just this week sent funds to purchase a further twenty beds and mattresses, along with another 20 mattresses for the first supply of beds already on site.

The hostel is unable to take all 100 girls in accommodation at the moment as local legislation in Malawi has been upgraded in that the Hostel has now to have an indoor kitchen and dining room. In the past eating and cooking was all done in the open air. At the moment two of the dormitories are serving this purpose until we can raise sufficient funds to complete this additional requirement. We have been sent a short video of the girls at the hostel saying "thank you" to New Beginnings and saying how grateful they are. The building is horse shoe shaped and the girls have helped

to clear the encased grounds and the new building was recently used for this year's prize giving ceremony.



It has been a joy to be able to have watched this project go from foundations to the furnished article, knowing that every penny we have sent has been used on this project. We now know that for many years to come, girls will have the opportunity for education and hopefully have a successful future.

Do yourself a favour and learn all you can: remember what you learn and you will prosper. Proverbs 18:8

Thank you for your support

On behalf of New Beginnings I would like to thank all our supporters that have enabled us over the years to help disadvantaged, sick and abandoned children to have a chance of a life all children deserve. Without your help and support this would not have been possible. God bless you all and please continue to help us especially in this troubled time in Ukraine. Pat.

One in a Thousand

As you know our on-going projects in Ukraine and Malawi are up-and-running now. However, our work is not done yet. There are always more children in crisis we can help and with your help we will. We only need 1000 people to donate £10 a year to carry on saving lives.

Would you like to become One in a Thousand?

Your donation for one or more consecutive years would provide for the children and ensure their future. In return for your gift each year you will receive regular updates on the lives of the children we support and the work of New Beginnings Charity.

If you would like to make a donation, set up a standing order or become "1 in 1000", please fill in the form and send it to us with the cheque made out to **New Beginnings**. **If you do not pay tax, please tick "NO GIFT AID" on the form.** The donations made through Gift Aid mean that your gift could be worth more without any further cost to you simply by completing the form. This will help us to recover the

cost of the postage. Only a small proportion of money donated to New Beginnings goes towards running expenses of the charity! All members of our committee are dedicated volunteers. Therefore, when you make a donation you can be sure that the majority of it will go straight to the children and **not** to cover various administration expenses.



Donation Form / Gift Aid Declaration

- I would like to become 1 in a 1000
 I would like to make a donation

Title _____ Initial _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Amount _____

(Please make cheques payable to New Beginnings)

Date _____

Phone (optional) _____

I am a UK taxpayer and would like New Beginnings to reclaim tax on the enclosed gift.

NO GIFT AID

Note: You must pay an amount of income tax and / or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give). Otherwise, tick "NO GIFT AID"

New Beginnings will not pass your details on to any other organisation.

If you would like to set up a standing order, please contact us for bank details.

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