



# CARING HANDS NEWS

**Registered Office: 58 Sproughton Court Mews Sproughton Ipswich Suffolk IP8 3AJ**  
(tel: [+441 or 01] 473 461561)

Autumn 2021

**Caring Hands Russia** is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital. No: 03494503.  
**Caring Hands Russia Ltd** is also a registered charity No: 1068029

## Breaking the Silence!

You may be wondering – then again, you may not – why you have not heard from us for so long. It is very simple. There has been little or nothing to report.

We had hoped to carry out some work we had promised to do at the Raduga Centre in Volkhov, about seventy-five miles east of St Petersburg. The Centre exists to help orphan children and children from troubled families, and is the place to which ‘at risk’ children are brought while decisions are made about their futures. Staff aim to secure for each child a proper family life, education, social and psychological help, medical care and assistance in finding work.

The building occupied by the Centre had, when we last saw it, a number of practical needs we might help address. However, for most of last year and much of this, Russia’s borders have been closed, flights suspended and visas unobtainable except to relatives of Russian citizens, due of course to the Covid-19 pandemic. The fact that Raduga, like other places where we have worked, is within the state system, brings further complications when help is offered from outside. Nevertheless, we are still hoping either to fund, or to carry out, the work we promised to undertake.

With the resumption of some direct flights and the easing of entry restrictions, we hope that we may at least be able in 2022 to meet Russian partners in person and discuss possibilities on the ground. We believe that a personal visit is the best way properly to assess the situation, but is unlikely to be practical until the summer. A decision on this will be taken at our next Trustees’ meeting in January, when we hope the various issues will be clearer.

Regular readers will recall that we were also planning to bring Galina, the Director now of Raduga as well as of two other centres in Volkhov, to Britain for a second visit to share experiences and ideas in social care. This of course also had to be postponed, with at present no clear indication as to when it might take place.

## Finance

<b>2019-2020</b> (year-end 31 March 2020)		<b>Expenditure-</b>	
<b>Income-</b>		Project flights, visas & insurance	1620
Balance at 1/4/2019	7857	Project accommodation etc	1524
Standing Orders & donations	914	Project building & equipment	2300
Team payments	1565	Administration (incl currency change)	576
Craft sales	40	Donation to Love Russia appeal	600
Returned from 2019 Project	1031	Balance 31/3/2020	6335
Poor quality banknotes	400	<b>Total</b>	<b>12955</b>
Gift Aid 2017/18, 2018/19	1148	The balance in hand at the time of our AGM in October 2020 was £6736.81.	
<b>Total</b>	<b>12955</b>		
<b>2020-2021</b> (year-end 31 March 2021)		<b>Expenditure-</b>	
<b>Income-</b>		Website hosting	14
Balance at 1/4/2019	6335	Balance 31/3/2020	7213
Standing Orders	374	<b>Total</b>	<b>7227</b>
Donations	398	The balance in hand at the time of our AGM in October 2021 was £7923.93	
SAS Voucher W Parker	120		
<b>Total</b>	<b>7227</b>		

We warmly welcome any financial support, as well as prayer and interest. We are funded primarily by direct giving, by individuals and by churches. We do not use professional fund-raisers.

You can give to Caring Hands Russia at any branch of Lloyds Bank or Bank of Scotland (and probably through your own bank) or online: Sort code 30-97-00 Account number 01338970

You can also make donations via our **PayPal** account. You’ll find it on our website, on the Donate page. If you use this method, may we invite you to add 3.5% to cover PayPal’s fee.

We can send you a **Gift Aid** form if appropriate (or you can download it from our website); it increases the value of a contribution at no cost to you, provided that each gift is identified and you pay a sufficient amount of Tax.

## To Russia with love, paint, concrete, funds, seeds, carpentry ... a very brief history

<p>1993 Ozerki - children's home</p> 	<p>1995-2000 Helios Centre - home</p> 	<p>2001-2004 Opochka - children's hospital</p> 	<p>2001-2011 Craft Centre – skills &amp; chances</p> 
<p>2006-2007 Kolpino - primary school</p> 	<p>2008 Vasilyevskiy - mental health</p> 	<p>2008 Russian visitors to Britain</p> 	<p>2009 Raduga - at-risk children</p> 
<p>2010 children's activities centre</p> 	<p>2011-2013 Volkhov – children with disabilities</p> 	<p>2014 children's activities centre</p> 	<p>2016 2nd Russian visit to Britain</p> 
<p>2016 Brightening up Raduga's new home</p> 	<p>2018 Greenhouses and a bigger run for the chickens at a Women's Crisis Centre</p> 	<p>2019 Storage facility for the Women's Crisis Centre</p> 	
<p>tbc To Raduga again, to refurbish the Games Room – we hope!</p> 		<p><b>We Hope</b> - that this Newsletter will give you food for thought and prayer. For more details, contact:</p> <p><b>Revd Tony Wilcox</b> 58 Sproughton Court Sproughton Ipswich Suffolk IP8 3AJ tel: 01473 461561 e-mail: <a href="mailto:tony.wilcox@caringhandsru.org">tony.wilcox@caringhandsru.org</a> OR</p> <p><b>Billy Parker</b> 4 Belleisle Close Kilwinning Ayrshire KA13 6RG e-mail: <a href="mailto:billy.parker59@gmail.com">billy.parker59@gmail.com</a></p>	

**Email:** This Newsletter is produced in pdf format for uploading to our website. If you would like to receive the Newsletter by email (as a pdf attachment), rather than by post, please email Tony Wilcox as above.

**Our website** is at: [www.caringhandsru.org](http://www.caringhandsru.org)

Photos: Wullie McCracken, Sarah Wilcox, Tony Wilcox, Vera Zhuravleva