



BELARUSSIAN NEWS



JUNE 2020



Sadly the situation in Belarus is similar to ours in that the Covid-19 virus has prevented the Guiding groups from meeting indoors. They have reluctantly cancelled their children's' camp this year in the interests of the safety of the leaders and children. There are no quarantine rules, and Olga sent the following message:

“Daily numbers look too stable, not like in all other countries, but official statistics is everything we have. We have had no official emergency situation or strict recommendations from government. Lots of people still work from offices and go out after work, less than usually but still they are. People at state enterprises have no choice, all of them are working. We have recommendations to postpone all big public events. But main message from government is — everything under control, medical system works well, don't worry”.

Fortunately, Olga works for SOS Children's Villages, a charitable organisation, so is able to work from home. Charitable initiatives are providing help with masks, PPE and even getting food to the hospitals which is a strange situation for Belarussians as the Government usually provides everything. Anya who works at the airport hasn't been able to work since early April as the borders are closed and does not get any pay to stay at home, unlike our employees here in the UK.

Fortunately, only one person in Guiding is known to have had the virus/pneumonia and is recovering (Valya Kusk). All other people we know in Belarus are keeping well and keeping themselves as safe as they can. Some more good news is that Anya is going to a camp with 6 of her Paddington Bear group to Brest, for a tented camp at the State Environment Institution, early in July so wish them well with that trip.



The last lot of parcels sent will now be shared among the Units when the National Board meets, hopefully in the autumn. THANK YOU for all items which are greatly appreciated by the girls for their craft activities. Keep them coming!

Robbie Hill