



DECEMBER

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The Association of Belarussian Guides are progressing really well. Their latest Basic Training Day took place in BREST, with 10 potential and motivated participants from Brest and Minsk. Their Programme included, in Aryna's words: "historical roots of the Movement and the international aspect, Getting to know you exercises, immersion into the world of Guiding, specifics of working with girls in Guides taking into account their gender and age, the Programme for Belarussian Guides".



An evaluation at the end of the training showed that "all expectation of the participants had come true, many risks and doubts had disappeared, and many participants showed a desire to try themselves as a Guide Leader - the inspiration to work with children had awakened in each of them."

One of the trainers for the day was **JULIA NOVAK**. Julia had been to HANOR in 2008 as a Guide, and it is good to see her continuing her Guiding in Belarus as a Leader.



Their usual annual meeting of the **National Board** on December 6th will be held by internet due to the Covid pandemic. JULIA is in the front, wearing the dark green uniform.

At their Conference they elect their Chairman and members of the National Council, and approve the Strategic plan for three years for the Association of Belarussian Guides.

We will look forward to hearing who will take or continue these positions.

The Paddington Bear Guide Group who meet in Zhodino library seems to keep growing: "Our" Paddington Bear who left Hampshire North in 2018 to join the Paddington Bear Group of Guides in Zhodino seems to be getting spoilt: He celebrated his birthday in the Library where the group meet. Anya the leader wrote:

Happy Birthday Bear Paddington! 😊

Today in our library we celebrated the birthday of Bear Paddington!

The first book of stories about Paddington was published on October 13, 1958. This day is considered to be the birthday of the famous English bear. Members of our club and other library readers read them with great pleasure!

We celebrated the birthday in a special way: we invited a real artist! Marina Leiko gave a drawing workshop for our girls.

The photo shows the results of their drawing workshop:



The girls were allowed to meet again from September and continue to do so.

Fortunately none of the people we know in Belarus have been affected by Covid, all are keeping safe and well. Messages have been sent at intervals to let them know we think of them often and wish them well in furthering the Association in Belarus.

Robbie Hill