

“West Oxfordshire - Vetka Association Belarus and Chernobyl 15 years on

Fifteen years ago one of the nuclear reactors at Chernobyl exploded, 80% of the radioactive material fell on south east Belarus. The West Oxfordshire - Vetka Association has been set up by local residents to promote links with the people of the District of Vetka. This area was severely affected by the disaster and is struggling to rebuild services and employment in the face of enormous difficulties.

Some of us were lucky enough to be able to visit Vetka in March and, as well as being overwhelmed with kindness and hospitality, were able to see at first hand where help can be most useful, in the schools for example, and in helping to create viable employment for people in the villages. Four people from Vetka made a return visit in April, and enjoyed visits to local schools and businesses as well as sight seeing.

Also two teachers are able to spend six weeks here thanks to a training project with Oxford, Swindon and Gloucester Co-operative Society. There is an enormous amount to be done, but we need the support of West Oxfordshire residents to make this possible. We hope to continue to arrange school links, exchanges and sponsor projects in Vetka District.

Any readers who are interested are most welcome to contact the Chairman, Peter George 01993 882137 or Ann Applegate on 01993 881782 and we will tell them how they can become involved in our activities.”

Ann Applegate WOVA Secretary

★★

CRAFT FAYRE

TO BE HELD AT:

OLDE MEDIAEVAL TITHE BARN

CHURCH ENSTONE

ON 18TH & 19TH AUGUST, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SEVERAL CRAFTERS DOING DEMONSTRATIONS

ALSO A PETS CORNER FOR THE CHILDREN

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE.