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# DEAR READERS,

## Welcome to *Zdorov!* eight the third Christmas issue of the new age of *Zdorov!*

It's hard to imagine that we produced the first magazine in July 1995, almost three years ago! I like to think that we have become an important part of Ukrainian life in Britain, and with much effort we will continue to be so.

### FEWER PEOPLE ARE USING CLUBS

In doing all the *Zdorov!* things that we do, we often get a good picture of what is happening around the country, and what has come to my attention this year are the changes in our clubs. Delivering our magazines around the country takes me to many Ukrainian 'hromada' as I visit bar after bar (not all of them, as many places are just too far away from the major transport routes). I usually arrive to deliver magazines on a Friday or Saturday night, when you might expect bars to be busy, but of late, even in the larger clubs, there have been very few people using the facilities at these times.

### OUR GREAT SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

It may just be that habits have changed, people using clubs at different times or in different ways as they or their children grow older. On the other hand it may be that fewer people are using clubs. At the moment though, I haven't noticed any reduction of club sales of the magazine, so it seems that *Zdorov!* readers at least are still regularly attending. Just to be sure though, and to make our lives easier, this issue has a special subscription offer.

In an ideal world we'd like all our readers to be subscribers. It's so much easier for us to post your magazines directly to you than to drive around the country, or pay bulk postage costs. In fact, once we reach 500 UK subscribers, we don't even have to spend an entire day licking and sticking stamps onto your envelopes for the Post Office will 'frank' them for us. So please read the centre page cards and take us up on our

### CASH IN ON THE LUCRATIVE ASSETS

While we're on the subject of finances, we seem to have had little response from our readers to our piece on the finances of the AUGB. I thought more of you would have been concerned or interested about their financial state as what they do with their money could affect us all. Maybe you are concerned and you think they've got it right (which of course they might have). I actually think you are all scared of them, or maybe you are all secret AUGB members hoping to cash in on the lucrative assets at some future date. In any case, I know you all enjoyed the article,

### BIASED

This season has been full of interesting events. There have been visits by a Canadian Choir, Ukrainian Folk Group, lots of success with the football both from Dynamo Kyiv and Ukraina, plus the celebrations of 100 years of Ukrainians in the UK. You'll find more about these in this issue, but remember, we can only really cover events if you let us know they've happened. So many things go on that we are bound to miss something unless you write in and tell us. We always know what's happening in Manchester and Derby because they always tell us, so do write in or else the magazine looks biased. (or even better, let us know a good time in advance and we'll help you publicise your events).

### INTERACTIVE ... GLOBAL ... ZDOROV OZ

Peter Fundela has at last connected his computer to the Email so we are now fully interactive. Life for the *Zdorov!* editor has become faster, more 'global' but more hectic so please read our advert on page 39. We are moving forward all the time (albeit slowly). Canadian *Zdorov!* after only a year has more than twice our subscribers, and now has a distribution deal with certain newsstands around the country. It just shows what can be done when you have the people. With a bit of luck, Slawko Mykosowski will be producing the first Australian version of *Zdorov!* making us truly global! All the best, Slawko.

So read on and be happy. See you at some new year zabava or other.

### Note from the editor

We apologise for the omission of Part 2 of our 'Rough Guide to the Ukraine' from this issue. Off-hand comments about the feature were made to parties related to *Zdorov!* If any reader wishes to express an opinion, they should go through the magazine by contacting either myself or Peter S. Otherwise we are unable to defend ourselves.

We hope the feature will return in the next issue pending time to contact Ukrainian parties for a more accurate and up-to-date guide.

Our cartoon 'Last of the Samohonka' has been put back to the next issue. Scripts have been written but alas we are without a cartoonist and neither I or Peter fancied the job. If you fancy yourself as a Rolf Harris type then please call the editor.

If you would like to contribute to *Zdorov!*, then please read our article on page 39. Finally I'd like to wish all our readers the best for Christmas and the New Year.

## New Plast Chief-Scout elected

The Ukrainian Scouting - Plast has just elected a new Chief Scout, who will represent all the 'plastuny' in the world, in particular before the World Scouting Brotherhood.

This is only the third Chief Scout in Plast's 86 year history; The new Chief Scout is Dr. Lubomyr Romankiw, a life long scout who has served in many positions in the Plast organisation.

Dr. Romankiw is a world-known scientist and the recipient of numerous awards, medals and other distinctions. He holds over 100 U.S. patents and is the author of hundreds of articles and books. Among his inventions is the magnetic thin film head, which is used in computers.

Dr. Romankiw was born in Ukraine but grew up in Edmonton, Canada and spent 35 years working for the IBM corp.

He will be inaugurated as 'Nachalnyj Plastun' at the historic Plast camp of Sokil in the Carpathian Mountains - the camp which was donated to Ukrainian Plast by the Metropolitan Andrij Sheptytskyi. The inauguration ceremony will be attended by Ministers of Ukraine, Bishop Lubomyr Huzar of Kyiv and by plastuny from Ukraine and from all over the world.

## Tarasiwka home to close

The elderly residents home at Tarasiwka in Weston-on-Trent is to close in March. Recently the home failed EEC standards and would need renovations costing £350,000. The 20 residents are to be moved to 'Sydenhurst' care home in Chiddington.

A decision has yet to be made about what to do with the building.

## Hoverla celebrates '25 years'

The Hoverla Ukrainian Dance Ensemble from Derby celebrated its Silver Jubilee Anniversary with a memorable gala at the Ukrainian Club (Hoverla's base).

Guests travelled from all the U.K. to be present. A champagne cocktail reception was held for them followed by a walk down the Hall of Fame where each year of Hoverla's 25 years was displayed on boards.

The hall was decorated with silver garlands throughout, 25 silver balloons filled with helium hovered above and a silver write-up on top of the stage welcomed everybody with the words HOVERLA 25 YEARS !

Speeches were led by Joe Kupranetz the local SUM chairman and long standing leader of Hoverla Dance Ensemble officially opened the celebrations. Other speakers included Mr. Michael Hryniuk and Mr. Michael Tatarczuk.

Other highlights included a presentation of 'This is your life' given by Pietz Kupranetz. This was a trip down memory lane which encompassed the full 25 years from when it was formed by Stefan Czuplak in 1971 to the present day. Images

## Vidrodzhnia win lottery grant

The Manchester based, 25 strong mixed-choir, Vidrodzhnia have been recognised nationally with the award of a National Lottery, Arts for Everyone Grant. The award of the grant means that Halyna Sawchyn Lytvyniv, the conductor, will be able to plan the next stages of the choir's development.

Vidrodzhnia, whose name means renaissance or new birth in commemoration of the independence of Ukraine in 1991, were recently invited to take part in the commemoration service for International Co-operation at Manchester cathedral. This was followed by an invitation to sing in the city's Albert Square as part of the Manchester City Council's Anti-Racist Festival.

The choir can also be heard on 'Kolo', the CD released to commemorate the centenary of Ukrainians in G.B.

## Slough club - future still uncertain

The security of Slough Ukrainian Home which faces closure is looking bleak. A recent plan by the younger generation of Ukrainians in Slough to save the club has been rejected by SUB. Secret meetings have been held between members of Slough SUB branch which younger members have not been invited to and there is a distinct lack of communication between the two vested parties.

## "Te-scho vino?"

Tesco superstores now sell Ukrainian wine. The red wine called 'Odessa Steppes' retails at £3 a bottle. According to *Zdorov!* wine taster Sonia Smundulak, the wine has a smooth but fruity flavour and should therefore be served with pickled gherkins and sopocka. If any reader knows of any other unusual Ukrainian buys, then please call us.

were projected on a large screen. Some of these went under the banner 'Love & Marriage' a number of wedding photographs of members of the Ensemble were projected onto the screen to remind everyone how love had blossomed within the dancing group and how everybody had changed! During this clever and humourous well prepared presentation, there was one sad note to remind us all of three members who had passed away. They were Valeria Kelman, Ivan Nowak (who was killed in the Falklands) and Stefan Bohaczewskij (from Carlisle) who performed with the Ensemble on several occasions. A minutes silence was observed by all for the three above mentioned members.

Another highlight was a quiz related to the dance ensemble. The eventual winner Lesia Smundrak-Semehen received a bottle of champagne for first prize.

A delicious buffet, disco and zabava music from the consistently excellent and versatile 'Black Sea Cossacks' rounded off events. Everybody danced till dawn to the music of the Kolomejka, Lambada, Tango, Samba ... whatever took your fancy and a good time was had by all.

Congratulations Hoverla and to the next 25 years - Nazdorovia !

## Russia expels Ukrainian Catholics

Stalin's purges of Ukrainian churches are being repeated after Boris Yeltsin, under pressure from the powerful Russian Orthodox Church, passed a bill outlawing religious beliefs with the exception of Russian Orthodox Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Buddhism. The bill restricts religious freedom and worship and places Russian Orthodoxy as the country's dominant religion.

The draconian measures have little to do with religion but more to do with power and control of land. Under the Soviet Union, many Ukrainian churches and cathedrals were closed down and turned into factories by the Russians. After the collapse of the Soviet Union and with the assistance of Rome, the Ukrainians repossessed the churches restoring them to their former glory with mosaics, farms and outbuildings.

The bill comes after the long running feud between the Vatican and the Russian Orthodoxy reached a new low. Following talks between the Pope and ex-President Gorbachev in 1989 and 1990, the Pope appointed a priest of Polish origin to become the first ever Latin-rite Catholic Apostolic Administrator in Siberia and Central Asia. The Pope also returned Cardinal Myroslav Lubechovsky from exile to revive the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine. These moves incited the Russian Orthodoxy. In June, a planned joint declaration by the Vatican and Moscow was shelved when Moscow accused the Vatican of omitting the paragraph 'proselytising' the Church in Russia and to the activities of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, faithful to Rome. The Vatican declared that it placed a higher need to establish a common ground between Christiandom in Russia over individuals.

Under the bill, all religions in Russia have to apply for registration by the end of 1997 in order to get permission to own property and allow worship. They also have to prove they have existed for at least 15 years, which is impossible given that most religions were banned under the Soviet regime.

So far, the western world has remained silent with Tony Blair failing to raise the issue during his recent visit to Moscow. For nearly 1000 years, the Vatican and the Russian Orthodoxy have been

rivals. Until either can relinquish its self-proclaimed supremacy over all Christian religions, hopes for the freedom of Ukrainian Christians in Russia will remain slim.

## Gays still fighting for equal rights

A measure of a country's maturity is how well it treats its minority groups. One of the first laws passed by the Ukrainian parliament following independence in 1991 was to reduce the age of consent for homosexuals to 16 to place it in line with many European countries with the exclusion of Britain. Unfortunately the law has failed to curb homophobic attitudes in the new Ukraine.

The gay community still experience extreme prejudice with many authorities failing to amend their attitudes from the old Communist regime when homosexual practices were banned and punishment was a year in prison or three years in exile.

The police remain homophobic and injuries inflicted on gays have resulted in death. Younger gays fear expulsion from school or college if they openly declare their sexual orientation.

As a result, the gay community is fighting back with an organisation called Ganymede based in Kyiv. Ganymede provides the city's gay community with a video club and gay bar where members can feel at ease.

Ganymede also run a telephone helpline for lesbians and gays to discuss their problems.

They help the city's transvestite community who encounter even more prejudice. At Ganymede's discos, people are free to express themselves without ridicule.

## Poverty rises in Ukraine

The Ukrainian Ministry has reported that the country's population in 1997 was 50,853,000, falling from 51,093,000 the previous year.

The death rate has exceeded the birth rate by 1.2 million persons over the past 6 years. Every third child in Ukraine has physical or psychological abnormalities whilst only one in three adults is in good health. Over 6 million Ukrainians suffer from heart diseases, 1.2 million from mental diseases, 740,000 from cancer,



720,000 from alcoholism, 600,000 from tuberculosis, 56,000 from drug addiction and 8.5 million suffer from infectious diseases.

One of the most vulnerable sectors of society to have suffered are children. In the capital Kyiv, more homeless children are sleeping rough, begging and stealing to survive on the streets. Boys have formed street gangs and survive by begging, pick-pocketing and finding work where they can. Many turn to glue-sniffing to alleviate the cold and hunger.

Latest estimates show as many as 12,000 children living homeless in Kyiv. As charities and state-funded programmes are non-existent, there is little hope of stemming the problem.

One reason for the increase is that many families are not self-supporting and younger children are often sent out by their parents to beg for money to supplement their family's income. Orphanages are over-filling with unwanted children.

Poor hygiene and over-crowding have led to infestation of lice and skin diseases spreading through the orphanages.

## Customs officers impede trade by Western Companies

A recent survey of multinational groups shows that nine out of ten western companies experience difficulties with customs officers which result in millions of pounds being lost. Eastern European countries, including Ukraine, where the worst offenders. Amongst problems found were papers stamped in the wrong places, inflexibility in the classification of goods and imports/exports being declined transportation due to the wrong colour of ink being used on a stamp. The survey concluded that cus-

toms officers often do not understand business and see themselves as police officers. Better training and resources would improve matters.

## New reform plan brings hope to Ukraine

Ukraine's government has announced a series of objectives which include the deregulation monopolises, stimulation of foreign and domestic investment, a new social welfare system, lower taxes and the fazing out of bureaucracy and red tape.

## New PM named

Ukraine's Parliament named Mr Valery Pustovoitenko as prime minister in replacement of Pavlo Lazarenko who resigned in July. He aims to reduce taxes, increase private enterprise and reduce the size of the shadow economy.

## Lazarenko's resurrection

Former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko has made a comeback in Parliament by winning election of a Parliamentary Party and a new political movement. Lazarenko enjoys the support of two Kyiv newspapers (both owned by friends) and has criticised Kuchma's government for its liberal policy towards the free-market and instead has called for the support of domestic producers.

## Kuchma for re-election

President Leonid Kuchma plans to run in the 1999 Ukrainian elections. However former Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk attacked Kuchma's administration and has joined former premier Kravchuk as candidates for the Social Democratic Party.

## 1998 Ukraine budget rejected

The Ukrainian Parliament has rejected the budget for 1998 to force President Kuchma to sign an election law which would boost the hopes of main opposition parties in next year's election. The bill would require half of Ukraine's 450 seat parliament to be elected according to party lists while the remainder will run as individuals. Any party receiving less than 4% of votes cast would be dismissed. The nationalist Rukh together with the Socialists and Communist parties would be the main beneficiaries.

## Hilary visits Lviv

As part of a tour to the former Soviet Union, Mrs Hilary Clinton paid a visit to Ukraine. Making a speech at a monument to Ukrainian nationalists killed under Soviet rule, Mrs Clinton clearly moved the crowd who cheered and cried out 'welcome'. "Even in the face of unspeakable horrors, the people of Ukraine and others living under Soviet domination did not give up," the first lady said. "Instead you found the best shield against oppression, you started down the road to democracy, including free and fair elections," she said. "But the journey is far from over because democracy does not end with a constitution or the right to vote. If we want democracy and freedom to thrive, then we must build a civil society where democratic values live in our hearts and minds, where people stand up for what's right and where the rule of law, not the rule of crime and corruption, prevails," she added.

## Ukraine invades Poland

An estimated 100,000 Ukrainians now live in Poland making it the largest immigrant group. Most immigrants feel that Poland offers better prospects and more security. The country's economy grew by 5% last year. Ukrainians do not need a visa and no language barrier exists. Most Ukrainians stay for a few weeks or months and are then replaced by new arrivals.

## Ukrainian SS defected to French Resistance

A French military publication has recently reported how two battalions of Ukrainian members of the Nazi SS defected to the French Resistance after killing their German officers. The Ukrainians (numbering 1600), were recruited from German camps for Soviet prisoners of war, in 1944. The starving prisoners were told they would be well fed and readily signed up to the 30th Waffen (Combat) SS Division. They entered the French-Compte area of Eastern France on a mission to kill French guerrillas or 'Maquis'.

A meeting between Major Hloba, a senior Ukrainian officer and a Maquis soldier paved the way for the defections and an ambush was arranged which led to the deaths of 295 German troops and officers. A German squadron was dis-

patched to trace the defectors but they were safely hidden by the guerrillas.

The second battalion defected when the Ukrainians slit the throats of two dozen SS soldiers whilst on night manoeuvre.

Before the defection, the Ukrainians laid down one condition. They requested a replacement to the vodka rations imposed by the Germans. A strong alternative was found.

Later the Ukrainians continued to fight German troops whilst disguised in German uniforms. To avoid confusion, they dyed the uniforms blue.

Later, France declined Russian demands for their repatriation, and instead enlisted them into the French Foreign Legion until the end of the war. Many were later resettled in Europe and Latin America.

## Time out

Crimea's regional parliament have voted to move their clocks forward one hour to Moscow time. The move comes just six months after the parliament voted to adopt Ukrainian time which is one hour behind Moscow. The parliament also declared Russian as their official language.

## Vote of order - Buy Rights!

An opinion poll has revealed that one third of Ukrainians are prepared to sell their votes to the highest bidder. Prices ranged from \$11 to \$400. If only Sir James Goldsmith were alive...

## Eye Spy

Russia and Ukraine have agreed not to spy on each other.

## "In the year of our Lord - 7502?"

A sign spotted outside a Ukrainian church near Toronto reads "UKRAINIAN CHURCH. This church is founded in honour and memory of the holy glorious prophet Elias. In the reign of Her Majesty Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada, in the episcopacy of his Grace Isadore, Bishop of Toronto. In the year of the world 7502 and from the nativity in the Flesh of God the word 1984, July 18. OS". Answers on a postcard ...

Edited by Peter Fundela

## "KOLO" - Britain's first Ukrainian Compilation CD

Tradition, tradition, tradition; that's what governs most of the lives in our communities. Keeping alive the song, dance and language of our roots is the major preoccupations of many of our organisations, eating up the spare time of our most active members. In such an environment, it's so difficult to do anything that is new and fresh and still Ukrainian, but the '100 Years Committee' has managed to do just that with the production of the first ever compilation CD of British Ukrainian Music.

It all began with a football match and a late night conversation that I, Peter Solowka, had on the journey home from our defeat at the hands of Germany in Bremen. I was introduced to a committee in the process of promoting the one hundredth anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in the U.K. (about which I was totally

unaware). As music and record making are my main activities, I suggested that the making of a commemorative CD could be an effective promotional tool, and a great way to get all the communities of the UK involved in the celebrations. A written proposal, a few meetings, and there it was, an original project was about to begin.

From the outset, this was not going to be like the few recordings of Ukrainian music made in the past

which have tended to rely on cliched visual and music styles. These have tried to make the record 'authentic' by using traditional images (Kozaks, banduras, divchinas etc). This record is made in 1997 and reflects that, not only in the artwork, but in the recording methods. Live recording is more common which is perfect for our groups as all of them are essentially 'live' performers. Travelling around the country, we recorded folk and choral groups in clubs and churches.

Our only real problem was time. This idea came so late in the day that many of the groups we contacted were not able to organise themselves to fit into our very strict recording schedules. Never-the-less, in the six weeks allocated for the task, we managed to record sixteen artists, each producing a number of works for us to choose from with enough quality

material to make quite a number of CDs. The most difficult task was that of choosing what to put in and what to leave out.

I believe the project we achieved is of great cultural importance. Anything that gives a focus to cultural activity, and a reason to innovate, extend and modernise skills will provide a purpose to our artists. This project has, in such a short time, brought together performers from a broad range of people: Association and Federation, Catholic and Orthodox, age and youth; all sharing their versions of Ukrainian culture. Most Ukrainians listening to the record will be amazed by the diversity of our music, and I hope inspired to listen to more of it. The costs for such a project are really so low that this could become an annual CD, including ALL of our performers. Such recordings would enable us to build a musical archive (the initial recordings are already being stored as such). Another suggestion would be to release old recordings of Ukrainian Music of Britain 1947-1997 on a new format. This would result in a very complete musical record of our musical talents within this period.

It's not often that the Ukrainian community can boast of 'firsts'. The quality of performances and overall production of the CD is excellent and I see no reason why this record will not become more widely appreciated

outside of our Ukrainian community. If you are into tradition, but wish to support it in a modern way, make sure you get hold of a copy of "KOLO".

Groups appearing on the CD are : Chervona Kalyna, Selo, Czuplak, The Ukrainians, Vidrodzhennia, Metelyk, Lastivka, Homin, Ray Kalyta and Miron Postolan, Orlyk, Hoverla, The Spookie Cookies, Duma, Dibrowa & their Bandurist.

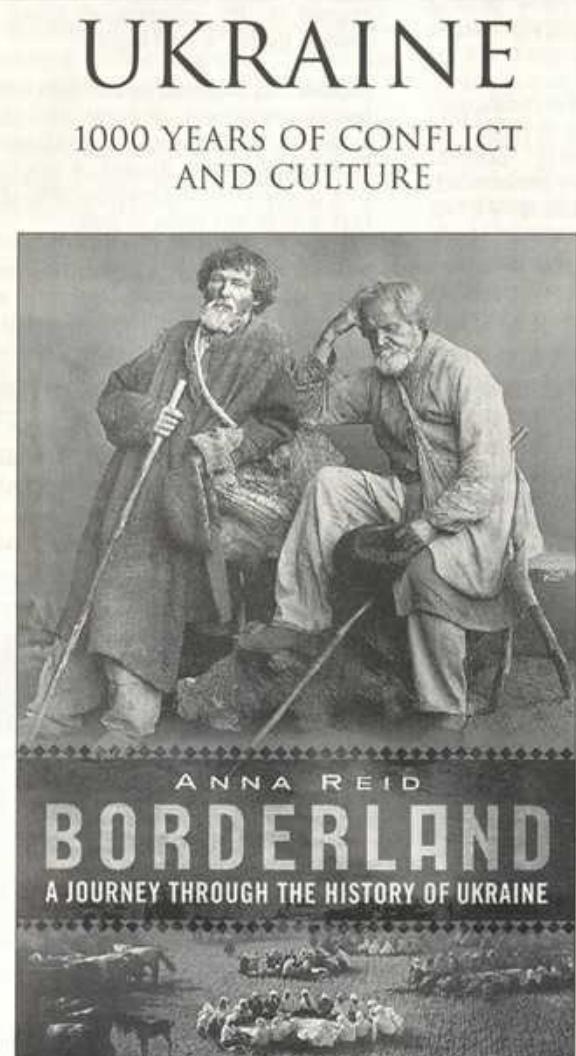
Available through *Zdorov!*, 63 Royal Park Terrace, Leeds LS6 1EX £10.00 CD, £6.49 Cassette (includes P & P). Cheques payable to *Zdorov!*

If you or your group are interested in making your own CD, please give me a call on 0113 274 3404), as you'll probably be surprised at how inexpensive and effective it can be.



"Rebellion, Civil War, Pogroms, Famine, Purges, Holocaust", remarked a friend flipping through the box of file-cards I had assembled while researching this book. "Where's the section on Peace and Prosperity?"

Attempting to write a history book about Ukraine must be a depressing task. Our recent history in particular is very dark. So why did Anna Reid, a journalist with no ethnic connection to Ukraine, decide to write such a book?



'Fascinating stuff: Anna Reid's specialist knowledge, her infectious enthusiasm, accessible style and eye for detail are put to good effect. Looks likely to become a standard work on the subject for many years to come.'

William Dalrymple

'...an accessible work, which should enrich the experience of anyone travelling to this new country.'

*Independent on Sunday*

'...a timely and broadly researched book which goes a long way to explaining this little-understood nation.'

*Literary Review*

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Anna (centre) on the road in Zaporizhia



"I have had a soft spot for Eastern Europe since travelling there as an au-pair, and being in Berlin when the wall came down. When a post was offered in Kyiv I went there to experience this new country. The history was so interesting - that of a people fighting and searching for an identity on the borders between empires that I had to write about it."

But how easy was it to find all the information?

"It depends on the subject. Most difficult was finding people who would talk about the famine. The younger generation were not told, and the old people who had survived were still too scared to talk, thinking we were KGB. Eventually though we gained their trust and discovered how horrendous it had been for them."

Do you really think that anyone from outside of Ukraine can ever understand what it is to be Ukrainian?

"That's why I really wanted to write this book. There is so little known about Ukraine's history outside of Diaspora and academic circles that I felt people should know. I've written 'Borderland' with objectivity and readability in mind, and I'm sure that people will find it fascinating."

What of Ukraine's next century? Will there be a Peace and Prosperity card for a future historian?

"At the moment there aren't enough liberal intellectuals to force through the radical reforms needed to make the economy flourish, but that will change as the corrupt bureaucracy slowly disappears and the country becomes more and more politically stable. So I'm confident that there will be history books with a peace and prosperity chapter."

Interviewed by Peter Solowka

Peter

# Coming to America

The 28th September 1997 will go down in the annals of golfing history. As the crowd gathered and the sun shone brightly, some of the most spectacular golf ever witnessed took place. Eagles and birdies were common-place, as new sporting heroes swung their way into history.

About 2000 miles north of Valderama, Spain, where the Ryder Cup was being decided, Leen Valley Golf Club in Nottingham played host to the inaugural Ukrainian Golf Championship of Great Britain. Organised by Michael Baraniak and Stefan Didora under the banner of the newly formed Ukrainian Golf Association of Great Britain, competitors from the length and breadth of the country gathered for the illustrious title of being Britain's first ever Ukrainian Golf Champion.

On this sunny day the players started to arrive around midday. Lunch was had, followed by a 'welcome' speech by Michael and a quick run through the rules. The draw for the three-balls soon followed, and before we knew it, the tournament was under way.

In October of 1998, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida will host the first Ukrainian World Golf Challenge. From October 3rd to 10th., the Etherington Yankee Clipper will be the meeting place for approximately one hundred Ukrainian golfers representing their country and playing for team and individual honour. We are looking for male and female golfers to represent their country and join the already mentioned group of good, semi-good and hacker-wackers for a good time of golf, socialising and partying - which one is more important is anybody's guess.

Presently, the golf package is approx. \$750 which includes 8 nights at the Sheraton Yankee Clipper (inc. beach front rooms and double beds), 4 rounds of golf, welcome party, door prizes, trophies for daily outings and championships and a banquet. Also included is a 4 hour gambling cruise on the 'Odessa' ship.

If interested please contact : Michael Baraniak on 0115 916 0255 or Stefan Didora on 0181 556 9763 or E-Mail : StefanDidora@rbi.co.uk

The dry conditions meant that the par 72 course was playing fairly easily. There was an early charge up the leaderboard by Maria Buczok and Taras Moroz, who both managed par 5's on the opening hole. It was apparent by the half-way stage that an even par score could be good enough to win the trophy, as players were getting caught out by the undulating terrain and water hazards.

As players arrived back in the clubhouse, the tension was beginning to mount as the scores were being posted. Eventually, the results were announced. Runner-up with a net score of 74, +2 over par was Stefan Didora from Coventry, but the winner and Ukrainian Golf Champion 1997 was Bohdan Kowalik from Nottingham, with a score of 71, -1 under par.

The overwhelming feeling at the end of the tournament really was the taking part, not the winning and losing. "It's been a great day. I just wish that we could have organised something before, but I look forward to many more events" said Taras Moroz. "I really enjoyed the days golf. It was great to play in com-

petition with Ukrainians, although it would be nice if more ladies would get involved" commented Maria Buczok. In fact a special congratulations should go to Maria for winning the "nearest the pin competition" for which she received a complimentary round of golf at Leen Valley Club. Also a thought goes out to Taras Perehinic from Derby, who after completing the course in 161, complained about the greens being "a little woolly".

A great day was had by all. With events being organised already for 1998, including the first ever World Ukrainian Golf Challenge in Florida, it would be nice to think that the membership of the U.G.A.G.B. will grow in size.

We may never play golf to the standard of professionals, but I'm sure nobody can touch Ukrainians when it comes to celebrating at the 19th hole.

Stefan Didora

The U.G.A.G.B. are looking for new members. For further details please contact : Michael Baraniak on 0115 916 0255 or Stefan Didora on 0181 556 9763 or E-Mail : StefanDidora@rbi.co.uk



Taras Moroz



Winner - Bohdan Kowalik



Left to right - Eugene Didora, Bo Kowalik, Stef Didora, Mick Baraniak, Taras Moroz, Bo Furgala, Maria Buczok, Tania Buczok, Taras Perehinic.

# UKRAINIAN LIBERAL YOUTH

## **Ukraine's fastest growing youth movement**

In Ukraine, where National Service is compulsory, young members of the Armed Forces face difficult conditions within the social-economic conditions and non-statute relationships.

This leads to soldiers being too weak and disunited and are thus unable to protect their own interests. These problems go unacknowledged. Whereas, the state often discuss problems like the unwillingness of young people to join the military and their poor preparation for the services which receive much coverage in the media, the problems of the citizen go unheard.

In western military organisations, the most effective way for dealing with these problems has been the creation of conscript organisations which protect individual rights and interests and living conditions (although lesbians and gays are still banned from many western military forces including the U.K.). The European Council of Conscripts Organisations (ECCO) have set out proposals for soldier unions in their project 'Conscript - Citizen in Uniform'. Many Central and Eastern European Countries including Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Georgia have transferred these proposals to their military forces. Ukraine has yet to apply this experience.

**The Ukrainian Liberal Youth (ULY)** is a civil organisation which was formed to campaign for greater rights and better conditions for young members of the armed forces. Their ultimate goal is to end conscription altogether by encouraging the creation of a professional army.

"We do not accept the excuse that conscription is necessary because the country's defence is important" points out ULY's Volodymyr Pedchenko. "Supplying the country with bread is also important but no one is forced to serve one year as a baker. The world is in the era of specialisation and it is time to end the feudal heritage of conscription. While there is a need for armies and weapons, let's leave it to the professionals with sufficient control imposed on them."

The ULY is based in Kyiv and is run by students. Their main objective is to improve the protection of rights of conscripts. They aim to achieve this by :

- 1) creating soldier unions to protect the rights of conscripts
- 2) collate information on the conditions of the military service and to pass the findings to ECCO for recommendations
- 3) draw up draft laws and plan forward with a conscript organisation, liaise with members of parliament, representatives of other bodies, and officials.

Two conferences are planned to take place in early 1998 between the ULY and other youth organisations, Ministry of Defence officials, Ukrainian youth affairs ministry officials and conscripts.

In March, the ULY and ECCO plan to publish their findings together with the results of the conferences. The findings will be passed to the ECCO Secretary-General for recommendations. The ULY will then submit this to government officials, the media, parliament officials and non-government bodies.

The ULY will pressure the government to adopt a draft law based on the report and establish an organisation of Ukrainian conscripts.

The bulk of the research will be undertaken by ULY members which will result in increased student support and greater political awareness amongst younger people. Aside from improving conditions for conscripts, the ULY hope that the Ukrainian youth will benefit in that they will learn that they can defend their own rights.

The carrying out of the project will improve protection of human rights in the Armed Forces of Ukraine, strengthen civil control over the force structures which will lead to the strengthening of the democracy in Ukraine. The conscript organisation will bear the fruit of the project.

**"Supplying the country with bread is also important but no one is forced to serve one year as a baker".**

*by Volodymyr Pedchenko  
e-mail : ppcenter@info.kiev.ua  
compiled by Slavko Mykosowski  
edited by Peter Fundela*

# Paris to Dakar, (via Ukraine) ?

Ukraine, England and North-West Africa were all linked last winter in a truly wild adventure.

**Roman Zyla** joined Overseas Air Support Ltd (OAS) who arranged the extraordinary project.

**This is England**, where OAS is based. Reality for OAS is a modest modern office with four desks, some computers, lots of maps of exotic places, some models of aeroplanes and a coffee machine.

**This is Ukraine**. Reality here is a hangar with an Antonov 12 cargo aircraft being prepared for any mission available; several crew members relaxing under the wing, occasionally getting up to tinker with a spare part or equipment. The same scene is repeated in Lviv and in Kharkiv.

**This is North-West Africa**, where reality is bleak. The desert is hot, sand dunes are dotted with patches of scrub, the wind picks up and the dust blows across the landscape. An occasional hut stands as relief to the otherwise barren land.

Soon these three realities will meet and for a brief moment in time, will come together with the fury of noise and bustling.

Back to England. David Singer is a tall man who has a mild manner and loves a good laugh. He and his business associate and long-time friend John Roberts, are part of a small company called Overseas Air Support (OAS). OAS was asked to fly air support during the Paris-Dakar car rally for which they were hired to move catering services. This meant moving enough food, equipment and caterers to feed over 1500 people, from one site to the next along a 4500 km journey across the Sahara desert.

The Ukrainian's come into the picture as the pilots and air crew of two planes (one from Kharkiv and the other from Lviv) hired by OAS for this exotic assignment. Since the collapse of the USSR, many military planes have been sold off and are now operated by inde-

pendent private companies whose crew are desperate for assignments anywhere as long as they can fly and make a living. Last Christmas, in Ukraine, the relationship between the Englishmen and the Ukrainians was solidified over a bottle or two of horilka, and soon they would be off on a desert experience.

North West Africa. The air is hot and the conditions worse than terrible. Somehow Ukrainian vodka in sub-zero temperatures now seemed far away. If you assemble people from far away places, unaccustomed to the heat and the sand, and you place them in this furnace called the Sahara, be prepared for interesting times.

Upon landing at the first stop on the race route, the members of the Lviv crew disembarked from their Antonov 12 only to find a flat desolate plain with not so much as a tree in sight.

"Where's the hotel?" was the first question.

A blank, incredulous stare from David. "My thoughts were to say something else, but I ended up simply telling them that if they could find a hotel they're welcome to it, otherwise they should put up their tents somewhere in the shade provided under the wing of the plane." Later a request was made for a proper loo. In a desert a thousand miles from any plumbing, David unleashed the response he was holding back earlier.

Working with people, strangers for the most part, in such conditions can test one's patience. There were days that David didn't even want to speak to some of the crews. "The Lviv crew would call me over and say 'David we have a problem'. I knew then to expect a whole list, not just one."

Problems in the desert are many, heat and dust are the big ones, but there are some you wouldn't anticipate. When they met the Ukrainians for the first time, there was one fellow who looked to be the size of an average NBA player. Watching him get into the navigator's seat, which is a cramped little glass dome in the nose of the plane, was like pushing a champagne cork back into a bottle.

There is a great deal of frustration with an operation such as this one. Crews without much desert experience, as the one from the Lviv plane, are often numbed by the intense heat and dust of the desert. Part of the problem was difference of work ethic, while the Sahara heat took care of the rest.

The desert is an inhospitable place for anyone. The camps are rudimentary and the conditions harsh. The local population also has a way of making life difficult and crowds of locals would mob the incoming planes to try to sell trinkets and collect rubbish left by the 1500 people who had just spent the night.

John tells of the day when a massive



**Kharkov Crew (UR11819)**

(l-r) Alexander Isaev (co-pilot), Alexander Pristypa (Flight engineer), Alexander Tkathyk (Load Master), Sergey Kyrilow (Captain), Nikolay Sergeav (Navigator).



**Lviv Crew (UR 11314)**

(l-r) Igor Orlovskiy - (co-pilot), Oleg Ochrimenko - (radio operator), Andrei Finitskiy - (captain), Igor Digidalo - (load master), Yaroslav Shinkarchuk - (navigator).

plane was ready to take off. With the short runways, planes have to be at full throttle, brakes on the ground so they can take off immediately. This plane was at full throttle, brakes holding tight and getting hot and as the pilot released all power possible to the engine ... out of nowhere about 100 people, mostly curious children wandered out onto the runway with no concept of the danger that was barreling towards them, props, passengers and all. The children - scattered most of them hitting the runway as the planes wheels screamed past them and the plane took off. The Ukrainian pilots screamed all the way down the runway

as did the rest of the crews on the ground, but the children seemed to take it as a little adventure and were quickly back at trying to sell trinkets to the rest of the rally team left behind.

Flying for the Paris-Dakar is also a dangerous operation for the crews. David and John had nothing but praise for the professionalism with which they handled their tasks. There were times where the rules of flying were left on the ground and the demands of the tasks were such that only experience and know-how could get the job done. Large cargo and huge amounts of fuel and equipment had to be transported

daily. On paper these planes can carry about 14 tons of fuel and equipment. One of the Ukrainian planes had so much fuel and cargo on board that it had a hard time getting off the ground and when they flew, the tail was virtually dragging behind the plane. When asked about the slow climb from the airstrip, the pilot smiled and reluctantly agreed that they might be hauling a bit of extra weight : about two tons extra!

Despite some of the harrowing experiences with locals and frustrations dealing with so many cultures, there were ways to survive the desert with a little ingenuity. A shower rigged by David and John for their crew was the envy of the entire rally. There were offers of several bottles of vodka just to take a quick shower. "One of the brilliant moments came when one of the girls, a nurse from the medical facility, sid to the enormous Nikolai, "Can I come and see your shower?" and he very quickly said "yes of course, but we're running a bit short of water so we're doubling up at the moment and you're with me". The entire Ukrainian crew was disappointed that she never came around to ask again.

I asked David and John why they did assignments like the Paris-Dakar. John responded without missing a beat, "money". But as they talked, it was clear that there is a great feeling to go out for three weeks, work hard and come home feeling a great sense of accomplishment. As I was taken to catch my train I asked if the Ukrainian's would be back next year. David said that he was really looking forward to working with them again, now that they had been through it and understood what it was all about.

**Written by Roman Zyla**



# Are you the perfect Ukrainian Partner?

Just what makes a perfect Uki Partner - you may ask? Knowing how to Polka, being able to cook pampushki, knowing the words to 'Byla Mene Mati'? If you really want the answer, then our quiz will tell you.



1. It's your first date and you suggest going to the zabava at your local Uki club. How do you introduce your partner to your family?

- a) Sit them down at the table with all your family and go the bar (for a very long time)
- b) Sit them down at the table with all your family and get ready for an interrogation.
- c) Get them to dance with every member of your family including Dido Myhailo (and his zimmer frame)
- d) Get them to dance with Dido Myhailo's zimmer frame.

2. It's your second date and your partner invites you to visit their family. Their mother is making borscht. She asks you to try some and suggests more herbs? Do you say ....

- a) Posh Spice
- b) Baby (*Babu*) Spice
- c) Ginger Spice
- d) Dill

3. Your partner suggests cooking a romantic candle-lit dinner. They are stuck on ideas. You suggest ....

- a) Pickled herrings (*you had a fight the night before*)
- b) A vodka binge
- c) A dinner party where every guest brings a dish (*you're not too keen on your partner's cooking*)
- d) You show the guests through the hall, open the door and say "The kitchens here, by the way".

4. It's your third date and you've both just finished watching a scary video. Your partner is still jumpy. You comfort them by saying ....

- a) It's only Bili Shnih (Snow White eh....)
- b) Is that really what Taras Bulba looks like?
- c) You think that's bad. I've got to eat your mother's borscht.
- d) You think that's bad. I've danced with Dido Myhailo's zimmer frame.

5. It's your fourth (date) anniversary. Your partner buys you a special gift. It's a kitten. What do you call it.

- a) Koza
- b) Cossack
- c) Kompot
- d) Taras Bulba

6. It's your fifth date and things are getting serious. Do you ...

- a) Suggest they start learning English
- b) Find them a good dentist
- c) Ask when their visa runs out
- d) Renew their visa

7. Your partner mentions going for a romantic weekend away together. You suggest ...

- a) Tarsiwka (well, it is Bazar weekend)
- b) Camping out in Tarsiwka (on Bazar weekend)
- c) Mushroom picking in Tarsiwka
- d) Sleeping under the stars in Tarsiwka

8. You and your partner have just had your first argument. How do you make up?

- a) Threaten to eat their mothers borscht
- b) Go on a vodka binge (things won't seem so bad afterwards)
- c) Smile, your gold teeth always makes them laugh
- d) Emigrate to the Steppes

9. You and your partner are sitting down to a romantic candle-lit dinner. They suggest putting on some music to put you in the mood. You play ...

- a) Oi, Harna ja Harna (oh how nice I am, how nice)
- b) Bili kashtany (white conkers)
- c) Chas dodumu, chas (it's time to go

home)

d) Teche nichka nevelychka (a little river flows) - *you are desperate for the loo*.

10. Your partner has proposed at last. You decide to celebrate Uki style. Do you ...

- a) Buy a time share in Tarsiwka
- b) sing 'My Zaporozchi' twenty four seven
- c) Visit the dentist
- d) Emigrate to the Steppes

11) It's your wedding day. How do you have the perfect wedding. Well, that's another quiz in itself.

written by Sonia Smondulak

## How to score

If you answered yes to a, b, c or d then you're probably alright. But if you really want to know how to score then this is what you do.

Go to a zabava dressed in a M&S suit or dress with a tryzub badge pinned to your lapel (*hair centre parted for men - bleached blonde for women*). Eye up a potential partner. Go up to them and introduce yourself (full title please including parent's names, where they were born etc). Offer a clove of garlic to your prospective partner and ask them for a polka.

Talk about Ukraine's Inflation Factor. Ask what religion they are. If you are compatible then continue.

Set your next date at church followed by pampushki. Propose marriage at your mother's house over a bowl of borscht and the rest is history. Good luck.

We've got to recognise that they're here and generate as much business for the club because the club cannot support the finances that it costs to run without people like them being here. If they're looking to have a zabava or disco, then we need to let them have one. At the moment, we're looking at closing the club on Monday and Tuesday nights because we can't afford to keep it open. We need to get them down here during the week also. They only turn up at the weekends for a zabava.

**Stefan Didora, committee member, London SUB branch (pictured right)**



They could be better. They use this place as a hostel and they only come to take the money. As far as bringing in money to the bar, they may buy drink but they also bring their own. It's only the English Ukrainians who keep this bar going - they just abuse it.

**Anonymous, London**

## THE NEW IMMIGRANTS

Since independence in 1991, the U.K. has seen a large increase in immigrants arriving from Ukraine. Some come on short-stay visits, others stay behind indefinitely. At first, our foreign cousins were welcomed with open arms as liberated people. Later scare stories of families arriving to claim back the inheritance of deceased relatives they had never seen or spoken to started to appear. Stories of racketeering and mafia connections have appeared even in the British press and our new found cousins have suddenly become the

repair the damage?

Most immigrants can be found in major cities, most notably London. Most of the London-based Ukrainian immigrants live in the West London areas of Ealing, Acton and Hammersmith. The reason they arrive is simple. Ukraine is in an economic mess. The state has withheld wages from workers and other benefits

black sheep of the family. Where did it all go wrong and how can we

**In the U.K., an immigrant working in a restaurant can earn up to £2 per hour. Slave labour to us but a 14 hour day, 6 days a week can amount to £168. Add tips and that's a years wage with no overheads.**

in an effort to bring down inflation. Even those with money would have to pay a fortune for an electrical item or motor car that costs a fraction in the west. In the U.K., immigrants claiming political asylum can apply for Housing Benefit, unemployment Benefit, food allowance and obtain illegal work in restaurants, hotels, building sites and bars. Even if their application for asylum is turned down, they can still stay in the U.K. for a year, earning enough to support their families and themselves in Ukraine for considerably longer. The average monthly wage in Ukraine is £18. In the U.K., an

I find it fascinating as I've lost touch. We don't have much contact with Ukrainians in Rochdale.

**Ms. Pokrovich, Rochdale (pictured below with Butch)**



I think they're alright to a certain point until they start taking advantage and taking the piss. Their mentality is different and if they come here, they need to learn that theft is unacceptable. They'll have to change.

**Anonymous, Bedfordshire**

There's this barrier between us and them. Most of them come here for the money and unfortunately for some, they can't do that without going into something illegal. It's a no win situation for them. I don't think their first priority is to get involved in the cultural side of our community.

**Anonymous, London**

Like all people - some of them are good and some are bad. You just have to find the good from the bad. I don't think they're all bad but most are OK.

**Anonymous, London**

I like the girls but I don't think so much of the blokes. But seriously, they haven't integrated enough into our community although that's not their fault. They feel they're not worth as much as they should feel. They feel they haven't got enough to offer but some have a lot to offer but not all of them. The good ones could get involved in singing and dancing, teaching in school and other events. As far as them not speaking in Ukrainian, well we speak in English.

**Volodomir Pawluk, London.  
(pictured right)**



restaurant can earn up to £2 per hour. Slave labour to us but a 14 hour day, 6 days a week can amount to £168. Add tips and that's a years wage with no overheads.

Of course other Ukrainians simply come as tourists and decide to stay. One recent incident occurred when a relative was escorted by his U.K. based family onto a coach for his return journey to Ukraine. In Dover, he jumped the coach and disappeared.

Incidents like this have prompted the British Embassy in Kyiv to place tough restrictions on visa applications to the frustration of many Ukraine based tour operators. All applications are now carefully examined and travel agencies are no longer allowed to present bulk applications for visas (except for

school parties). Some applicants are being called for personal interviews followed by a six-week wait. Rejections are not subject to appeal and the statutory admin fee of 105 Hr is non-refundable.

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**In 1995, 13,000 Ukrainians visited the U.K. The figure for 1996 is expected to increase by 35%.**

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According to the British embassy, The rejection quota of 10% has increased to 20% but travel agents place this figure as high as 80%. Reasons for refusal have ranged from officers being suspicious at large amounts of money being taken out of the country and applicants claiming to earn a large

salary yet choosing to travel by coach. Agents have hit back by saying their clients are in a no win situation. Anybody travelling alone is accused of going to look for illegal work, whereas families are accused of being potential immigrants. Many agents now carry out their own vetting procedure.

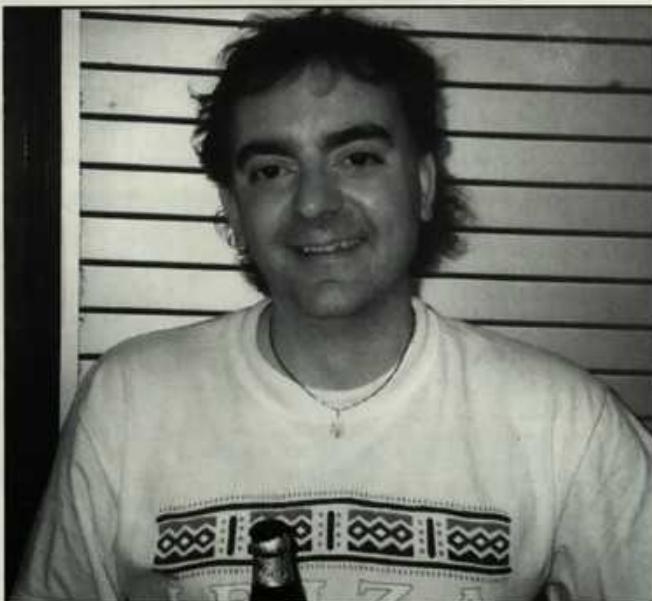
In 1995, 13,000 Ukrainians visited the U.K. The figure for 1996 is expected to increase by 35%. That's 20,000 Ukrainians - equal to the population of British Ukrainians.

"The major point is ... whether tourism in Britain exists for Ukrainian and Russian tourists or not," said Allan Kalueff, head of the British Division of Ukrtechintour travel company, which has been operating



There's a stigma attached to them at the moment because they don't mix with us. I will go out and speak to anyone but when you get that negative vibe.... In Coventry, we've had many immigrants coming over. One lot were great and really intergrated but some of the immigrants in Coventry have been diplomats and they really look down upon our hromada. I don't begrudge anybody anything. They think that the west is second-class and they believe the Russian culture is the way of life and - hence everybody speaks in Russian. We have to get through to them that Ukrainian life is best.

**Ray Greshko, Coventry  
(pictured right)**



I respect the older ones. They're good people because they treat me with respect. The club is good because it attracts different people with the same interests. My philosophy is to be wise and not to lose your temper. As a minority, I'm treated well here. That's all I can say.

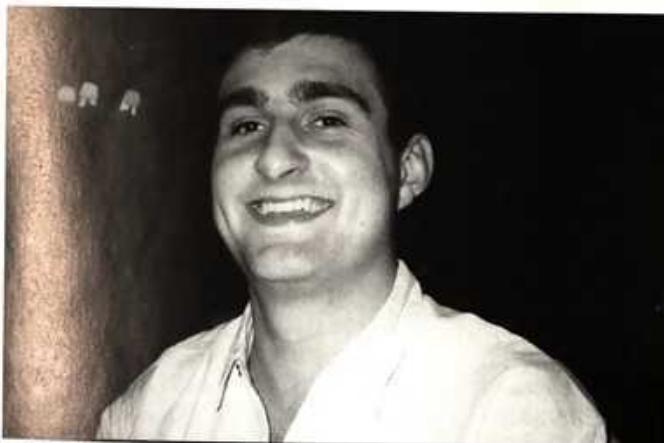
**Victor, London-based immigrant**



for five years. "If they don't want tourists from Ukraine, they have to state it in a clear way."

In New York, immigrants have helped to revive the East Village community. The new emigres were at first wary of the American community, but now feel confident enough to open Ukrainian shops, get involved in community theatre workshops and serve on committees. This has led to a surge in national pride and work will soon begin on a Ukrainian Museum.

The smaller hromada in the U.K. means we can never achieve what the New Yorkers have. But can we not co-operate with our new incomers and learn a lesson from the Americans? Are we simply being over-cautious or are we right to be vigilant?



I respect any nationality except Russian, Muslim and Jewish. Sorry - no. I like the club because it attracts young Ukrainians and encourages better relationships.

**Vasyl, London-based immigrant (pictured above)**

I was disappointed when I first came to the club. There is no support service for immigrants offering advise on where to live and how to get a job. I would like to earn more money as at present I only get £220 per week.

**London based immigrant**



Attendance at the London club has fallen. Fewer students are living in the residential accommodation provided at the same premises which has meant less business. The only regular users

**Residents living at the club have reported missing post and a series of thefts in the bar area has created a deep suspicion of all Ukrainian immigrants.**

of the club are the new immigrants who now hold frequent discos. On zabava nights, immigrants are in large attendance and provide a valuable source of income. Clearly, they cannot be ignored.

But at what cost to London's communi-

ty and the Ukrainians who worked so hard to build the club. There is a strange atmosphere at the club with immigrants and British Ukrainians separated by mistrust and language and cultural barriers. Many old users of the club have been put off from attending zabavas and weekends. A minority of immigrant men look down on women as an inferior class. Some harass British women to dance with them at zabavas and others just stare. Residents living at the club have reported missing post and a series of thefts in the bar area has created a deep suspicion of all Ukrainian immigrants.

What is clear is that this is a sensitive subject. We need to breakdown some of the barriers between our culture and theirs if we are to build new foundations for the future.

No one watches or observes what you do. So you're free to do what you want to do. You answer to everybody when in Ukraine. You always have to justify yourself.

It's nice to see people here who respect their Ukrainian culture. There are good people here.

**Anna, London-based immigrant (pictured below)**



# WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE UKRAINIAN MUSIC SCENE

*Mr. Herasymov, how and when was the 'Performers Rights Protection Agency' formed, and what are its functions?*

Copyright laws for authors, songwriters, composers, and protection rights for performing artists have never existed during the seventy years of Soviet regime, and in fact do not exist even now in the independent Ukrainian state.

At the moment, the worst situation is piracy. Video and audio copies are made in huge amounts, and are sold quite openly on the streets. No artist, whether foreign or Ukrainian is safe from this.

The artist in the Ukraine has no protection practically from the word go. Many do not realise that they could have their rights protected, and receive payment for their work. He has to finance everything himself, including paying others for the music, the text and the arrangement, later for recording, for production, promotion, for the making of video clips, M.C.'s or the pressing of C.D.'s. The government has no scheme to support the artist, and so when his work is sold or is recorded for television and radio, he in fact loses out, because the money earned definitely doesn't wander into his pocket.

The situation is so bad, that at last the 'Performers Rights Protection Agency' was formed. At the moment, we are working together for copyright protection. We have also presented signed documents to the President of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma, and are waiting for the new law to be passed by the Ukrainian parliament.

*How do you plan to protect copies of M.C.'s, C.D.'s and videos?*

The artist signs a contract with us for licensing, let's say, five thousand C.D.'s for example. He then takes this contract to the national insurance and taxation office, and pays for the five thousand licensing stamps, (which are very cheap), that will then appear on every separately packaged copy of his C.D. The artist is then automatically protected, and receives a certain percentage from the amount earned by the sale of his work. The cost of the

## Interview with Victor Herasymov and Yuriy Bilak, of the Performers Rights Protection Agency, Kyiv.

licensing stamps is also returned to him.

*Yuriy Bilak, you are a member of the popular Ukrainian folk music ensemble, 'Veseli Musyky'. Can you explain what your position in the P.R.P.A. involves.*

At the moment I am in the process of building up contacts with copyright and performer's rights protection agencies in other countries. We have already signed a contract with Russia, and are now aiming for Germany.

Our aim is to not only protect the copyright and performing rights of Ukrainian artists such as Biloziir, Zibrov, Lorak and Bilyk, but also the rights in the Ukraine of artists such as Michael Jackson, Madonna and Russian rock singer Alla Pugachova to name a few. Ukraine cannot call itself a civilised country, if it cannot protect individual rights.

We are receiving support from the Ukrainian government, and as already mentioned, we are now in fact waiting for the new law to be passed by the Ukrainian parliament.

*Changing the subject; I saw the finals of the 'Chervona Ruta' festival. I was disappointed by what I saw and heard. What is your comment on this subject?*

**Y. Bilak** : The best thing about the 'Chervona Ruta' festival, is that it will now take place every two years, instead of every year. A very large amount of money is put into this project, and in doing so, it is expected that the artists perform at a high professional level. Unfortunately, the performers are unable to fulfil the expectations of the organisers and sponsors, because it is in fact a competition for amateur artists.

The result is quite obvious. First of all, the texts of the songs are very badly written, and do not mean anything at all. The music is literally a cacophony of sounds, that could be compared to very

'raw' musical experimentation. There is nothing for the mind, the soul or the heart, so to speak. One gets absolutely no satisfaction from listening to this. **V. Herasymov** : The 'Chervona Ruta' festival first started in 1989 in Bukovyna. The artists at that time were very talented people, that managed to grip the audience with their performances, in many cases with the Ukrainian spirit and patriotism. Sadly, things started to progress downhill, as the festival was unable to boast new and famous names.

The 'Chervona Ruta' of today is very heavy rock music, which is not accepted by the Ukrainian music loving public. In other words, this is no longer a music festival, and it has absolutely nothing to do with the famous song 'Chervona Ruta' that was named after, or with the song's composer, the late Wolodymyr Ivasiuk (killed in 1979), who really was a very talented musician.

*What is your reaction to this, Yuriy?*

The amount spent on organising the Festival has not been published anywhere, but I do know that the Ministry for Culture is officially in charge, and the sum amounts to millions and millions of hryvni.

The technical side of the festival, was of the same standard as in any Western country. But was it really worth putting such a huge amount of money into this, especially as the whole festival took a whole month. It would not have been so expensive if it had been organised in a completely different manner.

The economic situation in Ukraine is in extremely bad shape; but somehow there is money for such bombastic festivals!

I personally like the idea of 'Chervona Ruta', but not what is happening to it. It's a mess, and the jury have actually not got anything to choose from. A really talented artist such as the singer Iryna Bilyk doesn't spring up every year, he or she has to be sought and then supported and developed. It's a pretty sad state of affairs at the moment, I'm afraid.

**Interview and translation  
Mariana Dzus-Kourylo.**



'In our country, we toast someone's health with 'na - zdrorovlya', so - fill your glasses and join me in wishing you all an enjoyable cruise - NA ZDOROVIA!!!!'



Where to go on a foreign holiday is always a big decision. Most people like to choose sun & sand, but a growing number look for relaxing cultural holidays. Cruises, for those with a little extra money, are probably the best way to see a country, learn about its history and culture, and still come back relaxed. The Mediterranean and Caribbean have been the favourites, but the businessmen of Ukraine are hoping that the Dnipro will soon become a popular cruise destination!

Since the time of 'perestroika' and 'glasnost', ships have sailed up and down the Dnipro, mainly carrying Russian

tourists to the Crimea. Since independence, the companies running the ships have been developing the international market, selling the cruises on the Dnipro as any other package deal that you might buy for The Rhine or The Nile.

Like any other cruise, the passengers sail down the river during the night, spending complete days at various sites of historic and cultural interest.

Trips to the museums, galleries, and historic monuments of Kyiv are often included in the price with many optional excursions for those with special interests. As the ships travel to the more rural south, Ukrainian village feasts (complete with varenyky and vodka), Cossack horsemanship displays,

plus folk dancing can all be experienced. Each evening there is live entertainment on board the ships with late bars for those still looking to absorb as much Ukrainian culture as possible.

While I'm sure that the 'Village' feasts and 'Cossack displays for tourists go somewhat to cheapening the importance of these things to our history, I know that when I am a tourist (for instance in Greece), I love 'Greek Nights'. Hopefully more of the world will learn to love 'Ukrainian Nights'.



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Since independence, a new generation of artists has emerged in Ukraine. The liberal climate has allowed them to express their own individual styles.

A recent exhibition entitled 'Artists from Ukraine : Works on Paper' was staged at the O'Kane Gallery at the University of Houston. The exhibition samples the best of this new wave of talent. The artists have drawn their influence from the rich tapestry of cultures that have passed through Ukraine's history : Greek, Byzantine, Italian, Ukrainian folk, Germanic and French styles. The 20 artists featured live and work in Lviv and Kyiv and use various forms of media in their work : drawings, monotypes, etchings, lithographs, ink-jet prints and other mixed media on paper.

Four styles which had the greatest impact on contemporary Ukrainian art are Byzantine, Folk craft and culture, Baroque and Modernist. The artists featured in the exhibition have combined these styles in various forms.

After the collapse of the Russian empire in 1918, Ukraine declared itself an independent state and an Art Academy was established in Kyiv. Ukrainian artists were allowed to study modernist styles emerging from Europe. But Soviet purges in the 1930's abolished Ukrainian cultural artifacts which was replaced with Soviet Propagandist art. This contrasted with the lyrical and narrative styles of Ukrainian art. As a result of this suppression, Ukrainian artists have not been influenced by Western Contemporary movements like Dadism, Surrealism, Expressionist, Post-Modern and Minimalist art forms.

Another observation is that considering the political turmoil that has blighted Ukraine's past, there is a lack of political comment in the works. Anger and grief are still visible but the Soviet propagandist manner has been replaced with a more abstract and personal form which in itself is political in that it so blatantly rejects the official art previously imposed by the Soviets.

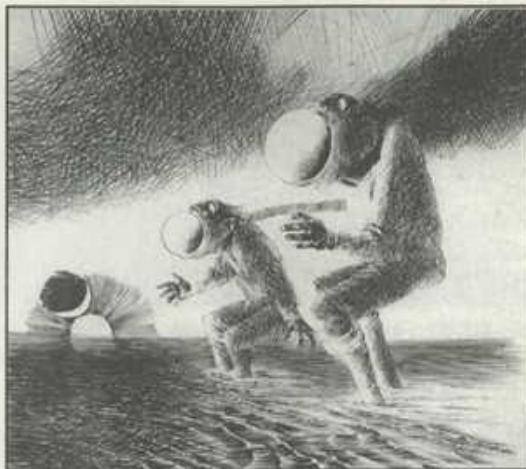
Ukraine's embrace of all things capitalist and western presents a new threat to Ukrainian cultural artforms and traditions. But the artists are eager for their work to be seen around the world and remain optimistic that given the country's turbulent history, the essential character will never disappear.

*Zdorov!* wishes to acknowledge and thank the support of the following :

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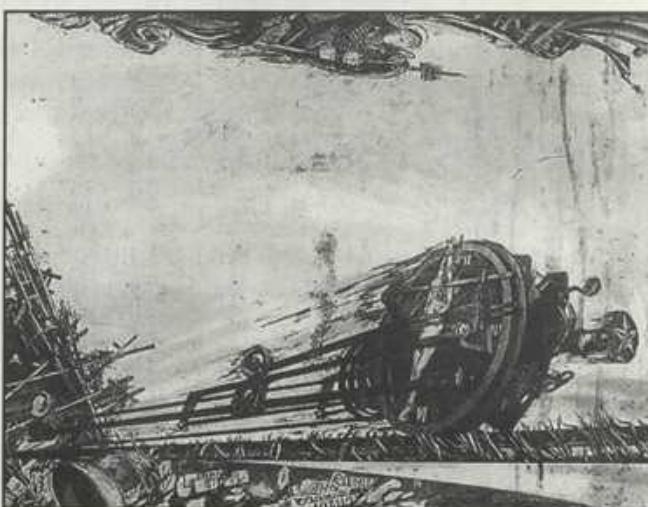
**University of Houston - Downtown, Texas** and all the artists  
featured in the exhibition



**Lubomyr Medvid** *The Birth of the Bubble Heads*  
1983 Pen and ink on paper



**Danylo Dovboshynsky** *The Tragedy of Chornobyl*,  
1986 Monotype



**Serhiy Shulyma** (Series : *Dreams That Come Afterwards*) *The Penetrated Barrier* Intaglio

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Olena Mychaylova-Rodina Southern City V (Crimea)  
1992 Serigraph

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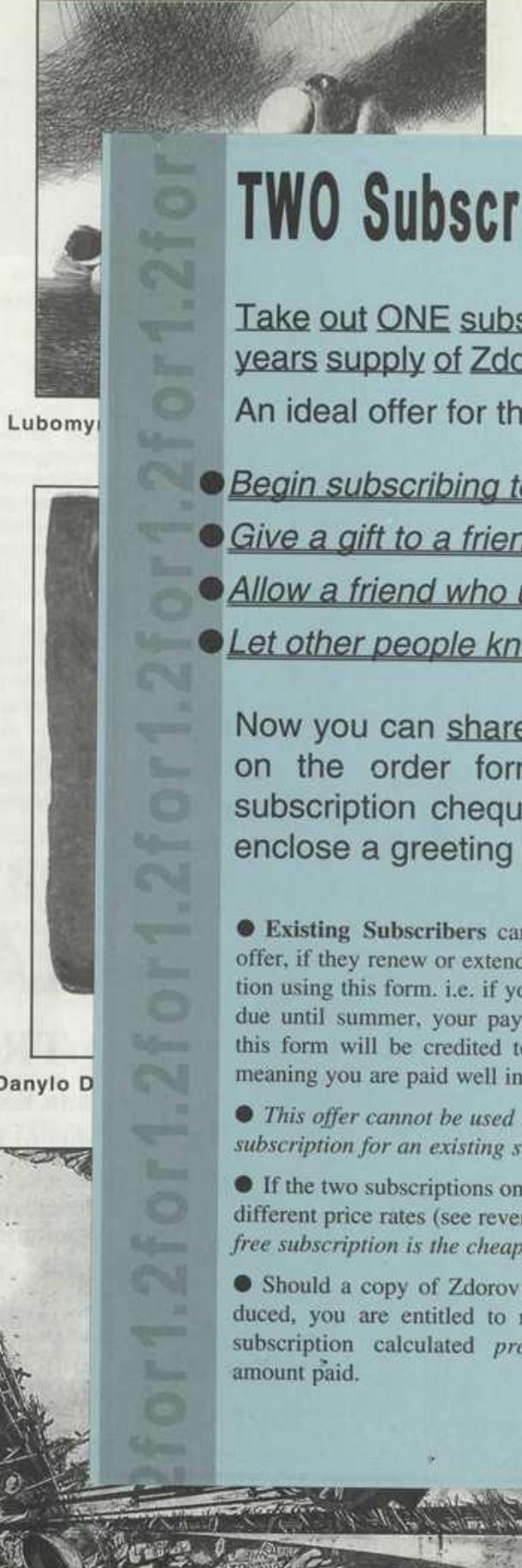
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Andrew Levitsjy *Bread* 1990 Aquatint



Valentin Gordiychuk *Baroque* 1989 Lithograph



Yevgenia Kharkova *Dances* 1990 Silkscreen



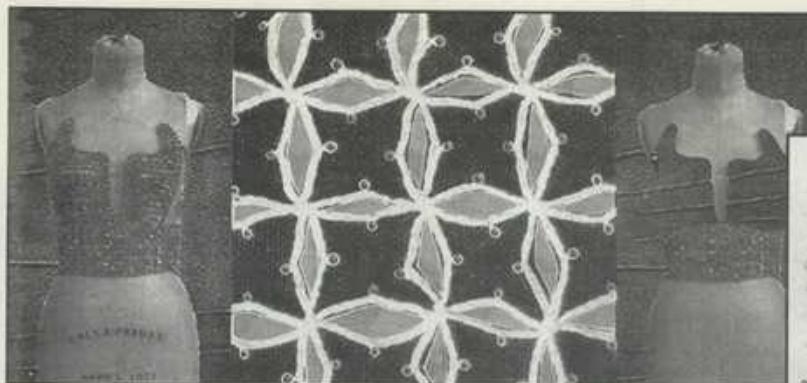
Halyna Ivanivna Halynska Illustration to Taras Shevchenko's poem *Haydamaky* 1981 Soft ground etching



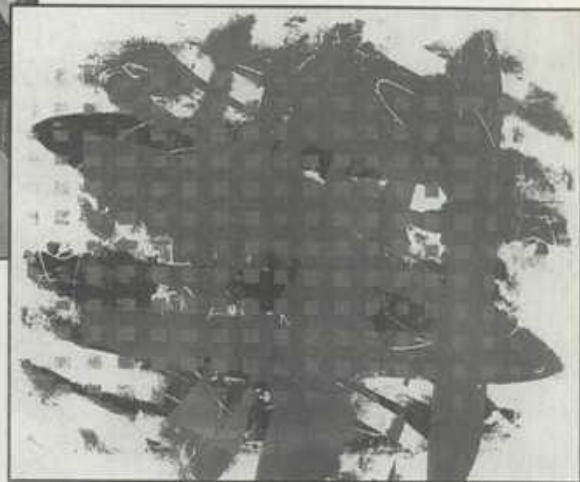
Olena Mychaylova-Rodina *Southern City V (Crimea)* 1992 Serigraph



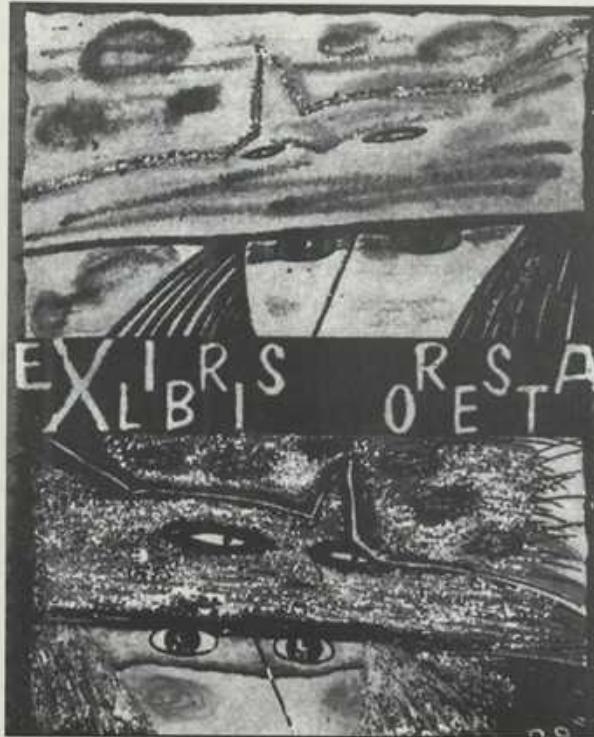
Irina Movchan *Oksana* 1977 Monotype



left : Ohor Yaremchuk *Double Intentions*  
1996 Ink-jet print



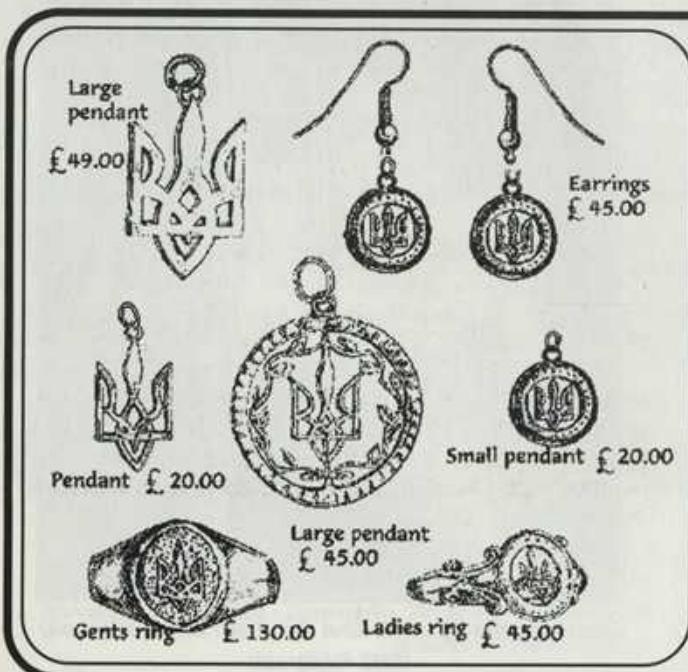
Above : Oleksandra Prekhova *For Naught*  
1995 Serigraph



Olena Yakovleva *Ex Libris : Orest* 1996 Serigraph



Ksenia Khodakovsha Series : *Gerbariy Lead*  
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# Hatched, Matched and Dispatched

*Our traditional feature returns with the best of this year's weddings, births and departures for pastures new.*

*Remember if you've got a special occasion to celebrate and you want to share it with Zdorov!, then drop us a line.*



It was Nottingham's event of the year. The wedding of Borys Krywyj and Ola Kalynij took place on 13th September at Nottingham Ukrainian Catholic Church followed by a reception at the city's club. The couple met at the last ever De Montfort Hall 'Zdvyh' way back in July 1992 and are the third couple to tie the knot from that infamous occasion. Must be something in the vodka!

Guests were treated to a terrific entertainment from Nottingham's 'Czuplak' and the excellent 'Odnocelczany'. The wedding was the most P.C. I'd seen - one example being the groom got kidnapped rather than the bride.

Lots of entertainment was also provided on Sunday which included cabaret from the 'Spice boys' and songs about black sheep.... The vodka flowed and a good time was had by all.



Regular readers of this page will have read our celebration of Slawko Mykosowski's wedding last year. Well Slawko left these shores for good this Summer as he set off to join his Australian born wife, Melissa and start a new life together with her in Melbourne.

Our loss is Australia's gain but the boy Slawko left us with some treasured memories including a party thrown for him at the London club where he was joined by close friends and the Zdorov! team.

Slawko has not forgotten the debt he owes to Zdorov! for giving him a start in life and I am proud to announce that he is carrying on the good work of the gospel with his own version called 'Zdorov - Oz'.

I am sure Slawko will be missed by his family, friends and enemies alike. He is irreplaceable and will be welcomed back anytime.



Our publisher's parents must have breathed a large sigh of relief and members of 'The Ukrainians' must have breathed a large sigh when Peter Solowka and his partner Helen Dyson became proud first time parents to their son Daniel Dyson Solowka.

Daniel was born on Friday 3rd October at 10.27 am and weighed in at a healthy 8 1b 1oz. If Daniel has inherited Peter's talent and his mother's brains and good looks then he should do OK. (Oh, and I could do with an assistant editor). So congratulations to Peter & Helen and may it be the first of many.

# Talkback (part 1)

## The Church and the Ukrainian youth

The Church forms an integral part of Ukrainian life in various communities around the world. Our customs and traditions are based on pagan rituals which stem from folklore - Easter, Christmas, weddings and special festivals like Ivano Kupalo (St. Valentine's day).

The Church - regardless of which denomination one ascribes to - is a focal point of the community. If the Church fails to uphold the customs that make the Ukrainian Catholic or Orthodox Church so unique and separate to Rome - then it fails the community to which it serves.

Catholicism is the dominant religion amongst British Ukrainians. Recently, attendance amongst younger generations at church has declined drastically. Go to your local Church or Place of Holy Worship and take a look. The congregation is mainly made up of older generations of Ukrainians.

*Zdorov!* wished to raise the issue by obtaining the opinions of four different members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church (U.C.C.) to be interviewed about younger generations of Ukrainians.

Several weeks of negotiations took place to arrange the interviews and all members were at first enthusiastic. Gradually, we were given the cold shoulder from the three priests and the bishop. Initial confirmations became 'maybe' and 'I'll call you'.

We then recommended sending questionnaires which they could complete and return in their spare time. Again we were snubbed. As a last resort we asked if they would be prepared to pen an article about the relevance of the

U.C.C. to young people. The bishop declined but instead recommended us to a priest who we were told would "definitely do it." The priest declined but recommended another who also declined. Another priest failed to return our calls and a third agreed to a face to face interview but later became unreachable.



*Zdorov!* does not wish to blame any individual priest for their actions and we have decided not to name any of the participants. But we feel that orders were given from 'above' for the priests not to participate. If we are wrong then please correct us.

The Ukrainian community in Britain has been motivated throughout its history by a need to campaign for Ukrainian independence from Russian

imperialism. At the centre lies the Church which stands as a symbol of freedom and a fight for injustice. Religious worship, as you will know, was banned in the Soviet Union when Ukrainian churches were closed down. Now Ukraine is independent, are we not endangering the traditions to which our parents generation tried so hard to maintain. Is the church failing our future and at the same time digging its own grave.

I feel that urgent discussions are needed on the role of the U.C.C. within our community. Some questions which could be raised are :

- what is the role of the U.C.C.
- how does it differ from the Roman Catholic Church in light of recent moves in Ukraine to change the religious calendar
- will the U.C.C. convert to the R.C.C.
- how should the U.C.C. communicate to younger generations of Ukrainians who may follow different lifestyles, morals and beliefs.
- many Ukrainians will settle down with non-Ukrainians (some of the same sex). How should they be treated.
- should an atheist like myself still participate in religious celebration at Christmas or Easter.

The Ukraine Catholic Church is not a closed shop and should be made accountable for its actions. *Zdorov!* welcomes any rational debate on this matter and hopes that members of the U.C.C. will one day participate.

Peter Fundela

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# Talkback (part 2)

## The Church and YOU! - Should we bother?

As the Christmas days approach us, I wonder what they mean to us as British born Ukrainians. I use the word "days" for the obvious (or is it?) reason that there are indeed two of them. The newer Gregorian calendar Christmas (named after its instigator Pope Gregory) has in all but a few countries superseded the old Julian calendar Christmas that places Christmas on the 7th of January. As we know, Ukraine and most of Ukraine's diaspora adhere to the Julian calendar, although in Canada and America there are a small but not unnoticeable number of Ukrainians who have switched calendar allegiance.

Is Christianity alive in today's emigre Ukrainian community or is it merely symbolic; the reason that we 'have to' attend church twice a year. Does the fact that Ukraine's struggle for independence having been synonymous with its struggle to have a Christian identity, strike a religious chord in our hearts? When we think of prison camps in Siberia, do we also think of clandestine church services in forests or dimly lit living rooms, where secret priests and their faithful risked all to secretly say "Khrestos Razhdayetsya" to each other? Is this beautiful Slavonic Christmas greeting said with feeling and meaning to each other on the church steps after the Christmas liturgy or has it become a throw away remark, uttered simply to acknowledge our participation in what has become a bi-annual event for most of us? The other of course being the "Khrestos Voskres - and see you next Christmas" repeated every Easter.

Again - when we think of Bolshevik bulldozers demolishing Ukrainian churches as seen on archive film footage, do we see our empty Ukrainian churches here being spiritually demolished by our non attendance? Do we see the 'For Sale' notices on the closed doors in thirty years time, as a speculator sizes the building up for its potential as a carpet wholesalers warehouse? Do we ask ourselves : "Where will my Ivan marry his Lesia?" I know some of the answers given to the above questions. One of them is "Well - I am not against it - it's not like over there - I believe in God but you don't have to go to Church to prove it."

Sadly, I think the point is missed. Are our churches not part of our heritage; a testimony to our origins? Were they not built here because of those Bolshevik bulldozers "over there"?

I defy the people who give the above

answer to repeat this to their children whilst standing in a shop car park that used to be a Ukrainian church in thirty years time. I defy them to say the above in the face of questions such as "Mum, dad - why didn't you keep those lovely buildings going?" or "I saw a picture of one of them in the library the other day, why did it close? or "I wish we could have got married in front of an iconostas like you did." How will we differ from those Bolshevik bulldozers? The saying 'a church is its congregation' could not be more relevant than to us, today.

I for one do not wish to sound as if I am preaching, because I too sometimes miss Sundays at "Uki church", and then there are the numerous "sneak ins" just in time for the Gospel reading, hoping the priests eyes are fixed only on the Good Book. Maybe my Irish mother instilled a little bit of the "Catholic guilt" complex in me. If so - I am glad and grateful that I have it.

I would like to think I understand some of the reasons why many of us seemed to have turned away. One that comes to mind is the Catholic Patriarchal dispute. Bishop Horniak banned the pro-Patriarchal majority from entering their own churches. But now that he has gone, so has that reason for not going to church. For others the reason is simpler - they don't see a need for religion in Ukrainian community life. I am not going to try and convert them because I spoke of our identity earlier in this article, and for me, being of Ukrainian descent and being a Christian are synonymous. Siberia was full of priests, bishops and nuns as well as political activists. The point is they too were freedom fighters. They fought for the freedom to believe and to choose whether to believe or not. Despite having got slightly carried away I don't think it is all doom and gloom. Maybe we are too solemn about religion. Maybe we should just lighten up and get down to Church on Sundays. It doesn't hurt, and it makes the weekend longer. If you are a believer then you already know the spiritual benefits, and if you are not then maybe you'll become one.

I have always preferred the Ukrainian Catholic 'rite' (rituals, ceremony, singing etc.) but I must admit, I envy the attendance at my mother's R.C. church. It is a pity that our beautiful liturgy is sung by so few. We can change it. The voices that sing needn't keep getting older. Church choir rehearsals could fill our sometimes empty clubs. An important point to remember is that the first Ukrainian emigres used church as a

focal point to retain their identity. If, as is often mentioned, other activities continue to diminish, church could once again be what prevents us from losing our identity.

Stefan Pasicznyk (aka Ludwig)

### Church

And the dance is full of young  
And the church is full of old  
And their hearts and souls are warm  
Ours are prematurely cold.

Is our faith no longer sacred  
More than once or twice a year?  
Just content to show a face  
When Christmas time is coming near

We all make our excuses  
For our thoughts we can't defend  
We've told ourselves that wrong is right  
It's easy to pretend

That there's no eternal truth  
Or you don't need a church to pray  
Just hope that you are near one  
On the final Judgement Day

### Bells of Saint Sophia

I've come to see your wonder  
I've come to hear your song  
The beauty of your music  
The notes - they are prolonged  
You greet the congregation  
And those just passing by  
Your majestic chiming  
They'll remember all their lives

And once the world knew you  
As Cathedral Bells  
Built by skilled craftsmen  
They perfected you so well  
Beneath you they all worshiped  
They sung to the Divine  
And then they all knew you  
As the countries Holy Shrine

Bells of St. Sophia  
You sing out to the skies  
Bells of St. Sophia  
You shine up there on high

But then came the invaders  
They hated your old use  
They made you a museum  
How much they envied you!  
They told the congregation  
You cannot pray in here  
This is not the place of worship  
Do we make ourselves quite clear?

Bells of St. Sophia  
You sang out to the skies  
Bells of St. Sophia  
You shone up there on high

Stefan Pasicznyk

# Cyberukes

The very first issue of *Zdorov!* featured an article about the internet and what it means to Ukrainians. Now that more people are connected to the information superhighway, we delve into the fast lane and list the best and worst Uki web sites around. Happy surfin!

## Info-ukes

<http://www.infoukes.com>

This Canadian site contains an exhaustive directory of all things Ukrainian. Think sport, travel, culture, entertainment, religion, politics, books, business and a whole lot more. If you want to know the latest league position of Chernomorets Odessa F.C., look up hotel information in Kyiv, find a long-lost family member or read about the new Ukrainian Church in Brazil - then this is the site to come to. You can also access other Ukrainian web sites.

For all those lonely hearts out there, you can take a peek at the increasingly popular introduction web sites which feature pretty young Uki girls with dubious motives.

Although much of the information specifically caters for Ukrainian-Canadians, there is something to interest any Ukrainian wherever you live.

## The Unofficial Dynamo Kyiv homepage

<http://www.netwave.net/members/jarmola/index.html>

Well designed and well informed site offering up-to-date information on Ukrainian football news. The site isn't all Dynamo stuff but also includes news on the national team, the Ukrainian Premier league, latest FIFA world rankings, the history of Dynamo Kyiv, a photo album and much more. Since October 1st, over 10,000 people have visited the site which should surely make it the most popular site on Ukrainian football.

Reviewed by Peter Fundela

## How to make Ukrainian Easter Eggs

[www.isisnet.com/amorash/ukregg.htm](http://www.isisnet.com/amorash/ukregg.htm)

Thinking about firing off some pysanky but don't know how? This site gives you a good idea of the basic steps, do's and don'ts, ideas for designs and a list of places across North America where you can purchase equipment and exotic eggs like ostrich and rhea. There are some really garish looking pysanky on this page, which I can only assume are the products of a programme with a limited colour range.

## Ukrainian Customs and Information Page

[www.magi.com/~lomatski/customs.html](http://www.magi.com/~lomatski/customs.html)

This site has some pretty basic information about observances of Ukrainian holidays. If you know very little about the customs, this page will be a good place to start your research, but diehards won't find much that they didn't already know. The graphics are low with just your standard tryzub, but it does contain a modicum of humour ("Christmas comes but twice a year, so does Easter." Most quotes are from Myrosław Lomatski, who either maintains the site or is some wise relative of the page's owner.) And if

observing every single religious feast is your link of kobasa, this lists them all. If my mother knew how to use a computer she'd already be printing the list out.

## World Class Introductions

[www.world-class.com](http://www.world-class.com)

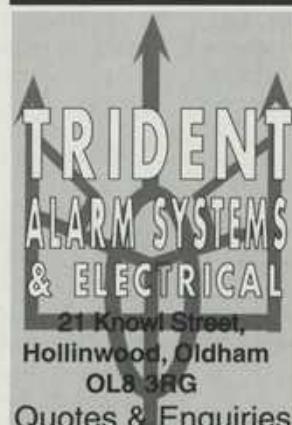
The lead into the site reads "World Class is the best introduction and marriage agency for single, white collar, professional and technical men of discerning taste, with a sincere desire to find a beautiful, well-educated, loving and faithful mate for life". This is not strictly a Ukrainian site but the majority of the ladies are Ukrainian and the agency boasts a success rate of 60%.

You can click on the pictures to go to a page titled, "Ordering Information". "I'd like two from Kazakhstan with a side order of three from Ukraine please." You're advised to contact a large number of women in order to ensure success. The catch is that the addresses are \$15 a piece (each 5th is free). You can order all 390 addresses on the site for \$375.00. Sounds good, eh.

If you're hopeless with the ladies, the site even provides a helpful page which gives you tips on what to write in your letters, i.e. "Ask her what makes her happy and sad," or "Tell her how you feel about love, marriage, the world getting smaller and everything else you think about." There's even a sample letter included, which I bet was copied verbatim by more than one of World Class' customers.

Most ladies are in their 20's, studying and would like to meet a man who is honest, caring, loving - the usual stuff. One lady who stands out above the rest is Olga who says "I'm serious. I study and popularise the Waldorf pedagogics. I hate treachery." You have been warned!

Reviewed by Yuriy Diakunchak. Many thanks to 'Zdorov Canada'. (edited by Peter Fundela)



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## Sviata Vechir

### Three things you need for the authentic Xmas Eve Supper

#### 1. Four Cloves of Garlic

Before you put any food out for your family or guests, you must get the setting of the table right. Spread your best tablecloth and carefully cover it with your second best one (the first one is for your ancestors). After placing some straw under the table, symbolic of the stable in which our Lord was born, you must then purify the eating area. Take your four cloves of garlic and place one in each of the four corners of the table and say out loud the following - "Evil power, dark power, go into the swamps, caverns, cliffs, deep waters - where the voice of the chicken cannot be heard, where the sun does not shine ....etc." This should make your table free of evil and ready for the arrival of your ancestors in the Didukh.

#### 2. A Didukh

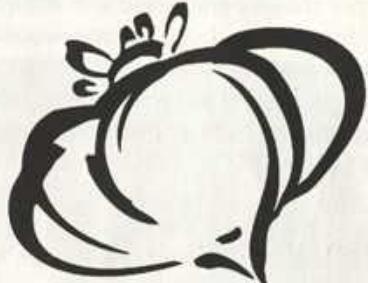
The word 'Didukh' translates as 'forefather' and is about as old as you'll get for a Ukrainian traditional ritual object. Formed from the best quality grain crop of the autumn, a Didukh is basically a sheaf of corn or wheat bound together with ribbons or a clean embroidered 'rushnyk' (towel). Being anything up to six feet tall, it is believed to be the home of the spirits of the family ancestors who have come in from the fields to share the Holy Season with their descendants. It is also symbolic of the belief in the afterlife and so in honour of the ancestors (and as a sign of respect for the work they've done during the year guarding the crops), the Didukh is given a central or prominent position in the house. If you really wish to be taken back to those old days, you can solemnly bring the Didukh into the house on Xmas Eve and in front of the whole family say "Didukh, you have made us full, given food and drink to us and our animals, guarded our fields from ill - give us continued prosperity in the next year".

You should then keep it in the house till Yordan then scatter it over your fields (or if you don't have any - burn it)!

#### 3. Two candles

The first one should really be made out of white beeswax and needs to be placed in the middle of your Kolach (no space to explain here). When lit it, it is symbolic of Christ who is the Light of the world, and with its lofty position, reminds us of the star that shone over Bethlehem at His birth. The second candle is to be placed in the window, visible from outside and is a sign that the house is celebrating Holy Supper and all are welcome. This is meant for any travellers or strangers alone on this special night, but also so that any of your ancestors who missed the Didukh can find their way to your house.

So with this detailed knowledge of our traditional heritage, I wish you all a Happy 'Sviata Vechir'!!



## Tripping Ukraine

There's a smelly drunken man sitting on your bed. He claims to be a big businessman but he is dressed in Goodwill rejects and is braying folk songs at the top of his voice.

Quick, where are you? If you said the Kyiv-Lviv express, then you've obviously been to Ukraine too many times for your own good. Drunken fools aside, the best way to travel throughout Ukraine is on the extensive train network. Everyone uses trains for travelling, and if you like to meet "real people" the train is the way to go.

The Kyiv-Lviv haul is a common route for tourists in Ukraine. Your chances of seeing other foreigners is good and the staff are reasonably hospitable.

The cutest train is the *Vuhlyk* (literally "Little Piece of Coal") which runs between Kyiv and Donetsk. Though it's an ungodly 20 hour ride, the staff are among the politest, most helpful government employees I've ever seen in Ukraine. The toilets are also a notch above the train loos (that's not saying much mind you).

If you're travelling alone, book yourself into a four-bed cabin. Chances of having an entertaining cabin mate are much higher than if you book a two-bed "private" room. Avoid the platz cars (read: cattle cars) unless you enjoy the company of many entertaining people.

As wily as you think you are, you are going to get pegged as

a foreigner as soon as you come within a hundred metres of the train station. Nonetheless it always surprises me how the locals want to protect your identity from the "bad people." I was in a cabin once with three well-wishers. When two left, the third leaned over and quietly asked me if I was from the West. Normally I would lie but I judged the person to be sincere so I said "yah, you found me out." We talked briefly until the other people reappeared and she clammed up. Funny thing is, the other two people did the exact same thing in their own turn later in the trip. Each thought they were the only one that knew I was a foreigner and didn't want anyone else to find out. I wanted to tell them that the entire train was probably in on their little "secret" about two minutes after I boarded, but that would have spoiled the fun.

**Yuriy Diakunchak - (taken from 'Zdorov Canada')**

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Walk into any Uki household and the first thing that captures your eye is the Ukrainian embroidered cushions and painted vases. To some they smack of bad taste, to others they are a beautiful artform. **Maria Koropecy** points the finer elements of Uki kitsch ...

## All things nice and kitsch....

I had a dream that I walked into a warehouse full of kitsch. Not just any kitsch, Ukrainian kitsch. There were salt and pepper shakers embossed with embroidery patterns, ornate drinking glasses, Luba records, wooden engravings of Taras Shevchenko, black lacquer boxes with red flowers painted on them, huge dolls on Ukrainian clothing - dolls whose eyes followed me wherever I walked. To my surprise, the vision was beautiful.

When I woke up, I realised I never paid much attention to any of this Ukrainian cultural flotsam that has surrounded me all of my life. OK, maybe I've been ignoring it, but you can only tune things out for so long. Some people love kitsch; others hate it. Whatever your view, kitsch is everywhere. According to Webster's Encyclopedic Dictionary, kitsch is simply defined as "professionally produced art in bad taste." Gill Dorfles' *Kitsch: The World of Bad Taste* tackles the subject with a certain lack of sensitivity or respect. "The relationship between the tourist and the environment that surrounds him is only rarely genuine, and it is the veil of falseness, imi-

tation and admiring sentimentality that more often than not makes the world as it appears to the tourist, vomit kitsch all over itself."

On the other hand, Natalka Husar, a Ukrainian artist who lives in Toronto, really enjoys kitsch. She has "a big appetite" for popular culture and incorporates it into her paintings. "I never think of these items as kitsch," Husar says.

Husar genuinely appreciates what others consider bad taste or, at the very least, common. "There's something about these items that have tactile, or sensual appeal. They have that kind of base appeal, like fuzzy pink slippers," the artist says.

"Plushness. Velvet. I hate it but I love it. Quite often I think of kitsch as ridiculous - like a 3-D postcard - it has an excessiveness about it."

She continues to defend these objects. "I don't look down on things like instant embroidery. It's appealing in that it's very instant. It's part of that instant American culture. Squeeze here and apply. Lick here. Instant gratification. It's kind of fascinating."

Husar uses items of popular culture as props in her paintings because, "they're heavy with baggage. They have social, economic, aesthetic baggage. Quite often, religious connotations too."

"Once an artist reinterprets kitsch into another medium like painting," Husar contends, "you free it from its baggage and give it another set of baggage. One thinks of kitsch as somehow insignificant or tacky or in bad taste," she says, "but if you think of it as popular culture, it becomes legitimate. As we're nearing the end of the 20th century is of great relevance."

Sometimes people don't have a clue where their kitsch has come from. Many of us acquire kitsch as gifts, and since the

### Brit v Uki - Top Ten Kitsch items

BRITS

UKIS

- 1 Bet Lynch's earrings
- 2 Fibre-optic lamps
- 3 Carry on films
- 4 Chopper bikes
- 5 Flowered wallpaper
- 6 Hoppers
- 7 'Demis Roussos' L.P.s
- 8 Babycham
- 9 Large (head-cover) hairdryers
- 10 False eyelashes

- 1 Eagle carvings
- 2 Cossack dolls
- 3 Taras Bulba video
- 4 'Troika' LP
- 5 Embroidered cushions
- 6 Pictures of Ukrainian girls
- 7 Embroidered armchair covers
- 8 Wooden patterned spoons
- 9 Uki style mugs
- 10 Wooden pysanky

items have taken up residence among the various knicker-knacks in the home, guilt overpowers the impulse of throwing it out.

Often, you inherit it from family. It passes to you from parents or grandparents who decorated their homes with what they perceived as a true representation of Ukrainian to comfort them and to remind them of their homeland.

Arguably, none of these kitschy things (from mugs with your name on them to pyrogi fridge magnets), accurately represent or remotely resemble anything you'd find in Ukraine.

A large source of Ukrainian kitsch is Elsie Enterprises. Elsie Yormal's company has been selling Ukrainian porcelain products full time out of her Ontario home since 1969. She buys the porcelain, or whiteware, from East Asia, Germany, the Czech Republic and the United States, applies the embroidered decals that she imports primarily from Italy, then ships them all over Canada, the U.S., Australia and England.

Occasionally Elsie buys things like wood carvings or paintings from Ukraine, but most of her products are assembled in her home. She employs two part-timers who can turn out a mug in about 10 minutes. Larger pieces, like vases, take 20 minutes to half an hour. The most expensive product is a set of dishes that sell for \$600.

I saw some of Elsie's work in a tiny gift store in the Ukrainian Canadian Cultural Centre in Victoria, B.C. One particular item caught my eye. It was a porcelain mushroom decorated with a red and black embroidery pattern, too big to be a pepper shaker. As it turned out, you're supposed to keep it by the sink to store powdered cleanser. Practical kitsch!

Love it or hate it, kitsch is with us. Future archeologists will find this porcelain mushroom and will ponder its meaning. They might even conclude that it was a very important item with sacred cultural meaning.

by Maria Koropecky  
Reproduced by permission from  
Zdorov Canada



## FACE TO FACE - with Myroslav Levytskiy from 'Braty Blusu'.

**Braty Blusu was formed in 1992 by the brothers Myroslav and Oleh Levytskiy in Kalush, West Ukraine. The band recorded the biggest Ukrainian hit in 1993 with the song "Authentic Life". They also became the first Ukrainian group to have an hour long interview shown on MTV. Another achievement was to perform for President Bill Clinton during his state visit to Ukraine in 1995.**

*This year marks 'Braty Blusu's' fifth anniversary, and you celebrated with a big concert yesterday in the Ivano-Frankivsk theatre. Tell us a little about how your group formed and how the last five years have been?*

My younger brother Oleh and I formed 'Braty Blusu' as a duet in Kalush in May 1992. Other musicians joined soon afterwards, such as bass guitarist Andriy Melnyk, vocalist/violinist Andriy Valaha, lead guitarist Serhiy Taftay and drummer Andriy Vintserkiy.

We got our big break in Summer 1993 by winning the Ukrainian rock festival 'Chervona Ruta' and so became the best group to appear. Our short career nearly ended the day after the festival when our front man, Andriy Valaha suffered a near fatal stroke as we travelled home to Kalush. We nearly disbanded but luckily, we decided to stay together but not take part in any competitions.

In 1994 we toured Western Europe and we realised that our style of music could appeal to a Western audience and so this year, we performed for a German music producer who is very interested. If everything works out well with the record company he works for, maybe our dreams of performing in the West will come true.



'Braty Blusu' and Mariana behaving normally

At present, we are planning to tour Ukraine and for this we need to attract sponsors.

*Do you have any hope that Andriy will ever appear with the group again?*

I would want to but am not sure whether or when this would be possible.

He kept the whole group together, being the force behind us all. Andriy's departure shook the group up and our roles had to change. My younger brother Oleh became lead vocalist, and we were joined by violinist Oleksandr (Sashko) Dzuhan.

We also had to prove ourselves at this time, because some people in the Ukrainian music business were already predicting that our group would fall through without Andriy.

At the moment we are in a relatively stable situation, having worked hard to get where we are. But I must admit that I hope that Andriy will return. He is an extraordinary personality and a very close friend -- we have known each other for almost twenty years.

*There is a new rising star on the Ukrainian music scene, an eighteen year old singer who calls herself Ani Lorak (real name, Karolina, spelled backwards), who guested at your anniversary concert. When did you start to work together?*

Two years ago, I received a call from a Ukrainian music producer who had started working with a young unknown singer, and asked me to listen to her. Karolinka was only sixteen at the time, but I was immediately struck by the energy that she projected. Nothing of this kind had been heard on the Ukrainian stage before; she expressed emotion without exaggeration during her performance, behaving in a completely natural manner. She is also the first artist in Ukraine to sing soul, and her interpretation is amazing. Other Ukrainian artists are completely afraid to try out something new, but she is a very brave and talented young lady, and just went ahead and did it!

Our first concert together was in 1996, during which she sang one of our songs called 'Zaklyate Kolo' (Vicious Circle), and



Myroslav with Mariana outside the Blues Cafe

after that she was discovered in a big way. Appearances on television soon followed, and she even won first prize in an international singing competition in New York. I am very proud of her, and am totally convinced that she has a big career ahead of her.

*Ani Lorak often works in Moscow, and also sings in Russian. Other Ukrainian artists are worried that the Russian language is once more taking over in the music business in Ukraine. As a Ukrainian musician, how do you comment?*

I think there is a certain danger that the Russian language could take over. Performers taking part in all-Ukrainian music festivals only win because of the way they present themselves. It does not matter to the organisers and sponsors what the performers political and national viewpoints are. The performers will just sing their Ukrainian song, win the competition, and that's it. Also, more of these competitions and festivals are coming under Russian influence. Consequently, the artist will readily sing in Russian.

In my opinion, the Ukrainian spirit and patriotism should not be a show on a stage, it should be real, and it should start with the organisers, the sponsors and the jury.

Another situation is that a large amount of money is spent on promoting Russian artists living in Ukraine that sing in the Ukrainian language. This is a terrible state of affairs, because if a Russian artist comes over and sings in his own language, that is acceptable. But if the artist sings in Ukrainian just for the publicity and for the money, then that is a completely different matter. Usually in this case, many concert and festival organisers say how wonderful it is that songs are sung in Ukrainian. This means absolutely nothing, because if the political situation changed tomorrow, they would all immediately start singing in a completely different language.

Whilst on the subject of money, the economical structure in Ukraine is very unstable. Financing plays a huge role in the music business everywhere, but in Ukraine it is a catastrophic situation. Money is disappearing and no one knows where it all goes. Many performers have to pay music producers to work for them.

And so to Ani Lorak. After the last 'Chervona Ruta' Festival, no one could decide who was to take over the promotion and production work for her. Nothing was actually done, it was all talk. Then it was too late. An artist of her calibre should never be left aside for too long, and so the inevitable happened; a music producer from Moscow literally snapped her up.

This is not surprising. No one should blame her for this. If anyone is to blame, it's the Ukrainian producers and sponsors because they let her slip through their fingers. They should, first of all, think about who they are wasting their money on, namely the so called cheap pop-wave that's spreading through Ukraine at the moment.

*'Braty Blusu' only sing in Ukrainian. Will this remain?*

I don't think we'll be singing in Russian. It's an extremely difficult situation due to the fact that cash flows in the wrong direction and the West only finances what can be commercially successful. We are still holding on at the moment, but

I can't say what the future holds for us.

*Do you have a few words the readers of Zdorov!*

I would like to say that even though I am aware that your lifestyle in the West is completely different to ours, I do harbour a feeling of certain pride that you have managed to keep up Ukrainian traditions and retain the mother language despite some of you being second and third generations. It's people like you that often enough recognise and support Ukrainian artists and musicians in Ukraine, and in doing so, help us to carry on with our work. As you already know, we are usually let down by our own people, and so your support is worth a lot to us. Thank you.

Mariana Dzus-Kourylo.

## S.O.S.

**TO ALL UKRAINIAN DANCE GROUPS.** Mariana's got 30 dancers and is running out of ideas and recorded music. CAN YOU PLEASE HELP. If so write to her at the following address : Mariana Dzus Kourylo, Ulmentrasse 6, 82024 TAUFKIRCHEN, GERMANY.

**Finally - TO ALL SINGLE CONFIDENT AND SENSIBLE YOUNG LADIES..** Myroslav, 34 would like to get to know you. The only requirement is that you have to speak Ukrainian. Please send any correspondence to the above address.

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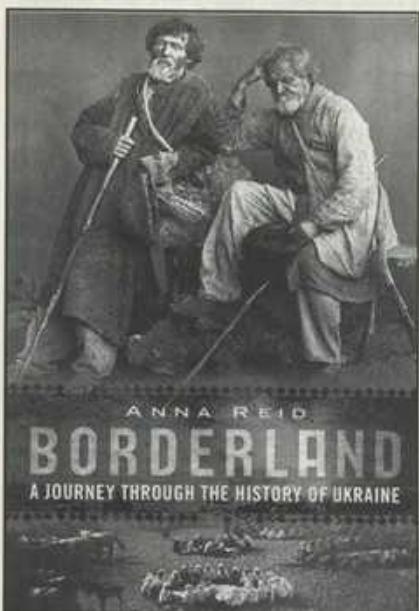
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# Reviews

## Books

'Borderland' a journey through the history of Ukraine - Anna Reid



What is it that makes Ukraine different? To be honest, most people in this country have little idea of our history and would probably be interested to be educated about this. 'Borderland' aims to do just that, spreading its 250 pages across a millennium from Wolodymyr to Kuchma, (from the first glimmering of separateness to the full blown independence of today), attempting to explain through history the what where and why of Ukraine.

Beginning with the famous choice made by Wolodymyr between, Catholicism, Judaism, Islam and Orthodoxy, firmly setting Ukraine between the Catholic West and the Islamic East, the book is a pleasure to read. Though it is not really aimed at people like myself (I like to think that I know quite a lot about Ukrainian history), at every page I found new revelations, or little bits of padding which gave flavour to otherwise undigestible facts - for example Wolodymyr had 800 concubines before conversion to Christianity, and the 'famine' probably killed 34 people for every letter in a history book written about the subject! Many chapters are illustrated with poetry and literature from our most famous writers, some quotes even from 'Taras Bulba'.

Through all aspects of Ukrainian histo-

ry, particularly twentieth century, Anna deals with facts frankly and even handedly. Sometimes this gives much needed publicity to the sufferings of Ukrainians which most diaspora organisations would welcome, while at other times the lack of humanity shown by some Ukrainian groups against 'ethnic or political enemies' takes away any feelings of sympathy. In fact it is difficult to come to terms with the numbers of people murdered, starved or 'deported' during and between the two wars when the political and racial intolerance of the world was at its height - up to twelve million before the second world war, then an astonishing five million more (or one in six of the remaining population) - two million of whom were Jews - during it; She even throws some light on the eternal debates of the 'Banderivtsi' and 'Meinikivtsi', the role of OUN and the fate of 'Polish' Ukrainians.

Her recent knowledge of Ukraine (she was correspondent for the Telegraph and the Economist), allows the final chapters to be very informed and relevant, and surprisingly optimistic about Ukraine's future. Trying to cover the history of a country in one book is not easy, indeed some would say impossible, but this book manages to give a concise overview with many enlightening details and is certainly worth the read. Buy it and brighten up your collection by keeping it alongside those larger and more ponderous detailed and dusty books we all have.

'English - Ukrainian Dictionary of Business' - Alexander Krouglov, Katya Kurylko, Dmytro Kostenko.

Aimed at people in business who use Ukrainian language, this new book translates English business and technical words into Ukrainian equivalents and phrases. Due to the large difference between Ukrainian and English, it is very seldom that one technical word has a direct equivalent, so most of the book consists of an English word followed by a short paragraph in Ukrainian, in which the various subtleties of meaning and interpretation are expressed. You would think that this defeats the object of the dictionary (i.e. you have to understand Ukrainian before you can use it), but this is not the case as, unless you are in business you would never come across

the terms. For example, how do you translate the word 'operative', 'equity', or 'goodwill'? The translation gives many interpretations and examples of the applications of each entry. In many cases of course, the Ukrainian words have been imported from the west, so 'overdraft' is just transliterated, as is 'economist' and 'embargo'.

There is no doubt that this book is definitely needed, so if you are (or are thinking of being) in business, or if you just wish to brush up your technical Ukrainian language, make sure you get a copy.

**Ukrainian Phrasebook - The Lonely Planet language survival kit**



Pocket sized and budgeted, the Lonely Planet's Ukrainian Phrasebook fill a gap in the market that many of us have been looking for. Written exactly like those German, French or Greek phrasebooks, and just as full of useful phrases, the book even gives brief language and grammar lessons. 'De mozhna koopiti kvitok na awtoboos?' is a good example of how to pronounce sentences, although they also give you the correct stresses. They try to help the more adventurous traveller with 'oo vas ye vehetareeans'kee stravi?', a question unlikely to give a positive response. Complete with dictionary, sections on shopping, eating out, travel etc., this is a welcome accompaniment to any Ukrainian journey.

Peter Solowka

# Reviews

## Concerts

'Veseli Halychani' Bradford Ukrainian Centre, 26th October



Folk bands from Ukraine were quite a novelty in the late eighties and early nineties. As soon as the 'iron curtain' corroded away, musical exchange seemed to be the thing to do, with our musicians touring Ukraine, and theirs coming to England. Strangely though, last month's performance was the first such band I had seen since the start of the nineties.

Opening with a medley of folk tunes, Veseli Halychani quickly showed what competent musicians they are. Effortlessly moving between tunes and speeds, it was very easy to see that they play often, and enjoy what they do. Three fiddles, tsymbali, double bass and flute/clarinet made them quite different from most of the groups in the UK (i.e. they didn't have an accordion!), in fact the overall sound is closer to what most people would call 'Klezmer'. The show varied between instrumentals, comedy sketches (very rural and slapstick), and then really came to life when Irena Svitlana sang with them. Her style was more reminiscent of Soviet semi-operatic folk singing than the Ukrainian we are more familiar with, but their credentials and language show that they are the 'genuine article' - just different from our artists. They avoided most of the 'famous' tracks, putting hints of them in the more elaborate medleys and songs, and always making each piece very varied.

In all they played a large number of concerts, mainly in the north, to appre-

ciative audiences, even jamming with local musicians after the shows.

Altogether, a pleasure to watch and I hope that we'll see them again soon.

## Albums

Vopli Vidopliassova (V.V.) - 'Muzika'



This group have been an important part of the Ukrainian music scene for some years now, and although they have had many line-up changes and spent much time living in France, they have returned home in a big way. With excellent artwork and great songs this is clearly the best LP produced to date.

The opening track of the album 'Vesna' has been an enormous summer hit record in Ukraine. With a real 'sing-a-long' chorus, powerful guitars and mixed with a wonderful (if French sounding) accordion, such a song could be a hit anywhere. Recorded in Paris and Kyiv, the rest of the LP has many well written, sometimes tense, sometimes light songs, each individual but at the same time unmistakably 'V.V.' To finish with, they play two folk tunes, but with interesting interpretations, partly emotional, partly humorous. All in all great modern music that should be part of any Ukrainian music lovers collection.

Recently they played to thousands in Kyiv using the Red Army Choir as part of their rock stage show (an interesting twist of history), and their music is accepted so well that they have toured Russia. In fact they are doing so well that a large soft drinks manufacturer

offered them wads of money in sponsorship, a deal which they blew by saying "I'm not drinking this s\*\*\*\*" at a live press conference arranged to publicise the deal. However, until the world becomes educated to the sounds and inflections of the Ukrainian language it is likely that groups as good as 'V.V.' will be restricted to the home country of their language. Still, buy the CD if you get a chance.

Green Grey - 'Chudo-Ostrow'

Most of this LP is made of 'very hip' break beats and grunge guitars plus an almost rap style, but still identifiable as songs. Using a very radio one sound (but still of a few years ago) most of rhythm section programmed with a healthy use of samples. It is refreshing to hear Ukrainian music in a modern style with lots of energy. Only difference from many of MOR groups is the Ukrainian language. While the songs could be direct copies of western material, they certainly grow on you. One track called 'Trance' is not in that style but due to the derivative nature of the music it's difficult to tell if the title is meant to be a joke! Certainly, the music is not, and this group is part of the developing diversity and sophistication of the Ukrainian music scene.

Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra - Classical Music of Ukraine

Part of ASV Ltd's large collection of classical music, the two CD's I was given to review cover the works of Ukrainian composers of the 20th century.

The names Kolessa, Skoryk, Glere and Stankovich meant little to me until I saw these CDs, for although relatively famous in Ukraine, their work has not travelled extensively to the west. To add to their problems, the subjects of their works are almost entirely Ukrainian. All of them borrow from folk tradition and themes i.e. 'Orchards blooming in the Carpathians', 'The Dance of the Zaporizhians', but most of the works are based around stories. Skoryk's contribution is 'The Hutsul

# Reviews Reviews *Reviews* Reviews

'Tryptych' (1965) a classical interpretation of the story in the classic film 'Shadows of our Forgotten Ancestors', while Gliere's contribution is the 'Taras Bulba Ballet Suite' (1952), written to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Gogol's death. As I'm not a great fan of classical music, it is difficult for me to comment on the quality of the music, but what I can say is that the recording is very good and the artwork and packaging (12 page CD booklet with each) is excellent (see back cover). Ukrainian classical music fans will love these, others may do, but they are certainly very collectable records.

Peter Solowka

'Kolo' - 'The Ukrainian Music of Great Britain'. Various Artists



In the social club bars you can hear the old folks complaining: "you young people don't speak the Ukrainian language, you don't know the dances, you don't sing the traditional songs ..." Familiar scenario? So, how it is that this 'Kolo' album exists? Surely it

can't be the children and grandchildren, the 'apathetic' 2nd and 3rd generation British-born Ukis, who have produced it?

Well, actually it is ... and the result is both fresh and intensely emotional. One minute you will be whipped up to a frenzy reminiscent of the rash, unbridled passions of youth and the next you will find yourself immersed in the melancholy and bitterness the older, history-torn generation. On the way you'll meet Kozaks and young women; you'll see them married and the men go off to war; you'll encounter white cottages, fruit-laden orchards and ... children's!

The old folks needn't fret. London, Manchester, Nottingham or Derby may have become the young people's 'celo', but the Carpathians are still on the horizon; they may walk the streets of Britain but they can surely still sense the black earth under their feet.

'Kolo' isn't a 'snapshot' album of Ukrainian culture, or even of Ukrainian culture in Britain; it reproduces truly moving pictures from inside the Ukrainian psyche and beams them across time and across generations .... into your living room.

Put it on the CD-player, let the sounds and images fill your mind, flood your senses, and move you to tears.

Len Liggins

## Films

### 'Jackie Chan's First Strike'

When I think of Jackie Chan, the last thing that pops into mind is quality cinema. But when I heard that Ukraine was to have a bit part in his newest movie, I figured what the heck.

The movie starts with Chan travelling to Ukraine to thwart a CIA agent gone bad who just scooped up a Ukrainian nuke. The opening scenes are a bit geographically confusing. Chan is supposed to be in Crimea, but all of a sudden he's at the bottom of a very tall and snow covered mountain that is more reminiscent of the Carpathians. Don't worry, the rest of the plot doesn't make much sense either.

I recommend this movie only to Jackie Chan fans and people who simply can't pass up seeing blue and yellow helicopters and tryzub adorned police officers. Purists will be happy to know that all the signs appearing in the movie are written in Ukrainian and the Uki characters speak in Ukrainian as opposed to Russian. The best Ukraine related material is in the opening scenes when Chan gets a vast stack of kupony (Ukraine's former currency) in exchange for a few US dollars.

If you really want to see it, wait for the video and rent it with Taras Bulba.

Yuriy Diakunchak, taken from 'Zdorov North America'

## the Ukrainians

Kultura Tour Shirts



Black XL long  
sleeved T-shirt with  
red lettering and  
magenta 'statue' design.

Believed to be sold out over a year ago, a small number have been made available due to German store returns.

£8.99 inc P&P to 'The Ukrainians'  
P.O. Box 67, Leeds LS5 3TE, England

Due to the nature of the store packaging, these shirts may need ironing before wear

New LP out April '98

# Sports Review

## Ukraine knocked out of World Cup

Ukraine's brave World Cup run came to an end with a crashing defeat away to Croatia in the first leg of the play offs. Ukraine finished second in their Group below Germany and drew the Croats for a place in the finals next year.

### Croatia 2-0 Ukraine 29/10/97

Ukraine went behind by two goals in the first half of this game. A lacklustre side played below-par against a Croatian team who could have been beaten on another night. Ukraine's goalkeeper should have saved the weak shot which produced the first goal but could do nothing about the second.

The most controversial moment came in the second half when Ukraine were unlucky to have a goal disallowed. In a repeat of Geoff Hurst's World Cup goal of 66', the ball hit the underside of the bar and bounced behind the line. But the referee judged awarded a goal-kick.

### Ukraine 1-1 Croatia 15/11/97

Ukraine started well and attacked the Croatian defence for the first 15 minutes which led to a goal from Shevchenko. But a disallowed goal and an equaliser in the first half dampened the team spirit and they were disappointing for the rest of the match.

The goal, from Vitalij Kosovski was ruled off-side despite replays proving the goal was on-side. Afterwards, a poll revealed that 67% of Ukrainians described the exit as a national disaster. Coach Sabo has already admitted that if Ukraine failed to make the finals, he would resign.

Manchester United, Milan's AC and Inter and Arsenal are all chasing Andriy Shevchenko.

Both United and AC have made enquiries whilst Inter have made a bid of 13 million dollars. Arsenal are looking to replace Ian Wright and Arsene Wenger travelled to Kyiv to see 21 year old Shevchenko score in Kyiv's World Cup draw with Croatia. However Arsenal would not be prepared to pay the full asking price.

Shevchenko, who is valued by the player's agent, former Chelsea striker Tommy Langley at 12 million pounds (\$20.2 million) has recently signed a new three year contract with Dynamo and would not wish to leave the club whilst they are still in Europe. In a recent interview, he said he has still a lot to learn from Dynamo coach Labanovsky who is highly regarded.

AC Milan have also made enquiries about the availability of Dynamo Kyiv's Andriy Gusin. Other news - Liverpool are interested in Dynamo and national defender Alexander Holovko and Spanish club Bezenar and Lazio are interested in Sergij Rebrov. Jurij Maxymov has been transferred to Werder Bremen following the end of his contract with Dynamo.

## Clubs fight over Shevchenko

## Dynamo Kyiv through to last eight

Dynamo Kyiv had to qualify to reach the last 16 teams that make up the Champions League of the European Cup. Dynamo beat Welsh champions Barry Town 6-0 on aggregate and Brondby 4-3 on aggregate. Here is a quick run down of their progress to the last 8.

### PSV Eindhoven 1-3 Dynamo Kyiv 17/9/97

Two headers from Maxymov and Rebrov exposed PSV's defensive weakness. PSV equalised on 40 minutes from Jonk's free kick but the second goal from Rebrov on 47 minutes was the turning point. PSV brought on Luc Nilis who made an impact in the attack setting up Cucu who struck the post. But Dynamo continued to challenge and Shevchenko scored in injury time following a break away from a PSV attack.

### Dynamo Kyiv 2-2 Newcastle Utd 1/10/97

Dynamo wasted a two goal lead from Serhij Rebrov and Andrij Shevchenko. Asprilla was carried off injured after 22 minutes and Newcastle looked weak without any attack. But a mistake from Dynamo goalkeeper Shovkovsky allowed John Beresford to pull a goal back on 28 minutes. Worse was to come when Newcastle fought back and Beresford claimed a deflection from Olexandor Golovko to equalise.

### Dynamo Kyiv 3-0 Barcelona 22/10/97

Rebrov scored the first goal on 6 minutes, taking a pass from Kalivintsev and scoring from a tight angle. Dynamo went two up when Shevchenko's goal deflected to the path of Maxymov who volleyed from close range. Barcelona couldn't muster up an attack and showed their weakness in defence when Shevchenko was brought down by their goalkeeper, Hesp after outplaying two defenders. That earned the Barcelona keeper a red card. A third goal from Kalivintsev two minutes from time left the visitors at the bottom of the group with just one point.

### Barcelona 0-4 Dynamo Kyiv 5/11/97

Shevchenko showed why he is the most gifted player in Europe after a first half hat-trick which strengthened Dynamo's lead at the top of the group. The 21 year old ran circles around the defence all night and headed the first two goals. The defender Sergi brought down Shevchenko for a penalty which completed the hat-trick. In the second half Sergi was sent off for hand-ball. Another defensive error led to the fourth goal scored by Sergij Rebrov. Barcelona were without the suspended keeper Hesp who was replaced by Baia after injury.

### Dynamo Kyiv 1-1 PSV Eindhoven 27/11/97

Dynamo booked their place in the quarter-finals with a superb goal from Sergij Rebrov from a superb Shevchenko cross on 19 minutes. PSV pushed for an early equaliser but their finishing was poor. Shevchenko and Rebrov were outstanding in attack and in the second half, they were both denied goals by some fine goalkeeping from Waterreus. However a slack defence allowed de Bilde the easiest of goals to equalise on 65 minutes from 10 yards.

# Sports Review

## World Athletics Championships

### Bubka retains championship

Ukraine won two gold medals to finish fifth in the medals table at the World Athletics Championships held in Athens. Shot putter Bagach won gold with a distance 21.47m.

But the biggest cheer of the nine-day championship went to Sergij Bubka who collected his sixth consecutive world championship medal and £60,000. This brings his total earnings to over \$10 million collected in personal appearances and endorsements since his first championship 14 years ago.

Russia's Maksim Tarasov had cleared 5.69 metres but Bubka opted to miss the height to equalise and instead raised the bar to 6.01, a height only cleared by two other men. Bubka has cashed in on his skill to raise the world record by a centimetre - a feat he has achieved 35 times.

The 80,000 capacity stadium held their breath as Bubka cleared the bar.

Bubka was forced out of competing in the Olympic games due to surgery on the Achilles heel and only started training four months before the championships.

## FIFA rankings

Ukraine have moved to 49th in the FIFA World Rankings following their recent run in the World Cup qualifying championships. The position is a move of 10 places from a year ago and two places since October 1997.

The points are calculated on the basis of the team's performance in the previous 6 years. The amount of points obtained by a team is devalued by 1/6 each year.

## TABLES

### World Cup Qualifying - Group 9

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Germany	10	6	4	0	23	9	22
Ukraine	10	6	2	2	10	6	20
Portugal	10	5	4	1	12	4	19
Armenia	10	1	5	4	8	17	8
N. Ireland	10	1	4	5	6	10	7
Albania	10	1	1	8	7	20	4

### Play off Matches

1st leg Wed 29th October Croatia v Ukraine 2-0  
2nd leg Sat 15th November Ukraine v Croatia 1-1

Croatia qualify 3-1 on aggregate

### Current league table 'Champions League' - Group C

Team	Games	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Dynamo Kyiv	5	3	2	0	13	4	11
PSV Eindhoven	5	2	2	1	6	6	8
Newcastle	5	1	1	3	5	8	4
Barcelona	5	1	1	3	5	2	4

Newcastle play Dynamo Kyiv at home on the 10th December 1997. We have a full match report in the Spring issue of *Zdorov!*

### Final Results - World Cup Qualifying

N. Ireland	0-1	Ukraine
Ukraine	2-1	Portugal
Portugal	1-0	Ukraine
Albania	0-1	Ukraine
Ukraine	2-1	N. Ireland
Germany	2-0	Ukraine
Ukraine	1-1	Armenia
Ukraine	0-0	Germany
Ukraine	1-0	Albania
Armenia	0-2	Ukraine

**Puma**

**Ukrainian Official  
National Team Shirt**

**As worn in the latter stages of the world cup qualifying games of 1997!!**

Sizes S, M, L, XL. All at £39.95 plus £1.50 P&P

Total price for each shirt £41.45

Supplies are likely to be very limited and processed strictly on a first come first served basis

**Cheques payable to Zdorov, 63 Royal Park Terrace, Leeds LS6 1EX**

Please note: - We do everything in our power to obtain the football shirts within 28 days. Cheques are cashed on dispatch of goods. Please feel free to enquire about your order if you have received nothing after 28 days.



### 'Dynamo Kiev' Polo & Sweat Shirts

Blue 'D' & 'Kiev' embroidered onto marble / grey sweat or polo shirt. ('Ukraine' in yellow optional)

Both Sweat and Polo shirts are priced at £15.00 plus £1.50 P&P. Total price £16.50

**Available April '98! OFFICIAL DYNAMO KIEV SHIRTS - SEE ZDOROV SPRING ISSUE**

Dear *Zdorov!*

With reference to your article '10 reasons why varenyki are better than sex', I have to disagree with Cosmic Kozak's first reason 'You can get varenyki'.

I have found sex more readily available (without paying for it!) than a plate of varenyki.

Working as a T.V. cameraman I have had the unenviable task of following the Formula One Grand Prix. As you can imagine, this terrible assignment has taken me to 18 countries, 100 restaurants, 40 airport lounges, 150+ bars, 20 hotels and 18 Marlboro Party's.

I have craved and searched for a plate of varenyki but to no avail. While in Sama Jama - Japan, I asked Mr Puch, a Japanese cook to fix me up with a po-tsi-ja, only to receive a chop 'krylati' style instead.

**Little Brani, Shiga-ken, Japan**

Dear Brani,

*I don't envy your job. I thought I had it tough editing this magazine. It makes me realise just how lucky I am.*

*When you say you find sex more readily available than varenyki - do you mean the cable TV in your bedroom? I think I should speak to your brother.*

Dear *Zdorov!*,

I refer to the article 'Other Communities Running Scared' mentioned in the Autumn 1997 edition.

Slavko Mykosowski ceased to be our manager on 7th June 1997 after the football match in Coventry. His views published in your article are not of those expressed by the rest of the football team. I, being the new manager of the football team was not aware of his remarks or comments and in no way did he either consult with myself or the rest of the football team before submitting them to you.

On behalf of Manchester Dynamo I would like to say how profoundly annoyed and embarrassed we are by the article and I would like to stress that these comments are not the views expressed by the team.

His attempt at a 'satirical' and 'witty' comment on the game has not been interpreted by the team here in Manchester as funny or amusing

whatsoever and I am sure that this article may have caused offense in other communities.

Here in Manchester, we are attempting to 'build bridges' with other communities to encourage and promote both cultural and sporting activities. We do not need derogatory or provocative statements to attract attention. If after reading this anyone is still interested in organising a match, I would be grateful if you would please contact me.

**Marko Szablinskyj - Tel : 0161 205-9605 or Stefan Sozansky - 01663 762648. c/o Manchester Dynamo**

Dear Marko,

*Thanks for your letter. I'm sorry if Slawko's letter caused any offense but I'm sure he didn't mean it. Meanwhile I look forward to revenging Zdorov's defeat at Coventry and working with Manchester Dynamo and other clubs to establish a proper Ukrainian football league.*

Dear *Zdorov!*

I value your magazine as it is very interesting as it gives me an insight into Ukrainian youth. Good health.

**Teodor Danyliw, West Ealing**

Dear *Zdorov!*,

Thanks for a good magazine. I was wondering if it would be possible to print times and waveband of programmes from the Ukraine as they seem to be changing constantly.

While on holiday in Malta I was lucky enough to listen to the Easter Sunday services from Kyiv.

**Mr J Streluk, Staffs**

*If any reader knows the waveband to any Ukrainian programmes, please contact Zdorov! In the meantime, check out the BBC World Service ad on page 2 for details of their Ukrainian programme.*

Dear *Zdorov!*

Your Autumn issue carries a letter from G.J. Palmi in response to an appeal I had made in the previous *Zdorov!* for any information about a village called Bilka. Mr Palmi correctly points out that there was a mistake in that article and voiced concern that there may have been a 'deliberate change of facts'.

The article was badly written - the precise location of Bilka was at that time unknown to me and I was, there-

fore, attempting to point out that this village was within the lands that were under Polish (rather than Soviet) rule prior to the Nazi-Soviet Pact of 1939, which then delivered that area of Western Ukraine into Soviet hands, until the subsequent Nazi invasion of 1941. So apologies for the mistake, which was all my own and not of Zdorov's doing, and my reassurances to G.J. Palmi that I was not trying to 'distort the facts': of course, that area was under Nazi occupation at the time which was indeed the cause of my father's deportation to Austria, (Germany). Thank you for pointing out my mistake but please don't blame *Zdorov!*

I would like also to thank the people who wrote directly to me offering help and encouragement in the search. I am so happy to tell you that the family is now finally reunited. I had an extraordinary and extremely emotional trip to Ukraine in August. Sadly my father was not deemed well enough for the journey but is now improving and is determined to be well enough to make the trip 'home' soon. There are also plans for younger members of the family to visit Britain.

In a salutary lesson now to remember there were times when it seemed almost pointless to continue, we had so little solid information to go on and many people and agencies were very negative in their response. The family were found in the end through a chain of contacts which began almost by chance in church. Many thanks to those at both *Zdorov!* and the Ukrainian Information Service and to everyone else who gave their support, encouragement and practical help.

**Sue Bailey, Hertfordshire**

Dear Sue,

*Thanks you for your letter. I'm happy that your long search is over and that you finally met your lost family. Best wishes and I hope your father gets well soon.*

**Please send your letters to *Zdorov!*, 7 Chaucer Road, London W3 6DR or you can e-mail the editor at : [Zdorov@ndirect.co.uk](mailto:Zdorov@ndirect.co.uk)**

# What's on ...

The complete guide to what's on and what's Ukrainian this Winter and beyond (inc. church services and events)\*

\*where those events have been submitted to *Zdorov!* before publication deadline

## Yorkshire and the Midlands

**Bradford Industrial Museum** - Moorside Mills Bradford, 'The New Ukraine' - an exhibition of photographs and oral history. Open till 11th January 1998. 01274 493313

**Bradford** - Ukrainian Hall, 169 Leagrams Lane, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD7 2EA. Tel : (01274) 572026/573577

**Saturday 20th December** - 'Sviata Mikolaj' 5.30p.m.

**Saturday 10th January**. Ukrainian New Years Dance. Call for details.

**Sunday 11th January** - 'Yalanka'. Call for details.

N.B. There will be a carol concert later in the month.

**Coventry** - Ukrainian Hall, Leicester Hall, Coventry, West Midlands, CV1 4HL. Tel : (01203) 225962

**Sunday 21st December** - Sviato Mykolaj; i.e. Ukrainian Father Christmas. 5pm £1.00 plus 20p per present

**Tuesday 13th January** - New Years dance. 'Odno Selchany' playing live. Late bar applied for 8pm till 1pm.

**Nottingham** - Social Club, 30 Bentinck Road, Nottingham, NG7 4AF.

Tel : 0115 969 2014

**Saturday 10th January** - 'Nova Richna Zabava' with live music from Odno Selchany

**Wednesday 7th January** - Carol singing at 5 pm.

**Thursday 22nd January** - Akademia for the Anniversary of Independence 1918. Call or details.

**Wolverhampton** - Social Club, 35 Merridale Street West, Wolverhampton, West Midlands. WV3 0RJ. Tel : (01902) 20441

**Wednesday 31st December** - New Years Party with buffet.

**Derby** - Social Club, 27 Charnwood Street, Derby. DE1 2GU. Tel : (01332) 347 226

**Sunday 21st December** - Sviato Mykolaj' 5.30pm

**Wednesday 31st December** - English New Years Eve Dance, Live 'mixed' music from 'Marko'. £2.00

**Tuesday 6th January** - 'Holy Supper' 7.30 pm.

**Saturday 17th January** - Carol Singing Evening with A.U.W.B.

## North West

**Manchester** - Ukrainian Cultural Centre, 31 Smedley Lane, Cheetham, Manchester, M8 8XB. Tel : (0161) 205 6692/1444

**Wednesday 7th December** - Akademia to commemorate 'Operation Wisla' at 4.00pm.

**Sunday 21st December** - Sviato Mykolaj; i.e. Ukrainian Father Christmas. Call for times.

**Wednesday 31st December** - New Year Dance. Call for details.

**Wednesday 7th January** - Carol Singing in Albert Sq , next to Town Hall after church service. at approx 12.30 pm

**Sunday 11th January** - Christmas Concert at 4.00pm

**Tuesday 13th January** - 'Malanka'. Ukrainian New Year Dance. Call for details.

**Sunday 18th January** - Dinner for old age pensioners with Christmas Concert by the P. Dnistrovuk School of Dancing.

**Sunday 25th January** - Concert by Zankovestkovi Theatre from Ukraine BUT THIS IS PROVISIONAL AND NOT YET CONFIRMED.

## London and the South

**London** - 154 Holland Park Avenue, London, W11 4UH. Tel : (0171) 603 9482/0016

**Wednesday 7th January** - Christmas church service at Catholic church in Duke St. 10.30 am.

**Wednesday 7th January** - Christmas church service at Orthodox church in Acton, 10.30 am.

**Tuesday 13th January** - 'Malanka'. Ukrainian New Year Dance. NOT YET CONFIRMED.

PLEASE REFER TO LONDON CLUB NOTICE BOARD FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

For all events, please contact the club for further details. Also please note that other clubs and churches will have some events over the Winter period, and they have probably not informed us as their dates were not finalised by the time we go to press.

If you would like to see your event or church service featured in What's On, then please contact *Zdorov!* on 0181 993 2757 or 01132 743 404

(Next publication deadline: 11 February 1997)



issue 1



issue 2



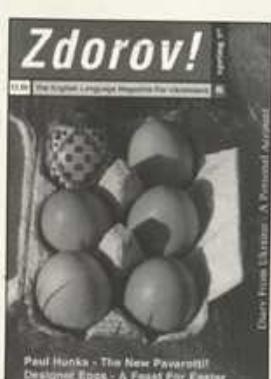
issue 3



issue 4



issue 5



issue 6



issue 7

**BACK ISSUES** If you've missed any previous editions of *Zdorov!*, then you now have the chance to complete your collection by sending a cheque/P.O. for £2.00 per copy plus 60 p. p&p made payable to: *Zdorov!* Please state clearly your name, address, issue number required and quantity. Please send your order to: *Zdorov!*, 63 Royal Park Terrace, Leeds LS6 1EX.

Please allow 28 days for delivery and hurry as there is limited availability of each edition.

## *Zdorov! needs your help*

The launch of *Zdorov!* in 1995 was unique in that it gave young Ukrainians a platform to raise their opinions. Packed with news, views, humour and special features - here was something Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike could read in a language they understood. Most importantly, we have covered sensitive issues like rape and being gay and Ukrainian. Since that launch, we have seen spin-offs launched in North America and Australia. I like to think of *Zdorov!* as a club - the largest Ukrainian club in Britain - in that it attracts readers from all over Britain.

Alas, *Zdorov!*'s days may be numbered as there are fewer volunteers working on the magazine. The editor spends up to 50 hours a week in his spare time producing the magazine as well as working full-time and cannot continue without your support.

We are appealing for your support in order to continue this great magazine. We need the following :

- **MORE ARTICLES** (pref. saved on disc - for PC's save as Text document)
- **SUB-EDITORS** (who can make articles read better)
- **GRAPHIC DESIGNERS** (Mac preferably)
- **CONTACTS** (particularly English speaking Ukrainians abroad inc. Ukraine)
- **PROOF READERS** - A good command of English and Ukrainians to check for mistakes
- **PICTURE RESEARCHERS** - Do you have a large collection of photos or pictures we could use
- **CARTOONISTS** - illustration or drawing skills required for our new cartoon 'Last of the Samohonka'
- **CONTACTS FROM UKI CLUBS AROUND THE COUNTRY**
- **WE ALSO NEED MORE 'HOME NEWS' ARTICLES, BETTER FEEDBACK FROM CLUBS INC. LISTINGS OF EVENTS, POEMS, RECIPES, JOKES, FUNNY STORIES, SPORTS REVIEWS AND PHOTOS.**

In an ideal world, we would have sub-editors responsible for their own interest areas, i.e. sport, reviews, home news, etc. But the least we would like is a small group of enthusiastic, like-minded people who are willing to help out at any time. You could benefit by learning new skills which could assist you in your career.

What we don't need are ideas for articles. We've got hundreds of them. If you like the magazine and can spare a few hours, please contact **Peter Fundela** at *Zdorov!*, 7 Chaucer Road, London W3 6DR or Tel : 0181 993 2757 E-Mail : [Zdorov@ndirect.co.uk](mailto:Zdorov@ndirect.co.uk)

# The Zdorov! Christmas CD Selection

## Folk / Traditional CDs



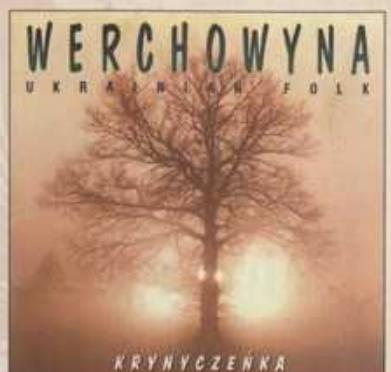
### Hilka - Piesni Ukrainskich Stepow

Another great CD from Poland. Hilka are a small vocal ensemble who specialise in traditional ritual songs. Weddings, ballads, Easter and Christmas songs are covered on this twenty one track CD. Their sounds is very pure and spiritual filled with those eastern style vocals. A very special record - 'Songs of the Ukrainian Steppes' should be in every serious Ukrainian music fan's collection.



### Kolo - The Ukrainian Music of Britain

The compilation CD of the Best of British Ukrainian folk and choral music. One hours playing time from fourteen artists including, Orlyk, Czuplak, The Ukrainians, Selo, Vidrodzhnya, Chervona Kalyna plus many other community groups and choirs. Produced to celebrate 100 years of Ukrainians in Britain, this limited edition record is certainly a collectors item.



### Werchowyna - Krynyczenka

Twenty of the best tracks recorded by this excellent Polish Ukrainian folk group. All the best songs from their first three cassettes are featured on this one hour CD. From strident, full band sounds to sensitive vocals songs, their are authentic in style and presentation. Typical of the resurgence of Ukrainian culture in Poland.

## Available as CD or Cassette

All three CDs for only £30.00! - All three cassettes for only £18.00  
Single CDs are £10.99 each - Cassettes for £6.99 each

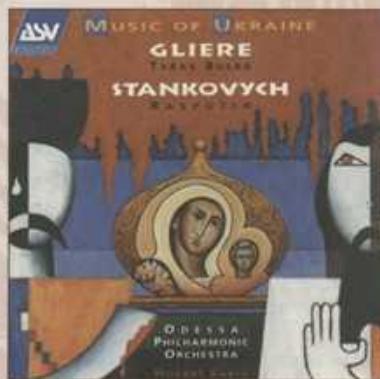
## Classical CDs

Featuring music from some of Ukraine's best known composers



Taras Bulba Ballet Suite - Gliere  
(1952)

Rasputin Ballet Suite - Stankovych  
(1990)



Symphony No 1 - Kolessa (1950)  
Hutsul Trptych - Skoryk (1965)  
Carpathian Concerto - Skoryk  
(1972)

All tracks recorded by The Odessa Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Hobart Earle at  
The Felix Drjinsky Sanitorium, Odessa 1994 - 1996  
Classical Records (CD only) £13.99 each or both for £25.99

All prices include Postage and Packaging. Send a cheque payable to Zdorov,  
63 Royal Park Terrace, Leeds LS6 1EX. Call 0113 274 3404

In most cases the records will be sent by return of post, but please allow up to 28 days in case we need to restock.