

Zdorov!

Spring 99

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The English Language Magazine For Ukrainians

11



**The Ukrainians' exclusive feature
Full Soccer round-up
news, reviews and Monica Lewinsky**

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New For 1999

Gatwick to Lviv or Ivano-Frankivsk And

Manchester to Lviv or Ivano-Frankivsk

Gatwick To Ivano-Frankivsk 11 June, 02 July, 23 July, 13 August

From	Depart	Day	To	Arrive	Day
Gatwick	19.15	Friday	Ivano-Frankivsk	02.20	Saturday
Ivano-Frankivsk	07.00	Saturday	Gatwick	10.35	Saturday

Gatwick to Lviv 25 June, 16 July, 06 August, 27 August

From	Depart	Day	To	Arrive	Day
Gatwick	19.15	Friday	Lviv	02.10	Saturday
Lviv	07.05	Saturday	Gatwick	10.35	Saturday

Manchester to Ivano-Frankivsk 11 June, 02 July, 23 July, 13 August

From	Depart	Day	To	Arrive	Day
Manchester	21.00	Friday	Ivano-Frankivsk	02.20	Saturday
Ivano-Frankivsk	07.00	Saturday	Manchester	08.25	Saturday

Manchester to Lviv 25 June, 16 July, 06 August, 27 August

From	Depart	Day	To	Arrive	Day
Manchester	21.00	Friday	Lviv	02.10	Saturday
Lviv	07.05	Saturday	Manchester	08.25	Saturday

1 week Duration

Fly to Lviv	Return from Ivano-Frankivsk
25 June	03 July
16 July	24 July
06 August	14 August

2 week Duration

Fly to Ivano-Frankivsk	Return from Lviv
11 June	26 June
02 July	17 July
23 July	07 August
13 August	28 August

4 week Duration

Fly to Lviv	Return from Ivano-Frankivsk
25 June	24 July
16 July	14 August

5 week Duration

Fly to Ivano-Frankivsk	Return from Lviv
11 June	17 July
02 July	07 August
23 July	28 August

£359.00

*including
airport tax*

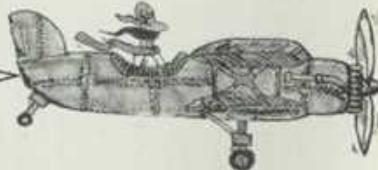
Children under 12 years of age
 (on date of return) £100 discount.

Infants under 2 years (on day of return) pay £35.

Local departure and arrival times have been shown.

Ukraine is British time + 2.

Any
duration
up to
11 weeks
one Price!



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To subscribe to *Zdorov!* please send cheque or P.O. for £10.00 (inc £2.00 p&p) to *Zdorov!* 35 Wensley Drive, Leeds LS7 3QP or call 01132 743 404

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DEAR READERS

Welcome back. It's great to return for 1999 with our first issue since last Summer. It hasn't been an easy time of late here in Zdorov HQ and many of you have inundated us requesting the new issue. We would like to express our sincere apologies for our absence.

Last August, finishing touches were being made to the Autumn issue when Peter Solowka, Zdorov's founder and publisher announced that advertising was virtually non-existent and that we simply couldn't afford to continue. Indeed this issue would not exist without the support of our sponsors, Bowman International.

Advertising is only one of the components required to produce Zdorov. Distribution, chasing bad debtors, commercial sponsorship and marketing are all of equal importance and then there's the small matter of producing the content of the magazine.

Peter Solowka has served the magazine well in managing the above functions but lives and circumstances change and his time has become harder to manage. The best solution to this seems to be to embrace Zdorov within a larger Ukrainian organisation where economies of scale coupled with more robust management can help to deliver a magazine on time. We have made moves towards this and are in discussions with several organisations although it's still early days and our chances of survival still largely depend on you, the community. You are our motivation. Without your support, this title will have died a long time ago. Sadly, half our income is also tied up with Ukrainian clubs around the country who have kindly sold the magazine to you on our behalf. This income is vital for our continued survival. It's our lifeline and we need it badly. I would ask all clubs to please forward any monies owed from sales.

In an effort to illustrate our financial problems, we have decided to be more open about our costs of producing Zdorov. So please read the accounting statement on the opposite page and please continue to support us by renewing your subscriptions, telling your friends about us and by continuing to write articles, send letters, whatever.

And so to the new editor, Stef Leliw. Many of you in London and Doncaster will know Stef already. He has kindly volunteered some spare time to work with the existing team to produce this magazine. Stef writes :

"I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Pete Solowka for taking me on board as Editor of this magazine.

The enthusiasm, energy and interest in this publication is overwhelming. I must admit that in all the years I have worked within the Ukrainian community, there is nothing that compares with this magazine. It is a publication which covers a wide spectrum of issues which are alive and kicking. It tackles issues from the past, the present and it also looks into the future. It draws its ideas and thoughts, not just from England but also from the motherland and takes a global approach feeding off the internet.

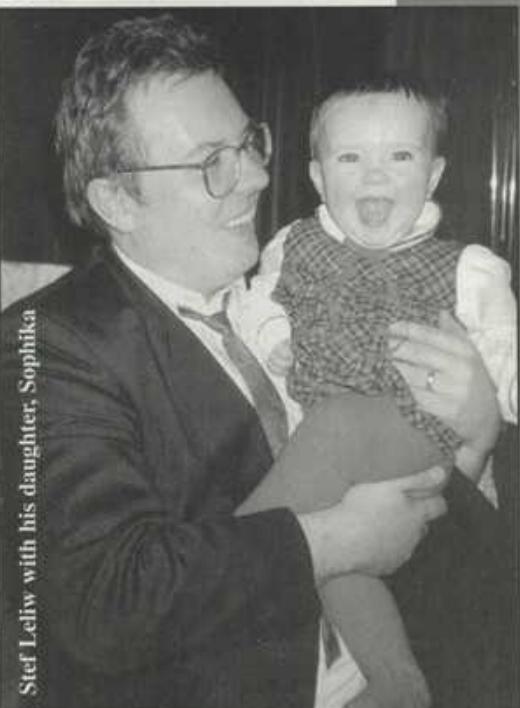
I hope that all of you enjoy reading the features and articles in this issue. I would like to thank all of you for your support, and especially Peter Fundela for his undying support and monumental work in keeping this magazine in print!!!

I would like to dedicate this magazine to my baby daughter Sophika and to all the 'little ones' out there! Support us and make it a better future for them!!!"

And finally, remember! This is your magazine. Tell us what you want to see. If you're planning an event, tell us about it. If you've got something to shout about, tell us. Help us to help you!

From me and the rest of the team, it's good to be back. And if you want, we'll see you next Summer. It's your shout!

Peter Fundela



Stef Leliw with his daughter, Sophika

Zdorov accounting statement - Issue 10

Income

Paid subscriptions	309	£772.50
Free subscriptions (promotion)	94	nil
Estimated club sales	340	£760.00
Income received from club sales		£420.00
Income received from adverts		£382.50

Total Income	£1,575.00
(total possible income)	(£1,915)

Expenses

Printing	£1,250.00
Postage	£300.00
Telephone	£110.00
Stationary	£40.00
Artwork	£50.00

Total expense	£1,750.00
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This was a particularly bad club sales time as the issue came out in the summer when club activity was slow. Also, the actual club sales figure is not yet known as I tend to get these from many clubs on receipt of the following issue.

The number of people who took up our free subscription offer is larger than expected, but we are happy to say that our retention of subscribers is very healthy, at around 90%. Most of the ones we lose are probably due to changes of address. Due to the difficulties of getting regular income from the clubs, we would prefer everyone to subscribe.

Zdorov! - The Magazine for Ukrainians HELP US TO HELP YOU!

The launch of Zdorov! Oz last Summer means that we are now a truly global operation with a world-wide readership. We are read by ambassadors, the clergy, journalists, major broadcasters like the BBC, academics, business people, sports personalities - the list is endless. Zdorov's success is based on the need for Ukrainians to celebrate their cultural identities and expand our community on a global scale.

We can give your contribution a platform that will reach the masses. Many hundreds of people have already benefited from the exposure and experience gained from helping us.

If you have spare time and can give a valid contribution to our magazines, please contact us.

Remember, Zdorov! does not receive any financial support from official organisations. It is a non-profit venture and all contributors are unpaid. We simply do it from the heart!

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Carpathian Flood Disaster

Torrential downpours in the Carpathian Mountains last November caused the River Tysa to burst its banks resulting in 120 separate settlement areas being flooded. Some 350,000 people are victims. 7000 homes surrounding the towns Mukachiv and Khust have been completely destroyed. Power lines supplying heat and light have been cut off in 102 areas and a total of 487 bridges have been totally or partially demolished. With road systems paralysed, people are left without bread, water and basic necessities.

The floods have stretched Ukraine's emergency resources to breaking point. The Ukrainians in Transcarpathia have appealed for external assistance. Warm, dry clothing is particularly needed and Ukraine's designated authorities are geared up to assist.

Individuals wishing to provide Direct Relief in the form of voluntary contributions can make payments through High Street Banks in favour of the Charitable Fund 'Nadia' of the Transcarpathian Oblast, Ukraine quoting the following bank details : Ukraine, Kiev, Ukrotsbank SWIFT : UKR-SUAUX. Account Number - 3901915025 / 2600330032623 (3901615022) to the account of Oblasnyj blahodijnyj fund 'Nadia'

Cheques can also be sent made out to AUGB Ltd (Transcarpathian Flood Appeal Fund) and sent to The General Council, Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain, 49 Linden Gardens, Notting Hill, London W2 4HG.

For further information, please contact the Embassy of Ukraine, 60 Holland Park, London W11 3SJ (Tel : 0171 727 6312)

Ukrainian Masters at the UNL

The University of North London is planning to launch a Masters degree in Ukrainian studies that will be offered to students round the world as a distance learning programme. If you are interested, please visit their web page at URL : <http://soc.unl.ac.uk/~mgk/> or write to : Marko Bojcun, Director, Ukraine Centre, International Office, University of North London Email : m.bojcun@unl.ac.uk



Dr Taras Kuzio gets key role with NATO

The General Secretary of NATO Dr Javier Solana has appointed Dr Taras Kuzio as NATO officer to Ukraine. What this means is that Dr Kuzio will work at NATO's information and documentation centre at the Institute for International Relations at Taras Shevchenko University in Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine.

The centre was opened in May to inform the Ukrainian public about NATO and Security issues.

Dr Taras Kuzio was born in Halifax. He attended school in Bradford before going onto Birmingham University. Between 1986 - 1998 he worked as a freelance journalist in London writing on Ukrainian affairs for "The Times" and "The Independent". Dr Kuzio was also a Senior Research fellow at the Centre for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Birmingham. From 1996 he was a senior research fellow in the Council of Advisors to the Ukrainian Parliament.

My Life Tory

Former British MP Stefan Terlezki has told *Zdorov!* that he is currently engaged in writing his life story.

Among possible anecdotes in the book is a meeting he had years ago with his friend and novelist, Lord Jeffrey Archer.

At a wine and canape reception, Lord Archer, who is standing as a candidate for Mayor of London, told him: "It's a pity we didn't meet earlier."

He confided to Mr Terlezki that one of his main characters in the best-selling book Cain and Abel would have been Ukrainian and not Polish.

Hope for orphanage.

A cargo of supplies has been collected to help a children's orphanage in Nadvirna. The collection was organised by Olga Okopskyj, head of the Oldham Ukrainian Women's Association and her daughter Mrs Stephanie Hawkins. They were moved to help following a visit to Ukraine to attend a family wedding.

They visited the orphanage and witnessed at first hand the despair and sadness. The 95 children, aged up to 3 years, have no toys, clothes and medicines. Ten per cent are mentally or physically handicapped.

Hundreds of people in Oldham gave clothing, toys, nappies and medicines and Bob Sopel Ukrainian Travel arranged transport. Mrs Hawkins was overwhelmed by people's kindness.

Orlyk 50th year Celebration

Manchester dance troupe, Orlyk celebrate their Golden Anniversary this year and have organised a calendar of events to mark the event.

In May, a photo display of "50 Years of Orlyk" is to be exhibited at Manchester Town Hall.

In June and July, the Town Hall will again play host to a costume display.

A Golden Anniversary Don Championship is to be held in September and is open to Orlyk members only (Venue to be decided).

And on Sunday 24th October, a proposed concert to include former and present members is to take place.

Exact dates are yet to be confirmed. Please contact one of the following for further details.

Evhen 0161 456 6631 Halyna 0161 284 2891
Oksana 0161 881 9964 Zenia 0161 740 4439

Deputy Town Mayor

Born in Kolomeya, Ukraine, Mr Stefan Chrinowsky came to England in 1947. He became Councillor in Llanelli in 1987 and then Deputy Town Mayor in 1991. In 1993 he became Town Mayor. He visited Ukraine in 1995 and went to his home town where he met Kolomeyas Town Mayor. Together they went to Ivano-Frankivsk to open a statue of Ivan Franko, and later took a trip to the Ukrainian Parliament in Kyiv. This year Mr Stefan Chrinowsky has been elected Deputy Town Mayor.

Zdorov! would like to take this opportunity of wishing him and his Ukrainian born wife Oksanna all the best for the future and who knows, maybe next year he will be Town mayor again?



Yet more Uki buys

Ukraine's own 'Obolon' beer is now on sale at selected Ukrainian bars. The strong lager is being distributed by Zoloty Kolessa.

Zdorov meeting

The inaugural meeting of all the editors of the three international *Zdorov!* magazines was held at London Ukrainian Club. It was the first time that all the editors had met in one room and was only made possible when Nestor kindly took some time from his honeymoon no less to attend the meeting. Amongst issues discussed were closer ties between the three titles, distribution, corporate identity and sponsoring events.

Pictured below from left are Peter Fundela (outgoing UK editor), Slavko Mykosowski (Australia), Nestor Gula (North America) and Zdorov founder and UK publisher Peter Solowka.



SUM 1999 calendar

The SUM National Committee (Krayova Uprava) have so far confirmed the following dates and venues :

17th April - SUM National Committee Review and zabava at Tarasivka
30th May - Remembrance Sunday at Tarasivka
12th Jun - Regional SUM Rally 'South/Midlands' in Derby
13th Jun - Regional SUM Rally 'West' in Manchester
June - Regional SUM Rally 'East' (date and venue TBC)
3rd Jul - National SUM rally 'Krayovi Zdvy' in Tarasivka
1st Aug - Part 2 of National SUM Rally in Tarasivka
24th Jul to 4th Aug - SUM Summer camps in Tarasivka
21st to 27th Aug - European Summer Sports Camp (Olympiada) in Tarasivka
28th Aug - Bazaar Zabava in Tarasivka
29th August - Bazaar in Tarasivka
24th to 31st Dec - European SUM Winter Camp in Francapole, Belgium

For further details of these events, please contact Wolodomir Karpynec on 01332 700215.

It's the Kyiv thing!

The soft drinks giant, Coca Cola have pledged to remain committed to business investment in Ukraine. A meeting was held between Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and Coca Cola's Head of the Board of Directors, Neville Isdell in Kyiv where the world-wide financial crises and its impact on Ukraine was discussed. Coca-Cola are planning to open a bottling factory in Brovary. They also pledged to continue support of charitable causes, most notably the Trans-Carpathian flood disaster.

Coca-Cola have invested \$250 million in Ukraine. Further, Dynamo Kyiv football club is the only world club to be supported by Coca-Cola.

G7 rules Chernobyl must stay

Ukraine's President Kuchma has written a letter to Tony Blair expressing his concern at the G7's decision to keep the two remaining nuclear reactors open.

The reactors were due to close at the end of this year, and replaced with new gas-powered reactors, preferred by Kuchma for their financial and environmental advantages. But the European Bank for Reconstruction have failed to provide a loan and President Kuchma has said that shutting Chernobyl without replacing the reactors would risk "the lights going out in Ukraine". G7 have authorised construction of two new nuclear stations at a cost of \$1 billion, paid mostly by EU taxpayers. Amongst the companies which will benefit from the construction is British Energy.

Wish you were in Chernobyl

The Liko-L tourism company in Kyiv have announced a new tourist attraction to boost sales - visits to the Chernobyl nuclear plant. The government has granted special permission to Liko-L for the tours, as the radiation count is now classified as "low and not dangerous".

Lazarenko arrested

Ukraine's ex-premier Paul Lazarenko was detained in Geneva after his arrest on the Franco-Swiss border.

He faces allegations of embezzling \$20 million of public funds said to be deposited in Switzerland. Lazarenko has claimed diplomatic immunity.

Serial Killer trial begins

The trial of the world's worst suspected serial killer has begun in Zhytomyr, Ukraine. Anatoly Onoprienko, 39, has confessed to 52 murders, many over a 3 month spree. Police believe this figure may be higher as Onoprienko, nicknamed 'The Terminator', spent 6 years in Western Europe, travelling without a visa and living off robbery and petty crime.

Onoprienko has been described as intelligent and cunning and has not shown signs of sexual motive or mental illness. Many of his victims were children who were sought and mutilated. He has shown no remorse.

He was arrested in 1996 but has spent the last two years reading the 99 volumes of evidence against him, a right under Ukrainian law. The trial was delayed further by the court's failure to cover the trial and living expenses of the many witnesses. Following a televised appeal from the judge, the government intervened and offered £30,000.

2000 police and thousands of national guards were involved in the hunt for the murderer.

Onoprienko, an orphan, blamed families for his troubled childhood. He was caught after police called to his flat to see his documents. He panicked and reached for a hunting rifle which was the murder weapon.

Krushelnnycky new editor of Kyiv Post

Askold Krushelnnycky, from London has become Editor of the English written daily newspaper printed and published in Kyiv. Zdorov magazine would like to wish him well in his work and congratulate him on getting married at the same time!

Merc tops rich league

Most ordinary people would have to go without food or housing for a century to buy a Mercedes Benz, but amongst the nouveau riche the Merc is the "in car".

In the vibrant shadow black economy which makes up half the country's GNP, steel magnates and grain traders are some of Stuttgart's best customers.

So why are they buying the Mercedes? Is it the snob value or as an invest-



ment? It is both.

For tax purposes it is the best tax dodge. If you sink your money into property you cannot move it quickly. Banks can fail. The stock market is fraught with fraud and manipulation. If you buy a Korean car, in five years time it is falling apart. Buy a Mercedes and in five years time you still have a Mercedes but it is five years old!

In terms of snob value, no other car gives you as much respect. Last year the Mercedes car dealership sold 200 cars, while another 200 were privately imported. In the used car market, Mercedes account for a fifth of the car market. That is twice the European market share.

UKR1

Personalised number plates can cost a fortune - sometimes more than the car. When Sergei Komisarenko (former ambassador to England) was asked how much his number plate UKR 1 cost him he diplomatically smiled and changed the subject.

At the end of July, Zdorov editor Stef Leliw went to Calais to buy some duty free. Whilst there he parked his car A2 UKR. When he returned to his car another vehicle was parked next to his with the number plate N37 YKP.

As you may know, YKP is UKR in Ukrainian. Was this just a coincidence or not? If you know who this Rover car belongs to write to Zdorov/ magazine. The editor will give up his treasured Dynamo Kyiv key ring to the first reply.

If you have a personalised number plate write in and tell us what it is.

Compiled and edited by
Peter Fundela

JEHOVAHS WITNESS SPEAKS OUT

".....and the Gospel will be read judging the whole nation when the world comes to an end."

Matthew.chapter 24. verse 14.

Jesus Christ was right when He announced these words on Mount Olive. So why have I mentioned this prophecy?

It seemed at the time in the former Soviet Union that God's light and the biblical truth never shone. Continuous repression, arrests and long term imprisonment led many people to turn to religion and it is not surprising that we have so many Jehovahs witnesses today. The former Soviet Union took religion very seriously but for God nothing is impossible. The black cloud hanging over us has finally been broken.

"Although Ukraine is still a long way from justice, democracy and freedom, God's light is now shining on us and it is getting brighter". Many people join us to learn God's word so they can pass it on. I came into the religion by accident. My mother always told me that if ever I had any problems that I should turn to God. Unfortunately I could not find my bible at home so went to see my Catholic priest in Ivano Frankivsk. He offered me a bible but said it would cost \$5. I did not have the money and went away. A few days later some Jehovahs witnesses came round and gave me a bible without charge. They also invited me to their place for a cup of coffee and I have been seeing them for over five years now.

At the moment there are over 85,000 worshippers and 300 branches throughout the country. These members are all good hardworking citizens who serve their Ukrainian community well. "We all try and develop God's work with love, peace, happiness and belief."

We have many meetings both locally and nationally. I do not think the Kyivites will forget 1993 when at the Republican Stadium we held a multinational conference attended by 67,000 worshippers. This was a time of joy, love and harmony for all of us. Even the TV and Radio presenters from Kyiv pointed out in their reports how magnificently warm and Godly the atmosphere was for the following four days. One Kyivite even stated that "...we were the people of the future, and welcomed us to come again".

Ukrainian language magazine for Jehovahs Witness'



From Ukraine to Golders Green

Tony Leliw interviews the new Ambassador of Ukraine

Even before you start talking about the country, you have to get past the name. Only a BBC newsreader, sports commentator or British-Ukrainian can get the pronunciation right first time round.

Not wishing to sound smug, I sailed through the name and asked Prof. Volodymyr Vassylenko, Ukraine's second ambassador to Britain, here since March 1998 and living in Golders Green, about his country of 52 million people - a nation still confused with being part of Russia, despite extricating itself from the Soviet Union seven years ago.

As his beautiful wife Ludmyla pours out the tea, I ask him about his country's chequered history. "Ukraine is a young state but an old nation", says Prof. Vassylenko, easing himself into the black settee.

"Our nation is more than a 1,000 years old. The first state of the Ukrainian nation existed in Eastern Europe from the ninth to the 12th Century and was named Kyivan Rus".

As his wife adds the milk to my tea he continues, mentioning the internal feuds in the Ukrainian nobility and the Mongol invasion which both forced the collapse of the Ukrainian state in the middle of the 13th century.

Before I have time to swallow my first mouthful of chay (tea), and decide on whether to plunder the peanuts on the onyx coffee table, Ukraine has been seized by Lithuania and incorporated into the Polish state.

Leading an uprising against Polish rule, Kozak leader Bohdan Khmelnytsky and his fighting force set up a state in the middle of the 17th Century.

By now I had realised my mistake in not satisfying my hunger pangs with the peanuts. But Khmelnytsky's mistake was even more devastating. Faced with the Ottoman Empire and Poles ranged against him, he signed a treaty in 1654 with Russia.

A lawyer by profession, Prof. Vassylenko explains the intricacies of how the Russians reneged on their agreement and eventually incorporated Ukraine into Russia.

The collapse of the Russian Empire in 1917 saw independence until 1920 when the Bolsheviks moved in. The Russian Empire had been restored under the guise of the USSR.

Having completed my tea Prof. Vassylenko then started to tell me about his country's most painful history - the mass terror, genocide, inflicted on his people in recent times - something the depleted 25,000-strong post war Ukrainian diaspora in Britain is all too aware of. "Ukraine as a nation was doomed to perish", says Prof. Vassylenko chillingly,

"as rule from Moscow was aimed at exterminating it".

On August 24 1991 Ukraine again became an independent state after rejecting President Gorbachev's pleas to sign up to a new union treaty. When the second largest republic of the Soviet Union refused, the USSR unravelled like one of those Russian dolls.

Turning to his reasons for renting a home in Princes Park Avenue, Golders Green, he says it was purely to escape the hustle and bustle of Holland Park, where the Ukrainian Embassy and the consulate of 25 staff are situated. His 12-year-old daughter Lessia goes to Bell Lane School in Hendon.

Prof. Vassylenko feels his biggest challenge is to attract business into his country. He takes umbrage with the British press in portraying Ukraine's economy in grave catastrophic terms. He sees the mission of his embassy to change this climate of despair. And there are other battles. Trade relations are also regulated by the European Union's Partnership and cooperation Agreement, which means limited access for Ukrainian goods to markets like Britain.

Prof. Vassylenko's credentials look impressive. The highlights of his curriculum vitae include being legal advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine from 1972-93, senior legal advisor to the Verkhovna Rada (parliament) of Ukraine, and from 1993-95 Ukraine's ambassador to the Benelux countries (Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg), as well as the country's representative to the European Union and NATO.

His hobbies include swimming and he enjoys wildlife and nature, though the job does not give him the time or opportunity to do too much - he works a seven-day week.

Fluent in French, Russian and meticulously good in English, he is an avid supporter of Dynamo Kyiv - one of his best friends played for them. He has not knowingly come across Chicken Kiev yet, though he prefers fish: Ferrero Rocher or any other chocolates take second place at ambassadorial parties to whisky and champagne; and his official car, taken from his predecessor, an austere black Lexus with UKR1 number-plates, has been resprayed to a more genial dark green.

He is an optimist about his country's future. He is eager to educate Britain about Ukraine. "The British public at large has no information about Ukraine", he says disappointed. It is a situation he and his staff are working hard to change.

Tony Leliw

UKRAINIAN GCSE ?

During May of 1997, our sons and daughters sat for possibly the last time, the Northern Examination and Assessment Board (N.E.A.B) examination in Ukrainian. This ended over 30 years of our children being given the opportunity to take the Uki G.C.S.E. and it's previously named G.C.E. examination.

Here in Bradford, we had 21 pupils who took the 4 parts that made up the examination at the higher level - namely spoken, written, reading and verbal. Their efforts were the culmination of many years hard work on their part and those of the teachers at the Saturday school, extra curricular lessons and of course their parents.

I suppose we as parents should have been aware that the numbers taking the Uki G.C.S.E.'s were dwindling. During the 1970's, Ukrainian was offered at both (the previously named) 'O' and 'A' levels. Uki school in Bradford had over 250 pupils so there were a lot of candidates for the exam. In recent times, numbers at Saturday school have reduced, as have numbers taking the Uki exam to the present average of 30 per year throughout Great Britain.

The re-organisation of the Examination board finally resulted in only the N.E.A.B. offering children the opportunity of taking the exam. The Uki's were not the only ethnic group to suffer - Poles and Jews amongst others were also notified that after 1997 the N.E.A.B. would be withdrawing these languages from the schedule of modern languages - unless money could be found and lots of it. The N.E.A.B. calculated that over the last few years, for an average of 30 candidates sitting the exam, the cost of providing Uki G.C.S.E. is about £18,000 per annum. Having agreed to meet their costs, the Polish and Jewish communities have approached the Board's Examinations Council who have agreed to develop a new syllabus in these languages.

So how has the Uki community responded to this dilemma and indeed does it matter if we don't have a Uki G.C.S.E.?

The Chairperson of the Association of Ukrainian Teachers and Educators in Great Britain (AUTE) Mr Bohdan Sweryt (Bradford), has been actively co-ordinating a campaign on behalf of the Uki community in an attempt to resolve the issue. It is his opinion that as

multicultural policies have been put in place to promote and encourage this, support must also include those involved in education. Indeed, the N.E.A.B.'s own literature clearly states that the work done in school should reflect the multicultural nature of our society. As our children are now being excluded from such principles, are the N.E.A.B. contravening the EEC Directive on Education of children of Migrant Workers. As the N.E.A.B. actions can also be viewed as discriminatory, this action may also violate the Race Relations Act 1979.

It was a rather sombre occasion to see these pupils one early Saturday morning in May at the Uki school sitting a Uki oral exam for what could be the last time. We should not deny others the choice to follow in their footsteps. Over 50 years have passed since our parents first came to Great Britain. Surely our Uki communities deserve the re-instatement and recognition of their language.

On a happier note, the 21 Bradford pupils who sat the exam, all passed. This is all the more remarkable as most were 2 years younger than they would be if taking G.C.S.E. normally.

The last of.....?

Stefan Muszanskyj

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THE ROYAL TOURNAMENT HITS OFF WITH THE UKRAINIAN COSSACKS

Oleh Yurchishin is a fine figure of a man. He is the ultimate Ukrainian fighting machine. A 17th century Cossack. Meeting such a warrior is awe-inspiring. He is a modern man with traditional values.

Off stage, 30 year-old Oleh from Kyiv, wears a pair of dark blue Levis, has an earring in his left ear and sports a smart T-shirt and comfortable pumps.

On stage his shaven head with scalp lock is more evident, his moustache which curls around the edges is brimming, and he has the fiery look of being ready to go into battle.

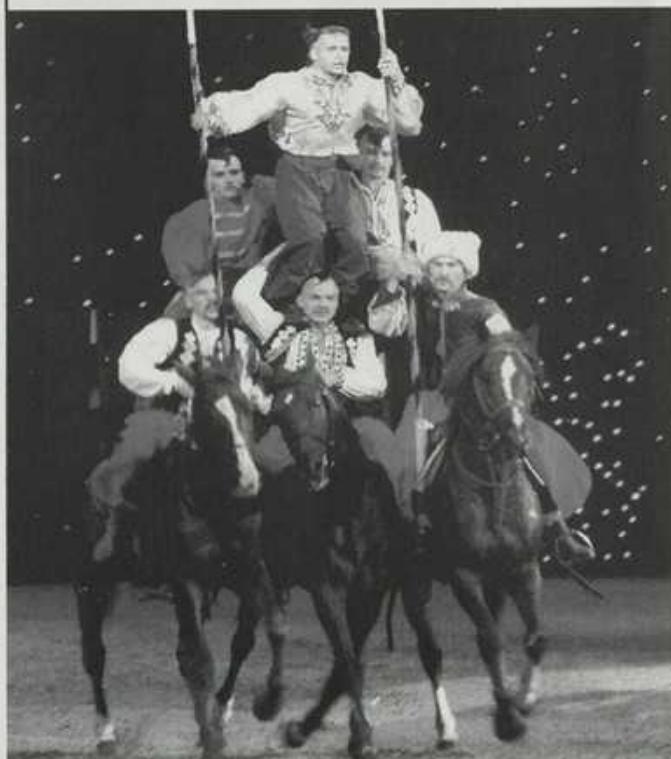
His impeccable costume also adds presence. The red tunic and blue sharavari (or baggy trousers) with a yellow stripe running through them, would make any enemy tremble in their boots. By the way, his are black.

In the week that British soldiers discovered desecrated war graves in the Crimea, Oleh says he's not here to settle old scores, even though it's possible his ancestors may have fought in the 1854-56 conflict.

His 11 Cossack horsemen were invited by the British Ministry of Defence to attend this year's Royal Tournament in Earls Court, after being spotted at a Military Festival in Stockholm in 1995.

With foreign sponsorship he was able to get the group over here. The costs are crippling and they are from a country struggling economically to get on its feet, post-1991 independence from the former Soviet Union. Just to bring horses to Britain cost them \$20,000 plus a veterinary doctor, his six assistants, and wages for the Cossacks.

Their act is unique and there are no Ukrainian Cossacks like them. Their feat on horseback includes picking-up their shapkas (hats) off the ground from a 200 yard gallop at high speed, to balancing their heads on the saddle with their legs in the air. Their tour-de-force is a pyramid of three Cossacks fast-riding two horses, while waving long spear-like flagpoles.



They have been around for 10 years though it is their first British visit. "We have been received exceptionally well and it was an honour to meet your Queen at the show", he says bashfully. In their time the Ukrainian Cossacks have toured Sweden, Denmark and Poland.

At home they carry out ceremonial duties and both President Kravchuk and the current incumbent, President Kuchma have shared their popularity. "We only came into conflict with the authorities once and that was during the early days," muses Oleh.

"We rode on horseback with our blue and yellow flag - this was seen as a nationalistic symbol at the time - while at the same time dragging a piece of red material horse underfoot. Somebody thought we were making a political statement and we were politely cautioned."

They try to be as authentic as they can to the 17th century Cossacks. Although based in Kyiv, most of them are originally from Zaporhyzhia, the birthplace of Cossackdom, and they have raided local archives and materials.

It is ironic that they are so popular in Poland as they base themselves on the Cossack Hetman (leader) Khmelnytsky, who fought ferociously with his men to liberate the Ukrainian steppes from Polish rule. His undoing was to later sign a treaty with Russia which led to the Cossacks gradually falling out of favour and Ukraine being incorporated into the Russian Empire.

Unwittingly, however, the British public is aware of the Ukrainian Cossacks. Who can forget the classic Hollywood film 'Taras Bulba' which gets constantly repeated on terrestrial television? It was based on Gogol's novel of the same name, starring Yul Brynner in the starring role, with his wayward son Tony Curtis, who falls in love with a Polish princess and then gets shot by his father for being a traitor.

"I loved the film," says a bemused Oleh, stroking his moustache, "but there were some Russian elements in it, like a few of the melodies". He does agree, that for its time it was good because it placed Ukraine and the Cossacks on the world map.

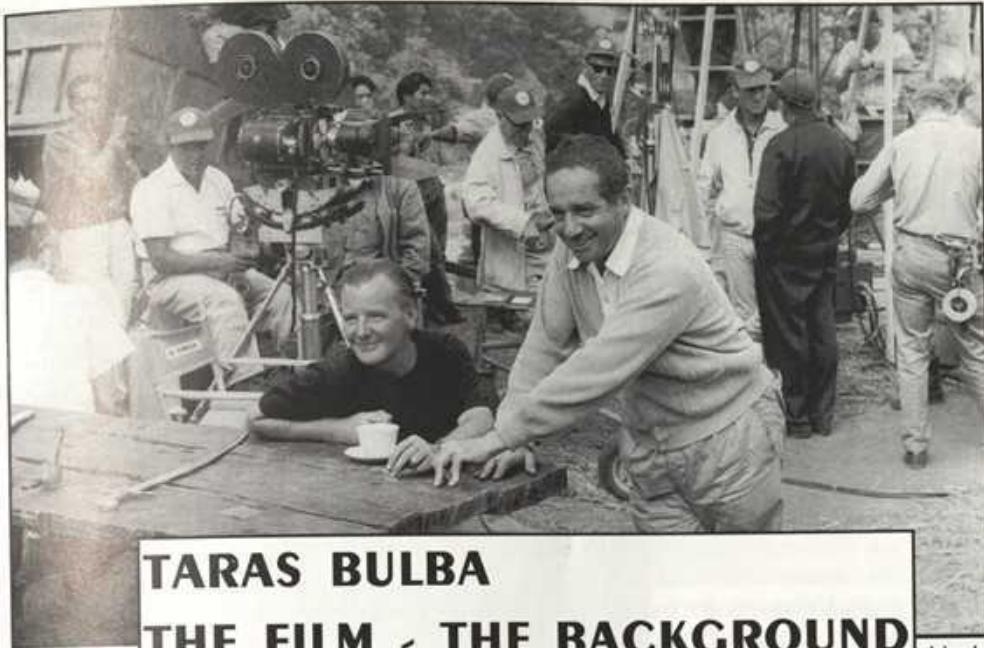
Taras Bulba's beer-swilling, womanising Cossacks, however, are not a reflection of his own group. Even if they wished it otherwise, it would not be practical.

"We get invited by British soldiers every night after the show for a drink at the bar, but we can't indulge too much. Our routine requires perfect fitness and a lot of stamina. If we get drunk, we would end up breaking our necks", he says, adding a touch of seriousness to the interview.

His first headache comes not from drinking too much Ukrainian vodka, but finding enough sponsors to keep his Ukrainian Cossacks going. "Last year we were facing such financial difficulties that I cut my scalp lock" he says.

Now he is more optimistic. Economic conditions in Ukraine are not ideal, and even though they suffered the indignity of not being able to bring their swords because they couldn't afford to pay Ukrainian customs a ridiculous sum, they are currently negotiating a deal to come back later in the year, no doubt with scalp locks intact.

by Stefan Leliw



Taras Bulba film directors Harold Hecht and Sam Wanamaker

TARAS BULBA THE FILM - THE BACKGROUND

Set in the 16thC Ukraine, two Cossack Brothers find themselves battling each other when one wants to recover land from the Poles and the other falls in love with a Polish girl.

A Nicolai Gogol classic, scripted by Waldo Salt and made by United Artists costing \$7million dollars in 1961. Directed by Harold Hecht and J Lee Thompson (director of The Guns of Navarone).

Made in Salta, Argentina, an old Spanish colonial city of 120,000 population in the foothills of the rugged snow capped Andes, 800 miles northwest of Buenos Aires.

The Argentinian Army provided 10,000 horses and 120 teams of matched oxen. Yul Brynner was given a

black stallion and Tony Curtis and Perry Lopez, his screen brother were given 2 white stallions. Nine ships transported wardrobes, arc lights, electrical and other essential moviemaking equipment.

10,000 Gauchos were used to portray the Cossacks, Turks and Poles. The Gauchos, a wild fierce people, found the battle scenes really did not quench their thirst for action. During lunch breaks they would round the cattle from a nearby ranch and stage their own rodeo. Then they would have steeplechase races, and dash madly towards each other, each trying to drag the other from his running horse.

The film is regularly shown on TV and is a classic!

Stefan Leliw



back to skool

Walton High School, a Comprehensive school of some 1,350 pupils in Stafford, has been running a student exchange programme with its partner school, Gymnasium No4 in Chernivtsi for the last seven years. The exchange was established under the auspices of The Central Bureau of Educational visits and Exchanges in 1991 following an agreement with the Ministry of Education.

Having indicated our interest in participating in the scheme, we filled in and sent off a large number of forms and a few weeks later received the name and address of a school in a place we had never heard of, Chernivtsi in Southern Ukraine.

I rang up the school, was invited to visit and in February 1992 spent a week discussing with my Ukrainian colleagues how we might make the exchange work. Fortunately we received a lot of support from the Headteachers in both schools.

The first group of sixteen Ukrainian students and two teachers visited Stafford at Easter 1992. We returned the visit in October of the same year. With the exception of last year, we have been able to visit each other every year.

Funding is always a problem. More so for our Ukrainian partners than for us. We have been fortunate in recent years in that The Youth Exchange Centre has always given us generous grants towards funding the cost of the visits to Ukraine. We have had some support from local industry, and we have managed to raise some money through raf-

fles and other sponsored events.

We know it is difficult for our partners in Ukraine. Especially when the economy and the people are facing financial hardship with no grants being available. In recent years our partners travelled in a bus provided by a local firm in Chernivtsi, and we accommodated the drivers with two local Ukrainian families in Stafford. This has now sadly fallen through. Last year the group travelled with Eastern European coaches, a company based in Rochdale.

With life becoming increasingly difficult, the costs of visiting us in the UK and then hosting us in Chernivtsi has proved too great and there has therefore been no exchange. Both sides are working very hard to ensure it can take place this year.

Meanwhile we were able to host seven of the schools specialist teachers of English in 1997, during the exchange, and hopefully if we can raise enough money, we will be able to do so again. Certainly both sides have much to learn from each other.



Ukrainian students outside Horse Guards Parade

For our Ukrainian visitors, the exchange provides the opportunity to improve their already excellent English, to learn something of the British way of life, and most importantly to make friends with young people with whom they soon find they have much in common.

Before we leave for Ukraine we try to teach our students a few basic words for "please", "thank you", "good morning", "goodbye", "how much?" etc but given the great amount of goodwill on both sides, communication has never been a problem.

For our students, used as many of them are to holidays in France, Spain or Florida, the visit by train to Chernivtsi is an experience they do not forget.

In both countries we try to combine experience of family life with a variety of visits and activities. In the UK our visitors have been to the Peak District and Alton Towers, sampled fish and chips as well as trying on costumes at the Shakespeare's memorial theatre in Stratford on Avon. In London they have sailed down the Thames and been photographed with the Queen's horseguards. In contrast, we have been to Yaremcha, the Carpathian mountains and the fortress at Khotin. We have eaten borscht, and on our journey home we stopped by in Kyiv.

The human element is what makes the



English and Ukrainian students at the mayor's reception in Chernivtsi

greatest impact from children to grannies. Families on both sides are involved in this.

In Ukraine we are always received with enormous hospitality and we are all aware of the sacrifices our partners have to make. Eyes are opened, attitudes change, our students see reality and not just something infrequently shown on TV. Friendships are cultivated which result in return visits. When someone tells you as one student did that his visit changed the way he thought about the world, you realise that this is a very worthwhile project indeed.

For us in Stafford, fund-raising is not easy, but we can manage. For our partners in Chernivtsi, things are much more difficult. We very much hope that this years students exchange will take place. To enable this to happen we need about three thousand pounds for a group of about sixteen students and staff travelling by bus.

If any Company with interests in Ukraine, or any individual feels that they could offer sponsorship or make a contribution towards these costs, we would be extremely grateful.

I can be contacted at 4 Wells Drive, Hillcroft Park, Stafford, ST17 0PL

Tony Cooper



Ukrainian students attending a computer class at Waltham High School



Waltham High School outside the Chernivtsi theatre in Ukraine



Ukrainian students trying on Shakespearean costumes in Stratford

British Ukrainians Reflect on Kinfolk

It's difficult to get people to talk on the record on the topic of Ukrainians from Ukraine, as any negative comments might be deemed unpatriotic. Scratch the surface of the Ukrainian community in Britain, however, and there are plenty of individuals ready to unload their horror stories related to their Ukrainian relatives, new wives and those who thought their kin were coming for a holiday, but instead have joined the growing "banda" (horde) of illegal workers.

"I put him on a bus last week", said 30 year old Ivan, a computer programmer from Ipswich. "Whether he made it back to Ukraine, God only knows."

Roman, 45, from Leeds, had his parents pestering him to marry a girl from Ukraine since he was a teenager. His first wife was English and they divorced after two years. They told him it wouldn't work. "My parents were over the moon when I married a 20-year-old 'chornobryva' (black browned beauty) from Ivano-Frankivsk", he said. "They thought I'd found happiness. Instead I have to do 12-hour shifts to support her family in Ukraine."

"Her sister in Ukraine wants designer label clothes, her brother keeps pestering us for an invitation because he has lost his job and wants to come and work here, and her father wants a new Lada car," he added.

Stefan, 36, a Londoner and father of two, said "My wife wanted to go back to work and we needed somebody to look after the children and teach them Ukrainian. Cousin Kateryna from Khodoriv seemed the obvious choice. Because it was illegal for her to work here, we offered her 30 pounds (1 pound is approximately \$1.65 US) living expenses a week plus free board and lodging to take care of our children. We had heard that the average wage in Ukraine is 18 pounds a month, so we felt we were giving her a good holiday."

"One day she met some Ukrainians working here illegally," he continued, "and she was told that we were exploiting her. She could earn 200 pounds a week working in a restaurant. Within two days she had left us, cursing us for not paying her enough, and refusing to give us a forwarding address, even though we were legally responsible for her."

He continued: "She kept telling us that she had borrowed 2,000 pounds from the village shopkeeper to get here and needed to pay him back. We were convinced she needed the money to refurbish her dacha."

Bohdan Furdyn, a pensioner from Surrey, was equally outspoken: "Over the past five years I have given more than 20,000 pounds to deserving causes - usually artists, intellectuals, diplomats, people who needed financial support. Half

of them did not even write a letter of thanks."

The lack of sympathy for Ukrainians trying to evade their economic plight was recently echoed by Ukrainian-born journalist Vitali Vitaliev, who now works for the British newspaper The Guardian on the column "Outside eye". Bemoaning the deportation of several hundred Czech and Slovak gypsies, who he believed genuinely deserved asylum in Britain as they were ruthlessly persecuted to the point that some politicians were publicly called for them to be sent "to the gas chamber," in the same breath Mr Vitaliev raised the case of a refugee from Ukraine asking for political asylum on the grounds that he had "voted for the wrong party" and therefore his life was in danger. "The asylum was granted," he added, "despite the fact that supporting a different party in Ukraine these days is no more dangerous than swapping one's shopping allegiance."

The Canadian Winter issue of Zdorov 1997 ran a feature on "The New Immigrants". It wrote "At first (after 1991), 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 black sheep of the family. Where did it all go wrong, and how can we repair the damage?"

by Tony Leliw

"Over the past five years I have given more than 20,000 pounds to deserving causes - usually artists, intellectuals, diplomats, people who needed financial support. Half of them did not even write a letter of thanks"



One 2 One with Len Liggins

It's been four years since the Ukrainians graced us with an album and with the exception of a charity single 'Radioactivity', activity has been very quiet.

Now the most commercially successful Uki band in the world ever are back with a new EP, a soon to be released album and a new musical style.

Len Liggins, founder member and lead singer, took some time out to speak to Zdorov.

How did the Ukrainians come about?

Peter Solowka's previous group, the Wedding Present, had a Radio 1 John Peel session at the BBC but they didn't want to play any of their new songs. It was for some business reason to do with their publishers at the time. So Peter suggested doing some traditional Uki tunes, and knowing me and my liking for all things Eastern European, invited me along to do the vocals and add some scratchy skripka. We thought it was a one-off, but Peely repeated the session about five times and asked us to do another one three months later. Then, RCA, who the Wedding Present had just signed to, wanted to bring out the two sessions as an album, which they did, and it was surprisingly successful. From there we hatched the idea of writing our own songs and starting the Ukrainians.

Why did you join a Ukrainian band?

Because I was asked, and also because my two greatest interests in life, besides sex and drinking, have always been music and Slavic languages.

Did you find it difficult to sing in the Ukrainian language?

It's challenging and involves more work for me than singing in English but I wouldn't use the word difficult because it's something I love doing. Ukrainian has a poetic and emotional quality I really like. I taught myself the language and I've been reading it on and off for nearly ten years now. I understand most of what people are saying but I'm not very good at joining in and speaking it. I'm not a natural talker. I tend to express myself better in songs.

It's been 4 years since your last album. Why?

Partly because we spent a long time touring the last album, 'Kultura'. Partly because we were discovering, for the want of a better phrase, a new musical direction. Partly because the record company were really pissing us about for ages and partly because we're a little older, maybe a little wiser, and when that happens your priorities in life change.

Do you believe the new album/EP will alienate your fans?

Maybe a few, but generally, no. I don't think a band's fans want to hear recycled ideas. Peter and I couldn't have done another album in the vein of the first three without doing some recycling, and there's no fun or artistic satisfaction in that. We have to move on. It's not as if we're short of ideas. We'll always want to do different things. Hopefully our fans will appreciate that.

What can we expect to hear from the new album?

MORE of everything! More types of instruments. More unusu-

al percussion sounds. More languages!...there's English this time as well as Ukrainian...and even a couple of phrases of Greek! There's a lot of rhythmic stuff going on, very danceable, and the Spookie Kookie Kushta sisters help out with some excellent backing vocals. All together there are ten of our own songs I think, plus versions of Prince's 'Nothing Compares 2 U' and 'Purple Rain', the outro of which includes the words of 'Zasvitaly Kozachenky'!

More instruments? Which?

In addition to our more usual use of acoustic and electric guitars, skripka, mandolin, and tsymbali we've used chanters, bagpipes, electronic noises, odd samples and all sorts of percussion sounds I can't even remember the names of!

Why have you turned to dance?

Because dance music exists! It's out there, it's now and we want to do it! What more can I say!

Why cover Prince?

Well, from the outset we knew we wanted to do a collection of covers of one artist, like we did with the 'Pisni Iz The Smiths' EP a few years ago. The truth is it's fun, it's challenging and to be honest it's commercially necessary. Covers work well as promotional tools for our albums. So we toyed with a few possibilities...but as soon as Prince came up we both instantly knew he was our man! Can you think of anyone less Ukrainian, or less like Morrissey? We're quite perverse, you know. We never take the easy route.

What market are you aiming the Prince EP and new album at?

We're not. We've just recorded the songs. Marketing's the record company's job.

What are your musical influences? Have they changed?

Everything that goes into the ear is a musical influence, in a

way. Songs can be inspired by everyday sounds, supermarkets, traffic noises! But, if you look though my record collection to see what I play at home, you'd notice a lot of the 50's rock and roll, 60's pop, Motown and psychedelia, early 70's glam and so called progressive rock, late 70's punk and Indie, all sorts of 80's and 90's groups, blues, reggae, ska, English, Celtic, Polish, Ukrainian, Russian and Turkish folk music...and that's probably not half of it. For me influences don't change as such. They just get added to. I'm not an NME musical tabloid type snob who discards music because a trend conscious journalist says it's unfashionable. To me if it's good now it'll be good in twenty years time.

Have you had much support from the Ukrainian diaspora either in the UK or abroad?

In the UK we had a lot of help and encouragement from members of the Bradford community, especially in the early days. We also used their schoolroom facilities for rehearsing in before going out on tour. In return we'd give them a few pounds and do the odd gig for them. Outside the UK we've been met, fed and put up for the night by countless Ukes while on tour, but the Canadian diaspora especially looked after us: catering to our every need, taxiing us around, throwing parties in our honour and so on.

What is the point of the Ukrainians?

Hmm. In terms of historical importance on a global scale probably not a lot! But it's a contribution. Like a lot of groups, we're there to entertain people, to move them sometimes and maybe make them think. But we've definitely created a kind of music which nobody made before. I think that's important. We should get some credit for that. To me what we do isn't folk, rock, indie, roots or dance. It isn't Ukrainian or British or Western. It's a new and different music made from a combination of all these elements in a way that no-one's thought of doing before. Some people, especially young diaspora Ukrainians in Poland and so on, have said that we have a political significance. I feel uneasy about that.

If you had one wish, what would it be?

That from tomorrow morning nobody ever harmed or criticised any other living thing.

What's happened to the rest of the band?

Over the years we've had two drummers, five bass players, two accordianists and seven mandolin players. We've lost contact with some of them, but basically they've all dispersed to various parts of the country - some to different parts of the globe. Most still play music with other bands, like 'Luddy' Pasiczyk, now happily married with daughter in London, and Stef Tymruk, who's got a band in Slough/Windsor. Mandolinist Roman Remeynes spent some time in Canada after we went out on tour there last year. Bassist Paul Briggs lives with his girlfriend (who he met on tour) in Cologne. Our first drummer, Dave Lee, lives with his Ukrainian girlfriend (who he also met on tour) and now they divide their time between Kyiv and

Paris. The Ukrainians isn't just a band, you know, it's a successful dating agency!

Any live dates planned?

No but that doesn't mean there won't be any.

What about the future?

Who knows? It's the end of our contract with Cooking Vinyl Records so we might go on to sign another deal with them....or maybe somebody else. Peter and I will no doubt continue to have a break from all that for a while to promote the new single and album. And maybe have a holiday.

interview by Peter Fundela

FACTS AND FIGURES

ALBUMS - Four L.P.'s released throughout Europe, USA, Canada, Australia and Japan

CONCERTS - Over 300, including Glastonbury, WOMAD and many European and American festivals and tours including UK, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Spain, Australia, Switzerland.

CRITICAL SUCCESS -

'Oi Divchino' NME Single of the Week
'Vorony' VOX album of the month
'Pisni iz The Smiths' Berlin's top indie single 1993

RADIO 1 SESSIONS - 5 John Peel sessions (Three as 'The Wedding Present')

HIGHLIGHTS - As guests of the Ukrainian government's Ministry of Culture, played internationally televised concert in Kyiv's Independence Square to a crowd of 60,000 people as part of celebrations to mark the second anniversary of independence from the Soviet Union (24th August 1993)

DID YOU KNOW - Recorded soundtrack for globally transmitted NIKE trainers TV ad featuring the former world champion pole vaulter Sergei Bubka.

the Ukrainians



the Ukrainians



GOD'S LITTLE ANGELS -

The unfolding story of Chernobyl continues ...

More than ten years on and the children of Chernobyl are still suffering. Many of those born on or around the date of the incident have since died of leukemia or other related radioactive diseases. However, there are many that remain bearing the scars of the accident. To make matters worse many of the young people who have married and considered themselves healthy, are now bearing children with the same diseases. The fight therefore goes on to help these children live life as long as possible before they become "Gods little angels".

Ray Greaves, a voluntary worker for five years from Doncaster has made over a dozen trips to Ukraine. Ray, a six foot tall ex-military convoy man (nicknamed Big Ray) first got involved in relief work in 1993. He joined a convoy of 16 trucks made up of ordinary people who wanted to help out with aid during the Sarajevo conflict in Yugoslavia. The people he joined up with were ordinary people from Essex, Kent and the West country who had collected aid locally and wanted to make a difference! The organiser of the trip was Tony Budell, and Ray joined up with George Mills from "The British Aid for Deprived Children".

This convoy of ordinary people went unarmed, without military escort to the frontline, risking their own lives to give aid. Due to heavy fighting they did not

reach Sarajevo, but managed to hand out aid locally in Mostar, Bihać, Split and Zadar.

As Ray pointed out "This aid was given directly to people in their hands, we did not give it to some army official or administrator to lock away in a warehouse so that it could be sold on the black market later".

After four successful trips Ray became the official driver for The British Aid for Deprived children. Not long after that the organisation was contacted by Nina Rogerson (who appeared in ITVs "World in Action" on "The Plight of the Children of Chernigov") to give help to the setting up of a rehabilitation centre in Chernigov called "Vidrodzhennia" (Revival Centre).

Ray's first trip to the Revival Centre in March 1995 took nearly 6 days and they arrived at 2.30 in the morning. "The building was derelict. It had nothing. Not even basic furniture, let alone medication and toiletries" said Ray.

Three years on after the initial trip and the centre now has hydro-massage baths, a gym, a wood workshop and a computer studies workshop. "The day centre needs the baths and gym to stimulate the children's muscles and the workshop provides something interesting for the children to do" points out Ray.

"We provide the centre with medicines and everyday cleaning materials. The Centre tells us what it wants, we make no promises but try our best to give them what they want. Anything the centre does not need we pass on to the polyclinic's" says Ray.

During a visit last October, Ray took a wrong turn to the Revival centre and ended up in a place called "Zeleni Hi". On further investigation he found out it was a Heart and Lung centre. "The centre was treating 100 children per month between the ages of 4-15. The centre provides accommodation, education, meals and treatment for one month for these children" points out Ray. "When I turned up, I was surprised to see that the children only had one blanket to cover themselves in when temperatures in Ukraine fall below zero during winter months. The children had no toys, no music, no TV to occupy them with. There were poor orphans arriving with plastic bags amounting to their worldly possessions. They did not even have a towel or a toothbrush."

Ray is now collecting aid for "Zeleni Hi". At Christmas he went back there and gave them the best Christmas they had ever had. "They loved the toys, and it was just great to see a smile on their faces."

by Stef Leliw



Ray with twin victims of Chernobyl

RAY'S DIARY ON THE ARSENAL TRIP TO UKRAINE

Saturday 6th June

At last the day has arrived when we leave on our Arsenal trip. It has taken two months to put the training sessions together, the coaches finding the time in their busy schedules, sourcing two stadiums in Chernigov, convincing officials that with their help it could really happen and finding the amount of children needed! Not easy with so many of the population sick.

At Gatwick I met up with Alan Sefton and Billy Williams, (both coaches for Arsenal FC) and Penny Millar, a professional photographer coming to record the children's progress in the hospitals and clinics. No problem with the flight, except one guy who ignored

the "no smoking" rule and was met by Police in Kyiv.

I had to go through customs red section as I was carrying a great deal of dollars for Dr. P. but I was quickly let through when they knew it was humanitarian aid. Dr. P and Peter Sharamata (Sports Minister) met us with a minibus. It is obvious they are pleased and excited to see us. As we left the region of Kyiv and entered the region of Chernigov the bus pulled into a lay by for a "traditional greeting" to friends entering Chernigov. Champagne and food was produced and toasts were made, but we are soon off as the mosquitoes were out in force.

As we neared Chernigov I noticed a car parked in the middle of the road with a man frantically waving. I recognised him as "The Judge". We are being hijacked! The Judge and three friends met us with a picnic. We pulled into a cafe car park and our official friends took over. Once again champagne and food was produced.

Alan, Billy and Penny seemed overwhelmed by the reception. We were used to it, but for them it was the first time.

Sunday 7 June

The first day of the programme when Alan and Billy do their stuff. I find out if all our organising has meant anything. For the first 2 days, 32 young men (16-18) will be trained to be coaches. This will take care of the morning. At midday there is to be refreshments and a talk about coaching. In the afternoon the trainee coaches will split into 2 groups, one will go to the Desna Stadium and the other to the Youth Stadium.

Alan's job was no piece of cake. Young streetwise men are not easy to train as a unit, each wanting to prove themselves for the men of Arsenal. Alan and Billy quickly showed their professionalism in bringing them into line and talking them through each exercise and section of the programme. They showed a great understanding of



Some of the 150 sick children on holiday on the southern coast of Ukraine

young people and soon had their complete attention.

At midday we gave out complete Arsenal kits and you could see the pride and difference amongst the new coaches. 56 children arrived to be trained by the junior coaches and slowly parents, friends, other football clubs, athletic clubs, politicians and radio and TV arrived.

At the height of the afternoon, a lady calmly walked across the pitch with a dog to talk to her son. She spoke to the lad and the dog pooped and she walked off! Guess who had to clean it up?! By the end of the day the coaches had become referees and Alan and Billy were surprised and pleased at the results of the first day.

Monday 8 June

Today we get the Arsenal souvenirs and pick up the Arsenal kit for the children to wear tomorrow. Tonight we go to Dr Hannahs for a cold evening meal and speeches.

Tuesday 9 June

The weather is hot. I go and get water and biscuits for the players. At the stadium we begin to hand out Arsenal programmes and souvenirs. The response is amazing. We are swamped. Arsenal now have thousands of fans in Ukraine having received their testimonial programmes.

The tournament commences at 2pm. By now there are several hundred supporters in the stands and the atmosphere is tense. Each team pick a country as a name, and guess who wins? England.

During the knockout games two families had a punch up. What's new? The boys play with determination, their desire to win is plain to see. Cheered on by the crowd, the digs give their last breath. Sad to say there will only be one winning team. All the teams and coaches look wonderful in their supplied kits. Each receive a goodie bag containing Arsenal items, winning

teams get medals and so do runners-up.

The mayor is throwing a party for us. Alan and Billy are hijacked by reporters and cannot get away. Nice things are said at the party. It amazes me that they considered coming to Ukraine for the coaching programme considering the proximity of Chernigov to Chernobyl is only 17 miles. We will always be grateful to them and Arsenal.

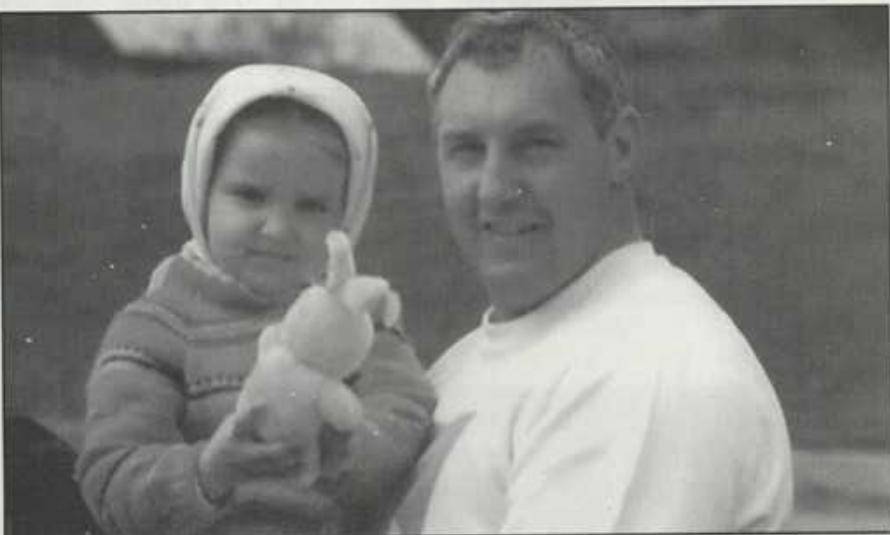
Wednesday 10 June

Off home today, it's hard to believe how much has been achieved in 3 days. So many children and families reached, not forgetting the staff of Desna FC, Veterans Athletic club, Disabled football League and so many more.

We meet up with the Mayor in the morning who expresses his thanks and hopes we will be back again.

Following the return of the two football coaches, Arsenal FC kindly donated £2,000. This money was used to send 50 children from Chernigov to the Black sea for a couple of weeks.

If you would like to help Ray Greaves, please write c/o Zdorov Magazine, and if you can spare any money, then make cheques payable to: The British Aid for Deprived Children.



Ray with a young Chernobyl Cancer victim



Ray brings a smile to four children from Chernobyl

The Same Old Song

THE INTELLECTUAL FAILURE OF THE POST WWII UKRAINIAN IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

There are some unquestionable truths about the post 1945 Ukrainian immigrants. For the most part they were uprooted from their villages and forced into situations no one is prepared for. They faced and endured hardships, horrors which would have marked lesser people forever. After the war, because they shared the common experience of the war years, they reunited, reformed themselves into new communities in new lands such as Canada.

Most of the Ukrainian intelligentsia, especially the urban intelligentsia, had been destroyed by one side or another. Thus a real intellectual elite was lacking. There were scattered individuals who had ties to this former intelligentsia, but they were few in numbers.

In addition to the war experiences, what kept these Ukrainian communities united was their mainly peasant background and their peasant culture. They were raised upon the myth of Taras Shevchenko - not the real man or his works. This Shevchenko myth merged with a myth of some mystical Ukraine thus becoming the driving force behind the culture they surrounded themselves with, and which they intended to pass on to their children.

"the emigre Ukrainian culture did not evolve. It stayed the same, partly from being away from its source, the Ukrainian non-industrial peasant village"

the Picasso of the African Masks or the later Abstract Picasso. The Beatles of 'Revolution' are different from the Beatles of the 'White Album', 'Sergeant Pepper', or 'Abbey Road'. But the emigre Ukrainian culture did not evolve. It stayed the same, partly from being away from its source, the Ukrainian non-industrial peasant village.

That folk song being sung over and over again, stopped being living art as it had been previously, but became a museum piece, a static ritual piece which continues the ties to the mythic past. And as ritual it had all the limiting factors of ritual. Ritual is safe. It is predictable without any surprises. It is common so that people can find safety in numbers within it. But most importantly, ritual rejects all newcomers, innovators, innovations, and challengers to its throne. It demands unquestionable adherence.

In this context the emigre children were raised to blindly accept the myths. Those who did accept blindly and submissively, were accepted by Ukrainian organisations and the Ukrainian community. Many rejected these myths and travelled into other communities and blindly accepted their myths. Then there were the outcasts who refused to accept any myths and rituals, but strove to uncover real art and real truths. These outcasts discovered the real Shevchenko, not the mythical one, and they were equally comfortable reading and

appreciating Shevchenko as well as Leonard Cohen, Charles Bukowski, or Jewel Kilcher. These outcasts are ostracised by the Ukrainian community, that is until they have made a name for themselves in the non-Ukrainian world, and then the stagnant quo comes running after them to ride on the outcasts' coat tails.

Part of the problem of this war, and it is a battle, stems from education. Education is a two way street. The student learns from the teacher, but the teacher must learn from the student because the student is living in a different world than that of the teacher. The concept of education expounded by the leaders of the post 1945 emigration was thus - indoctrination from above. There is no growth from below. Those educated in this manner are trained to consume ideas, not to create new ones, not to think for themselves. They were turned into consumers. And thus even those who rejected the Ukrainian myths of their parents, became perfect citizens of the materialistic, consumer society in pursuit of ever greater hordes of laundry detergent.

In Canada, Ukrainian culture is known on a very simplistic level by non-Ukrainians. This result is mainly caused by a Ukrainian organisational regime that cannot teach others because it itself does not know how to learn. You cannot teach someone who does not want to learn, who fears learning, someone who has a closed mind, or someone who hides in ritual.

The stagnant quo demands to see a ritual art which reflects the stagnant quo. Real art cannot be stagnant. But then real art is not always universal. It is often very personal, very individual, the stagnant quo does not want individuality. It wants mass submission to the ritual and to the stagnant quo's authority. The outcasts do not submit.

There is a Ukrainian saying that the "Song is always truthful, always tells the truth". Thus the goal for the outcasts who reject the ritual, is to search for, and create real, living art. The challenge is to blaze new trails and allow only those with guts to follow, from whichever ethnic community they belong, while throwing off those hangers on representing the Ukrainian stagnant quo who are trying to ride your coat-tails. No one needs dead weight.

The message to be delivered to the stagnant quo is thus - 'Fear the Outcasts! For they are the ones who dare to snub you'

I am not interested in people agreeing with me or disagreeing with me. I am only interested in getting people to start thinking.

by Jaroslaw Zurowsky - Canada

A Real Asset for Ukraine -

Dr Alex Zaynchkovsky

Who could have known that a young Ukrainian boy's interest in geography, and maps in particular could have had such far reaching results years later?

Thus a first year medical student, Alex Zaynchkovsky from Rivne, blindly put a pin on the map of England and it turned out to be close to two places, Gloucester and Oxford. The letter to the famous Oxford University received no reply. However, the Mayor of Gloucester Mr. Ben Richards, kindly answered with a prospective offer of practical experience in Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, during summer breaks from the Ivano-Frankivsk State Medical Academy.

After graduating from the State Medical Academy Dr. Alex Zaynchkovsky was invited by Dr Roger Eltringham, Head of Gloucester Royal's Anaesthesia Department to continue his post graduate studies in England.

Dr Roger Eltringham, through the W.F.S.A. (World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists) has much to offer Ukraine with the exchange of professional expertise and technology. For example, he has developed a revolutionary new machine for the administration of anaesthesia which can function without oxygen or electricity and can be used in hospitals and clinics worldwide.

Last Spring Dr. Eltringham and Dr. Peter Sanderson, a fellow consultant from the same department flew out to Kyiv. From the plane, Kyiv created a memorable impression, with the wide river Dnieper and the huge city spread below, in the middle of the prairie. The contrast between the historic central part of the Ukrainian capital, with its golden cupolas and ancient churches and the new multi-storey blocks of flats in the residential areas was quite dramatic. What was even more difficult to take in was the inequality of treatment received at the airport to the young Ukrainian in the group as opposed to Dr. Oleg Shram who was greeted with open arms at airport control.

Before travelling to Rivne, all four doctors and the driver enjoyed a mixture of exotic French and traditional Ukrainian fare at a fashionable venue in the capital. On the way to Rivne there were a few heart-stopping moments when they were stopped by armed policemen, until it was realised that all they wanted was a lift home!

The tired group arrived at Alex's parents' flat in the small hours of the morning grabbing what sleep they could before attending the Medical Conference at the Palace of Youth in Rivne next day.

Prior to the conference itself, the British doctors were introduced to the Mayor of Rivne; the chief of the anaesthetic Department, Dr. Valentine Korolyuk; the Head of Rivne Central City Clinic, Mr. Yevgeny Kucheruk and many fellow anaesthetist's from

Western Ukraine. The event was televised and broadcast by the National network.

During the day the British doctors were taken to see the new Intensive care unit of the clinic which was established with the help of a former German soldier, who became a millionaire and founded the clinic in thanks for the care he received after losing both legs near Rivne.

The British doctors were able during the next three days to take part in many useful practical lectures. Dr. Eltringham was able to introduce his life saving anaesthetic machine.

Dr. Alex Zaynchkovsky was kept busy interpreting for his colleagues throughout the trip, and his abilities were noted by the Lord Mayor's office. All participants were given a special diploma to mark the event.

In addition there was an opportunity to visit the Central clinic and Military hospital. Official receptions enable both groups of doctors both English and Ukrainian to cement their friendship. The sponsors "Zorya" provided first class accommodation and superb meals and service. Their assistance was much appreciated by all the participants.

The trip was not all business, and some time was taken to visit the ancient town of Ostryg with its fine museum and church, as well as visiting Alex's village of Ivatchkiv, his parents and babusia (grandma).

The trip was a success. It was agreed that the W.F.S.A. would sponsor an Annual Refresher Course in Ukraine and that personal ties with both countries would be strengthened. Dr. Eltringham has offered training in Gloucester to anyone interested in operating and running his new machine in their own Ukrainian hospitals. Plans are also afoot for Dr. Oleg Shram to come to Gloucester and for the necessary money to be raised to send anaesthetic machines to Ukraine.

If you would like to help in any way, Dr. Roger J Eltringham and Dr. Alexander Zaynchkovsky would be pleased to receive any donations via the the Department of Anaesthesia, Gloucestershire Royal Hospital, Great Western Rd, Gloucester, GL1 3NN.

Stefan Leliw



cyberukes

soomskaya vodka

<http://www.soomskaya.com/recipes.html>

You drink vodka and like cocktails, then why not mix the (apardon the pun!) by checking out this web site. Soomskaya is a distinctive 'Ashberry' flavoured Ukrainian vodka which originates from the Sumy province in Ukraine. The site recommends cocktail recipes for mixing the Soomskaya vodka with, but if you can't find a bottle in your local off-license, then use any good flavoured vodka.

Impress your friends by mixing up a 'Cosmonaut' (vodka, triple sec, cranberry juice and lemon juice), a 'Chocolate Martini' (vodka, chocolate Liqueur and Maraschino cherry) or a 'Ukrainian Winter' (vodka, Amaretto and ice-cream). And then there's the 'Taras Bulba' which combines vodka, Vermouth and Angostura aromatic bitters (whatever they are). These are just a few of the recipes shown so grab that tumbler and start shaking.

Ukrainian Aphrodisiacs

<http://www.santesson.com/aphrodis/ukraine.htm>

What links aphrodisiacs, cursing in different languages, cooking, dirty jokes, Swedish chemical nomenclature and the Celsius temperature scale? The answer is the Johan and Anne Santesson's 'family' web site. The Santessons are Swedes living in Denmark. Their bizarre yet brilliant site includes pretty photos of their children and grandchildren but also includes weird and wonderful information on the above subjects. The aphrodisiacs section contains links to every known aphrodisiac. There, you'll find information on well-known 'love potions' such as drugs, perfumes and oysters. You'll also find links to less common aphrodisiacs like animal genitalia, animal products, onions, recipes, snake blood and on Ukrainian aphrodisiacs. We learn that Ukrainian men are supposed to possess great natural sexual powers (I knew that!) and Ukrainian women are, in the same way, supposed to be always interested and willing - (I knew that too!) Thus, the major purpose of Ukrainian love potions is not to increase the sexual capacity but to direct the desires towards a particular individual. Listed are recipes aimed at curing impotency for older people (is that you're ears pricking up?) and love potions for women to attract members of the opposite sex.

Did you know that according to a folk legend, witches used to bring teenage boys to fields where the ruta was blossoming. The strong scent made the boys become 'possessed by witch desires', whereupon they lost their virginity. Or that the most popular aphrodisiac in Ukraine at present is a mixture of sour cream and beer! And finally one for our didu's. There is an old Ukrainian saying which goes "If your husband is old and weak you must have him drink the juice from two big carrots and one celery". Lovely.

The Smokie Lviv tribute site

<http://www.smokie.lviv.ua>

Another odd one. This is a Ukrainian tribute site to the British seventies rock band 'Smokie' and includes news, discography, lyrics, links, group history and billboard facts. 'Smokie', you may recall, recently made a comeback when they dueted with the so-called comedian Roy Chubby Brown on their terrible hit 'Living Next Door to Alice'.

The site boasts 115 members in 37 countries. Nuff said!

Art of Ukraine Cuisine

<http://www.litech.lviv.ua/~guenon/cuisine/index.html>

This site from Lviv lists in both alphabetical and menu order many lesser known Ukrainian recipes and some old favourites. Click in Appetisers and you'll find recipes for pickled mushrooms, beet relish, feet in aspic, pork pate and chicken liver spread. In the bread, noodles and dumplings section are recipes for pyrogy, little ears (vushka), pancakes (nalyshnyky), noodles (khisky terti) and potato dumplings (palchyky).

Carnivores are well catered for with pigeon, partridge and rabbit dishes and for veggies, you'll find filling meals in barley soup, cabbage and mushrooms with egg and sauerkraut with carrots and apples.

Admittedly, many recipes don't immediately whet the appetite but as the saying goes, "the proof is in the medvinyk".

For further cookery sites, check out

<http://www2.uwindsor.ca/~hlynka/ukrecipe.htm>

Language and travel guide to Ukraine

<http://pages.prodigy.com/ukraine/home.htm>

Planning a trip to Ukraine? Want to learn more about Ukrainian culture? Well Linda Hodges has written a book titled 'Language and Travel Guide to Ukraine' (Hodges and Chumak, Hippocrene) and this is a valuable site to complement the book.

Here, you'll find information on Ukrainian history, the alphabet, folk traditions, food, art, travel, sightseeing, economy, politics and so on. Also included are a selection of travel essays on different parts of the country.

What I love about this site is the simplicity to access information and the personal touch of someone actually giving you objective and unbiased information rather than trying to sell you a service.

reviews by Peter Fundela

The Last drink

Slavko had been married for 30 years and his wife had had enough of his drinking and turned round to him and said that if he did not stop drinking she would leave him.

Slavko told his wife that he couldn't just stop, he would have to tell his friends first so that they would know why he had not turned up with them for his Friday night drink. So off Slavko went to tell his friends.

Slavko's friends all laughed at him but suggested that if he was going to stop drinking he should at least have one last big night out with the boys.

Slavko was afraid as he told his mates his wife would leave him if he drank, but they suggested that before he went home he should eat a quarter pound of Gorgonzola cheese with some garlic and his wife would not know he had drunk.

At about midnight time after a few bottles of vodka, Slavko ate his cheese and garlic and made his way home. When he got to the front door he couldn't get in despite trying to unlock the door. His wife had locked it. He shouted for her to get out of bed. She did and told him she would not let him in because he had been drinking. He suggested that she put her nose to the keyhole and he would breathe through it to prove he had not been drinking.

She put her nose to the keyhole, and when he breathed through the keyhole she shouted "You think I am stupid! You stick your backside to the keyhole and fart and think you can get away with it. No you have been drinking!"

When will the car arrive?

A Russian man saves his roubles for twenty years to buy a new car. After choosing the model and options he wants, he's not the least bit surprised or even concerned to learn that it will take two years for the new car to be delivered. He thanks the salesman and starts to leave, but as he reaches the door he pauses and turns back to the salesman. "Do you know which week two years from now the new car will arrive?" he asks. The salesman checks his notes and tells the man that it will be two years to the exact week. The man thanks the salesman and starts out again, but upon reaching the door, he turns back again.

"Could you possibly tell me what day of the week two

The meaning of Life

When God created the world he gave them all life and told them each how long they were going to live. When God came to man he only had 25 years of life left and gave man 25 years. Man was not happy. He went to God and said "Please God can you give me some more life".

God replied: "I do not have any, but if you go and speak to the animals then maybe they will give you some of theirs".

So off man went into the forest in search of the animals. The first animal man met was a horse. He asked the horse to give him some of his life. The horse explained that he did not have much life himself, but after an hour he gave man 25 years of his life.

Man had 50 years of life, but he was not happy and went further into the forest.

There he met a dog. So he said to the dog, "Please give me some of your life". The dog did not want to know but after a few hours he too relented and gave man 25 years of his life.

Man now had 75 years of life, but he was still not happy and went further into the forest. There he met a monkey. He turned round to the monkey and asked for some life. The monkey was not happy about it but after a few hours also agreed to give man 25 years of life.

Man had 100 years of life and was now happy. So back he went to God. God turned round to him and said "For the first 25 years of your life you are going to live like a man, for the next 25 years you will work like a horse, the following 25 years you will yap like a dog, and for the last 25 years of your life people will laugh at you like they laugh at a monkey".

years from now the car will arrive?" The salesman, mildly annoyed, checks his notes again and says that it will be exactly two years from this week, on Thursday. The man thanks the salesman and once again starts to leave. Halfway through the door, he hesitates, turns back, and walks up to the salesman.

"I'm sorry to be so much trouble, but do you know if that will be two years from now on Thursday in the morning, or in the afternoon?" Visibly irritated, the salesman flips through his papers yet another time and says sharply that it will be in the afternoon, two years from now on Thursday.

"That's a relief!" says the man. "The plumber is coming in the morning!"

Tunnel vision

There was a Ukrainian, a Russian, and Monica Lewinsky sitting together in a carriage in a train going through the Carpathian Mountains.

Suddenly the train went through a tunnel, and as it was an old style train, there were no lights in the carriages and it went completely dark.

Then there was this kissing noise and the sound of a really loud slap. When the train came out of the tunnel, Monica Lewinsky and the Ukrainian were sitting as if nothing had happened and the Russian had his hand against his face as he had been slapped there.

The Russian was thinking: "The Ukrainian fella must have kissed Monica Lewinsky and she missed him and slapped me instead".

Monica Lewinsky was thinking: "The Russian fella must have tried to kiss me and actually kissed the Ukrainian and got slapped for it".

And the Ukrainian was thinking: "This is great. The next time the train goes through a tunnel I'll make another kissing noise and slap that Russian bastard again."

Eden

A Brit, a Frenchman and a Russian are viewing a painting of Adam and Eve frolicking in the Garden of Eden.

"Look at their reserve, their calm," muses the Brit. "They must be British."

"Nonsense," the Frenchman disagrees. "They're naked, and so beautiful. Clearly, they are French."

"No clothes, no shelter," the Russian points out, "they have only an apple to eat, and they're being told this is paradise. They are Russian."



TWELVE REASONS TO ADMIT YOU'RE UKRAINIAN

There are a hell of a lot of us, over 60 million worldwide

Its not up to YOU to save the homeland – its been saved

As a nation we dance and sing well, while wearing ridiculously bright costumes

Embroidered shirts are really cool, especially the ones made from hemp

Ukrainians never invaded anybody

Every fourth Ukrainian writes poetry (secretly)

We have our own distinct holidays

Varennky, Borscht, and all the other good food

We can handle our spirits

Ukrainians names are not as unpronounceable as most people think

There are enough prominent smart Ukrainians to counteract the real dumb ones

Compared to the 20th century for Ukrainians, the 21st should be plain sailing.

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L.P.'s

The Ukrainians - 'Nothing Compares 2 U' (E.P.)
(Cooking Vinyl)



This EP presents the most original interpretation of Prince's work I've ever heard - although you should hear me sing 'Let's go crazy'.

This is no ordinary 'painting by numbers' cover version. No other band (Ukrainian or non-Ukrainian) would take this risk - and certainly not when you're the most successful Uki band in the world ever! No, what we have here is a complete overhaul - stripped of any reference to the little one's Philly funk. Commercial suicide - or a stroke of genius which will launch a new chapter in the life of the Ukrainians, a new following, a new direction and maybe a new record deal.

Well, they may hope so. Unfortunately this is a hit and miss affair, which will alienate some fans. It grabs your senses with a cathartic missile attack of drums, electro-dance tunes and chants that takes a few listens to get into.

This is The Ukrainians first proper release in four years ('Radioactivity' excluded) and gives a taster of their forthcoming album. The problem here is that we have a dance record you can't dance to, a Uki record sung in English (and vice versa), and a pop record which is sombre, all mixed together which makes it difficult for the listener to focus in on something.

The Ukrainians are known as a fun band - their frenzied live gigs matching the Pogues for drunken elation. The proof is in the Luddy. And then they discovered Kraftwerk, released the charity record 'Radioactivity', arguably their best work, and with that experiment in electronic dance, came this

'Nothing Compares to You' reminds me of when Erasure covered Abba with Len doing a remarkable impression of Andy Bell, yet lacking his style of campness and fun. Sung in English, with Uki backing vocals by the Kuzsta sisters, Irene and Julia, the vocals compliment one another. Add to this looping drums and an instrumental break from Peter Solowka's mandolin, and do you see what I mean.

Percussion and flutes introduces 'Sign of the Times'. But then we hear Depeche Mode style industrial noises which creates an eerie cold-war feel. Search deeper though and you'll find a dark, subtle comment on Ukraine's struggle to escape from its former Soviet shell. Solowka's mandolin and Bandura add a haunting quality, Prince's words adding a poignant touch when translated to Ukrainian.

'Purple Rain' is a marathon eight and a half minutes of buzz guitars with lots of rev, chants and loud percussion. Played live, this tune I'm sure will get the crowds going. Although on record, monotony sets in too soon.

With an added Uki mix of 'Nothing Compares', there is 24 minutes of music giving great value for money.

Their old fans may feel alienated by this departure into the abyss, but Carpathiana have proved that Uki dance music can work.

And The Ukrainians have given an original touch to some classic tunes which at least places Uki music on a new stage. And for that, the 'Artists formerly known as The Ukrainians' deserve our support.

Carpathiana - 'Love' (Carpathiana)



What an album. Our own Todmorden based Ukrainian techno / world music dance band 'Carpathiana' are back with their second album 'Love', released on their own label.

The ten tracks show a maturity in their music whilst the list of influences are as ever, wide and varied.

With better production quality and less samples than on their debut album, 'Love' illustrates how far 'Carpathiana' have come.

The first track 'River' begins with a 'Blade Runner' sounding intro but soon the harmonic voices of the Radosin Quintet and Carpathiana trio Anna Demkowicz, Kirsty Parkes and Daisy Abbot are heard. 'River' is one of the outstanding tracks on the album and mixes Latin and country influences with flutes and guitars. The combination

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is at once exhilarating and uplifting.

The Ternopil Anniversary Choir, an Unknown Carpathian and a Hutzul Punk are heard on the next track 'Ykraina'! Totally unique and mesmerising - lead singer and co-writer, Yuri Baluk is heard chanting "People, Understand" over the choir, whilst the music uses funky wah-wah guitars and some nifty flute playing.

'Wasted' first appeared on their debut tape and was one of the best tracks. Alas it failed to appear on their first CD but fortunately this remixed version is included on 'Love'. 'Wasted' is a catchy tune with 'Kolomeya' flute playing and other ethnic samples which uses some excellent guitar playing from Oleg Skripka and VehVeh.

For me 'Znova' is the best track. Superb vocals from Yanka Rupkina, classical piano and violin, and drum 'n' bass programming creates the definitive Carpathiana style which most people would appreciate, whether in a dance club or Ukrainian social club.

'Inchworm' is an excellent track which again mixes classical and dance music with Ukrainian harmonies. Even Yuri's sometimes limited vocal range cannot fault the mood of this excellent track.

'Ne Tvoja' subtly combines a loop of Simon Chantler's fiddle with Michaelo Zachid's mandolin over Manchester based singers, Larysa Didiuk's and Natalka Szyroka vocals. Sung partly in English, this is again catchy with added scratching and mixing to boot.

'3 Times' samples Ivor Papasov's 'Balkanology' - and that's no bad thing. The most electro sounding track on the album, Carpathiana have allowed the Balkanology sample plenty of space to be heard with a Drum 'n' Bass mix and Yuri's vocals put to good use.

Carpathiana are certainly the most original Ukrainian band currently around. Their constant touring of Ukraine and Poland have established them as a mainstream band over there.

See Carpathiana live on April 24th at Baxters at the Blue Note, Todmorden; on 9th-11th August at the Totality Festival, Newquay (Tel: 01637 875 096) and at WOMAD, Morecambe (TBC). Carpathiana will also be touring Ukraine in July and August.

'Love' and 'Carpathiana' are both available by mail order only from Zdorov at a special discount price of £10 per CD plus £1 p&p. Please send cheques or P.O.'s payable to Zdorov, 35 Wensley Drive, Leeds LS7 3QP. Include return name and address.
(please note : Inchworm and Ne Tvoja appear on both albums)

Concerts

Yatran' Folk Dance Troupe - Acton Town Hall

Yatran Folk Dance Troupe hail from the small town of St Elizabeth in Carpathia. The 28 amateur dancers and eight musicians make up the troupe which has performed world-wide, winning prestigious awards along the way. Last seen in England at Wembley over 20 years ago, this new troupe consists of young dancers, many still in their teens.

Their 1998 tour ended in Acton Town Hall. It was a shame that the hall was half-empty as the troupe were certainly entertaining and deserved to perform to a larger audience.

Their range of dances embraced many aspects of Ukrainian culture - from the Hutsulian dance in 'Arkan', a wedding dance from Bukovina and the Carpathian Mountains in 'Hey Carpaty'.

Costumes played a key role in the evening with shawls, head-dresses and shirts beautifully embroidered.

The dancers displayed simple steps elegantly although by the end of the evening, fatigue was beginning to show; this being the final night of an exhausting and hectic tour.

Still, the young dancers found the stamina to go out with the 'Hopak' which soon had the crowd cheering. At the end of the evening, a collection was made to help finance the tour. I hope that 20 years will not pass before we see them again as clearly, the troupe work hard and deserve more support to continue.

All reviews by Peter Fundela



BORSCH!

Zdorov's guide to BARS AND RESTAURANTS IN KYIV

Bukovyna

Prospect peremohy, 135.
Tel: 444-2332

The modern interior is quite inviting and the menu includes meat and fish based dishes. Appetizers include sausage and smoked beef salad. The hot mushroom julienne comes highly recommended. Entree delights include traditional Chernivtsi-style meat scallops with mushrooms, spaghetti and tomatoes with mushrooms and cheese. The house speciality dessert, Evening in Trinidad, a fruit mix with champagne is superb. Good selection of domestic and imported beer and wines.

Slavianskiy

vulitsya Horkoho 125A
Tel: 269-7461

This one smacks of 18th century elegance. Each table is separated by partitions and flower arrangements and elegant velvet drapery and ornately carved walls add to the effect. The menu features mainly traditional Ukrainian dishes. Try their Poltava style borshch and the wide selection of varenyky. Slavianskiy-style meatballs and traditional fried meat dishes come especially recommended. The dessert menu is also more wide-ranging than most. Live Ukrainian music at night.

Beaumond restaurant

vulitsya Velyka Vasylkivska 58 (formerly known as Chervonoarmiyska)
Metro station Respublikanskiy stadion
Tel: 220-4632

Nicely placed near the newly renovated Olimpiyskiy (formerly Respublikanskiy) stadium where Dynamo Kyiv and the Ukrainian national side play, the Beaumond offers comfortable dining in three separate eating areas. The menu offers soups, main courses like chicken cutlets with mushrooms, seafood salad and prawn cocktails. Wide range of desserts and selection of wines and alcohol beverages.

Renaissance

vulitsya Velyka Vasylkivska 57/3 (formerly known as Chervonoarmiyska)
Metro station Respublikanskiy stadion
Tel: 227-7334

Located in the Planetarium building near the Olimpiyskiy stadium, the interior of this restaurant looks more like a museum, emphasising the most famous elements of the Renaissance period. The paintings were prepared over the course of a year by Ukrainian painter Ihor Tymchuk. The menu has an excellent range of Ukrainian and European dishes, including vegetarian, meat and seafood dishes. Prices are high, though the Renaissance spirit is maintained by classical music played by three professional music groups.

Taliano Restaurant-Bar

vulitsya Velyka Vasylkivska 43
(formerly known as Chervonoarmiyska)
Metro station Respublikanskiy stadion
Tel: 227-1046

A great and relatively inexpensive menu offering a variety of courses and excellent service is making this a popular haunt. Choose from a selection of cold cuts, fish, black and red caviar, borshch, bouillon, pizza, mushroom julienne, Kyiv chops and beef stroganoff.

The Butterfly

vulitsya Basseyna 5B
Metro station Ploshcha Lva Tolstoho
Tel: 244-9138

This bright little restaurant-bar is located in a court half way down Basseyna, two minutes walk from the renowned Bessarabskiy market. The Butterfly is both inexpensive and charming. The mirrored ceiling and doors create an illusion of space, as do the white walls decorated with oriental fans and umbrellas. Butterflies are everywhere, even in the name of the cafe's specialty, a tomato salad with dried meat, cheese and olive oil. There are more original dishes on offer here than in most cafes :- bean soup with mushrooms, roast pork with deruny (potato pancakes, better known as *plyatsky* in the west). Good selection of Massandra wines and draught beer. French music makes a change from the techno rap of most cafes.

Rock cafe

vulitsya Horodetskoho (formerly vulitsya Karla Marks'a)
Metro station Khreshchatyk
Tel: 228-7883

Has absolutely nothing to do with the collection of Hard Rock cafes dotted around the globe. However, this cafe has become one of the most popular cafes in Kyiv. It has a huge selection of drinks, mostly at affordable prices and a couple of TV sets showing sports and a pool table. Food is restricted to just mushroom and sausage pizza. Its abundance of tables, comfortable lighting and upbeat background music makes it a nice spot to enjoy a couple of bevvies.

Svitoch cafe

vulitsya Velyka Zhytomirska 8A
Tel: 228-3382

This small, two-storey cafe was opened next door to the confectionery shop run by the famous Svitoch chocolate factory from Lviv. The cafe's arty furniture, marble-topped bar with an Italian coffee machine, and elegant mahogany staircase all meet western coffee-house standards. The bar offers samples of Svitoch's famous delicacies, sold by the piece, so that you can sample before going next door.

Vernissage
Andriyivskiy Uzviz 30
Tel: 416-2403

The Uzviz is where painters and artisans come to exhibit and sell all sorts of paintings, carvings, etchings and the like till about early evening, though for longer at weekends. This little cafe is surrounded by an open air exhibition of paintings by artists from the capital and beyond. The atmosphere of the street permeates the cafe's interior - the walls are crowded with paintings. Lunch on a caviar butter board (sandwich), assorted meat and vegetables or cheese sandwiches. Or, try hot dishes like potansu (a meat and tomato dish), sausages, fries, varenyky with a selection of fillings, or fish with mushrooms. Good range of drinks plus inexpensive but well made European coffee.

Express Pizza
vulitsya Fizkultury 1
Metro station Respublikanskiy stadion
Tel: 227-5550

Right next to the Respublikanskiy stadium and Sport Hotel, this is a pleasant and reasonably priced restaurant. As it does not serve alcohol, it is a good place to take children. Guests can be entertained by the cafe's VCR or TV that has 180 channels. The recently renovated eastern decor goes nicely with tasty Arabic (mainly Lebanese), cuisine. It serves more than 20 types of pizza. Starters include bean soup and rice, or Arabian salad. The most popular entrees are kebe and bebar steak. Dessert offerings are numerous and at the weekend there is an all-you-can-eat buffet.

KINO!

Zdorov's guide to the latest film news, reviews and gossip



I'm not sure if there's enough happening in the Ukrainian film world to justify a regular column. After all, with more British art cinemas screening foreign films, it is frustrating that we never see anything from a country known for its arts and culture.

Perhaps the Ukrainian film industry and government can take a leaf from their friendly neighbours, Russia and Poland. This year these countries will release their most expensive films in their cinematic history. The Polish film, a three hour epic called *Ogniem i Mieczem* (By Fire and Sword) has sent the country into a frenzy. Released on February 12th, the film has broken all box-office records and has helped to raise Polish patriotism. The film is based on the first part of Nobel Laureate Henryk Sieniewicz's trilogy about the Polish-Lithuanian kingdom of the 1640's which encompassed the land of the

Ukrainian steppes.

The film is a semi-fictional version of the novel and is set against the backdrop of the Ukrainian Cossack uprising against their Polish rulers. Costing £5.4 million, it is Poland's most expensive film and uses more than 100 actors, 200 horses, 2000 extras and a 3000 strong crew. The funding came from private sponsorship and was raised over a decade by the film's director, Jerzy Hoffman.

Two film adaptions of the second and third parts of the trilogy were shot in the sixties by the same director, Hoffman. But the first novel was deemed by the previous Soviet authorities to be too controversial to adapt due to its anti-Ukrainian content. There were fears that *Ogniem i Mieczem* may increase the already strained Polish-Ukrainian relations. Poland's former communist President Aleksander Kwasniewski requested a screening before general release. Piotr Tyma, secretary of the Union of Ukrainians in Poland says "In the Polish imagination, 17th century Ukraine's Cossacks were a wild primitive race who dared to raise their hand against the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, and Sienkiewicz faithfully portrayed that image". But Hoffman denies this and says that "every person should know their country's past. Cruelty was on both sides. The Polish nobility and the Cossacks were very similar in their customs, their brawling and drinking".

Adapted from 'The Guardian'

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It has been an exciting start to the year concerning Ukrainian football both for the national team and Dynamo Kyiv. The national team have maintained a 100% record with wins in the Euro 2000 qualifiers and lead the group ahead of World Cup champions France.

In the European Champions League Dynamo Kyiv started the competition disappointed but soon gathered momentum and displayed some impressive performances, most notably from Andrii Shevchenko who has been labelled the "White Ronaldo".

Shevchenko sold to Milan

The on-off saga concerning the sale of Andrii Shevchenko finally ended when the Kyiv striker signed to AC Milan for 40 billion lire (\$US24 million). The 5 year contract will begin on 1st July. Shevchenko's annual salary is reported to be two and a half billion lire (\$US1.5 million), compared to his \$100,000 a year earnt at Kyiv, plus a \$5000 monthly cash allowance, cars, flats and free food.

His Milan team mate, Bierhoff said: "I have played against Shevchenko for the German national team and I know him well; he is fast, has cool dribbling and scores lots of goals. Milan, acquiring a forward like him, has made a great deal".

Until the January deal was announced, the youngster had been insisting he was happy to stay at home. "I'm still a young man, I have a new car and a nice apartment, I can buy all the things I want. What else could I have," Shevchenko said. "I don't think I'd feel as comfortable abroad... The only thing I'd rather change is my home phone number. I get tired of women fans calling me up all the time."

The Ukrainian press were quick to remind Dynamo bosses of the risks of the transfer, as demonstrated by Soviet-era archrivals Spartak Moscow. The Russians swept all before them in the Champions' League three years ago and the national squad, built around Spartak, were among the favourites for the European championship finals in England. Then Spartak sold a handful of key players to Western clubs over the winter. The club slumped out in the European Cup quarter-final and Russia were humiliated at Euro 96.

Dynamo's 3-1 win over Arsenal heightened western media's interest in Shevchenko and his strike partner Sergei Rebrov. The pair have helped forge a sense of national identity and put the country, coming out of Russia's shadow, on the map. Shortly before the transfer was announced, Dynamo coach Valeri Lobanovsky warned that Shevchenko could squander his talent by leaving.

Kanchelskis Ibrox offer

Rangers' Andrei Kanchelskis has revealed how he tried to persuade Shevchenko to join him at Ibrox before AC Milan spoilt his plans.

Kanchelskis joined Rangers on the recommendation of Rangers player Oleg Kuznetsov, and Alexei Mikhailichenko, now coaching Shevchenko in Kyiv. Kanchelskis met

Shevchenko when the two countries played each other in the European Championships last year and Shevchenko was advised that he would be happier playing at Glasgow as he may find it difficult to play well for an Italian club littered with star names. Shevchenko told Kanchelskis to tell his agent, not him.

Champions League

Dynamo vs Arsenal 1-1

What the papers said :

Daily Telegraph: "JUSTICE prevailed at Wembley last night when Dynamo Kyiv equalised in injury time. Kyiv had played so well, had swept the ball forward so sweetly that they deserved victory, let alone a draw."

The Times: "...if the Ukrainians had returned to Kyiv empty-handed after a fine display of counter-attacking, it would have been a rank injustice!"



"Chuyesh Brate miy!" of the Andrii kind!

Andrii Shevchenko was outraged when he saw that the British press named him Andrei. "Can't you, in Britain understand that we are Ukrainians, we have language, culture and history different from Russian! My name is Andrii, not Andrei."

Dynamo Kyiv 3 - 1 Arsenal

On a rain-soaked November evening in Kyiv, Dynamo celebrated a 3-1 victory over London club Arsenal, who were always susceptible to the pace of the Ukrainians. From the start, the hosts lost no time to come at Arsenal from all angles. Kyiv led 3-0 after 72 minutes thanks to goals from Serhei Rebrov, Alexander Golovko and Andrii Shevchenko.

Afterwards, Dynamo Kyiv president Grigoriy Surkis said "I am very satisfied with the result and the match. I thought our goalkeeper Shovkovskiy was excellent."



European Championship 2000 - qualifiers

Ukraine 3 - 2 Russian Federation

Ukraine's 3-2 win over Russia in the Euro 2000 qualifiers nearly didn't happen. The collapsing rouble foiled the Russian team as they prepared to travel. Only the arrival of an armoured car with hard cash persuaded the Moscow airport authorities to fuel the charter plane and let them fly to Kyiv.

The scoreline in the European Championship qualifier belied the Ukrainians' dominance over their big northern neighbours. Ukraine led 2-0 at half-time but Russia clawed their way back into the match before their goalkeeper Dmitri Kharin of Chelsea was dismissed for bringing down Ukraine's Serhei Rebrov. Rebrov made it 3-1 from the spot.

Despite a string of clear chances, including a Rebrov drive that crashed against the bar with stand-in keeper Stanislav Cherchesov beaten, Russia's Ukrainian-born captain Viktor Onopko restored respectability three minutes from time. "Frankly speaking, we didn't have a team there," Russia's newly appointed Ukrainian coach Anatoly Byshovets admitted after the game. "I had about six days with the squad since I was appointed (in July). To be honest, I was quite satisfied."



Top awards for Sabo and Rebrov

National team head-coach Yozef Sabo was voted as the Headcoach of the Year for leading Ukraine to a perfect record in Euro-2000 Qualifying. Dynamo's forward Serhei Rebrov, who has led both the national team and Dynamo Kyiv in scoring, was voted as the Player of the year.

Champions League

Qualifying

1st Round

1st Leg : Dynamo Kyiv 8 - 0 Barry Town

2nd Leg : Barry Town 1 - 2 Dynamo Kyiv

2nd Round

1st Leg : Dynamo Kyiv 0 - 1 Sparta Prague

2nd Leg : Sparta Prague 0 - 1 Dynamo Kyiv

(1-1 after Extra Time - Kyiv won 3-1 on Penalties)

Champions League

Sept 16	:	Panathinaikos	2 - 1	Dynamo Kyiv
Sept 30	:	Dynamo Kyiv	1 - 1	Lens
Oct 21	:	Arsenal	1 - 1	Dynamo Kyiv
Nov 4	:	Dynamo Kyiv	3 - 1	Arsenal
Nov 25	:	Dynamo Kyiv	2 - 1	Panathinaikos
Dec 9	:	Lens	1 - 3	Dynamo Kyiv
Mar 3	:	Real Madrid	1 - 1	Dynamo Kyiv

EURO 2000 qualifiers - Group 4

STANDINGS	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
UKRAINE	3	3	0	0	7	2	9
FRANCE	3	2	1	0	6	3	7
ICELAND	3	1	2	0	2	1	5
ARMENIA	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
RUSSIAN FED	3	0	0	3	4	7	4
ANDORRA	3	0	0	3	1	7	0

Sept 5 Ukraine 3 - 2 Russia

Oct 10 Andorra 0 - 2 Ukraine

Oct 14 Ukraine 2 - 0 Armenia

Euro 2000 Qualifiers - 1999 calendar

Mar 27	France v UKRAINE
Mar 31	UKRAINE v Iceland
Jun 5	UKRAINE v Andorra
Jun 9	Armenia v UKRAINE
Sep 4	UKRAINE v France
Sep 8	Iceland v UKRAINE
Oct 9	Russia v UKRAINE

Ukraine rise to 33rd in FIFA Ranking

Rank date	24th Jan 99
Points	566
Rank No	33
Change from 27th Jan 99	+1
Change from Dec 98	+14

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We are not worthy

Dear *Zdorov!*

I am grateful to receive your reminder that our subscription for your interesting publication has run out.

I would hate to miss such excellent articles full of news, which I read with interest. I do appreciate your editorial zeal and superior talents which can serve as an example to the younger generation.

G.J.PALMI.
CHAIRMAN M.B.GRABOWSKI
FUND Islington, London.

Bang to Rights

Dear *Zdorov!*

I am writing to your magazine in a way of getting things off my chest.

I am absolutely disheartened by the vote against the proposed "Orange" telecommunication tower that was to be erected at Manchester Ukrainian club.

Might I say it was not big and was not an eyesore, it would have been simply situated out of the way.

The debate was very farcical for those that voted against the tower. A typical village mentality - emotion dictating their brains. Their hypothesis against the tower was that it was medically harmful to various members such as children in the club. No substantial proof was ever provided and a lot of their arguments were based on hearsay rather than tangible scientific evidence.

The Catholic priest, who is from Ukraine, was also probably misin-

formed about the so-called sensationalistic dangers. He expressed a very biased view about the whole affair to the congregation.

Who knows - was this divine intervention? I really believe the ring-leaders among the older generation were blowing the whole situation out of proportion and it gathered momentum. It was of great embarrassment to Ukrainians in general and local English residents alike how stupid and misinformed some older Ukrainians are when holding a democratic debate of this type. It was also sad to see some people turning up basically because of pressure from their parents, to simply vote against. I would like to know whether they have the community interests at heart and not just their parents?

The community is about everyone and not a few zealots. Manchester has basically lost out from a substantial amount of income. I hope people realise that the club has virtually no money in its coffers. I like to see all those people who voted against the tower to dip their hands in their own pockets and replace the £12,000 that was lost. These people would obviously never do that. Better still they should be selected to walk around with the donation tray at Christmas time for "Chlenski Kladky" and see what reaction they will get! I have basically lost confidence in the older generation. They are leading a bad example by addressing things on an emotional level rather than looking at the facts and getting personal. Once again it has shown how selfish and ignorant some of them are about the future well-being of the community in Manchester and how they treat the youth. Did they simply build the organisation for themselves?

They also fail to realise they will not be around in 10-20 years time! It happens to all of us of course. The community centre should not be run as a "freebie". It simply can't survive. It's about time the young business brains of the community were finally encouraged to come on board and not allow these "hardline community ideologists" to ruin things for everyone else.

Name and address supplied

Bin Laden's weapons -
Letter to The Times from
the Ambassador of the
Embassy of Ukraine

Sir, I was unpleasantly surprised to read your report of October 7, in which Ukraine was mentioned in connection with an alleged network responsible for acquisition of tactical nuclear weapons by the Afghan-based terrorist Osama bin Laden.

Tactical nuclear weapons were completely withdrawn from Ukraine in 1992 and I can assure you that no 'friends' of bin Laden have been found in Ukraine.

Yours sincerely,
VOLODYMYR VASSYLENKO,
Embassy of Ukraine,
60 Holland Park, W11 3SJ.

Please send your letters to *Zdorov!*, 1 Windsor Road, Doncaster DN2 5BS or you can e-mail us at : stephen.leliw@btinternet.com



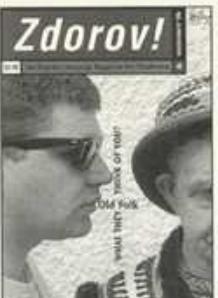
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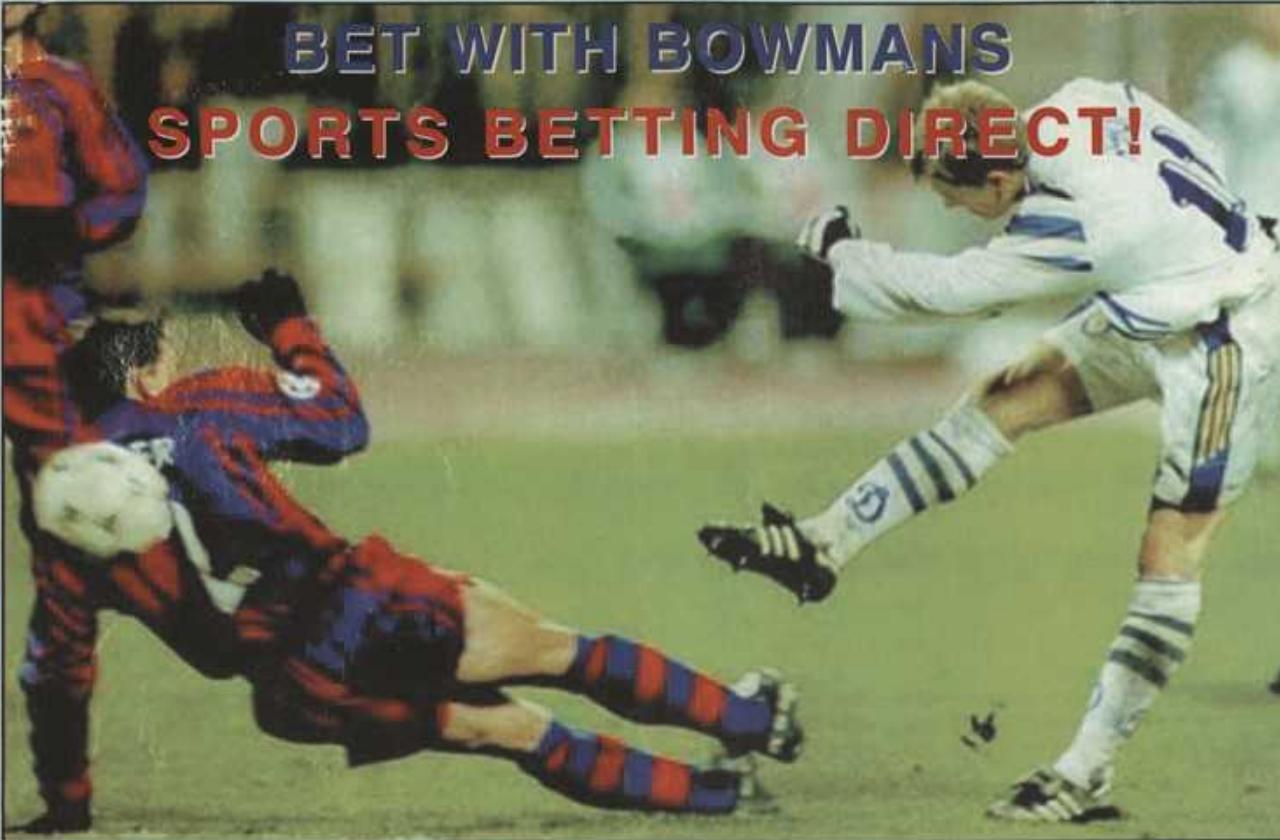
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