

HOPE **RESTORED** BULGARIA

in partnership with **The Trussell Trust**



Fun in the pool



July 2014 group



SC2 kids

[www.hrbg.org](http://www.hrbg.org)  
[www.trusselltrust.org](http://www.trusselltrust.org)



## Introduction

**Hope Restored Bulgaria** works closely with a number of orphanages. The children at these institutions have mostly been **abandoned** by parents who simply cannot afford to feed and clothe them. The majority are from Roma families; the most marginalised group in Europe. In Bulgaria many Roma live in ghetto's where individuals can be **trapped** into a life of **extreme poverty**. Although many orphanage children have no family at all even those that do are rarely or never visited by their parents and so experience a **deep sense of rejection** from an early age. This causes huge damage to these vulnerable young children, who with no family support around them, often go on to live lives of crime involving **prostitution and drugs**. Many become **victims of traffickers** who take advantage of these desperate children with promises of work overseas.

The **Summer Youth Camp** is a chance to bring some of these children into an environment where they can simply enjoy being children and where Christians can **share God's love** with them. It enables the children to develop socially and educationally. It is an opportunity for a team of Christians to show these children, who have only ever known rejection, that they have a worth and to introduce them to the unconditional love of **Jesus**.

## Do you want to be part of our team in 2015?

*Summer camp was incredible. It really opened my eyes to a different culture and how much these children need our love and attention. They were so affectionate towards us, even though most of them rarely experience people being affectionate towards them. Summer camp is a chance to show these kids real fun; this trip is so rewarding for everyone.'*

*Lauren*

The Summer Camp is not only beneficial for the children, it is a practical way of putting your **faith into action**, and putting Jesus' teachings into real life situations. It is so rewarding to see the children come out of themselves over the holiday, and the love and joy they possess despite their traumatic upbringings is such an inspiration. It's also a great way of making **new friends**, exploring a new culture and hopefully getting a tan!



## When is Summer Camp?

Over the course of the summer several camps will be when we receive up to 40 children to our purpose built facility on the Black Sea coast for four days of activities, crafts and Christian teaching.

We are offering a choice of five different weeks (availability depending upon bookings); June 28-July 4, July 5-11, July 12-18, July 19-25, July 26-August 1.

## What does the Summer Camp involve?

The youth team stay at the camp with the children. The children spend each day taking part in **Christian teaching sessions, arts & crafts activities, playing games and swimming**. There are also the hugely enjoyed music and dancing sessions which are a favorite part of the day.



## Typical daily schedule for camp, Mon– Thurs:

**08:00** Devotions

**08:30** Breakfast

**09:00** All teachers/workers meet campers arriving on buses.

**09:15** Music in big hall in Ministry Center

**10:00** Campers go to their Bible classes

**11:00** Rotation begins for activities: Swimming, outdoor sports, crafts, games under tent

**12:00** Rotation of groups for lunch.

**13:30** Continue rotation for group activities

**15:30** Afternoon snack

**16:00** Music and Closing Service for the day

**17:00** Teachers/team say goodbye to campers

**17:15** Clean up and rest

**19:00** Dinner under tent

**20:00** Devotions (team members will be invited to share their testimonies each night)

**21:00** Games, movies

The teaching sessions aim to spiritually encourage the children, and focus mainly on the message of acceptance and unconditional love, but can involve any aspect of the Christian faith. There is an opportunity for prayer after these sessions, which has proved to be very popular with a lot of the children, and it is great to be able to pray with the children during the trip. All day Friday is R&R for shopping for souvenirs, and visiting the town of Dobrich and surrounding area, or perhaps the beach!

*Summer camp really is a life changing experience! The children are so loving and kind... I cannot think of anyone more deserving of love and care. I will never forget their smiling faces which greeted me everyday.*

*Charlotte*

*Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue, but with actions and in truth.*

**John 3:18**



## Applying to join the Summer Youth Camp team

The application process for applicants from the UK will be handled by **The Trussell Trust**, a UK based Christian charity that has been working in Bulgaria since 1997.

**Hope Restored Bulgaria** welcomes both male and female applicants, but we are specifically looking for people who are:

- 17-21 years old (there is flexibility here).
- Prepared to share the vision of **Hope Restored Bulgaria** and its core values. Essentially this involves **showing God's love** through action so applicants should have a personal relationship with Jesus and be willing to share this with others.
- Good with **children** and responsive to their needs.

Following the submission of your application form and references, The Trussell Trust will contact you to arrange an interview when you will have the opportunity to tell us more about yourself and what you could contribute to our team. This may be face to face or by telephone. It is also a chance for us to get to know you and for you to ask any questions you may have about the programme.

Once your place on the programme has been confirmed, you will be invited to attend a **briefing day**, where you'll find out in more detail what will happen on the trip, and have a chance to meet the rest of the team and do some **team building activities**. This is an important part of your preparations and the first chance that you will have to meet the whole team.



## What does it cost?

Each Youth Team member will be expected to raise the funds needed to take part in this programme. This year the cost will be **£295 plus flights and travel insurance**. This pays for transport within Bulgaria, food and accommodation. It will need to be paid to **The Trussell Trust** by May 2015. Flights can be arranged by **The Trussell Trust** or you can book them yourself if you'd prefer. Flight costs can be up to £300 but you can make big savings if you book early. You will need to arrange travel insurance.

Previous Youth Teams have found Summer Camp experiences to be **incredibly rewarding**. They come away moved by the love that these children have to give, and often benefit just as much as the children. For many it proves to be an experience they will never forget, providing memories they cherish and treasure.

*Bulgaria was a very rewarding experience. Both the children and the staff have inspired me so much and I really hope to go again.*

*Amy*



# *If you want to join our Summer Youth Camp team this year...*

- 1** Download application and reference forms from [www.trusselltrust.org/bulgaria-holiday-camps](http://www.trusselltrust.org/bulgaria-holiday-camps)
- 2** Decide which week you want to apply for. Complete and return (by post) your application form with a passport size photo by end of March 2015.
- 3** Contact your church leader/youth worker/other referee and ask him/her to complete the appropriate form and send it to us.
- 4** Upon receiving your application we will arrange an interview.
- 5** Following the interview we will contact you regarding a place on the programme as soon as possible.
- 6** We will send on an information pack telling you all you need to know to get ready to go, including the necessary admin forms and fundraising ideas.
- 7** You will need to confirm your place by sending a deposit of £50 (cheques made payable to 'The Trussell Trust').
- 8** Attend a briefing day with other members of the team (geography allowing).
- 9** Fundraise. (Final payments to be made by end of May 2015)
- 10** Go to Bulgaria and change lives!

NB Your flights will be booked by **The Trussell Trust** (unless you'd prefer to book them yourself).

# Contact Details

## Rich Parsons

Bulgaria Operations Manager (UK)  
[richard.parsons@trusselltrust.org](mailto:richard.parsons@trusselltrust.org)  
01722 580192

## Lizzie Goldring

Bulgaria Projects Officer (UK)  
[lizzie.goldring@trusselltrust.org](mailto:lizzie.goldring@trusselltrust.org)

## The Trussell Trust

Unit 9 Ashfield Trading Estate  
Ashfield Road, Salisbury  
Wiltshire SP2 7HL

[www.trusselltrust.org](http://www.trusselltrust.org)



### The Small Print

By applying to join the Summer Youth Camp programme your acceptance of Hope Restored Bulgaria's policies and procedures is implied. Hope Restored Bulgaria and partners will take all reasonable steps to provide protection for participants but all parties recognise that there are inherent risks in working/volunteering outside the UK. Neither Hope Restored Bulgaria nor its partners will be required to do more than is reasonably necessary and possible in the circumstances of this voluntary work to provide a safe and proper system of work. While Hope Restored Bulgaria will take all reasonable steps to assist participants in any emergency, there will be no legal liability on Hope Restored Bulgaria or its agents or its employees for the consequences of events outside their control. Deposits are non-returnable. Trips may be cancelled or postponed due to security issues.

HOPE  
**RESTORED**  
BULGARIA

in association with

