

## Review of Jane's 2009 trip to Norway & Latvia

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your prayers. I had an amazing time in Norway and Latvia. I hope you enjoy reading this letter.

### **Norway**

The UK Navigators team arrived in Norway, and joined Americans, Latvians, Norwegians, and Dutch for a week of teaching, worship and team-building exercises. It was great to return to beautiful Skjolden by the fiord and amazing mountains. We learnt about each other's cultures by enjoying national meals together, playing games and sharing testimonies. We also enjoyed hiking and a highlight was camping high in the mountains. We had wonderful weather and jumping in the fiord was very refreshing after hiking on a hot day! The glacier walk for the UK team proved to be an interesting exercise as the team were all roped together and involved jumping over big crevices and I fell down a small hole! The last few days the team focusing on the preparations for the camp in Latvia.



### **Latvia**

After arriving in Latvia, we spent a day in Riga, the capital, looking round the sites and learning about the Latvian and Russian culture before travelling to camp. Zosna is located by a lake near to the



Russian border. We had 70 young people at camp ranging from 9 up to 19 years old! The Zosna

camp was action packed starting with bible hour in the morning, then sports, followed by swimming in the lake, and then lunch arrived about 3pm! Afternoon programme consisted of crafts for younger children and seminars for the older ones, and team games. The day ended around the camp fire for worship, drama, games, testimonies and a talk on the theme of 'peace'. It was at the camp



fire, lasting late into the night, where the young people began to open up and many were really searching for God.

I led a bible-study group with Kim (UK) and Anna-Marta (Latvia). We had a very encouraging group who were very open and asked many challenging questions. I also had a great opportunity with Stacey and Sarah to co-lead a seminar on 'the women of God' and many girls came and were very open.

For me, it was fantastic to see so many friends from last year and be able to chat with the girls where we left off last summer. There were hard times in which I had to really rely on God, and to be patient when plans changed at last minute! The language barrier was a challenge, with not been able to speak with some of the younger children from the orphanage. However I spent time playing with the children and having fun, showing God's love. It was really humbling to see the joy on the children's faces.

### **Praise God**

- for safety and good team dynamics
- that I was able to re-connect with the girls from last summer
- that 5 young people became Christians at the camp

### **Please pray for**

- Anya, Dasha and Julia who are Christians – that they would remain strong in their faith and that Alina and Arita would become Christians.
- I would apply what God has taught me this summer and to keep in touch with Alina, Anya and Arita.

