

# BALTIC BITZ 2010



# MARCH AC YOUTH NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE BALTIC'S

Hey All!

How are you?

We don't know whether you read our Gateway North newsletter as well as Baltic Bitz, but could we encourage you this month, that if you don't, please take a few moments and read a fantastic story that has been such a blessing and thrill for us to have shared in. I suppose you could call it a once in a life time event, but there again maybe there should be a greater frequency of such stories!

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Working for God is an honour and privilege - even if the cold chills your fingers, toes and nose, and sometimes creeps up the trouser leg to the knees! In saying that, somehow we could never see ourselves coping with the searing heat of a Mozambique or Malawi, so therefore God must know what He is doing!

These months are quite strange in Latvija as the grey covering of clouds - always threatening snow - serve as a stark reminder to the youth here of the tough times everyone faces. Some of our youth have graduated from school and college and find themselves lacking any job opportunity, and when they do find something, well, just over 1.00 Lat an hour is the going rate for national minimum wage! (exchange rate for Lat v GBP is 1Lat = £1.20).

Mind you, the winter months have provided them with plenty to occupy their time. Ample sports activities, indoor ice hockey is a national favourite, but playing it outside on a frozen lake adds a bit of spice to the proceedings; should skiing be your forte, then down-hilling is not so much an option, but cross country is, and at weekends we see so many folks taking their sojourn through the forest on their skis. It is possible to do a little downhill but it would mean a little journey to find a hill or two. The highest point in Latvija is 300 meters!



This picture is a view from our bedroom window of some of our neighbours getting it on with the puck. It looks a vicious game up close! It can take them quite some time to clear the snow away so as to make a suitable surface, but when it's done they enjoy their sport!

In your prayer times please say a word for the youth in LV that their eyes shall be opened to see that the only real hope is in Jesus! Take care guys!

*Pastor John and Margaret.*