

Dear Friends,

Since the successful completion of our campaign to restore the Chekhov House-Museum in Yalta in November 2010, following major renovation of the museum building, we have been developing new projects with which we hope to honour Chekhov's artistic, ecological and humanitarian legacy. Support of the House-Museum remains at the heart of the Anton Chekhov Foundation, however, and there is a new serious threat to this unique monument from an irresponsible building scheme next door.

**\*\* EXTRACT FROM ACF PRESS RELEASE, 7 MARCH 2012 \*\***

*"The ACF has, however, now learnt that the White Dacha is under physical threat as a result of a building project nearby of a greedy and ignorant local property developer. The Crimean authorities have succeeded in bringing a temporary halt to this building work, but only late in the day. The building works are already well underway, with tons of concrete having been poured and the first floor of the structure already half-built.*

*Not only does this structure destroy the special ambience and position of the White Dacha, it also presents actual structural threat to it - a crack has already appeared in the walls. There has long been a campaign to prevent building works near the White Dacha because of the fragility of the underlying ground (which is prone to landslides)."*

The Anton Chekhov Foundation and the staff at the Chekhov House-Museum in Yalta need your support in raising awareness about this new threat. As you know, the White Dacha is a unique cultural site which needs to be preserved for future generations, along with the precious garden Chekhov planted. Whatever help you can give in publicising the new problems facing Chekhov's house in Yalta would be greatly appreciated. It is essential we all do what we can to prevent what will be permanent structural damage if the building works next door are completed – not to mention the appearance of an eyesore obscuring the view from Chekhov's famous study.

More information can be found on our new website at: [www.antonchekhovfoundation.org](http://www.antonchekhovfoundation.org), where you can also find out about our new projects. Alternatively you can write to us at: [yaltachekhov@gmail.com](mailto:yaltachekhov@gmail.com).

The Anton Chekhov Foundation would also like you to welcome our new trustee Isobel Walsh. Isobel has just joined us and will be participating in all of the Anton Chekhov Foundation activities from now on.

Rosamund, Elena, Alexander, Isobel

