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## NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

### THE THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

#### TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT THESE STATELESS PEOPLE...

*Text written just before the Second World War, and sadly of a cruel and burning topicality.*

"Look at them carefully these stateless people, you who have the chance to know where your home and your country are ..... Look at them well, these uprooted folk, you who have the chance to know what you live on and for whom, in order to understand with humility how much chance has favoured you over others. Look at them well, these men crammed into the back of the boat and go to them, talk to them, because this simple step, going to them, is already a consolation. »

*Stefan Zweig, born November 28, 1881, in "Travels".*

### A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Several trials have been held:  
Unsuitable uses of "flash balls"  
Migrant Friends injured during police interventions  
Some have lost their sight  
Others have had significant physical impacts  
Months have passed  
Years have sometimes passed  
In recent weeks even the institutions conducting surveillance and rescues at sea  
have been denounced  
A lady failed in her obligations  
And this, in an icy silence  
Seafarers' historic solidarity has been undermined  
Justice should also pass ...  
But do we still believe it?  
It is urgent that national Governments communicate.

*Jean-Claude Lenoir.*

## THE EVENTS OF THE MONTH

THE COMMEMORATION OF THE SINKING ON NOVEMBER 24, 2021: 27 bodies recovered at sea just a year ago, and four, still unrecovered.



Anne Mainy



Ferri Matheeuwseen

Several hundred people walked in contemplation through Dunkirk.

It ended with a moving artistic moment (with Mahda the dancer accompanied by Bélinda on the harp) and a convivial moment.



Ferri Matheeuwseen



Claire Millot



Two articles, in "Le Monde" (14<sup>th</sup> November ) and "Le Canard enchaîné" (16<sup>th</sup> November ) had highlighted the dramatic dysfunctions of the CROSS that night.

There is no question of hiding them. (They are on our website, [www.associationsalam.org](http://www.associationsalam.org), section "News"). Justice will do its job.

This should not hide the remarkable work carried out over the months by the rescuers at sea.

An example: On October 9, "Ouest France" published: "More than 360 migrants rescued in the English Channel this Sunday".

360 spread over 7 boats, between 37 and 68 people on each. The sea rescuers of Dunkirk (intervened twice), those of Calais, a patrol boat of the French Navy (intervened three times) and a patrol boat of the National Gendarmerie.

What great courage, what beautiful humanity, but also what risks taken, what time, what energy spent, what sums of money too, for people who take refuge on the water because neither of the two countries, on either side of The Channel, can decide to welcome them...

### WHAT A SHAME FOR US TO BE ABLE TO DO NOTHING!

The cold is coming.

On Monday, November 14, at the Loon-Plage distribution site, all these men accustomed to answering "fine (*well*)" to the question "How are you? (*Comment allez-vous*) ? " replied "Cold (*coldly*)". They were snapping their teeth, had blue fingers, and compared themselves with me the number of layers of clothes we had (three, four, five?). Except that I was waiting for the moment to go home to take a hot shower and change ...

At the end of the month the pressure increases, and more and more people have nothing to protect themselves. Even seasoned volunteers feel their eyes welling up and pull out their handkerchiefs.

In Calais some no longer have tents, they tinker with shelters with tarpaulins to protect themselves from the rain and cold. And we saw some who had found only straw to isolate themselves from the moisture of the soil...



*Calais today.*

*It's raining, it's windy.*

*During our distribution we find men under tarpaulins... Not even tents, because they are removed by the police. To have a little warmth they found straw. Yes, straw!! And this is "the humanity" of which the mayor of Calais speaks?????*

***Ferri Matheeuwsen (Calais, 20 november 2022).***

On the 28th, men sleeping in rue des Huttes on the ground on wet blankets, under a tarpaulin. We are devastated.

At 29, rue des Huttes where everything had been collected, a pile of blankets caught the eye of Salam's volunteers because it moved: in fact two men slept, glued to each other to keep warm.

Others burned plastic jerry cans, blankets, clothes to keep warm, too...

That day, in Loon-Page, two people were also sleeping on the floor wrapped in blankets next to our distribution point.

All associations make the same observation.

At Secours Catholique, in Calais, people sleep on the floor, exhausted, volunteers have ended up putting mats on the ground, but at 5 p.m. they are kicked out; it's closing time...

We saw guys digging the ground under the footbridge of the Pont Mollien to sleep in the shelter like rabbits...

Some don't even have a blanket...

Associations are running out of blankets, tents, everything...

We even count the food so much, some days, the queue goes on and on...

In Calais, 600 cups, only quai de la Seine, on November 28, eleven cases of bananas a day in the same place.



**Arrests are more numerous** in our two cities, On 30 November, for example, 17 people were arrested on Rue des Huttes, and at least 7 in Loon-Plage. Some are accompanied by palpations, terribly humiliating (even on the buttocks!).

One thinks of a consequence of the circular of November 17 of Mr. Darmanin which seeks to enforce the OQTF ... Its purpose is clear: "E execution of obligations to leave French territory (OQTF) and strengthening of our detention capacities."

Accommodation solutions are increasingly rare.

Syrians arrive from Paris on the morning of November 4<sup>th</sup>, on the quays of Calais city center. Naively, they ask for accommodation: "You call, please, Madam... »

But there are no places...

On November 9<sup>th</sup>, the bus takes only 26 people. There are still a lot of people, including babies too small to drink from a glass. Yolaine returns to Salam's premises after the distributions, looking for the last tarpaulins and blankets (very small plaids, perfect for making shawls...)

On November 15, rue des Huttes in Calais, there were 80 people left behind by the buses in need of accommodation...

On November 22, they took only one family with two children. An old gentleman who had been waiting since 5 a.m. to be sure he had a place, stayed there exhausted...

And these can only be moments of respite: it is impossible to apply for asylum for people who have already been rejected in one of the 27 countries of Europe or paralyzed by "Dublin fingerprints" (this regulation requires anyone applying for refugee status to do so in the country of entry into Europe, the place in which the police took their fingerprints for the first time).

**CROSSINGS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM continue to attract our friends to our seaside.**

1,840 passages again, according to the Home Office, the weekend of 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> November...

It is not the smugglers who are the culprits (they only take advantage of this abject misery), it is the lack of a dignified welcome on our coast that pushes people to take to the sea.

38 boats set sail for the United Kingdom on the night of 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> November, we find ourselves in the press and on the airwaves.



Agnès, our special envoy in the dunes of Leffrinckoucke, on a mission on the afternoon of November 30<sup>th</sup>, sends us this little article at 6:14 p.m.:

"Here are photos of the finds of the day in the dunes of Leffrinckoucke: those of a departure an hour ago. I was on the sand at the starting point, I suspected an imminent departure because I had seen and heard two guys at the blockhouse getting up and readjusting their backpacks. I waited a little bit but as the sea was rising and then I would have been stuck unable to go back by the beach to Malo, I left.



A strategic place because when the tide is high, the rocks of the blockhouses prevent access to the beach coming from Malo, it is necessary to get there by the dunes. Ten minutes later I turned around and saw the boat in the water already far away. Superfast start! and discreet... Seen neither equipment nor people in the dunes just before, except for the two guys.

Ideal conditions, super calm sea and no fog. Fingers crossed for them.

Marie saw two departures the day before at the same place...

Not all of them succeed.

On the 12<sup>th</sup>, the Grande-Synthe distribution team met a group on the way back with their life jackets still on their backs.

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, at least 60 people showed up in Calais for our breakfast, soaked, exhausted. One of them could not walk anymore as he had blisters on his feet, some fell asleep on the floor until the distribution ended. It's the same shock the next day, several are barefoot and one of them doesn't even have good skin under his feet...

On 14 November, a lot of people flocked to the quays of the city centre in Calais... and the guys say: 60 people on the boat, they filmed the waves, higher than Salam's van. Some have lost their shoes and it shows: not only are they barefoot but they are wrinkled like fingertips when you leave your hands too long in the water... Another also has bare feet but covered with mud...

A gentleman has not been able to change his clothes since the day before: he opens his jacket and puts the hand of a volunteer on his heart: his shirt is soaked.

On the 17<sup>th</sup>, it is a young man in a hoodie, who has nothing underneath.

They will seek a normal life on the other side of the water, a clandestine life: a job (even under the table, poorly paid) and housing.

Ironically, on November 10, our friends at Le Mans are frantically looking for a young Eritrean, whom they have lost sight of... They learned that he had just been granted refugee status...

But now we find his path: he passed through England six days before...

Some arrive from Germany: they say that they were welcomed in Centers, housed, fed, with the right to work. School children speak perfect German. But after a procedure of several years, they say they were woken up at 6 a.m. one morning and kicked out either on the street or ordered to go home. England then appeared to them as the only solution.



The police are careful to prevent crossings "to save people's lives". But with such squalid conditions of survival in our camps, this only serves to complicate their passage, not to make them give up... On the contrary...

On November 10, Agnès warns me, from the Dunkirk sector: "Movement at sea now ... The firefighters put a boat in the water and stationary helicopter, the time I approach the firefighters on land they were gone and the helicopter is far away, I do not know if it concerns a makeshift boat or not ... I hope nothing serious in any case. Nothing serious indeed since nothing followed either the same day or the next day.

But departures to watch surely: the same day, Jean-Claude (not represented ) reports to us from Calais " the helicopters above the strait".



9 november, Loon-Plage



17 november, Calais rue de Judée.

### Continuous evacuations complicate survival conditions:

Still so many police forces.

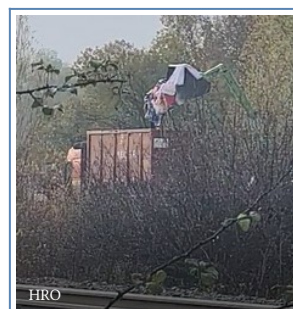
Still so much disregard: some are brutally awakened from sleep, like the man who slept outside on November 5<sup>th</sup> at the edge of a quay, in the City Center in Calais.



november 9, Loon-Plage

The rule remains the same: everyone is driven out of a site (with permission to take tents and tarpaulins: this is the only improvement that was obtained by the hunger strikers a year ago).

Everything left behind is considered abandoned and is picked up.



30 november, Loon-Plage



17th november, Calais rue des Huttes.





A new technique appeared on November 30<sup>th</sup> in Marck in Calais: the APC person carries a large tarpaulin by the four corners and throws everything in!



In Loon-Plage, the evacuations took place this month on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. They are accompanied by deforestation, including large trees, on 17<sup>th</sup> November.



At the end of the operation, there is nothing, or almost nothing left (photo of November 30<sup>th</sup>):

In Calais, the routine reoccurs about every other day, May in the City Center is two days out of three, in November: except 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> November (21<sup>st</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, the HRO was not available, so we do not know...)

If one is tempted to excuse these dismantling's "After all, it is normal to release private land occupied without authorization", let us not forget that this is a travesty of justice: it is impossible for the Forces of the Order to ignore that the exiles resettle even before the departure of the convoy.



Barriers to distribution continue. The boulders installed in August and September are always there to prevent the setting up of tents and the distribution work of associations. In Loon-Plage, the evacuations of the month were accompanied by ploughing of distribution sites. The distribution area of the associations is ploughed on November 9<sup>th</sup>, forcing us to move a little further on a space ploughed in turn on the 17<sup>th</sup>. We still have a usable passage between the two... And next time?

### **A crime of "dirty mouth" coupled with a crime of "dirty accent".**

Racial profiling is not uncommon.

On Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> 2022 at around 4 p.m., Jean-Claude Lenoir, president of Salam, attended a series at the George V Bridge.

The police checked the papers of all those who looked foreign, with a body search, and arrested three or four people.

But on November 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:32 p.m. behind the PASS (the HRO video is authentic), a young lady from the Human Rights Observers had her identity checked:

Why?

Because you have a foreign accent, it allows me to control your identity...

### **BUT LET'S FINISH WITH A SMILE:**

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, in Calais, rue des Huttes, a two-and-a-half-year-old girl, sheltered for a quarter of an hour in Salam's van, managed to relax everyone with her smiles and clowning.

What about football? Boycott! Qatar is a country that tramples on human rights...

Let us boycott in solidarity with exiles fleeing segregation, violence...

Let us boycott, but let them watch the matches quietly, even when the police are already present to evacuate them, as on November 27<sup>th</sup> in Marck.



For, as the great philosopher Pascal says (Les Pensées, 1670): "The only thing that consoles us from our miseries is entertainment... ». He adds, "... and yet it is the greatest of our miseries. Because this is what prevents us from thinking about ourselves... ", let them dream for a moment, and escape from their miseries...

*Claire Millot*



## LETTER TO MY HUSBAND

*Fiker was not a fisherman in Iceland, but a refuge seeker. However, he perished at sea on November 24<sup>th</sup> 2021. This letter, written by his wife Emu, was read on the beach during the march on November 24<sup>th</sup> 2022 in memory of the disappeared. But the wind carried away his words. Here is the text.*

### **Une lettre à mon mari qui a perdu sa vie en essayant de sauver la sienne et celle de sa famille.**

Mon chéri, cette année a été tellement difficile sans toi mon amour. Je n'arrive toujours pas à croire que tu es parti. Mais la seule chose que je puisse faire est de rester forte pour nos enfants. Tu me manques énormément, Fiker. Ta voix me manque, ton sourire me manque, ton câlin me manque, tes blagues me manquent. Tout de toi me manque !

Tu manques à Liana aussi. Elle pleure toujours et me demande quand tu vas rentrer à la maison. La seule chose que je puisse faire est de lui promettre que c'est nous qui te rejoindrons quand viendra l'heure. Tu manques à toute la famille. Il n'y a pas eu une seule journée où l'on ne pense pas à toi. Merci d'avoir été mon meilleur ami, mon amour, et mon cher mari. Merci pour tout l'amour que tu m'as donné inconditionnellement. Merci d'avoir été le meilleur père pour nos enfants. Tu ne méritais pas de mourir comme ça. Tu ne méritais pas d'être traité comme ça dans tes derniers moments dans ce monde cruel. J'espère encore que justice soit faite. Je sais que tu continues de sourire et d'être l'homme bon que je sais que tu es ! Tu seras toujours dans mon cœur, Yene Fiker. A notre prochaine rencontre.

Ta femme, Emu

## GOOD NIGHT LITTLE ONES

### *Unscrupulous police interventions*

How many times have we said or heard "The bed is too hard, the bed is too soft, the bed is too small"? Do we still have the right to complain after seeing such a show, rue des Huttes, this morning? Our friends have no choice of bed.

Even in rainy weather, they are dismantled without any hint of humanity, their tent is destroyed, they are allowed to spend a day in torrential rain and then sleep on the ground on a soaked blanket when there is a blanket, without any protection over their heads and in the mud.

What a spectacle for this last weekend of November to find these poor people in a deplorable state, trembling with cold and hunger, nothing to warm or shelter, there are no words to express this distress, I am shocked, and I dare not imagine the coming winter. I am deeply shocked.

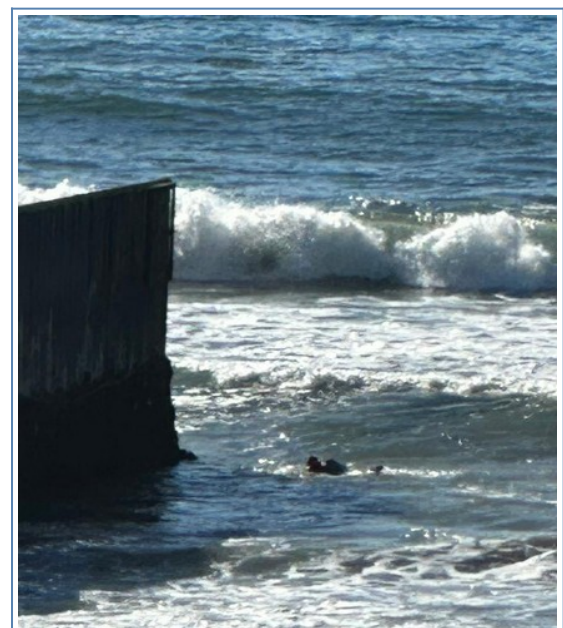
*Annick (29th November 2022)*

## ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ATLANTIC



On November 5th, a small family outing of the weekend, we went to the Mexican border of Tijuana. I wanted to see these walls that go down into the water...

Distressing landscape despite the beautiful sun and a cloudless blue sky. Whales pass offshore in this season and I was observing the surface of the water when I see a swimmer who walks around the wall with great difficulty!



The next moment no doubt. Sirens begin to roar, voices scream into loudspeakers, the message is incomprehensible, but the tone announces the color of the drama unfolding before our eyes.



Access to the beach is forbidden to us under penalty of immediate imprisonment! Out of nowhere, two quad bikes hurtle towards the sand. The swimmer has just reached the shore.



He is quickly escorted to the top of the dune on the parking lot where we are also parked. Like those we welcome with a morning tea in Calais, this young man is soaked, visibly exhausted. Only difference, it must be a little less cold ... He walks headlong between the two quad bikes, seeming to carry all the weight of the world on his shoulders. A malaise invades me with an anger that begins to boil in me creating a lump in the stomach that goes up to the throat. He has no chance in the face of such a deployment...

Helpless witness, I feel that I am going to choke. Before my daughter and son-in-law could restrain me, my legs lead me almost unwillingly to the group of law enforcement officers surrounding the young man sitting on the ground. Now there are at least six of them, hooded or helmeted. The one standing on his quad bike immediately calls out to me. I am facing a *Darth Vader*. Nothing human protrudes from his armor and even the sound of his voice is transformed by a breathing system built into his helmet. I feel tiny but naively explain to him that I just France and wonder what's going on? Robocop takes his biggest voice: "*We are protecting United States of America's border and this man came in illegally.*"

Trying to coax him a little by engaging in conversation: "Here, unlike the *north of France*, you do not gas them and I see that he is not lying face down. What will happen to him now? Against all odds for the police in the US, this robotcop replies: "*The Border Patrol truck is on its way to take him into custody. Now join your vehicle!*" »

I turn to the fugitive, for who would risk his life so much if not to flee a more powerful and ferocious predator? Our eyes meet for a few seconds. I read gratitude for diverting the chief's attention during this short moment of respite for him. There is also hope in his eyes, like a silent prayer of one who does not want to go back and be sent back to hell, whatever he is, where he comes from...

I wonder how this same deployment and arrest would have happened at night? What if the young man had had less light skin...?

Our little girl gave us a smile by planting herself in front of the wall, trying to make it disappear with her little magic wand :-)" *Mamou, they would need wings to fly over it! Like this, look!*" »

The truth comes out of children's mouth... The land belongs to everyone and in America, almost the entire population is of immigrant origin...

It would be good to remember that!

**Text and photos: B elinda Welton.**



## HOMEcomings

If the sun wasn't out this morning  
Humanity has not let us down.

While the migration policy is hardening, while the media are constantly bashing us to know who will welcome these 230 poor people who have been wandering for weeks at sea, while France with a small “ f ” (civilized country, country of human rights, that's utopia), will receive more money from England to put more fences, More rocks, more police, which means for our friends more repression, more danger and more expensive passage. **"Are the words? HUMANITY and RESPECT still exist in our country? ».**

Well yes, today during a distribution, we saw a young Iranian arrive who spent some time at the camp at the Chemin du Pont de Trouille, he was accompanied by a family including a young child, all the best for them as we say at home, these people had just arrived, but do they know what awaits them? As they leave such a tormented country to find a better life.

Suddenly, bursts of shouts of joy are resounded when a young man quickly moved towards Grandma Yolaine, what happiness, I have never seen people so happy to meet again, to hug each other. Amir had not forgotten the outstretched hands that accompanied and fed him for eight months. It was a moment of great emotion for all of us. Immediately Amir took out his phone "Selfie Granny" he unveiled a photo precious kept, this photo had been taken a long time ago, the day before his departure for England, a real gesture of recognition, respect, that is to say how much his passage in Calais has left traces through his long journey and how important the presence of volunteers is. Today, Amir has returned to Calais for three days, to help his friends, he has now been living in England for three years, he has obtained his papers, he works in a foreign exchange agency, I would even say lucky. It was a very beautiful morning, overwhelming in the face of the disastrous living conditions of our friends.

Continuing the tour, with a BMX bike, it is the turn of a young Eritrean who arrives by bike like crazy in Yolaine's arms. He too obtained papers in France and lives in Arras, the same scenario scrolls before our eyes, the hugs, the photos, the smiles.

**Today was a beautiful day filled with great tenderness and which brings comfort to us volunteers so helpless in the face of such distress.**

*Annick Coubel (November 17, 2022).*

## EXTERNAL INTERVENTIONS

The COVID outbreak had put an end to a series of interventions by our volunteers in schools. It is slowly picking up, in schools with which we had already established regular relations:

Clara and Claire in front of a class at the Lycée Professionnel de l'Yser in Wormhout.



Denise and Ghislaine, at the Vauban high school in Aire sur la Lys, in front of high school students who were collecting clothes and others from SEGPA who mended them, washed and ironed them.

*Claire Millot*



### **UNITED KINGDOM:FREE ACCESS TO A LIBRARY FOR EXILE**

*This news that finally makes you smile arrived for us, through a friend, with a detour to the United States. But passengers without small boats this time!*

Ali is Iranian,

It crossed from France to the UK by sea in July 2021.

After 487 days in a hotel, he was interviewed by "The Observer" newspaper.

He asked for only one thing: A BOOK!

The University of Reading (a city with a predestined name!) then offered him free access to its library and readers of "The Observer" offered him books.

Everything, of course, is far from being resolved for him, but this is a gesture that warms the heart, and not only to him...

*Belinda and Claire.*

4

**GOOD NEWS: The University of Reading in the U.K. offered an Iranian refugee a free pass to its library.**



The offer came after Ali, a Kurd who fled Iran due to religious persecution, told the Observer that he yearned for a book to break the boredom of living in a hotel as an asylum seeker.



**More:**

- Ali **crossed** the Channel from France to the U.K. in a boat in July 2021.
- After spending 487 days in a hotel while seeking asylum, Ali was interviewed by the Observer.
- He **noted** during the interview that "All I want is an actual book to read, but there are none here, and there is no way I can afford them."
- The University of Reading subsequently offered Ali a free pass to its library and is now considering ways to offer him a position on a course while readers of the Observer have offered Ali books and book tokens.
- "I really appreciate it. I've also received some books that are great," said Ali in response to the offers.

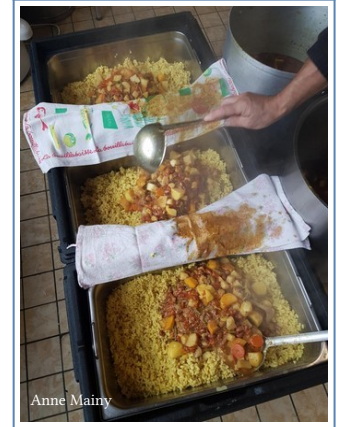
# THANK YOU

## THANK YOU TO THE SUPPORTERS.

To those who every week peel, cook, distribute, do the dishes, sort the donations, put them away...

To cooks and cooks:

In their daily tasks:



- Elisabeth for her Monday cakes, prepared at home,
- Philippe for his sweet potato puree, innovation,



Sunny, always present when we need him, including to launch the Saturday kitchen alone.







To the Saturday young people who assist Mary every week in the Emmaus collection,



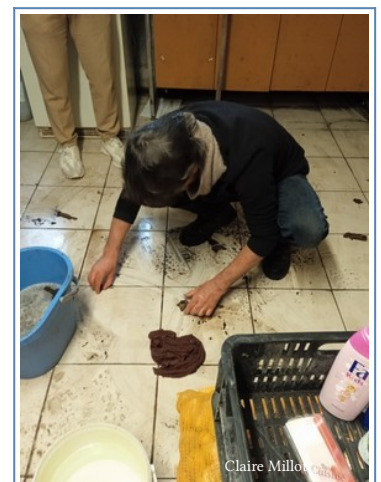
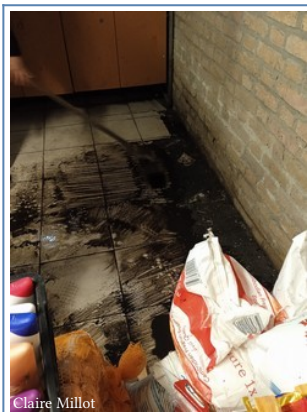
In particular a couple of Guineans unknown to us who completed the team on November 19th, and Makan and Oumani who came on Tuesday, November 1 to replace Marie who was stuck at home after a bicycle accident. It seemed obvious to them: they were on leave because it was a holiday!

**To those who ensure the distributions, for a more or less well formed line:**



**To those who rolled up their sleeves for unpleasant cleaning:**

On Monday 21 the dark black corner of our small treasure reserve (called "Ali Baba's") was scrubbed. I can't remember the last time it happened to him!



Special thanks to Hussed, Imane and Pierre..



**To those who distribute in the evening on the camp the blankets and other warm clothes that are sorely lacking (especially Pascaline and Pierre).**

**To occasional volunteers:**

Our parents, children and grandchildren, Claude and Mathilda

Sophie and Gabrielle (5 and a half and 3 1/2 years old) who cut the bananas into slices on November 3<sup>rd</sup> for the milk shake.



**Five young people from the "Huma" association in Paris (Hautes Etudes Internationales et Politiques):**

Souls born by Electra who came last summer to help us in a scout group, they were divided between Roots and us. Eloïse, Mariama, Louise, Jeanne and Zao accompanied us in preparation and distribution. They have been perfectly integrated into the team, in a particularly difficult role.

**The husbands of volunteers, who repair:**

- Denis, husband of Geneviève, for our twisted barriers in distributions a little heckled,
- Jean-Pierre, husband of Ghislaine, for the little cart which, overloaded with boxes of vegetables, had lost a wheel.

**THANK YOU TO THOSE, KNOWN OR UNKNOWN, WHO GAVE US GIFTS FOR OUR EXILE FRIENDS.**

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, a gentleman from Grande-Synthe came to bring a large bag of shoes, clothes and duvets (from his family and another) and he will return.

On the 5<sup>th</sup>, Youssef drops us a bag of clothes.

On the 10<sup>th</sup>, a gentleman from Cantal (Gilles) brought us men's clothes.

On the 16<sup>th</sup>, a stroller and a baby seat were brought to us by a lady.

On the 19<sup>th</sup>, Stan from Montreuil arrived in Calais with large bags of apples and walnuts for the exiles.





On the 26th, Lilou made the round trip from Germany to drop us white boots (16 bags of different sizes) and green ankle boots (16 smaller boxes). In addition, she also brought 6 cartons of mouthwash and 4 cartons of toothpaste. The bag of boots distributed that same day, "to see", was a great success.

**Those who have made donations in memory of a missing person:**

Larbi was there with a full car on November 26, in memory of his mother.

Onjali and Salma:

On 12 November, they made a donation in honour of their mother (and grandmother). Onjali and his mother, Salma, made this Saturday the round trip from London! Caroline from the Women Center acted as an intermediary, made various purchases and assisted us in welcoming them.

A heartwarming encounter.

Thanks to them, the reserves of oil, milk, tea, sugars, pasta, rice, onions, salt ... have recovered somewhat.

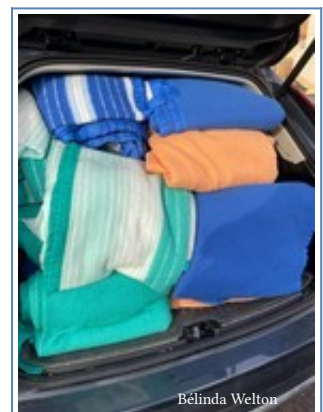


They also donated two backpacks with a "kit" for women (hygiene, clothes...).

They participated in the distribution in the field:

Those who took advantage of a trip for the march of November 24th to drop us donations:

- Onjali was back with gifts.
- Alain V. slipped me into the car, two boxes of clothes.
- The Dasonvilles of Desvres gave us 160 bottles of pasteurized apple juice, made from the apples of their apple trees.
- Thanks also to Pierre who ensured the transport to the local.



Belinda had filled her car to the brim with blankets (sixty!), from a former boarding school.

Here are the explanations she then sent me:

Maryline, trainer with whom I collaborate on the harp for her students, offered me the 60 blankets entrusted to Salam last Thursday. The establishment has a disused boarding school and we also contacted local associations such as Utopia Paris to entrust them with beds, mattresses ...

Maryline sent me this little note:

"We can put in message: with the support of the CFA horticulture and Cheval de Maisons Laffitte which has the joy of training some apprentices from immigrant backgrounds brilliant and examples for all towards social integration and the beautiful profession of landscape gardener or groom healer.

A trainer of the CFA and soon a member of the Salam association! Maryline Payeras »

## THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED US ON BEHALF OF A COMPANY OR AN ASSOCIATION THAT IS A FRIEND OR, IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING ONE...

Every week, the Entraide protestante de Dunkerque offers us a good part of the meat cooked for the Loon-Plage camp.

Special thanks to Michèle who picks up the boxes at the COOP on the other side of the church.



The children of the IME of Rosendaël continue to come every Thursday with Emmanand her their educator.

On November 10, they separated the plastic spoons, forks and knives from small bags, so that we could use them in distribution.



On 16 November, Jean Luc and Véronique BARDEL, market gardeners (Advantices Jardins) in Eringhem made a first donation of potatoes and onions, all organic!...  
Jacky received it for us.



On the 24th, a carrier leaves us a large pile of boxes, filled with clothes, carefully sorted and labelled: this is the annual donation of Riders for refugees, from the Alps, with whom a bond of friendship has begun to be formed.

Also on the 24th, it is a donation from Christian Hogard, Caroline, and their teams of Secours Populaire / Copains du monde:

Here is the email sent the same day:

"THANK YOU friends of Secours Populaire/Copains du Monde.

Several cases of cake bars brought by Jeanne yesterday to Calais (thanks also to Jeanne!), it's a day of breakfast on the different camps of the city.

It is a beautiful gift to Salam and his exiled friends.

THANK YOU. »

And Caroline's answer arrives the next day:

"We'll always be there for you, as little as we can give you."



On the 25th, David from the "Restaurant du Cap" was on the field with us with sandwiches.

On 26, the association Entraide de Ghyvelde made us pass a full chest of blankets.  
Thanks to Annick who organized the delivery.



On the 26th again, the young people of the HEIP (see above, thanks to the volunteers) came with two chests of provisions and clothing.

Also on the 26th, our old accomplices from "Flanders Terre Solidaire" arrived with a car full of rain ponchos.

On the 27<sup>th</sup>, Aftha of the association "Help me" of Pontoise was once again in Calais with a load of beautiful sleeping bags made on purpose to sleep outside and warm clothes, especially those who can put under a down jacket.



**AND FINALLY THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO MADE US FINANCIAL DONATIONS,**

without which we would not be able to maintain the vans, put diesel in the tanks, pay for the water and electricity used in our premises, replace the gas cylinders...

Thank you to all those (close friends and strangers) who slipped us a ticket, sent a cheque, made a transfer directly or by Helloassos.

**A special thank you to Onjali**, who made us a big monetary donation, in addition to food and his presence among us with his mother, (see above "donations in memory of a missing person".)

**THANK YOU TO BETHLEHEM, TO ABDELKADER AND TO THE ASSOCIATION RENAISSANCE, TO FLANDRES TERRE SOLIDAIRE, TO THE PROTESTANT MUTUAL AID, TO DUNFRESH which gives us a ton of bananas once a week, to EMMAUS which gives us surpluses every week, for Calais as for Grande-Synthe, to the JARDINS DE COCAGNE, to the COMORIAN DAMES, to the RESTAURANT DU CAP in Escalles, to the bakeries opposite the Noordover, "La mie du pain" and "Au bon pain d'ancienne" of Coudekerque.** Week after week, they are there to help us.

**THANK YOU to the diocesan association of Lille** which, through the parish of Grande-Synthe, has been graciously making available the premises of the Salle Guérin, for about fifteen years.

**THANK YOU to Michel** who ensures the layout of this newsletter, without fail, for years, **to Antoine** who manages the Facebook Page, also without fail, since 2017.

*Claire Millot.*

## OUR NEEDS FOR VOLUNTEERS

### **Dunkirk:**

We need people on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from the beginning of the peeling chore (8 am) to the end of the dishes (between 2 and 4 pm). In between, we distribute the meal.

Call Michèle (06 74 27 43 39). From outside France 00 33 6 74 27 43 39

### **Calais:**

Salam continues the distribution of enhanced breakfasts every morning with tea and coffee. But we are sorely lacking volunteers, especially volunteers with driver's licenses: Meeting at 8 am at the local, 13 rue des Fontinettes.

Call Yolaine at 06.83.16.31.61. From outside France 00 33 6 83 16 31 61

## CALL FOR DONATIONS

### **MONEY NEEDS.**

Without state subsidies and with a very significant reduction in subsidies from local and regional authorities, we still need money to make the work of the association last: Maintenance of premises and vans, fuel, purchase of food that is missing...

Visit the association's website: [www.associationsalam.org](http://www.associationsalam.org)  
Section: "Support us"

Go through HELLOASSO:  
<https://www.helloasso.com/associations/salam-nord-pas-de-calais/formulaires/2/widget>

or simply send a cheque to:  
Association Salam  
PO Box 47  
62100 CALAIS

You are entitled to a 66% tax reduction on these donations, in cash by one of our volunteers, by check payable to SALAM, or by bank transfer (direct or by Helloasso) ( please check your local tax laws )

*A big thank you to all our generous donors!*

### **TENTS AND TARPAULINS!**

From dismantling to dismantling, the tents are removed at both sites and we are unable to replace them. Many people sleep with nothing on them, in all weathers.

But we hesitate to suggest you buy some: the life expectancy of a tent is a few days...

On the other hand, tarpaulins, pieces of 3m by 3M (or 2.50 m by 3), cost much less and allow an honest man to spend a night in the shelter.

Otherwise, the most pressing needs on both sites:  
**BLANKETS (DUVETS, SLEEPING BAGS).**



hygiene products (shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, sunscreen, etc.), especially razors, towels,

men's clothing from XS to XL: underpants, thermal leggings and thermal sweaters, socks, jogging pants, jeans, shorts, t-shirts,  
SHOES for men: trainers or light hiking shoes ( European sizes 40 to 46), sandals, caps.

backpacks,  
lamps and batteries,  
water packs,  
bags (small backpacks, garbage bags, freezer bags, tote bags and plastic bags)

### **Food for Calais:**

Milk  
tea and sugar, instant soluble coffee,  
cans of sardines and cans of tuna,  
cream of cheese,  
dried fruits,  
Power banks.

To drop off your donations, RDV 13 rue des Fontinettes, and call 06 83 16 31 61.

### **And for Grande-Synthe:**

Especially canned vegetables of all kinds (we have been receiving much less fresh food for some time),  
bags of pulses,  
spices,

Drop off your donations in the Salle Guérin, rue Alphonse Daudet, behind St Jacques Church on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

## **CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

You can already take your membership for 2023.  
The membership form is attached to this mailing.

If you are not yet a member, do not hesitate to join us.  
Whether you are an active volunteer or not, becoming a member gives the association strength together! We were already at more than 250 members in 2022, help us to exceed this threshold.

## **CONTACT US**

<http://www.associationsalam.org>  
[salamnordpasdecalais@gmail.com](mailto:salamnordpasdecalais@gmail.com)  
Facebook page: [SALAM Nord/Pas-de-Calais](#)  
And the brand new LinkedIn page, available at the following link :  
[www.linkedin.com/in/association-salam-nord-pas-de-calais](http://www.linkedin.com/in/association-salam-nord-pas-de-calais)

Association SALAM  
PO Box 47  
62100 CALAIS

Association SALAM,  
Salle Guérin, Quartier St Jacques,  
1, rue Alphonse Daudet,  
59760 Grande-Synthe

## Bulletin d'adhésion 2023



### Principaux objectifs de SALAM :

- Apporter une aide humanitaire aux migrants (soins, hygiène, nourriture, vêtements...)
- Accompagner les migrants dans leur demande d'asile
- Informer et sensibiliser l'opinion publique sur la situation des migrants du littoral Côte d'Opale
- Combattre toutes les formes de racisme et de discrimination
- Agir dans les pays en difficulté
- Soutenir juridiquement les membres de l'association

Merci de remplir le bulletin ci-dessous et de le renvoyer à l'adresse suivante :

**Association SALAM-Nord/Pas-de-Calais**

BP 47

62100 CALAIS

Monsieur/  
Madame : \_\_\_\_\_ Prénom \_\_\_\_\_

Adresse \_\_\_\_\_

Code postal \_\_\_\_\_ Ville \_\_\_\_\_ Pays \_\_\_\_\_

Téléphone \_\_\_\_\_ E mail \_\_\_\_\_

J'adhère à l'association en versant la somme de 10 €.

(5 € pour les étudiants et demandeurs d'emploi , adhésion valable jusqu'au 31/12/2023)

Date et signature :

Je fais un don\* à l'association Salam en versant la somme de : \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Par chèque à l'ordre de l'association Salam. Un reçu fiscal vous sera adressé*

Je souhaite recevoir davantage d'informations sur l'association Salam.