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## *MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER*

### *THE PHOTO OF THE MONTH*



Malo les Bains beach, Sunday morning, 11<sup>th</sup> May, early.

A few minutes before the photo there was still a backpack and a duvet in the sand, collected by the City services.  
The steps of one, are not the steps of others.

*Arnaud Leclercq.*

## EDITORIAL

Secularism is not about denying the “word” to believers, of all religions. On the contrary, it means listening to them, all of them, with respect, and bringing them together, when what they say corresponds to our values, to build a wall against intolerance.

Last month we published on our Facebook page a passage from a speech by Pope Francis that said exactly what Salam's volunteers and members think.

In the same speech on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 in Marseille, he said: "People who are at risk of drowning, when abandoned on the waves, must be rescued. It is a duty of humanity; it is a duty of civilization! »

This month, we find in the press a sentence by Rabbi Delphine Horvilleur, who published a tribute, to "support those who know that no pain is soothed, and that no death is avenged, by starving innocent people or condemning children." (the "Voice of the North" of 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025).

Here too, these are the words that we could have written. She was talking about the Gaza Strip but she is in line with what D.P. (a volunteer in Salam) wrote a few days ago when talking about life in our camps of misfortune on the North Sea coast. He appealed to our leaders:

"No one can or will be able to say then among the politicians and decision-makers..., that he did not know that the State does not even guarantee access to water and food in dignified conditions for children and families. »

*Claire Millot.*

## EVENTS OF THE MONTH

### DEATHS.

It was over... we almost ended up believing it... But no, it was only the weather that was unfavourable to a passage by sea: sun but strong wind and blowing in the wrong direction (north-east for a south-west route.)

**Five more mourning's in the month of May**, of course always at night because the passages must be as discreet as possible to succeed, even if it is more dangerous...

- On the night of Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May: a man (a 39-year-old Eritrean) died, in a car park, in Marck in Calais. He was crushed by the truck he was trying to get into...

- Four died at sea in an attempt, to cross,

\*one on the night of Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> to Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May, off the coast of Boulogne,

\*the other just a week later, on the night of Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> to Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May: the rescuers sent to the scene saw the overly loaded dinghy break up...

\*On the night of Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, it was a lady and a little girl of eight years old whose bodies were found at the bottom of a large dinghy... "Found the bodies... This means that they did not drown... This means that they have been suffocated or trampled on by the pressure of others... But they were at least 80 on this boat... No wonder the most fragile were crushed...

These are conditions that then crush all humanity...





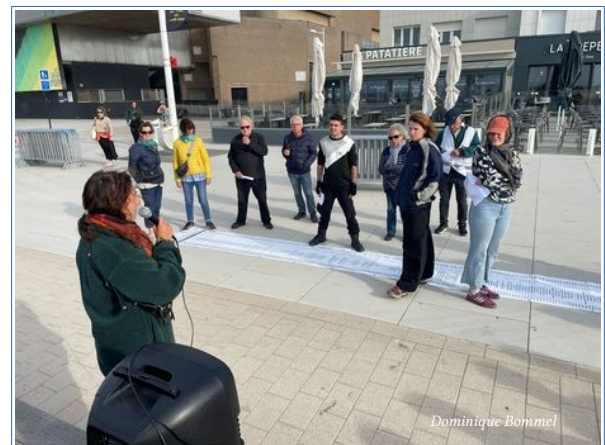
And it becomes almost "Normal"  
 We try to leave this inhuman border, and we die...  
 Drowned... or run over by a truck or suffocated on a boat.  
 We die because there is no...  
 ""Safe route"" to have a real life....  
 The Borders are blocked with barbed wire... rocks and police.  
 But when you have a real dream, NOTHING STOPS YOU!!  
 OPEN THE BORDERS

**Ferri Mattheeuwsen (22 May 2025)**  
 (Ferri, a volunteer in Salam, is Dutch).

That's nineteen for 2025...

The commemoration ceremonies took place at 6:30 p.m. in Calais at the Richelieu Park, on May 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, and in Dunkirk, on the Malo, Place du Centenaire, on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

On the 14<sup>th</sup>, we honoured, together, the two men whose deaths we learned of on that date. All of them are now missed by their loved ones and we will no longer meet them on the camps and on their way...

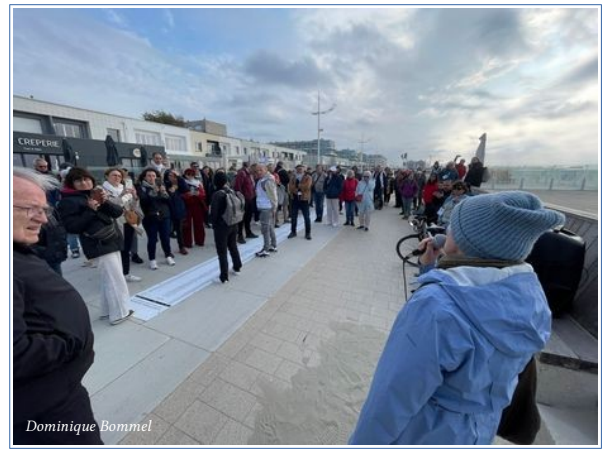


### AN ENDLESS LIST...

Names, names...  
 For most men... youths.  
 Dead a few miles from their dream.  
 Died by a border that kills.  
 Nothing gets better  
 Everything is going for the worst.  
 We are powerless here... sad and/or angry.  
 And we already know that soon... too fast  
 We'll still be here.

**Ferri Mattheeuwsen,**  
 Calais Commomeration (20th May 2025).  
 (Ferri, a volunteer in Salam, is Dutch).





On the 21<sup>st</sup> in Dunkirk, we were surprised to see, on our arrival, between 150 and 200 people waiting for us: they were coming out of the "Health and Social Action" congress of the CGT whose day had just ended...  
Emotional people, many speeches, a strong moment...

On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the commemoration was more traditional.

If the banner is trampled on every time, it is not out of lack of respect for our dead, it is simply to prevent the wind from carrying it away...



**The burial of an exile, who died in October, was announced to us on 22<sup>nd</sup> May by the "death group":**

The funeral of Majed AL HUSEIN, a Syrian person who died on 23/10/2024 in a shipwreck, will take place on Friday 23/05/2025 at around 14:30h at the southern cemetery of Calais (4 Av. Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, 62100 Calais).

His family would be touched by your presence to pay tribute to him.



## THE NUMBER OF EXILES INCREASED, THE SITUATION BECAME TENSE...

With the difficult passages, the number of people in the camps increases, stress mounts. There are many of them and they are hungry.

In Calais, in May, we gave more than 600 breakfasts every day, even more than 700 and 820 on the 16th... except the 12th (565), the 10th (385) and the 24th (540). 385 is the figure that stands out, it was right in the period of successful crossings: the 12th is the day when there were 601 crossings, two days before people are in the dunes waiting for the signal from their smuggler.

In Dunkirk, we gave at least 600 hot meals almost every day (500 and 550 on the 12th and 13th), but we exceeded 900 from 22<sup>nd</sup> May. We know, in any case, that when the number of guests exceeds 500 meals, we are forced to reduce the portions. Can we be satisfied with this situation?

The atmosphere of meal distribution is very variable but often difficult.

The conclusion of the report of the distribution of 10<sup>th</sup> May is: "beautiful distribution in calm, always moving considering the number of women and children." We have given 600 meals.

6<sup>th</sup> May, with the same number of guests, is one of the worst days in the world.

### Volunteer Testimonial:

Our team gave about 600 meals at lunchtime on Loon-Plage.

Seeing the push and the outstretched hands, I admit that I thought of the images we receive from the Gaza Strip, even though I know, of course, that it is not comparable, not yet...

The mass of men is there in front of us, no way to make a line, not two, not three. (The women are in a semblance of a line on the side) They are calm, smiling, full of hope, we harangue a little, in my kitchen English, Greg in a language that many understand (in the stress that we are under I didn't think to ask him which one): "There is food, we will distribute, but please don't push."

They smile, they nod yes, with conviction.

In the meantime, the tables are set up, the hot dish boxes are out. The first trays are filled... And then the bulldozer starts, the mass of men advances, inexorably, imperceptibly, but it advances. We who are distributing the spoons are stuck against the tables...

We stopped the distribution several times to calm the push and tried to make adjustments: "What if we put this table like this, and if we gave one of the boxes there, on the side, and if we tried three lines..." »

At one point we only gave the hot dish, without dessert, then without bread, to speed up the distribution and reduce the crowd...

And I saw our matriarch and team manager, who still has pain in her knees and back pain, throw herself into the crowd of men (you have, the ones who don't have ears!) to try to make them back off. She didn't really succeed but what a will and what energy...

At the very end, the very last ones wisely made two peaceful queues...

What dominated in me, in the end, was not fatigue (it will come out when it comes home), nor anger, nor fear, after this uncontrollable pressure (they didn't come out, they weren't aggressive at all, only hungry...)

What dominated was pride, team pride...

I am proud to be part of this team in which each person was inhabited by the determination not to give up (not a look that asks us to stop everything and go home) but a desire to do everything possible to still give food...

A man at the end came to see us to apologize for their indiscipline, in an English that sounds like mine: You good, you very good, we bad, sorry, sorry, too hungry...

Sorry, sorry, thank you.

And he had a beautiful, happy, full smile...

***Claire Millot (6<sup>th</sup> May).***

The number of meals donated is always less than the number of people present in the camps (some are too far away, others prefer to cook themselves, others certainly do not have access to the distribution site due to the influence of passage networks). But the increases go hand in hand...

Fortunately RCK, which had stopped distribution on 4<sup>th</sup> April (see our newsletter last month), which penalized exiles, both people from Dunkirk and Calais, has resumed its activities with the reopening of the premises of the Auberge de Migrants.

Adrien, their coordinator, informed by WhatsApp on 8<sup>th</sup> May:

"As of today, the warehouse and the associations that occupy it will return to normal activity. Any organization outside the warehouse can also go there. »

Deliveries resume every working day in Calais, and in Dunkirk also on Wednesday afternoons (distributions by Roots) and Fridays (distributions by MRS).

**The meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> April with the sub-prefect and the prefect delegate for security and defence of the northern zone had highlighted the tensions with the population of Loon-Plage (see our newsletter last month).**



We can fear a rise in racism and the violence it entails. On 10<sup>th</sup> May, ROOTS returned to its showers, installed next to the water points, overturned and put out of use.

Of course the wrong action was not signed or claimed, but it is reminiscent of the contamination by a bright blue liquid of 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 in the same place, it is no coincidence that this happened just after the European elections which had shown the rise of far-right parties in France, especially since other xenophobic acts had occurred at the same time in Calais (see our newsletter of June 2024).

Last month, we welcomed the reminder of the law and respect for human rights by the prefect and the sub-prefect during this meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April. Unfortunately, the solutions proposed by the authorities do not calm our concerns: the "action plan" is presented in the "Voix du Nord" of Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2025.

- The doubling of buses during rush hour with the presence of "a CUD mediation agent in each bus to regulate the flow of passengers and make relations more fluid".

This is a very good measure if "regulating" does not mean systematically excluding exiles, and moreover identified on what criteria?

- Waste collection will be intensified.

We have been asking for it since the departure of the Grande-Synthe camps in November 2021, there has already been progress in December 2023 with the installation of a large skip by the CUD near (and then inside) the distribution site. Will three more skips be enough, with the dispersal of the camps over the geographical area, observed in recent months?

- "The deployment of an additional unit of mobile forces (...) because it will be a question of systematically dismantling the camps that are too close to the houses."

Of course, they get closer to the houses because they are chased out of the industrial zone, and as a result they are chased towards the inhabited zone...

From evacuation to evacuation, they are pushed westwards...

The camps will arrive in Gravelines, where we will see (logically) a protest movement of companies and the population...

This last measure is not designed to reassure us...

In the last few months, we have seen three dismantling operations per month in the Dunkirk sector.

Since this announcement of measures on 8<sup>th</sup> May, evacuations have indeed multiplied, five in the month: There had already been one on 6<sup>th</sup> May ... Then on 9<sup>th</sup> May, there was demolition of the stalls in and near the distribution site, then on the 15<sup>th</sup>, on four sites and on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> on three sites, which are not near the houses... If it is a question of relieving the inhabitants, the only method found is to discourage the exiles to make them flee... But once again, to where?

Jean-Claude Lenoir's words still resonate:

"And January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 was!  
And our Minister of the Interior said:  
"We don't respond to suffering by sending CRS"  
The new Minister of the Interior had arrived!

STINGY!  
We are all ready to welcome this new vintage!  
Let's talk about it again...

*(excerpt from the President's Message in this January 2024 newsletter. The Minister of the Interior cited was Gérald Darmanin, who was renewed in his post two weeks before, on January 11th, 2024*

## **PASSAGES IN ENGLAND...**

... and they pass. Despite all the efforts of the authorities with the help of the Force Publique, they still pass, by sea or by trucks, (as shown by the recent circumstances of the deaths):

From the 24<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup>, for seven days, any passage was impossible due to violent and unfavourable winds... The Home Office counted 2,543 visits over the month on 30<sup>th</sup> May, a little less than in May 2024 (2,881 with between 49 and 50 people per boat). It was the first time in the calendar year that the number in 2025 was lower than the previous year... But May had 31 days, the wind had calmed down, and on May 31<sup>st</sup> the Home Office announced 1,194 successful passages on 18 canoes (an average of more than 66 people per boat)...

In the end, 3,737 crossings were successful in May, according to the Home Office, on 63 boats: more than 59 people on average per boat, but it ranges from between 37 and 38 on May 1<sup>st</sup> to more than 63 on the 21<sup>st</sup>... On that day, the official figure for successful arrivals in the UK was 825... We were waiting for this figure of May 31<sup>st</sup> with a concern mixed with hope: the hope of seeing these people, stuck in undignified situations in unsanitary camps, finally get out... and the fear of seeing deaths by drowning added to the list of deaths...

On the evening of June 1<sup>st</sup>, the wind picked up, the number of meals distributed in our two cities had not decreased that day (912 breakfasts in Calais by Salam and 800 in Dunkirk by ADRA) and the Calais teams reported with horror groups of exiles, newly arrived, who were wandering in the city, visibly brought by the conviction that the crossings had resumed and that "tomorrow England . »

We who are the first on the ground in the morning in Calais, we meet especially those who miss the crossing, returning from the sea in a terrible state. The drop-off points vary, but they are always in a pitiful state.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> May, there were 216 visits (according to the Home Office) but the number of those who tried it, and who came back exhausted, is much larger. Our team discovers a new camp that day, behind the "Terre et eaux" store, we have to go there early in the morning, before opening time so as not to inconvenience the customers and those who work there. On 2<sup>nd</sup> May there were at least a hundred people, crammed three by three into Quechua tents for two, buried in the rubbish.

The same morning, at the Secours Catholique office, about 70 Ethiopians are hanging on to the railings, hoping for the opening. They are dying of hunger, some have had nothing for three days. We didn't have to stop there but, of course, we make a stop to satisfy them.

A little further on, on rue des Mouettes, about 130 people (men and women) are there, exhausted, with blisters on their feet. A lady, who would really need it, refuses to be taken to the PASS, to the hospital, because we could not go and look for her.

The next day at "Terre et eaux", there were 120 of them. There are some who have had nothing to drink for two days.

There is no one left at the Virval camp, but of course they will not all succeed in the Crossing and those who have failed will return.

Testimony of a volunteer on the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> May :

A weekend like so many others.  
Salam starts his tour of the camps.  
One more camp discovered in the last two days.  
Yemeni men hiding in a wood in delirious conditions...  
Castaways... the same as a few days ago... Exhausted...  
Women, some very young, for whom this life is even harder...  
The Sudanese squat with a big smile... and their enormous hopes.  
Yet all very tired, even exhausted.  
But all with the same dream of the UK and finally a real life.  
We are there, the volunteers of Salam and two Science Po students... We are young or between two or younger of everything.  
We're all here... again and again because we want to give them at least the minimum... A dignified breakfast... a smile... a listening.  
And we'd be here again and again seven days a week... because each of us is convinced that it is essential.

***Ferri Matheeuwsen, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025.***  
*(Ferri, a volunteer in Salam, is Dutch).*

Everywhere the number of women, often extremely young, has increased enormously.

On 12<sup>th</sup> May, after a quiet period, there are again people on Rue des Mouettes, many Eritreans, life jackets, babies...

The next day, it was at the Quai de la Moselle that 180 people were found, who had missed the passage and had been brought back to the port. They are barefoot, soaked up to above their ears... We lack "shipwreck kits" (bags prepared, by size, with everything needed to dress a man from head to toe).

On Rue des Mouettes, there are 200 Ethiopians, they have put their clothes to dry on the fence, a real shantytown!

At the Stadium we find about fifty people, people passing through. Exhausted women drag children by the hand in the same state of fatigue.

On the 21<sup>st</sup>, at the "Terre et eaux" camp, there were about 200 people, including 40 to 60 soaked and limping, for whom our team had turned back. They tell of a gassing with a grenade rifle... Another, with a bruised face, says he was beaten up by the police...

The next day, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the camp was completely dismantled.

## THE DISMANTLINGS

Calais: an atmospheric photo (May 2 at BMX):





Little change in practices:

**The camps are dismantled on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.**

On Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> May, the HRO ( Human Rights Observers ) failed the operation, but it did take place in the morning. A police commissioner who sees them waiting in the early afternoon, kindly, warns them.

In the city centre, exiles confirm: they tell them that the convoy came around 11 am and that they took tents, in particular a dozen Pont Mollien.

It was the same thing on 26<sup>th</sup> May: the HRO abandoned his vigil at the police station at 9:54 a.m., in front of three CRS vans and no cleaning service... only to learn from the exiles in the afternoon that, yes, there had been evictions in the morning, as usual on Monday...

Indeed, the convoy often tries to escape the trained eye of the Human Rights Observers. On 21<sup>st</sup>, for example, he is getting ready in the courtyard of the gendarmerie.

It is always the same places that are concerned: the City Center, BMX and the rue de Judée.

On 14<sup>th</sup> May, there was the Marck site in addition (exiles had resettled there). The police do not let the Human Rights Observers approach and they see nothing but they hear on the policemen's walkie-talkie that a Sudanese man has been arrested.



An evacuation of another unusual site also took place on an additional day: the 22<sup>nd</sup> (a Thursday!) in "Terre et eaux", a place occupied by Yemenis...

The next day, on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Salam team met them again on rue des Mouettes. Happy and reassured to see us again, they literally kiss us... They slept there, with nothing, not even a blanket.

They also say that about sixty of them were taken to a Detention Centre...

It's not impossible, the HRO saw on the 22<sup>nd</sup> three minibuses taking turns and leaving full.

Three days later, some have returned to "Terre et eaux" but others are still sleeping on the ground on rue des Mouettes...



**The legal basis given** is usually "flagrante delicto". Three times, in May, another answer was given:

\*On 2<sup>nd</sup> May, the legal basis is "a complaint, there is no eviction," says a BMX operations manager. But it's the same operation all day long. Indeed, nineteen people moved on their own, including three women, there were no seizures of equipment, the police stressed that they had not used force and there was no security perimeter at the start (at least until the "woman of the National Police" had arrived, says the Human Rights Observers).

But then, in the city centre, a tarpaulin and a chair were seized on the Quai de la Gironde, and Pont Faidherbe eleven tents (two of which were emptied and three full of equipment).

\*In BMX, on 5<sup>th</sup> May, the legal basis is, according to a police officer, "decision of the judicial court of Boulogne".

\* on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, at the BMX, a policeman who was more disposed towards the Human Rights Observers explained a little more: it was a "judicial operation and you have nothing more to know: flagrante delicto, preliminary investigation, rogatory commission, search for a missing person..." »

**The security perimeters are usual,** extremely wide. They often make observations very difficult, if not impossible.



They only concern the associations, in particular the Human Rights Observers: on 23<sup>rd</sup> May one of their photos shows other people who quietly crossed the dam (in Marck, on 23<sup>rd</sup> May). Did these people put themselves in danger? Or did they put the police in danger?

**The police regularly spared families** in the evacuations of the City Centre: one family (with 2 men and 2 children) was present but was not evacuated on 2<sup>nd</sup> May at the Pont Faidherbe, another on 7<sup>th</sup> May at the Quai de la Meuse, and Quai de la Gironde, as was the case for a woman with four children on 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May; on the 14<sup>th</sup>, the HRO saw a father take his child in his arms, but the The police leave the family alone. Unfortunately, it seems that the rights and serenity of the families were flouted on 28<sup>th</sup> May:

When our team arrives at the BMX with breakfast, the men are completely stressed. They say that the police came very early in the morning and took away 22 people (only women and children, they left the men). They are in such a state that we tend to believe them. If this is true, how can you take away from a family the only thing left in such an uncertain situation: the comfort of being together...

#### **Other bullying, less serious but real, is reported:**

On 14<sup>th</sup> May at the BMX, the police prevented the exiles from going to a food distribution (probably La Vie Active), and on the 16<sup>th</sup>, five people (including two women) who were returning from a distribution were prevented from passing, and therefore from reaching their equipment.

On 16<sup>th</sup> May, under the Pont Mollien, on the Quai de la Meuse side, the cleaning agents, mounted on a ladder, searched high up under the bridge deck, and threw down some belongings (eleven, the HRO Human Rights Observer was able to count). We can't see very well on the videos taken from a distance but it looks exactly like what we saw last February (see our newsletter this month). One wonders, each time, why such a determination to take away their few possessions from people who have so little...



On all the sites, the belongings of the absentees are seized: we see a whole bric-a-brac on 5<sup>th</sup> May at the BMX.

Of course it's not rich, but these are things that must be of service to people who are forced to live outside.



A chair, pallets and firewood are collected on 21<sup>st</sup> May at the BMX.





The tents collected are always dragged on the ground, therefore damaged...

Arrests are not uncommon, preceded by the humiliating body search (photo in the city center on 16<sup>th</sup> May):



### **On the Dunkirk side too, an atmospheric photo (May 9th):**

The announcements of the authorities suggested it (see above): the dismantling in May was more numerous than in previous months: five times in the month (on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>).

But these are not evacuations near homes, as the authorities had announced on 8<sup>th</sup> May (see above).

On 15<sup>th</sup> May, the legal basis given by a police officer is: "Assistance to the Commissioner of Justice, Court of Boulogne".

Evacuations to Dunkirk generally take place in the presence of a bailiff and at the request of the prosecutor and they are accompanied by shelter (by bus, by the AFEJI).



On 6<sup>th</sup> May, a group of about twenty people (including three women and at least two babies) was evicted.



The police say that they accept shelter (at least twenty people). Indeed, the Human Rights Observers has sixteen people who get on the first bus. A second will follow.

On 15<sup>th</sup> May, too, there are many bus rides.



On the 28th, the AFEJI told the HRO that it was only taking people who had just been evacuated, but the bus left full, according to an exile's testimony, leaving people in pain on the side of the road.

On 20<sup>th</sup> May, a police officer, who had probably only recently arrived, was surprised that the sub-prefecture did not inform the associations of the dates of the evictions. He suggests asking for them...

The evacuation of 9<sup>th</sup> May almost exclusively concerned the shops, located at the distribution site (first photo) and opposite (second photo), on the other side of the road to Mardyck.



The one on the 15<sup>th</sup> affects the camps that are near four companies (Ryssen, Total, Odorisation and Esso) and the one on the 20<sup>th</sup> the neighbouring camps also of companies: SDMT, ESSO, Gracht Mardyck

At the end of the morning, 15<sup>th</sup> May, a small kitchen is demolished, the tarpaulin can be heard tearing on the video from which this photo is taken:



On the 28<sup>th</sup>, the eviction lasted all morning, AMiS who was giving breakfast that day had not yet been able to intervene at 11:30 a.m. They had been waiting for an hour and a half. The shops are once again totally destroyed, and it is the camps near two companies that are affected again (Total and Esso) and not those closest to the houses...

On 20<sup>th</sup> May, the HRO Human Rights Observers, also witnessed the removal of a small bridge.



The resources deployed are significant: twelve CRS trucks on 15<sup>th</sup> May, a large backhoe loader on the 6<sup>th</sup> (photo), 9<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> to evacuate the equipment by loading it into the skip (photo of 28<sup>th</sup> May).



On the 28<sup>th</sup>, there was also an impressive destruction machine in the Total car park.

Human displacement was significant on 15<sup>th</sup> May: at least 168 people (including at least eighteen women and fourteen children) were displaced. On the 28<sup>th</sup> even more: the HRO, has more than 300 people wandering.

We see a big bus start before 8 a.m. on May 15<sup>th</sup>, at the edge of the railway tracks.

At least two arrests were made on 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> May (more spectacular on the 9<sup>th</sup>: a CRS van returned after the convoy had left: gas and LBD were out.

The HRO witnesses two arrests: one with pat-down, one with handcuffs behind his back.)

At least ten arrests were made on the 15<sup>th</sup>.



On 9<sup>th</sup> May, the dumpster was full



## ASSOCIATIONS AND JUSTICE:

### **Camp evacuations decided by the court.**

After the evacuation of the Orange squat decided by the Administrative Court on 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2025, but with a delay of five months, it is that of the so-called "Fontinettes" camp that was granted to the SNCF by the same court on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, and this time without delay. This decision can be applied from one day to the next...

### **A request for summary proceedings was filed on 30<sup>th</sup> May to obtain a systematic collection of garbage in the Calais camps.**

CFC, Solidarités International and Salam have filed this request.

It is a request that is processed in a week because the judge recognizes its urgency (otherwise it takes a year and a half to two years at the Administrative Court!)

We have filed this summary appeal against the authorities in Calais, demanding that they take urgent measures to provide waste management solutions in all places inhabited by exiled people.

This legal action follows the refusal of the Calais authorities to provide solutions despite the numerous requests from associations, collectives, volunteers and citizens in recent years.



The hearing has been set for Tuesday, 3rd June at 11 a.m., at the Administrative Court of Lille, 5 Rue Geoffrey Saint-Hilaire.



TO CONCLUDE, SOME MOVING OR UNUSUAL PHOTOS taken by volunteers during the month.

*Claire Millot*



"An Afghan mother at the Loon-Plage camp, 20<sup>th</sup> May."



"The mounted police, Calais station, 14<sup>th</sup> May"



"But who drives Salam's truck?"



## ***DUNKIRK, THE EVENING DISTRIBUTIONS:***

**Pascaline and/or Quentin, sometimes accompanied by** one or two volunteers...

Listing the requests received, preparing the belongings and loading them into the truck takes an average of two hours. Then, a distribution lasts an average of two hours.

Thank you to Denise, Marie and the other volunteers who sort the clothing donations.

*Since the beginning of April, Pascaline and Quentin have been giving us a weekly presentation of their actions. Here is a summary for the month of May.*

### **A few preliminary remarks:**

\* "It should be noted that the Refugee Women's Center met 386 new women and 473 children in April. Among the children, 91 of them were under 2 years old, 127 between 2 and 5, 156 between 5 and 12! A young Moroccan man came to us on Wednesday (30<sup>th</sup> April) in a rather advanced state of exhaustion, he showed us his prosthesis. He lost his leg on the road while trying to cross a border by train. What a pity!! And yet he kept smiling and courageous!! »

\* "This weekend (that of 17<sup>th</sup> May), between yesterday morning and the time of writing to you, I received 70 messages calling for help...

The needs are enormous at the moment. Associations are struggling to cope with the number of people present and the evacuations, where all of the people's belongings are destroyed, add a lot of tension to the already critical situation.

We meet a lot of people, including children, who have almost nothing on their backs even though it's not hot at all... »

### **Few problems with the police:**

3<sup>rd</sup> May: "Of course, we ran into the police, who once just slowed down and the second time stopped to ask us who we were. When we said "Salam" they told us "YOU AGAIN !!", but did not want to see our papers. They seemed to be worried about the departure of families to the beaches. »

"Please note: no police visit on Monday (19<sup>th</sup> May) or Friday (23<sup>rd</sup> May) in the Total car park... »

### **DISTRIBUTION BALANCE:**

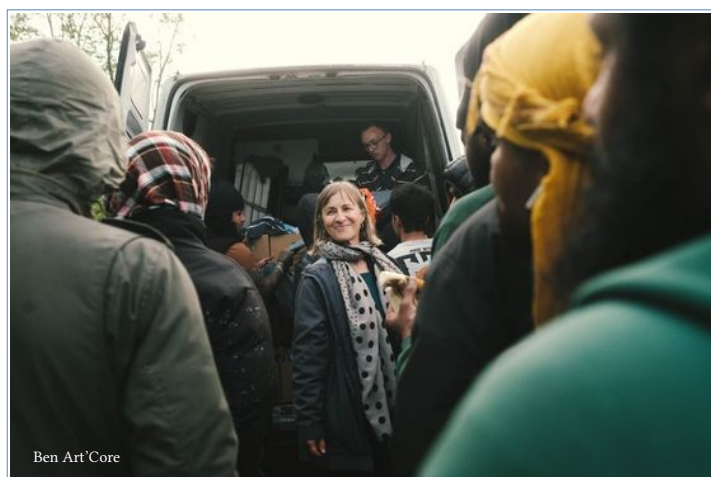
**between 2 and 4 distributions per week, depending on the situation (weather, dismantling, etc.)  
In May, between the 1st and the 26th, the following were given:**

- 16 tents for 2 people bought by Salam (unit cost of 30€), plus a large one for a family,  
Thank you to those who made financial donations to Salam, targeted for the purchase of tents.
- 397 blankets,
- shoes (about twenty pairs on average per week),
- Clothes by boxes (socks, sweaters/sweatshirts, jogging pants/ jeans, t-shirts, hats, scarves and boxer shorts and jackets...) ,
- towels and hygiene products,

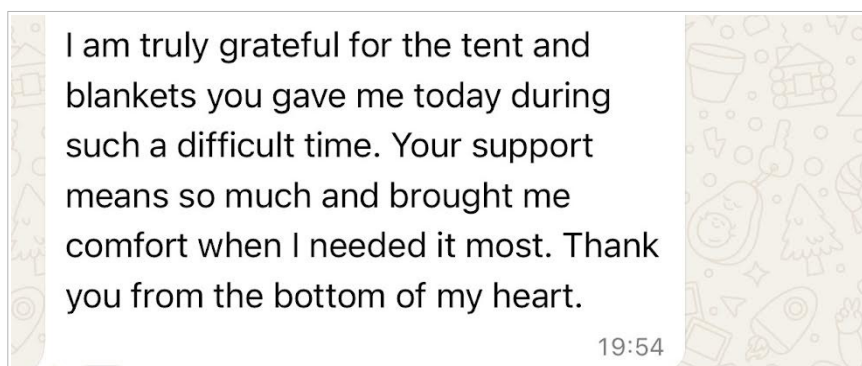
Thank you to Audotri who provides us with a large part of the blankets and clothes, and thank you to those who go to get them.



Two photos of the preparations: in the room and in the truck.



And two photos of the distribution on April 24:



A message of thanks sent by an exile on 6<sup>th</sup> May :

### Conclusion of the period (25<sup>th</sup> May):

"The coming week promises to be complicated again. I have not yet counted the number of messages received since Friday evening but there have been many more. At the moment we are out of stock of blankets. Let's hope there is no dismantling this week, especially since the temperatures are not going to be terrible this week, but that's far from wonder... »

*Pascaline Delaby and Quentin Duflos.*



## AND HOW DO WE GET OUT OF IT?



And how do you get out of it, when you say that "We're going to make it!", to really get there? We get by with friendship and, in friendship, with equality:

And Marie explains: "Claudine found that I was missing five centimetres. Considering the hat, it was done! »

**Claire Millot.**

## SALAM GOES BEYOND HIS USUAL FRAMEWORK:

**LAMASTRE, 10<sup>th</sup> May: Information meeting and activist collection, with the participation of our friend Dominique Bouday, photographer (exhibition of photos taken during her visits to us.)**

### **MORT.E.S AUX FRONTIERES**

Réunion d'information et collecte militante

"Calais, naufrage de l'espoir"  
par Laurent

"Les mineurs non accompagnés, scandale Français" par Quentin

"Briançon, une résistance solidaire"  
par Camille

Le racisme n'est pas une opinion, c'est un délit.  
Le racisme d'état n'est pas une politique, c'est un  
CRIME CONTRE L'HUMANITE!

**Le 10 mai de 10h à 12h  
Espace AUTREMENT  
Lamastre**

Collecte militante, déposez vos dons  
Riz, concentré de tomate, huile, thé, farine  
oignons, conserve (thon, légumes), café.  
Hygiène féminine, protections périodiques  
Et de la thune pour les travaux au squat  
Chez Marcel

Contact : 0758149077  
Espace AUTREMENT  
1 rue Désiré Bancel, 07270 Lamastre

I.P.N.S. Ne pas jeter sur la voie publique



"Exchanges and interested people," said Laurent, the organizer.



**OUISTREHAM, 18<sup>th</sup> May: visit by Quentin Duflos.**

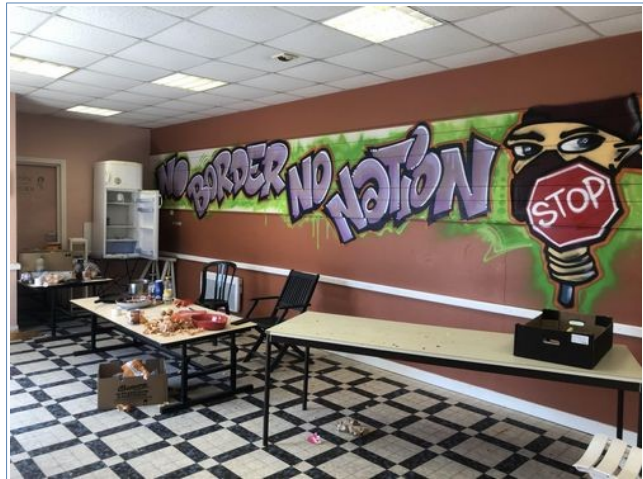
**A BRIEF VISIT TO THE CAMP AND SQUAT IN OUISTREHAM (NORMANDY).**

On the afternoon of Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> May, accompanied by Sarah, a volunteer at La Cimade in Caen, and Bénédicte (who lives in Argentan and who comes to Salam several times a year), I went to Ouistreham to better understand the situation of the Sudanese exiles who survive there.

**Stop number 1:** the camp in a wood near the port where a dozen guys survive. The town hall was forced by the courts, following the fight of the associations, to install toilets there. The authorities tried to dismantle the camp but the courts refused. For the rest, the guys manage. Up to 200 exiles slept there in the summer of 2023.



**Stop number 2 :** the squat in the city centre opened by activists in January 2025 where about twenty guys live. As the water and electricity have not been cut off, they can cook (thanks to the products provided by associations including the Restos du Cœur), wash and sleep in shelter.



Some of these Sudanese are coming to regain their strength between their attempts to get into trucks in Calais (in the hope of reaching the United Kingdom). But the majority are asylum seekers for whom the State does not offer any accommodation solution (despite the legal obligation). There are almost no attempts to cross from Ouistreham to England because security has been reinforced to its maximum.

During this sunny afternoon, we were able to play "uno" with them (so that they could take their mind off things for a moment and progress in French) and taste assida (a delicious Sudanese specialty made of flour and water) accompanied by mulah (a sauce made from onions, tomatoes and sardines). Lots of laughter and smiles despite their precarious living conditions).

**A big thank you to Sarah**, a volunteer at La Cimade in Caen, and to the other volunteers (especially those from CAMO, Collectif d'Aide aux Migrants de Ouistreham) for giving some dignity to these young men who were forced to flee Sudan, which has been in the grip of a civil war since April 2023.

*Text and photos « Quentin Duflos »*

**ARGENTAN, 20 May: two interventions by Quentin Duflos.**

"They took place in Argentan (Orne), on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May in the afternoon in front of about sixty high school students and then in the evening in front of about fifty people (conferences by the CNRS researcher, Sylvie Mazzella, as part of the exhibition "Migrations, a human odyssey" visible at the Musée de l'Homme in Paris.)



These events were an opportunity for me to present Salam's actions with the exiles in Calais and Grande-Synthe, as well as to talk about the attempts to cross the Channel and the +500 deaths since 1999 on the Franco-British border.

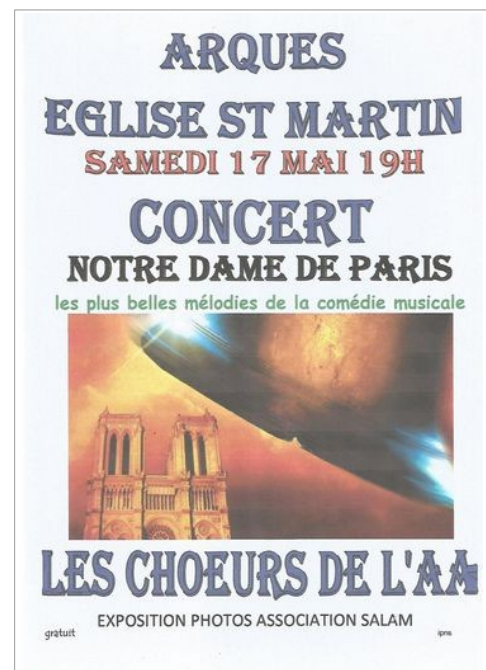
Thank you to the association "Les mots du bout du monde" (which offers literacy courses to asylum seekers in Argentan and which is chaired by Bénédicte, who comes several times a year to Grande-Synthe to give us a hand) and to La Cimade d'Argentan for the organization and the invitation. »

*Texte and photos Quentin Duflos (volunteer in Salam)*

**ARQUES, 17<sup>th</sup> May: introduction by Claire Millot to a concert of songs from the musical "Notre-Dame de Paris".**

Texts that speak to us, that talk about undocumented people, asylum seekers...

And an urn at the entrance to drop off donations...



**DUNKIRK, LE FRAC, 17<sup>th</sup> May, on the occasion of "Museums Night": participation of Claire Millot in the conference presenting the map "Flux et lisière", work by Maxence De Cock and Elisa Perriguer.**

**"Flux et Lisière" Elisa Perriguer, Maxence de Cock:**

Mapping migrations between art, science, politics and reportage, this collaborative fresco displays spatial information and political devices, but above all tries to refine knowledge of the Dunkirk cross-border territory.





The map in photos: taken from the official document, then seen by Fanny, a volunteer in Salam.

Many people were interested, and even people sitting on the ground!



**PETITE-SYNTHE, 22<sup>nd</sup> May: Saint Antoine parish, presentation of our actions by Denise Cassignat and Ghislaine Leurs for a group of catechumens, gathered around the theme of solidarity.**

"We exposed the difficulties of their lives.... It's always useful to talk about migrants; out of the twenty or so people present, some were totally unaware of their living conditions," Ghislaine writes to us.





**FORT MARDYCK, 31<sup>st</sup> May, intervention at the gala of "Amazones Danse", given for the benefit of Salam.Soumaya Souaidi and Ghislaine Leurs presented the living conditions of the exiles on our coast, and our work.**

*Claire Millot*

### ***MIXED FEELINGS FESTIVAL IN EUROPE***

The pretty self of May has often inspired poets or artists "May, May, let's train the May / Whoever marries today will be rich" (1). Trees are planted in May to celebrate nature that is reborn with spring. Tradition dictates that young unmarried men in the villages put up trees in front of the door or wall of the houses of the young girls to be married to honour them. May corresponds to the return of festivals, with the most famous of them, the Cannes International Film Festival, dedicated to cinema since 1939 to counter the Venice Film Festival, created and instrumentalized in 1932 by the fascist and Nazi regimes (2). With the stranglehold on culture, another symbol is very revealing of the state of anguish, and even existential fear of a society - its way of welcoming exiles and addressing the migration issue.

The signals sent by the European Union and a group of ideologically close European countries on the migration issue are worrying (3). After authorising European states in March 2025 to create "return platforms" for undocumented migrants outside Europe, the European Commission has planned on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2025 to review the concept of "safe third country" to facilitate the deportation of asylum seekers to countries through which they have transited (4). The door is open for asylum seekers' centres in distant countries, projects that have already been tested in Rwanda by the United Kingdom and Denmark. The relaxation of the concept of "safe third country" responds to the request made in May 2024, as part of the Pact on Migration and Asylum, by some fifteen countries, at the initiative of Austria, Denmark and Italy. The Commission must "identify, develop and propose new means and new solutions to fight immigration in Europe". The 2024 legislation requires national asylum authorities to prove the existence of a link between the applicant and the safe third country concerned (having lived there, worked, etc.). In 2025, the Commission suggests that the notion of link should be considerably lightened. A simple passage of the asylum seeker is enough. If there has been no transit, an agreement or arrangement with this "safe third country" will suffice. The States concerned must nevertheless meet conditions - "protection against refoulement, absence of a real risk of serious harm to life and liberty on account of race, religion, nationality (...) or political opinion", "the possibility of requesting or receiving effective protection". The greatest uncertainty is that the European countries and the third countries concerned will jointly reject the reception and asylum of refugees plunged "into limbo", according to the director of the European Refugee Network. The case has already occurred with the agreement between the European Union and Turkey in 2016, where thousands of refugees rejected by Greece were also pushed back by their Turkish neighbour.

More worrying is the unprecedented attack by European political leaders, orchestrated by Prime Ministers Giorgia Meloni in Italy, heiress to a post-fascist party, and Mette Frederiksen in Denmark, a Social Democrat, along with seven other countries, against the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) in Strasbourg and the 1950 Convention that judges are responsible for interpreting and applying in their judgments (5).

According to this group of European countries ideologically close to immigration issues, this text protecting the rights of exiles is unsuited to the "major issues of our time" and the magistrates in charge of applying it have exceeded their rights, encroaching on national sovereignty. For a law professor at the University of Brussels, the countries attacking the ECHR have not detailed any judgment that they consider contentious. It is therefore an ideological statement that is in line with the state of mind of an American president, inaugurated on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2025, who has multiplied xenophobic and anti-immigration statements. He has been caught by the justice system, the last bastion to defend the rule of law, which he has constantly attacked. In a particularly explosive geopolitical context, these attacks on an international convention considered for 75 years as one of the pillars of the European project, a unique model, recognised by all democracies, to fight against discrimination and defend diversity, are not fortuitous. The magistrates of Strasbourg, like the judges in the United States, are the last bulwarks against the populist assaults of far-right ideologies.

Unexpected support came from culture, with the 78th Cannes Film Festival coming to an end on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> May 2025 (6). The list celebrates and defends all the diversities attacked by authoritarian regimes, past and present. The Palme d'Or was awarded to the Iranian, French and Luxembourg film by Jafar Panahi "A Simple Accident". The director, an influential filmmaker of the Iranian New Wave, was sentenced in 2010 to six years in prison for propaganda against the mullahs' regime. He had to shoot clandestinely. Her film, which won an award at Cannes in 2025, addresses the Iranian regime's fierce repression against its opponents, particularly young people and women, since the outbreak of the "Woman, Life, Freedom" movement in 2022. A Brazilian, French, Dutch and German film by director Kleber Mendonça Filho, "The Secret Agent", received the award for Best Director and Best Actor. He evokes the period of the dictatorship in Brazil (1964-1985) to denounce neoconservative and conspiracy regimes today, with a recurrence in Brazil with Javier Bolsonaro (2019-2023). Authoritarian regimes always target minorities, the weakest and most vulnerable. The Best Actress Award was presented to a French actress, Nadia Melliti, in the film by French director Hafsia Herzi, "La Petite Dernière" (winner of the Queer Palm) for her self-proclaimed portrayal of a young lesbian Muslim woman.

Democracy is under attack on all continents, in all latitudes. The best indicator of a country's democratic health is respect for diversity in all its facets. The fight to defend the rights of exiles, the LGBTQIA+ community, religious or cultural minorities is the same... Today, as in the past, culture and justice are essential bulwarks against the repeated assaults of populist and authoritarian regimes when they are defended by courageous and honest artists and judges, who have the means to lead their fight, through a demanding legal and regulatory framework and lasting financial support. Europe and the European Union, with their imperfections and blindness, remain the best bastions against autocratic regimes, and the first supporters of a "universalism of differences", dear to Edouard Glissant, a West Indian artist, author of "essays and novels dealing with the notions of otherness, living together and interculturality", defender with Victor Segalen of an "aesthetics of the Diverse" (7). It is the common thread of an exhibition "Paris noir" at the Centre Beaubourg - black artists who came from North America, the West Indies or Africa to find in Paris a land of choice and inspiration, and a freedom of expression that they were deprived of elsewhere. Long live Europe, diverse and free, yesterday and today.

**Dr Bénédicte Halba, President of IRIV ([www.iriv.net](http://www.iriv.net)), May 2025**

*Bénédicte Halba runs a research institute (iriv) which has been working on the theme of migration since 2003, she has led a club at the Cité des Métiers for a migrant public (2012-2022) and has been publishing a weblog dedicated to migration since 2024-<https://actions-migration.blogspot.com/> <https://actions-migration.blogspot.com/> .*

1) Les très riches heures, choral suite: Dressons le mai - Arbre comme un oiseau - Op 43-<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n73FDcWilpw>

2) in 1939, it was only a modest festival created to oppose the Venetian Film Biennial and its organization taken over by Mussolini and Hitler.

3) Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and

4) Philippe Jacqué "Brussels paves the way for the outsourcing of asylum applications", Le Monde, 22nd May 2025

5) Philippe Jacqué "Immigration: nine EU countries want to weaken the ECHR", Le Monde, 25th

6) May 2025

7) Clarisse Fabre and Jacques Mandelbaum "A Festival with a very political track record", Le Monde, 27th May 2025

8) Mohamed Amine Rhimi, "The Imaginary of Édouard Glissant's 'Poetics of the Diverse' and 'Philosophy of Relationship': Rethinking Globalization through the Prism of 'Transrhetoric'", Amerika [En línea], 22 | 2021, Publicado el 14 julio 2021, consultado el 29 mayo 2025. URL:<http://journals.openedition.org/amerika/13904>; DOI: <https://doi.org/10.4000/amerika.13904>

**A COMMITTED SONG: TAKE MY HAND...**

**Words of Calogero Maurici / Paul Ecole**

.... Existences  
Out of gas  
Loose packed  
On a zodiac  
In the surf  
Shoes in a bag

... At the level of the lamps  
Tempting lives  
To hang on  
To rocks  
Is it a sin  
To fish out screams?

... Take my hand, my brother  
My air is your air  
Now we are from the same mother  
Give your hand, my brother  
Hang in there, hope  
Now we are from the same earth

... In the spray  
There are mothers  
There are screams  
There, in the night  
In the hollow of the waves  
It is the voice of like-minded people

... In a look  
Caught up in the effort  
There is hope  
And so many stories  
A land that burns  
Or screaming guns

... Take my hand, my brother  
My air is your air  
Now we are from the same mother  
Give your hand, my brother  
Hang in there, hope  
Now we are from the same earth

... It is the voice of a fisherman amid shouts  
Images at 8 p.m. that had upset me  
This outstretched hand, I gave it just in my mind  
I know, it's a drop in the ocean  
Crossing tragedies or rivers  
Crossing seas or going through hardships  
Without distinction of nation, colour and class  
A man in the water is the whole earth that drinks the cup

... Take my hand, my brother  
My air is your air  
Now we are from the same mother  
Give your hand, my brother  
Hang in there, hope  
Now we are from the same earth

**Source : LyricFind**

**Lyrics of Prends ma main © Universal Music  
Publishing Group**

**And the link to listen:**

[https://youtu.be/lsmP\\_lkvSOg?si=fH3DtB-nJn9Tw\\_2](https://youtu.be/lsmP_lkvSOg?si=fH3DtB-nJn9Tw_2)



## THANK YOU

### TO THE VOLUNTEERS, To the new, or not so new,

**Zamir**, who has become a big boy, since he is now more than two years old, was back with us preparing the meal on 10<sup>th</sup> May with his father Noor Islam.

**Nami**, Japanese student in Lille, new Saturday volunteer,

**Arnaud**, who comes on days when he can, efficient and motivated,

**Bernard**, who travelled a few hundred kilometres from the Meuse, to do three days of distribution with us on the occasion of the 1st May long weekend, and to inflate the tyres of the Dunkirk truck,

**Bernadette**: She had already come several times from Wattrelos with a full car, but the day she decided to take part in the distribution of the meal, on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, she fell in our car park and broke her ankle; we wish her a full recovery...

**Ellie, Louane and Yann**, on an internship at the Sesame house and in addition to the workforce in Dunkirk on several occasions. Joyful and efficient!

### To those who have engaged in regular tasks:

**Quentin** who has just celebrated the first anniversary of the Instagram page he manages:

- 100 posts published (an average of 2/week),
- 393 followers (74% French, 10% English; 43% 25-34 years old, 22% 18-24 years old, 19% 35-44 years old)
- the most viewed post is the one announcing the death of Jean-Claude on 12/07 (+2700 views).

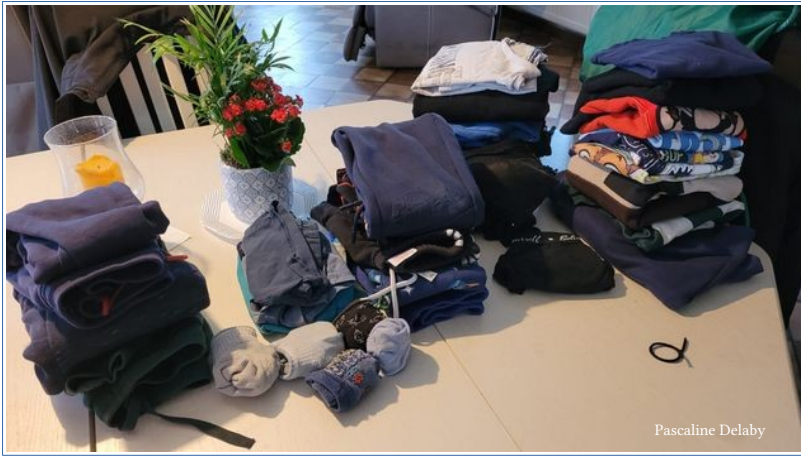
**Josette and Elisabeth**, who improve the ordinary Monday meal with their pastries,

**Edith**, who makes small toys for the children of the camp,



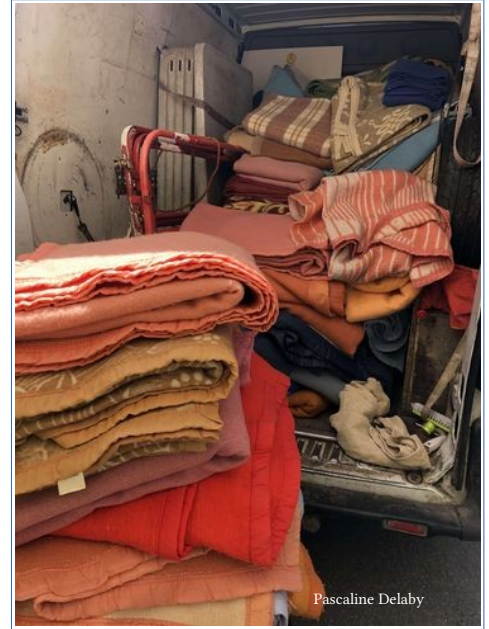
**Denise**, who does the big food shopping,  
In the photo, part of the order collected on 14<sup>th</sup> May: 300 kg of pasta, sugar, tomato paste, dishwashing liquid...





**Pascaline**, who, in addition to the evening distributions (see above), does an average of five washes per week for exiles in the camp.

**Those who transport donations** (in particular Quentin from Audotri),



**Those who drive for the collections** (in particular Dominique).

**To our student interns,**  
Alia, Capucine, Charlotte, Line, in Calais,  
Lola, Célia, at Dunkirk.

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



### **Food donations:**

\*Several hundred yoghurts, offered by a friend of Abdelkader's, made it possible to ensure desserts throughout the week of 19<sup>th</sup> May, as is or mixed with pieces of bananas in a delicious milkshake.





\*a nice food collection, made with relatives of Bénédicte, our favorite Normandy volunteer: pasta, canned vegetables, coffee etc, reported on 22<sup>nd</sup> May by Quentin.

\*bottles of mineral water offered more than once by Nathalie, Assadulah and Noor Islam and on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> by an anonymous donor, at our premises in Grande-Synthe.

That lunchtime, almost everyone had a small bottle of water with their banana at the end of the distribution.



#### Textile donations:

\*the hats knitted by Ginette, 98 years old!

\* the three bags of clothes deposited on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> by Mr. Smali at the Salle Guérin.

\*those dropped off by Nicole at Guy and Régine's on May 12<sup>th</sup>

\*the family tent brought on May 3<sup>rd</sup> by a lady moved by the publication on Salam's Instagram page of the dismantling of Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>.

\*the van full of equipment dropped off by Bernard (from the Meuse) during his visit on the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> May (see above).



**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE HELPED US IN THE NAME OF A FRIENDLY ASSOCIATION OR IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING ONE...**

**Our biggest donor in material donations is the Secours Populaire/Copains du Monde, behind Christian Hogard, Caroline and their team, especially Bruno and Evelyne.**

Every week, we receive bread and pastries, and often more!

Below are our message exchanges:



*May 6 messages:*

*Message from Christian:*

Very, very big delivery today to our Friends in Salam Calais

Lots of fresh bread

Blankets in large numbers

Fruity drinks

Enough to enhance the daily life of the most vulnerable people whom Salam has the secret of helping on a daily basis

Bravo Friends, good luck

Very, very happy to be able to help you as best we can

A beautiful evening Fraternal friendships and above all solidarity Christian Hogard Director of the international villages of children friends of the world of Gravelines



*And our answer:*

Yolaine called me at the end of the afternoon to inform me of your visit to rue des Fontinettes. She was so happy and forwarded me the photos you sent her. And tonight, your message and your photos reinforce our gratitude.

And then there's also something to feed the newsletter: with images, it's so much more meaningful!

Thank you so much to your entire team.

*Message of 14<sup>th</sup> May:*

Thank you Christian and thank you to our friends (from Le Monde).

Yolaine sent me the photos of your delivery yesterday again... What a gift!!

A wall (literally) of boxes of brioches, and a lot of boxes of bread (including even cake bread!).

It's a great breakfast that our team in Calais will be able to offer to our exiled friends, to break the routine of bread-jam or bread-mayonnaise...

From those who are going to give, as well as from those who are going to receive!

THANK YOU...



*Message of 21<sup>st</sup> May:*

Thank you very much, dear Buddies, for today's gifts:

really gifts... who for a minute made our exiled friends forget the harshness of their lives:

chocolate-covered cookies filled with gingerbread,

Halloween chocolates representing for example skeletons or eyes... And it didn't seem to scare them, quite the contrary!

Real children who are smiling again, for a moment... and that's no small thing!

From them, and from the Salam team, THANK YOU.

*Message of 27<sup>th</sup> May:*

Thank you again friends for this luxury delivery:

Not only bread and pastries, as usual, but chocolate cookies (and chocolate brings a smile to the faces of the exiles) and half a pallet of jam, a significant saving on our expenses for the week.

From us and theirs...

THANK YOU!

### **FTS with us in Calais and Dunkirk.**

\*On Thursdays they ensure the distribution in Calais,

Thank you to André, Brigitte, Christophe, Danielle, Dominique, Francis, Hervé, Sabine...

\*On Tuesdays, without them, the lunch in Dunkirk would not always be ready in time,

Thank you to Charline, Elisabeth, Hubert, Isabelle, Marianne, Patrick, Véronique...

It's not uncommon for their car to be full of donations, for example on 13<sup>th</sup> May of blankets and clothes.



**The EPIDE team of Doullens** (four young people and their animator) were once again with us to participate in the preparation and distribution of meals on May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**The parish of Wattrelos** with Bernadette and her car full of clothes and blankets on 3<sup>rd</sup> May (see above).

**The Petite Chapelle Notre-Dame des Dunes** has provided us with a new collection of blankets. Thanks to Father Hochart and Eric who is currently in charge of transport.

**The Jardins de Cocagne** brought us surplus vegetables again on 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> May.



Maison Sésame also gave us the benefit of surplus vegetables on the occasion of the passage of their young trainees in Dunkirk.

"Ghyvelde's mutual aid" brought us cups and cutlery on 13<sup>th</sup> May and blankets on 14<sup>th</sup> May.

AND FINALLY THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO GAVE 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 bottles...

Thank you to everyone (close friends and strangers) who slipped us a note, sent a check, made a transfer directly or through Helloassos.

A special thank you

To the organizers of shows who let us benefit from their revenues (see above "Salam goes out of its usual framework").

At the CLUD of Béthune (Committee for the Fight against Pain) which, after its dissolution, divided the rest of its finances between three associations and Salam: we are honored that our actions are recognized as helping to reduce pain...

To the baker of the Calibou de Godewaersvelde who is organising a springboard operation for his apprentice Abou, a young Malian, "La fournée d'Abou": a first day for him of work in total autonomy. Part of the profit will be donated to Salam.



## LA FOURNÉE D'ABOU



Si vous ne le connaissez pas, c'est en partie grâce à Abou que vous mangez du bon pain chaque semaine.

Abou vient du Mali, il est arrivé en France quand il avait 16 ans, il a fait son apprentissage avec Véro et Tibo, et depuis deux ans maintenant il travaille à temps complet au fournil, en partie avec les pains de Paysants et en partie avec du pain décroissant.

Il est de plus en plus efficace, et ça y est il va se lancer pour sa première journée en totale autonomie.

**LE VENDREDI 30 MAI 2025**

Pour marquer l'événement : 20 % des ventes seront reversées à l'association SALAM (Soutenons, Aidons, Luttons, Agissons pour les Migrants et les pays en difficulté).

Je compte sur vous pour lui commander des pains et en parler autour de vous. (**AVANT LE MERCREDI 28 MAI 19H AU CALIBOU 03-28-42-52-62**)

Le retrait des pains se fera uniquement au CaLiBou (1, rue de Boeschèpe - Godewaersvelde)

**A PARTIR DE 16H**



Le Blés Anciens Farine de blés semi-complète, eau, levain, sel de Guérande	500g : 3,20€ 1kg : 6€
Le Multi-Graines Farines de blés et seigle, graines de sésame, lin brun, tournesol et courge, eau, levain, sel de Guérande	500g : 3,20€ 1kg : 6€
Le Météil Farines de blés et seigle (50/50), eau, levain, sel de Guérande	500g : 3,20€ 1kg : 6€
Le pain aux noix Farine de blés, cerneaux de noix, eau, levain, sel de Guérande	500g : 4,70€ 1kg : 9,40€
Le Randonneur Farine de blés, noix, noisettes, figues, raisins, canneberges, eau, levain, sel de Guérande	380g : 5€
Le pain complet Farine de blés semi-complète, son de blé, eau, levain, sel de Guérande	500g : 3,20€ 1kg : 6€
Le petit épeautre Farine de petit-épeautre (engrain), eau, levain d'engrain, sel de Guérande	500g : 5,50€ 1kg : 11€
La baguette apéro Farine de blés, tomates séchées, graines de courge, sésame, huile d'olive, eau, levain, sel de Guérande	380g : 4,50€
Le pain gâteau Farine de blés, lait entier, beurre, œufs, sucre, levain, sel de Guérande	500g nature : 6€ choco ou raisin : 6,50€

**THANK YOU TO BETHLEHEM, ABDELKADER AND THE RENAISSANCE ASSOCIATION, TO FLANDRES TERRE SOLIDAIRE, TO THE PROTESTANT MUTUAL AID, TO THE AUBERGE DES MIGRANTS who share with us the ton of bananas offered by CONHEXA once a week, to EMMAÛS who give us surpluses every week, for Calais as well as for Grande-Synthe, to the Maison Sésame who shares with us two mornings a week the surplus fruit and vegetables from the ALDI store from the rue du Kruysbellaert, to the Ressourcerie de Montreuil sur mer ("Il était deux fois") and to the Secours Catholique de Berck which provide every month clothes brought to Calais by André de Merlimont, to the Audotri association which regularly supports us with donations of clothes and blankets, to the Calais bakeries and those opposite the Noorderover, "La mie du pain" and "Aux pains du Nord" by Coudekerque. Week after week, they are there to help us.**

**THANK YOU** to the HRO, Ben Art'Core, Copains du Monde, Dominique Bommel, Elisa Perrigreur, FTS, Laurent de Lamastre, Utopia 56, who allowed us to publish their photos.

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

**THANK YOU to Michel who has been ensuring the layout of this newsletter**, without fail, for years,

**to Chris** who translates it into English, month after month, for our website,

**to Antoine who has been managing the Facebook Page**, also without fail, since 2017,

**to Guillaume who introduced us to the LinkedIn network** three years ago,

**and Quentin who opened an Instagram account for Salam just a year ago!:**

salam\_calais\_grandesynthe.

*And I ask forgiveness from all those who helped us in one way or another and whom I forgot, or who were forgotten to report to me...*

*Claire Millot.*

### **OUR NEEDS FOR VOLUNTEERS.**

#### **Dunkirk:**

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

Call Claire (06 34 62 68 71).

From outside France 00 33 6 34 62 68 71

#### **Calais:**

Salam continues to distribute improved breakfasts every morning with tea and coffee.

But we are sorely lacking in volunteers, especially volunteers with driving licenses:

Meeting at 7:45 a.m. at the premises, 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 association's work last:

Maintenance of premises and vans, fuel, purchase of missing foodstuffs...



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

BP 47

62100 CALAIS FRANCE

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

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

## **TENTS AND TARPAULINS!**

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

You can also buy tarpaulins, pieces of 3 m by 3 m (or 2.50 m by 3 m). They cost much less and allow an honest man to spend a night in shelter.

**Otherwise, the most pressing needs at both sites:**

BLANKETS (DUVETS, SLEEPING BAGS).

**men's clothing** from XS to XL: underpants, long johns underpants and thermal leggings and thermal sweaters, socks, jogging pants, jeans, shorts, t-shirts,

MEN'S SHOES: trainers or light hiking boots (sizes 40 to 46),

flip/flops, sandals, caps

backpacks,

lamps and batteries,

water packs,

bags (small backpacks, garbage bags, freezer bags, shopping bags and plastic bags)

## **Food for Calais:**

JAM and MAYONNAISE,

Milk

tea and sugar, instant coffee,

cookies (or pastries, or cake bars or pound cakes etc...)

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

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

Especially canned vegetables of all kinds (we receive much less fresh produce for some time),  
bags of pulses, pasta, rice.

Drop off your donations in the Salle Guérin, 1 rue Alphonse Daudet, behind the church of St Jacques on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

## **CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

The membership form for 2025 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 the strength to

<http://www.associationsalam.org>

[salamnordpasdecalais@gmail.com](mailto:salamnordpasdecalais@gmail.com)

Facebook page: SALAM Nord/Pas-de-Calais

The LinkedIn page, which can be consulted 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)

and the Instagram account: [salam\\_calais\\_grandesynthe](#)

Association SALAM  
13 rue des Fontinettes, 62100 CALAIS  
BP 47  
62100 CALAIS

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



## Bulletin d'adhésion 2025

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

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

Adresse \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

Téléphone \_\_\_\_\_

E mail (important pour la convocation à l'AG) \_\_\_\_\_

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

(5 € pour les étudiants et demandeurs d'emploi , adhésion valable jusqu'au 31/12/2025)

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.

"Au regard de la loi n°78-17 du 6 janvier 1978 relative à l'informatique, aux fichiers et aux libertés, l'association s'engage à ne pas utiliser les données à des fins commerciales. Quant à l'adhérent ou donateur, il peut exercer son droit de regard et de rectification concernant ses données personnelles conformément au RGPD en vigueur depuis le 25 mai 2018"