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MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

"What is well conceived is clearly stated,
And the words to say it come easily. »

Dear Boileau (French poet and critic of the 18th Century), having read your works
we must sadly note:

The political parties have not grasped the importance of the next European elections.
Propose a clear and simple electoral platform:

- A common economic proposal at the service of the most disadvantaged
- A programmed and shared development for all nations
- A generous policy of aid to countries in difficulty
- A close look at disasters linked to climate change
- Unfailing solidarity for the reception of exiles fleeing wars, attacks, famines, etc.
- A working committee will be set up for the next decade

Without having developed such well-designed platforms, obviously the political parties could not
clearly state their program!

Worse!

Gesticulating, looking for parasites in the neighbour's house, ignoring the intelligence of all citizens,
this is the sad spectacle offered in the guise of an electoral campaign!

Yes, dear Boileau!

"What is well conceived is clearly stated,
And the words to say it come easily. »

Jean-Claude Lenoir.

THE DEATHS.

Another month marked by a death...

The costs become unbearable...

On 6th May, we learned from the press that on Saturday 4 May a body was found in Dunkirk in the Bourbourg canal: probably an exile in his forties...

The next day took place at 6:30 p.m., in the Richelieu Park in Calais, the traditional commemoration, in solidarity with loved ones, known or unknown, and against the murderous policies at the borders.

On the same day (6th May) the funeral of little Sara who died on 25th April took place at the cemetery of Lille Sud (*see our April issue of this newsletter*).

Salam was represented; There were about 70 people, lots of flowers and photos of the little one and the family.

A moment of exchange with the family then took place, for those who wished, at the Maison d'Entraide et de Ressources of Secours Catholique in Calais.

On 2nd May, a tribute was organized in Wimereux to the people who died on 23rd April.



TO GO TO THE UNITED KINGDOM OR NOT?

Of course, if our friends are here, it's to cross the Channel... The Home Office figures show it: 2,881 between 1st and 31st May on 58 boats (generally between 49 and 50 people per boat, but this is an average: on 9th May it is announced that 211 people will pass on 3 boats, i.e. more than 70 people on each... What if one of them had sunk?)

More than 10,000 migrants have already crossed the sea in 2024, according to the same source (35% more compared to the same period in 2023).

This figure should not be taken as an exact reference: not all of them are counted.

On 12th and 17th May, the team distributing breakfast in Calais learned, from their friends (and some directly on the phone), that a good number of young Sudanese had arrived by truck. On 18th May we learned that the twenty or so women staying with a citizen host had crossed into England, but most of them by truck.

So there were well over 2,800 visits!

Some also disappeared from Calais because they gave up (at least temporarily) the crossing, for fear of deportation to Rwanda. The HRO told us on 14th May that a certain number had left for Paris for this reason; on the 20th and 24th, it was exiles, still in Calais, who told that many had fled to Belgium, Germany, Holland or also Paris... Indeed, a new "Rwanda security" law was voted on 23rd April in the United Kingdom, which allows people who have arrived since January 2022 without a valid visa to leave for this country. (*cf. the article in "La Croix" of 25th April 2024, available on our website in the section "We read, we saw" on 15th May*). Much more than the risks of crossing by sea, this is what seems to frighten them, when they talk to us in the distribution queues... The language barrier is not an obstacle when big burly men show us the sky with an anxious look and repeat "Rwanda..." Rwanda... »

It is certain, in any case, that the number of food distributions in Salam decreased significantly during the month. From 748 cups given to Calais on 1st May (we had a big bill for bread that morning), we went to about 400 from the 5th May, to 300 from the 11th May and below 200 from the 20th May. From 300 spoons given on 1st May near Dunkirk, we fell below 150 on 24th and 25th May 24.

On both poles, there has been a slight increase in some days since then, as this general trend is nuanced by unpredictable arrivals: word of mouth is circulating that crossings to England are easy at the moment. While some are fleeing, others are arriving: on 14th May we saw in Calais a whole group of newcomers, suitcase in hand and beautiful polished shoes on their feet... What happens to them when they miss the passage? We continue to ask ourselves the question... Few seem to settle in our camps...

THE AUTHORITIES ARE DOING THEIR UTMOST TO PREVENT BOARDING.

Of course, we don't want to help them risk their lives on the water... But what sense does it make to force them to stay when at the same time they are being chased everywhere?



Since 21st February, a new ship has been monitoring migrant boats crossing the Channel in the Calais sector: on the website of "Mer et marine", on 23rd February, we read an article by Vincent Groizeleau:

"SeaOwl: the Minck, ex-Apollo Moon, relaunched in Boulogne.

After a period in dry dock and a complete refit at Socarenam, the ex-Apollo Moon, one of the two rescue ships made available to the State by the French company SeaOwl, was relaunched in Boulogne.

After an overhaul and a change of livery, the ship, which is now called "Minck" and flies the French flag, will be able to resume its alerts in the Strait of Pas-de-Calais, where migrant attempts to cross are still very numerous. »

In the photo, on 4th May: "The Minck waiting for movement".

Above all, even if the traces of departure from the beaches are still visible (the photo below was taken on 10th May on the edge of the Channel, at the "Cran du Poulet")...



... The police remain very tough in preventing departures... on the beaches and in train stations.

On 25th May, the Salam team met an exhausted family behind the PASS (the parents and two little ones in a buggy). The police had prevented them from accessing the sea... They left to try again the same evening.

Another family spent the night of 25th to 26th May outside, at the Calais train station without food and without blankets, until Salam found a hotel at the end of the morning that would accept them, so that they could sit down, sleep and wash...

A word from Jean-Claude Lenoir, president of Salam, sent in a press release on 27th May, underlines the brutality of the methods:

THE TRUTH COMES OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF THE POLICE!!!!

It is a police officer who says it, and not just any policeman: M.A., a permanent union delegate in Calais.

He reports the face-to-face encounter of his colleagues with migrants, face to face which would be the cause of the petrol throwing of which they were victims.

M.A. specifies that his colleagues run a kilometre to intercept a group trying to go to sea. They then had to use "tear gas grenades... They were able to neutralize the boat with a knife."

These are the methods that we have been denouncing for years! FINALLY, and certainly clumsily, a police officer, in this case M.A., a permanent union delegate, confirms this.

Always astounding to see the lack of reactions, especially from the media and politicians!

Jean-Claude Lenoir, president of the Salam Nord/Pas-de-Calais association

"French police, good!", it's over... We don't hear that comment about our camps anymore.

On 1st May, 200 people were stuck at Wimereux station. On the same day, 250 were blocked at Calais station. The Salam team, alerted, diverted to bring them breakfast.

Harassment intensified during the dismantling.

Not in the rhythm: only on 2nd, 17th and 28th May in Dunkirk, every other day in Calais (but six times three days apart, and two days in a row on 23rd /24th and 30th /31st May) so thirteen times in the month. Since 2018, we have been told that there must be an operation every two days as part of the law on the "illegal occupation of private land" which protects squatters after 48 hours of installation somewhere. On 14th May in Marck, the head of the operation explained: "The flagrante delicto lasts as long as there are acts that are done to make the flagrante delicto last... then "Complaints and procedures make the procedure continue in flagrante delicto. We are all well and good, but if the rhythm of "one evacuation every 48 hours" is not so imperative, why, for the past six years, have we not given people a break when everyone recognizes that they are not delinquents?...

PRECARIOUSNESS:

On the Calais side, it is above all these incessant trips, every other or three days, that bring permanent stress. You must be there, you have to leave nothing you care about, or else you will lose everything... In Dunkirk, fundamental rights continue to be severely flouted. Since 18th December, contact had been established with the Urban Community of Dunkirk and in the last days of December 2023 we had obtained a water bridge connected to the network and a large garbage truck.

At the meeting on 19th April, it seemed certain that there would be three or four water points at the beginning of May and a negotiation with the state services for transporting people to the shower (currently the responsibility of the associations). But no further contact could be made.
The lack of water was particularly crucial at the beginning of the month when Roots' vehicle broke down: the one that pulls the supply tank from the water containers...
Even the dumpster has not been raised on 28th May since at least 19th May, despite several request messages. What happened?
(On the afternoon of 29th May, at last, the skip was changed and the surroundings cleaned!)

Morale is not good... On 12th May, the Calais team received stuffed toy animals to give to the little ones. But children are rare in the area. It was the young adults who rushed to them with enthusiasm to find a little comfort by hugging them...
We feel helpless...

ENGLAND STILL SEEMS TO BE THE ONLY SOLUTION FOR EXILES.

Most of those who are waiting for passage know that they do not have the right to be welcomed in France, within the framework of the law: they have already been denied asylum in Europe or they have to submit their application in another European country, the one where they first gave the police their fingerprints. They are said to be "Dublinated", the name of this regulation drawn up in Dublin in 2003 for the first time.

And if they think they have a chance of obtaining refugee status in France?

From our camps, the normal procedure is to go through a CAES (Centre d'Accueil et d'Evaluation de Situation) where they can leave by boarding a bus in Calais or Dunkirk.

However, there are no buses on weekends and public holidays (in May this eliminates many possibilities) and far too often there are no places in CAES or no places for all volunteers (on 7th May, for example in Calais, only families, women and children were accepted; on the 27th too, many single men were left behind).

The response to these applications is not always understandable: on 12th May, we learned of the passage to the United Kingdom of an Afghan who had worked in his country for the French army and whose wife and children were stranded in Iran... He had just learned that he had been summoned to Paris... What for? A successful passage to England allows him to no longer ask himself the question... But how will it be received on the other side of the Channel, with the new legal measures?

But what to do when you have to choose between such a dangerous crossing to such an uncertain fate in Great Britain and staying in a miserable, unsanitary camp on the French coast, from which you are regularly chased away by the police...

THE HORROR OF DISMANTLING.

The same scenario is repeated. "You don't have the impression that it's always the same thing," says one of my friends, a loyal reader of this newsletter, a little embarrassed...

If, of course, that's what's terrible...

*the amount of police involved (and paid for by our taxes):

In photos, in Calais: the convoy of 21st May and the troop of police officers on the 24th.





*interventions in all weathers: rain and fog:
In photos, a policeman on a BMX bike in Calais on 6th May, sticky with rain and – fortunately we trust them – a backhoe loader "seen" by the HRO on 17th May at 8:35 a.m. on Loon-Plage.



*weapons to intimidate exiles as well as associations:
A gassed (3rd May in BMX) – a baton (3rd May in BMX) – a heavy weapon (17th May in Dunkirk):



Behind the PASS, on 27th May, the HRO was escorted off the site by four police officers, one with a shield and one with a baton in his hand. Four exiles from Loon-Plage were evacuated on 17th May, supervised by two men and a van from the National Police.

*the systematic displacement of everything that everyone wants to save,





*the collection of everything that is left, what remains useful, of course. The photos show what the so-called "clean-up" teams leave behind after their passage: on 17th May on the Dunkirk side and on the 23rd in Calais:

On 14th May in Marck, the HRO asked what had become of these tarpaulins (ten had just been seized): the head of the operation replied: "It's recycled". On 27th May (9:35 a.m. rue de Judée), a policeman went even further: the tents collected went to the garbage dump, he said. We never hear about the possibility of recovery at the Ressourcerie again.

* the forces of law and order who cannot ignore the fact that those who illegally occupy the land are resettled, since they are the ones who invite them to do so, sometimes with a simple gesture::



When everything is collected in this way, the exiles lack everything, the associations lack equipment, tents in particular, and we compensate as best we can: on 16th May, garbage bags are used as rain ponchos during a particularly wet distribution on the Dunkirk side...



*the little pettiness of those who have the strength on their side: On 21st May at the BMX, a man tries to escape, he is chased, caught and has his head slammed against the police van and handcuffed (the screenshots are bad but the scene is filmed from start to finish by the Human Rights Observers.)



An exile asks to collect his belongings because he has been wearing shorts, flip-flops and a T-shirt since the beginning of the operation. The CRS refused by signs.

Then, behind the PASS: The Human Rights Observer sees a major of the National Police forcing an exile to move in the flooded area.

And in addition:

A treasure hunt was recently set up in Calais: on 16th May The Human Rights Observers missed most of the operations: the convoy did not leave the police station as usual (what else can we imagine except that they wanted to leave the Human Rights Observers behind?)

On 24th May, traffic was blocked by roadworks, and the police convoy "turned around on the motorway", the Human Rights Observers said. Probably not quite, but what urgency is there to chase poor devils from their shelters? The fact remains that the HRO takes 50 minutes to find them (from 10:10 a.m. to 11:02 a.m.). On the 31st, a dismantling of the Amazon site also almost went unnoticed: once again, there was no convoy formed at the police station, and it was in the evening that a volunteer from Salam said that she had been blocked on the highway (closed for a while for a big evacuation in the Amazon area). And indeed, another member of the team had seen a PAF van passing by taking exiles (presumably arrests). The exiles of the area confirmed this the next day to another association.



The security perimeters are increasingly wide and make observations impossible ("for the safety of our teams, the migrant teams, yours..." »)

On 23rd May, on the Amazon site, this perimeter is 300m from operations, says the HRO. However, on 14th May, at the BMX, a city van passed the perimeter. "Because they work!" justifies the policeman. We are happy to hear that work protects against all dangers... On 27th May, a policeman affirmed on rue de Judée that this perimeter was valid for everyone, but at the time he said so, we could clearly see a cyclist in sports clothes crossing it quietly.

A little later, at the Fermette, we enter a Kafka novel: The Human Rights Observers discusses with the police: They have understood that they cannot enter private land.

"If you would like to explain to me where the entrance is," asks a volunteer.

- You ask for the plans and you will have the exact boundaries of the land... I will not answer your questions again. »

Seriously, we continue to wonder what there can be to hide so that not only is it forbidden to access the evacuated sites (certainly the police must have the serenity to work) but also forbidden to see from afar! What must be the bad conscience of the man who, on 24th May, voluntarily puts himself (he assumes it) between the phone of the Human Rights Observers who is filming and the pile of tents that are being swept away...

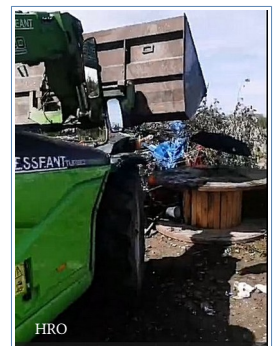


In Dunkirk, the evacuations were fewer in number (three during the month of May, on the 2nd, 17th and 28th May) but more radical. The declared legal basis is not flagrante delicto but sheltering at the request of the prosecutor (which it was not possible to see this month) with the presence of a bailiff and even the sub-prefect on 2nd May. Buses are there but at least without obligation to leave: at least six in the one leaving the southern zone and three in the northern zone on the 17th, about 80 on 28th May. "If they want to leave, we let them go," one police officer can be heard saying in an HRO video from 11:06 a.m. on 28th May. When the AFEJI bus leaves at 11:25 a.m., it seems quite full...



... and he is immediately replaced by another, and then another.

Evacuation equipment is important: large skip and backhoe loader. In photos, their arrival on 28th May and the backhoe loader in action on May 17.



But what is the goal?

Since the installation of the dumpster and the water point in the area north of the D 601 at the end of December, we had the feeling that everything was being done to bring the camps back to this sector, from which they had been chased on 4th and 5th May, 2023 (exactly one year ago!) ...

This seems to be confirmed by the fact that the distribution location that had been allocated to us in October by the sub-prefecture in the southern zone has been forbidden to us, without any possible discussion and without replacement, since the beginning of the month (*see the April issue of this newsletter*).

Indeed, on the 28th May, the evening after the evacuation, we found only one man (and a cat!) in the southern zone. On the other hand, severe deforestation has taken place.





But on 17th and 28th May, a major dismantling took place on both sides of the D 601.

What is supposed to become of these people, tossed from one place to another, who are prevented from settling somewhere, while at the same time they are prevented, with the same violence, from leaving the France for England?...

The evacuation of the Amazon site in Calais (rue de Judée) on May 23rd is on the same model (exceptional in Calais): It is not a usual dismantling, on the basis of flagrante delicto, but what they call a "sheltering" with a bus and requisition from the Prosecutor.

According to a police officer, the sub-prefect and the police commissioner were present.

The operation lasts less than an hour: from 9:30 a.m. to 10:23 a.m.

After the convoy leaves, everything is destroyed and many personal belongings are left behind.

It seems that the goal is to completely remove this site, as on Loon-Plage to completely remove the camps to the south of the D 601. This is not the first time that sites have been completely cleared; then, either they reform in the same place (like in BMX) or they move.

SMALL MOMENTS OF GRACE HOWEVER: THERE REMAIN, ON THESE CAMPS, SOME HINTS OF SMILING HUMANITY:

Human cleaning teams:

On the same day in two places (we will not give the date or the place so as not to put in trouble those who cheated a little), the cleaning team helped a person with a crutch to pick up his belongings and a little further on did not take the tent of a family of five children; the neighbours told them that they were in the hospital.



the carelessness of the youth, during the evacuations:

Three small children are riding scooters along the main street of Petit Courghain on BMX on 14th May.

On the side of the road to Mardyck, on 17th May, the adults are happily playing football.

The work of the Roots association to mitigate the horror of the lack of water in the Dunkirk camps:

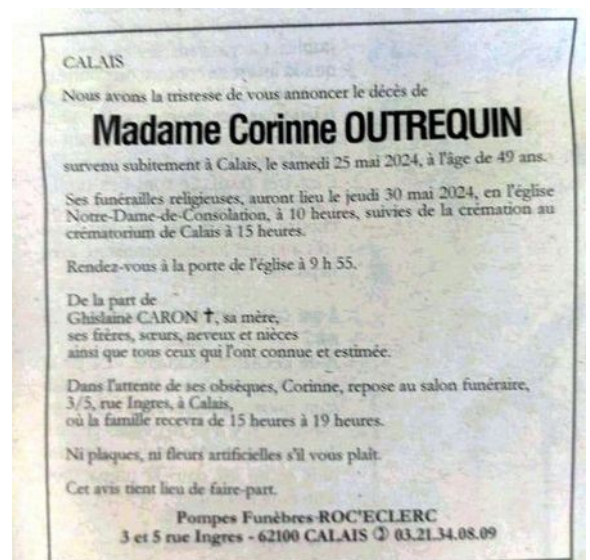
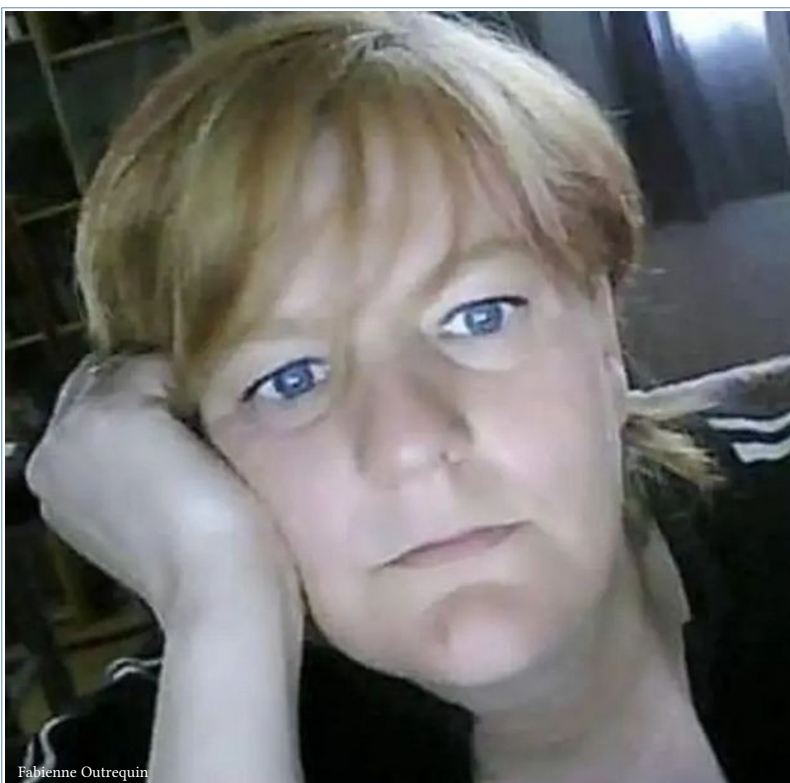
Fortunately, Roots is there to compensate as best as possible for the shortcomings. They are the ones who repair and maintain the access to water (with authorization from the CUD), they are the ones who installed two homemade shower cubicles (as just before and just after the move of the camp to Loon-Plage in December 2021).



Congratulations and thank you to them.

Claire Millot

SALAM IS IN MOURNING



Corinne has left us.

A volunteer from the very beginning, Corinne was a faithful Salam supporter until the end.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**SALAM: ANNUAL STATUTORY GENERAL MEETING, 13 MAY 2024.
Calais Youth Hostel.**

Jean-Claude Lenoir, President, opened the meeting.

He points out those who have been excused, including the ladies of Boulogne, who were only missing one driver...

He thanks:

Christian Hogard, who is always present, often anticipates needs, with the Scouts, the Copains du Monde...

Emmaus (Emmaus France, the communities of Echinghem, Grande-Synthe, etc.)

The Bethlehem Association,

Aftha and "Help me" from Pontoise,

Flandre Terre Solidaire, our historical friends from Bailleul,

The bakeries of Calais and Dunkirk.

He asks for ten seconds of silence,

in memory of the unacceptable and considerable number of deaths: deaths at sea, on the road or following misfortunes due to too much precariousness.

Why don't these deaths manage to make our authorities react differently?

For Salam, 2023 has been a complex year....

For the rest of the Report, please refer to our website www.associationsalam.org (under the heading "news" as of 15 May 2024).

THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE DARIUS MILHAUD COLLEGE IN SARTROUVILLE AND THEIR WORKS.

It has been four years since we formed a partnership with the students of this college, and with their teacher Anne-Catherine Mourgue.

In February, it was the 3rd 2 class that wrote and drew once again to the sound of Bélinda's harp.

In our March issue we published a first third, a second in the April issue and here is the last one that calls for help for the exiles...

These young people are doing it in person (see their collection in the thank you section below).

There are again students who present their achievement, in its context, during the oral presentation of the certificate. The importance they attach to it is a great happiness for us...

Thank you to them and their teacher.

I would like migrants to have an easier time
and that they have help for housing, food.
But I hope that by then we will find a place for them
where they can eat, shower, sleep comfortably
have fun, and that they can live in comfortable conditions.

Erwan

FOR A BETTER WORLD,

In the ocean they swam,
To flee misery and poverty
They even risked their lives
Only to be unwelcome in the end

Being an immigrant myself
Who has ever faced poverty
I wish these kids had a place to go
That they have a good life and something to eat

Wanting a better future should not be punished
Because only those who have experienced it know what it is like to
leave your family
For me, my parents did everything, they educated me well
They taught me that no matter who needs me, I will have to help them
They have seen what no one wants to see
We should help them in this desperation
They have experienced what no one wants to experience
We should encourage them to stand firm and keep going

Helena

I think that states should let migrants go to their countries because they are the ones who do the hardest jobs; The jobs that no French person wants to do. We have to help them as they help us when we live in their country. They are so respectful to us and we are ungrateful to them. I feel anger and sadness towards them and sorrow. Our duty at the moment is to be able to help them cross the borders; We can make fundraisers for them. Instead of helping them when they are at war, you insult and belittle them when they only want to help us.

Peace for Africa

Moussa

For various reasons

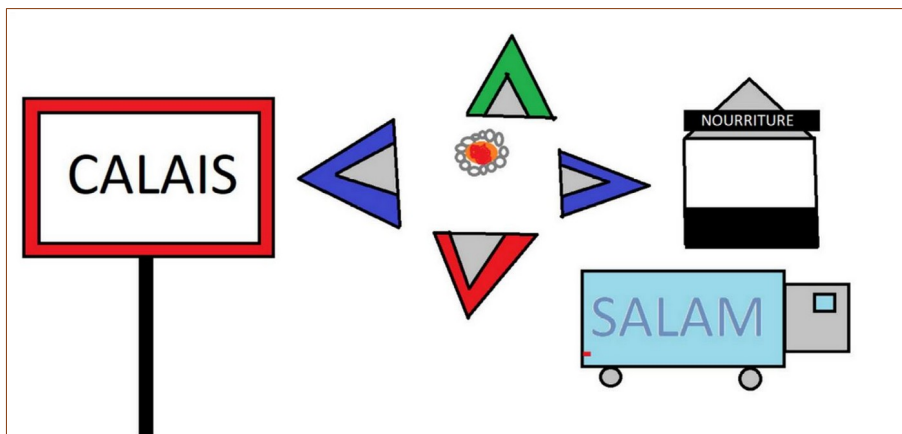
Migrants leave their countries of origin
For another finding himself separated from
everything
Including their culture to which they belong
But also friends and family above all

Once they arrived in the country they wanted
They start all over again
Some people chase them away
While others help them

Migrants are sidelined
Population to avoid
Let them go back into the homes

There are places to receive them
Let them hold on
The world may change

DYLAN



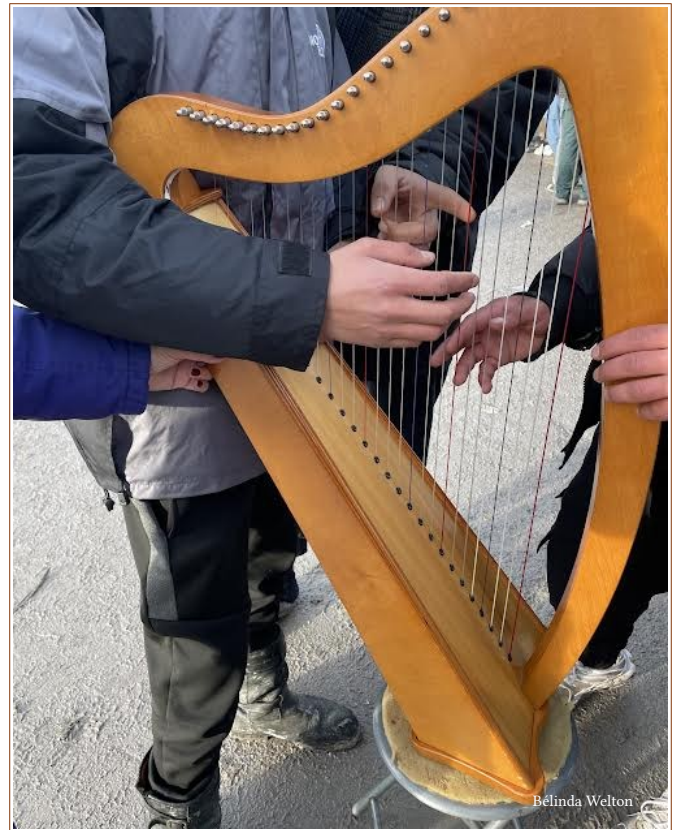
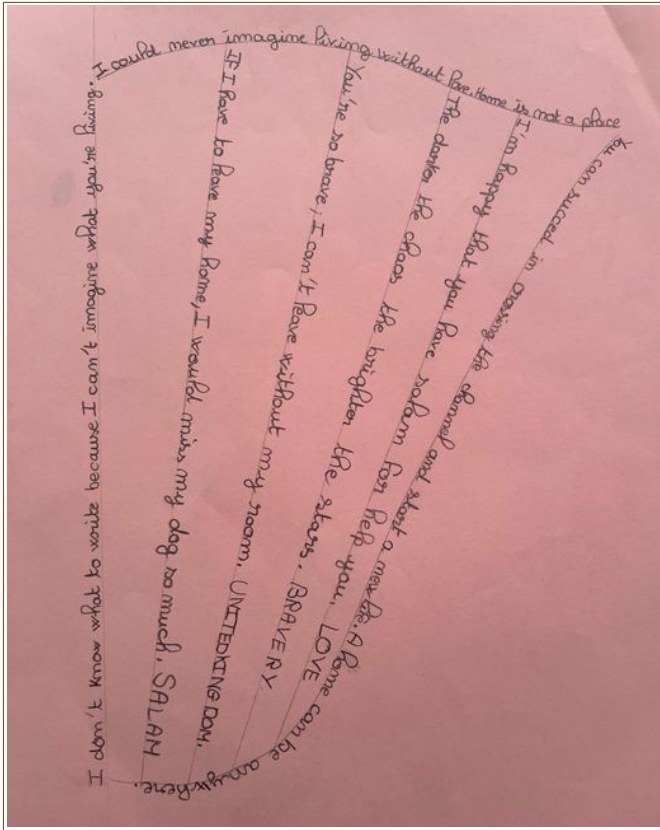
Enzo



Geneviève Cresson

We finish with the nice representation of our distribution van...

... and by this superb calligram by Chloé, in English, which evokes the harp of Bélinda.



I don't know what to write because I can't imagine what you're living.

I could never imagine living without love. Home is not a place.

You can succeed in crossing the Channel and start a new life. A home can be anywhere.

I'm happy that you have Salam to help you . LOVE

The darker the chaos, the brighter the stars. BRAVERY

You are so brave. I can't live without my room. UNITED KINGDOM

If I have to leave my home I would miss my dog so much. SALAM

The author send us too the translation

« Je ne sais quoi écrire car je ne peux pas imaginer ce que vous traversez. Je ne pourrais jamais imaginer vivre sans amour. Chez soi n'est pas un endroit. Vous réussirez à traverser la Manche et à débiter une nouvelle vie. Un chez soi, ça peut être n'importe où. Je suis heureuse que Salam soit là pour vous aider. AMOUR Plus le chaos est sombre, plus les étoiles brillent. COURAGE Vous êtes si courageux, je ne pourrais pas m'imaginer vivre sans ma chambre. ROYAUME-UNI Si je devais partir de chez moi, mon chien me manquerait tellement. SALAM »

THANK YOU

**THANK YOU AND CONGRATULATIONS FIRST OF ALL TO ALL OF US VOLUNTEERS FOR THE TROUBLE WE GIVE OURSELVES,
Week after week, in effort (always), stress (sometimes), anger (it happens), but so often also in happiness..**

Witness this,

A little note received from Jean-François, on the evening of the distribution on 4th May:

"It was a great day, even if it was a little complicated to find the right distribution points, I think the team worked well, between mutual aid and kindness.

I'm not going to surprise you, but I think back to the people who said thank you at least five times, just because we gave them a few bottles of water...

What kind of world do we live in, people who are mistreated enough, to give thanks for a basic need? »

Quentin's photos, taken on 25th May, with the movements and colours of our work:

(Quentin took these photos for the Instagram account he opened for SALAM on May 14, the day after the Annual General Meeting: [salam_calais_grandesynthe](#)). Thank you Quentin!



**The smile of this very pretty little girl
delighted to be photographed, near Dunkirk, on
14th May...**

THANK YOU TO THE YOUNG (AND NOT SO YOUNG) PASSING BY:

- Aurelian, from Germany, on a training camp in Calais from 20th April to 18th May.
- Jeanne, staying at the Maison Sésame, who came to help us two Thursdays in a row (16th and 23rd May).
- The four students (Héloïse, Elise, Alanis and Alexane) will be involved in the Dunkirk team for a fortnight from 18th May. They want to make a documentary on the contribution of culture in the camps with a focus on women. For their first contact, they discovered the reality of the field, an essential step.
- Louis, who came from Brittany, was passing through Dunkirk, who reinforced our preparations and end-of-month distributions.
- Alain and J François, who responded to the distress call for the distribution on 4th May in Dunkirk, even though they do not live nearby (one in Calais, the other in the mining basin).

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HAVE BECOME REGULARS:

The FTS team, regular on our two sites.

Special mention for Hubert's trip to Calais, with the van, to pick up the order for 23 boxes of trays (which we hope will last six months).

Ghislaine and I had great pleasure in participating in their general assembly at Jean-Paul's, near Bailleul, on 3rd May.

Thank you to our friends Aboubacar, Amara, Jacky, Oland, Karha, Kniaz, the two Lamine, Mirandadukhti, Mory, Moussa, Oumar... present three times a week in pairs or three to help us, since February.

THANK YOU TO THE TECHNICIANS (HENRI AND JEAN-PIERRE) who replaced the pump that was definitively out of order in the basement of the Guérin room: at the last heavy downpour it was impossible to move downstairs without your pair of boots... Fortunately, we are used to putting everything out of the water on pallets or cinder blocks!

Special mention to Jean-Pierre for the creation of a small bench that makes access to the truck easier, for Ghislaine and all the (more or less) old ladies of the team. He even made one for one of our protégés, who has been a regular at our camps for a long time and fell in admiration of the prototype.



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

Textiles:

- * Anne (a friend of Annie's) who brought a large bag of sneakers, rather large, collected from a gym.
- * on 9th May, Mr. D. who brought clothes and some blankets.
- * on the 18th: Nicole and Pierre who have deposited blankets and various things.
- * on 30th May, Marie France who brought blankets.
- * on the same day, two gentlemen of "Our Lady of Peace" who came with various clothes.
- * the church of Bergues, which has never stopped the collections started in Lent more than a year ago. This month, seven large bags arrived following a death.

*the collection of the young poets of Sartrouville (*see the article above*).



Claire Millot



Anne-Catherine Mourgue

Equipment:

***the trunk full of Peter Pans** brought by Guy and Régine from Lille.

***the small soaps and moisturizers** given once again by Marie-Ange D. in Calais.

***Stunning cabinets, gift from FTS.**

Hubert brought two of them in his trailer on 16th May. Three more will follow.

And everything, a little or a lot:

***Sandrine and Philippe from Maisons-Laffite**, who came by on 7th May to give Claudine clothes, clothes, shoes... and containers.



Pascaline Delaby



Pascaline Delaby



Pascaline Delaby

* **Ludovic from Belgium**, who arrived on 11th May with a full load of gifts: large bags of clothes, pasta, milk cartons and soup cartons, cans of peeled tomatoes and some tuna rice salads.



Pascaline Delaby

*the volunteer from Boulogne who entrusted Pascaline with a nice quantity of hand sanitizer.



Pascaline Delaby

***Brigitte and Jean-Noël**: after trying to meet a team for several days in a row, they deposited on the steps of the staircase on 13th May: 5 kg of shelled nuts, clothes, cans of vegetables, pasta...

***Jean-Guillaume from Reims** who has accustomed us to his surprise cards, received by Mondial Relay. This time, they had to be tracked from relay to relay, according to the closures of shops for the May long weekends! We won the race against time on 12th May. Thank you Jean-Guillaume!

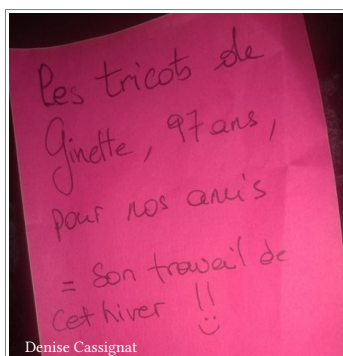
*the donations received by Denise on 14th May, including the hats knitted by Ginette (97 years old!).



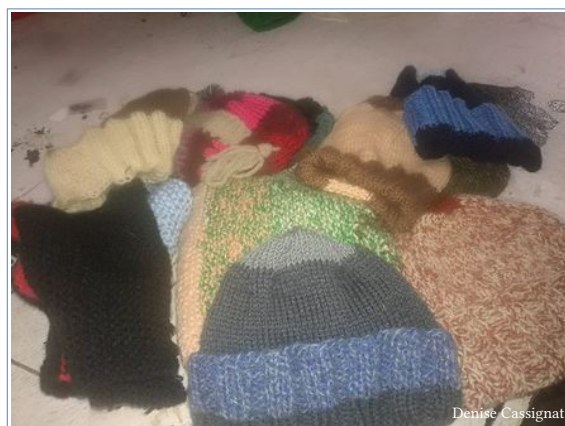
Denise Cassignat



Denise Cassignat



Denise Cassignat



Denise Cassignat

Friends of Florence, volunteer in Calais:

Below is the text of the thank you email:

« ... Cookies... toothbrushes... chocolate... Toothpastes... shower gels... Mackerel... tissues... sardines...

Yolaine listed and I didn't manage to write everything....

And besides, she told me, it wasn't your first collection...

Thank you to you, who, after a visit to Calais, understood the importance of the needs of those who survive in miserable camps.

Thanks to Luc and Michel who provided the transport.

Thank you Florence for bringing you. »



Virginie



**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...
FOR FOODSTUFFS:**

*The team from the City of Grande-Synthe, who had cooked at the Palais du Littoral on 1st May . The next day, she offered us the meat cooked from the day before and kept in the fridge, plus other trays of leftovers (red beets, tabbouleh, rice salad...)

*the one that had surpluses at the Stade de France in Dunkirk after an event on the Pentecost weekend. For the surpluses on Saturday, we put them in contact with the ADRA, which gave the meal on the 18th, and the person in charge came to us on Tuesday lunchtime with the leftovers on Monday.

THANK YOU TO THE CARREFOUR DES SOLIDARITÉS, historical partner of Salam.

After its dissolution, which we regret very much, they emptied their premises.

Martine, the last president, thought of us. José went to get bottles of mineral water and came back with, in addition, a folding bed, four pretty chairs, a small stove, clothes... and a lot of things so useful to someone who lives outside with nothing...

Thank you to Secours Populaire/Copains du Monde: to Christian Hogard, Caroline and their team, in particular Bruno and Evelyne, for the repeated donations in bakeries for the Calais breakfasts. Below are the thank you emails sent on behalf of the entire Salam team:

*15th May:

"We are in France,

in France with bread we eat cheese,

this is why our friends from Secours Populaire/Copains du Monde, after having brought bread to Calais last week, did it again yesterday by adding... cheese! (and the most French of cheeses: Camembert!)

Thank you very much to you for this new donation which relieves Yolaine and her team so much, they who often have little other than bread to give for breakfast in addition to the hot drink...

The response, by return email, from our president was: "Yes, very big thank you!!"

*23rd May:

"A big thank you once again to you, our Copains du Monde, our historical friends of the Secours Populaire, for the repeated donations of the last few days, on May 16, 17 and 18:

Bread, pastries and compotes, everything that, added to our hot drinks, ensures a real breakfast, even for people who survive outside. »

*25th May:

"A new big thank you to the Copains du Monde / Secours Populaire for last night's delivery:

once again, fresh bread, sandwich bread and pastries arrived at our Calais premises.

They enriched the breakfast delivered this morning to our friends in the camps. »

*28th May:

"Once generous, always generous..."

Bread and pastries two days ago...

Bread and pastries last night...

From bread and pastries to Calais breakfasts...

What more could you wish for? »

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 all those (close friends and strangers) who slipped us a note, sent a check, made a transfer directly or through Helloasso.

This month, we had an email on 7th May: " Romeo, member of the late Casual Gabberz Records, Parisian hardcore music label: we have collected money with our latest compilation that we would like to give you." and Romeo asks for a bank account, immediately followed by a payment.

They also offered us the opportunity to leave a trace on their social networks: a platform to present our action and our demands. No sooner proposed, no sooner done!

And a nice donation also from **the Sisters of Divine Providence** of SAINT JEAN DE BASSEL for our two sites...

... and one of **"BROC ET TROC SOLIDAIRES"** by Le Mesnil Le Roi.

Thank you to these generous donors!

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 each month clothes brought to Calais by André de Merlimont, to the COMORIAN LADY, to the Calais bakeries and to those opposite the Noordover, "La mie du pain" and "Aux pains du Nord" of Coudekerque. Week after week, they are there to help us.

Thanks to the HRO and Tom from Roots, 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 about 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 more than two years ago, and Quentin who has just opened an Instagram account for Salam (salam_calais_grandesynthe).

And I ask forgiveness from all those who helped 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
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

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 laws)

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 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. From outside France 00 33 6 83.16.31.61

And for Grande-Synthe:

Especially canned vegetables of all kinds (we have been getting a lot less fresh vegetables lately),
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 2024 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 the union! We were more than 250 members in 2023, help us to exceed the 300 threshold.

CONTACTEZ NOUS

<http://www.associationsalam.org>

salamnordpasdecalais@gmail.com

Facebook page: SALAM Nord/Pas-de-Calais

The LinkedIn page, which can be consulted at the following link :

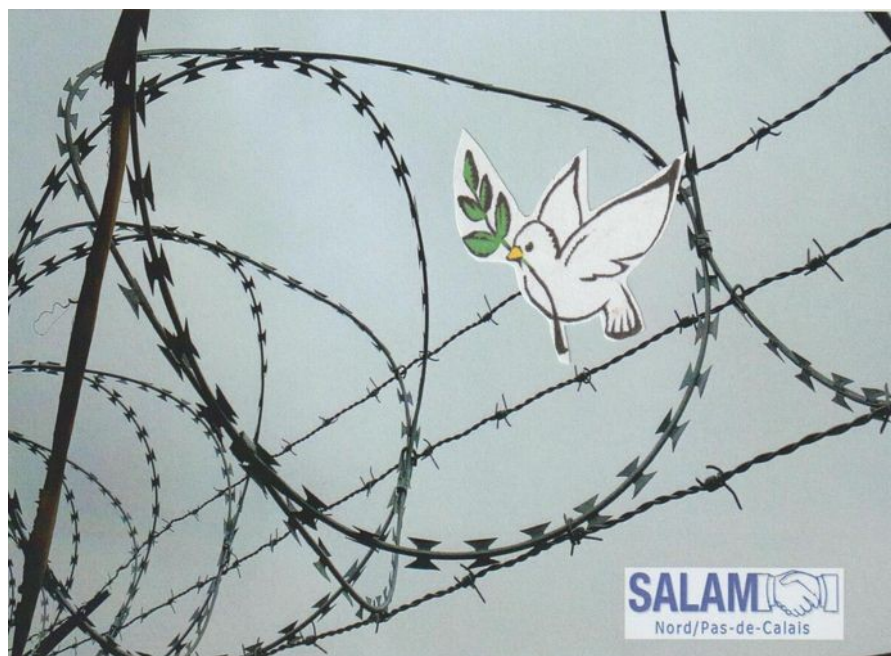
www.linkedin.com/in/association-salam-nord-pas-de-calais

and the brand new Instagram account: [salam_calais_grandesynthe](#)

Association SALAM
BP 47
62100 CALAIS

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

Bulletin d'adhésion 2024



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 31/12/2024)

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.