

SALAM



SOUTENONS, AIDONS, LUTTONS, AGISSONS
POUR LES MIGRANTS ET LES PAYS EN DIFFICULTE

www.associationsalam.org

Photo © François Legéat

NEWSLETTER DE DÉCEMBRE 2022

BONNE ANNÉE 2023



A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Janou is gone
Discreetly as usual
A life of commitment to precariousness
Good mood
And character
Efficiency was his passport
One a sacred generation!
Janou has inspired several generations
We thank you.

Jean-Claude Lenoir

LAST MINUTE:

One death too many: on the morning of January 3, in Calais, a desperate young Sudanese man threw himself under a train in front of Salam's team who had just given him breakfast.

A word from the President:

A gesture guided by despair
A cry for help for all his companions
Will the authorities ever understand?
Their lives are appalling!
Will 2023 finally bring a glimmer of hope?

Jean-Claude Lenoir.

4 Deaths... in a new shipwreck, the night of December 13 to 14...

- Four? It's not much, our six-year-old daughter told us, who is starting to know how to count...
- Really... What if it's Daddy?
- Ahhhhh... That's a lot, a lot... she shouts.

She understood: four dead is not only four people, it is also maybe four little girls or little boys, and anyway four dads and four moms, and four families and groups of friends. It ends up making people...

Another thing to remember: if you plan to drown, be careful that it is not a World Cup match day where the France is engaged...

This disaster went almost unnoticed...

... except in the associations, which as always gathered for a commemoration on December 15 at the Parc Richelieu in Calais.



Jean-Claude Lenoir

In addition, it happened in English waters, unlike last year's shipwreck. The information on the place of departure of the boat, on the origin of the castaways (country and camp of departure) have not been communicated to us ... whereas these people had just left France. Some of us inevitably crossed paths with them, rubbed shoulders, created a link with them...

Despite the cold, the attempts at passage do not stop.

The year 2022 ends with a number of successful passages double that of 2021.

On December 10, the Salam team gives breakfast to three Iranians who have missed three passages in three weeks and who will try their luck again the same evening...

Despair settles in the hearts of some:

This morning a young Syrian told me...
I AM SO TIRED... (*I'm so tired*)
I LOSE HOPE... *I*
THINK I WILL DIE HERE. (*I*
TRY EVERY NIGHT BUT NO CHANGE... TO MANY POLICE. (*I try every night but no luck... too many police.*)
It melted my heart and I said not to lose hope. . not so close to its destination now.
But it also filled me with anger...
Against our inhumane policy that shatters the last hopes.

Ferri Matheeuwsen, Calais, 30 novembre 2022.

Deep down, we feel responsible...

Like last year, even more than last year, we knew it was coming.

Ferri, just a fortnight before, wrote

4am.
I hear the call of the boats Fog at sea.
I'm scared.
Because I know, somewhere between this coast and the UK there are small boats that are overloaded and find themselves on an icy sea.
Taking too many risks to leave the hell of Calais...
Where harassment and non-assistance to the person who is not vulnerable has become a daily life.
This non-human policy kills.
It kills hopes... dreams... and the lives of women, children and men...

EUROPE KILLS! Here and today.

Ferri Matheeuwsen, Calais, 30 novembre 2022.

We hear our president, Jean-Claude Lenoir, in "Calais border town" (doc FR3 region of 24 Nov 2022) say:

"We cry stupidly because we were unable to wake up our rulers.

If you come to the field, if you see that, if you see them leave and you stand by and do nothing, you deserve the court. »

And to do something is not to make a bulwark of our body or to burst the rubber dinghies, it is to fight to obtain for them a welcome in France that no longer obliges them to use these deadly ways to escape our camps, squalid, without water point, without toilets and with police evacuation at a pace that defies common sense ... to obtain a reception in France that no longer gives them the conviction that only the United Kingdom can give them a job that will allow them to earn a salary and lead a normal life...

Buses, on working day mornings, are present at the entrance of the distribution point on the Dunkirk side (AFEJI bus) and rue des Huttes in Calais (AFEJI bus). They offer shelter, for a few nights.



Calais



Loon-Plage

They rarely leave full, unless the weather is too bad as in Mardyck, on December 11, especially with families. Lonely men are more eager to try the passage than to take shelter on this side of the sea...



That day we tried to help a gentleman, who had just arrived. He wanted to get on the bus to go "to the camp". We explain to him, as best we can, that the camp is there, that there is nothing else...

Lost look...

- And the bus?
- He goes to the hotel. That's how they say, and they're right: it's a place of respite, not a real welcome...
- Yes.
- 30 km, or more ("or more").
- No.

By dint of explanations (attempts at explanations) he decides for the bus. Alas, it is full, it was the second, there will be no third...

IN ADDITION, IT IS WINTER: WILL THERE BE A SHELTER AT CHRISTMAS?

The weather is awful: on December 29, a photo from the HRO shows the police fleeing the waterspouts that fell on them, Place du Danemark in Calais:



And the exiles, at the same time, were they offered a blanket, a roof, a hot tea...?
Nothing at all!

Shelter for the night was offered to them on the days when it was so cold, with negative temperatures, from 2 to 5 December in Dunkirk, from 3c to 5c in Calais and from 9c to 19c on both cities.

A shelter for the night... It is ok...

I find in the December 2018 newsletter: "Some, at the time of the strongest frosts, walked all night to try to warm up, so as not to die of cold... »

It's awful...

But walking all day so as not to freeze to death, what is it like?

Salam put a family with a tiny baby in the hotel for two days and two nights (see below: "There was no room for them in the Inn").

But the others? We can't afford to do more...

In Calais, things have been settled, honed, for several years: dedicated premises exist, the departure shuttles to join them always leave at the same time from the same place. Some are taking a long walk to reach them but at least things are clear.

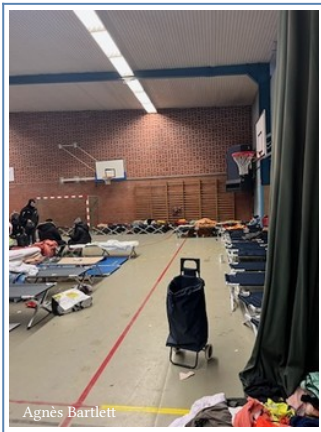
But the dismantling continues every other day, as if nothing had happened. You have to quickly leave the local "Big Cold" in the morning if you do not want to see your belongings considered abandoned and therefore picked up ... This is not the first year that this has happened and this is another lack of consistency and humanity in the decisions taken by the authorities...

In Dunkirk, there is a little more humanity: evacuations have been suspended from 7 December...

But the organization of shelters for Great Cold is not perfect: the first evening, the bus sent to take people to the gym was announced a quarter of an hour before its departure. The information was not communicated to the associations, so it passed to the exiles... Or not... Next time, it is planned that everything will go through the Carrefour des Solidarités which will transmit to everyone.

For the second sheltering it is the Secours Populaire who asked Salam to ensure evening meals and breakfast, from the 14th. But we knew that the Red Cross took care of the evening meal... The time to organize, we ensured breakfast from Thursday 15.

And we can be proud of our team: on the night of December 17 to 18, we learned that there were between 130 and 150 people. The two people scheduled for planning saw their team double after the announcement.



After this explosion of numbers, only women and families were accepted at the gym and many men moved for nothing from Loon-Plage or Mardyck...

Already on December 11, thirty men had come up against a closed door, while the reception was announced possible until 11:30 p.m. ... At 7:30 p.m. a volunteer from Salam and one from Help 4 Dunkirk were present: "The gymnasium is full," they were told.

A security person in his car outside the compound confirmed: "For reasons of family safety, we cannot take anyone more."

They eventually returned to the camp.

A dozen people turned away even had to climb the gate to get out. Even to leave the gate was not opened to them.

A man who hoped to enter fainted. Firefighters came and took care of him on the sidewalk...

Personally at 7:55 p.m., I tried to call the on-call number of the town hall of Dunkirk. I left a message on their answering machine... I'm still waiting for someone to call me back.

Storm warning? After strong winds (60 to 80 km/h) with sometimes particularly violent gusts (at 100 km/h), Salam alerted the sub-prefectures on 30 December, through its president, and asked for the establishment of a new shelter system...

Mr. Tourmente, Sub-prefect of Dunkirk was the only one to answer: "The opening of this type of device is studied from a vigilance Météo France Orange". This was not the case...



THE EVACUATIONS.

In Dunkirk, there has not been one since December 7, the only evacuation of the month.

It was a total evacuation...



... with seizure of equipment...



... where everyone tries to save what they can...

In addition, this evacuation was accompanied by an imposed relocation of ROOTS' water containers on the other side of the D 601 towards Mardyck.

This of course means a displacement of the exiles, since they usually follow access to water...

BUT:

The place where ROOTS was installed was prepared by a manager of the Port Autonome de Dunkerque who was very satisfied: the access road had been cleaned and widened and it resulted in a turning space. We are grateful for his concern for our comfort. But this gentleman does not realize



- that the cleared and widened path was again covered with earth in three days and does not allow two vehicles (let alone two vans) to cross each other.



For our second distribution on this place, the driver, seasoned, went down in reverse to be in the direction of departure in case of problem.



Few of us (me first) are capable of it... The era of reversal is very quickly saturated (when I went to see there were generous people who offered hot drinks and generators to recharge the phones.) They occupied the space.

- that sufficient space is needed to make a distribution line of several hundred people to avoid jostling that may degenerate into fights,

The space is a guarantee of serenity...

- that the problem is more acute when several associations intervene at the same time (this is the case, for example, for Salam on Mondays with Doctors of the World and on Tuesdays and Thursdays with the Red Cross) and on weekends when groups (associations or citizens) often show up full of goodwill but out of schedule...

On Monday (3rd day of distribution for Salam on this new place) I woke up at 5am with an obvious thing in my head: no question of going down to distribute in the rat hole, much too small, by a path where we can not cross ... It's putting everyone in danger: volunteers and exiles...

The day team agrees, but where to go? At the "forbidden location", former place of distribution in Loon-Plage on the edge of the railway? On the asphalted space above the assigned place, where we helped yesterday with the distribution of the Secours Populaire?

It's obvious again: a phone call to Christian Hogard who calls me back very quickly. Authorization of the sub-prefect to distribute on the space above the official place.

Since then, associations have become accustomed to distributing in the same place. Everyone is very careful to leave the place very clean which is facilitated by the presence of a dumpster regularly replaced. How long will we be tolerated there?

In Calais, the ruthless hammer of the authorities continues to fall with the regularity of the blacksmith. Every other day, mercilessly, even on December 24, even on days of shelter for the night. Incomprehensible that we can shelter people for the night and treat them like pests, barely put outside!



December 10 Fort Nieulay



December 8, city center

The exiles are approached with weapons in hand: gaseous and LBD launchers.

They are forced to extinguish fires that are unlikely to cause any damage:



December 10 city center



December 2 BMX

Even the presence of children does not stop the brutality:

Twice there were two days in a row without dismantling, on 5th and 6th December, then on 17th and 18th (HRO photos show that day an operation cancelled at the last minute). But no, it wasn't a Christmas present. The blacksmith was simply catching his breath: there were just two days in a row with dismantling: on 7th and 8th and 19th and 20th December.

The material continues to be picked up as soon as the owner is not present next door to claim it.



December 2 City Center



December 8 behind the PASS



On Thursday 22nd at around 11:30 am, during the distribution of breakfast, Salam's team saw the arrival of the Police under the bridges. Our friends just had time to run to get their belongings !!! The photo is not sharp enough, even enlarged, to see the CRS pulling a tent but the volunteers present can testify.

The legal basis of the operation is now almost always given: "operation in flagrante delicto". This implies a requisition from the prosecutor, rarely presented.

But on December 16 the HRO heard the CRS being told that they had just been called by the owner and, as they had asked the HRO members to leave and not a hunter who was there, a CRS replied: "If it is found it is his property"...

Evacuations usually take place in the afternoon. The 16th, 22nd and 24th is morning. Small dose of paranoia or not? We end up having the impression that from time to time they change the time so that the HRO does not see them... On the 16th, it is Utopia 56 that alerts their team: the morning surveillance had relaxed...

OUR DISTRIBUTIONS ARE MORE COMPLICATED...

On the Dunkirk side, the exiles have badly followed the movement of "tons" of water from ROOTS, there are now a multitude of small camps, on Loon-Plage and on Mardyck, with people who have more or less difficulty accessing water and the services of associations ...

On December 7, one of the accesses to the place of distribution was for some exiles a tree trunk above a kind of river. Very quickly, they took care of themselves and transformed the tree trunk into a small bridge. It is not yet perfect, but the passages are less dangerous..



On the Calais side, new rocks were installed to block access to the distribution point on December 7 rue des Huttes, and 17 rue de Judée.



The associations are trying to distribute where the toilets have been placed, on the hospital site. But for many of our friends, it's really far away... No one showed up on the first day... Then it is very variable from one morning to another.

On December 27, the exiles did not want to go to the site of the Hospital to have breakfast and they moved the rocks of the rue de Judea to allow the associations to pass. But the next day, there were only two people who showed up at our distribution, in the same place...

A constant that helps us move forward: the smile of our friends when they leave after the tribution: "Smiles and thanks but tired faces, after the cold and the rain! " testifies Denise on December 20th...

Claire Millot.

GOOD BYE JANOU

SALAM NORD/PAS-DE-CALAIS IS IN MOURNING.



JANOU left us last night in his sleep.

JANOU led a life of commitment against precariousness!

JANOU had joined SALAM from its creation, present at each distribution: providing his advice with discretion but authority.

JANO, we will continue to defend HUMAN RIGHTS and to be close to our Friends as you have taught us.

We think of his family who can be very, very proud to have had such a "granny".

Thank you JANOU!

for our Friends
and SALAM.

Jean-Claude Lenoir (December 31, 2022).

THERE WAS NO ROOM FOR THEM IN THE INN

This is the Christmas story:

"She bore her firstborn son. She swaddled him, and put him to bed in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."

Whatever our beliefs, this quotation from the Gospel according to St Luke (2:7) is part of our culture and challenges us particularly today, in both the literal and the metaphorical sense.

Babies on the street, for whom there is no place anywhere, we meet regularly, and sometimes we do not feel totally responsible for them...

A BABY ON THE STREET.

On Saturday, December 17, Michèle and I were responsible for breakfast at the Fort Louis gymnasium in Dunkirk. It had been open for a few days, at night, to shelter from the cold those of our exiled friends from the Loon-Plage camp who wanted to escape the negative temperatures of the moment.

By 9 a.m. everyone had to be outside. They all knew, and they had left on their own before their time. There remained a family: the parents and four children including a baby, an infant, strapped on the belly of his mother, tiny with his legs folded under him, barely bigger than a balloon ...

With us, with them, in the room, there were two policemen and the cleaning staff, who were all waiting, all very human, not determined to push them out: "We are not within 5 minutes, we understand them, but hey, we cannot stay like that with them until tonight".

No AFEJI bus for CAES on weekends, nothing for them at the Sesame house, nothing for them at 115...

We're going out... And in front of the door, the cruelty of the situation jumps in my face: "We can't leave them outside in this bitter cold... We put them in the hotel for two nights. It's Salam who pays." On Monday they will be able to board a shelter bus in CAES. If they don't, it will be a choice on their part.

Michèle calls the "Etape Hotel" of St Pol sur Mer. Agree: two rooms, three people per room no more, yes the baby counts, no the brother of the father cannot be added in one of the two rooms. I pass you the negotiations, the complexity of the path to explain, the fear they had of separating (we crammed into Michèle's car the mother with the baby, the two smallest girls and the luggage. We were lucky not to be crossed by the constabulary!), the father joined on foot (a long half hour) with the tallest of the girls. The gentleman managed more or less in French, the lady did not speak a word of French or English, which increased his palpable concerns.

Explanations – long – at the hotel, I advance the money for two nights; The mother was behind me, face closed as for two hours that we knew her...

Fortunately the room is ready, we accompany him ... I open the door, she sees the beds...

And suddenly, we see the pressure fall, like that of a pressure cooker whose valve stops whispering and whose lid comes down in a sigh ... And finally... She smiled... And this smile has accompanied us ever since, like a ray of sunshine that warms.

Around noon, Michèle has the father on the phone. The family is reunited at the hotel. He is confused in thanks: we were right.

Claire Millot.

EUROPE IS A HOTEL WHERE THERE IS NO MORE ROOM.

This quote is used metaphorically in this text published in "The Good News" n° 149 of December 2022

ACCUEIL DES MIGRANTS

L'Europe : «Une hôtellerie où il n'y a plus de place» ?

Des paroissiens (Margaux, Christian, Geneviève, Jeanine) ont apporté dans la «Bonne Nouvelle» le témoignage de leur action vis-à-vis des personnes exilées qui campent sur le littoral.

Pour ma part, je n'interviens pas dans un camp. J'assure depuis cinq ans, avec trois autres bénévoles, une permanence hebdomadaire à Grande-Synthe. Je le fais avec l'appui de la Cimade, une association nationale liée aux églises protestantes. Nous recevons et aidons des personnes qui veulent rester en France et qui ont des difficultés avec leurs papiers. Nous donnons donc des conseils juridiques à des personnes venues de pays différents (en 2021 nous avons reçu cent soixante-deux personnes venues de trente-huit pays différents), avec chacune leur histoire, une histoire souvent douloureuse.

«L'humanité passe par l'autre»

Ces rencontres m'ont apporté au moins deux choses. Ces personnes ressemblent à des Français que je connais, avec des qualités et des défauts ; et ils font partie de la même humanité que

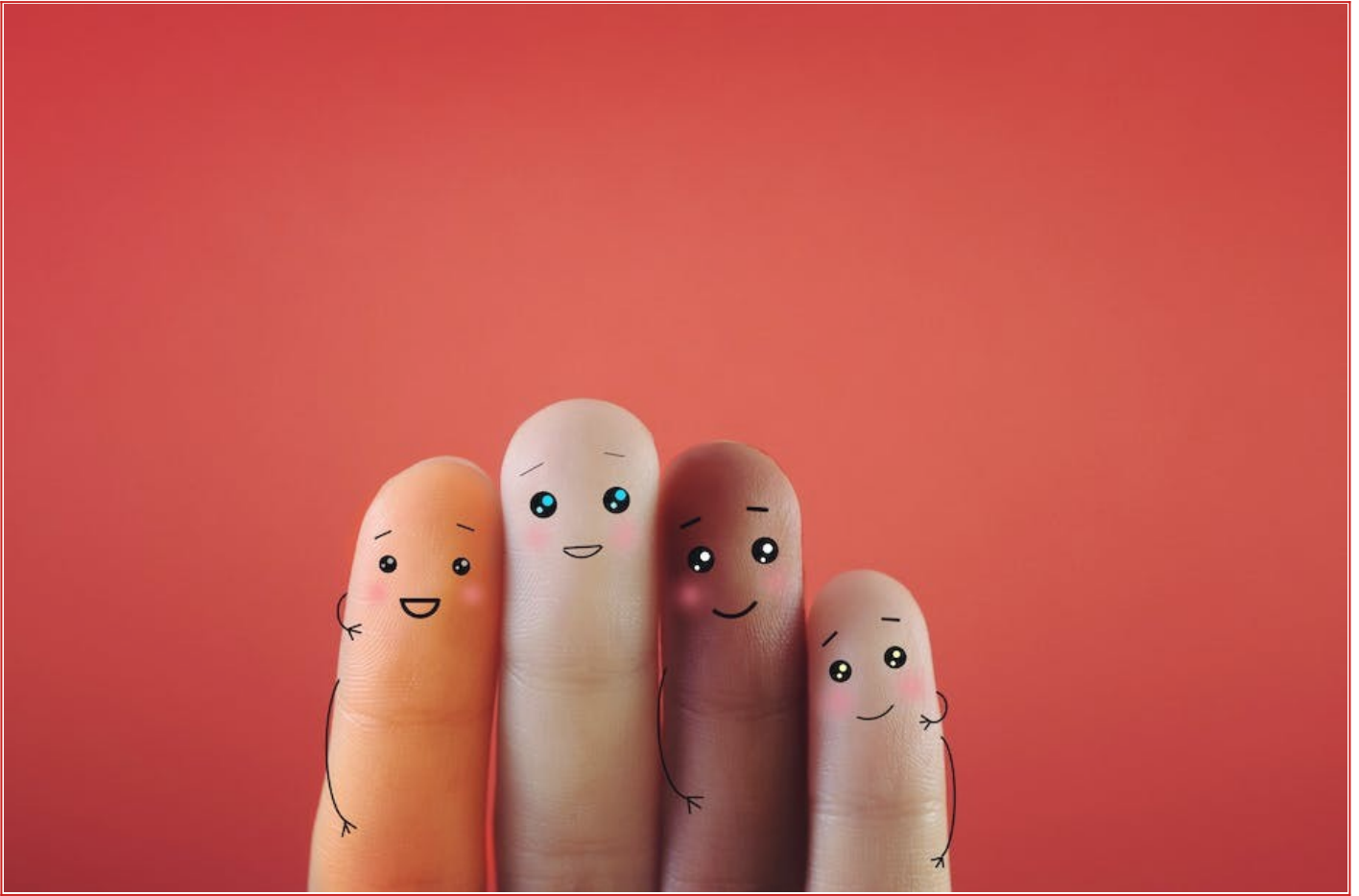
Notre pays ainsi que l'Europe se barricadent de plus en plus avec des lois qui rendent l'accueil des étrangers de plus en plus difficile

nous. «L'humanité passe par l'autre», selon la devise de la Cimade. Notre pays ainsi que l'Europe se barricadent de plus en plus avec des lois qui rendent l'accueil des étrangers de plus en plus difficile. Elle devient, selon le mot de Florence Delaye, «une hôtellerie où il n'y a plus de place». À l'approche de Noël, à nous de faire mentir ce jugement. Sinon, quel gâchis pour eux... et pour nous !

CHRISTIAN JOUVENOT

www.lacimade.org

« THE CONVERSATION »



Racism is not an opinion like other shutterstock/YeexinRichelle

Published to illustrate the Podcast " The conversation" 30/11/2021

Racist prejudice assumes that one group is superior to another, or even to all others. Let us recall that in the human species, there is no race. The racist will then create imaginary differences, and reproach the other not for what he does, but for what he is. To combat these prejudices, education can be key, learning to distinguish the other as an individual person, and not by a group of belonging.

"THE INTERNATIONAL COURIER"

"The year 2022 in cartoons: the best of press cartoonists from all over the world".

In the December 26, 2022 issue.

For February: "France, Condemned candidate": Eric Zemmour, for his remarks on Unaccompanied Foreign Minors.



Joep Bertrams drawing published in De Groene Amsterdammer, Pays-Bas.

Presidential candidate, far-right polemicist [Eric Zemmour](#) is sentenced for "*provocation to hatred*", after his 2020 remarks about foreign unaccompanied minors whom he had called on television "*thieves*", "*rapists*" and "*murderers*". His campaign did not stop. Very high in the polls at the beginning of winter, he will win 7% of the vote at the end of the first round, on April 10.

AS LONG AS THE RABBITS HAVE NO HISTORIANS, IT IS THE HUNTERS WHO WILL WRITE THEIR HISTORY*...

This is the reason why, for several months, Caroline for the Women's Center and I for Salam, went to the Dunkirk Archives, depositing documents to start creating an information source on what we have been doing for years.

Indeed, in the more or less distant future, people who will be interested in migration in the region, will read that the prefecture of Pas-de-Calais claims to have sheltered 7,000 migrants in 2021. Without this fund that is being set up, they will then say to themselves: "What a good time it was, when the State took charge of the reception of exiles!"

*I explained my motivations to Cécile, who welcomes us to the Dunkirk Archives service, and immediately, she showed me this slogan that I took up in the title.

Claire Millot.

THANK YOU

THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS.

To those who are there every week, to prepare, distribute, collect donations, sort them and tidy them up. ...

A special thank you to Sunny who has several times, in the absence of Jacky, started alone the preparation of the meal



To **Dominique**, more and more often by truck for Emmaus surpluses and bananas.

To **Dominique and Pierre** who took out the freezers on December 22nd and to **Alice and Ghislaine** who cleaned them completely.

To **Pierre** who cut tarpaulins several times for Calais and Dunkirk...



To the young people of **Mary**, responsible for sorting the Saturday Emmaus surpluses (Samba, Ibrahim and Mahamadou).

A special thank you to **Makan**, who came on purpose for the distribution and the dishes on December 27th.

To those who are there exceptionally:

Especially those of "Bonjour Désordre" which on December 31, being too numerous to be useful in the kitchen, found work downstairs:

- some sorted clothes with Elisabeth in the first room,
- others moved Ali Baba's fridge (which was empty) and completely emptied the corner between the metal cabinet and said fridge, washed the floor and put everything back clean after sorting.

A hell of a job: Ali Baba was completely emptied and cleaned.

- The last sorted the shoes in bulk: reconstituted the pairs and made three boxes of large sizes (41 and more).



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

- Benoosh, from Paris, sent us a Mondial Relay package, which arrived on December 1st.

- Several donors on December 3:

Yanne, Laurence and Patrick Saturday alumnus who came from Belgium and came back with rice, pasta, muesli, tea, chocolate and a car full of blankets.

- Korine O. who entrusted Jacky with various clothes for men, brought on December 5.



- Onjali (who already participated a month ago, following the death of her grandmother) offered us a whole series of foods and that Caroline (Women Center) dropped off in Salam: 120 kg of rice, large tins of peeled tomatoes, tomato paste and oil.

- A gentleman gave us a suitcase full of men's clothes and shoe



- On December 14th Jacky brought us several cases of walnuts from Belgium, donations from Jeannot and Cécile de Ghislenghien.

-Bart, a friend of Philippe's, made a distribution of wood on December 13: part was given at the place of distribution, the rest in three other places.

- On December 17th we were spoilt: an unknown person dropped off clothes,



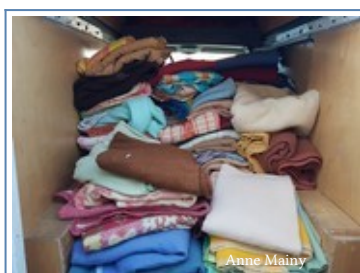
-Martine and her daughter Raphaëlle were waiting for us when we returned from the breakfast distribution at the gym, with large bags of clothes labeled after sorting.

- Emmaus gave us five large bags of frozen chicken legs.

- On December 22, Mr. Colin dropped off a bag of dolls and some clothes, and our friend Odile dropped off frozen rhubarb.

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...

The parishioners of the small chapel "Notre Dame de Dunes", with Father Hochart, who raised a tidy sum. It allowed the Calais team to buy several cases of shoes at Decathlon
Few needs are more acute.



Audotri from whom Ursula brought clothes on December 3, and Nathalie clothes and duvets on December 10.

Many donations of blankets also come from home.

- Our friends from FTS offered us a semi-professional soup mixer, rap worn on December 5th by the Bailleul beneficiaries..

- Véronique and Jean Luc BARDEL of Adventices Jardins entrusted Jacky, also on December 5th, with 50 kg of potatoes and 20 kg of onions, all organic!

- In Steenwerck, a collection was organized on December 10, at the initiative of Elisabeth Costenoble for migrants. Gaby took care of the transfer.

Here is the text of the message sent to all industry associations:



On Saturday afternoon a collection of warm clothes for migrants is organized in the church of the Croix du Bac. It's winter. And near you, a whole population of migrants lives in undignified conditions and in the cold. To help them a collection of warm clothes is organized at the Croix du Bac

A place will be reserved in the church of the Croix du Bac, Saturday 10 December afternoon to receive your donations, they will be given to the Salam association in Grande Synthe to be distributed to migrants.

Clothing: hats, scarves, socks, sweaters, jackets,.....

- Several boxes of Bourdon waffles pleasantly accompanied the tea of December 24 in Mardyck.

- A group of young Parisians reinforced the Calais team on December 30, 31 and January 1.

- Scouts from Lambersart who came this summer to help us in Calais returned on December 31st with a clothing drive.

- On December 31, Ursula and the "Bonjour Désordre" team dropped off many boxes of clothes and blankets.

SPECIAL MENTION FOR THE GREEN FATHER CHRISTMAS OF THE SECOURS POPULAIRE:

As every year the Green Santa Claus of Secours Populaire crosses the region to relieve the suffering of all those who live in precariousness.

They are so numerous that he needs help from Red Santa Claus...



On 11 December they were in Calais.
On the camps and even at the Salam office:



They brought a little happiness to the children and also to the grown-ups...



And as Santa Claus is everywhere at once, they were also in Mardyck, on the Dunkirk.
A good little team from Salam helped them in their distribution of gifts and ADRA was present with a nice lunch distribution, as well as music...



They made the little ones happy, of course...



... But so do the big ones.



ANOTHER SPECIAL MENTION FOR "BONJOUR DESORDRE".

"Hello Disorder", the smallest chip shop in the world...
... but also the most gracious!

We had our first contact in November: they were looking for whom to offer a meal of fries on December 31st or January 1st, it immediately seduced me, without the slightest practical reflection I admit.

The reactions of the Grande-Synthe team were at two extremes:

- Very sceptical reactions 'It's impossible to make fries for 400 people in the allotted time slot' and 'boiling oil on the camp is way too dangerous'
- fortunately too, enthusiastic reactions: "Great, we'll be there!"

This was followed by several long discussions on the phone with Caesar, the person in charge: we must not neglect critical points of view!

Caesar and Lesli (with their charming little Riem of a few months) came to participate in two Salam days on December 1st and 24th. They contacted the team and saw the conditions of distribution.

And we made the decision: let's go!
The fries had been prepared the day before by "Bonjour Désordre".



I quote from Arnaud's distribution report:

“French Weather was against us (storm and continuous rain forecast)... And yet it was a magnificent distribution, epic when it was necessary to protect the fryers with the tarpaulin that tended to go kite surfing” ...

... but friends delighted by our not hot with fruit salad ...



and one (or more) beautiful cone of fries!

Most of them were smiling and stayed in the parking lot. »
And we danced!



Fanny Garves



Nathalie Dudek



Julie Velay

350 meals were distributed. There was nothing left, neither the fries nor our kitchen....
We parted ways after a friendly break and they promised to come back next year.

Luckily, when it's December 31st, next year it's already two days after !!!

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

without which we would not be able to maintain the vans, put diesel in the tanks, pay for the water and electricity used in our premises, replace the gas cylinders...
Thank you to all those (close friends and strangers) who slipped us a ticket, sent a check, made a transfer directly or by Helloassos.

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

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

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

Claire Millot.

OUR NEEDS FOR VOLUNTEERS.

Dunkirk:

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

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

Calais:

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

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

CALL FOR DONATIONS

MONEY NEEDS.

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

Visit the association's website: www.associationsalam.org
Section : "Support us"

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

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

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

A big thank you to all our generous donors!

TENTS AND TARPAULINS!

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

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

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

Otherwise, the most pressing needs on both sites:

BLANKETS (DUVETS, SLEEPING BAGS).

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

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

SHOES for men: trainers or light hiking shoes (European sizes 40 to 46),

sandals, caps.

backpacks,

lamps and batteries,

water packs,

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

Food for Calais:

Milk

tea and sugar, instant soluble coffee,

cans of sardines and cans of tuna,

cream of cheese,

dried fruits,

Power banks.

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

And for Grande-Synthe:

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

bags of pulses, spices,

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

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

You can take your membership for 2023.

The membership form is attached to this mailing.

If you are not yet a member, do not hesitate to join us.

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

CONTACTEZ NOUS

Association SALAM
PO Box 47
62100 CALAIS

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

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

Bulletin d'adhésion 2023



Principaux objectifs de SALAM :

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

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

Association SALAM-Nord/Pas-de-Calais

BP 47

62100 CALAIS

Monsieur/
Madame : _____ Prénom _____

Adresse _____

Code postal _____ Ville _____ Pays _____

Téléphone _____ E mail _____

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

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

Date et signature :

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

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

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