



www.associationsalam.org

JUNE 2024 NEWSLETTER

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

What a great signal to our old Europe.
Our old Europe tempted by its dreadful demons!
Holy English!
Cancel this cynical law of sending to RWANDA our Friends fleeing terrorism and war
At the risk of accentuating the destabilization of this beautiful continent
And to add precariousness to precariousness
Holy English!
Send a ray of sunshine to our Friends
Holy English!
The Labour UK Government is thus giving a great lesson in humanity
To the timid and selfish democracies!
A good nod to this troubled period.
And the newly elected Members of English Parliament
They took the opportunity to work on asylum, with humanity and fraternity.

Jean-Claude Lenoir

THE EVENTS OF THE MONTH

The seeds of intolerance.

On 14th June, Jean-Claude Lenoir, president of Salam Nord/Pas-de-Calais, wrote a statement criticising the authorities for having sown the seeds of intolerance: over the months, the harassment of exiles that we see on a daily basis is part of a far-right policy...

(See our website: www.associationsalam.org on 14th June, under the heading "news".)

In the aftermath of the European election results, the seeds immediately began to bloom. We must not speak of "liberation" of speech, I have been told. The term "liberation" is too positive. Are we talking about a "breach of the dam of hatred"?

In any case, it is not by chance that on 11th June a squat in Calais, fortunately unoccupied, was ransacked and that the next day the planks installed to protect it, were covered with graffiti: "Leave or burn " written on the plank that now serves as a door...



Gionni



Tom-Roots

It is no coincidence that on the 14th, the water in a water tank installed at the Dunkirk camp was polluted by the introduction of a "royal blue liquid". The analysis is underway to determine the degree of toxicity of the product; Fortunately, its colour prevented everyone from tasting it, but if next time it is a colourless poison, there will be deaths.

And next time?

The first associative photos were accompanied by an express request not to communicate them: we know all too well the "snowball" effect of these publications: the feeling of authorization to do evil, given first by an impressive percentage of far-right votes, then the model, that are the first insults and aggressions that go unpunished, although criminal according to the law.

"Go or burn?" but go where?

Not in his country, certainly... Few people go on an adventure, with a happy heart, and can choose an opposite path... Then Where?

In England, where undeclared work is easier than in France, of course...

As long as we let them pass...

In June, uncertain weather often prevented any attempt by sea (no passage recorded by the Home Office between 7th and 12th June and between 13th and 18th June). But it's summer and when the wind and sea allow it, it's time! 882 visits on June 18th... Just after several days without passages... Was there an order to let them pass? We will never know.

18% more than in 2023 over the same period, we read in "Libération" on the 19th. This is still huge when you think about the means implemented to prevent departures, even if, at the end of May, the Home Office gave 35% more since 1st January 2024, compared to 2023.

Still according to the Home Office, 3041 passages on 56 inflatable dinghies between 1st and 30th June: on average between 53 and 54 people per boat. This is the highest number since August (more than 5000 passages) and September (more than 4000 passages) previously...

On 29th June, 77 people were on a single boat... We tremble: 70 deaths in the event of a shipwreck...



Anonymous exile



Anonymous exile

A group that arrived in the United Kingdom sent a video to the Sesame House: what we see is not the worst: the sea is oily... But we can clearly see the men sitting astride the inflatable tube and the women and children in the middle a little more protected..

What we don't see but what they say is that the petrol leaks and soaks the bottom of the boat. Those who sit there, and especially the little ones, often come out with burnt skin...

These figures do not take into account truck crossings, which we have known for a few months that there are again many of them...

On 18th June, the Sudanese of the rue de Judée claimed that 80 of them had just succeeded in crossing by truck.

Fortunately, there were no new deaths in June...

But missed passages, yes, of course...

On 6th June, one of our volunteers found about forty people soaking wet in Calais station. The team of the day goes out of their way to give them breakfast as well as our "shipwreck kits" with everything they need to dress a man again. All that remained was to restock our stock of clothes to ensure the next time...

WE PLAY CAT AND MOUSE, UNLESS IT'S THE ... GENDARMES (POLICE) AND THIEVES...

For months, all of us (associations, press, etc.) have agreed that the departures are moving to the south-west, further away, more difficult and also, more dangerous...

One of our volunteers saw a dinghy pass by on 21st June in front of his home, in Hardelot, with about fifty people...



Walkers, towards the Belgian border, no longer see traces of camps, punctured dinghies or abandoned life jackets. Calais is also deserted by contenders for boating: too closely monitored...

And then, on 23rd June, friends on a walk told us: from the beaches of Dunkirk they had seen a dinghy pass by. They were not dreaming, as the "Voix du Nord" publication of 25th June (p.21, Calais edition) confirms: "Rescue at sea also intervened off the coast of Malo-Les-Bains, in Dunkirk". The same article reports a departure from Sangatte. Sangatte... incredible, in other words Calais...

But since no one leaves from Dunkirk or Calais anymore (everyone knows it!), the police are less vigilant, so departures are starting again... Dunkirk and Calais...

And our friends run, turn, spend a night... two nights... Three nights in the dunes, more or less supplied, relocated in a hurry by the smugglers... to end up boarding... Or not... and to get to the other side... Or not...

This with the hope of a better life anchored in their bodies, otherwise they don't go for it...

Most of them try to get through: we distribute fewer meals, several times less than 100 in Dunkirk at the end of the month, around 300 in Calais.

WHAT ABOUT DISMANTLING?

We find the same game, in reverse.

It is the forces of law and order (or rather the authorities to which they obey) who are tired of being followed, monitored by the HRO (Human Rights Observers) team.

Once again, what have they so dreadfully to conceal? More and more often, the evacuation convoy does not gather at the police station as has always been the case since 2018, since these evacuations have been so regular...

Where can you hide several police vans accompanied by at least two cleaning vans? Amazing... The fact is however obvious... Already on May 16th and 31st we reported it, in last month's newsletter...

On 7th June, there was no trace of an evacuation convoy in the morning in Calais, but the HRO (Human Rights Observers) learned through a phone call from the association at 10:30 a.m. that there was dismantling with BMX and through another channel at 11:43 a.m. that the police were at the camp behind the PASS.

Behind the PASS, the exiles tell the Salam team, who gives them breakfast at the end of the morning, that the police came to wake them up and took away all the tents. Indeed, there are only two people, no tent, but an incredible mess of equipment.

14th June: Phone calls to the HRO (Human Rights Observers) from several exiles announce that the police have come to Judea Street and seized tents and belongings.

At the same place and at the BMX, **the** Salam team witnessed two evacuations during its breakfast distribution:

- BMX: at least twelve CRS vans arrive.

- rue de Judée: the CRS are accompanied by a rental van and the Salam team saw them take several shopping trollies full of belongings.

On 20th June, in Marck, exiles sent the HRO (Human Rights Observers) a video taken from a bus in which they were leaving. Ten people were taken away without knowing where they were going.

When the HRO arrives, there are no buses, no security perimeter but the National Police and a cleaning team.

At the end of the morning, all those who were on the bus come back by foot... They say that they have not been offered shelter..

Since February, some evacuations have taken place after 72 hours instead of the standard of 48 hours: between 4th and 7th June, between 7am and 10am, between 14h and 17h, between 21h and 24h, between 28th June and 1st July. On the other hand, three days in a row on June 19th, 20th and 21st.

In total, 13 operations in June (last on the 28th), those that are not games of hide-and-seek concern 4 or 5 camp sites.

The process remains the same:



- very (many) numerous police forces: photos on rue de Judée on 10th June and behind the PASS on 4th June.



- the movement of equipment: photos of 2nd June at the Hospital and 10th June behind the PASS.

- intimidation by (too) heavy weapons (photo of the Fermette, 4th June).



- with a ban on the exiles returning to their camp (photo of the BMX on 28th June).

- seizures

We know that in order for the equipment to be spared, its owner must be present. However, the heart sinks in front of this image of a man sitting on the steps, on 12th June, at the George V Bridge: the HRO video shows the cleaning agents passing by him, with the tents removed... (six tents seized at this location that day). Had this exile nothing to preserve?



- arrests (at the Fermette on 12th June and on 28th June at the Hospital).

- A work of the so-called "cleaning" teams that leaves us dreaming... (photo in Marck, 20th June).

- words from the Police that make it easier to understand why they have been instructed not to say anything:



*2nd June, BMX ,

the police say that it is a shelter, but no, there are no buses... They don't know; They then admit that it is only a "tent move to the other side of the street".

It was not until the evacuation behind the PASS that the person in charge of the operation said that the legal basis was "Flagrance".

*On 20th June, in Marck,

"No police operation in progress, only a security operation," says a police officer.

Then: "There is no one to do translation on site, since there is no need for translation on site.."

However, it was indeed a dismantling: The HRO saw five cleaners seize a tent, four tarpaulins, five blankets, four mattresses, not to mention clothes...

and a lot of bullying that still exists: on 21st June, rue de Judée, the HRO (Human Rights Observers) heard a policeman accompany the movement instruction with these words: "Go Gogols".

In Dunkirk, there were three evacuations in June: on 11th , 20th and 25th June.

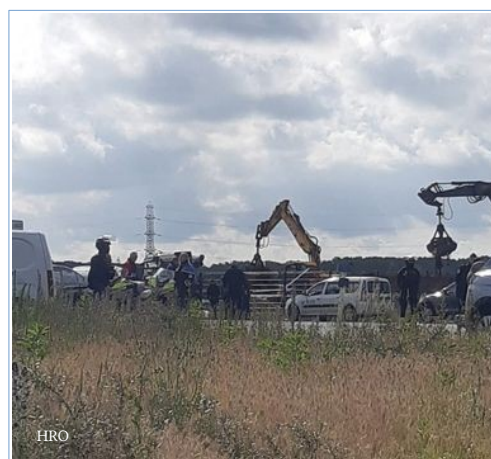
On 11th June, the evacuation convoy was reported a little before 9 a.m. on the Loon-Plage side and on the Total side (north and south of the road D601), not on the side of the Mardyck road, where the distributions were currently taking place, nor at the old location, rue des Prés Février.



An AFEJI bus is waiting in the Total car park.

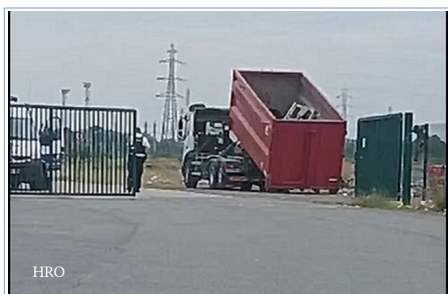
The shops were destroyed.
 From what the HRO sees, destruction has also taken place at Total and in the woods...
 The evacuation equipment is always more substantial in Dunkirk than in Calais:

But the exiles can resettle at Total from noon.



On the other hand, on 20th and 25th June, the aim was clearly to rid Total's land of its occupants.
 On the 20th, the HRO received a phone call at around 11a.m.: he said that the police were in Mardyck and were making seizures.
 But a few minutes later the police were at Total and stayed there: baton blows and chasing exiles in a 4x4.
 The HRO (Human Rights Observers) are not allowed to approach.

The police say that it is not a "sheltering" but a "judicial police" operation and that there will be no AFEJI buses.
 The Sudanese are chased out of their camp in Total and the shops are destroyed, only the shops, they say...
 The HRO counted two arrests by the PAF, then four or five in another PAF van.



A little after noon, a large dumpster arrives.
 A police officer answers the HRO's questions:
 "a requisition from the prosecutor is available at the judicial court of Dunkirk, and at the request of the prosecutor we have cleared out all the stalls on the Total site." In addition, about twenty tents were seized.

On the 25th, the dismantling again concerned the Total sector. A little after 8 a.m. a bus and a team from AFEJI were there, four additional CRS vans arrived around 9 a.m., then two backhoes and two large red skips.



A security perimeter was established: The site was inaccessible to the HRO. "No one is coming in except colleagues, no associations," says a policeman, at the barrier of the TOTAL property. HRO hears on walkie-talkie: "We are destroying the camp" People say that the police chased them away, but without physical violence. An AFEJI bus leaves around 10:15 a.m., another later.



THE PRECARIOUSNESS IS TERRIBLE IN ALL THE CAMPS.

In photos, a makeshift camp in Marck, on 20th June and another where there are not even tents, on the 26th behind the PASS. Even at the end of June, especially this year, the nights remain very cool...

In addition to the suffering due to problems of access to water, hygiene, obtaining a tent, a blanket, proper shoes, meals three times a day (in the wildest of dreams...), there are more and more psychological problems... In general, we don't talk about it... we don't touch... But it's not so exceptional anymore...

- the one who thinks he is Godly (no joke)...
- the one who sleeps outside in the city, with nothing on him, so filthy to frighten, and who most often refuses food...
- the one who, sitting on the ground with his legs on the road at the risk of being crushed by a vehicle and who has put a chain around his neck like the one you put on a dog...

And we feel so, so helpless...

SMALL VICTORY FOR DUNKIRK.

After two months of silence, we meet again with the CUD on 2nd June. There will soon be three water bridges (at the link of one currently) on the Mardyck side. Nothing on the side of Total, (strictly private property). There will still be no toilets and showers: this is the responsibility of the State... Even if there is no law prohibiting being more generous than the State!

AND LIFE GOES ON:

The older ones play ball, the little ones blow soap bubbles, they are clean and neat, we admire the mothers who manage to achieve these miracles...

Claire Millot



Denise Cassignat



Denise Cassignat

OUR PARTICIPATION IN COLLECTIVE ACTIONS.

THE WEEKEND IN WIMEREUX, "IMAGES AND MIGRATIONS" from 31st May to 2nd June.

Annie, Quentin and Claire, for Salam, participated in the day on Sunday: two film screenings, the first showing Salam's work, the second that of Utopia.

11:00 *As long as our hearts beat*

France | 2019 | 49 min | Vf
Éléonore Dumas (France)

In Grande-Synthe in northern France, a group of women volunteers aged between 60 and 90 work hard every day to help migrants. This film questions them about their commitment and gives us their precious testimonies.

Institut Convergences Migrations | E | OSMOSE 62
 Le LAP & OSMOSE 62
 Le Festival international Jean Rouch
 L'Institut Convergences Migrations
 présentent les
**RENCONTRES
 IMAGES DE MIGRATIONS**
 du 31 mai au 2 juin 2024
 LAP, lieu de vie et de création
 2 chemin des Garennes, Wimereux (62)

The poster features a central graphic of a camera lens aperture inside an eye shape, with red diagonal lines to the right. At the bottom, there are two small film stills: one showing a person sitting on a bench and another showing a person standing near a yellow wall.

**TANT QUE
 NOS COEURS
 BATTRONT**

UN FILM D'ÉLÉONORE DUMAS

produit par LA FABRIQUE
 en coproduction avec Pictanovo
 en partenariat avec ÉGALITÉS

The poster is a colorful illustration of four elderly people (three women and one man) with their faces superimposed over a background of a busy, cluttered outdoor market or street scene with various goods and people.

14:00 Between the borders

France | 2024 | 87 min

Victor Desmette (France)

Between Calais and Grande-Synthe, the teams of volunteers from the Utopia 56 association roam the coast at night in search of vulnerable people. These people, in exile, are trying to reach the English coast. From the marauding to the emergency calls to the commemorations, we share the daily life of the volunteers and their reality, that of mutual aid.

The screening was followed by a very rich round table.



A MEETING OF ASSOCIATIONS HELPED BY THE FONDATION DE FRANCE: "BAD WEATHER 2023" PLAN



On 12th June 2024, we were invited, among all those who were helped as part of the "bad weather 2023" plan by the Fondation de France. It was in Rumilly, in the Pas-de-Calais, a village on the banks of the Aa, particularly affected by this winter's floods. Yolaine and Claire represented Salam. The testimonies followed one another, from people from villages in which the houses had been under a meter of water, in which the streets had been washed away, in which the agricultural land had disappeared. At the end, we asked to speak. We were also keen to bear witness to the situation of people who have no house, no street, no agricultural land but who have also been flattened by the wave of bad weather: tents placed on pallets too low to protect them from the access of water, canvases pierced by the violent and continuous showers. We broke the "piggy bank" in Salam to buy tents and rain ponchos. If we add to that the impossible crossings to England because of the cold and the strong winds, and therefore the increasing number of people stranded on our coast, we can imagine the significant increase in the number of meals distributed during this period, and therefore the resulting costs: we distributed up to 1,487 breakfasts in Calais on 5th November, the highest figure in the spring was 678) and in Loon-Plage we gave 800 hot meals on 6th and 7th November (the maximum in the spring was 400 meals).

Thank you to the Fondation de France which allowed us to offset a significant part of these costs. Without them, who knows how we would have managed?

The meeting ended, of course, with a drink of friendship which allowed a good number of those present to come and see us to ask questions about the situation on the ground in the migrant camps. And we can measure the extent to which few people realize what is happening in these places that should only be rapid transit camps and that see people lingering there for weeks and sometimes even months with families and babies...



THE "ALTERNATIBA" TOUR HOSTED BY THE COPIL SAINT JOSEPH.

Since its creation in 2021, Salam has been part of the Steering Committee of the Saint Joseph Church in Grande-Synthe.

It is a question of opening this place, which belongs to the diocese, to non-denominational actions, in order to "continue the project by making this place an incubator of initiatives carrying all the values of Human Fraternity promulgated by the UN." More simply, it is a question of helping all the people in precarious situations in our corner of the world...

In fact, since the arrival of little Amal in Grande-Synthe in October 2021, the project had been at a standstill. The search by the "Tour Alternatiba" for a place to take a break in Grande-Synthe, seemed to us an opportunity not to be missed:

A bike tour of France to raise awareness of climate migration and to make the link, through the break in Grande-Synthe, with the other forms of migration that we know well.



Jean-Pierre Leurs



Jean-Pierre Leurs

Salam has taken a good part of the work of welcoming Grande-Synthe.

- Organization of the snack and the debate that followed in the hall of the Saint-Joseph church.

- Provision of evening meals and breakfasts for cyclists who slept in front of the church, at the Clémenceau gymnasium.



Isaac LDH

But we weren't alone:

- The MRAP lent the exhibition on "thirty years of non-reception on the coast".



Jean-Pierre Leurs

- Secours Catholique came with the magnificent fraternibus.

Eric presented us with two extraordinary clips:

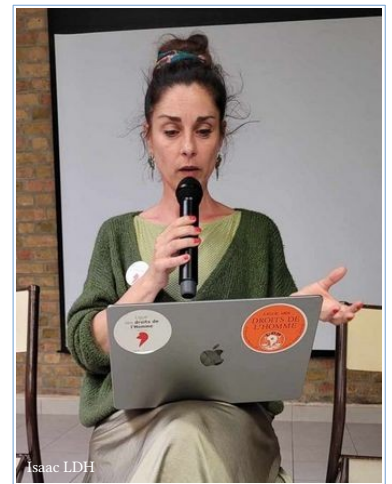
*"Home" by Magali Gaudubois:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_GUoMacxsW0

*"Birds" by Thibaud Defever:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1wm4V2t4b44>

- AMiS, ADRA have added their cakes and pastries to ours, and their availability all afternoon.
- Renaissance gave us a box of cakes.



- The LDH brought in Emmanuelle Jourdan-Charrier, a specialist in climate migration.
 - Local associations spoke about the situation on the ground.
- The debate that followed the speeches of all parties was rich.

A magnificent performance of committed Italian songs, by Lise and Amélie, accompanied by Eric on percussion, ended on a lighter atmosphere.



JUSTICE FOR BORDER DEATHS.



It was International Refugee Day.

A march was organized in Dunkirk. It brought together a few dozen people. We were there, (at least five from Salam). It ended on the Malo dike, around the list of the dead on our coastline since the end of the 20th century.



There were several speeches, including the reading of a text by a volunteer from the Maison Sésame on the 1st death of little Rola on 3 March. (This is where his family took refuge after the death, waiting for the birth of the little brother.)

This family has since crossed over to England on a new inflatable dinghy. We can't imagine the anguish with which they must have embarked this time.

ROLA

I was born seven years ago
I was born in Iraq
Where life is not good

At two years old,
With my dad, my mom and my three brothers
We took some things from home
And we left

We had a little party to say goodbye
To all our family and friends
I don't remember

I was too small
I will not go over it again

After a long journey,
We arrived in Greece
All the people around us
Are either suspicious or like us,
People who are called "refugees"
My parents are adapting
My brothers are growing up and so am I

After three years, Greece informed us that it does
not allow us to stay
My family then went back on the road
I don't remember Greece
I was too small
I will not go over it again
I am five years old, I know how to speak Greek

After all this journey of fear and uncertainty
We arrived in Germany
We are allowed to live in a beautiful house,
We go to school
I am learning German
I am happy
I can speak German
Then, one day, the sentence falls
This country doesn't want us
I have to say goodbye to all my friends at school and
in the neighbourhood
I remember
We don't want to leave this country, we cry, choose a
few things
And we leave



We hit the road again
My brave parents protect and guide us
We are unhappy, why leave?
We were children like all the other children in
this country.
Why flee again?
My parents are worried and so unhappy
I don't like to see my family so sad
If I find a little flower in the fields, I will give it to
my dad to give him courage
He loves flowers my daddy

This time
We are going to England
Mum and Dad tell us that this country is
welcoming
And that there, we will have a "to come"...

Mum has trouble walking and moving around
My little brother is soon to be born
I am happy about all these future beautiful
moments to live
I will not live them...

I won't live them because people have decided for
us
Have decided that we do not have freedom of
movement
That we have to take dangerous roads to deserve
the happiness of living
And that this road, perhaps, will never be serene
Unless you find it in death

Papa is in a hurry,
We are four children and mother, exhausted, who feels
the life of the little brother in her body

A "gentleman" takes us on a small canal
Dad doesn't want to get in and make us get into the
little boat
I remember the anxiety that rose then
The smuggler gets angry, he confirms that in two hours
we will be in the UK
UK... How this word makes us dream!
Then
Very quickly
I go up
Mom Goes Up
Other families are coming up
We are excited
It's an adventure

The small makeshift boat carries us away
Very quickly something happens that we don't
understand
The small boat can't resist...
A few meters later,
Everything goes fast, so fast
Panic, anxiety
The boat sinks
Everyone is screaming
Dad panicked, he took my brother in one hand and
mom in the other
I dive, I dive
I'm small
I wanted the freedom and happiness of a little girl
But of all the things I wanted, I don't remember

'Cause I'm dying
They killed me
I was seven years old

Little Sarah will be dead in a few weeks, asphyxiated
by the trampling of the grown-ups in a small boat
She is seven years old
Like me

We were children,

What for
Have you killed us?

What for?

My journey will stop in Grande-Synthe, in this
cemetery where so many of you have come to support
my family.
I will stay by your side. Next to the jungles When you
pass where I rest
Never forget that my death is criminal

THANK YOU for all that you do and will do for
child travellers
THANK YOU

The family was welcomed by the other refugee
families at the Sesame House
A dull air scent reigns. We don't know ROLA but
it's everywhere.
Dad stays in his room.
Mom is on a loop on her mobile phone where she
was able to retrieve some photos of her little girl.
His only granddaughter. The trip stole her child.
And another child will arrive three weeks later in
this inhospitable and cruel world. It will be a little
boy.
He will be called RAYAN a bit like ROLA
All this makes you dizzy!

Two and a half months later, the family is back on
the road
Face the fear, cold, and insecurity of jungles and
dunes
The guilt also of taking so many risks...

After several attempts, they will finally be
welcomed in England

May this land of welcome allow them a happier
tomorrow

STOP
LET'S STOP THIS MASSACRE

The Sesami
(This 20th JUNE 2024, World Refugee Day)



"Talking about all these people, all these children, continues to ensure they exist...", comments Sylvie, manager of this reception centre.

Claire Millot.

TESTIMONIES, FROM MORE OR LESS, FAR AWAY.

ZOE, journalism student and photographer (8 June), after a visit to the Dunkirk camp:

"One day in Salam

A day when everything changes,
Where you realize the situation.

A day for others,
But it also teaches us a lesson.

A day of exchange,
Where solidarity is learned

A day to be able, at last,
Rediscovering our humanity"



WILMA, after reading the May newsletter (12 June):

Thank you for this last newsletter. Certainly, it contains a lot of sadness, especially the announcements of deaths, but still so well done, because it is so "immediate". I mean it gave me the feeling of being there, on the ground, with you helpers, constantly hindered in your efforts, and our fellow migrants, always harassed and hunted. I felt everyone's emotions, frustration, disarray, anger, incomprehension. The president's word, expresses all this well.

Fortunately, and as usual, you cheer me up with information about all these people who persist in showing humanity and generosity. It feels great to know that young people in particular, are taking the side of the persecuted, that they support human rights. We will need them so much in the future. I have the impression that the lights are going out all over Europe once again. But darkness does not penetrate everywhere.

HELOÏSE, ELISE, ALANIS AND ALEXANE, after several days of involved in our team in Dunkirk, during the second half of June.

WHERE THE SEA FOAM AND THE WAVES ARE SIGNS OF ANXIETY AND HOPE...

Where the sea foam and the waves are signs of anxiety and hope . Where the crossing represents so much a target than a threat. Where running away is not coward, nor selfish, to the contrary. We have found a ecosystem punctuated by les association interventions and organised as a complete society.

We have found people with a present and a past but especially in search of a future.

During a discussion with Hemen, he showed us a picture of him before, wearing a suit.

Then he showed us his present dress, with a jacket which has just been brought to him. Between melancholy and hope for a future life, this moment was intense.

We tasted shawarmas from the shops, one evening , after a clothes distribution with Pascaline.

We have seen indirectly a dismantling during our last distribution. We could see anger on the faces but we were still given warm smiles.

We discovered the camps, appreciated their temporary residents and the different teams of volunteers. It's an emotional experience which has to be lived and show humanity of people around us

We are four students from the Institute of development learning in the Paris Sorbonne and we had the project to make a documentary called « Des Racines et des Elles »exploring mainly the women singular migratory journeys, especially in Calais and Dunkirk areas.

In order to achieve it, SALAM gently accept us to to escort them in food distributions and allow us to meet the exiles and exchange with them.

Every morning, while preparing meals, we met many volunteers, and exchanged with them about their engagements and functions in the association .The documentary aims, today, to highlight the dedication of the people in the camps, trying to guarantee the every day needs of the exiles .

We are very pleased that SALAM has accepted our request and we cannot but thank you to let us discover and live this human rewarding meeting.

You will be able to watch our documentary during the TropiKantes festival in the Paris tropical agronomy garden on 29 september 2024.

Élise, Héloïse, Alanis et Alexane.

DOMINIQUE, ONE YEAR LATER, IS EXHIBITING photos of his visit to Salam in April 2023 in the Ardèche.



EXPOSITION
d'Artistes Champinois
et des communes voisines

Du 15 juin au 29 juin 2024
Salle du conseil de la mairie de Champis

Ouverture au public
du mercredi au dimanche de 14h à 18h

Avec la participation de:

Jean-Louis BANCEL	Calligraphie poétique
Alain CHOSALLAND	Sculptures bois
Martine COUVAMAN	Tableaux naturalistes
Mireille FAYOLLET	Aquarelles
Dominique BOUDAY	Photographies
Eric GUERIN	Croquis aquarelle
Christine MAURIN	Peinture sur soie
Marie-Béatrice MIGNOT	Calligraphies
Bernard SERRETTE	Visages bois chantourné
Dany VAUGRENARD	Peinture abstraite

Commune de **Champis**
Mairie de Champis ou la Bâtie de Champis
enseignements ou 04 75 58 31 37



WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

WHERE DO WE COME FROM?

WHO ARE THEY?

WHO ARE WE?

They're here

200 300 400 500 600... Thousands from all over the world chased from the land of their ancestors, the irresistible attraction of the English Eldorado

Sometimes a question "where is the hotel?"

- What have they been sold?

Here they are, in what is called "the jungle" here

Always on the lookout, hands clenched on their phones, anxious about news of their loved ones, they are waiting to know the hour of the great passage,

around the food associations they crowd

They're here

the volunteers, some of whom have been there for more than 15 years, they take turns to meet vital needs,

their cellars, their garages transformed into community kitchens

a van converted into a shower room or laundry room for socks

They're here

The smugglers, on the other hand, are on the lookout for customers – already more than 10,000 in 2024 (official data) –

themselves on the lookout for mafia men

They're here

The police, ready to respond to the instructions to destroy this miserable jungle

Ready to hunt down the canoes full to bursting with exiles, hands clutched on a garbage bag, they piled up their most precious possessions

Mardyck camp

DUNKIRK agglomeration

-april 2023-

Text and photos : Dominique Bouday

th

On 17 June, Dominique Bouday commented on us in an email: *"Clichés and texts provoke exchanges, and in this case rather compassionate and indignant. The others, I suppose, are silent!! »*

And here are three photos that can be recognized in the images of the exhibition, and which better show Dominique's work:





QUENTIN, on 26 June, intervened at the ESTS (school of educators of Saint-Omer), he will even be paid for his service for the benefit of Salam...

This afternoon I spoke at the Saint-Omer school in front of two groups of ten students to present Salam. It went very well! Many questions, many revised thoughts and ideas... At least one student is interested in giving her time to Calais. She had already inquired so she will take the plunge this summer. There is no group photo but a photo of my first slide.

THANK YOU

THANK YOU FIRST OF ALL TO THE VOLUNTEERS.

To those who come by, for long and short periods,

- To Louis, who came from Brittany for two weeks between May and June, very present, very motivated,
 - to Mohammad, our first second-year intern. He was supposed to do a week, but he insisted on doing two.
 - To Patrick who has been coming regularly from Belgium for years and has joined us twice this month for food distribution.
- Saraj and Diallo, former players that we had so much pleasure to see again on 22nd June.
- To Emma, here on a Monday, who promised to come back,
 - Belinda with her harp, accompanied by Christina, on 27th June at the Dunkirk camp, to the delight of adults and especially children,



Christina Tourin is the creator of the International Harp Therapy Program (IHTP). She came directly from the United States...

Thank you to our friends Amara, Karha, Lamine Koïta, Madona, Mirandadukhti and Yaya Diallo, who have been here three times a week by once, twice or three times to help us, since February.

To those who give time outside of attendance hours:

- for cakes (Josette, Elisabeth, Ghislaine... and the others of the Tour Alternatiba, who I didn't see go by...),
- for technical maintenance (Jean-Pierre in a fight between the Guérin cellar and Leroy Merlin to replace a wayward neon tube).

To those who are there, summer and winter, to the point that their presence seems normal...

Summer and winter... And even this sad season (from the point of view of the weather), we have seen summer outfits flourish!



They prepare, they distribute, they tidy up, they clean...

... even in the most difficult conditions, especially in Grande-Synthe with each flood that follows the heavy showers. The photos show the one from June 8, but there were others.





Special mention for the "nobly thankless" works, according to Henri's time-honored formula.

Ghislaine writes in the report of 13 June: "A little change in the basement with the installation of the old shelf rejuvenated thanks to a good coat of paint. This should help us find our spices and utensils more easily."

The bin on the side is waiting to be cleaned in order to receive the onions. This way they will no longer be crushed by potatoes and we will no longer have to lift bags to reach them. »

This harsh cleaning was carried out by Amara. Thanks to him.

A special thank you to Anne of Bethlehem who came to the aid of a family that Salam could not shelter:

"Ended the day at 6:30 p.m. with a family with two young children who didn't want to stay in the camp. I contacted Utopia but no families available to host tonight and for the hotels we needed papers... I called Anne who said yes right away!! Very happy!!", reports Pascaline on 15 June.

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

First of all, those who have extended the feast of Eid by donating food,

Those who turned our freezer into a Noah's ark:

the 20 kg of chicken on 15 June, the mutton (whole!) on the 17th, the beef (not whole!) on the 19th.

And of course Onjali, our faithful donor of the feast days, who provided the meal on Tuesday, 18 June, despite major personal difficulties that hindered her arrival and delays in the delivery of the meat that she had come to order in person.

Other food donors:

the children of religious instruction with whom we often have a little exchange when they pass by the Guérin room in Grande-Synthe. On 1st June, they gave a box of provisions for the exiles.

- Ghislaine's nephew who offered us a large batch of bottles of water, on 6th June ,
- the farm "La Motte aux Oies" of Doulieu, which sent us a shipment of courgettes on 13th June by Gaby,



our friends from the Secours Populaire/Copains du monde who brought bread and pastries to Calais once again on 18th June.

Here is the message of thanks: "Thank you friends for this new donation of bread and pastries on Tuesday. Thank you even more for the crates of fishing that fell so well: a week where we don't have the usual donation of bananas at the port.... Our friends will still have fruit... Thank you Christian, thank you Caroline, and thank you to Bruno for the transport! »

Textile donations:

the parish of Saint Bertin-Saint Joseph (of Bergues) which, thanks to the kindness of Brigitte and Marie-Christine who provides transport, never forget us:

*On 3 June, a chest full of the belongings of a deceased person from the parish (duvets, blankets, shoes, underwear, jackets...)

*two large bags per month (on average) of donations deposited at the church of Bergues, in the box set up for Lent a year and a half ago, and which is never completely full.

Martine C. from the Chapelle d'Armentières who once again dropped off impeccably sorted clothes on 4th June.



The AUDOTRI association, on which we can always rely on for donations of clothes and blankets.

On 27th June, B elinda's big car brought us a large pile of blankets and bags of clothes from the Paris region, among others from a collection of our young friends from the Sartrouville college.



"1st June: a very gloomy All Saints' Day, so much so that Pascaline did better than St Martin who had only given half of his coat... She gave her sweater to a freezing exile," says Arnaud in his distribution report.

A little bit of everything, says the formula, but on 15 June it was a lot! Ludovic, from Belgium, was back...

Pascaline says: "Ludovic wanted to go to the camp before because he had a few blankets and clothes and he had bought plastic sheeting. I joined him in the camp. He gave away almost everything he had: cans of tuna, cans of peeled tomatoes, soup, boxes of cereals, jams, rice, pasta..."

I was surprised to see the number of people who took pasta or rice... It seems that a lot of people still have the opportunity to cook. »



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 bank note, sent a cheque, made a transfer^{ed} directly or through Helloasso.

This month, we are honouring Vianney:

On 22 June, with his accomplice Sandrine, they swam around manhattan, swimming less than 5 m from each other...



Their comment:

"A little tired but happy.

A beautiful night that started under the sun before turning into a storm."

It is not he who is swimming in front of Manhattan, but one of his friends. The photo is however worth stopping for a few seconds...



His goal is to raise funds (goal: 5000 €) for Salam from the kitty

<https://gofund.me/1973ff3e>

This pot will be closed at the beginning of September, the "BENEVITY" platform will double the bet.

In the same challenge, for the benefit of the same account (i.e. for Salam), Vianney is also planning to cross the 32 km that connect Catalina Island to Los Angeles on 15th August at around 11 p.m. local time.

Two years ago (see our June 2022 Newsletter), Vianney had already shared his commitment and that of Benevity with us:

He had swum across the Channel (in the UK/France direction) and we had hit a nice tack.

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 mass of bananas offered by CONHEXA once a week, to EMMAÜS 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 ("twice upon a time") 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 Gianni, HRO, LDH, Maison Sésame and Tom de 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 and preparation chores (8 a.m.) to the end of the cooked 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

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 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 have been receiving much less fresh food 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 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.

<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

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.