

# 3WN

# Third World News

## ISSUE 1

# Carrying on Camping?

No need for the water carrier, the cooking stove, the camp larder, and certainly not the sleeping compartments. Just the tent itself and a groundsheet. Because this is not camping, but the by now well established quarterly **Traidcraft** stall, offering parishioners at the Sunday morning Masses the opportunity to buy a range of fairly traded goods, from tea, coffee, chocolate, dried fruits and muesli, to stationery and gifts; and all helping Third World workers to improve their living standard by a fair reward for their labours.

And the tent? Unused since the Whelan offspring outgrew family camping holidays throughout Europe, it has taken on a new life as an attractive venue, facing the main doors of the church, where its bright presence, although now somewhat faded by continental summers, provides a welcome to all as they emerge from Mass.



Fairly traded produce is clearly in demand, with sales from the June stall totalling £365 and many parishioners taking the opportunity to restock their favourite items - from one-cup teabags to yoghurt-coated raisins. Warm thanks go to parishioners, of All Saints as well as of Holy Angels, for their custom; and to

Gerry and Ursula in particular for ensuring that a wide choice of items is available.

**MAKE A NOTE NOW:  
THE NEXT FAIR TRADE STALL  
WILL BE ON 2ND SEPTEMBER.**

## TRoubled West Africa

Having supported last year the work of the Christian Brothers in Sierra Leone, this year it was again the turn of the Salesians working in Liberia, and the Lenten Lunch provided a total of £409. The donation brought a warm letter of thanks from Fr Joe Brown, just returned after 20 years in Liberia training young people, many of them former child fighters, in vari-

ous trades., and establishing the Don Bosco Polytechnic. Bro Donald, who attended the first of the Group's Lenten Lunches, in 1997, has himself recently spent some time on similar work in Liberia.



Scenes from the Lenten Lunch

## AN AMERICAN IN KATHMANDU

American Jesuit, Fr Gene Watrin, moved to Nepal from India some 50 years ago on the demise of the Raj, and now 80, has devoted his life to improving the access of the poor village people to education, housing, and health care. The Third World Group, through the generosity of parishioners, has previously supported Fr Watrin's work, and at the Group's recent meeting a further donation of £300 was agreed, again supporting the work of his Social Action Volunteers, enabling access of the poorest village children to hospital care, providing medication, blood and care, and running a mobile clinic.

Only days before the June Traidcraft Stall, the Nepalese King and Queen were murdered by Crown Prince Dipendra. Fr Watrin recalls the cele-

*The only flag in the world with this unusual shape, the Nepalese flag can invariably be seen adorning the Traidcraft tent.*



brations surrounding the coronation in 1956 of the murdered king's father, King Mahendra, and being given the responsibility for organising the Coronation Games on that occasion.



Fr Gene Watrin SJ at Kanti Children's Hospital, Nepal's only paediatric hospital.

*The newsletter of holy angels third world group*

# “The work of CINDI grows...”

Over recent years Holy Angels has taken CINDI to its heart having, until recently, our own presence there in Ndola, Zambia, in the person of Sr Ann Bagnall.

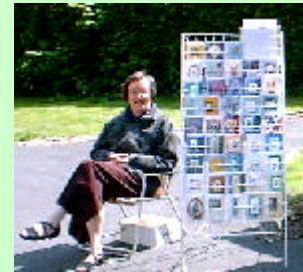
CINDI (Kansenshi), standing for Children in Distress, was founded in 1994 by four ladies concerned for the plight of orphan families, and currently cares for 945 orphans, aged from 0 to 19, lodged with a surviving parent, a grandparent or relative left with the care of an extended family, or often with someone simply prepared to act out of compassion.



These Guardian families currently number 262. CINDI gives help with food, school fees, clothing, health and medical expenses. Parishioners will recall seeing photos of Sr Ann helping with the digging of drains and foundations for a Centre where Guardians could go for help and advice. The Centre is now complete, opened by Sr Ann in February last year; and the Community School is proving a great success, and judged to be a model of good practice.

Several years ago the parish, through the Third World Group, undertook to fund the annual cost of a paid social worker, and has provided further financial support each year. Last year, in addition to funding the social worker, CINDI received a further allocation in July, and Holy Angels' Christmas Appeal, *Outfits for Orphans*, raised a magnificent £1,150.

*Sue Heaton, whose husband Mike is a member of the Group, is currently offering a range of her beautifully designed hand-made cards, with all profits going to CINDI.*

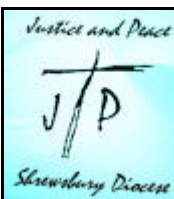


Sue with a selection of her cards outside the Traidcraft Tent

## INS AND OUTS

This year to date, amounts totalling £3,669 have been given to the Group for the Third World. The Special Collection in February for the India Earthquake Appeal raised a very generous £1,200. The Group's Retiring Collections in February and May together amounted to £1,147. The Lenten Lunch to aid the work of the Salesians in Liberia raised £409; and CAFOD's Lent Family Fast returned £895.

The Group have been able to continue support, in the sum of £200, from Holy Angels to the Medical Missionaries of Mary in Kenya, where Sr Rosetta and her colleagues provide valuable medical aid to the people of the Northern Turkana region of the country. A similar amount has helped the people of El Salvador in the aftermath of the earthquake there; and at the Group's recent meeting the sum of £300 was allocated to Médecins Sans Frontières who bring a swift humanitarian response to crisis wherever it occurs. As noted elsewhere the parish has also provided £300 to support the Social Action Volunteers aiding the poor village people of Nepal, assisting them particularly to obtain hospitalisation and essential care for their sick children.



Holy Angels Third World Group is party to the diocesan, nationwide, and indeed worldwide, Justice and Peace movement. Members of the Group attend the informal meetings arranged regularly at area level by diocesan J&P Coordinator, Joan Sharples (parishioners will recall Joan as a keynote speaker at the recent pastoral course in the parish), and also the diocesan and national J&P conferences.

Recent area meetings have covered topics as diverse as Globalisation and the impact of Human Rights legislation; while the most recent, by Pax Christi member and former industrial chemist, Joe Brown, was concerned with the Effect of War on the Environment - conventional as well as radioactive military testing, landmines, etc., and the major effects of the Gulf War — acid rain, chemical smog, reduced solar radiation, radioactive contamination, the destruction of marine life, the impact of depleted uranium—without considering the effect on populations, particularly on children, of subsequently imposed trade sanctions.

J&P area meetings are notified in Holy Angels weekly newsletter, and everyone is most welcome to attend these very worthwhile and instructive occasions.

## ...and other individual initiatives :

Not all the Holy Angels' aid to Third World countries goes from the Group. The SVP also send significant sums, eg through their Twinning arrangement with SVP conferences abroad. Individuals too mount generous initiatives. The art exhibition staged by Judy Penny last year in Altrincham Library realised the princely sum of £2,300 for CAFOD; and when Maureen O'Callaghan received an approach for help in educating a young girl, Kananelo, in Lesotho, she laid on a Summer Lunch at her own home to raise the needed funds. That initiative was followed up by Bridie McGinn sending books. Kananelo's grateful response asked what could be done in return. A photograph, Bridie suggested - so watch this space!

**But a sad postscript to the above, and to this Newsletter: Kananelo, commenting at Christmastime last year on a photo of Maureen with husband Peter, wrote: "I dearly loved the one where you were with Mr O'Callaghan. It is good news that you are growing old together!" Peter has been killed in a car accident, and Maureen at the time of writing this is in intensive care. All in the Group offer Maureen and her family their sympathy at their loss and wish Maureen a full and swift recovery.**

Prepared by a Group member this Newsletter may not always represent the views of the Third World Group as a whole. There is also an extremely wide range of highly relevant topics and few can be included. It is hoped however that it will prove acceptable as better than nothing. It is hoped, moreover, that parishioners will feel encouraged, if not exactly inspired, to share in the Group's work by attending meetings where the desperate needs of the Third World are identified and considered on behalf of parishioners in a relaxed and sociable atmosphere, and efforts made to help wherever possible in compassion for the poor and marginalised of the Third World. Meetings are announced in the Parish Newsletter and all will be made most welcome.