



NEWSLETTER June 2015

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: indeed it's the only thing that ever does.
(Margaret Mead)



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

This summer days are growing warmer, and we turn to face the fullness of our daystar, the sun.

May it give us the energy to act at all times with love and kindness.

May we treat each person and each living being as a brother or sister, as a member of your sacred family.

May our business never eclipse our real work as a pilgrim on the sacred path.

Open our eyes and ears to the miracles you have hidden along our path. Let us find joy in the present moment, the only place where you dwell.



FROM OUR ARCHIVES

Migration - 1794

Just as religious intolerance in England gave birth to the Community in Liège back in 1642, so it forced the Community to make their way back over the Channel when revolutionary fervour swept through France and the Low Countries at the end of the 18th Century.

In February 1790 the revolutionary National Assembly of France, fearful that the Church held too much power, dissolved all religious convents and monasteries in an attempt to suppress monastic vows and Religious Orders. To read further follow this link:

<http://www.canonesses.co.uk/archives/migration-part-1/>



Numbers of the Community Travelling from Liège.

Landed at Greenwich 18th August 1794

49 Nuns 2 Priests

18 Boarders.....Servants.....Pensioners.

Luggage consisting of.....800 packages!

ASSOCIATION WEAVING DAYS APRIL 2015



A week after Easter we were pleased to be able to host a long weekend of reflection, discussion and prayer around the theme of "Connected Destinies - Social Inequalities." We welcomed many friends, Companions and Sisters and Lay People from our European houses abroad and enjoyed the spacious surroundings of New Hall.

Bishop Stephen Cottrell gave the keynote address beginning with a reflection on Christ's first words after the resurrection. He used the phrase "Woman, why are you weeping?" to challenge us to reflect on the social question: "With whom have I cast my lot?" He led us to consider to what extent each of us is prepared to be part of the solution as well as part of the problem.



There was also input from Mark Hopkinson of UNICEF and Claire van Helfteren and Damion Roberts of Capital Conflict. S. Teresa also spoke on behalf of the Medaille Trust. The full texts of their talks (and Bishop Stephen's talk) are available via our Website:

<http://www.canonesses.co.uk/news-events/uk-weaving-days/>

There were also some leisure activities during the weekend which included a Prayer Labyrinth in front of the main building at New Hall and a visit to Boreham Church, including a guided tour of the Bell Tower.



NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATION



We are pleased to welcome S. Thérèse back to England after being back in the DR Congo for over a year. There will be several opportunities to meet her before she returns to Africa in July. We are now waiting for S. Véronique to join her, followed by S. Petronella, S. Marie-Rose and S. Antoinette later in June.

RWANDA VOLUNTEERS

We are delighted to inform you that we have appointed Melanie Child and Phoebe Lim as our first cohort of volunteers to work with our Sisters in Rwanda. They will leave England in November 2015 and stay in Rwanda for six months.



We wish them well and look forward to hearing about their experiences upon their return.

PREPARING FOR GENERAL CHAPTER XI 2017

Work has already begun to prepare for our six yearly International Conference which will take place in Belgium during August 2017. The "Think Tank" group preparing the meetings met in England in May and we were pleased to welcome them and Lea Verstricht who will be the Conference Facilitator.



S. Teresa and S. M. Gabriel were pleased to go on a social visit to our Community in Bruges in April and to visit their new house for the first time.

St AUGUSTINE



"The world is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page."

MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES DURING LENT

During the Lent series at Howe Close on prayer, we had a memorable evening with Imelda Hodgkinson, who gave a moving talk about her experiences of how she brings prayer into every aspect of her nursing and caring in St Helena Hospice. Her openness and clear vocation is evident. We spent time in prayer remembering those who work in the Hospice.



During Lent S. Margaret Mary and S. Moira were honoured to be the invited guests of the Muslim Shia Ithna-Asheri Community of Essex for an inter-faith gathering to share reflections on religious teaching from different traditions on spring and the environment. This picture shows the Muslim resident scholar Shaykh Abbas Ismail giving his initial address.

THANK YOU FROM THE SEWING GROUP

The Melbourne Sewing Group would like to say a big thank you to all the people who have been so generous in giving them threads, materials etc. The Group has got off to a very good start.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 28 June** Fundraising for Africa: Garden Party, Stock (details on the Website).
4 July New Hall Dr Anna Rowlands of Durham University 2.30pm Talk on the Ethics and Theology of Migration.
10 July 7.30pm 74 Howe Close, Colchester, CO4 3XD and 2.30pm **11 July** Blessed Sacrament Hall, Melbourne, Chelmsford, CM1 2DU a chance to meet five of our Sisters from Africa.
17 July from 10am Quiet Day 74 Howe Close, Colchester, CO4 3XD.

All welcome to any of the above - for details and booking please contact crssuk@canonesses.co.uk or phone 01206 867296

Contact us:-

74 Howe Close
Colchester CO4 3XD
01206 867296

43 Anderson Avenue
Chelmsford CM1 2DA
01245 604108

www.canonesses.co.uk
Charity Registration No. 229288



The Association website:
www.crss-worldwide.tk

71 Cundy Road
Custom House
London E16 3DJ
020 7476 5490

22 Anderson Avenue
Chelmsford CM1 2BZ
01245 604128