



June 2012 Newsletter



Is that Tom Cruise?

This year is our 20th year and the last few months has seen a lot of activity, fundraisers in UK and a sponsored pilgrim walk during Holy Week in the Philippines which many of you kindly gave to. A brief summary then is that we were able to send **450 pounds** to China for bibles, **500 pounds** to Sudan for Slave redemption, **700 pounds** to the Philippines to the Laura Vicuna foundation for the Salesian sisters work with abused girls and child workers in the sugar cane fields in Negros island, **120 pounds** to India for the student sponsorship, **400 pounds** to Mary's Meals in Malawi, and **250 pounds** to Gambia to the missionaries of charity who provide medicines and other help to the poor there. So quite a spread of nations and different projects you have blessed.

God Bless You All !

Bibles For China

450 pounds has been sent to Asia Harvest for Bibles in Chinese and ethnic Asian languages. Here's the story of one Bible....A Chinese evangelist, Bro Yun was arrested for preaching in China



and sentenced to hard labour. His wife used to visit and smuggled parts of his bible inside his food, part of it baked in a loaf

of bread, more pages in a pack of noodles and so on until he had a complete copy. In prison he met with a Fr Yu, a catholic priest, they became friends and on his release many bibles were given to Fr Yu for the Underground Catholic church which he was later to become a Bishop of. One day Bro Yun's bible was found and confiscated, some days later the warden, who had been reading it, summoned Bro Yun to his office and became a Christian on the spot. What will the Bible you gave produce? You'll find out one day!



Laura Vicuna Foundation, Inc.

The Salesian sisters continue to expand their work and now have a mobile child

protection clinic serving metro manila and a special project in the works called 'children of the canes' which seeks to improve the lives of the thousands of child workers in the sugar cane industry. The rich plantation owners pay the transient workers to clear, plant or harvest at a rate per area of field, which works out about 30p/day so low that the adult workers have to enlist the help of their own children to make it faster so as to earn enough to live on. Even minimum wage rules are ignored by employers and so the children cant go to



Sr Marivic and some children you have helped

school and the problem has persisted for generations. The hope is to provide alternative income for families and offer school places to their children and other measures to improve their lot. **700 pounds sent.**

CSI Slave Redemption in Sudan

Year of Capture: 1989 -Liberated: January 2012

I was called Malwal before I was abducted. Now I am called Mousa. I was about ten years old when I was captured. in Atido, near Wau. I was walking on the road with my mother when the train came. We heard the shots, and then we were under siege by men on horseback. My mother ran away, but I was taken with seven other boys. They immediately put us on the train, and we headed north. The adult captives on the train car were tied up. The children on the train cried all night. The ones that cried were seriously beaten. Two stubborn children who wouldn't stop crying were tied up and thrown out of the window while the train was moving. I did not cry, because of what I saw happen to them. We spent two days on the train.

At first, I was taken by a man named Ruma. He gave me the name Mousa.



Later, I was stolen from him by a man named Mohammad Gadallah. I had to take care of his camels and sheep. Another slave I knew, named Deng, was shot and killed by Gadallah's cousins. Gadallah told me, "If you try to escape, I will shoot you like Deng." *imagine, Mousa was redeemed after 23 years a slave.*

Background on the "Slave Train": -A large number of murahaleen raids on villages in Bahr al Ghazal [a region of South Sudan] are associated with the seasonal movement of the military supply train that travels between Babanusa and Wau. ...The purpose of the train, which is run by the military, is two-fold: to supply government garrison towns along the railway line, and to destabilize northern Bahr al Ghazal. The government recruits murahaleen in South Darfur and West Kordofan to protect the train. The recruits are registered and provided with guns and often with horses. The horse-mounted men create a security cordon several km's wide on either side of the line. The cordon is created by raiding and burning villages deep into Dinka and Jur Luo territory. The raids are brutal, with killing, rape and amputations reported in addition to the looting of cattle and other property and the abduction of civilians as the train returns north." **500 pounds sent to CSI slave redemption**



All our MIR project videos, including Bosnia convoys, along with many Christian music videos, Medjugorje documentaries and other content have been compiled and uploaded to the internet and incorporated into an internet TV channel, currently just looping 24/7 if you would like to view any of them just go to the channel website at: <http://mirtv.weebly.com>

There is also an area with video-on-demand so you can select a particular video, and a feedback page for you to share any ideas you might have for the channels development. **Tune in !**

INDIA:-Thanks to all who collect aluminium cans/foil ,printer cartridges and old mobile phones as this has now funded 24 students in India for one year college courses, They have studied a diverse range of careers like teaching, mechanics, computers, nursing etc ..a future & a hope ! Two more students have been sponsored (**120 pounds**) during this period.

SIR's Backpack Appeal

The last batch of **200** backpacks were sent out earlier this year with SIR and a total of **400 pounds sent** for their Mary's Meals programme in Malawi. This is our annual appeal around Christmas time so please help to promote it or organize it in your parish or school. For a list of items to include in the backpack see our website for the appeal letter and list. (see download section).

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"You can give without loving, but you can't love without giving"