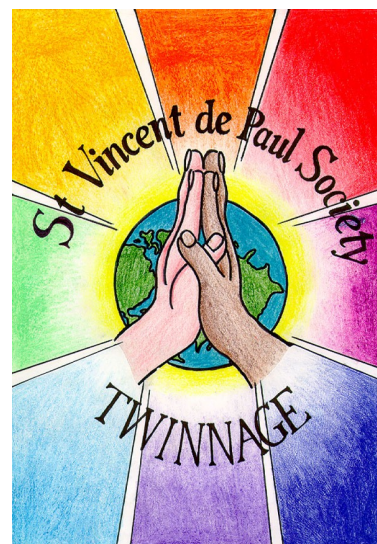


TWINNAGE COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER No 116

November 2006

Tithes & Twinnage: As you may be aware the National Council have agreed that the tithing procedures will be changed with effect from 1st April 2007.



From this date Conferences will be required to pay a percentage of their whole income to “SVP Support”. There will be no deductions for payments to Twinnage (or any other reason).

The National Council are aware of the potential damage this could cause to the Twinnage scheme and it has therefore been agreed that the amount of tithes paid on sums donated to the Twinnage scheme will be refunded to the Twinnage Committee, less a reasonable sum to cover the burden of our costs on the national administration.

Changes to Twinnage Payments: The Twinnage Committee are naturally concerned that some conferences will have great difficulty in meeting their commitments and have therefore agreed that the twinnage payments will be reduced with effect from 1st April.

The new figures will be:	India, Sudan & Guyana	£100 pa
	Grenada	£130 pa
	Romania	£200 pa

The difference will be made up from the monies refunded by National Office. **Our twins will not get less than they do now.**

Projects and Sponsorships: The Committee have decided not to automatically reduce the sums requested for projects or sponsorships but we will, on request, reduce the sum sought from sponsoring conferences by the value of the tithes they have paid. The money will then be made up from the sum refunded by National Office.

This will be particularly relevant where conferences have specific fund raising appeals or events to fund small projects.

ANNUAL REPS' MEETING: A date for your new diary. Subject to confirmation from the Depaul Trust our annual meeting will be held at the usual Birmingham venue on Saturday 31st March. Confirmation and directions will be sent nearer the date.

I look forward to seeing everyone there.

SUDAN APPEAL: There has already been a very positive response to the information sent out to all conferences promoting the Sudan Appeal. Since the launch at Westminster we have now raised £103,000 directly from this appeal and applications are arriving at a most encouraging rate.

We fully understand that this is not something all conferences will wish to promote – some are struggling on with a few elderly members and others have a large workload in their own areas which takes up all the members' spare time. Please explain this to any who may raise the issue.

As well as circulating conferences Kate Bretherton, our National Fundraiser, has sent information out to all the diocesan offices and we have already had a number Bishops contacting national office to ask for more leaflets so that they can circulate their clergy. She has also circulated the diocesan newspapers with a press release.

FESTIVAL MEETINGS: Ian or I will be very happy to speak at any Festival Meetings which may be planned. Alternatively we have a rolling presentation on Sudan and the appeal which can be set running on any laptop computer as part of a Twinnage display. Please ask for a copy.

SUDAN DAY OF PRAYER: Whilst raising funds to support the work of our members is Sudan is occupying our minds we must not forget that our prayers are needed for all the peoples of this troubled country. We are therefore asking for a Day of Prayer for Sudan on February 8th, the feast of St Josephine Bakhita.

LEBANON & THE HOLY LAND: The Council General web site www.ozanet.org has two newsletters giving details of the relief work undertaken. I have e-mailed copies to those with that facility and enclose some extracts for those without.

The work in Lebanon in particular has been quite exceptional and I would urge anyone without their own computer to seek out a bright lad (or lass) who can show you the full story on the web site.