

# TWINNAGE COMMITTEE

## NEWSLETTER No 121

March 2008



**The end of the year is coming:** With our financial year ending on 31<sup>st</sup> March, and bearing in mind the changes in Twinnage sums being charged this year, I would like to be able to produce reports on the state of each twin's payments as quickly as possible.

To this end could I ask that monies are banked as close to the end of the month as is practical and yellow sheets are send in immediately, a note confirming when the last banking of the year has been done would be useful. We will aim to have everything that reaches us by April 4<sup>th</sup> on the system and produce reports for those CCs for distribution at our Birmingham meeting. We can then address any anomalies promptly.

Please remember that only money banked on or before 31<sup>st</sup> March counts in the financial year, please don't bank money in April and date the yellow sheet March as this throws the bank reconciliation out.

**Birmingham Meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> April:** An interesting addition to the circulated agenda will be a PowerPoint presentation from David Wiles about his recent visit to India. As well as getting an update on the tsunami orphans scheme David visited the states of Meghalaya, Himachal Pradesh and Assam, in the far north east of the country. This is an area where the SVP is concentrating its efforts to generate more conferences. David asked one elderly member if they saw may European visitors and was told that that he was not the first Englishman to visit his village, he remembered another coming - in 1946!

CC reports received in advance of the meeting will be circulated to all those attending for their information. If you are bringing your report to the meeting it would be helpful to have enough copies for distribution.

I look forward to seeing as many as possible there.

**Sudan Festival Meetings:** We are very pleased to have Kamal Tadros, SVP Sudan National Secretary visiting us in early June.

Two formal meetings are being arranged for all members:

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June: There will be a meeting in London but finding a suitable venue available on that day is proving a little difficult. I hope to have news about this by 5<sup>th</sup> April but in the meantime please put the date in your diary – it will happen.

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30: A meeting venue has been booked at St Winifride's Church, 54 St Paul's Avenue, Bradford BD6 1ST

If you have not had a chance to meet Kamal and hear him speak this is a great chance to hear, at first hand, from the man who has been the driving force behind the work of the SVP in Sudan for very many years. If you have heard Kamal before I know you will not need more encouragement to come along to one of these meetings and bring others with you.

There will be other events arranged during the week, mainly in the North West, but the London meeting will be the only opportunity for those of us in the South.

**Disaster Fund – India Riot Damage:** The anti-Christian riots which affected the Indian state of Orissa over the Christmas period received virtually no publicity in the UK, the only publication that has come to my attention which reported the events is The Tablet.

We have sent a donation from the Disaster fund to assist in rebuilding 20 of the some 600 houses which were destroyed. The costs is Rs 50,000 per house (about £650).

There will be a fuller report in the forthcoming Vincentian Concern

**UK Floods:** We still have funds available to support any CC which needs assistance with the aftermath of the Summer's floods. Please.