

# AWARENESS

Issue 76

50 years of getting others back on the road to self-help

## BUMPER ISSUE

12 pages of news from over the past 50 years  
December 1974 - December 2024



**SPECIAL EDITION**

**READ ON**

A special issue delving into 50 years of archives - exploring stories from Newspapers, previous issues of Awareness and vehicle reports from over the decades.





## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



**STEVEN  
HOUGH  
LEICESTER**

As a change from our normal 'WHO'S WHO' focus on introducing a different Member of the Association (volunteer Speakers, Staff, Trustees etc), for this special 'retro' edition, we have a real blast from the past. Our graphic designer, Karen, was combing through the archives, and found this - very reminiscent, I think, of 1970's children's TV:

Master Steven will be a youthful 52 (or so) by now, and was one of many youngsters who would write in with donations, from school groups having done a whole range of sponsored activities, say, or individuals like Steven who had forgone something or saved up their pocket money to add to the fundraising efforts of the early 'Survive'.

What will be fascinating to see is if Steven is out there somewhere, and gets to hear of our tardy recognition of his generosity - which dates from December 1980.

Sorry Steven, what can we say? Better 44 years late than never? The equivalent these days, by the way, (allowing for inflation since 1980) would be £108!

Even for 8-year-olds in today's world, this is surely a very tidy sum to give up...

So if you're out there and see this Steven, (please tell him if you know him!) do get in touch. We can't promise you a Blue Peter badge or some Crackerjack pencils ('Crackerjack!!') but it would be great to catch up on the 'missing years'.

Dear Survive I have won £50 in premeon-bond so I am giving you £25 of it I hope it will help you buy your Land-Rovers and medical equipment

I wish you a merry Christmas and a wonder-full new year I saw one of your missonries say mass at the sacred hart church.

My Dad is a Dr at Loughbogh University and he often goes abroad to Africa Nigera and ectra

from Steven Hough Age 8

**Patron:**

Most Rev Malcolm McMahon OP,  
Archbishop of Liverpool

**Appeals Organiser:**

Sue Valentine

**Finance Officer:**

Margaret Jackson

**Director:** Simon Foran

**Appeals Administrator:**

Geraldine Roberts-Stone

**SURVIVE-MIVA is a Catholic Lay Association and a Registered Charity (No.268745) founded in Liverpool in 1974.**

**We exist to provide funding for essential transport for health outreach work in isolated rural areas, and for the Church's pastoral care in places of difficult access.**

We have some 35 lay Speakers based across Britain who make appeals for funds in Catholic parishes via short lectern talks about those we do our best to help in a very practical way.

We are grateful to the Bishops of England, Wales, and Scotland for their support in our endeavours as the only UK-based charity to fund exclusively for transport.

## WE URGENTLY NEED YOUR HELP

*Could you join our group of volunteer Speakers?*

Contact us at  
**5 Park Vale Road, Aintree,  
Liverpool, L9 2DG.**

Tel: 0151 523 3878

E-mail: [info@survive-miva.org](mailto:info@survive-miva.org)

or visit us online

[www.survive-miva.org](http://www.survive-miva.org)





# PIONEERS, THEY NEVER SAY DIE...

2024 means we rack up half a century on the clock, dear Readers, and here we are, 'still rollin' along, singin' a happy song...'

Well, that was Burt Bacharach's first credited score, apparently, from 1961, and coincidentally, the year of my birth - but to take you back in time to SURVIVE-MIVA's genesis, the cheery ditty would surely have to be Abba's 1974 chart-topper 'Waterloo', as Gloria Gaynor didn't release 'I will survive' until 1978 - but enough of the pop nostalgia.

To recognise and celebrate the work which has been done since then, we have taken something of a risk for this edition of the magazine, departing from our recognised look and layout, and, as you can see, have instead 'reverted to type' (literally) with a taste of how things used to be.



I think you'll agree that times have changed almost beyond recognition since the 70s - just as the magazine design has - although what remains consistent, in spite of all, is the need for which our Association was set up to try to fulfil as best we can - within our limitations and very specific remit.

*That need - the availability of a means of essential transport - has remained the same.*

Over the years, both our response to requests that come in, and our funding priorities as to what goes out, have evolved with the changing circumstances - and will have to continue to do so if we are to thrive in the years to come. It's perhaps worth a brief look back, then, at some of the major developments which, slowly but surely, have taken place in the interim.

The very expression 'what goes out' is a case in point. The founders of the charity, the ones who began this journey and took those first tentative steps back then, were venturing into the unknown, in almost every conceivable way. They were breaking new ground, and developing what today we might call 'coping strategies' (don't panic!), as they initiated, discovered, and put into place their way of making mobility available to our early beneficiaries. This was before the days of globalisation, just as the rise of Japanese conglomerates such as Toyota, Suzuki, Kawasaki, Honda and the rest were making inroads into European markets. In the same way that in those days there were no empty fizzy drink tins and abandoned oxygen bottles littering Mount Everest, neither was there any ready availability of dealers in four-wheel-drives and off-road motorbikes in those places where the Church's Mission was wanting to expand.

The conditions leading to both these contrasting but linked sets of circumstances hadn't yet arisen.

**SURVIVE MIVA AWARENESS**

NEW ISSUE No. 2  
EASTER 1987

Newsletter from the Charity which provides  
MISSION SUPPORT in the form of **TRANSPORT**

God be with you and bless you  
this Easter

**HE IS RISEN**

ALLELUIA



50 years of Getting others back on the road to self-help





'Survive' vehicles then were in the large part donated and reconditioned by UK volunteers, and sent overseas in containers, to make their way eventually to a distant 'base camp', often arriving worse for wear, months down the line.

Looking back through what records have survived - old fax print-offs fade to invisibility over time - the gradual change in funding priorities to determine beneficiaries also becomes apparent. The original priority, in place until the late 1990s, was for 'British and Irish' missionaries, with the expression 'and exceptionally others' meant to cater for the rest of humanity. Everything is of its time, of course, but even so...

Practically speaking, these priorities were determined largely by the circumstances at hand. With no overseas or 'Third World' experience, and no overseas Staff, our forerunners by and large depended on UK- or Ireland-based Missionary Orders for their guidance in all sorts of practical matters. There has been a complete revolution since then.

## WHAT IS SURVIVE-MIVA

Founded in 1974 SURVIVE supports Missionaries throughout the world by providing vehicles to enable them to reach areas which would otherwise be without medical or pastoral aid.

In the developing world transport is a critical link. Reliable, sturdy vehicles ensure that the Missionaries can extend their love and care to thousands who are out of reach by foot but only a short ride away.

SURVIVE-MIVA operates from its Head Office at the University Chaplaincy Building in the Metropolitan Cathedral Precinct in Mount Pleasant Liverpool, with Regional Administrators in almost every diocese in England, Wales and Scotland. Over one hundred lay men and women give their time to make church appeals, organise Flag Days and visit Schools and Parishes to raise money and create awareness of the Missions' need for transport.

Since 1974 SURVIVE-MIVA has supplied one hundred and seventy-six vehicles for the missions - ambulances, mobile clinics, dispensaries, trucks, station wagons, motor cycles and pedal cycles. And the need continues. In addition to the thirty-six projects completed this year, eight more are currently being funded. Twenty-six further projects have already been accepted for funding in 1986 but many other worthy and urgent applications had to be denied through lack of funds. The Missionaries who need the vehicles for their medical and pastoral work look to SURVIVE-MIVA to provide them. With your help can continue to do so.

HELP US HELP OTHERS SURVIVE



### Survive sends estate car to Kenya missionaries

Fr Frederick Matthews, Episcopal Vicar for Religious in Liverpool diocese, blessed and presented a Survive-Miva S2 estate car to the Medical Missionaries of Mary last Friday.

The blessing took place outside the University Catholic Chaplaincy. Sr Margaret McGrath accepted the car on behalf of Sr Rita Hand, a Medical Missionary of Mary in

Kitale, Kenya.

The cost of the car, about £6,000, was mostly raised by Catholic schools and colleges in the Manchester area.

Today, we talk of 'reverse mission'. Since the early 2000s, there have been virtually no requests which reach us that are not from indigenous sources. In other words, they are overwhelmingly from those ordained or professed in the Dioceses in which they were born, and to whose culture they belong, or are from countries that are part of the Global South. They are truly 'home-grown'. As evidence of this, it was only fairly recently that Fr Patsy, a Liverpool-based Irish missionary 'returnee', spotted one African Bishop's name in our files, and said 'I remember him when he was one of our altar boys.'

Well, it certainly makes a change from the police looking ever younger these days...

Added to this, we increasingly receive requests from Indian priests and Sisters working in African countries, for example, and a quick shuffle through twenty years of back issues of the magazine shows hardly any 'western' family names (for want of a better expression) these days.

This is no doubt a consequence of the contemporary shrinking of the Church in former 'sending' countries such as ours, where vocations have dropped, parishes are closing, and we are now encouraged to form 'parish families', with a main 'mother' church and 'daughter' ones attached (what in Africa have long been called 'outstations'), to allow for the lack of priests and falling numbers generally.



The Laity will (have to) have a much greater role to play in the future life of the Church here, which is surely no bad thing. Whereas here, a daughter parish is one which has been 'downgraded' (again, for want of a better expression), in Africa and beyond, once again, it's the reverse - outstations in time grow into fully-fledged parishes in their own right.

Just as our constituency of recipients is now of local origin, the same can be said of the 'business end of things', in terms of both the end product, as well as the end users. The vehicles we fund may also now be said to have local origins, in that they are all bought in the region in which they will be put into service. Buying locally means an official warranty and genuine, readily available spares, and helps boost the local economy too, in the form of a direct cash (not credit) injection - as well as reducing our carbon footprint, given that distances between origin and destination of the vehicle are now tens, not thousands of miles...

With Toyota and the rest having dealers worldwide, we are no longer obliged to deal with the myriad problems with which our founders had to contend, and looking through the archives, I can only admire them for their stamina and resilience. The difficulties included the fact that what they had to offer were second-hand to begin with, and would sometimes be laid up for long periods due to lack of parts, which also had to shipped out.

There was the inevitable forest of paperwork here and overseas, and charges levied by both national and local authorities to register and make the vehicles road-legal - and all this after they had been cleared of import taxes and allowed out of the docks and into the host country in the first place. Phew!

From the distant days of the early pioneers of the Association, who surely could never have envisaged that we would still be here fifty years on, our faithful band of itinerant volunteer Speakers have been unceasing in their efforts near and far to speak up and out for those who want to share and spread their skills and ministry overseas, and backing them up have been you, our readers and supporters. You have kept the wheels turning, to the extent that during the last five decades, the Association has provided funding for well over seven thousand modes of transport, from the humble but effective bicycle to the life-saving medical outreach vehicles which fill these pages.

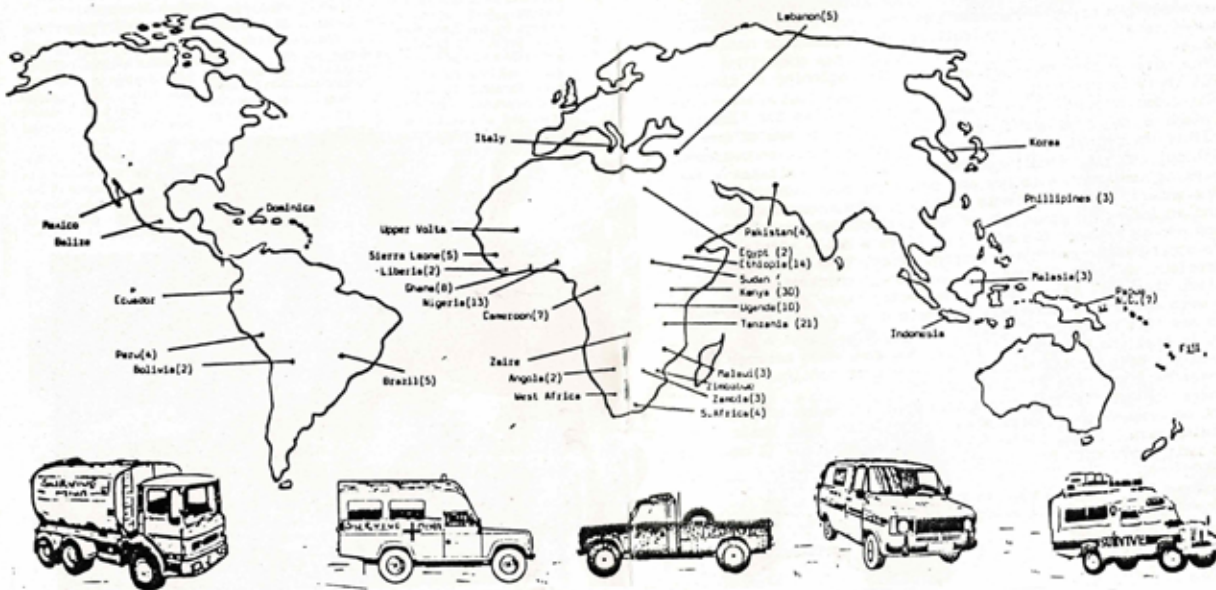
We in the office, perhaps like you at home, usually try to avoid fuss, but that doesn't mean we can't all of us feel a justified sense of pride in our efforts, and, after fifty years, give ourselves a rousing three cheers - here's to fifty more.

Hip hip!!

Simon Patrick Foran, Director.



## SURVIVE VEHICLES ARE WORKING TO SAVE LIVES ALL OVER THE WORLD



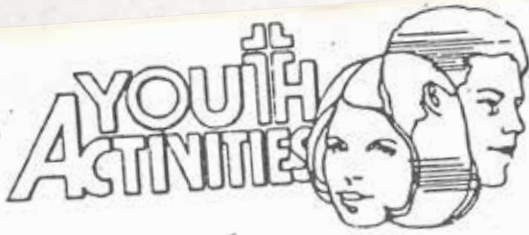
50 years of Getting others back on the road to self-help





# OLD NEWS FROM OVERSEAS

Over the following pages, we present a selection of early publicity shots and feedback from former beneficiaries, along with one or two highlights from the Association's back catalogue. Perhaps they will bring back memories, or maybe a sense of the passing of the years for our longer-term supporters, but we think they illustrate the impact your support has had over this last half century. As has always been the case, it's worth us pointing out that none of this would have been possible without your unstinting generosity towards those who have medical skills and pastoral experience to share, but who lack the means to reach out to their people.



The Portsmouth Diocesan Youth Service completed a marvellous effort in 1986. They raised the magnificent sum of £11,197, in order to purchase and send a 3-ton Bedford Truck to Sr. Barbara Jagger, Franciscan Missionary Sister in charge of St. Francis Hospital, Nsambya in Uganda. Eighty different groups of young people, small parish groups, schools, families, and deanery groups, worked in a variety of ways to raise money. As well as the usual raffles, coffee mornings, jumble sales and sponsored events some very imaginative schemes were undertaken - car washing, cleaning up of church grounds and seventeen year old twins hired themselves out as 'slaves for a day'.

The truck was ordered and delivered but the young folk were not satisfied. It seemed a shame to them to send out an empty truck. Medical supplies were begged from hospitals - dressings, syringes, gloves, appliances, bandages, etc., packed into twenty crates and loaded on to the vehicle.

The truck was driven to Felixstowe and shipped to Mombasa on the m.v. "Victoria Bay" and then delivered to Nsambya Hospital, Kampala where its arrival was greeted with wild excitement.

CATHOLIC PICTORIAL 14 December 1980

## 1981 sees Survive 50

THE year of 1981, DV, will see **Survive 50** leave the assembly lines of the UK, and roll into the Third World and provide prime medical care where it's most needed.

Sean and Jo O'Leary, Margaret Price, Fr. Austin Hunt, and all the staff, can then thank God for a marvellous record which all started from the desire to send **one** ambulance to the needy of Ethiopia.

This time last year, as New Year Bells rang out, I was in Alexandria with **Survive Thirty One**. The night was cold, strange to say. The noise was unbelievable, as seemingly all night long taxis and cars competed for the limited

room in the Egyptian streets.

Arabs bargained for anything that was going. Donkeys, with their overloaded carts, struggled through the chaos. The winds whipped up a storm at sea that eventually closed the port. Ships were at anchor as far as the eye could see.

Meanwhile the Russians moved into Afghanistan. The American fleet appeared 'from nowhere' and approached the Suez for access into the Red Sea. The world held its breath yet again.

The Liverpool Charity for the Third World had strange days ahead, but the world scene was just as it is today.

Trouble at home. Trouble in Ireland. Trouble in Europe.

Trouble everywhere... demanding from Christmas more faith, hope and charity for the New Year. What can we do to bring peace, well let's start at home, the only place we can, or if **not at home... the place we find ourselves in.**

As I said, for me, last New Year's Eve, it was in Alexandria.

I have always liked the Greek dancing that I have watched on screen and

telly. Last year as the New Year began, a group of Greeks formed their traditional circle, and began to move as only the Greeks can. I watched and wished to join in. A willing arm grabbed mine, and away the dance progressed.

Slowly the group circled the room and time stood still. A New Year full of promise, problems, and of fellowship had begun in a way I had never dreamed of.

Strange to say, it ends in much the same way. Who would have thought at the beginning of the year that the American hostages would still be headline news?

That Poland and the USSR have brought us all to realize how easy it would be to enter into World War Three.

The Brandt Report, El Salvador, the new American President, and many other things, make this time of human sharing just that bit more uncertain.

One thing remains clear, that **giving and sharing** is as necessary as ever. 1981 demands that of all of us. That's one reason why I rejoice in the fact that **Survive Number Fifty** will leave Liverpool for the Third World.



SURVIVE VEHICLES ARE WORKING TO SAVE LIVES ALL OVER THE WORLD





Saying... the title... Sacraments.

HELP US HELP OTHERS

# SURVIVE

SURVIVE supply Mobile Dispensaries to Missions all over the world, who not only have to provide urgently needed medical services but also pastoral care. For this, efficient transport is essential. Survive/Miva also provide pastoral vehicles to carry the Gospel and dispense the Sacraments, in the most inaccessible places. SURVIVE have already provided over fifty Ambulances such as the one seen here being blessed by His Holiness

Pope John Paul II in Rome on 12th December 1979. They hope to continue building one Ambulance a month at a cost of approximately £15,000 each, to meet the ever increasing demand for mobile dispensaries.



## SURVIVE-MIVA

International Mobile Medical Aid, Liverpool University Chaplaincy Building, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool L3 5TQ. Tel: 051-708 7250

His Holiness Pope John Paul II blessing a Land Rover Ambulance



### SM 1017 - AKWA IBOM, NIGERIA

Akwa Ibom State is in southern Nigeria, an area well known to Sr Maureen Brennan of the Medical Missionaries of Mary.

The Chief Consultant Gynaecologist of St Mary's Hospital in Urua, Sr Maureen tells us that many thousands of women die each year in childbirth. To combat this, Sr Maureen heads a team of specialists who pass on their expertise to local people, known as Traditional Birth Attendants, or T.B.A.'s, spread over a wide area.

From her research, Sr Maureen found that the primary reason women did not come to hospital to give birth was fear - of hospital fees. Second on the list was

bad roads and no transport available.

SURVIVE-MIVA was able to fund a minibus for Sr Maureen and her team, enabling them to get to and about - and train local people *in situ*.



Bad practice - a scene from a play illustrating how **NOT** to go about midwifery.

# EDITORIAL

## 25 YEARS OF SURVIVE-MIVA

December 15th 1998 is the first day of the 25th year of our operation, and we have come a long way since our founding, with well over twelve hundred vehicles of all types funded in countries spread across the Southern hemisphere. Many of them will long ago have reached the end of their 'mobile' life, but we know they will have still had a vital function - cannibalised as a source of spares. People sometimes ask about this aspect of our work - what happens when a vehicle 'gives up the ghost?' We don't fund for replacement vehicles, so doesn't that leave people high and dry?

At SURVIVE-MIVA, we recognise that any vehicle by its nature is a commodity with a fixed life. For this reason, we aim to fund vehicles for use on projects that have been planned to achieve certain objectives *within a specific period*. Open-ended projects have the in-built disadvantage of not having a measurable *outcome*: what this means is that we can't see *change* being brought about. An example of the type of sustainability created within the fixed life of a vehicle could be a medical outreach programme designed to train members of the local community. This means, for example, that with expert training initially brought in, a birth attendant or mid-wife would in time be someone locally based, decreasing the reliance on outside help, and at the same time, strengthening the community itself. ...

Not concentrating our scarce funding on projects which contain these elements could lead to our unwittingly creating dependency: suddenly no vehicle, then what? For this reason, and even though we are inundated with requests for assistance, we place such importance on the element of planned work within a *given time frame*. This too is our guarantee to you, our supporters and donors. You should know that your support helps others bring about *concrete change for the better*.

Even the longest journey begins with a single step, they say.

Well... here's to the half century!

*S. P. Foran*

Simon Foran  
Director



50 years of Getting others back on the road to self-help





**SURVIVE MIVA 52** — recently blessed by Fr Frederick Matthews the Episcopal Vicar for Religion — will be used by Sister Rita Hood and the Medical Missionaries of Mary to

the Kitale district of Kenya. They serve the needs of the nomadic Turkana tribe and the vehicle will operate in a radius of some 500 miles of the mission.

## Linking Wirral and Naka

**SPIDERMAN** joined Andy Pandy, Batman (minus Robin who was presumably elsewhere), Minnie Mouse and a clutch of clowns when 180 assorted characters took part in a recent Fun Walk in Birkenhead Park. Proceedings were started by a killed Irish piper. Everyone had a marvellous time and sponsor money is still coming in.

The link was all in a good cause because Mary-Rose, Turner and Father Stewart who organised the event belong to the Third World Group who are buying a mobile dispensary for a Holy Ghost Father working at a mission station in Nigeria.



The disaster of Naka is so remote that no missionaries have worked there since a group of German priests were interned during the early years of the Second World War.

For this day a large proportion of the 20,000 baptised population are Catholics. They have 20 Catholic primary schools — fairly basic affairs — and one Government secondary school. However, in the whole mission there is no hospital or clinic for maternity care and child welfare.

Two years ago the Bishop of Makurdi asked Father Hunter to re-open the mission at Naka and he moved into the old dilapidated mission house — 45 miles down a dirt road from his nearest colleague. The road is often impassable for two or three weeks at a time during the rainy season.

At the moment Father Hunter covers his 50 square miles of parish in a small pick-up truck. Fulfilling his spiritual and pastoral ministry entails throwing a mattress in the back of this vehicle to get sick parishioners to hospital very outside his parish boundaries.

It also serves as personal center for parish workers and is used for caring basic provisions and building materials.

Hopefully things will soon change at Naka because they are now to get their own resident medical team. And when Father Hunter visited Liverpool last summer he called into SURVIVE'S office to plead his people's need for a vehicle to provide a mobile clinic service for his large parish.

The Group at Birkenhead heard about Father Hunter and decided that he definitely would get his mobile dispensary. Now they are busy raising the cash.

When the Missionaries have completed their task it will mean that villagers in this remote area of Africa will at last receive maternity and child care including vaccination and immunisation against illness — as well as instructions in hygienic cooking methods and use of water.

Explains Father Hunter: 'The people had been praying for a priest for years. When I arrived the women came in line with baskets of lovely clear water on their heads. The children brought yarn and chickens ...'

It was just as well because Father Hunter arrived at Naka on Friday, 13 June to discover that his new home was leaking and termites had taken their toll of doors and windows and the ceiling was falling down. It was the first day of the rainy season.

## HELP NEEDED IN FAZAKERLEY

Dates for the Diary

# GRAND CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH

## IN AID OF

INTERNATIONAL MOBILE MEDICAL AID

# SURVIVE

BETWEEN GIRLS OF

## ★ SOLITAIRE GEMS ★

BOYS AND GIRLS OF

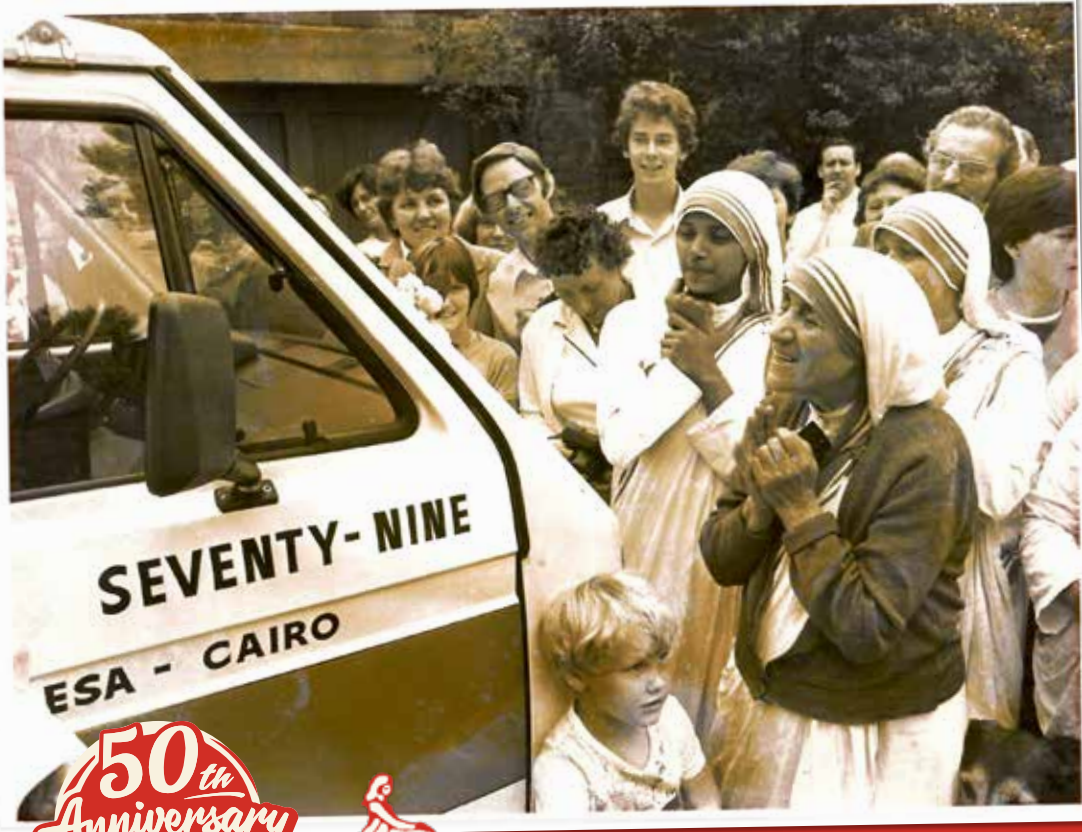
## ★ RADIO 194 CITY ★

# SUNDAY JUNE 29th 1975

AT  
GRANGE COMPREHENSIVE  
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ADMISSION BY  
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PRICE 20p



Charity Commission Reg. No. 268745

# SURVIVE MIVA

## Project Report 1990







### SUDAN: Aid reaches the people; the seeds of hope are planted.

Fr Paul Boyle, MHM, is the development coordinator of the Archdiocese of Khartoum. He is responsible for the Church's relief work with displaced people who have fled the violence in the south of the country, and a large part of this work involves the distribution of food and clean water to those in most urgent need. His pick-up, funded jointly by Mill Hill, SCIAF, and SURVIVE-MIVA, plays a vital role in his outreach work, which is aimed at the establishment and running of medical clinics and community self-help groups. Writing in September, Fr Paul says 'At present, we have over 2 million people living in the refugee camps around us; conditions are appalling, but we are making inroads. Please extend my grateful thanks to all those who contributed to the pick-up'. Our friends at CAFOD, as you may well know, also have encouraging news from Sudan - emergency aid is reaching those most effected, and even better, the tools and seeds that formed a large part of the aid given have meant that a harvest is once more possible in some areas, helping to restore a greater degree of self-reliance in food security.

At SURVIVE-MIVA, we receive applications from missionary priests and sisters from all over the developing world. We see the full breadth and variety of their work, be it in medical provision, educational programmes, or pastoral care of marginalised communities. Inside this issue of 'Awareness', we hope to give you a further insight into some aspects of this vital work, and one characteristic that they all share - an urgent need for essential and reliable means of transport.

# AWARENESS

# SURVIVE WEEK



INCORPORATING MIVA U.K.

# AWARENESS. 5p.

The staff of SURVIVE wish you a belated Happy New Year and are pleased to present to you the first copy of our new monthly newsletter for helpers and well-wishers, "AWARENESS".

Through our newsletter we hope to keep in touch with our friends and donors, and help them to keep up to date with the progress of SURVIVE, and more particularly, of our Mobile Medical Dispensary Units working in the field. It is hoped that as the newsletter progresses, the editorial staff will receive some letters, suggestions, and ideas from you, our readers; not only about "AWARENESS", but any ideas that you may have to help SURVIVE in our daily important work.

# Awareness

## i Saludos desde Bolivia! - Greetings from Bolivia

...And hello one and all - welcome to the latest edition of Awareness!

We have come full circle once more since our last issue, as the smiles to the right show. You may remember that in our previous edition, we included an appeal from Sr Josephine Purcell, (originally from Loanhead, Midlothian, now based in Quillacollo in the Bolivian Andes) for a vehicle to help her in her work looking after abandoned children. The small minibus you have since then provided is now on the road. *Most state-run homes have to separate brothers and sisters due to the nature of the way the system is organised, but thankfully that is not the case with us,* says Sr Jo. *Of the nine orphans and fourteen abandoned children in our family, we have five sets of brothers and sisters who will be growing up together.*



All things bright and beautiful - Sr Josephine and family

which as you can imagine, is by far the more preferable option." Writing in early February, Sr Jo informs us of some harsh realities: 'We are preparing the return to school, which is always a big event in the sense that the children are in several different schools; some have uniforms, others don't, but the lists of things we have to buy (and bring in with their vehicle) is terrible - it always upsets me that a lot of families have major problems sending their children to school. It

is sometimes a question of school or food..'

Your generosity has yet again meant that the poor and abandoned have seen their lives change for the better. 'I cannot find words to thank you enough for this donation,' Sr Jo continues, 'I depend entirely on God's Providence, and it seems He always has aces up His sleeve! Be sure that we will keep you very much in our prayers everyday so that you can continue your precious work.'

### READ ON...

...to see how your support is providing practical, everyday mobility to our partners overseas, and how your contributions bring hope to so many...



Dear Friends,

Mount Pleasant,  
Liverpool

1984 saw the completion of the first ten years of SURVIVE. Sadly it also saw the death of SURVIVE's Founder and Joint Administrator, Sean O'Leary.

1985 saw the beginning of a new era for SURVIVE. Its Co-Founder and Joint Administrator, Margaret Price, took on a new role. She is now SURVIVE's Support Groups Co-Ordinator with special responsibility for increasing SURVIVE's income by establishing and fostering Support Groups throughout the United Kingdom.

A new post of General Secretary was created to fill the gap left by the loss of both Administrators. A new and strong Management Committee was formed with representatives from Liverpool, London, Birmingham and the Midlands, Wales and Scotland. The Constitution was revised. SURVIVE with its 'new look' administration and management team faces the start of its next ten years with confidence.

Increasing our income is our No. 1 priority. The recent press and TV coverage of conditions in Ethiopia and the Sudan have increased everyone's awareness of the desperate plight of our brothers and sisters in these areas and provoked a marvellous response to special appeals for aid - Bandal, Fashionald, etc. Aid is now pouring in to these areas. But the need for our vehicles remains and applications arrive by almost every post.

Since our last issue of AWARENESS we have sent out thirty vehicles and eight more are awaiting shipment. Fifteen projects are being funded and we have selected a further twenty-six - medical and pastoral - for 1986.

To meet these commitments we need your help.

Administrative costs are rising with inflation. The national appeals for aid for the Third World have had an adverse effect on our income - people are so generous, but there is a limit to what they can give.

Please send a donation, no matter how small. Look on it as an extra Christmas present - a present that may save a life in some remote part of the world.

A happy and holy Christmas to you all.

Joel Hughes  
General Secretary



50 years of Getting others back on the road to self-help





# MEANWHILE, BACK IN 2024...

In the following pages we return to what you'd normally expect to see in our usual twice-yearly offering, so here are some updates on the latest beneficiaries and what they can achieve thanks to your support.

## BANGLADESH

### Archdiocese of Chittagong

Fr Anthony Gomes asked for help to fund a parish motorbike. He is based in Bandarban, in the Archdiocese of Chittagong, and told us: *"The Archdiocese is five hundred years old, and the biggest in terms of land area, with a great diversity in geography, and thirteen different tribal communities living in the hill tracts to the eastern side of the Archdiocesan limits. In total there are just eleven parishes and three mission centres, but there are innumerable sub-stations stretching from one end to the other, with some 33,000 Catholics in all. My parish is located in the hills bordering India and Myanmar [formerly Burma] and it is my responsibility to minister to 6,675 souls scattered over 65 hard to reach tribal villages. It is a rapidly growing parish and on average 80-100 adult baptisms take place each year."*



Of the 65 villages Fr Anthony struggled to reach, he said that 18 of them are more than fifty kilometres (thirty miles) away. *"There are no proper roads in this disadvantaged area, and no public transport, so people feel very abandoned. I want to change this, but we need to walk for long hours, sometimes up to twelve at a time. If the parish had a motorbike, we could provide more frequent pastoral services, and celebrate Mass and the Sacraments more often - in all the villages."*

On this occasion, a grant of just £1,400 was sufficient to fund the bike required to bring all that about:

*"Greetings once more from Fatima Rani [Queen of Fatima] Parish, Bandarban! I would like to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to you all for your support. As promised, the motorbike is being used by me for better pastoral care of the parishioners living in the most hard-to-reach tribal villages. Already I used the motorbike to visit 25 remote villages of the parish. It is now so much easier for me to frequently visit the areas in the periphery for formation trainings of children, youth and lay adults, catechism, sacramental service, liturgical services, and especially Sunday Eucharist and the nurturing of the small Christian communities we are building up. Now I can fully extend my pastoral journey with the people of God."*

*On behalf of the Fatima Rani Parish, Bandarban and my personal behalf, I extend sincere thanks for the great support of SURVIVE-MIVA to attend the out of reach Christians in the parish."*





# TAMIL NADU

## Holy Cross Sisters

Sr Jeyarani, of the Holy Cross Sisters, contacted us and told us of her work in south India: "The Rev. Bishop Singaroyan, the Bishop of Salem, invited the Holy Cross Sisters to initiate programs for the wellbeing of HIV infected persons in the year 2003, and we then established a Centre by the name of 'New Dawn', as an NGO, to cater to people infected and affected by HIV /AIDS. Due to the presence of industries and factories with transient labour, there is an alarming increase in the rate of HIV infection.

In societies stigmatized by this dreaded disease, people are doubly condemned. New Dawn seeks to enhance their dignity by providing medical care and support, skills development, income generation and children's development. This has been the expressed need of the infected and affected people by which they could gain some social acceptance. New Dawn has gained a good reputation in Namakkal District because of its effective and comprehensive service delivery.

HIV/AIDS remains a disease with severe social consequences, and primarily affects those who are already socially disadvantaged and marginalizes. The litany of social woes that accompany infection may include loss of relationships, unemployment, disability, burdensome health care costs and demands, stigma and ostracism, and fear of premature death.

Today, our program reaches 1500 PLHIV across 112 villages in seven blocks of the Namakkal District in Tamilnadu. The various programmes we run include:

Voluntary Counselling and Testing(VCT) - Positive cases are followed up with adequate medication for opportunistic infection and ART (anti-retro viral treatment) when it is necessary.

Through Counselling, the client is enabled to accept and to have continuous treatment and instructions for medical and health care.

Food and Nutrition Support - Proper food and nutrition is part of the package of care and support in increase immunity.

Direct Services for Infected and Affected Children - Children are the most vulnerable and the neglected group due to the spread of this killer disease. Although the infected and affected parents yearn to take care of the children, due to their own helpless situation, they are unable to provide them with an adequate supply of food, medicine and much more means for education. Hence, personal attention and care, coupled with empathetic and sustained counselling are very essential for the very survival of the children.

As the number of people are being affected by HIV increases, we need to reach out to many villages, but the fact that we are not able to reach the patients to provide medical facilities is a serious concern, due to the lack of transport facilities and as well as the villages are interior and in turn the patients are also unable to come for treatment to us in time. Some of the patients are also bedridden, (in the last stage of their life) and are not able to travel by public transport.

We want to conduct outreach to the villages to conduct medical camps and to provide home-based care to the HIV patients. We are urgently in need of a four-wheeler to provide better facilities to the people living with HIV, so kindly help us for this noble cause. I will be very pleased to provide any additional information needed. We will be very grateful if you could kindly consider this request for support."

Your contributions made sure we could come up with a £12,300 grant, and the Sisters are now independent and fully mobile.



# END OF THE ROAD?

50 years of getting others back on the road to self-help



We hope you found this issue of 'Awareness' informative, and you have enjoyed reading about those your donations help. We also hope that we have managed to illustrate just how important mobility is for those who work so hard for others. We are the only UK-based Catholic charity which funds exclusively for all different modes of transport. Making a donation will help ensure this is not the end of the road for the aspirations of so many people.

## CAN YOU HELP? You can contribute to our work in any of the following ways:

- Ask us to send you a Standing Order form to make a small regular payment
- Donate via bank transfer: **PLEASE USE YOUR POSTCODE** as your reference.  
Sort Code 08-92-99 Account Number: 65628977
- Donate online by visiting [www.survive-miva.org](http://www.survive-miva.org)
- Remember us in your Will by leaving a legacy
- Represent us by becoming a volunteer and giving a short talk in parishes in your area - contact us for information and full guidance on this.
- Add my contact details to your mailing list to receive the 'Awareness' magazine - just twice a year.

## DONATION FORM AND GIFT AID DECLARATION

Please detach this page if needed and send to Survive-miva, 5 Park Vale Road, Aintree, L9 2DG

I wish to donate the sum of £ ..... to SURVIVE-MIVA (Reg. Charity No. 268745).

By cheque  postal order  CAF voucher  made payable to 'SURVIVE-MIVA' (please tick appropriate box)

Or, please debit my: Mastercard  Visa  Maestro  Delta  Charity Card

Card no: .....

Expiry date: ..... / ..... / ..... Valid from: ..... / ..... / ..... Tick if you require a receipt

Please provide your address below.

E-mail address: .....

Prefer to receive 'Awareness' by e-mail, rather than by post? Please tick this box

You can also donate by calling us on **0151 523 3878**

## GIFT AID DECLARATION: In order to Gift Aid your donation please tick:

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I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ ..... to SURVIVE-MIVA & any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years. Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.

I am a UK taxpayer & understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

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Postcode: ..... Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

NB: Please let us know if your name, address, or tax status changes, or of you would like to cancel this declaration, so that we can update our records.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WHAT WE DO PLEASE VISIT US AT [www.survive-miva.org](http://www.survive-miva.org)

Our goal is to provide you with as much information as possible about what we do, and make browsing and supporting us much easier. Let us know what you think - we will be very grateful for your feedback and suggestions for improvements.



5 Park Vale Road, Liverpool L9 2DG E-mail: [info@survive-miva.org](mailto:info@survive-miva.org)

Tel: 0151 523 3878



@SURVIVE\_MIVA



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