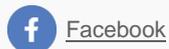


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**MissionAid**  
**July 2016**  
**Issue 106**



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## Welcome to the July Issue!



Students line up at the Ngong Faith School in Embulbul slum outside of Nairobi.

Embulbul is an urban slum settlement just outside of Nairobi composed of makeshift shanties. The school was built in 2002 by Fr. Kevin Mc Garry a priest from Belfast. On leaving Embulbul he handed the school over to the Christian Brothers. It is now run by a community of Australian and African Christian Brothers.

Photo: Lar Boland.

## A Message from our CEO

Welcome to our July issue of MissionAid! This month we have some great articles showcasing the work of our members in Syria, Peru, Thailand and South Sudan.

Last month, the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) interviewed Fr. Mourad Abou Seif SJ who had spent years as the JRS Coordinator in Aleppo, Syria until 2014. Read his interview in which he outlines the multi-denominational community work that he, his colleagues and many young volunteers are immersed in within Syria.

Ever wondered what happens when you give children a voice, and allow them to be actors in their communities? Well look no further than Warmi Huasi, a women's centre in Peru opened by Columban Sister Mary Neylon in 1997. Children and adolescents have identified risks in their localities, and have formed a group and developed a work plan to reduce these risks in public places to advocate for their rights. Watch now to see how children are transforming their communities.

For the last nine years, Fr. Jimmy McElroy from the Marist Fathers has been travelling to Ranong in Thailand to teach at a Summer School for Burmese migrant children. This year, he was joined by nine students from the Marist School in Dundalk, Ireland to teach English. Read a special report by Fr. Jimmy



**CEO Heydi Foster**

### News Stories

[Missionary Movement Transformed Over 2.5 Million Lives Last Year](#)

[I Took On The #SDGChallenge](#)

[The Road From Killala to Singida](#)

[Building Peace, Justice and Harmony](#)

[If You Educate a Woman You Educate a Nation](#)

as we journey with him to Ranong.

In May, we shared some good news about the hope for peace in South Sudan with the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity. At the end of June events took a turn for the worse as violence erupted in Wau in the North-West of the country targeting women, men and children, which has become synonymous with the decade old conflict. The Franciscan Missionary Sisters for Africa (FMSA) is one of a handful of Misesan Cara members that has retained a presence in South Sudan despite the dangerous conditions. The catholic cathedral compound where the FMSA sisters are based is now home to 24,000 Internally Displaced People (IDPs). Read how the FMSA sisters are supporting IDPs.

I hope you all are enjoying the Summer, and all it has to offer.

Kind regards,  
Heydi



**P.S.**

I am now on Twitter! Connect with me @HeydiFoster <https://twitter.com/HeydiFoster>

**Send us your photos and videos!**

We want to help showcase the work of our members by sharing photos, stories and videos of the wonderful work you do on our website, Facebook Page and MissionAid. If you have a photo, story or video to share then please email Tara Finglast [finglas@miseancara.ie](mailto:finglas@miseancara.ie)



**Connect with us on Twitter!**

Follow Misesan Cara @miseancara or check out <http://www.twitter.com/miseancara> for updates.

Follow our CEO Heydi Foster @HeydiFoster or check out <https://twitter.com/HeydiFoster> for updates.

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## **We Want To Promote The Wonderful Work You Do!**

We want to help showcase the wonderful work you do by sharing stories; updates; photos; and videos of on our website, Facebook and LinkedIn Pages, Twitter account, and in our monthly e-newsletter MissionAid.

If you have a story, update, photo, or video to share then please email our Communications Officer Tara Finglas [tfinglas@miseancara.ie](mailto:tfinglas@miseancara.ie)

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## NEW Photo Galleries 2016 - Annual General Meeting



Check out some of the highlights from this year's AGM. [View now.](#)

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## 2016 - Afternoon Tea Social Event



Check out some of the highlights from this year's Afternoon Tea Social event. [View now.](#)

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## **Stories from the field**

### **Interview With Fr. Mourad Abou Seif SJ From Syria**



June 20th was World Refugee Day. During the month, the Irish Jesuit Mission office honoured the courage and perseverance of refugees with a series of articles based on Jesuit perspectives and works with refugees in Africa and the Middle East.

In an interview with the Irish Jesuit Missions, Fr Mourad Abou Seif SJ, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Coordinator in Aleppo until 2014, gives an outline of the multi denominational community work that he, his colleagues and many young volunteers are immersed in within Syria. [Read now.](#)

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## **Video – Children In Action**



Warmi Huasi is the name that was given to the womens' centre in Huaycan, Peru which was opened by Columban Sister Mary Neylon in 1997. In the ancient language of Peru (Quechua) "warmi" means woman and "huasi" means house. The primary purpose of this centre is to improve women's self esteem. Courses and workshops are offered in leadership, empowerment and cultural appreciation. Warmi Huasi is an NGO based in the districts of San Martin de Porres and Carabayllo, north side of Lima, Peru. Warmi Huasi focuses on poorer communities where opportunities are limited. It works to improve the health and education of all and works specifically with women and their children promoting values of respect and equality and encouraging leadership and solidarity as a contribution to the social development of the communities. [Watch now.](#)

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## Nine Years Of Summer Mission In Ranong, Thailand



It was in 2007 that I first came for 3 weeks to stay and work with the Marists in Ranong, a town of about 100,000 situated in Thailand on the border with Burma,

now called Myanmar. Three friends came with me. What an experience it was. It was my first time in Asia and it felt like a different planet. No handshaking, lots of bowing, taking off your shoes when going into a school or house. A ceremonial bow instead of a handshake. Two races of people, Thai and Burmese, very polite but inscrutable to an Irish Marist priest. Everything so very different. This definitely was not Europe.

We received a wonderfully warm welcome from Fr. John Larsen and the Marist community. Then off to teach every morning in the lashings of rain in a learning centre (not allowed to be called schools) for Burmese children. Ranong is the wettest place in Thailand if not south-east Asia. [Read now.](#)

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## Renewed Violence Jeopardises Peace and Development in South Sudan



In May, we shared some good news about the hope for peace in South Sudan with the return of the first Vice-President James Wani Igga and former leader of the Opposition Riek Machar to the capital Juba. Their return culminated in the formation of the Transitional Government of National Unity, which was hoped to restore order.

At the end of June events took a turn for the worse as violence erupted in Wau in the North-West of the country targeting women, men and children, which has become synonymous with the decade old conflict. According to the UN, more than 70,000 people have been displaced, and dozens have been killed in some of the worst violence in South Sudan this year. This outbreak of violence throws a question over

the ability of the Transitional Government of National Unity to preserve an already precarious peace deal. And unfortunately many South Sudanese have lost hope that the violence may end. [Read now.](#)

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## Video – Working Together For Syria



"We are Muslims and Christians, Armenians and Kurds, working for Syria. Among all the violence around us, we are trying to create a small society." Fr Mourad Abou Seif SJ talks about the Jesuits' work with refugees. June 20th was World Refugee Day. During the month, the Irish Jesuit Mission office honoured the courage and perseverance of refugees with a series of articles based on Jesuit perspectives and works with refugees in Africa and the Middle East. In an interview with the Irish Jesuit Missions, Fr. Mourad Abou Seif SJ, Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Coordinator in Aleppo until 2014, gives an outline of the multi denominational community work that he, his colleagues and many young volunteers are immersed in within Syria. [Watch now.](#)

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# Upcoming Events & Training Courses

## MA in International Development at Kimmage Development Studies Centre

Kimmage Development Studies Centre is very pleased to announce that its long-running MA in Development Studies has been accredited by Maynooth University, beginning in September 2016. As a result of this new partnership the name of the programme is now MA in International Development. The content of the MA remains the same and the programme will still be taught at and delivered by the Kimmage Development Studies Centre, Kimmage Manor, Dublin 12. To find out more about the course content please click this link <http://kimmagedsc.ie/full-time-study/ma/> Applications for the 2016/17 academic year are currently being accepted, contact: [applications@kimmagedsc.ie](mailto:applications@kimmagedsc.ie)

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## Other Events & Training Courses:

- [Kimmage Development Studies Centre](#)
  - [Child Safeguarding - Organisational Self Audit Tool \(Free\)](#)
  - [The International NGO Training and Research Centre \(INTRAC\)](#)
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Misean Cara is a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. It is registered in Dublin, Ireland, No: 381117. Its registered office is: 563 South Circular, Kilmainham, Dublin 8. It has been granted tax exemption by the Revenue Commissioners in Ireland and has a charitable tax exemption number: CHY15772.

