



Toit du Monde

REVUE DE L'ASSOCIATION ASSISTANCE MÉDICALE TOIT DU MONDE

EDITORIAL

AMTM goes global !

After a fall of 10% in the amount of the donations we received in 2008 (it was only the third time since 1992), in 2009 the amount should be slightly higher than last year. The drop seems therefore fortunately halted thanks to your trust and I appreciate the true value of the effort each sponsor, donor or member in France or in the world –because recently donations also come from abroad- makes to continue his contribution to our activities in Nepal and India. This globalization is to be given to the credit of our patrons, Sébastien Izambard of Il Divo band, and Lara Fabian. Through their commitment, fans swell the ranks of AMTM supporters and some of them are very motivated: Lisa in Hong Kong, Bay Area Divans and Blue Angel in United States, the members of Il Divo official forum, of the Celebrazione and Lynette in England, Sabine and Michaela in Germany, Dutch Divas in Holland, Divomonia in Belgium, Whetne Mariana in Venezuela, Emma in Japan, etc. It's the combination of these generosities which allows us to maintain our four missions on the spot for the 18th consecutive year... This is at least a beneficial effect of the globalization for the 47,000 persons who receive the aid of the association each year. Thank you all! Let's carry on together!

Laurent Charbonnier, Président

ON THE SPOT

Words by...Christine Boissinot

« What is exciting is to regularly follow-up »

From October 22 to November 6, Christine Boissinot, paediatrician, hospital doctor, was in Nepal with 13 members of AMTM mission. On the spot, they examined children. A strong commitment to develop over time



«**M**y first mission for AMTM in Nepal dates back to 2004 and since I carry out about a mission a year. Unlike purely medical missions existing elsewhere, with AMTM we are very involved. What is exciting is to follow-up children regularly and to help them to gain their independence. It's a strong and long-lasting commitment. The work is very different from what we know in our daily professional life in France. On the spot, in fact, it soon becomes obvious that one can't work without the others. So thanks to work of the humanitarians who have made the access to water easier, to the putting in of showers, to hygiene training during the missions and, between them, to the follow-up by a nurse, severe skin infections we saw at the time of my first missions became less frequent and less serious. It's not all done yet but what an improvement! Vaccinations are another aspect of preventive medicine that we brought on the spot: it's a special moment because to vaccinate 150 people on a site within half a day requires everybody involvement and always in the good mood. There is also the work in clinics. I only know the one in Pharping which became an hospital in which we work with our Nepalese colleagues to treat everyone in the district. The help AMTM provides since the beginning of this beautiful project is remarkable and I hope it will continue and evolve to improve the access to care to the poorest populations. For all those looks, these smiles of children, all these exchanges (I think I give a little and get a lot), I will quickly go back on the spot... »

Vital surgery

Each year, AMTM seeks money so that patients can undergo surgery of which they have a vital need



Successful surgery for three patients: the hand, neck and heart

Eardrum transplant, appendicitis, renal colic... In Nepal and India, as in France, it may be important, even vital, to have surgery. Yet, families are often too poor to face it. As there is no social security cover, the patient gets over it with great difficulty or lives his life with his disability. A matter of emergency which AMTM wanted to respond by putting case by case aids in place for the sites it supports. Only condition to benefit of it: to ask permission

before the surgery. In other cases, surgeries are planned in advance. This way AMTM supports the Sisters of Cluny in India up to €2,000 per year. Up to them, through their clinics in the countryside, to list their needs and to schedule surgeries. Another way to identify sick persons: the missions during which AMTM doctors examine all the children. They often come across cases of chronic appendicitis, gallstones or fractures which need another operation." There are not many cases per month, Véronique Tiennot, AMTM medical referent, says, and we spend about €3,000 per year for surgical operations. This doesn't

take away from their vital aspect to whom is concerned". Because if a gallstone or an appendicitis quickly treated may be painful but not necessarily dangerous, they can be fatal in case of peritonitis. Not to mention congenital malformations which are frequent in India or in Nepal, and can be very uncomfortable if they are not operated. Like this 17 years old young girl who had always lived with a foot deformity. A disability of which she could get rid of by a quite simple surgery. Since she walks with a prosthesis and without stick. And she as rediscovered the joy of living.

A C T I O N S

■ Great success of AMTM team pole: **Talents et Partage**, Société Générale foundation, agreed to finance up to €6,700 the construction of a new kitchen for Palyul site where 270 children live.

■ Invited as one of the first founder of the medical house in Pharping, AMTM, represented by Eric and Kunzang Russenberger, attended the inauguration of new "Telemedicine" facilities in Pharping clinic, 30 kms from Kathmandu, with the Prime Minister of Nepal.

A commemorative plaque was offered to the association for its assistance.



Prime Minister of Nepal, Mr. Madhab Kumar Nepal, is handing the commemorative plaque over to Kunzang Russenberger

CULTURE - EDUCATION

At Jangsar monastery, west of Bengal, an artist carries on the tradition of these mysterious paintings, Tibetan people memories

Les thang-ka*, a still living art



They depict Buddhism sacred myths through meticulous and highly codified interlaced drawings. The painter who starts a thang-ka works on a coated canvas he covers with scenes and "heroes" in a symbolic and often lush nature, according to an order of which any improvisation is excluded. He may need a year to

finish it because some are higher than three meters. This pictorial art has existed for centuries and is still alive, supported by lamas and painters caring about transmitting their faith and know-how to future generations. It is the case in Jangsar, a monastery our association supports, where lives a talented artist

who creates high quality thang-ka. Once finished, his works are sold on the spot or in France. The perpetuation of this know-how has two advantages: it keeps Tibetan culture alive and it brings incomes which are considerable for the lamasery survival.

* from Tibetan word: "thing that we unroll"

Hygiene training

Inventing play teaching tools to make youngest children aware of cleanliness is a part of AMTM hygiene committee led by Jocelyne Nicolas, MD, Lucie Bouquet, graphic designer and Nathalie Dujardin, writer. Quizzes, games, posters... The three of them are concerned about imagining an effective pedagogy to teach basic hygiene rules to children not boring them. In the sites where we operate it is quite easy to significantly improve their life through basic rules: daily wash hands to prevent germs spread, hair and body to discourage scabies, lice and other ringworms which are omnipresent over there, brush the teeth to prevent oral infections and caries, teaching the cooker how to cook the rice at the right temperature so that it keeps its nutrients, and to change the water filters so that water remains drinkable. " But



Attentive children at hygiene training

despite our efforts, there still have serious deficiencies in our sites, Jocelyne Nicolas says, and it is absolutely necessary to make endless trainings to engrave these hygiene messages in their mind." This is the reason why the posters

with basic advices are plastered on every wall. "We have also conceived a very funny assessment quiz, Nathalie Dujardin explains. It enables us to remind these basic rules and to check that children remember the lessons. We also have invented tiny recurring characters and we are thinking about creating a comic book."

Children are interested by these tools which amuse them and are used as teaching materials by our local correspondent, Kunzang Russenberger, who is in charge of passing these information to our sites. But teachers and heads of the sites must also get involved if we want hygiene becomes an habit and lasts.

PORTRAIT

Kunzang, an efficient intermediary

In a few years, Kunzang, Eric's wife, has become an essential link for AMTM in Nepal

At the age of 29, Kunzang, our local correspondent in Nepal Eric Russenberger's wife, devotes all her energy to AMTM, on behalf of which she regularly flows-up the sites we support. AMTM has also made her responsible for the vaccination campaign, hygiene and prevention trainings given to the students. During the missions,



she also often solves small or big problems which may occur. A nature and an impressive determination, very useful in Nepal where things tend to take long, that Kunzang, who was

brought up by her aunt after the sudden death of two brothers, says she always had. This did not stop her often being top at school and elected captain of the group of girls. Then she studied in Kalimpong, in India, and taught for one year in Bhutan as a volunteer in an isolated school of the country. In 2004, she left to join her uncle, lama in Nepal, who introduced Eric to her. Since then, they have got married and have a young daughter, Yangchen, as lively as her mother.

ACTUALITÉ

■ The new 2010 AMTM calendar abounds with amazing and moving photos in a colored, bright and dynamic layout. A safe bet! For sale at the price of €7 on the webstore at shop.amtm.org.

Give it, it will be useful!

And don't forget our greetings cards, also on the webstore...



L'association recherche

■ A developer of web applications: PHP/MySQL (ideally etc.)

■ Volunteer doctors, GPs or specialists, to do medical missions

Thank you to the volunteers to contact us (see our contacts last page)

Tribute to Himalaya people

Since 18 years, Daniel Collin has taken photos of people's faces he meets during our missions. At the occasion of an exhibition which took place in Paris last October, he paid tribute to high mountains ethnic groups and sold his photos for the benefit of AMTM

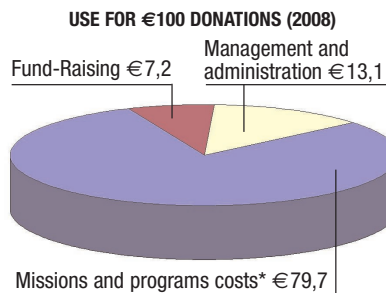


In the center, Daniel Collin at the inauguration of his exhibition, with the organizers of the event

He was already with us in 1992, when the association has been created. Since then, Daniel Collin has not missed many of our missions in Nepal, India or elsewhere. Over the years, he became the elected reporter of our activities and he has not stopped looking at these people from the end of the world through the tender viewfinder of his camera. "I was at the opening of most AMTM sites and saw each year how helpful, even indispensable, we are in all these countries, says he. During each of my travels, I went to meet the poorest people and everywhere I was welcomed with kindness and interest. Today, my picture library is about of 15,000 shots

and it appeared to me that all these faces that came to life just the time of taking a photo deserved an exhibition. To pay tribute to them and to bring money, which is always welcome in AMTM". So, during October, Daniel "hung" about sixty portraits on the walls of the medical office in Paris. After a successful private viewing and few weeks later, the sale of Daniel's photos brought nearly €3,000 to the association! "I had chosen various sizes, from the smallest sold at less than €100 to the largest which cost €500, and many were sold" says he, happy. Reminder: you can buy photos at the association head office or on the website shop.amtm.org.

KEY - NUMBERS



- > AMTM budget for 2009 €515,000
- > number of donors 3,900
- > number of sponsorships 1,000
- > number of volunteers 120
- > visits on the Internet site 2,500/month
- > sponsorship monthly cost €25 (€8,5 after tax deduction allowance in France)
- > annual subscription €35

*Including a reserve for future projects.

THEY HELP US

■ At the time of **Lara Fabian** concerts on October 8 and 9 at Zénith, AMTM could promote its activities to the audience. The association also sold up to €650 at its stand. Thank you to Lara for her loyalty.



■ "Another sweet heart kept warm!" knitter's word! A big thank you to all those who have voluntarily knitted pullovers for the young boarders of our orphanages for many years

■ Thank you to **Solange Jauffret** for having organized a sale of pashminas which brought more than €1,600 and a sponsorship to AMTM

CONTRIBUTE TO OUR AID

Cut and send this donation form to :
Assistance Médicale Toit du Monde 81, avenue du Maréchal Joffre - 92000 Nanterre - France
 Phone : 33 1 47 24 78 59 - Fax : 33 1 47 24 78 07 - E-mail : contact@amtm.org

Name : First Name :
 Address :
 Zip code : City : Country
 E-mail :

I wish to help AMTM and I make a donation :

30 € 50 € 100 € ww other :€

You can also use secured online donation at www.amtm.org/en

ONE OPERATION ONE LIFE



Neck surgery



Hand surgery



Heart surgery

Eardrum transplant, renal colic,
heart surgery...

In Nepal and India, as in France,
it may be important, even vital, to have surgery.
But there, poverty and lack of social security
cover make it impossible.

**This is why AMTM needs you
to save lives.**

**AMTM LAUNCHES
A SURGERY CAMPAIGN**



**HELP US
TO AID THEM**

€15,000

**are necessary
to respond to demands**

ONE OPERATION ONE LIFE

I support AMTM
for its Surgery Campaign

- I make a donation of :
- €30
- €50
- €100
- other: € _____



1) I send my cheque with this form to :

AMTM
81 avenue du Maréchal Joffre
92000 Nanterre - France

2) I make an online donation on the secured AMTM website with ma credit card (Visa, MaterCard, American Express) on www.amtm.org, "How to donate" menu, by ticking the box "Surgery Campaign".

At present AMTM allocates approximately €5,000 € per year to surgical operations (among which €2,000 to the Sisters of Cluny in Kalimpong, India). The project consists in collecting funds for 3 years requests and in being able to answer possible urgent and unexpected operations.

If collected funds were sharply superior to the request, the surplus would be allocated to the annual missions of AMTM in Nepal and in India (medicines, development aid and logistics).

My details

Name : _____ First name : _____

Adress: _____

Zip Code: _____ City: _____

Country: _____

E-mail : _____