

connect2

Dear Parishioners

LiveSimply is slowly gathering momentum in our parish. We have had our "launch" and many of you will have sung the LiveSimply song or heard the LiveSimply bidding prayers at one of the Masses. You will be aware of the bold signs and banner pronouncing our commitment to ***LiveSimply so that others may simply live.***

As part of living simply and in solidarity with others, the Justice and Peace group is promoting one of the major initiatives in our bid to become a CAFOD LiveSimply parish.

We have joined *Connect2*, which is organised by CAFOD. The scheme gives parishes an opportunity to link up with communities overseas. We have chosen to link with the village of Kainmari in Bangladesh. Here are some of the people we will get to know.



Connect2 will enable our congregation to communicate with and learn about real people in this area, which has been hit by cyclones and floods in the last few years. We shall pray for them and develop a bond between our two communities. The small sums of money we might raise will make a big difference to the people of Kainmari.

Our children at St James' School will, over the next year, be sending the children in Kainmari pictures and news about being a child in Petts Wood and hopefully receive similar pictures and news in return.

The people of Kainmari invite you to learn more about their lives. Extend the hand of friendship and solidarity and hear from local people, as they work to care for their families and build a better life.





There are no roads or cars in Kainari.
People travel on foot, bicycle or motorbike



The 2011 flood

Bangladesh lies roughly between India and Burma, and is south of China



Bijoli with her daughter



Bijoli's daughter studies hard



Cricket in Kainari



Tapati sells vegetables and makes 8-10 taka (8-10p) a day from her garden



Probita tends his shrimp farm

What our money could buy

£23 will buy baby shrimps, a bamboo basket, and training for a family to start their own shrimp farm.
£35 will buy 25 ducklings, fencing and training for a family to start their own duck farm.
£200 will pay for seed, fertiliser, fencing materials and training for five families to start a vegetable garden and fruit orchard.

Small sums go a long way

provides personal insights into the lives of people in this community. It was one of these stories which prompted us to start planning our first Connect2 event. Mollika talks about her cooking and has shared her fish curry recipe. So we decided to hold "Kainmari Curry Night" which will take place in our hall on Sunday 21st April 2013. It will be a family event, starting before 6pm, with music, raffle, quiz and other entertainment. We will use Mollika's recipe as well as others, and no doubt include child-friendly alternatives!



Mollika and her curry

So if you are interested in either eating curry or helping to support our Connect2 community of Kainmari, then please come to what should be an enjoyable evening. Further details about the event, including ticket prices, will follow. If you are able to help with this event, or with Connect2 in general, please email connect2@stjamespettswood.org

This is our chance to begin a very personal journey between St James' in England and the community of Kainmari in Bangladesh. Let's embrace the opportunity.

The LiveSimply Principles:

- Live Simply, take no more than we need;*
- Live Sustainably, minimise our impact on the planet;*
- Live in Solidarity with the poor.*

Our relationship with Kainmari will be one of our parish responses to the last of these principles. The generosity of St James' towards the Manna Centre, the Orpington Foodbank and many other charitable initiatives continue to show how much we care.
