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WORLD KINDNESS MOVEMENT
Newsletter 4/2015

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Welcome to our September issue which touches on current events and news from our members from across the globe. There is no doubt our members have been under a lot of pressure in the lead up to world Kindness Week, planning events and activities supporting local community initiatives as well as national campaigns. WKM is the global platform for collaboration and our role is support and promote our international colleagues in kindness wherever we are able. In this issue we want to acknowledge their work and dedication understanding that like any enterprise, social enterprise faces its own challenges. We would like to acknowledge individuals who in their own way are contributing to and inspiring others. Our President, Ms Jin Heo, has had preliminary meetings with Government Ministers in South Korea to discuss a Kindness theme for the 2018 Winter Olympics and we are working closely with the Thailand in the lead up to the 1st World Global Kindness Summit 2016. This is all happening whilst a 15 year old school student, inspired by a campaign of fear and hate, shoots innocent public servant and father in Sydney and women and children are be taken hostage and tortured by ISIS whilst war wages.

Its daunting but the fact that you are reading and or sharing articles in this newsletter inspires hope that what we do does make a difference. Thank you for taking the time to do something no matter how small.

The Refugee Problem, Crisis or Opportunity?



An ambitious idea, **The Refugee Problem, Crisis or Opportunity?** Stop the boats, Increase border security, install razor wire fencing, create refugee camps, greet refugees with police armed with batons and tear gas or with citizens bearing food hampers are all just band aid solutions applied to a hemorrhaging artery. Whilst I understand the various arguments between different courses of action many are often justified with the cliché, **"Choosing The Lesser of Two Evils?"** Why? Because the answers are derived from fear and seeking a kinder option is the path of most resistance. Either way, billions of dollars are being spent weekly if not daily on applying band aid solutions to the global humanitarian crisis with no return on investment . Don't get me wrong we need to address immediate problems immediately to try and stem the bleeding but what is the long term plan and do any of the actions support the implementation of a complete answer to the problem? This is a work in progress and one **The World Kindness Movement** is addressing with a strategic plan for a kinder world. What causes someone to abandon their home? It is triggered either through conflict or natural disasters such as earthquakes, famine, drought or pandemics, which can indirectly stem from or lead to a nation's severe economic downturn.

[Read more](#)

Kindness Fatigue, Choosing the Path of Most Resistance

By Michael Lloyd-White General - Secretary The World Kindness Movement

*If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating...*

I have had many amazing and inspiring experiences through meeting equally amazing and inspiring people over the last six years through this campaign of promoting a kinder world. Over time many have quietly shared their hopes and fears often asking me how I manage to persist, especially at times when it appears to be to my own detriment? The answer is not always clear however, I believe it's a calling that goes out to many but only answered by a few. Despite the obstacles and I have had my fair share, my experiences in this journey has convinced me the campaign for a kinder world is more than a worthy endeavour. The **simple message of Kindness** can be muddled by the misconception it's about hearts and flowers, sugar and spice however, it is so much more and can at times take its toll on the most resilient messenger, especially in a world gripped by fear which struggles to hear or see the value in any message which inspires hope.

[Read more](#)

Kindness Coming Soon to a City near you!



At our 8th General Assembly in Sydney 2014 where cities made presentations on their community goodwill projects it was resolved that listing of Cities as "**World Kindness Cities**" will become an official international acknowledgement. Cities in Australia such as Gold Coast City in Queensland and City of Sydney and many more have already commenced the first step by moving and resolving motions to sign "**Declarations of Support**" appoint Goodwill Ambassadors and present Kindness



Awards. We will also be looking at implementing local online surveys and the level of participation from all sectors including Schools, peak bodies of Business and Community Groups who officially undertake to celebrate World Kindness Week/Day. [Read more](#)

Expressions of Interest Received From Worldwide Organizations

This month the Secretariat has received an expression of interest from the **Global Welfare Foundation, Gambia**. We are also assisting Cambodia in establishing a peak national kindness body and have officially received the application from Zimbabwe which is now under consideration.

Stay tuned for more news and please advise if you would like to participate.

Secretary: General.Secretary@theworldkindnessmovement.org who can place you in direct contact.

News From WKM Members

WKM Pakistan



Essay Writing was on the subject of "**Expressions of Kindness**" in the City School, Paragon Campus Lahore, one of the renowned schools in Pakistan and regular participant of our activities. More than 10

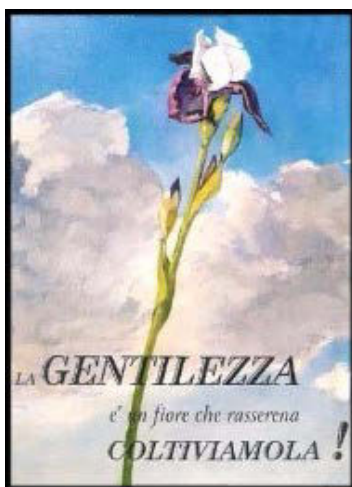
teams, each consisting of two participants – one for English and one for Urdu, were invited from different TCS branches to participate. Two teams from TCS Ravi Campus Girls Section also participated in the event. The students were given five topics in each category to choose from and they had to write their essays in one hour. Three of the extremely talented young writers secured top positions in the contest.

Moomal Ahmad of Class 9-C won 1st position in English and **Hamna Shahzad and Tahniyat Sadia** of Class 9-T won 2nd position in English and 3rd position in Urdu, respectively.

[More details](#)

WKM Switzerland

Gentletude Switzerland received '**UNESCO Partenaire**'. [Read here](#) the motivations of the recognition.



WKM Italy

Project: "**Educating by Managing**" sent to the mayors of **Italian municipalities.**"

"The Italian Movement for Kindness offers to all the Italian mayors of the idea of naming new streets, squares or parks with the names of the civic values that underpin the Movement itself: **Avenue of Kindness, Respect Street, Square Civic Consciousness**, etc. It would be a way to "**educate by managing**" and encourage citizens to comply with civil behavior.

World Kindness Week & World Kindness Day 2015

This year World Kindness Day 2015 falls on **Black Friday 13th** of November 2015 and perhaps it is symbolic of the challenges we are currently facing in the world. In this issue we have touched on the Refugee Crisis and how seeking the kinder option, whilst often the path of most resistance is also the path of creativity. Our intention this year to see Black Friday 2015 not remembered for a day of bad luck but as a **day gratitude**, a day where the unseen acts of kindness are not only noticed but are being heard amongst the clutter of noise that becomes ones daily life. If you have not already done so, consider taking an active part this year to **see World Kindness Day shine a ray of light into someone's life** who may only ever experience every day as Black Friday, all it takes is a warm smile hello. See General Secretary's **["A Call To Action"](#)**

Would you like to share your programs, projects, ideas?

send an email to Cristina Milani vice.president@theworldkindnessmovement.org

We will publish them in one of the next Newsletters.

WKM International Council

Jin Heo, President (president@theworldkindnessmovement.org)

Michael Lloyd-White, General Secretary (general.secretary@theworldkindnessmovement.org)

and the Communication Committee.



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