

Virgin Mary mistaken for Angelina Jolie



Virgin Mary makeover blamed for Angelina confusion.

Villagers in a small town in north-west Pakistan earlier this year flocked eagerly to a site where, according to eye-witness reports, an apparition of Hollywood actress Angelina Jolie had mysteriously materialised. The faithful were soon let down, however, when the vision turned out to be an appearance by none other than The Blessed Virgin Mary. Said one local: "I'm ragin'. We know that all them other disaster-stricken countries get visits from big stars trying to raise their celebrity profiles, so why not us? Malawi gets Madonna, and what do we get? The frickin' Virgin Mary. We didn't even get a mention by Lenny Henry on last year's Comic Relief".

Meanwhile Our Lady of Succour has denied claims that she intentionally made herself up to look like the silver-screen starlet. In one interview she stated "I would never try and impersonate someone as great as Miss Jolie. Her charity work is unsurpassed by anybody else and her generosity knows no bounds. It's not my fault that they thought I was her, obviously word got around that this might be something that she might attend and everyone got a wee bit over-excited. That can happen you know." When quizzed about her apparent change of image, she answered "I just fancied a change. My hair's been the same for years and I thought I'd go for something a bit more on-trend before going on a photo-shoot, sorry, holiday, sorry, I mean charity work. And before you

ask, no I haven't had collagen injections in my lips - they're just a bit puffy from the long plane journey and a slight reaction to anti-malaria medicine," adopting a more serious tone, she added "I think trying to pass yourself off image-wise as some sort of saint when you're actually a bit of a vacuous tit is somewhat stupid, don't you? Does that sound like something I'd do?"

The Holy Mother tried to appease locals by posing for the press in front of some orphanages, schools, community centres and "basically trying to calm everyone down by doing all the shit Angie would", but it would seem that nothing but the real thing would do for the residents of Nowshera. Small-scale rioting broke out but was soon quelled by local law-enforcement officers who promised a flying visit from Bono before his next big tour, and a spell in jail if everyone didn't shut up. One local was heard to mutter as he walked away "I dunno why those Catholics keep wantin her to appear - she's rubbish in real life. Much better in Tombrailer".

So far the Vatican Central Committee for Propaganda and Publicity has been unavailable to comment on allegations surrounding the Holy Saint's detention in the country after she tried to leave with forty orphans stuffed under her robe.

Anarchism in Action: Public Meetings in Belfast and Derry



This year marks the centenary of the Spanish anarcho-syndicalist union the Confederacion Nacional de Trabajo (see article centre pages). The CNT has struggled tirelessly since its inception for improved conditions for workers, for social justice and social revolution - most famously during the Spanish Revolution of 1936 to 1939.

To mark the centenary Organise! hosted public meetings in Belfast and Derry with Antonio Rios, of CNT Cadiz, speaking about the union, anarcho-syndicalism in Spain and 100 years of the CNT. The Derry meeting took place in Sandino's on

4th September and the Belfast meeting was held in Conway Mill on Monday 6th.

Antonio gave a wide ranging account of the CNT over the past 100 years and questions raised included the thorny issue of anarchists taking posts in the anti-fascist government, Bolshevik betrayal of both the Spanish and Russian revolutions, alongside questions and discussion on issues and struggles facing the CNT today.

Thanks are due to Julia and Juame, our translators, and everyone who helped organise and came along to the events.

