

Our home is also global. We are interconnected; we share the earth's resources, climate and its challenges. As we speak, millions of people are being displaced from their homes because of the climate crisis. But, exchanging knowledge, both new and traditional, can help us in practical ways to build hope for the future.

Together, this Refugee Week let's practice our solidarity and make Our Home a more welcoming, safe and sustainable place for all.

The theme for Refugee Week 2024 is "Our Home"; as it is for so many of us who have to leave our countries and rebuild our lives. Sometimes we can find home in a single person. Other times it's in a whole community. And often, it's in a single gesture of care and welcome.

What would happen if this Refugee Week we extended our warmth and hospitality beyond our own homes and made entire neighbourhoods more welcoming?

Simple acts like having a chat, walking together, or sending a message of welcome can help everyone feel like they belong. Together, we can work in solidarity to ensure all our neighbours, new and familiar, have safe and welcoming homes.

Home can be more than one place and finding it can be a journey, as it is for so many of us who have to leave our countries and rebuild our lives. Sometimes we can find home in a single person. Other times it's in a whole community. And often, it's in a single gesture of care and welcome.

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Malala Yousafzai
Education Activist

To me, a home is where you feel loved, safe, and cherished.



Al! Mahgoub
Chief Executive - Leeds Refugee Forum

Refugee Week's vision is for refugees and asylum seekers to be able to live safely within inclusive and resilient communities, where they can continue to make a valuable contribution. Leeds is a city known for its tolerant heritage and cohesive community. Let us make Refugee Week an occasion for unity and the source of our community strength.

Refugee Week Quiz

- 1) What is an asylum seeker?**
 - a. A foreign vegetable
 - b. Someone who travels around the world to claim benefits
 - c. Someone who claims to be a refugee but isn't
 - d. Someone who is an illegal immigrant
 - e. Someone who applies for refugee status on the basis that they are fleeing war and persecution
- 2) A refugee is someone who is...**
 - a. Genuinely fleeing the war whilst an asylum seeker isn't
 - b. Another category of an illegal immigrant
 - c. Just a different term for an asylum seeker
 - d. Someone whose application for asylum status has been accepted as genuine by the British Government
- 3) Who is the Minister of State for Legal Migration and Delivery?**
 - a. Genuinely fleeing the war whilst an asylum seeker isn't
 - b. Another category of an illegal immigrant
 - c. Just a different term for an asylum seeker
 - d. Someone whose application for asylum status has been accepted as genuine by the British Government
- 4) When did the first refugees come to the UK?**
 - a. 208 AD
 - b. In 1685 – when Huguenots fled to Britain to escape persecution of Louis XIV
 - c) During the WWII
 - c. In 1938 – following the 'Kristallnacht' the Nazis staged against the Jews in Germany
- 5) Do you know what refugees and migrants used to be called in the 1700s?**
 - a. The French
 - b. Foreigners
 - c. Aliens
 - d. Non British
 - e. Jobs thieves
- 6) Pop star Rita Ora and former Chelsea footballer Mario Stanic both experienced the same conflict. What was it?**
 - a. Yugoslav war
 - b. The French Revolution
 - c. Soviet Revolution
 - d. Spanish Civil War
 - e. Rwanda's Civil War



Answers: 1)A, 2)D, 3)B, 4)A, 5)C, 6)A



OUR HOME

Leeds Refugee Week 2024

17th – 23rd June

Refugee Week is the world's largest arts & culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Established in 1998 in the UK, this annual festival aligns with World Refugee Day, celebrated globally on June 20th. In 2024, join us from June 17th to 23rd for a community-powered week!

leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk
refugeeweek.org.uk



Leeds Refugee Week 2024

17th – 23rd June

This Year's Theme is

OUR HOME

From the places we gather to share meals to our collective home, planet earth: everyone is invited to celebrate what our Our Home means to them.

MONDAY 17th JUNE

Leeds Refugee Forum Women's and Men's Wellbeing groups Mindwell Session

12:00 – 3.00 pm, One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG

A mini celebration and discussion about what it means to be at, in and settle in 'Home' is the theme of this year's Refugee Week.

For more information contact the LRF office at 01132449600 or email khair.yacobe@leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk

RETAS Photography Exhibition

6pm – 8pm, 92 Degrees Coffee, Boar Lane

For Refugee Week, we're displaying a portrait project of people living and working in Harehills about what 'home' means to them, some RETAS staff are featuring.

For more information contact Yasir Mohamed at yasir@retasleeds.co.uk or call 07523911197

TUESDAY 18th JUNE

MEGA Conversation Café

11:00am – 1:00pm, Second floor: Leeds Playhouse, Playhouse Square, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP

Join us on level 2 at Leeds Playhouse for a mega conversation cafe. There will hot drinks, games a chance to meet lots of people! Come along and celebrate Refugee Week with us! Entry is free.

For more information email Lily Craig, Special Project's Manager on lily.craig@leedsplayhouse.org.uk

Celebrate Refugee Week: A free Workshop, free haircuts + nails!

12:00pm – 2:00pm, Second floor: Leeds Playhouse, Playhouse Square, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP

Join us at level 2 at Leeds Playhouse for free haircuts by Leeds City College, free nail painting and a soundscape workshop led by Red Ladder Theatre Company. Free entry.

For more information email Lily Craig, Special Project's Manager on lily.craig@leedsplayhouse.org.uk

Community Kitchen Take-over – PAY AS YOU FEEL

3.30–5.30pm, Leeds Playhouse, Playhouse Square, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP

This Refugee Week join us for our community kitchen take-over. Serving food from around the world cooked by members of our Theatre of Sanctuary programme. There will be a selection of dishes for you to try. There will be a small selection of soft drinks available. The food will be PAYF, however if this is a barrier to you, there is no expectation to donate.

For more information email Lily Craig, Special Project's Manager on lily.craig@leedsplayhouse.org.uk. Space is limited for this event, so booking is required.

TUESDAY 18th JUNE

Women's Celebration event , Women's Health Matters

10:30 am – 12:30 pm, One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, Leeds, LS9 7SG

The Rainbow Hearts group is facilitated by Women's Health Matters for asylum seeking women. Group members will gather together to share food and music from different countries.

For more information please contact Emily Lawson on 07909407814

WEDNESDAY 19th JUNE

Ten Years of Sanctuary

5:30pm – 7:15pm, Courtyard Theatre @ Leeds Playhouse, Playhouse Square, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP

Through the power of creativity. The Gala will feature Asmarina Voices women's choir, our original Theatre of Sanctuary project which helped shape our initial application for our Sanctuary status. Asmarina Voices will also be joined on stage, by Harmony Choir and Headingly Voices Choir. Our brilliant Hearts Youth Group will be performing a drumming piece, the founder of the City of Sanctuary movement Rev Dr Inderjit Singh Bhogal OBE, the Eritrean Cultural Dancers; plus many more surprise guests.

For more information email Lily Craig, Special Project's Manager on lily.craig@leedsplayhouse.org.uk

Leeds Refugee Forum ESOL Class Party

12:30pm – 2:30pm, One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG

Come join our session filled with fun and games honouring our students and their culture from various countries and backgrounds.

For more information email Oleksandra Suishehova on oleksandra.s@leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk

Carefree Calligraphy

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm, Library @ the Lightbox, 1 The Glass Works, Barnsley S70 1GW

Why not have an alternative evening out! Try out some carefree calligraphy with our friendly staff in a safe and welcoming space. You'll learn the basics of 'modern' calligraphy, which is an easier and more accessible form of calligraphy. No need to bring anything, all materials provided. Tickets are free.

For more information visit : www.barnsley.gov.uk/libraryevents

Sanctuary's Got Talent

7:30pm – 10:00pm, Leeds Playhouse, Playhouse Square, Quarry Hill, Leeds LS2 7UP

A night full of creativity and talent is hosted on level 2 at Leeds Playhouse. Join us for a night hosted by Wan, Founder of Sanctuary's Got Talent Just come along and see what Leeds has to offer!

For more information email Lily Craig, Special Project's Manager on lily.craig@leedsplayhouse.org.uk. Space is limited for this event, so booking is required.

THURSDAY 20th JUNE

Opera North, Maya Youssef: Finding Home – A special concert for World Refugee Day

7:00pm, Howard Assembly Room, Howard Opera Centre, 8 Harrison Street, Leeds, LS1 6PA

To celebrate World Refugee Day, join British-Syrian singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Maya Youssef as she performs music from her latest album, Finding Home. Hailed as "queen of the qanun," the 78-stringed Middle Eastern plucked zither, Maya's intense and thoughtful music is rooted in the Arabic classical tradition but forges pathways into jazz, Western classical and Latin styles.

For more information contact Zena Malone | Creative Placemaking Assistant | at Encore@operanorth.co.uk

THURSDAY 20th JUNE

Advocacy for Inclusion

12:00pm – 3:00pm, One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG

Leeds Refugee Forum Advocacy team are celebrating a year full of support and training for the refugee and asylum seeking communities

For more information please Donna or Khair on 0113 244 9600

The Light of Refugee Week, Women's Wellbeing group

12:00pm – 3:00pm, One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG

Women celebrating Eid and Refugee Week, Food and dancing and music. Everyone welcome.

For more information please contact Ranya at ranya.abdulateef@leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk

Leeds Refugee Forum Homework Club Party

12:00pm – 3:00pm, One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, LS9 7SG

Celebrating our students heritage with volunteers and teachers. An event filled with fun and games, flag colouring competition and dancing, face painting and snacks.

For more information please contact Gabby Thwaites on 07974817796

FRIDAY 21st JUNE

Refugee Week Flourish Party – Mafwa Theatre

4:00pm – 8:30pm, Roxby Community Garden, LS9 7LR

Join us on for our Refugee Week Flourish Party, a family gala where we'll be celebrating this years Refugee Week theme 'Our Home' with performances, stalls, activities and workshops. Home can be a place, a person, a feeling or a state of mind. The Roxby Community Garden is a place where the Lincoln Green communities diverse experiences, journeys and backgrounds can come together and feel at home. Celebrate with us and explore what home means to you this Refugee Week. Suitable for all ages. Free entry. Everyone welcome.

For more information please email: mafwatheatre@gmail.com

SATURDAY 22nd JUNE

Refugee World Cup 2024, (RCOs, Agencies and Organisations)

12:30pm – 5:00pm, Thomas Damby Campus, Community Sport Centre, Roundhay Road, LS7 3BG

Football tournaments are a great way of bringing together RCOs, local communities and agencies football teams in a fun footballing environment. Free to play, 7-a-side teams, refreshments provided. All accompanied by entertainment programmes for families and children.

Ali Mahgoub, Tel: 0113 244 9600 / 07733171290, Khair Yacob: 07453927515, David Skivington: 07564 267065

SUNDAY 23rd JUNE

STAR Picnic

2:00 pm, St. George's Fields, LS2 9EN

Bring along picnic food (Not essential) and we will have music, games and lots of fun in the sun!

For more information contact LRF on 01132449600 or email staraleeds@gmail.com at 07563477133

For more information and enquiries regarding any of these events, please contact Ali Mahgoub - Co-ordinator Email: ali.mahgoub@leedsrefugeeforum.org.uk Phone: 0113 244 9600 / 07733171290 Leeds Refugee Forum, One Community Centre, Cromwell Street, Leeds, LS9 7SG

