

We are working towards making Nottingham a recognised City of Sanctuary. In the city and county, we already have flourishing but hard-pressed groups who help people seeking sanctuary to become part of the wider community. We want to help local groups and individuals to welcome and appreciate people seeking refuge and asylum more actively.

April 2012 Newsletter

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Is your group here?

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*Jobs, Conversation groups
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[Joining in & Volunteering](#)

*Welcome Project,
Mentoring, NNRF, Forestry
Commission, Oxfam
and us*

We welcome our new supporter groups:

- The Children's Society, Nottingham
<http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk>
- Stone Bridge City Farm
<http://www.stonebridgecityfarm.com/>
- Akshobi Buddhist Centre <http://www.akshobya.com/>
- Laura's Vintage Shop, Alfreton Road
<http://makedo-and-mend.blogspot.co.uk>
- Greenway Community Centre
<http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2658>
- Narwaaz Bakery - Radford Road

DISPLAY THIS AT THE ENTRANCE TO YOUR SHOP OR OFFICE



NOTTINGHAM
CITY OF SANCTUARY



Available from coordinator@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org

Nottingham City of Sanctuary, Philadelphia Centre, 50 Gauntley Street, New Basford NG7 5HF or
Coordinator@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org

Refugee Week is coming up in June. Look out for the annual 'Beyond Borders' magazine and see how much is going on in Nottingham. Where do we fit in? What is a City of Sanctuary?

City of Sanctuary is a national movement which developed at a grass roots level in Sheffield in 2005. The idea came from the former President of The UK Methodist Conference Inderjit Bhogal who is also an active campaigner on the rights of asylum seekers. City of Sanctuary as a national movement has evolved from the work in Sheffield and the desire to replicate this work in other UK towns and cities.

The aim is to develop a culture of hospitality in towns and cities for people seeking sanctuary in the UK. This can be achieved through developing an environment which counteracts some of the media scapegoating and resentment that leads to acceptance of a fortress Britain and increased use of detention centres. Hostility and resentment can begin to be redressed, through identifying and demonstrating support and acceptance for people whose lives are in danger in their own countries.

Pledges of support can be simple things such as displaying the City of Sanctuary welcome sign, encouraging asylum seekers to take up volunteering opportunities, training staff on refugee and asylum seeker issues. For more details on what organizations can do please visit the link to our national website is: <http://www.cityofsanctuary.org/>. To date there are five cities with City of Sanctuary status, and 20 cities still working towards achieving status including Nottingham.

Nottingham City of Sanctuary's Current Situation

We began in 2007 we are working to achieve City of Sanctuary Status in May 2012. In order to achieve this aim we are currently in the process of ratifying the resolution of support from Nottingham City Council. We are also continuing to increase the number of pledges of support from various organisations, businesses and community groups. So far we have collected 64 resolutions of support. We are also working to try and develop links with non Christian faith groups. Additionally we are seeking funding for infrastructure costs including work with volunteers.

What can we do for you? What can you do for us?

- Make a pledge of support
- Volunteer with us
- Come along to a meeting and find out more
- Get involved in raising awareness in your community, organisation, work place, faith group, local pub.
- Come along to our Jazz Evening fundraiser Friday 1st June 7.30 -10.30 United Reform Church.

Contact Jo Thorpe for more information, coordinator@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org
Finally we would like to take the opportunity to thank Claudette Dyce all her time, effort and energy and support over the past four years. Your contribution has been invaluable and you will be missed.

Nottingham City of Sanctuary, Philadelphia Centre, 50 Gauntley Street, New Basford NG7 5HF or Coordinator@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org

Quarterly Report from Jo, our development worker, reports:

It has been an extremely busy start in my new role as Development Worker for NCOS. The past 3 months seems to have been a constant swirl of meetings, emails and letter writing in order to meet with people find my feet and keep things moving. We hope to (fingers crossed) receive the City Council's Resolution of Support for City of Sanctuary status in March/April 2012. If we are then successful, we plan to apply to the national group for status. If that goes through we will be the 6th City in the UK to achieve this goal.

Achieving status basically means we have secured enough pledges from a broad range of organisations; we have the local authority, and the refugee community organisations on board, and a strategy in place to continue to develop and sustain our work. It would be naïve to think the work will lessen once status is achieved. We realise the work is continual and in the current political climate the work will almost certainly become harder.

My main areas of focus so far;

- Re contacting the various organisations contacted initially and ensuring we still have their support. This may sound strange but some organisations have pledged support but no longer are aware of this due to changes in staff and volunteers over the past 3 years.
- Contacting the refugee community organisations in Nottingham to further develop links and partnerships necessary to achieve status..
- Making contact with the main faith groups in Nottingham to try and increase the religious diversity of the NCOS committee also to develop general involvement from Nottingham's diverse faith groups.
- Working to secure funding for infrastructure costs to recruit and develop a pool of volunteers. Also secure funding towards basic running costs including office space.
- Working towards Refugee Week and our Jazz Evening on Friday 1st June and opening event at Nottingham Contemporary 16th June.

A considerable amount of work has been undertaken throughout the past 4 years, including the work undertaken by Claudette Dyce and the NCOS management committee. I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your time, effort and energy and support.

Finally for those organisations out there who may not have signed up (where have you been?) and want to find out more please contact us ...!

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[Letters](#)

Dear friends,

Over the last few days 1,200 HOPE not hate supporters have sent in photographs of themselves and their loved ones in support of the *Our Britain, Not Theirs* campaign. There are some really wonderful images and they really reflect the kaleidoscope that is modern Britain.

Nottingham City of Sanctuary, Philadelphia Centre, 50 Gauntley Street, New Basford NG7 5HF or Coordinator@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org

Our original intention was to create a poster with these images but we have received so many photographs that we would like to create something much larger. Our options include advertising at bus stops, mobile advans and even giant billboards - but to do this we would need your support.

Can you help us turn our poster into a billboard?

<http://action.hopenothate.org.uk/put-up-the-poster>

We have so many photos that a poster does not seem big enough. I think we need some billboards.

Billboards are the perfect way for tens of thousands of people to see our positive message every single day. Mobile advans will enable us to take our message through the communities in which we need to get out the vote. By matching this advertising campaign with the local community newspapers we will shortly distribute we can reach huge swathes of the population.

Help spread the message <http://action.hopenothate.org.uk/put-up-the-poster>

For just £150 we can buy a bus shelter advert until election day. For £350 we can hire a mobile advan to drive around our key communities. For as little as £600 we can hire billboard on a busy street location for two weeks.

This is a great opportunity for us to spread our message and, especially in the London elections, turnout is key. The BNP need only 5% to get elected onto the London Assembly. We've been fortunate that their previous representative, Richard Barnbrook, was so useless. But just imagine what damage they could have caused to community relations if they had someone to exploit last year's riots?

The *Our Britain, Not Theirs* campaign is designed to contrast our positive forward vision of society to the backward looking hate filled country the British National Party would like to create. We think most people will support it so that is why we are asking for your support to publicise it. Every penny raised, no matter how big or small, will be spent on advertising.

Thanks

  

Ps, HOPE not hate is holding a weekend of action on 14/15 April. Visit

www.hopenothate.org.uk for more details

Nottingham City of Sanctuary, Philadelphia Centre, 50 Gauntley Street, New Basford NG7 5HF or
Coordinator@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org

Beyond Borders newspaper

Writers and contributions wanted!

Beyond Borders is a newspaper publication, circulated around the East Midlands during June 2012 as part of Refugee Week.

We aim to promote the issues of those seeking sanctuary in the UK.

- Are you a refugee or asylum seeker with a story to tell?
- Are you keen to celebrate the strengths of vibrant and resilient international communities?
- Would you like to research or write about these topics?
You don't have to be an established writer.

An interest in these issues is more important. Potential articles must be submitted before the end of March 2012.

For further information on how you can help, please call Stuart Brown on 07891 701133 or e-mail: stuartb10@ntlworld.com

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APRIL DIARY OF EVENTS

REGULAR EVENTS

Wednesdays, 1 -2 pm FREE Beginners Computer Classes

The Vine Community Centre, Hyson Green

FEMALE only classes with CRECHE, Wednesdays 1 - 2 and MIXED classes Mondays 1 - 2

Every Thursday, 6-7pm

International Singing Club -, The Square Centre, Alfred St North, NG3 1AA. (thanks to Nottingham Beyond Borders) Learn and teach songs from around the world! Everyone welcome.

Starting on Tuesday 17th April - 29th May **Skill up with Gardening**

A free seven week course, one day a week at Arkwright Meadows Community Gardens. * 10am - 3pm.

Learn how to grow salads, vegetables and flowers. Save money, eat healthily, get fresh air

* Get a level 1 qualification * Improve your employability.

You must be:

- 19 or over
- Unemployed for 6 months
- On benefits.

Booking is essential. Call 0115 986 7777 or email education@amcgardens.co.uk
Or pop into AMC Gardens on Kirkby Gardens, the Meadows (next to SureStart) We're open from 9am to 4pm Monday to Thursday.

OTHER EVENTS



Tuesday 10 April

Nottingham City of Sanctuary group meeting 5.15 for refreshments, 5.30 for the meeting. We finish by 7 pm. Expenses can be paid. All welcome!

Tuesday, 17 April

Midlands region of the City of Sanctuary movement meets at Leicester Friends Meeting House, Queens Road, Leicester LE2 1WP from 10.45 to 3.45.

Lunch will be provided.

There is some parking at the Meeting House and plenty in the streets around it. It is about a 20 -25 minute walk from the railway station; alternatively the 44 and 44A buses stop outside the station (on the same side of the road as the station entrance) and deposit you almost at the door of the Meeting House (ask for the first stop on Queens Road).

Contact Jo to arrange shared transport,
coordinator@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org



Smile! Stop Hate Crime

Next meeting April 17th 10.00am – 12.00pm

at Sherwood Community Centre, Woodthorpe House, Mansfield Rd,
Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 3FN

Everyone welcome

Do you have a learning disability?

Are you interested in tackling hate crime and bullying against people with learning disabilities?

- **MEET PEOPLE FROM THE BUSES AND TRANSPORT WORKER FROM NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**
- **BRING YOUR PROBLEMS, CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS TO THE MEETING**

Please phone Denise on Tel: 0115 9561130 for more details and to say if you want to come.

19 April, 10am - 2pm. **Renewal Trust Volunteer Fair**

The Renewal Trust will be running a Volunteer Fair, an opportunity to meet staff and volunteers from different organisations and find out about their volunteering opportunities.

Representatives from the Renewal Trust and Nottingham CVS will also be available to discuss how to match your skills and interests to a volunteering placement.

This event will be on Thursday 19 April from 10am - 2pm at The Renewal Trust, 27-31 Carlton Road, Nottingham, NG3 2DG.

from Monday April 23rd April

Heroes: Creative Writing Project for 12 - 19 year olds

Heroes is a creative writing project aimed at young people from refugee and migrant families in Nottingham, running from April through to July in Sneinton and Nottingham City Centre, and funded by Clore Poetry & Literature Awards.

Heroes don't just exist in the world of comic books and mythology; there are also heroes in our local communities and families, in popular culture and in political struggles. In these workshops, young people will be able to explore different aspects of the culture they inhabit, and the values, identities, and aspirations that go with them, and ask questions like 'what does it mean to be a hero (or an anti-hero, for that matter)?' and 'are they real or just fantasy?'

Writing poetry and stories is a way of expressing yourself, learning to use your imagination and communicate complex feelings and experiences. We hope the workshops will help

develop young people's confidence and give them an opportunity to work together with others from different backgrounds, as well as the satisfaction of seeing their work in print.

There will be two sets of workshop for different ages running for six weeks on Mondays after school/college from 23 April, and the young people will put together a book containing their work to be launched at the Sneinton Festival in July.

The 12–15 group will be based in Sneinton, and the 16–19 group will be based in the Writers' Studio in the City Centre. Both groups are open to people from across the city, and bus fares can be reimbursed. The workshops are free to attend. The exact times will depend on the availability of participants.

If you'd like to book a place on Heroes, contact Robin at Nottingham Writers' Studio on 0115 959 7947 or admin@nottinghamwritersstudio.co.uk.

Thursday 26th April

REDP Hate Crime Seminars, Nottingham CVS, 7 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3FB

Friday 27th April, 7.15pm-late

Notts Trades Council May Day social. The Polish Eagle Club. £5 on the door/concessions

Saturday 28 April 2012

Nottingham Asian Arts Council (NAAC) *Presents*

25th Anniversary Dinner & Dance

At the Britannia Hotel, St James Street, Nottingham, NG1 GBN

Music by: **Bollywood Grooves**

Bollywood Grooves is a band of multi-cultural musicians performing Bollywood songs with a Jazz twist. It's an exciting culture-clash musical experience that takes you on a trip from London to Mumbai. The live performances combine the glamour of Bollywood with cool Jazz rhythms. **Bollywood Grooves's** live musical mix features music from legends like RD Burman, AR Rahman, Kishore Kumar and many more. Also featuring Akshata Naik from the Zee TV fame. For tickets, see attached poster.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Meadows Medfest:

Show 18th August and a music day on Sun 19th Aug. - Volunteers Wanted

This years Medfest is going to a bit different and quite ambitious. If all goes to plan it will run over the summer holidays starting with a sports event around the time of the Olympics and ending with the AMC Gardens village

There are plenty of thing planned to happen in the middle; a youth day, food events, a seniors day, cricket tournament and much more. We are aiming to have all different

cultures community groups and people that make up the community of the Meadows involved in some way.

To make it all happen we need people to make it happen. If you are interested fill out the **attached form** and return it to Andrew.Jones@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

19 June 2012, 9:00am – 4:30pm

A one day conference on ‘Hope and Resilience for Refugees and Asylum Seekers’

NHS Midlands and East and Leicestershire Partnership



NHS Trust



This event is planned to mark national Refugee week and is being organised by the clinical psychology department at the University of Leicester in conjunction with a range of refugee and voluntary sector organisations across the East Midlands. This one day conference will be held at the University of Leicester on 19th June 2012. The theme is *hope and resilience* in the refugee context and it will explore how hope and resilience can be fostered in the current climate through an emphasis on human rights, approaches to justice in psychological therapy, and through building solidarity in the voluntary and statutory sector.

Speakers include:

Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty (The National Council for Civil Liberties)

Taiwo Afuape, a Principal Clinical Psychologist and author of a new book entitled: *Power, Resistance and Liberation in Therapy with Survivors of Trauma*.

Matt Carr, a writer and journalist. He is the author of *Blood and Faith: the Purging of Muslim Spain* (Hurst 2010) and *The Infernal Machine: An Alternative History of Terrorism* (Hurst 2011).

Nazek Ramadan, director of Migrant Voice and is the founder and editor in chief of the ‘New Londoners,’ the first refugee newspaper in London.

Liz Page, UK director of the South Eastern territory of the British Red Cross, responsible for the range of services including support to refugees and asylum seekers.

Film: *Nahr el-Bared... Detention Camp* by Sandra Madi. Palestine/Qatar (2011)

City of Sanctuary and De Montfort University Law students, an umbrella group of De Montfort post-graduate Law students and staff and volunteers from the British Red Cross and City of Sanctuary, focusing on tracking new evidence in failed asylum cases.

Faiza Nasir and Alison Birch have set up ‘Here Alone,’ an exhibition aiming to depict the hopes and fears of young people seeking safety from war or persecution.

There will be stalls and staff from local refugee and asylum services for delegates to directly engage with during the conference. The conference is at the Peter Williams Lecture Theatre, in the Fielding Johnson South Wing. The University of Leicester map includes directions and parking information: www2.le.ac.uk/maps

Booking is **free for unwaged/refugees/asylum seekers**; £10 for students; £20 for waged. This booking fee will include a contribution to the asylum seeker destitution fund.

Registration will open from the 2nd April 2012. To request a booking form please contact: Carl Gudgeon on 0116 2231639 or cmg16@le.ac.uk

Opportunities

Destitution Film

Refugee Survival Trust (a charity that supports destitute refugees and asylum seekers in Scotland and campaigns to improve the asylum system to prevent people being left destitute) has produced a 3 minute film showing how refugees and asylum seekers in Scotland have been left hungry and homeless by problems, errors and delays in the asylum system. Film by independent company Show Them Pictures, voice-over by AL Kennedy.<http://www.rst.org.uk>

English Classes

The Department for Communities and Local Government has **announced** £10 million additional funding for ESOL provision, especially for those seeking employment, in areas facing integration challenges.

On Line healthcare toolkit

An online **toolkit** for helping to access healthcare for refugees and migrants has been produced by TS4SE.

Fagee Fashions: Training Workshops

Are you looking to learn something new? Are you interested in learning the art of African fashion?

If the answer is yes! look no further. Fagee Fashions is offering you the opportunity to join our fashion workshops.

Fagee Fashions provides a wide range of training for people in the community to learn the art of designing and sewing.

You will be trained in the arts of pattern drafting, designing, measuring, cut to measure and the final sewing of the garment. Styles will include a blend of western fashion styles fused with African fashion styles. It will be innovative and creative and you will enjoy designing and sewing your own clothes and a career within the fashion industry.

We give you a taste of the real fashion industry providing high quality tuition from experienced tutors. You will learn skills to build yourself a career.

Training workshops are FREE

Call and enrol now on: 07733 742316

ROSHNI

If you or someone you know....

Is from a **Black, Asian, minority ethnic** or **refugee community** Is between **16-25 years of age**

Is or has been a **survivor** of domestic violence, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, sexual assault, trafficking, honour based violence, gang-related violence or **any other form physical, sexual or emotional abuse**

Women who have been affected by witnessing violence or abuse are also welcome.

Would like to **talk to a qualified counsellor** in a safe environment

CONTACT ROSHNI ON 0115-9881414 OR Email:

counsellingservices@roshninotts.org.uk

We offer

A counselling service that is **free of charge**

An **initial assessment** to ensure you get the right support 12 sessions of individual, face-to-face counselling.

A safe, confidential, non-judgmental space to enable young women to stay safe, talk about and understand their experiences, move on from the past, value themselves and remain free from violence

A multilingual service: counselling is available in **English, Hindi, Urdu, Punjabi, Tamil and Spanish**

Sessions are held at the **Nottingham Women's Centre**: a safe, **women-only** environment, easily accessibly by bus or tram

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Belong are running ESOL sessions, Mondays 10am - 12 noon, at Belong, 32 Gregory Boulevard, Hyson Green (opposite the Library). These are **free for asylum seekers** though there will be a small charge for anyone else (£1 for jobseekers or those on benefits and £2 for all others - this is for a 2 hour session). Initially it will be for those at Entry 1 and Entry 2 standard though we hope to expand this soon.

Please note these are not accredited courses.

For more information contact: Rosie Fisher, Project Development Worker, Belong, T: 0115 979 0015, E: rosie@belongnottingham.co.uk

Conversation groups

Did you know that Nottingham City Library Service runs English Conversation groups for people who want to improve their confidence in speaking English? The groups are a great way for people to get to know their community and find out about services.

More information on the conversation groups and other services of interest to people from the new arrival, refugee and asylum seeking communities can be found [here](#) and on Nottingham City Libraries [Facebook page](#).

Meadows Library: Tuesdays, 11 am to 12.45pm

Central Library, Thursdays, 3 to 5 pm

Hyson Green Library: Fridays, 10.30 am - 12

Language Café project

A fun and informal way to learn new languages, practice your teaching skills and meet people from all over the world. Come along and get involved!

Nottingham City Libraries and Culturebox have teamed up with the Refugee Forum to bring back the Language Cafe project! At the Square Centre, Alfred St North, NG3 1AA. Every Saturday 2:30-4:30pm.

Libraries are at the heart of your community For more information contact Juliet Line on 01159151180 or Diane at culturebox@hotmail.co.uk

InTraining jobseeker sessions

Nottingham City Libraries are hosting *InTraining* sessions, offering work & training to jobseekers. They are based on floor 2 of Central Library, Angel Row, on Wednesday afternoons between 12.30 and 4.30.

InTraining provide free training and job help to all jobseekers who are aged 19 or over (anyone under this age will be able to access the same help from Connexions).

InTraining are happy for staff to signpost anyone to them who needs work & training help. They perform an initial assessment of the jobseeker, which takes up to an hour, and from this they work out how best to help them. This might be C.V. writing, interview techniques, job searching or training.

If they have a group of people all needing the same help, they will organise a group session e.g. a group session on C.V. writing.



The Welcome Project

REFUGEES!

- Feeling lonely, anxious or depressed?
 - Want to practise your English?
- Need help finding paid or volunteer work, training or education?

A mentor can help you with by providing one – on – one support meetings once a fortnight or once a month.

You choose your mentor from our group of trained volunteers and you decide what you want help with. The programme will be starting in November 2011.

Ten places are available.

Interested?? Please text/call Welcome Project co-ordinator Joanna Petersen 07557 443454 _
joannap@thewelcomeproject.org.uk

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Resources

FREE ESOL resource: Nottingham Contemporary

Nottingham Contemporary have now developed a free ESOL resource that can be used by any group or individual. The resource aims to make gallery visits more accessible and engaging. Further information can be found on <http://www.nottinghamcontemporary.org/communities-and-groups>

We currently also offering a limited number of FREE artist led workshops for any ESOL group within the city.

Special free gallery training days are also on offer for tutors or anyone who works with groups who have English as a second language.

To find out more, please contact Saima Kaur at Saima@nottinghamcontemporary.org

DROP-IN FOR ST. ANN'S AND DALES COMMUNITY GROUPS

at Renewal Trust Building, 27-31 Carlton Road

No appointment necessary! Thursday evenings, 4 - 7 pm

We work in partnership with NCVS group development worker Kate Hemsley to offer tailored one-to-one advice and support to community groups. No appointments necessary! This could include support with governance issues, identifying and filling in funding applications, helping with planning, policies, constitutions and so forth.

We are also offering FREE use of a b&w photocopier to community groups

FREE colour printing (limited to 20 copies per group per session)

Introduction to the National Health Service

This fact sheet has been written to explain the role of UK health services, the National Health Service (NHS), to newly-arrived individuals seeking asylum. It covers issues such as

- ▶ the role of GPs,
- ▶ how they give you to the health services, how to register
- ▶ and how to access emergency services.

[Click here to access the information in 40 languages.](#)

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NOTTINGHAM CITY OF SANCTUARY

We invite you and your organisation – your school, faith group, business, charity – to sign our pledge form and get involved in whatever way suits you. Whether you want to **display a sign**, join a **befriending scheme**, or just **smile** at people you don't know, there's something everyone can do to help make Nottingham more **open and fair**.

[Please support us by becoming a City of Sanctuary supporter group](#)

We are continually seeking statements of support from all **organisations** across Nottingham. We are working towards building a network of organisations that recognise the contribution of asylum seekers and refugees and are committed to welcoming and including them in their activities.

We also ask our supporting organisations to decide on a practical action that they can implement to help make their activities or services more inclusive of those seeking sanctuary.

If this sounds like something that your organisation could do go to the [website](#) for more details. Please sign and return our pledge form to either coordinator@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org, or to Nottingham City of Sanctuary, Unit 5, First Enterprise, 88 - 90 Radford Road, Hyson Green, NG5 7FU.

The form will also give you useful ideas for how to make your activities more inclusive of those seeking sanctuary.

You can also register your support as an **individual** by signing up to receive our newsletter and information on City of Sanctuary events. Email coordinator@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org

Our 63 Supporting Organisations - Is yours listed

Faith groups:

[All Saints, St Mary and St Peter, Nottingham](#)

Akshobi Buddhist Centre

[All Souls Church and Community Centre](#)

Beeston Quakers

[Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham](#)

[Nottingham and Derby Methodist District](#)

[RC Diocese Justice and Peace Commission](#)

[Nottingham Interfaith Council](#)

[Nottingham Quaker Meeting](#)

St John the Evangelist Church, Carrington

[St Stephen's Church, Hyson Green](#)

Education:

Aegis, Nottingham Trent University

[Begin](#)

[Castle College](#)

[STAR \(Student Action for Refugees\)](#)

Refugee Community groups

[Belong \(formerly Kweri-Hetu\)](#)

Public sector

[Area 4 Forum, Nottingham City Council Forestry Commission, Sherwood District](#)

[CEFET](#)

[Birchover Community Centre](#)

Greenway Community Centre

Voluntary groups

[Nottingham African Women's Empowerment Forum](#)

[Citizens for Sanctuary](#)

[Nottingham Community and Voluntary Service](#)

[Nottingham and Notts Refugee Forum](#)

[Nottingham Arimathea Trust](#)

[Nottingham British Red Cross Refugee Services](#)

[Nottingham Beyond Borders](#)

[Nottingham Clarion Choir](#)

[Partnership Council](#)

Peace Supper Group

[The Rainbow Project, Hyson Green](#)

[Stop Hate UK](#)

[Vine Community Centre, Hyson Green The Welcome Project](#)

Trade Unions

[Unison, Nottingham City branch](#)

Others

[Beulah Rescue Centre](#)

The Children's Society, Nottingham

CND (Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament)

[City Arts](#)

[HLG \(Housing Liaison Group\)](#)

[NCBI \(National Coalition Building Institute\)](#)

[Refugee Action](#)

[Roshni](#)

Stonebridge City Farm

[Streetwise Opera](#)

Shops - Please support these shops who are supporting us:

Crocus Cafe

[Crocus Gallery](#)

[Iguazu \(Fairly Trading\), Beeston](#)

[Oxfam Shops, Beeston](#)

ACM, African/Caribbean Food Shop, 390 Radford Road, Hyson Green

Fix It All Ltd., DIY & Hardware Suppliers, 386/388 Radford Road, Hyson Green NG7 5GR

AKWAABA Ltd, New Bakery opening shortly, 362 Radford Road

Hafiz Supermarket, Supermarket, 342-346 Radford Road, Hyson Green NG7 5GQ Fast

Dial, Internet Cafe, 388 Radford Road, Hyson Green

Yomade -African Favourite Foods, 334 Radford Road, NG7 5GP

Costcutter, Supermarket, 322 Radford Road, Hyson Green NG7 5GP

Laura's Vintage Shop, Alfreton Road

Madni Sweet Mart & Pan, Homemade sweets & Indian cuisine, 316 Radford Road, NG7 5GP

Hyson Green Mini Market, 310-314 Radford Road Hyson Green NG7 5FT

Monopolowi, Eastern European foods, 296 Radford Road NG7 5GN

Haven Housing Trust, Charity shop, 247 Radford Road Hyson Green

Tramwiches, Café & Sandwich bar, Caterers, 211 Radford Rd Hyson Green NG7 5GT

Narwaaz Bakery - Radford Road, NG7

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[Joining in / Volunteering Opportunities](#)

Do you need volunteers? (We do! -see last page) We will feature you here each month, especially if you would welcome volunteers who happen to be refugees.

There are many projects across Nottingham that support refugees and asylum seekers, and most would welcome new volunteers. Many of our supporter organisations also require volunteers.

Please feel free to contact these organisations but if you do secure a position, please contact us and let us know about it so we can share the success stories of volunteers with others (and gain brownie points with our funders!)

Volunteer with Morton Hall Detainee Visitor Group (MHDVG)

We are a group of volunteers who visit people detained at Morton Hall Immigration Removal (detention) Centre and we are looking for people to join us in supporting detainees.

Morton Hall IRC is in Swinderby, Lincolnshire. It is one of the larger detention centres in the UK and its location is quite remote. The purpose of the visitors group is to support the people detained there by providing a link to the outside world. We visit those detained at Morton Hall and stay in contact by phone to reduce the isolation that is all too common in detention centres.

Detention invariably affects people mentally and emotionally. Visits from people who care, people that aren't part of the system that keeps them locked up, are invaluable for detainees' emotional wellbeing.

New visitors will be supported by being paired with someone who has already started visiting. We also meet regularly to share experiences and ideas and to support each other with any difficulties. No-one is expected to take on anything that they aren't comfortable with.

There will also be a training session running on **Sunday 11th March at the Refugee Forum**. If you are interested in getting involved, please reply to this email mhvg_volunteer@riseup.net

Look forward to hearing from you,

Morton Hall Detainee Visitors Group (MHDVG)

The Welcome Project is seeking to recruit volunteers for all aspects of the project including:

- [Interpreting](#)
- [English conversation practice](#)
- [Mentoring](#)

- Computer training
- Form-filling
- Help with accessing benefits, housing, health services and education
- Fundraising
- Writing grant applications
- Event management
- Media relations

All volunteers will receive training in working with vulnerable people and undergo CRB checks. Further training in the relevant areas, e.g. housing etc, will also be given.

Contact us:

Co-ordinator: Joanna Petersen joannap@thewelcomeproject.org.uk, 07557 443454

Administrator: Sharon Bravo admin@thewelcomeproject.org.uk or 0115 9701855

The Rainbow Project co-ordinator: Dianne Skerritt dskerritt@southwell.anglican.org or 07917 67468

Nottingham Arimathea Trust (NAT)

is looking for mentors and befrienders for residents in our asylum houses. Your role will primarily be to offer a supportive relationship and practical assistance where appropriate, and can take the form of a variety of activities such as helping residents with English, accompanying them to various events around Nottingham, helping them get to a doctor's appointment, or simply chatting to reduce loneliness and isolation. Mentoring and Befriending training will be provided!

No specific qualifications are required although an understanding of the issues facing asylum seekers is desirable and a positive and respectful attitude is essential!

For further details please visit the Do-it website: <http://www.do-it.org.uk/oppdetails.do?id=1626060> or contact NAT's Support Facilitator, Wesal on 07771803752 or wesal@nottinghamarimathea.org.uk

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Refugee Forum

Nottingham and Notts Refugee Forum (NNRF) is an independent, voluntary organisation set up to work with and for asylum seekers and refugees in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. Volunteer positions include a vacancy for Honorary Treasurer and General Advisors. Website: <http://www.nottsrefugeeforum.org.uk/>

Email: volunteer@nottsrefugeeforum.org.uk

Telephone: 0115 941 5599

Forestry Commission, Sherwood District

The Forestry Commission is the government department responsible for trees, woods and forests in the East Midlands Region. They manage the forest estate in the region and create sustainable and attractive woodlands that are rich in biodiversity and accessible to as many people as possible.

They offer volunteer opportunities in Practical Conservation, Trail Building or Shadow Ranger Voluntary Work Placement. For more information on volunteer opportunities please visit www.forestry.gov.uk/eastmidlandsvolunteering.

Website: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/> Email:

Oxfam

The Oxfam 'Books and Music Shop' in Beeston and the Oxfam 'General Shop' in Beeston have both signed up as supporters of the City of Sanctuary and are willing to offer volunteer placements for suitable refugees and asylum seekers. If you want to apply, or need support, contact: communications@nottingham.cityofsanctuary.org



NOTTINGHAM
CITY OF SANCTUARY

Volunteers wanted!

Can you offer some time, skills, or knowledge to us? Please contact Jo

Thorpe (j.thorpe@ntlworld) to discuss what you are interested in. We particularly need a new Administrator/Secretary and someone to manage the website.

Publicity / PR / Media volunteer

Writing press releases; writing positive stories for local press on people seeking sanctuary locally. Work with Website Manager (or be Website Manager too)

Skills needed: some experience of working with media and writing press releases, or willing to learn, good English writing skills.

Promoters

There are many groups (and shops) in Nottingham we are sure would want to support us, if they knew about us. We know the names of many groups, but haven't had the resources to contact them and explain who we are. Could you help?

Recently we contacted shops for the first time. It took Claudette just one morning to sign up 12 shops in Hyson Green. Small shops in areas where sanctuary seekers live are our targets, **especially St Ann's, The Meadows, Lenton.**

Community Networkers

Volunteers to attend community events – designing and setting up a stall, speaking to other organisations at events, networking etc.

Skills needed: good communication skills, willing to travel locally, organise own time, and able to find out about events to attend.

Newsletter

To produce a monthly newsletter

Skills: Ability to write in a way that engages existing supporter groups and new readers. Ability to cut and paste from certain websites. Keep a look out for local events. Ability to make it look attractive on screen and on paper (on screen is more important).

Speaker / trainer

To give presentations to other organisations in Nottingham encouraging them to sign up in support and to decide how to action their support.

Skills: Would suit someone with experience of asylum system and good presentation / facilitation skills. Speaker's materials are available.

Expenses are available for those who need them