

National Refugee Week

INTERCULTURAL CELEBRATIONS IN BRISTOL

June 11th–19th 2010



National Refugee Week 2010

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National Refugee Week - Celebrating Sanctuary is 12 years old this year. There are over 500 different activities taking place around the UK. Bristol City has played a significant part in participating in the UK-wide programme since 2001. This years programme of arts, cultural and educational events provide opportunities for everyone in Bristol to participate in learning about and celebrating the contribution of refugees to the UK. In addition, the programme encourages better understanding between communities.

We hope you will come to at least one event. There are events all around the city particularly in Easton, Fishponds, Queen Square, St Paul's, The Watershed down on Poole's Wharf and the Central Library – many of the events are free and we are sure there is something for everyone. We hope you enjoy the programme.

Bristol Refugee Week Network

www.bristolrefugeeweek.co.uk

Please be aware that photos of events and participants will be taken throughout the week for use in reports by participating organisations. Please let organisers know if you do not want to be photographed.

A few words from National Refugee week:



Is there a theme for the events?

The main focus of events is Simple Acts. This is about inspiring people to use small, everyday actions to change perceptions of refugees.

The Refugee Week slogan is **Different Pasts, Shared Future.**

We encourage Refugee Week event organisers to organise events around the idea that Refugee Week is a **space of encounters** between different communities and an opportunity to use more creative ways to bring refugee experiences closer to wider audiences.

20 Simple Acts:

We believe that if everyone does at least one of these simple actions, we could make a big change to the way refugees are perceived in the UK. It sounds simple - and it is



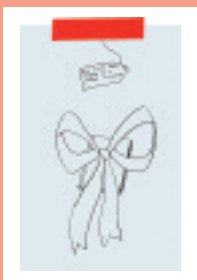
1. Cook a dish from another country
2. Tell a child a story from another country
3. Watch a movie about refugees
4. Do a quiz on refugees
5. Say a little prayer for me
6. Read a book about exile



7. Sign off your email with a note about refugees
8. Find five facts about refugees
9. Find out who you REALLY are
10. Visit a Refugee Week event
11. Smile :O)
12. Learn to say a few things in a new language



13. Have tea with a refugee
14. Share a song
15. Join a big action campaign in support of refugees
16. Share your sweets
17. Give a book about refugees as a present to someone



18. Define the word "Refuge"
19. Take a picture of you and your pro-refugee banner
20. Play football with refugees



Friday 11th June Launch of Art Exhibition

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA
6.30pm **FREE**

As well as **Celebrating Sanctuary's** stunning art work, this special Launch event includes music, poetry, refreshments and a chance to hear about **City of Sanctuary** project work nationally and locally. Children will speak about the Conflict Resolution work they've been doing in art workshops.

At 7.30pm: In Conversation with the Artists a chance to talk to the artists and discuss how refugees are portrayed and how they portray themselves and their world!



Schools Workshop
(photo Liz Crew)



Sat 12th – Sat 19th June (not open Sun 13th) Celebrating Sanctuary art exhibition

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA
11am onwards **FREE**

4 floors of powerful art by and about asylum seekers. The exhibition brings together an international palette of artists including Shula, Ina Hume of Vanishing Rites, Nadine Bourne, Fiona Kam Meadley, Ricky Romain, Terry Piper, Houri Ghamian, Heather Fallows, Ugyen Choephell, Tom King, Annie Davenport, Bristol Refugee Rights Welcome Centre and photographs of Iranian street protest. Testament to our capacity to transcend hardship. Art speaks the words we cannot say!

Additional activities throughout the week:

Scribble Wall – a place for your thoughts about home, marginalisation & City of Sanctuary. As the week unfolds a dialogue develops!

Map of Origins – a World map invites you to put a dot on your place of origin or your family roots. The results are surprising!

Bedroom Installation – a display & installation introducing Bristol Caravanserai's Hospitality Network for Destitute Asylum Seekers. Do you have room for a refugee?



Shahriar
(photo Tom King)

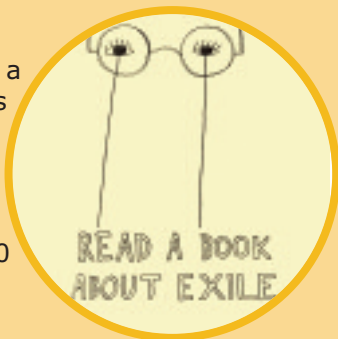


Saturday 12th - Sunday 20th June Suggested reading list and promotional display

Bristol Central Library

FREE

A promotional display of books, including a recommended reading list, highlighting books on exile, in line with the National Refugee Week '20 Small Actions' Campaign. Bristol Libraries will also be in attendance at the Celebrating Sanctuary Sunday in the Information Tent. For further information contact 0117 903 7720



Saturday 12th June Zimbabwe Day

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA

2pm-12 midnight **FREE**

2pm: **Gumboot dance workshop with Cecilia Ndhlovu**

A fun workshop of this traditional dance style, developed by South African miners as a means of communication. Suitable for everybody who can jump up and down!

4pm: **Film: Democracy Missing Presumed Dead**

– a frank look at the 2008 elections in Zimbabwe – shot undercover by the Solidarity Peace Trust. Followed by discussion.

6pm: **Delicious Zimbabwean food!** (£5 a plate)

7.30pm: **Panel Discussion** - about the situation in Zimbabwe.

Plus book launch of Brian Chikwava's new novel **Harare North** (tbc) - "unforgettable" (The Independent).



Cecilia Ndhlovu
(photo Monica Connell)

10pm: **Music and Dancing** – traditional Zimbabwean music with Fidelis Mherembi, Cecilia Ndhlovu & friends – dance the night away!

Plus **Celebrating Sanctuary art exhibition** open all day.

Sunday 13th June 2010

Celebrating Sanctuary Sunday

Queen Square Bristol BS1 4GB 1 - 8pm FREE

Refugee Week



You are invited to a day of live dance, music and art with Genna Ethiopian Arts and Theatre, Kurdish music from Shanga Band, the West Papuan Lani Singers and Zimbabwean tunes from Bulawayo. With storytelling, Tibetan music and nomadic home, Somali Aqaal and artefacts. There are drum, dance and Gambian mask making workshops, poetry, photography, paintings, films, wellbeing area, bouncy castle, games, face painting, henna, ShelterBox, and international food, as well as lots of useful and interesting information about local projects and services.

This is a great opportunity to get a global experience without having to travel too far! Everybody is welcome bring a picnic, come with friends, family and neighbours, meet new people and create happy memories!

ffi Tribe of Doris 0845 458 0190
www.tribeofdoris.co.uk
www.bristolrefugeeweek.co.uk



Main Stage

- 1.00 DJ
- 1.20 **Shelok Tsering & friends**
Tibetan singing
- 1.45 **Dawud Wharnsby** spiritual hymns from the Qur'anic tradition
- 2.10 **Lani Singers**
Songs from West Papua
- 3.00 **Bulawayo**
Jit Jive from Zimbabwe
- 4.10 **Kujawy Polish Dancers**
- 4.35 **Shelok Tsering & friends**
Tibetan singing
- 5.00 **African Sambistas**
Samba with Rachel Degarang
- 5.20 **KORI Arts Poets**
- 5.50 **Shanga Band Led by Dilzar Shanga**
Kurdish song and dance
- 7.00 **Genna Ethiopian Arts and Theatre**
music & dance from the Horn of Africa

Workshops in the Doris Marquee

- 1.30 **Cecilia Ndhlovu** Drumming
- 2.30 **Rachel Degarang** Dance Women only
- 3.45 **Rachel Degarang** Dance for all
- 5.30 **Cecilia Ndhlovu** Drumming

Off The Cuff

- 1.00 **Exhibition of photographs**
Houri Ghamian and Shula S
- 2.00 **Dawud Wharnsby**
Motivational presentation and discussion
- 3.00 **Bristol Refugee Rights music group**
Tibetan music and dance
- 4.00 **Medea Mahdavi Dance Company**
excerpts from 'Dancing the Knife' and discussion
- 4.30 **Lani Singers** talk about West Papua

Storytelling

with world citizen Eden Solomon.
See chalkboard on the day for times



A free event organised by Tribe of Doris in partnership with Bristol City Council

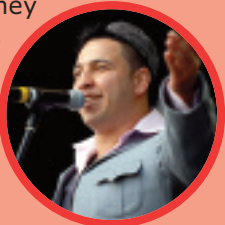
Bulawayo The infectious music of Cecilia Ndhlovu's entrancing mbira thumb-piano and hypnotic and joyous Ndebele and Shona vocals take listeners on an educational journey through Zimbabwean tradition. Driven by classic jit-jive guitar and rolling chimurenga bass matched with the powerful drum patterns of modern Zimbabwe, the classic sound of Bulawayo has arrived.



Lani Singers Heartfelt songs from deepest West Papua in the south-west Pacific. Steeped in the rich traditions of the Lani tribe whose roots stem back to the Stone Age, this collection of songs is reflective of the remarkable journey against all odds that the Lani Singers have made.



Shanga Band play an irresistible mix of traditional and contemporary Kurdish music. Led by Dilzar Shanga, their infectious rhythms are performed on keyboard, dumbek, oud and violin. Come and learn Kurdish dancing and enjoy yourself.



A wild success from last years event **Genna Ethiopian Arts and Theatre** aims to increase awareness and enjoyment of Ethiopian arts in the wider community as well as giving a positive sense of identity for young British-Ethiopians. "The children speak English, but they're not English. And they start asking 'Who am I?' – they know they are from Ethiopia, but they don't know anything about Ethiopia. Our aim is to open that door." Vibrant music and dance from the Horn of Africa.



Canadian singer songwriter **Dawud Wharnsby** is internationally renowned for his pioneering work in nasheed - spiritual hymns drawn from the Qur'anic tradition - his songs are sung in schools world wide. He visited Bristol in the past few years inviting young people to explore values, identity and gratitude for the planet we live on and also speaks on social justice, disability awareness, music, spirituality, Qur'anic philosophy, tradition and ideology. www.wharnsby.com



Off the Cuff A selection of performances and open mic spots, discussions, conversations and tea with long settled refugees, photography and art works from local artists and more...

ShelterBox provide humanitarian aid worldwide in the form of shelter, warmth and dignity to people displaced by natural and other disasters. They will be showing the contents of their emergency box, sufficient to enable a family of up to 10 people to survive for at least six months. Imagine what it would be like to have to live like this...

Somali Aqaal How did a Somali Aqaal - a traditional nomadic home - find its way to a farm in Herefordshire and then to Bristol City Centre? Come and see the Aqaal and hear it's fascinating story, with Hamish Wilson. Find out more about Somali culture.

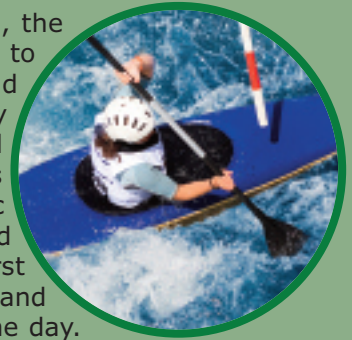
Information Tent meet some of the local organisations and services providing a wide range of support, learning and advocacy. You will be introduced to Refugee Community Organisations, Bristol Refugee Rights, The Pierian Centre and Avon and Somerset Police Careers outreach team to name a few.



Monday 14th June Young Bristol Splash Day

Young Bristol, Pooles Wharf Activity Centre (adjacent to Mardyke Steps), Hotwells Road, Hotwells, BS8 4RU
10am - 3pm **FREE**

Based in Young Bristol's building in Hotwells, the event will run from 10am to 3pm with plenty to do for all who go. Those asylum seeking and refugee students who currently attend City Academy will be given a chance to spend some fun, quality time with their families, as they try their skills at kayaking. For the public at large, free trips on a narrow boat around Bristol's Floating Harbour on a first come first served basis, so if you would like a go come and sign in at Young Bristol's activity centre on the day. Also come and see the film made by the young people themselves.



For a two-hour slot, between 1pm and 3pm, asylum seekers and refugees will have the unusual opportunity of seeking free, professional support on a number of everyday issues, such as form filling and benefits advice. Young Bristol is therefore urging all those people who may benefit from this to drop in.

This event will provide an ideal opportunity for everyone to come together as one big community. If anyone is interested in finding out more about asylum seekers, then please pop along for an enjoyable day out. For further information, please call Lisa Gunton 0117 953 7921 or email lg@youngbristol.com



Monday 14th - Friday 18th June 'Journey to Safety' and 'Positive Images' FREE

The British Red Cross and EMAT Induction and Assessment Team (EIAT) are working together to deliver a combined education programme for primary schools: Journey to Safety is an interactive board game designed to enable young people to gain an understanding of what it might be like to flee your home, search for safety and apply for asylum; Positive Images explores migration, the reasons people migrate and definitions as a way to develop understanding and to combat negative stereotypes. Other activities may include a Tracing and Messaging game or a Refugee Camp mapping activity as well as creative space where children can express what they have learned through poems, stories, and art.

For more information contact: Anna Kawar on 0117 3012603, akawar@redcross.org.uk Catherine Cranmer on 0117 3533297, Catherine.cranmer@bristol.gov.uk



Monday 14th June The Forgiveness Project workshop

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA
2pm **FREE**

Awareness, Education & Inspiration are the tools of The Forgiveness Project. It aims to help build a future free of conflict & violence by healing the wounds of the past. By collecting & sharing people's stories, the Project enables people to explore the nature of forgiveness and the alternatives to revenge. Forgiveness becomes a choice, a process and a journey rather than a destination.



Plus **Celebrating Sanctuary art exhibition** open all day.



Monday 14th June Ireland 1847 and the Flight from Famine (From Exile to Integration 1)

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA
7.30pm **FREE**



The Irish Potato Famine of the 1840s saw one million people starve to death – proportionately the most destructive famine ever. This evening of music, readings, history and debate examines the causes and consequences of the Great Hunger. Up to 2 million refugees fled their homeland – how were they received? How did British policy in Ireland contribute to the famine? What resonances remain for the famines of today?

Bridget O'Donnell,
evicted with her children



Tuesday 15th June
Visible Thinking
Schools Workshops

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA

Visible Thinking is a Bristol-based company researching new ways of engaging children in learning. Their work has evolved non-verbal storytelling techniques that considerably improve children's learning, communication, well-being & musicality. In today's workshops Visible Thinking works with schools groups on issues relating to refugees. Schools who have attended in the past have asked us to run the day again!



Plus **Celebrating Sanctuary art exhibition** open all day.



Tuesday 15th June
The Road to Babylon
(From Exile to Integration 2)

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA
7.30pm **FREE**

The long journey from Africa via West Indian slavery to the cold shores of Britain left many Afro-Caribbeans feeling like exiles. This event gives voice to the experience and feelings of Bristol's black communities. Do they feel they've found their roots? Have they succeeded in building a rich & secure identity for themselves in today's multi-cultural Britain?



Melward Adolphus Waite
(copyright Hazel Ramdeen)



Wednesday 16th June

"Why don't you go back home?"

Organised by Amana Education Trust

Daytime event. Venue to be confirmed.

This session offers a chance to learn about the successes and challenges for Somali People nationally and internationally. A range of topics are addressed by covering Somalia's historical past, present and future and the ways in which these are relevant for Somali people in Bristol the UK and around the world. Contact Liban on 07944809069 for more details.



Wednesday 16th June

The Voice of Children

with Barnardo's and Refugee Action

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA

2-5.30pm **FREE**

Why does Britain still lock up children in detention centres? How do we ensure that children are seen as children and supported accordingly? How do we promote positive outcomes for refugee and asylum seeker children? **The Voice**

of Children uses visual images

and testimony to take participants

on a journey that explores the

needs and rights of refugee and

asylum seeker children. Barnardo's

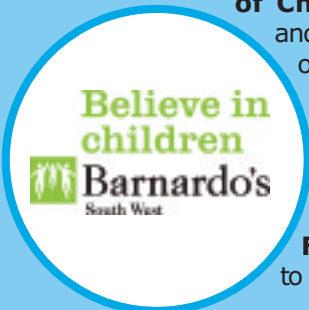
South West and Refugee Action Bristol

are working in partnership on

Refugee and Asylum Seeker

Family Support (RASFS), an initiative

to improve the outcomes for refugee children.



Plus **Celebrating Sanctuary art exhibition** open all day.



Wednesday 16th June

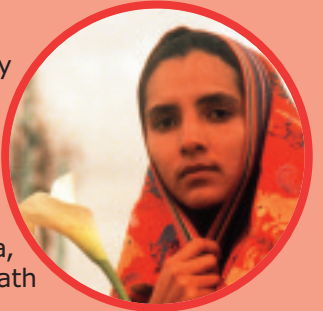
Film: El Norte

(From Exile to Integration 3)

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA

7.30pm **FREE**

A screening of this award-winning film followed by a discussion about the plight of children as refugees. El Norte (15) follows a young Mayan brother and sister, fleeing persecution in Guatemala, and chasing the dream of a better life in the U.S. "El Norte tells their story with astonishing visual beauty, with unashamed melodrama, with anger leavened by hope. It is a Grapes of Wrath for our time." Chicago Sun-Times.



Thursday 17th June

Small Action

A CUP OF TEA WITH A REFUGEE

Newton Hall, Newton Street, BS5 0QZ

10.30am-12.30pm 2pm-3pm **FREE**

VISIT BRISTOL REFUGEE RIGHTS WELCOME CENTRE ALL WELCOME! Join us at the BRR Welcome Centre in Newton Hall, Newton Street - off Stapleton Road opposite the Leisure centre. Lots of friendly people from all over the world in probably the most ethnically diverse community in Bristol. A chance to chat, look at artwork and other projects, and get to know people who are seeking sanctuary in Bristol. Learn some words and greetings in a new language!

Email: Caroline at dropin@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.bristolrefugeerights.org.uk





Thursday 17th June 2010 'Education Without Borders'

Community Engagement and Human Rights Conference
presented by the UWE Refugee and Migrant Support Hub
UWE Exhibition and Conference Centre Bristol, BS16 1QY
9am-4.30pm **FREE** (Lunch provided)

Two plenary sessions and four workshops

Conference Aim: To promote the basic human right principle of education for all to achieve the following four main objectives: Consciousness, Empowerment, Widening Participation, and workforce diversity.

To register for this conference send email to rmslub@uwe.ac.uk or email Sian4.Hawkins@uwe.ac.uk



Thursday 17th June A Taste of Darfur

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA
7.30pm **FREE**

Bristol's newly-formed Darfur Association brings you an evening devoted to the culture and current plight of their homeland. A chance to get behind the headlines, and to try a taste of the music, food and culture of Darfur. Hear and discuss what has driven Bristol's Darfuri community to seek sanctuary here, and how they are settling in.

Plus **Celebrating Sanctuary art exhibition** open all day.



A Taste of Darfur
(photo Simon Bright)



Friday 18th June Spotlight on Iran

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA
3-11pm **FREE**

An evening devoted to the culture and politics of a country of huge sophistication, antiquity and importance. Iranian food, film, music, poetry, costume, dance – and discussion of the current situation both in Iran and for Iranians here in the UK. A highlight includes an exhibition of photos of the recent unrest in Iran. Organised by the Iranian community in Bristol. For full timetable, go to www.pieriancentre.com



17th century painting
from Isfahan
(photo User Zereshk)

Plus **Celebrating Sanctuary art exhibition** open all day.



Saturday 19th June From Exile to Integration 4 a final Symposium

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA
7.30pm **FREE**

This symposium brings together the experiences of refugees and asylum seekers who have made their homes in Bristol. How are they received? How can they be helped to become valued & contributing members of our city? The evening brings together many of the themes and issues of the week, and clothes them in personal testimony. A central focus will be the way forward for Bristol as a City of Sanctuary. An evening to reflect, debate and celebrate!



Plus **Celebrating Sanctuary art exhibition** open all day.



All Refugee Week events at the Pierian Centre are part of 2010: the European Year for Combating Poverty & Social Exclusion.

The Pierian Centre is the lead project partner for Bristol's response to EY2010 - Working Together for Positive Change.



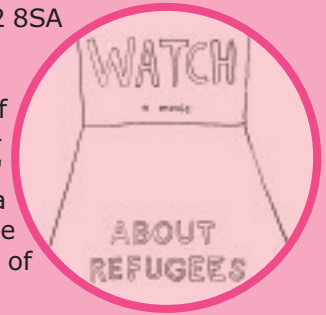
Additional Events

Sunday 27th June

Film Night: Turtles Can Fly

The Pierian Centre, 27 Portland Sq, St Pauls, BS2 8SA
7.30pm **£5 (plus concs)**

Our monthly Film Night continues the themes of Refugee Week with Bahman Ghobadi's award-winning drama *Turtles Can Fly*. This "electrifying" film (Washington Post) follows the lives of a group of refugee orphans in Kurdistan on the eve of the Iraq War. "A gentle, intelligent reminder of how small our world is" (LA Times).



Radio Salaam Shalom

"Jews and Muslims Talking Together"

1st floor, 404 Stapleton Road, Bristol,
BS5 6NQ, UK

Rap song workshops, recording sessions and more by international Muslim-Jewish musicians brought together for intercultural media project Radio Salaam Shalom.

Contact Tel: (0117) 951 6215 Fax: (0117) 952 1802



Avon & Somerset Careers Outreach Team

PC Maz Nuur

"It sounds clichéd and a bit cheesy but I really joined the police to help people. I'm a people person and I never really wanted to sit in an office so this was the natural choice for me. I have two young daughters and I would strongly recommend the Police Service to them. Working here gives you such a huge range of different opportunities. You meet so many people from different walks of life and learn something new every day."

To find out more visit www.avonandsomerset.police.uk, contact the Outreach team on Tel: 0117 9529521 or email outreach@avonandsomerset.police.uk. Also the Careers Outreach team will be in the information tent at Queen Square on Sunday 13th June



