

CRSG Newsletter Jan 2019

Happy New Year everyone ...

I apologise for the lack of correspondence towards the end of 2018. Hopefully all will run smoothly in 2019. The last event the Skipton group held was on the 19th September - A talk by Sepi Mojabi and Duncan Wells (Refugee Council) The two speakers gave an overview of the problems facing refugees and asylum seekers and the ways in which the Refugee Council and local groups could seek to alleviate these problems. The intended **discussion of future directions** for the group has been rearranged for February.

Future SRSG events...

January

The Skipton families are organising a party for befrienders and other people directly involved in supporting them, including people teaching English at the Monday drop-in.

Thursday February 7th - Meeting of Skipton Refugee Group to discuss future direction @ 7pm Venue to be confirmed

In an early meeting of the Skipton Refugee Group activities were discussed and people took responsibility for certain sections eg 'stuff': 'raising money': etc Somewhere this organisation got lost and although there is lots going on the wider group tends not to be involved. This meeting is intended to inform people of the groups and individuals activities and also to give members the chance to help define and become more involved in the future of the group.

The first part of the meeting will be a short presentation about the work Upper Wharfedale School have done to become Craven's first Secondary School of Sanctuary.

Followed by very short timed presentations on other group activities.

There will then be an initial discussion session in which participants will be invited to break into small groups and brainstorm possible future directions.

Then **Refreshments** - During this break the main themes will be identified and in the second half of the evening participants will be invited to join a group to discuss the theme of greatest interest to them.

There will also be a post-it board for any other thoughts people may have.

March 29th - 31st Skipton Hosting weekend

The next Hosting weekend will be 5pm Friday 29th March to 2pm Sunday 31st March 2019 when we will be welcoming members of BIASAN Refugee group from Bradford into our homes for the weekend. A programme of activities will be organised. If you would like to host a family or an individual, are able to help provide food for a meal during the weekend or have an activity that you could facilitate during the weekend please let Judy know. Judy.rogers@ydmtd.org

Other events

Saturday February 23rd at 2.30 Airton Friends Meeting House Tickets on the door: £7/5

[Wall in The Mind](#) (link)

a powerful theatre and music performance from Leeds-based **Sound Company Choir**

Looking back at other events...

Upper Wharfedale group organised a hosting day in the summer which was much enjoyed by the Skipton families and invited asylum seekers.

See their [latest newsletter](#) and [refugee facts](#).

Malhamdale group a report on their very successful [Hosting weekend for asylum seekers](#)

Refugee Council information [Channel crossings - time to set the record straight](#)

City of sanctuary suggested Campaign and Action

Write to Your MP

We are still mobilising the network and our supporters to write to their MP regarding the 3 policy asks which we raised in Sanctuary in Parliament. These are around the right to work, an end to indefinite detention and an extension of family reunion. We believe that these are winnable policy changes in the next Immigration Bill and can see the potential in the newly published [Immigration White Paper](#) so we urge everybody to continue talking to their MP and writing to them about these issues asking for their support. [Full information can be found here](#). Please also continue to circulate the information around your networks.

