



Southampton Refugee Week 2024

17-23th June

www.refugeeweek.org.uk

Refugee Week is the world's largest arts & culture festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of people seeking sanctuary.

The theme for Refugee Week 2024 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.

Having a week that focuses on refugees enables Southampton to understand the contribution that refugees bring to the City, the reasons why people seek asylum and helps to unite a wide range of local organisations around our Aims.

We want to build on the success of our 2023 Event, which included a carnival parade and picnic with music and dance in the middle of Southampton, as well as participation by schools, by local community groups and by people living in asylum accommodation. This was attended by about 1000 people.

The Aim of our events is to affirm to people who are (or have been) refugees are welcome and valued in our community and that our country should continue to offer asylum to people who need sanctuary.

Our objectives are:

1. Endorsement and support of our Aim above by a wide range of organisations in Southampton
2. Wide participation by all, especially including refugees
3. Education about why people need asylum, in schools and elsewhere
4. Positive media coverage
5. Enhancing community resilience, mutual support and networking
6. Positive and enjoyable events

Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group *Working with asylum seekers and refugees*

Patrons: Miriam Margolyes OBE, John Pilkington, Dr Shirley Firth

Registered 2019 as a charitable incorporated organisation: 1183558

SWVG PO Box 1615 Southampton, SO17 3WF

Email: admin@swvg-refugees.org.uk **Telephone:** 0750 317 6350 **Web:** www.swvg-refugees.org.uk

Proposed Events:

- Preparatory events with schools, people seeking asylum and cultural groups in the weeks leading up to Refugee Week.
- A big communal event in Southampton on **Saturday 22nd June** including:
 - Information and creative sessions on the morning.
 - A parade and picnic with music and dance in the afternoon.

What we would like you to do:

- Declare your organisation's support for the Aim (above)
- Nominate a member of your organisation to join our Organising Team
- Join our 22nd June event and/or the preparatory events
- Provide some funding or other form of support if you are able to

Please contact us by email or by phone

William Brook-Hart william.brook-hart@swvg-refugees.org.uk

07821 987014

We look forward to hearing from you !

Resources

Refugee Week

Hold an event – Refugee Week – Organiser Pack 2023 (to be updated in due course for 2024)

