

With thanks for all those involved in arranging, hosting and making financially possible the events and publicity, including:

Refugee Support Group Devon; Amnesty International, Exeter Group; Devon Primary Care Trust; British Red Cross; The Banner Theatre Company; Barnfield Theatre; UJIMA – Exeter Community Initiatives; St Sidwells Community Centre; Devon Global Centre; Devon County Council; Exeter City Council; Devon and Cornwall Police Constabulary; Diocese of Exeter; Devon County Councillors; Think Tank Productions. (And apologies to those who helped but didn't make it to print – we thank you too!)



DESTITUTION

The Refugee Council recently reported that as many as 1 in 4 Asylum Seekers were living in destitution. Tougher immigration laws and difficulties obtaining legal help may be just some of the reasons asylum seekers are no longer able to access support. Devon has its own share of asylum seekers who find themselves no longer entitled to Government help and rely on charities such as Refugee Support Group Devon to help.

PLEASE HELP BY COMPLETING AND RETURNING THE DONATION SLIP BELOW or download a standing order form from our website to set up a regular payment <http://www.rsgdevon.org.uk/donations>

Refugee Support Group Devon is a small local charity (no 1092410) that provides information and support to asylum seekers and refugees in Devon. Your support can make a real difference to the lives of the people we are helping.

Name Address

I would like to make a donation of (please make cheques payable to 'Refugee Support Group Devon')

*I am a UK Tax payer and would like my donation to be treated as GIFT AID (For every £1 we can claim 28p from the government – if this applies to you, please sign below)

Signature
 *I would like to receive further information *delete where appropriate

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Refugee Week

16 - 22 June 2008

Refugee Week is a UK wide celebration of the huge social, cultural and economic contribution refugees make to the UK and, in our case, to our local communities here in Devon.

Different Pasts, Shared Future

Refugee Week offers people, who might not normally encounter each other in everyday life, the opportunity to share experiences in a creative and inspiring environment. By raising awareness and presenting factual information it is possible to overcome hostilities and encourage greater understanding. Refugee Week is a great opportunity to bring communities together.

Exeter and Devon's Refugee Week will present a memorable showcase of events hosted by extremely talented groups. Come along and get involved in some way! Most events are free with no booking required unless otherwise stated. For more information telephone Refugee Support Group Devon on 01392 682185 or send us an email at info@rsgdevon.org.uk

Did You Know...

Famous refugees or children of refugees include: Albert Einstein, Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx, Joseph Conrad, Madeleine Albright, Marc Chagall, Jackie Chan and Mika!

The 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees defines a refugee as somebody who has left his or her own country, or who is not able to return to it "owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion."

When a refugee arrives in the UK they are called an asylum seeker until they are granted refugee status.

The UK hosts just a small fraction of the world's refugees – around 3%. The most common countries asylum seekers fled from in 2007, arriving in the UK, were Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, China and Eritrea.

Look out for displays in Libraries, Colleges and other public places throughout Devon, and a local refugee's photographs at The Plough, Torrington.

Sunday 15th June 10am – 1pm

Annual Football Tournament

The week kicks off with a diverse range of local football teams playing for the cup. Bring your family and a picnic for a great morning in the park.
King George V playing ground, Topsham Road, Exeter.

Monday 16th June 7.30pm – 9pm

Banner Theatre's Production - They get free mobiles... don't they?

Using theatre, film and a rich tapestry of musical styles from rock, rap and reggae to blues, folk and jazz "They get free mobiles...don't they?" highlights the human stories of people who just happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time, and cuts through the myths, lies and prejudice surrounding the search for sanctuary in England's green but sometimes not so pleasant land.
Clifford Room, Barnfield Theatre, Exeter. Tickets £10
ADVANCE BOOKING RECOMMENDED – contact Box Office: 01392 270891

Tuesday 17th June 12pm – 2pm

Cultural Kitchen Lunch Cafe

A feast of traditional foods from the eastern world cooked by members of RSG's Women's Outreach Project. Prices will range from £2.50 – £6 for lunch.
St Sidwells Centre, Sidwell Street, Exeter.

Tuesday 17th June 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Words of Freedom

An evening of topical talks with special guest Helen Bamber OBE, co-founding Director of Helen Bamber Foundation. Helen has worked tirelessly in the Human Rights field for 60 years, a founder member of Amnesty International and in 1985 established The Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture, where she was a guiding light until early 2005. In 1993 Helen was named European Woman of Achievement and in 1997 was awarded an OBE and a Lifetime Human Rights Achievement Award for her work.
Music Room, Exeter Library, Castle Street, Exeter. Suggested Donation £3

Wednesday 18th June 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Sounds of Freedom - World Music Night

An evening of music, songs and poetry celebrating love, freedom and diversity. All performers are donating their time to this celebration. If you would like to perform contact info@rsgdevon.org.uk
Music Room, Exeter Library, Castle Street, Exeter. Suggested donation £3

Thursday 19th June 1pm – 2pm

World at Lunch "Still Human Still Here"

Highlighting the plight of tens of thousands of refused asylum seekers who are being forced into abject poverty in an attempt to drive them out of the country. Bring your lunch and share a discussion about what's happening in the world with a multi-cultural group.
Global Centre, Exeter Community Centre, St Davids Hill, Exeter.

Thursday 19th June 6.30pm

Film event – "Grow Your Own"

Originally made in 2007 for the Family Refugee Support Project based in Liverpool, this is a jolly British film with a good heart. The story revolves around a group of allotment holders who are initially unwelcoming when refugees arrive to tend plots as part of a project. Starring Benedict Wong, Eddie Marsan and Omid Djalili
Picturehouse, Bartholomew Street, Exeter – for ticket price and bookings tel: 0871 704 2057.

Friday 20th June 10am – 12pm

Coffee morning

Come and meet key organisations working with refugees and asylum seekers in Exeter and Devon and find out what is happening locally and nationally. A selection of goods will be on sale highlighting the skills of local refugees.
St Stephens Church, High St, Exeter.

Saturday 21st June 10am – 12pm

Gold-dozī Workshop

Come and see this traditional embroidery from Afghanistan, watch the women at work, practise some pieces yourself. There will also be a selection of goods to buy.
St Sidwells's Centre, Sidwell Street, Exeter.

Saturday 21st June Noon

Multi-faith celebration

Organised by Exeter Amnesty International Group, the celebration will consist of readings and prayers by representatives from various faith groups in Exeter plus world music and a candle-lighting session focussing on Amnesty cases. Light refreshments will be available afterwards. All are welcome – please come along.
Upstairs Chapel, St Sidwells Centre, Sidwell Street, Exeter.