

Refugee Week



IN LANCASHIRE

14 - 20 JUNE 2021

We Cannot Walk Alone
#Generations

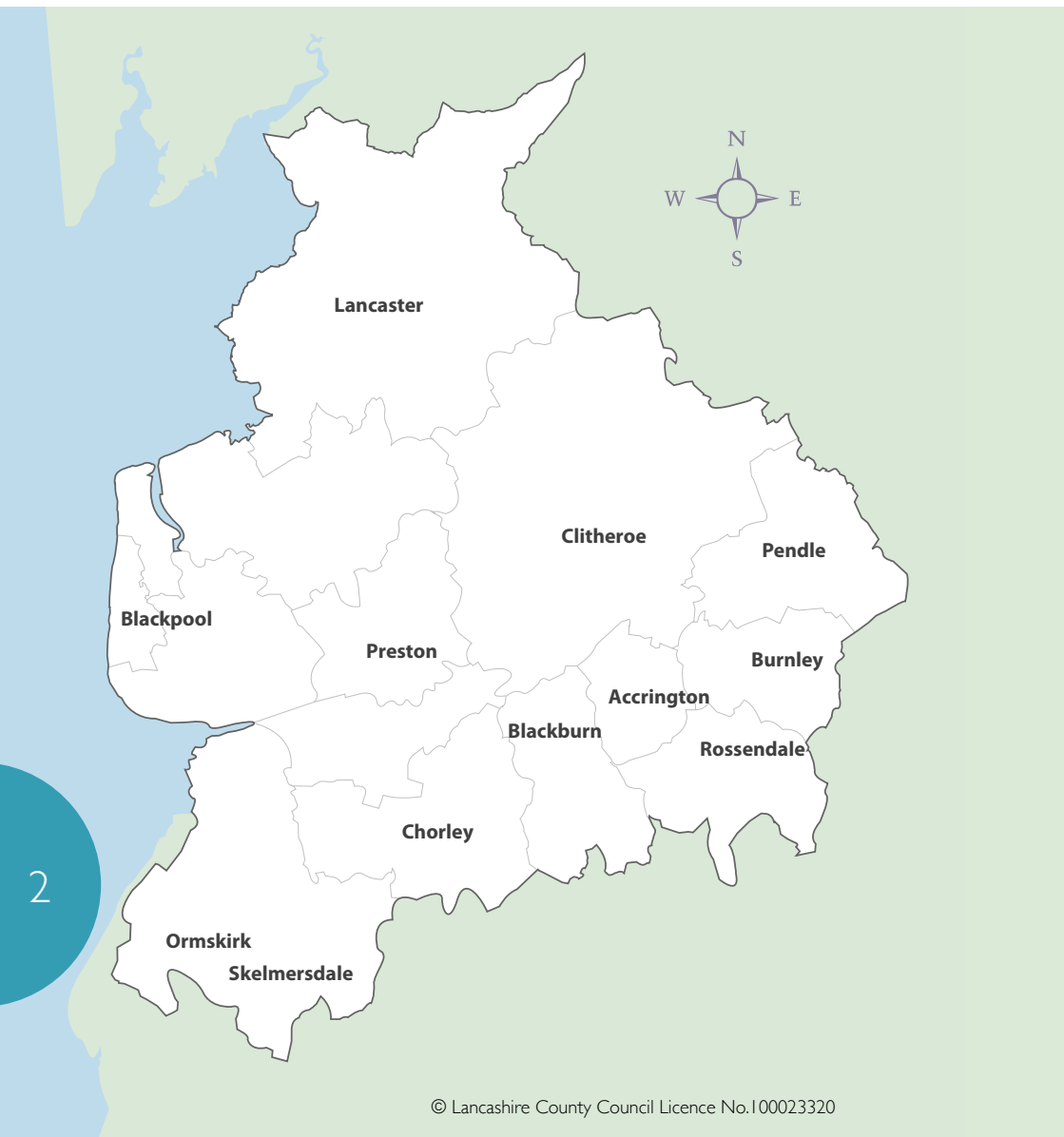
www.lancashire.gov.uk



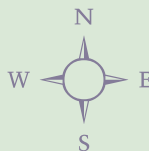
Refugee
Week



IN LANCASHIRE



Lancaster



Clitheroe

Pendle

Blackpool

Preston

Burnley

Accrington

Blackburn

Rossendale

Chorley

Ormskirk

Skelmersdale

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This Refugee Week, we invite you to join refugees and asylum seekers and VCFSE organisations who work with them by getting involved with events based on the theme, ‘We Cannot Walk Alone’.

Taken from Dr Martin Luther King’s famous ‘I have a dream’ speech, the theme asks us to make Refugee Week 2021 a bold, collective act of reaching out; a space for us all to listen, to exchange and connect. To find out what we can learn from each other, and what we can build together.

The challenges of the past year have proved how interconnected we are, and how much we need each other. Join Refugee Week events around Lancashire to meet new people, learn something new, and celebrate the great contributions refugees and asylum seekers make to life in Lancashire.

Many events are being held online this year, due to COVID-19 restrictions.



Photographed by Nana Varveropoulou - 2010



What's On?

EVENTS BY AREA

Fleetwood

● SATURDAY 12 JUNE 2021

Pop-up Syrian café

The Salvation Army, George Williams House, Broomfield Road,
Fleetwood FY7 7LS

12pm-4pm

The Salvation Army invites you to join them for a Syrian banquet made by members of the Fleetwood refugee community. There will be music and dancing, and the event will take place in the gardens of George Williams House. To attend the event, contact Alexandra Foden on **07435075692**.



Photograph by Edurne Aginanga - 2012

● MONDAY 14 JUNE 2021

Online exercise class

Online

Fleetwood Town FC Community Trust invite you to a virtual exercise class for refugees and asylum seekers. All are welcome. Book on [Eventbrite by clicking here](#) and contact John.Hartley@FleetwoodTownFC.com with any queries.

● TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2021

Resilience Webinar

Online

Fleetwood Town FC Community Trust present a digital workshop providing a framework for dealing with key barriers in the refugee and asylum seeker community. Book on [Eventbrite by clicking here](#) and contact John.Hartley@FleetwoodTownFC.com with any queries.



● WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021

Bingo and Quiz Night

Online

An opportunity for families to engage and interact with other residents in the Wyre and Fylde community through bingo and quizzes. Book on [Eventbrite by clicking here](#) and contact John.Hartley@FleetwoodTownFC.com with any queries.

● THURSDAY 17 JUNE 2021

Art Workshop

Online

Participants will be given the resources to get creative within their own homes, designing a piece of art based upon the Refugee Week theme of 'We cannot Walk Alone'. Book on [Eventbrite by clicking here](#) and contact John.Hartley@FleetwoodTownFC.com with any queries.



Children with balloons Photograph by Tobias Madden



● FRIDAY 18 JUNE 2021

Cookalong

Asylum seekers and refugees from Blackpool and Wyre will share recipes from their home countries with other individuals and families. Attendees will then be given the resources to source their ingredients and cook the dishes being presented. Book on [Eventbrite by clicking here](#) and contact John.Hartley@FleetwoodTownFC.com with any queries.

West Lancashire

● FRIDAY 18 JUNE 2021

Outdoor Singing Session

Skelmersdale Ecumenical Centre, Birch Green,
Skelmersdale WN8 6LU
Afternoon

Skem International invites refugees, asylum seekers and locals to join them for outdoor singing to celebrate Refugee Week. Email cerys@wlcvs.org to book and for further details.



Blackburn

● MONDAY 14 JUNE-SUNDAY 20 JUNE 2021

Refugee Children's Drawing Exhibition

Blackburn Central Library, Ewood, Blackburn BB2 1AG

This year, Blackburn YMCA have held drawing competitions for refugee children aged 5-10 and aged 11-15. All entries will be on display at the Central Library throughout Refugee Week. The prizegiving will take place on Monday 14 June at 11am, in front of the library. For more information contact

Aftab.Mughal@blackburn.ymca.org.uk

● SATURDAY 19 JUNE 2021

Zoom party

Online

Blackburn YMCA invites you to their Zoom party in celebration of Refugee Week. Contact

Aftab.Mughal@blackburn.ymca.org.uk to attend.

Hyndburn

● SUNDAY 20 JUNE-FRIDAY 25 JUNE 2021

‘We are together’ arts event

Aawaz Access Point, 225 Blackburn Rd, Accrington BB5 0AL

Refugee women living in Hyndburn present a collaborative display about their experiences and journeys to Hyndburn. For more information visit www.aawaz.org.uk



Photograph by Ellie Kurttz - 2011



Burnley

● **FRIDAY 11 JUNE 2021**

Clarets Welcome Celebration Session

The Leisure Box, Northlight, Glen Way, Brierfield, BB9 5NH
10am-11am

Burnley FC present a celebratory edition of their regular 'Clarets Welcome' football sessions. All men over the age of 16 who may be new to the East Lancashire area are welcome. To get involved, contact Michael Colquhoun on m.colquhoun@burnleyfc.com

● **TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2021**

Community Farm Taster Day

Eco Cabin, March Street, Burnley, BB12 0BU
10am-12pm and 1pm-3pm

Pennine Lancashire Community Farm invite you to a taster day to discover their work. In the morning (10am-12pm), enjoy guided walks in some of Burnley's green spaces. In the afternoon (1pm-3pm), you can take part in some gardening activities. You are welcome to attend either session, or both! If you'd like more information, email

ruth@penninelancashirecommunityfarm.org or phone
01282 421690.



● WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021
and FRIDAY 18 JUNE 2021

Patterns of Migration Project

Valley Street Community Centre Textiles Studio, Valley St,
Burnley BB1 1 5LZ
10am-12pm

The Gawthorpe Textiles Collection presents two workshops for their project Patterns of Migration: Repair, Refuge and Healing. Refugee women are welcome to attend to take part in creating textiles and artworks through which to tell stories, and all sessions are led by artist Aysha Yilmaz. For more information, contact b.lamey@gawthorpetextiles.org.uk

Rossendale

● MONDAY 14 JUNE-FRIDAY 18 JUNE 2021

Sports Taster Sessions for Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Various sports venues, Rossendale

Active Lancashire's Rossendale Works project invites refugees and asylum seekers to try out sessions with local sports clubs. The sports available are climbing, cycling, football, yoga and rounders. To join any sessions, contact sdunne@activelancashire.org.uk





THROUGHOUT REFUGEE WEEK

● Then and Now – Spoken Word performances

Online

Inspired Productions presents spoken word pieces devised and performed by refugees and asylum seekers from Rossendale and Burnley, comparing sensory experiences in their home countries and in the UK. View the performances on the Inspired Productions [Facebook page](#).



Photograph by Nana Varveropoulou - 2009

Preston

● MONDAY 14 JUNE 2021

Preston City of Sanctuary Discussion

Online 1pm-2pm

In this Refugee Week Launch event, speakers from Preston City of Sanctuary, Preston City Council, UCLan, Preston's College, and Preston-based sanctuary seekers will talk about what sanctuary means to them. They will explore how their organisations are embracing togetherness and walking side by side with sanctuary seekers. Book via [Eventbrite](#)

● TUESDAY 15 JUNE 2021 and THURSDAY 17 JUNE 2021

Cookalong events

Online 5:30pm-7:30pm

Join Diana, Gres and the Preston City of Sanctuary Community to learn how to make international recipes: Spanish Omelette and Venezuelan arepas. Book via [Eventbrite here](#) for the omelette class, and [here](#) for the arepas class.

● WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021

Asylum Monologues Performance

Online 6pm-7:30pm

Using documentary theatre, Asylum Monologues interweaves first-hand accounts of the UK's asylum system with chilling details. The performance explores the effects on those experiencing the hostile environments when seeking sanctuary in the UK. Performed by the Ice & Fire performers. Book via [Eventbrite](#).

● THURSDAY 17 JUNE 2021

Belly Dancing Workshop

Online 8pm-9pm

Preston City of Sanctuary invites you to join a workshop and learn to belly dance with renowned Egyptian belly dancer Jane Wass. Book via [Eventbrite](#).



Lancaster

● SATURDAY 12 JUNE 2021

Musical Journeys – Rhythms and Harmonies from Around the World

Online throughout the day

Music from the UK, China, Syria and Turkey is celebrated all day through lunchtime workshops, an evening concert, and a late-night dance party! [Book a ticket here.](#)

● WEDNESDAY 16 JUNE 2021

Refugee Stories Film Night

Online 7pm-8:30pm

Global Link showcases digital stories produced by Lancaster-based refugees and asylum seekers. Free event. [Click here to register.](#)

● FRIDAY 18 JUNE 2021

Viva Declaration! Performance

More Music 13-17 Devonshire Rd, West End,
Morecambe LA3 1QT
6:30pm and 9pm

Poetic imagery and documentary narratives come together in this work by artists Kooj Chuhan and Tagné Tebu. Viva Declaration! is made up of spoken monologues by detainees, human rights activists and legal case-workers reflecting on the themes of migration justice. [Book a ticket here.](#)



● SATURDAY 19 JUNE 2021

Refugees in the North West Q&A

Online 2pm-3:30pm

An Online Study Event on the refugee experience, from historical perspectives to personal stories. Speakers are Dr Sunita Abraham (Lancaster University Sanctuary Network) Dr Rob David (independent scholar and author) Steven Shyaka (human rights lawyer, and trustee of Global Link) and Violet Hejazi (interpreter working with refugees and asylum seekers). [Book a place here.](#)

The Facts

WHAT DOES 'REFUGEE' MEAN?

There is often some confusion about the difference between asylum seekers, migrants and refugees.

A 'refugee' is someone who has been forced to leave their country due to threats or persecution. Refugees are protected by international law, specifically the 1951 Refugee Convention. Once someone has been recognized as a refugee, they are supposed to be given support to find housing, employment and helped to integrate into society.

An 'asylum-seeker' is a person who has left their country and is seeking protection from persecution and serious human rights violations in another country. An asylum seeker is someone who is waiting to receive a legal decision about whether or not they can receive refugee status. During this waiting period, they are not allowed to access social housing, benefits or employment in the host country.

A 'migrant' is a person who has chosen to move not because of a direct threat or persecution but mainly to improve their lives, either by finding employment or reuniting with family. Unlike refugees, who cannot safely return home, migrants can return home if they wish.



How many refugees are there?

The UN refugee agency (UNHCR) estimates that there are currently 68.5 million forcibly displaced people around the world, including those displaced within their own countries.

Are there Refugees in Lancashire?

There are currently just over 600 refugees resettled across Lancashire as part of the Syrian Resettlement Programme, Vulnerable Children Resettlement Scheme, and UK Resettlement Scheme. All these families are supported by a variety of statutory and voluntary agencies, coordinated by Lancashire County Council. In addition to this, there are some asylum-route families who have settled in Lancashire after receiving refugee status.

More information

For more information about Refugee Week and other events taking place nationally, please visit

www.refugeeweek.org.uk