

# Boundless



## The Newsletter for Refugees Welcome, Cheshire East September 2023

### A QUICK UPDATE

Refugees Welcome, Cheshire East, is continuing to support Syrian, Afghan and Ukrainian refugees, who live in our area. Our volunteers support Syrian and Afghan families in their homes. Many of our Ukrainian families are now moving into their own homes. It is thanks to the generosity of our donors to the Boundless fund that we have been able to establish and maintain our support networks for all three groups of refugees.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

Current information as well as details about how you can help Ukrainians fleeing the war can be found on [the Cheshire East website](#). You can also register on the government website [here](#).

**In this edition we have articles about our local refugee families, how they are settling and how we support them. The English practice group have written about their home cities. We have an article and pictures of a multinational Harvest Event, which took place very recently. There are the first details of a Cultural Event, which will take place on November 18<sup>th</sup>. We have included information about how you can take part in the Shoe Box Appeal with our partners, One Project Ukraine.**



Registered Charity Number 1169909

*Refugees Welcome* aims to support, integrate and empower refugees in every possible way, from sourcing furniture and equipment, to helping with access to medical care and education, interpreting and English learning. We acknowledge the huge contribution which newcomers - including displaced people - have always made to our society. We are committed to helping newly arrived people fulfil their potential as independent members of the community, enriching it with their skills, culture and unique perspective.

## I have a Macclesfield DREAM.....

In Macclesfield we have many very talented Refugee guests and it is my dream to bring them all together to share an **EVENT**.  
Wouldn't it be wonderful if:

Syrian crafters  
Syrian musicians  
Afghan rug sellers  
Ukrainian artists  
Ukrainian singers  
Ukrainian instrumentalists  
Ukrainian crafters.....

.....could all come together to show what they can contribute to Macclesfield and Cheshire East.



Dream coming true on:

Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup> there will be an **EVENT** in Macclesfield town centre.

**SAVE THE DATE**

# Harvest Event St Peter's Church Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023



On Saturday the Ukrainian Choir, with support from Refugees Welcome and Alex Elfflaender held an amazing event at St Peter's Church in Macclesfield. The Ukrainian choir sang traditional songs and danced to traditional music for all to join in. They were joined by the Pearls of Cheshire group who sang and danced and taught us how to 'ululate', which was good fun and is great for getting rid of stress!

We also had a drumming and singing session by a Syrian family, which got people up and moving. By the end of the afternoon the African and Syrian drummers were drumming together and the dancing was a free for all. What a great sight to see. So many people enjoying each other's culture.



There were people from many parts of the world as well as the Ukrainian, African and Syrian folk. People from North America and Canada and many different countries in South America plus people from Eastern Europe and Hong Kong. Which meant that the food choices were amazing, so many different dishes to choose from it was hard to know where to start. Crafts were on display too, we will see more of those at a later event in November. The whole thing was so joyous that the church has asked for it to be an annual event. We will have to wait and see. Watch this space.



# Shoe Box appeal.

Refugees Welcome works closely with One Project Ukraine. They are running a shoe box appeal. The idea is that people put a range of suitable small gifts into a shoe box. The shoe boxes are collected and taken to Ukraine, where they are distributed as Christmas gifts for youngsters.

All the details are below:

**One Project Ukraine**  
**Christmas**  
**Ukrainian Shoebox**  
**Appeal 2023**

**What to do...**

- Find and fill a shoebox with Christmas presents
- Tick Boy or Girl and age category on this leaflet
- Wrap the shoebox in Christmas wrapping, with the lid wrapped separately.
- Remove all packaging from the gifts
- Attach this leaflet on top of the box
- We'll be accepting the boxes at The Hive on 14th, 20th, 21st, 27th, 28th of October and 3rd and 4th of November.
- Alternatively, please message me if the dates above are not convenient.

**Gift suggestions**

- Cuddly toys
- Small toys/cars
- Socks/Gloves
- Sweets/Chocolates
- Skipping rope
- Hair Accessories
- Craft Items
- Slippers
- Lego
- Small Games
- Toiletries/make-up
- School stationery
- Puzzles
- Card games

Boy

Girl

Age 2 - 4

Age 5-9

Age 10-14


**If you would like to help with transport costs, please cellotape a £1 to the box or see our QR code to the JustGiving page**

**Closing date 5.11.23**

Jeanette Mobile: 0777 597 1921  
 The Hive. Unit 15, Turnock Street. Macclesfield. SK11 7AP  
 Email: oneprojectukraine@gmail.com

JustGiving Page





Our ESOL students have written contributions about their home cities.

My name is Denys.

I am from Ukraine, from the city of Dnipro, which is a city of steel. It is a very large city with more than 1 million people living there. The city is located on the banks of the large Dniپر River.

I now live in Bollington in a house and I work in Manchester. I live with my wife and two daughters. We live by the pool and love to go swimming together. We go for a walk to White Nancy.

My name is Sergei.

I am from Ukraine. I lived in Ukraine, in the city of Kyiv. Kyiv is the capital city of Ukraine. It is a very big and nice city. It has 4 million people. Kyiv is a very green city. It is an agrarian city and it is Europe's largest producer of grain. Kyiv has a university and museums. It is a very old city – about 1530 years old. In Kyiv there is a large river called the Dniپر. I like my hometown.

Viktoriiia Chaika

I was born in Dnipro and I want to talk about it. Dnipro is a lovely city in the middle of Ukraine. The name of the city is based on the local river's name. It is very industrial; there are lots of factories and space rocket production. Dnipro has the longest quay in Europe, with a very nice view.

It's quite a new city, just nearly 300 years.

Dnipro is the heart of Ukrainian Jewish culture, with a huge community, a synagogue and a Jewish culture centre, "Menorah".

Also Dnipro has a central railway exchange.

In the war it has become a safe place for thousands of people from occupied territories. The local government is doing a lot to help and support them.

Dnipro is a good place to visit, but it would be better to choose a time after the war.

Tamara Ihnatiera.

I am from Kyiv. Kyiv is a very green city. There are a lot of parks and gardens. My favourite park is Marinsky Park. It is a quiet place. I like to walk the streets. Kyiv is an old city. It is about 1500 years old. The biggest church is Lavra. It has caves under the temple. Kyiv is the first place for tourists in Ukraine.



I am from Kyiv. It is a big city. Kyiv is the capital of Ukraine. This city is busy because there are a ;lot of people who live and work there. It is a very beautiful city. It has a lot of castles, churches, monasteries, museums and very interesting places.

I like the old buildings in my city. I like to walk to the city centre with my friends and my children.

My city has a big river that is called Dnipro. I live on the left bank of the river. Kyiv has a lot of schools and universities and big shopping centres. The city has a lot of transport for people.

Loulou.

I'm from Syria. I used to live in Damascus.

There are mosques and lots of markets and trees - -jasmine and olive – and a lot of buildings.

Ammar.

I am from Syria. I lived in Damascus. It is a big city. The river Barada flows through it. Ther is a very old mosque and a big market. My home was 10 minutes out of the city.



Nadia.

I am from Morocco.

I used to live in Rabat.

I like my city, because it is near the sea and is a big town.

Souad Eddine.

I used to live in Morocco, in a city called Essaouira. It is a small city on the sea. It is very clean.

Essaouira is a port city and resort on Morocco's Atlantic coast. Its Medina is protected by an 18<sup>th</sup> century sea front rampart called the Scola.

Lots of people come surfing, because it is a windy city.

There are mosques and churches.

You can try new activities like camel rides and horses and quad bikes. You can visit Cosals citadel.



Hasnae Zeghari El Gauch.

I'm from Morocco. I live in the central town of Tetavan.

It is a very big town. It is very clean. It has many shops. We have a lot of mosques and many landscapes. We have a lot of sea. It is always full of people.



And again, a heartfelt message of thanks  
to everyone!

You can support our work by setting up a standing order for a regular monthly donation - £5/10/20 or whatever you would like to give (see next page).

This will go directly towards:

- Supporting ESOL training for all the refugees who need it.
- Insurance for volunteers working with families
- Professional help to select, train, deploy and oversee volunteers.
- One-off needs – for example extra equipment required when a family sets up home.

Your payment should be made to:

ACCOUNT NAME: Refugees Welcome  
SORT CODE: 01-05-41  
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 45946426  
REFERENCE: BOUNDLESS  
Please make sure that your name is clearly written on your BACS payment.

Go to [www.refugeeswelcome.co.uk](http://www.refugeeswelcome.co.uk) for more details or email [refugeescheshireeast@gmail.com](mailto:refugeescheshireeast@gmail.com)

Please send donations / standing order mandates to:

Alan Brown (Treasurer), Refugees Welcome, 13 Lea Drive, NANTWICH CW5 5JS

Refugees Welcome, c/o Macclesfield Methodist Church, Westminster Road, Macclesfield, SK10 1BX

Many, many thanks for your support.

All the trustees of Refugees Welcome Cheshire East



**Data Protection** Refugees Welcome is committed to protecting your privacy and will process your personal data in accordance with current Data Protection legislation. Refugees Welcome collects information to keep in touch with you and supply you with information







**Standing Order Mandate**

Registered Charity Number 1169909



**Instructions to your Bank Manager**

Name of your Bank \_\_\_\_\_  
Branch Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Town/City \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

**Please pay to Refugees Welcome**

Sort Code 01 05 41 Account Number 45946426

The sum of £ (in figures) (in words)  
On the \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ and each  week  month  year

Until further notice and debit my account accordingly.

Name of account to be debited: \_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ - \_\_\_ Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**My Details**

Title \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Surname \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Tick here to boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you give.**



In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box

- I want to Gift Aid my donation and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years to Refugees Welcome.**


I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

**Please notify Refugees Welcome if you:**

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.



## Some more information about how we operate.

Refugees Welcome Cheshire East started nearly 8 years ago, when the Syrian war was at its height. Syrian people were seeking refuge from their war and were living in camps in neighbouring Lebanon. The British government agreed to take a number of vulnerable families under the VPRS (Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme). 5 Syrian families were welcomed to Cheshire East early in 2017. Two further Syrian families have settled in Cheshire East more recently.

15 months ago, the Taliban dramatically took over Afghanistan, making life extremely difficult and dangerous for people who had worked in any capacity with UK or US institutions. Many hundreds of people had to leave Afghanistan very quickly. Afghan refugees have been welcomed to the UK under schemes such as the ARAP (Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy) and the ACRS (Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme). For the past 12 months 5 Afghan have lived in permanent accommodation and many more have lived in temporary accommodation locally.

The invasion of Ukraine on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022 meant that huge numbers of Ukrainians became refugees. Many Ukrainians are living in Cheshire East.

So.... Who are the people who work for Refugees Welcome?

8 of us are trustees of the charity. That means we run the charity. We make the decisions about policy, activities, finance and how the whole charity is run. We have meetings, along with our treasurer (a very important person!) approximately every 6 weeks. All of us are retired (among us are a GP, a psychotherapist, a counsellor, two teachers, a Chartered Engineer, a person, who worked in banking and one who has played a number of roles in the NHS) .We all work in a voluntary capacity. We work closely with a team from Cheshire East, whom we meet every 2 weeks. We have to report on our activities to the Charity Commission every year.

There are about 60 volunteers who work directly with the refugee families in a wide range of supporting roles. The volunteers also help man the conversation cafés and assist at the ESOL (English for speakers of other languages) classes. Our website is run by one of our volunteers. We are pleased to welcome several of the Ukrainians as new volunteers.

The only people who are in paid jobs with our organisation are an employee of CVS (Council for Voluntary Services) and the people who are professional ESOL teachers, who lead the ESOL teaching.

We are fortunate enough to be able to work with other organisations in Cheshire East, who are supporting refugees.

We welcome more volunteers and trustees. Please contact us through our website, if you are interested in working with us. We would especially welcome someone who would like to work on the next edition of Boundless!

**Nicky Campbell (Chair of trustees)**

*Registered Charity Number 1169909*

**REFUGEES**  
**WELCOME**