



Office for Health
Improvement
& Disparities



Migration
Yorkshire



North East
Migration Partnership



Supporting the health and wellbeing of refugees and asylum seekers through arts and culture

A [North East and Yorkshire and Humber Migrant Health Network](#) event, 1st May 2024

Welcome and background

Anna Hartley

Chair of North East and Yorkshire and Humber Migrant Health Network
and Executive Director Public Health & Communities, Barnsley



Agenda

Opening the session

Robin Tuddenham, Chief Executive Calderdale Council and chief executive lead for Yorkshire and Humber LAs

Arts and culture at Place in Calderdale

Kayleigh Boyle, Programme lead, Year of Culture and Cultural Services team

Kirklees Library of Sanctuary

Nicola Boundy & Leah Clark

Bradford 2025, UK City of Culture

Rhiannon Hannon, Head of Engagement (Programme)

Yorkshire Sculpture Park & The Hepworth, Wakefield

Emma Spencer, Informal Learning Manager, Yorkshire Sculpture Park

& Jessica Witkowska, Families & Communities Programmer, The Hepworth

The Art House, Wakefield

Sydney Thornbury, CEO

Stand & Be Counted Theatre (Theatre of Sanctuary)

Sheffield & beyond

John Tomlinson, Executive Director
& Firas Chihi, Community Director

Football Unites Racism Divides (FURD) Sheffield

Sijo Joseph

Feels Like Home Group developed through Barnsley Museums

Steven Skelley, Community Heritage Curator, Barnsley Museums
& Jon Finch, Barnsley Council

World Jam and how it supports our health and wellbeing through poetry and music

Mina Fatemi, Director of World Jam and Associate Director of Population Health, HNY ICB

Discussion/questions



Opening the session

Robin Tuddenham

Chief Executive Calderdale Council and Chief Executive lead for Yorkshire and Humber LAs



Arts and culture at Place in Calderdale

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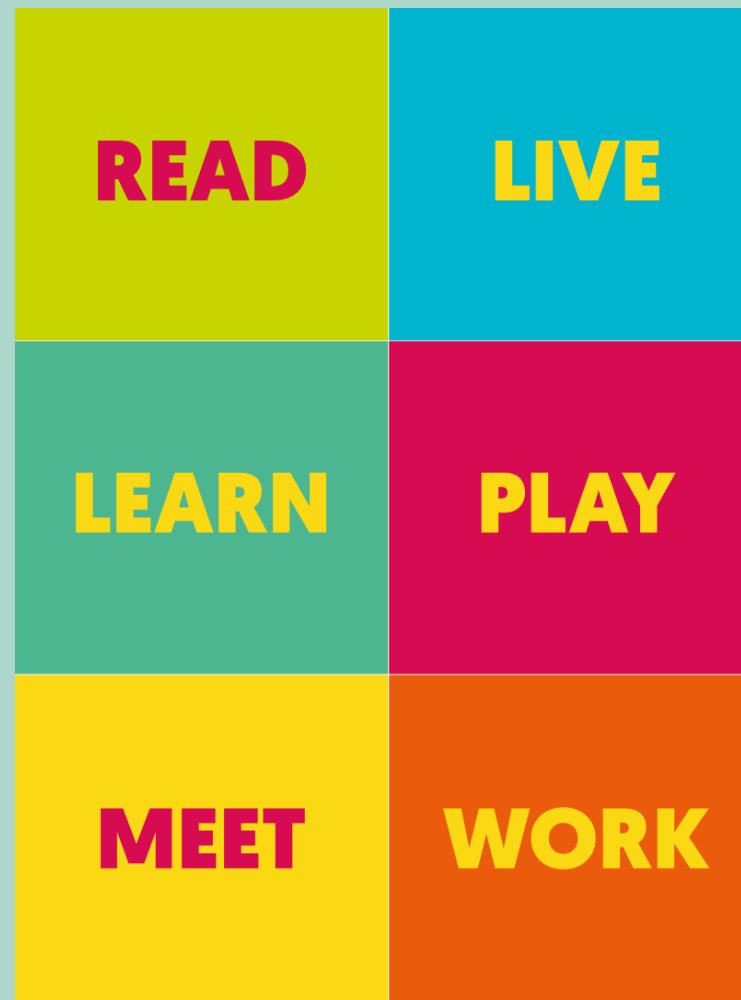
Kayleigh.Boyle@calderdale.gov.uk



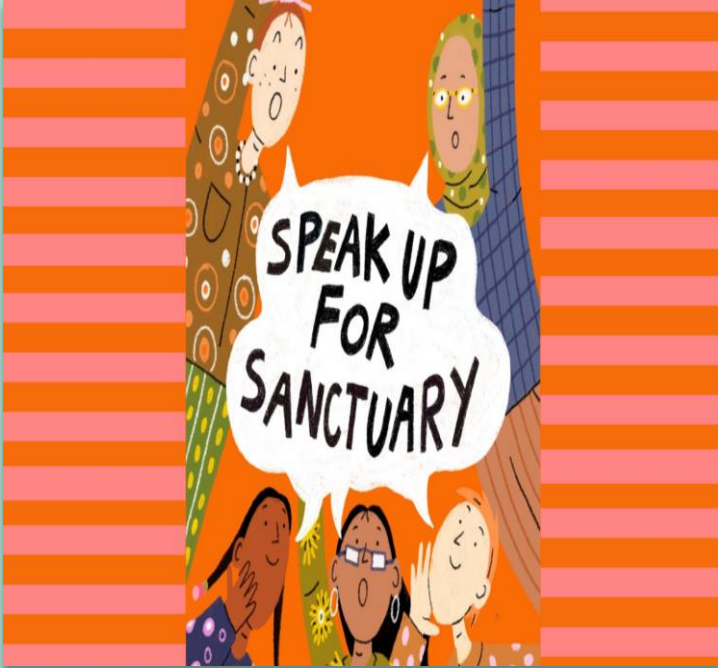
**We are:
Kirklees
Libraries.**

Leah Clark
Librarian

Nicola Boundy
Librarian



Libraries of Sanctuary



- Libraries of Sanctuary is a network of librarians, library staff, community groups and book lovers who are raising awareness of the issues facing people in the asylum system, offering support and participation opportunities, and contributing to a culture of welcome in the wider community.
- The Library of Sanctuary award recognises and celebrates the libraries that go above and beyond to show solidarity and welcome. Any library can apply for the award, and we are there to support you every step of the way.

Image and text from:

- [Libraries of Sanctuary \(cityofsanctuary.org\)](http://cityofsanctuary.org)

We are:
**Kirklees
Libraries.**

Kirklees Libraries as a Library of Sanctuary

- We were awarded our 'Official Library of Sanctuary' status in August 2021



we are:
**Kirklees
Libraries.**

Our Sanctuary resolution

We will be safe, neutral, welcoming spaces, accessible to all. Our staff and volunteers will be trained to understand issues faced by sanctuary seekers and provide support.

We will provide free, low-cost activities to support specific needs of communities and engage with sanctuary seekers and organisations to ensure our services are relevant.

We will work in partnership with others to promote inclusion, extend the sanctuary movement, and highlight the positive contribution of sanctuary seekers.

How have we achieved our aims?

- A specific 'Libraries of Sanctuary' team trained and committed to making a difference.
- Regularly evaluating of our offer alongside a program of engagement with sanctuary seekers.
- Maintaining a core of information specifically targeted at sanctuary seekers, which is regularly updated and shared with our workforce and partners.
- Free access to books including community and dual language books and Reading Well collection are available in our libraries and as part of our e-book collection at [Kirklees Overdrive](#).
- Free access to [Pressreader](#), allowing people to read international publications that would otherwise not be available in the UK.
- Free access to e-resources such as [Go Citizen](#), which helps people prepare for the Life in the UK test.
- Free public access I.T. for all library members.
- Volunteering opportunities.
- Formal ID no longer needed to become a library member.
- ESOL provision including informal library run conversation groups and signposting to more formal courses via #KirkleesWelcomes.
- Regular events such as 'Meet, Try, Learn' and 'Refugee Week' and special one off events, such as Eid and Christmas parties.

Library of Sanctuary Impact Stories

Library champions create a welcome space for new comers

Fleeing war in Ukraine, a family finds refuge in Slaithwaite. Despite language barriers and initial fear, the local library becomes a lifeline. The friendly staff provide a welcoming space for the family. Weekly programs like "craft and chat" and a social cafe foster connection and community. Mariia, expresses deep gratitude to the library staff for lifting their spirits and believing in them during this challenging time.

International Mother Language Day

Event at Dewsbury Library:

Participants shared recipes from native languages – translating and discussing cultural significance.

Creation of 'recipe bunting' and showcasing community's culinary diversity.

Symbol of unity – each recipe telling a story of someone's identity.

Conversations sparked about diverse backgrounds

Kirklees Libraries outcomes – promoting cultural exchange, language learning and community cohesion

The power of food brought people together.



Meet, Try Learn

- Sessions at various Kirklees Libraries – people of all backgrounds, ages and languages
- Games and activities to improve English and understand different cultures
- One participant – actively participated and impressed others with determination despite no common language skills
- Fostered friendships
- Sense of community
- People less isolated and part of fun learning environment
- Meet new people



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Homestart Partnership

A lonely new mother, who fled her country with a premature baby, found solace through a partnership between Home-Start and Kirklees Libraries and received support from both organisations. The library provided a safe space for connection via English classes, craft sessions and books in her native language. This helped the mother reduce loneliness, build confidence in caring for her baby, and even develop friendships with other mothers.

"I felt isolated in Kirklees (living in a hotel room) and was having a difficult time with mental health challenges. I felt lost, frightened, and so alone. I was a first-time mum with a tiny baby. As my baby grew, I was not sure when I was supposed to start weaning her. I needed support to know I was doing everything right."

"My Health Visitor spoke to me about further support and passed on my details for one-to-one volunteer support with Home Start Kirklees."

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Art in Exile

We hosted an "Art in Exile" installation at Batley Library for Refugee Week.

Photos and films with personal stories from refugees, aimed to raise awareness of their experiences.

26 attendees, including new library visitors, were deeply engaged by the installation.

Many commented on learning a lot and gaining a new perspective on the refugee journey.

Attendees expressed a desire for similar events, showcasing the impact on both the community and the library itself.

DEAR LAILA

THURSDAY JUNE 15TH
11AM TO 4:15PM
TOLSON MUSEUM
HD5 8DJ

Celebrating Refugee Week

The Migration & Resettlement Team, supported by partners Cohesion, Libraries and Museums, present an art installation by **Basel Zaraa**, developed in collaboration with Counterpoints Arts.

Originally commissioned by Good Chance Theatre, with support from Arts Council England.
TRANSLATOR AND SCRIPT EDITOR EMILY CHURCHILL-ZARAA



www.kleesaw.com



COUNTERPOINTS.

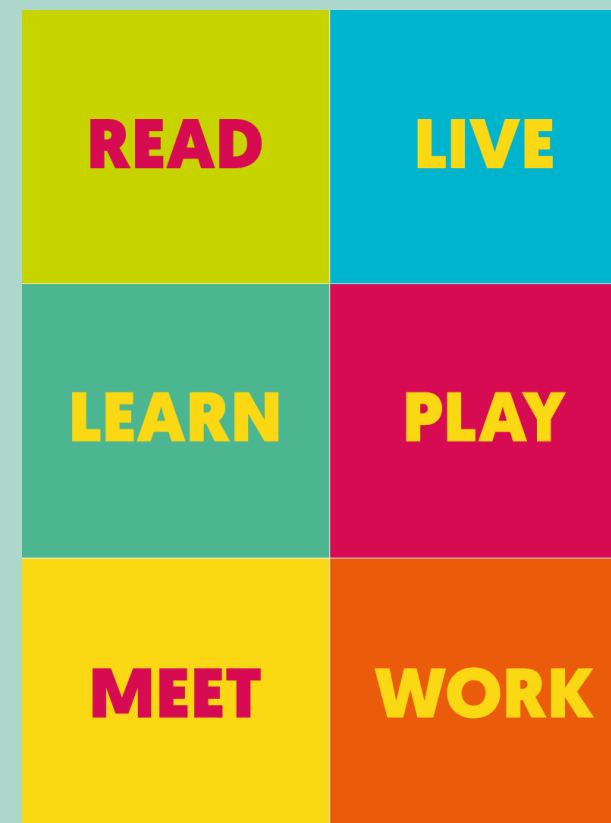
Further information

Troy McIntosh

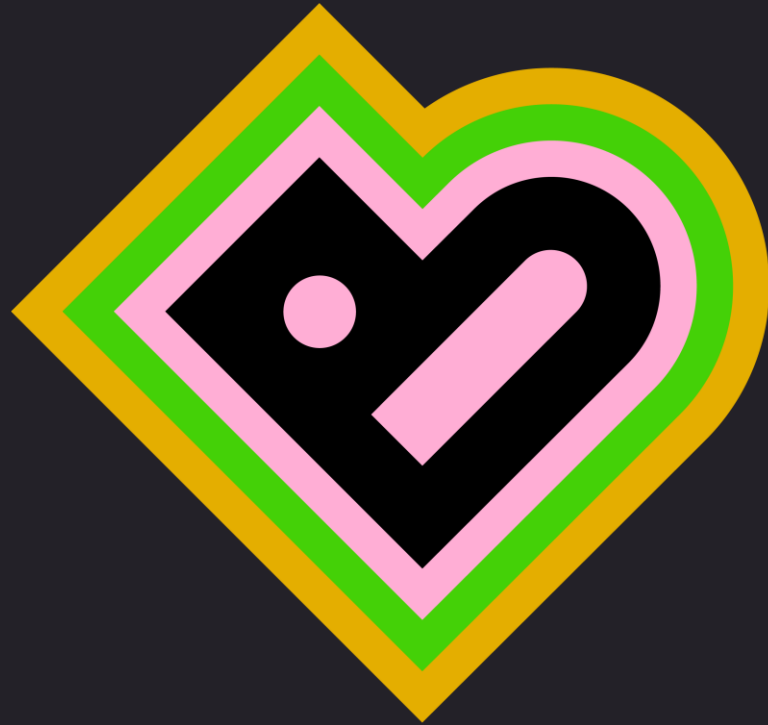
troy.mcintosh@kirklees.gov.uk

Jude Lynn

jude.lynn@kirklees.gov.uk



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Libraries.**



BRADFORD 2025
UK City of Culture

What is Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture?

A celebration of Bradford, its cultures and its people that will extend far beyond the city centre, connecting with the entire Bradford District of 550,000 people and capturing the nation's imagination.

And it will carry on beyond 2025, leaving a legacy of change and regeneration.

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Yorkshire Sculpture Park & The Hepworth

JessicaWitkowska@hepworthwakefield.org

emma.spencer@yosp.org.uk

The Art House, Wakefield

Sydney Thornbury, CEO

sydney@the-arthouse.org.uk

'TANJA'

'SHOULD BE
MANDATORY
VIEWING'
- THE REVIEWS HUB

'POLITICALLY, THIS PIECE
IS DOING SOMETHING
REMARKABLE'
- BRITISH THEATRE GUIDE

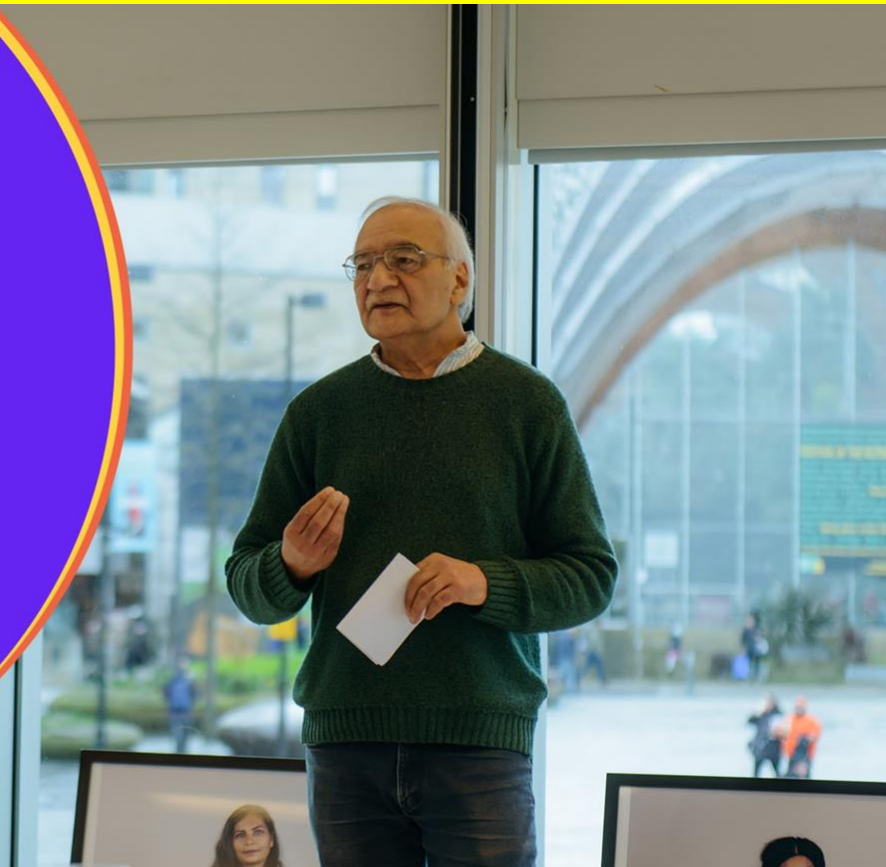
Stand & Be Counted.

The UK's first Theatre Company of Sanctuary.

An arts charity committed to making extraordinary art with, about and for those seeking sanctuary.

"SBC'S WORK CAN
AMPLIFY VOICES
AND ENABLE
LISTENING FROM
THOSE WHO NEED
TO HEAR IT MOST,
AT A TIME WHEN
THE WORLD NEEDS
IT MOST."

- Inderjit Bhogal
FOUNDER OF CITY OF SANCTUARY



Theatre is a Tool.



Community Programmes.

YOUTH THEATRE OF SANCTUARY



**S
B
A
P**

EVERY SUNDAY
1PM-3PM
Sun 27 Feb - Sun 3 Apr
York Explore, YO1 7DS

To sign up or arrange a chat, send an email with your name and number to:
info@sbctheatre.co.uk

SBC STAND & BE COUNTED THEATRE
explore york YORK

M The Montgomery Theatre & Arts Centre
SBC STAND & BE COUNTED THEATRE
PRESENTS A

FAMILY FUN DAY!

14 - 15 FEBRUARY
FROM 10 AM TO 3 PM

SOAP BOX LEEDS

Wednesday's at 10-2pm
In February and March.
to sign up or arrange a chat, send an email with your name and number to:
info@sbctheatre.co.uk

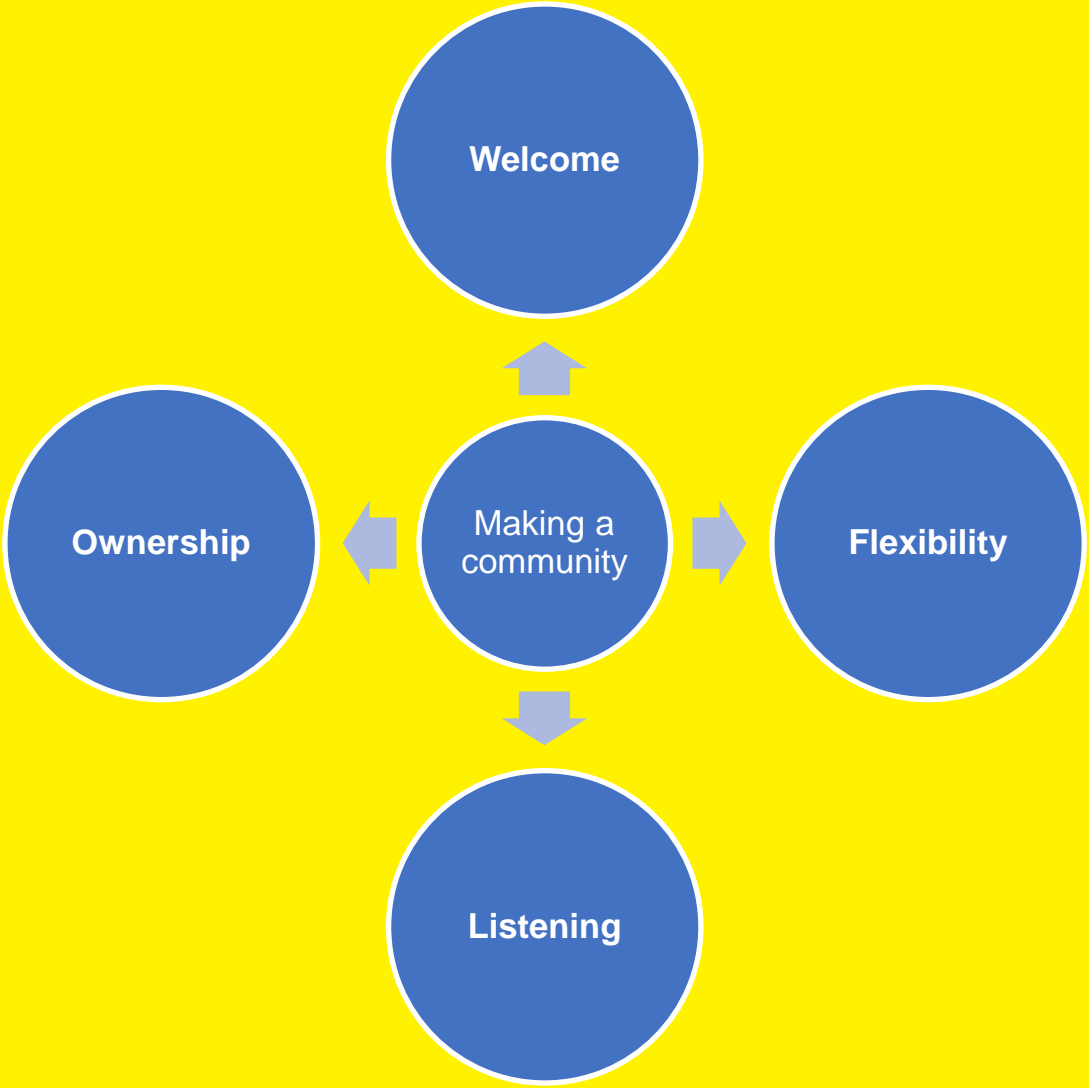
SBC STAND & BE COUNTED THEATRE
LEEDS YEAR OF CULTURE 2023

SHEFFIELD WELCOMES

SBC STAND & BE COUNTED THEATRE
SHEFFIELD THEATRES
Victoria Quays | Tudor Square | Police Gardens
1pm to 7:30pm



Making a Community.



Welcome.

Warm welcome and celebrate arrival



As soon as participant walks in the room we cheer, hug if appropriate, or high five, fist bump, shake hands



Smile, show your love



chatting as we wait for people to join



No expectation, no pressure



Flexibility.

in a fun and creative way by :

Playing games

Getting to know each other

Supporting each other

Empowering each other

No pressure or expectation

Understanding people's needs



Ownership:

Building ownership of all participants in the group involves:

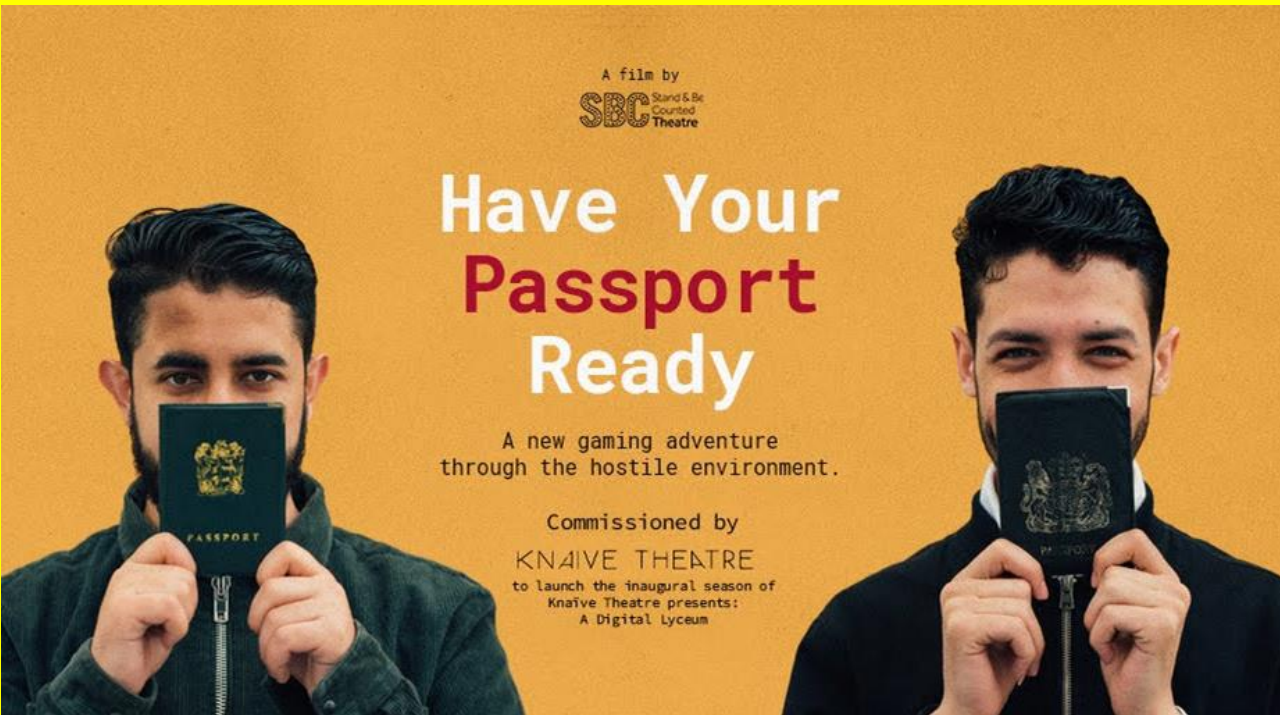
Non-judgmental language at all times

Creating a relaxed and supportive environment

How arts can build shared beliefs, values and connections that can be difficult to achieve in formal settings in work, education and other 'support' contexts.



Technology.



★★★★★ “A rare documentary piece... an altogether simpler format than Charlie Brooker’s benchmark Netflix extravaganza *Bandersnatch*, but often just as affecting.” – **THE GUARDIAN**

★★★★★ “Important and engaging... loaded with gallows humour and crackling with barely suppressed anger.” – **THE STAGE**

‘Pitched perfectly for little ones, *Hidden Winter* is an engaging and fun adventure that encourages listening and learning from each other.’ – **CREATIVE TOURIST (TOP PICK)**

‘Hidden Winter is really, really awesome - we’re giving it a standing ovation for the creative brain power behind it. We think you will too!’ – **CHILDREN’S THEATRE DIGITAL (TOP PICK)**

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john@sbctheatre.co.uk



FURD

Football Unites, Racism Divides



Meet Antony his journey to Finding Community

Antony is from Sudan and fled to the UK to seek protection for his family. After receiving numerous death threats from a violent group, he was forced to leave behind his country. One day, a group of kind-hearted individuals visited his Sheffield flat with a box full of useful items. Antony found a flyer among the items inviting him to join a group event called "Football, Food and Friendship" The prospect of playing football was of his interest, and he decided to attend the event on Wednesdays. As a lover of the game, Antony enjoyed playing and found solace in being around others. He also appreciated the opportunity to meet new people and become part of a welcoming community.

Football Unites, Racism Divides believes that football, as the world's most popular game, can help to bring together people from different backgrounds to play, watch and enjoy the game, and to break down barriers created by ignorance or prejudice.



What is FURD?

FURD - A Charity Championing Racial Harmony and Social Inclusion
FURD is a well-known charity both nationally and internationally for their dedication to promoting racial harmony, social inclusion, and capacity building. We (Have) achieved this through a variety of activities, including football, education, and community development.



Established in 1995

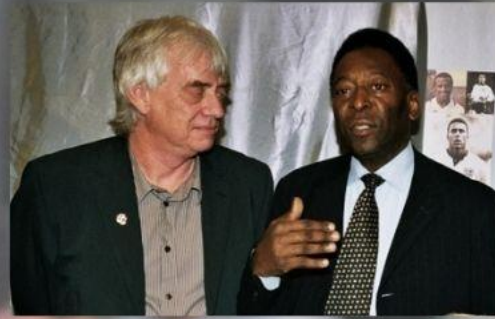
**Multiple Projects
nationally and
internationally
1999-2011**

**2013- Football: A
Shared Sense of
Belonging?**

**Educational
Charitable
Trust
1999**

**2012-FURD moved
into the U-Mix
Centre**

**2023- Launched
Belonging HUB**



Howard Holmes - Founder



Mehrun Ahmed

CO-CEO



Simon Hyacinth

CO-CEO

COMMUNITY
CHAMPIONS

YOUTH WORK AND EDUCATION

COMMUNITY COHESION

INCLUSION THROUGH FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL WORK



OUR WORK

Ages 9 +

Access Football (Tailormade)

Health and wellbeing session

Employability Support

Volunteering

Training and Education

Referral support

Lived Experience

**COMMUNITY
CHAMPIONS**



COMMUNITY COHESION

BELONGING HUB

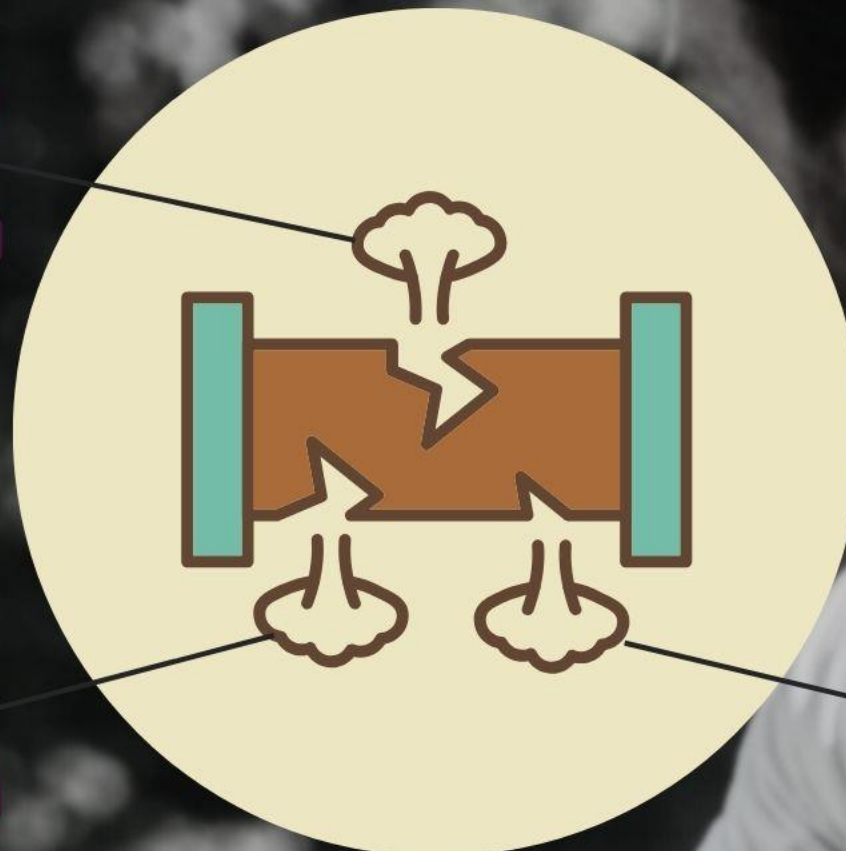


Community cohesion - People seeking sanctuary.

Employability Support

Volunteering

Training and education



Health and wellbeing support

Referral support



COMMUNITY COHESION

BELONGING HUB

**A Place for Connection and
Community**

everyone feels welcome

**one's personal welfare, mental
health, and overall happiness**

**embracing and celebrating
this diversity**

FURD-BELONGING HUB

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
10:30-12pm Breakfast Club	12:00-1:00	10:00-3:00 Functional Skills FOR WOMEN Free2 Learn	11:00-1:00 Minds Over Football (16+ only on the invite)
11:00-1:00 Football & Fitness Men (16+)	10:30-11:45 Weights and Fitness Women with Heeley Trust	11:00-1:00 Belonging Group Football (16+) Men only	1:30-2:30 Stretch & Fitness Women (16+)
1:30-2:30 Stretch & Fitness Women (16+)		12:00-1:00 Dance & Fitness with Sheffield Bollywood School	
		12:30-1:00 Lunch Club	FRIDAY
2:30-3:30 Healthy Living Women with SUFC (16+)	1:00-2:00 Walking Football (16+)	1:00-2:00 Stretch & Yoga Women Heeley Trust	6:00 -7:00 Belonging Group Football (16+) Men only
2:00-4:00 Functional Skills with Free2 Learn		1:30-3:00 Welcome Through Football For Men (16+)	SUNDAY
6:00-8:00 FURD Youth club		2:00-4:00 Coffee & Chat Club with Sheffield Mind (twice a month)	8:00 -9:00 Swim session for women at Nuffield Health

To Refer

email:belonginghub@furd.org

Phone:0114 2589601

Mobile:07947337232

sijo@furd.org

www.furd.org

Social Media

Sijo Joseph sijo@furd.org



An introduction to Barnsley's Feels Like Home Group

Barnsley Museums NPO Programme

Jon Finch / Steven Skelley - 2024

jonfinch@barnsley.gov.uk /
StevenSkelley@barnsley.gov.uk



- Feels Like Home is a group for people new to Barnsley for whom English isn't their first language.
- There are around 60 regular attendees from a wider membership of over 160+ people.
- The group includes refugees, migrant workers, students and asylum seekers from all backgrounds
- Countries represented in the group are... El Salvador, Afghanistan, Albania, Egypt, Sudan, Iran, Ukraine, Cape Verde, Russia, Pakistan, Syria, Poland, Malaysia, Kurdistan, Portugal, Thailand, Sudan, and many more.

“Thank you for making me feel like a human being again”.



~ام يوسف

Actually, this is a beautiful group, and we feel that we are among our friends and family, thank you all

22:24

- Learning English through Barnsley’s heritage; taking part in cultural projects
- The group helps people to make friends in an unfamiliar place
- The group helps people to get on in life after difficult times
- They have their own support network and WhatsApp group
- **They named themselves Feels Like Home and call themselves a family**

- Access to bicycles to help isolated members get around
- Linking up members in a crisis and helping to provide food and basic utilities
- Helping members with uni, volunteering and job applications – we have members who have completed masters degrees, have become policemen and council workers, or volunteer for Age UK
- Interpreting coronavirus guidance, providing data and devices for the group to meet – Community Champions helping to encourage vaccination
- Close connections with group members, some of whom are struggling with trauma, PTSD, anxiety, depression and other mental health conditions

The group give so much to Barnsley!

- Bright Nights
- Destination Barnsley
- Food Sharing Events
- Projects with The Civic, The Lightbox, Wentworth Castle Gardens
- Community Performances
- Community Champions
- Volunteering and contributing to Barnsley
- Shortlisted for CHWA Collective Power award 2020

Feels Like Home [You Tube video](#)

Group members of Feels Like Home have worked alongside musician Nick Lewis, using previous song lyrics written with Simon Grainger, to create a group anthem.

World Jam and how it supports our health and wellbeing through poetry and music

Mina Fatemi, Director of World Jam
and Associate Director of Population Health, HNY ICB

mina.fatemi@nhs.net

Discussion / questions

