

NETHERGILL SUMMER PARTY 8 JULY

The sun shone, the breeze transported the midges away and the wild flower meadow walk was a delight (see below).

We danced the night way (well, to a respectable 11pm) after a magnificent Nethergill supper and barbeque.

The event raised just over £700 shared between Bradford Immigration and Asylum Seekers Support and Advice Network [BIASAN] which helps refugees locally, and the International Red Cross helping refugees (95% of all refugees) in refugee camps in/near conflict areas.

Many thanks to all those attended and those who donated raffle prizes, food, time and money to the event with particular thanks to Chris and Fiona for hosting the event and Hetton Brewery for providing the beer!



Who are we?

The **Upper Wharfedale Refugee Support Group** comprises a network of individuals living in Upper Wharfedale and Littondale who are concerned for refugees and wish to help in some way.

We fundraise, donate clothing and household items, welcome refugees and write to/ lobby elected representatives.

If you have an activity or an event you would like to suggest or would like some help with, or you would like to be included on our mailing list, email us at:

refugees@upperwharfedale.net

If you would like to raise funds or donate, visit the 'Just Giving' Page at: <https://justgiving.com/upper-wharfedale-refugees>.

Welcome Day

Saturday

16 September 2017

UWRSG will be hosting its second 'welcome day' for refugees at Kettlewell. We will be welcoming groups from Bradford and Blackburn and Darwin. The focus of the day is on some cricketing fun and other games.

UWRSG 2 years on

Two years ago in September 2015 a small group of people in the Upper Wharfedale area came together to discuss the refugee crisis and what we could do to help. Then, as now, many refugees were dying in the Mediterranean and Europe was struggling to provide sufficient safety and shelter for those coming ashore.

Since then:

- a further 8,000 refugees have died in the Mediterranean;
- the number of refugees worldwide has risen to over 22.5m people (with a further 65m displaced people still living within their country's borders). This is the worst the world has ever known. 11m refugees are children.
- the UK has accepted about 300 children under the 'Dubs' amendment' and will accept 20,000 Syrian refugees. Craven has accepted a number of Syrian families who have been supported by volunteers by the Skipton Refugee Support Group.
- the Calais camp was disbanded with some refugees accommodated in France but refugees have since regrouped in an attempt to cross the Channel;
- the conflict in Syria has continued to generate refugees but the more recent conflicts in South Sudan, Yemen and Myanmar have added to the number (for example, in the last fortnight 300,000 Rohingya have fled Myanmar);
- extreme weather conditions, drought / floods and disease are also leading to conflict and enforced migration;
- meanwhile, nations appear to be more defensive of their borders and rejecting of refugees than they were two years ago. The poorest countries of the world and the poorest areas of the UK continue to do the most to help refugees.

UWRSG is a collection of individuals who do what we can to help, usually by providing help to other groups rather than direct support for refugees. In the last two years we have addressed need in the UK and Calais through collections of clothing, bedding and household items; welcomed refugees to Upper Wharfedale for country visits and fun; fundraised for charities supporting refugees; provided information to raise awareness about the problem—and dispel some of the myths; and, lobbied politicians for changes in government responses. If you would like to help please get in touch: refugees@upperwharfedale.net