

UWRSG NEWLESTER

UPPER WHARFEDALE REFUGEE SUPPORT GROUP

ISSUE 10

REFUGEE WELCOME DAY SEPTEMBER 2018

OCTOBER 2018

In September UWRSG hosted our third 'refugee Welcome Day' with groups from Bradford, Blackburn with Darwin and Skipton joining us for a day of sport, walking, eating and socialising. There was also children's play, including model making, and scone making for both children and adults.

In all, about 60 adults and nearly as many children (they didn't stay still long enough to be counted!) came to Kettlewell for the day.

The weather was mixed but we were able to get out in the dry and our visitors loved the hills and Kettlewell Village.

We are very grateful to all those who made it possible: the people of Littondale for providing the cakes, Kettlewell for the sandwiches and savouries, and Buckden for salads and quiches; the Theodosius family and friends for organising the activities; Kettlewell Village for allowing us the use of the hall at no cost;

those who helped on the day with the activities, food preparation and child minding; People in the Dales Project for funding the buses and the volunteers who organised and transported our guests.

Our visitors really appreciated the welcome and effort local people had made and we really appreciated the fun and friendship our visitors brought. Although many of our visitors have experienced traumatic events and life remains very uncertain, it was a wonderful day of song, laughter and play.



Many thanks to all those who contributed over the summer to the collection of household goods for families in Bradford. In all, we collected a full three car loads of goods.

Events and fundraising October to December 2018.

Wartime in Upper Wharfedale WW1 1914-1918

6 November 2018 . To commemorate the end of WW1 in 1918, the Upper Wharfedale Arts and Literature Society (UWALS) will be giving a talk with slides on life in Upper Wharfedale during the First World War. The event will be held at Kettlewell Village Hall on Tuesday 6 November. 7.30pm. Tickets (£2.50) will be available on the door and the event is free for school children. There will be a small bar and tea and coffee will also be available.

Any profits from the evening will be donated to the International Red Cross.

Christmas gifts and SNUG packs

This year we are taking a lead from the 'Two Dales' refugee support group (Swaledale and Arkengarthdale) and undertaking a collection of Christmas gifts for refugees. The refugees for whom we are collecting (BIASAN in Bradford) are in need of necessities so we are looking to collect toiletries; warm winter clothing such as hats, gloves and socks; food items with a long shelf life (jars, tins, dried foods); and clothes, toys, books and stationary for children. Toys and books do not need to be new but must be clean and in good condition. Donations can be left at Buckden Barn, Buckden between 10am and 4pm on 24/25 November or contact stella@stellaperrott.com.

Once again we will be collecting **SNUG packs** (Socks, a Neck scarf or hat, Underpants, and Gloves) for refugees in Calais and other camps. Underwear must be new but outerwear can be second hand, but clean and in good condition. Please contact jane.way@outlook.com.

Christian Aid coffee morning: Church House, Grassington on 17 November 9.30-12 noon with homemade cakes and crafts for sale.

Carol singing at Tesco's entrance: 20 December at 2pm. All welcome. In the last couple of years we have had a lot of fine voices and good fun.

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