Harrogate District of Sanctuary Update

A belated Happy New Year to Everyone!

You have probably realised that due to Covid-19 all our plans for 2020 had to be shelved –social gatherings, Women’s Group, Refugee Week Exhibition, Eid meal, Christmas Party etc. The families have had to learn English online, home-school and rely on What’s App for their social lives. But- we’ve all survived and at least look forward to a Non-Christmas Party later this year Covid permitting.....

During the lockdown some local refugees became community volunteers e.g. delivering food and prescriptions to people who are housebound and sewing scrubs.

In 2020 Harrogate acquired a 10th family and Ripon their 3rd and there has also been a birth there. We have recently heard that the plan to welcome another 200 refugees in North Yorkshire from now till 2024 has been approved. Our families are mainly settled now; some have employment and own their own car. Families who arrived in 2016 must apply for ‘settled status’ and they will receive support for this.

 Harrogate DoS have decided to campaign for the inclusion of unaccompanied child refugees to the UK as so far only 480 of the 3,000 promised have been allowed entry. Ripon DoS are campaigning for the right to work for Asylum Seekers.

We always welcome interest so if you are keen to help in any way please contact Belinda Goode at

bmgoode@hotmail.co.uk

We are also pleased that our social media communications are being re-juvenated-we are back on Twitter, Facebook and our webpage will be updating.

If you are not already a member please make contact. We suggest £10 for an individual membership.

Pat Ki

February 2021