

DECEMBER 2022

WWW.PORTSMOUTH.CITYOFSANCTUARY.ORG



Portsmouth City of Sanctuary

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER



Malcolm Little - Chair of Trustees

By truly embracing and integrating marginalised communities, otherwise lacking sanctuary, compassion and dignity, we believe Portsmouth is becoming an even more fabulous city! Despite now having 200+ supporting organisations, PCoS remains an independent, grassroots, local charity, albeit with a regional and national reach. We may be politically and religiously neutral but we're still unashamedly humanitarian in speaking up for the voiceless where necessary. It's been a full-on year and we're so grateful for everything (time, gifts, and expertise) that's been done for Portsmouth's refugees and asylum seekers, much of it summed up in our attached Impact Report. The team wishes you all a safe and Merry Christmas!

We are launching our "Sanctuary Ambassadors" initiative for asylum seekers and refugees to participate further in shaping our service, their lived experience helping to advocate and integrate new arrivals.

We are also delighted to be starting up a Scooter Library for asylum seeking children aged 4 - 12 years. This has been made possible by Sustrans and SPORTS ENGLAND.

Our community work

Free English classes available at our Monday a.m city-centre Refugee Hub, as well as Wednesdays from 4pm - 6pm St. Luke's Church, Greetham Street PO5 4LH

It is fantastic to see young asylum seekers engaging and participating in the Youth Parliament! Alongside Portsmouth Youth Cabinet we'll be hosting a Christmas Party at St. Luke's

We are thankful to donors who have supported us in our Christmas appeal. Over 30 children will receive a present!

Fundraising!

Please support and donate to our GO FUND ME supported by AVIVA

All donations will be match funded, simply visit -
<https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/p/portsmouth-asylum-drop-in>

SILENT AUCTION

This year we partnered with ASPEX Gallery who have provided some fantastic art sessions for asylum seekers. They created a quilt which was sold via silent auction, raising £152 for the Refugee Hub.



Every bit goes a long way!

£5 represents half of our printing costs for one month!

£10 funds one welcome box and card given to every newly dispersed asylum seeker to the city!

£20 helps us transport 10 men to our men's group!

£30 helps us to support every English session!

£30 also covers refreshments at our weekly women's 'Haven' group, OR the Refugee Hub!

£60 funds the rent for one weekly Refugee Hub!

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Twitter - @pompeysanctuary
Instagram and Facebook - Portsmouth City of Sanctuary
LinkedIn: Portsmouth City of Sanctuary



ADVOCACY

BE THE CHANGE

We have engaged with over 15,000 social media accounts across all our platforms in the last 3 months!

Women we support who attend "HAVEN" have expressed a boost of confidence and safety within the city!

We have positively reached over 15,000 social media accounts across all our platforms in the last 3 months!

We have engaged many stakeholders about HASLAR IRC, a large immigration removal centre in Gosport set to re-open in late 2023. We don't wish it to open, but if it does we aim to help detainees.

We have just trained 20 new volunteers on safeguarding and orientation casework. Do keep an eye out for our 'Professionals training' early in the New Year!

Bicycle Appeal

RECYCLE YOUR BICYCLE!



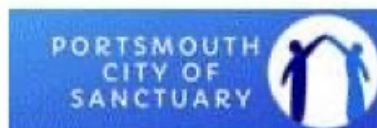
Got a bike to donate?

- **Welcome Wheels** needs bicycles in reasonable condition.
- We will refurbish them and give them to refugees and asylum seekers in Portsmouth.
- Locks, lights and hi-vis also gratefully received!

Please drop off **Southsea Cycles**, Albert Road PO4 0JR

Welcome Wheels is a partnership between Portsmouth City of Sanctuary, Southsea Cycles and Sustrans.

For more information please contact: jennifer.jones@sustrans.org.uk





**IF YOU OR YOUR
BUSINESS WOULD LIKE TO
GET INVOLVED IN SUPPORTING
PORTSMOUTH CITY OF SANCTUARY:**

PLEASE CONTACT:
VALERIA@PORTSMOUTH.CITYOFSANCTUARY.ORG

DONATE AT:
**[HTTPS://WWW.AVIVACOMMUNITYFUND.CO.UK/P/
PORTSMOUTH-ASYLUM-DROP-IN](https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/p/portsmouth-asylum-drop-in)**



(SCAN TO DONATE)



**JOIN OUR FREE MEN'S FOOTBALL SESSIONS FOR
REFUGEES & ASYLUM SEEKERS**



**WEDNESDAYS 10- 11 AM
GOALS PORTSMOUTH TANGIER RD, PO3 6QA**

**SCAN QR CODE OR 07487 422464
RONIPCOS@GMAIL.COM**



**JOIN OUR FREE WOMEN'S DANCE WORKSHOPS FOR
REFUGEES & ASYLUM SEEKERS**



**WEDNESDAYS 11 AM - 1 PM
THE BOX FITNESS CENTRE 235-237
COMMERCIAL ROAD PO1 4BJ**

**SCAN QR CODE OR CONTACT
07487 422464 RONIPCOS@GMAIL.COM**

**We wish you all a Merry Christmas and happy
New Year!**