



**Refugee  
Week**

IN LANCASHIRE



19th to 25th June 2023

# Compassion

Celebrating Refugee Week Across Lancashire  
**#CompassionateLancashire**

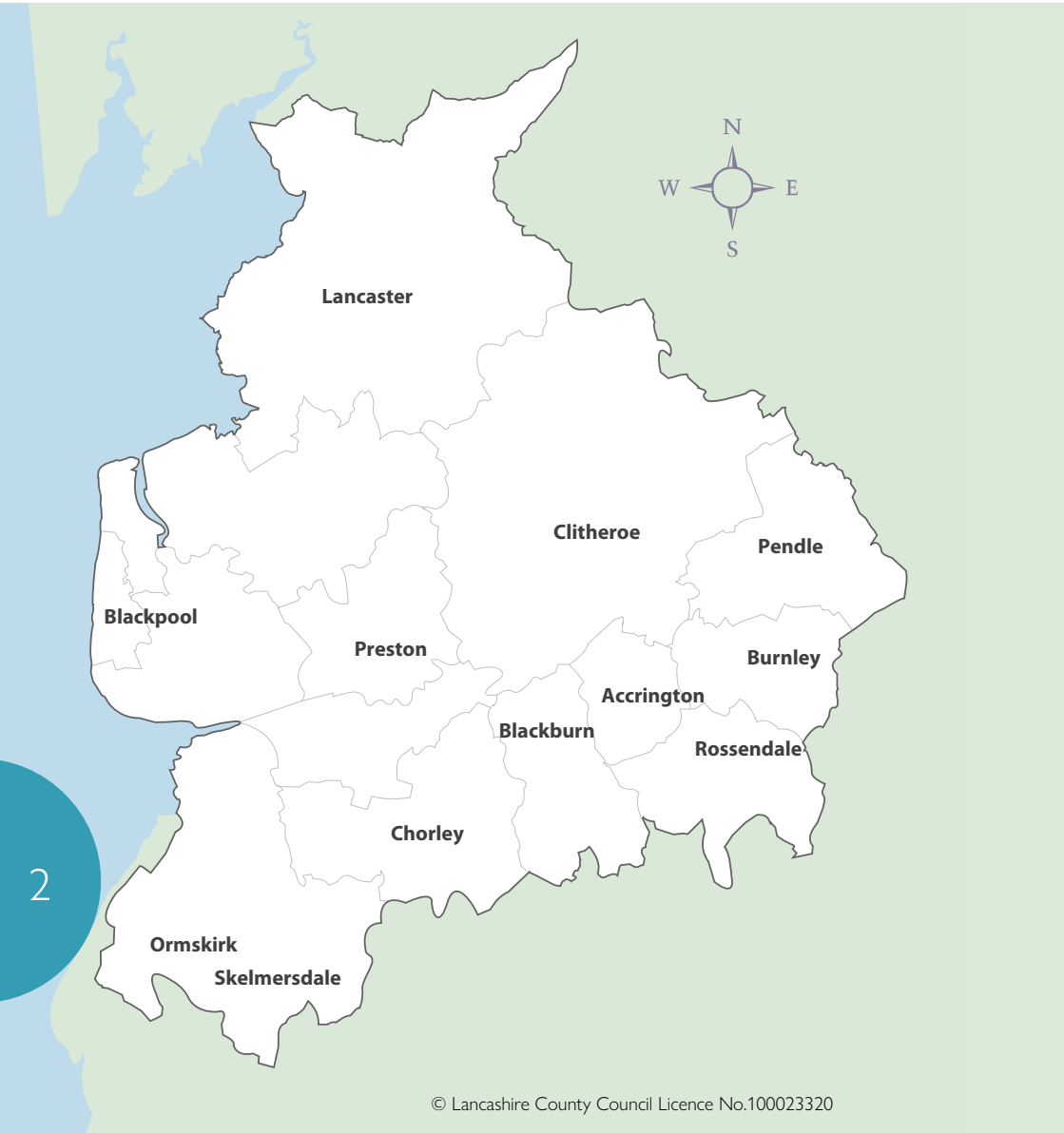
[lancashire.gov.uk](http://lancashire.gov.uk)





# Refugee Week

IN LANCASHIRE





## What is Refugee Week?

For Refugee Week's 25th anniversary, we invite you to celebrate what compassion looks like in action. Together we can create a shared and inclusive understanding of compassion that extends through our neighbourhoods, into all our towns and cities and right across our beautiful county of Lancashire.

“Our task must be to free ourselves – by widening our circles of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty. „

Albert Einstein



Photo from LIFE 2.0 exhibition by Libby Burke Wilde

The last few years have been challenging for all of us. We are still adjusting to new realities post-lockdown as well as responding to new international crises; the evacuation of Kabul, the war in Ukraine, the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. These events have made us more aware than ever of how interconnected our world is: how something seemingly “far away” impacts everyone, bringing home the need to widen our circles of compassion.

The theme of Refugee Week 2023, ‘Compassion’, is an invitation to listen and learn, to understand the experiences of refugees, and to create a culture of compassionate welcome.

Within our own experiences are all the tools we need to be compassionate, not just to ourselves and those in our immediate circle but to all our human neighbours and our one shared home, planet earth.

**Join us over the 19th to 25th June 2023 at one of our Refugee Week events to find out how arts and culture can help widen our circles of compassion.**

**Help us to celebrate by using the hasth-tag #CompassionateLancashire on social media.**

## Lancashire Refugee Week Design Competition

Congratulations to the winner of our Refugee Week creative competition, Irena Kurnicka (age 15).

Irena's design reflects **#CompassionateLancashire**, and our open-hearted welcome to those who arrive in Lancashire in need of safety.



# What's On?

## EVENTS BY AREA

### Blackburn with Darwen

#### International Food and Culture Festival

A celebration for the asylum and refugee community across Blackburn with Darwen. ARC Blackburn will show what compassion looks like in action by sharing a few 'Simple Acts' including sharing a dish and having a chat. This is an opportunity for the community to share their cultural traditions including food, dress, music and dance, and memorabilia. For all involved, it is hoped that it will be a memorable event filled with storytelling, traditional dancing, eating and laughter.

**Wednesday 21st June 11:00 – 14:00**

**Wesley Hall Methodist Church, Feilden Street,  
Blackburn, BB2 1LQ**

FREE - This is an event for people from the Blackburn resettlement community. Places can be booked through ARC Blackburn, Wesley Hall Methodist Church Or DARE in Darwen. T: 01254 690282.



## Community Harmony Project Coffee Morning

The Community Harmony Project invites the Blackburn community to join them for a coffee morning raising awareness of issues affecting people who have resettled in Lancashire. Listen to an interview between individuals with experience of resettlement and the asylum system as they share their experiences of local integration and moving forward. There will also be an address from the mayor. Finger food and drinks will be served at the end of the event.

**Thursday 22nd June, 10:00 – 12:00**

**Quakers Meeting House, Paradise St, Blackburn BB2 1LY**  
**FREE (No booking required – Just turn up!)**

## The Connect Hub Presents “Around the World”

This all-inclusive event will showcase the beauty of ‘Compassion’ in Britain, and how diversity has shaped our local community today. Join The Connect Hub for an exciting ‘Around the World’ tour celebrating cultures and collective strength. Our diverse range of interactive and fun workshops will promote self-empowerment, self-awareness and social connectedness. There will be ample opportunities for attendees to network and converse with partner organisations and local services.

**Saturday 24th June, 12:00 – 16:00**

**Location: TBC**

**FREE - Open to all but booking is preferred.**

**[contact@theconnecthub.org.uk](mailto:contact@theconnecthub.org.uk) to book a place**



## Burnley

### Burnley FC Youth Football Tournament

Come and join our friends the Clarets for a fun football 5-a-side kick around. Join a team for a friendly tournament, practise some skills and celebrate how we show compassion in sport!

**Saturday 17th June, 11:30 – 14:30**

**The Leisure Box, Northlight, Glen Way,  
Brierfield, BB9 5NH**

FREE - Places are limited. Please book your place via [Eventbrite](#)

**Burnley FC Refugee Week Youth Football Tournament  
Tickets, Sat, Jun 17, 2023 at 11:30 AM | Eventbrite**



Photo from LIFE 2.0 exhibition by Libby Burke Wilde

## Football, Food and Fun!

Join Burnley Youth Theatre for football, food and fun as they take to the Prairie Sports Village in Burnley, for a friendly game of football lead by coaches at Burnley Leisure and Culture. Then come back to St John's Church Hall for an afternoon of food and family fun.

Burnley Youth Theatre will lead creative games and fun activities at St Johns Church Halls for all the family and enjoy some delicious home cooked food made by the volunteers at New Neighbours Together. Sure to be a fantastic fun-filled family day for everyone!

**Tuesday 20th June,**

**10:00 – 12:00 Football with Burnley Leisure and Culture**

**12:00 – 14:00 - Food and Fun and St John's Church Hall**

**Prairie Sports Village, Windermere Ave, Burnley BB10 2FU**

**followed by food at St John's Church**

**FREE (No booking required – Just turn up!)**



## Fylde

### Fun on Fairhaven Lake with AFC Fylde

Join the staff team at AFC Fylde for a day of family-friendly activities at Fairhaven Lake! Mini golf, football, tennis, boating and refreshments by the lake.

**Monday 19th June, 13:00 – 16:00**

**Fairhaven Lake, Fairhaven, Ansdell, Lytham St Annes,  
FY8 1BD**

**FREE - Tickets required. Please contact  
scott.harries@afcfylde.co.uk to book a place**

## Hyndburn

### Aawaz Share and Care Week

Aawaz are arranging a number of 'Share and Care' themed events during Refugee week to bring understanding and appreciation among refugee and local communities through story sharing, food and friendly, welcoming events. The week will finish with a community event being arranged by Hyndburn Borough Council that will take place in the Accrington Market.

**Monday 19th to Saturday 24th June**

**Time and Location: Various**

**FREE - Booking required. Aawaz's events are for women only and by invitation. They ask that anyone who wishes to join in their week long celebration of events to contact them on 01254 398176 or email on info@aawaz.org.uk**



## Hyndburn Coming Together

Calico invite families who have resettled in the Hyndburn area to celebrate Refugee Week with them at an event to bring together the local community. There will be games, crafts, and football, and representatives from local organisations will be invited to join the event and share the ways in which they support the community.

**Saturday 24th June, 12:00 – 16:00**

**The Accrington Stanley Hub, Thorneyholme Road,  
Accrington BB5 6BD**

**FREE - This event is by invitation only for resettled families living in Hyndburn. Resettled families should contact Calico caseworkers for more information.**

## Lancaster

### Refugee Week Film Screenings

The Dukes will be screening a programme of films that explore the refugee experience from across different parts of the world. They will also be screening a selection of accessible, non-verbal, family films which can be enjoyed by all regardless of your confidence in using or understanding English. For more information on film screenings, dates and times please see the Dukes website **[www.dukeslancaster.org](http://www.dukeslancaster.org)**

**Friday 16th – Sunday 25th June, Time: Various**

**The Dukes Theatre, Moor Lane, Lancaster, LA1 4YW**

**£6.50 - Booking Required. A number of free tickets for these performances will be available for refugees. Please contact The Dukes Box Office to book these tickets on 01524 598507.**

## Place of Power: A Photographic Exhibition

PLACE OF POWER is a concept dreamt up by myself and a group of Ukrainian refugees who recently resettled in Lancashire. By photographing each person in a place that made them feel powerful again, and inviting them to write letters left completely up to their own interpretation, this is a project about people who've had control taken away from them reclaiming it once more.

**Wednesday 21st June – Saturday 1st July**

See venue opening times

**The Dukes Theatre, Moor Lane, Lancaster, LA1 4YW**

**FREE - No booking needed**



Photo from PLACE OF POWER exhibition by Libby Burke Wilde



## Learn and Lunch Around the World

St Thomas' Church Centre welcome you to 'Learn and Lunch around the World', an event which is open to all. The lunch will feature cuisine from several of the countries currently represented by the resettler community in Lancaster. The menu will be designed and prepared by members of the refugee community living in Lancaster, celebrating their culture and culinary skills. 'Learn and Lunch Around the World' will bring the community together, in the spirit of compassion, to share food, stories and culture.

**Wednesday 21st June 13:00 – 16:00**

**St Thomas' Church Centre, Marton Street,  
Lancaster, LA1 1XX**

**FREE but suggested donation of £5-£10 for those not from a background of resettlement. Booking required.**

**Contact St Thomas church via email [asr@st.tees.org.uk](mailto:asr@st.tees.org.uk)**

## East Meets West Cultural Fair

East Meets West invite you to join them for a round-the-world trip in Lancaster library! Twelve different stalls representing twelve different countries and cultures will be organized by between 20 and 30 women from the asylum seeker, refugee and international communities within East Meets West. Visit the beauty of Sudan, South Sudan, Iran, Syria, Palestine, Kurdistan, Iran, Pakistan, Ecuador, Morocco, Afghanistan, Indonesia. Taste food, try on traditional clothes, look at photographs and crafts, have your photo taken, see your name written in another language/script. This event offers an enriched and fresh

perception of different cultures which can be shared with family and friends. Children will have a special 'passport' and be able to collect 'stamps' from each stall after taking part.

**Saturday 24th June, 11:00 – 14:00**

**Lancaster Library, Market Square, Lancaster, LA1 1HY**

**FREE (No booking needed – Just turn up!)**

## Catch the Wind

More Music Morecambe invite you to join them for kite flying, extraordinary music, creative and environmental workshops, all for free and set against the backdrop of beautiful Morecambe Bay. Prior to this event, More Music will be running kite making workshops for individuals living locally who are refugees or are seeking asylum. Although these workshops are by invitation only, they welcome all to join them on the promenade as they fly their kites in Morecambe's annual Catch the Wind festival. More Music are also collaborating with Global Link to take their Escape to Safety exhibition, recently updated through Lancashire County Council funding, to a local school to raise awareness of the impact of forced migration.

**24th and 25th June, 12:00 – 17:00**

**Morecambe Promenade, Stone Jetty and the field behind the Midland Hotel, Morecambe**

**FREE (No booking required - Just turn up!)**



## UKRLAND

Lancaster Arts, in partnership with Lancashire County Council Refugee Integration Team, is privileged to welcome UKRLAND, a compelling one-woman theatre production created in response to the war in Ukraine, featuring eight documentary stories written by modern Ukrainian authors that share the real, very human experiences that so many are facing at the moment in Ukraine.

Directed by Yurii Radionov and performed by Shorena Shoniia, known for her work in film (*No Step Back*, *Secret Love*) and theatre (*Juliet and Romeo*, *Lesya Ukrainka Theatre*), who skilfully works with each story to reveal the full range of emotions of a woman in an inhuman war: a girl, sister, mother, friend, wife, neighbour, grandmother. Raped, mutilated, killed... but unconquered! These are stories of strong and loving women who will cross hundreds of roads and lead their children to their land – UKRLAND, where there will be no evil. And there will be a strong spirit, culture and love.

UKRLAND is a compelling theatre production created in response to the war in Ukraine and commissioned by the Lowry, Salford.

Their work showcases brand-new texts from members of the Ukrainian Playwrights Theatre that share the very real, human experiences that so many are facing at the moment in Ukraine.

There will also be the opportunity to view *Wonder Wounded Land*, a photo exhibition representing the impact of war on the landscape of Ukraine for one hour before the performance.

**Wednesday 28th June 19:30 - Duration: 55 mins,**

**Age: 16+**

**The Nuffield Theatre, Lancaster University,  
Lancaster, LA1 4YW**

To book, visit the Lancaster Arts website

[www.lancasterarts.org](http://www.lancasterarts.org)





Image from UKRLAND

## ~~Wonder~~ Wounded Land: Photographic Exhibition

Compassion is sometimes also about bearing witness; about refusing to look away no matter how much we are challenged. This exhibition will feature the works of Ukrainian photographers showcasing the beauty of Ukraine's urban and natural landscape before the war, alongside images of the devastation caused by the ongoing conflict. The images explore the line between the peaceful life that the Ukrainian people lived "before" and the ruins left behind by war. This powerful exhibition is not just about landscapes and houses, it is about human lives that have been destroyed. This piece will be open for viewing for one hour before the performance of UKRLAND and the On our Land: Ukrainian Film Festival.

**Wednesday 28th June, 18:30 – 20:30**

**The Nuffield Theatre, Lancaster University,  
Lancaster, LA1 4YW**

**FREE (No booking required).**



Photo from LIFE 2.0 exhibition by Libby Burke Wilde

## Pendle

### Threads of Migration Exhibition

The 'Threads of Migration' exhibition showcases the lived experiences of the refugee community living in Pendle, translating their stories into textile works. Through exploring traditional embroidery techniques and styles from their home culture, each person will tell their own story, sharing an element of their experience with the audience.

**19th – 25th June, See venue opening times**  
**Nelson Library, 1st Floor, Market Square,**  
**Nelson BB9 7PU**  
**FREE - No booking required.**



Artwork from TRANSLATING HOME, a project by  
Community Ars by ZK



## Preston

### Women's Pamper Event

Compassion is about caring for others and also about remembering to care for ourselves. Kind Communities will be holding a pamper day for women from resettlement communities; Various treatments and activities will be provided for women by women-run businesses from the local community, to refresh the body and mind and create social links. Refreshments, lunch and a traditional English Afternoon Tea for the family will be provided. Creche facilities will be available for up to 2 children per participant.

**Date and time:** TBC

**Location:** TBC

**FREE - Places limited. Booking is required.**

Please contact Kind Communities – [www.kind-communities.org](http://www.kind-communities.org)

### Preston and South Ribble Coming Together

Calico, who offer casework support to families arriving on our resettlement schemes, invite families who have resettled in the Preston and South Ribble area to celebrate Refugee Week with them at an event to bring together the local community. There will be games and crafts and representatives from local organisations will be invited to join the event and share the ways in which they support the community.

**Saturday 17th June, 12:00 – 16:00**

**Plungington Community Centre, Brook Street,  
Preston, PR1 7NB**

**FREE - This event is by invitation only for resettled families living in Preston and South Ribble. Resettled families should contact Calico caseworkers for more information.**

## Preston City of Sanctuary at Preston Mela

Preston MELA is a free one-day event celebrating the diverse cultures within the city. It's a bright colourful family event with performance art and other attractions. Preston City of Sanctuary are proud to be part of this event and will have a stall to highlight their work and activities

Full details on [www.prestoncitymela.co.uk](http://www.prestoncitymela.co.uk)

**Saturday 17th June, 10:30 - 15:30**

**Moor Park, Garstang Road, Preston, PR16AS**

**FREE (No booking needed – Just come along!)**

## Preston City of Sanctuary (PCOS) Film Night

PCOS will be showcasing recent films at this annual event that highlight the needs of sanctuary seekers and the importance of compassion. The films will be accompanied by contributions from speakers. Full details from:

[www.preston.cityofsanctuary.org](http://www.preston.cityofsanctuary.org)

**Wednesday 21st June, 18:00 - 21:00**

**The Mitchell and Kenyon Cinema, Corporation Street,  
Preston, PR1 2HE**

**FREE - Tickets Required – Booking via Eventbrite. Contact  
Preston City of Sanctuary for more information.**



## British Red Cross Refugee Week World Food Day

British Red Cross warmly invite you to their 'World Food Day', showcasing dishes from around the world. This event will be an opportunity for resettlers living in Central Lancashire to share their culture and cuisine, bringing them closer to home. The event is open to all, bringing local people, refugees and people seeking asylum together and enabling the local resettlement community to share what it means to be an asylum seeker or a refugee.

**Thursday 22nd June, 10:00 – 14:00**

**Douglas Hall, St Cuthbert Church Centre, Lytham Road,  
Fulwood, Preston PR2 3AR**

**FREE (No booking needed - just turn up!)**

## Compassionate Lancashire: Lancashire Refugee Integration Team Conference

At this conference, aimed at professionals supporting resettlers across the county, we invite you to join us to share best practice, meet other practitioners working in the field and take some time to celebrate the fantastic work you do to support those affected by forced migration.

**Thursday 22nd June, 09:00 – 15:00**

**The Exchange, County Hall, Preston PR1 8XJ**

**FREE - Booking required via [Eventbrite](#)**

## UKRLAND

We are very excited to be able to share this compelling one-women show with you. Commissioned by The Lowry, Salford, this powerful piece features eight documentary stories written by modern Ukrainian authors. Directed by Yurii Radionov and performed by Shorena Shoniia, UKRLAND is an honest conversation about the war in Ukraine. Shorena Shoniia, known for her work in film (No Step Back, Secret Love) and theatre (Juliet and Romeo, Lesya Ukrainka Theatre) shares with us what it means to be a woman, affected by war. This powerful and important performance urges us to look with compassion upon the girl, sister, mother, friend, wife, neighbour, grandmother whose lives have been so dramatically thrown into chaos. Yet even as victims of rape, violence and murder, these women are unconquered.

Antonia Beck, Senior Producer: Artist Development at The Lowry says: “UKRLAND is bold, visually stunning and urgent piece of political theatre created by Yurii Radionov and Shorena Shonia – two highly skilled theatre makers who fled their home city of Kyiv, Ukraine in June this year. “UKRLAND is an emotionally charged piece that not only offers audiences an insight into the horrific experiences that many are currently facing in Ukraine, but also champions freedom, liberty and hope.”

Two languages are used in the performance – Ukrainian and English. Subtitles will be used. There will also be the opportunity to view Wonder Wounded Land, a photo

exhibition representing the impact of war on the landscape of Ukraine for one hour before the performance.

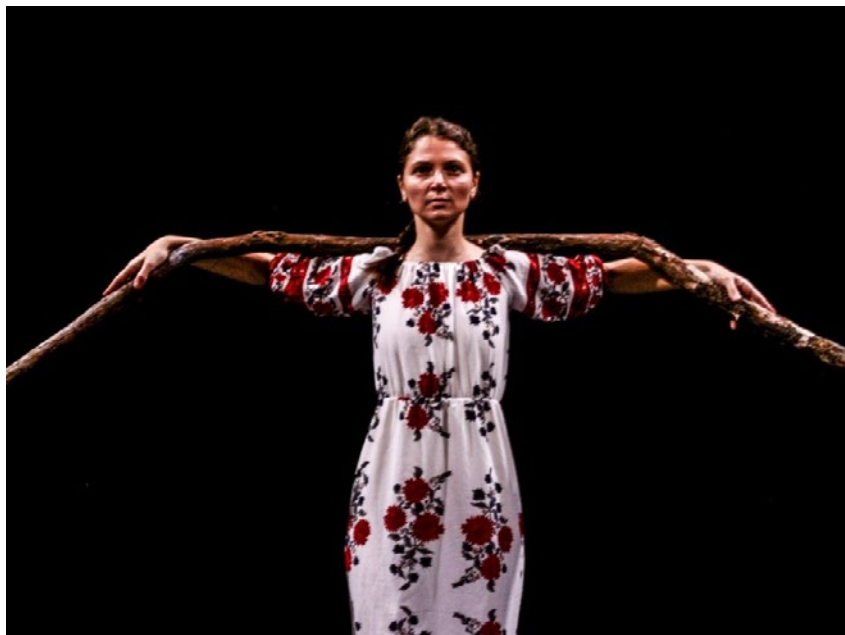
**Thursday 22nd June, 19:00**

Duration: 55 mins

Age: 16+

**The Main Theatre, The Media Factory, UCLAN,  
Preston, PR1 1JN**

FREE - This event is for Ukrainian guests and sponsors only.  
Please contact your local Ukrainian Hub for more information  
about tickets.



Shorena Shoniia in Ukrland





## On our Land: Ukrainian Film Festival

An opportunity to experience the unique culture and creativity of Ukrainian filmmakers, this festival will feature a special selection of acclaimed Ukrainian short films that are expected to captivate audiences with their diverse subjects and storylines. There will be something for everyone at the Ukrainian Film Festival “On our Land” as each film brings a different perspective to life in Ukraine: the culture, history, landscapes, social issues of this beautiful country, as well, of course, as the horror of war.

There will also be an opportunity to meet the films' directors who will present their films at the festival and will offer a question-and-answer session following the screening.

There will also be the opportunity to view Wonder Wounded Land, a photo exhibition representing the impact of war on the landscape of Ukraine for one hour before each screening.

**Friday 23rd June 2023, 19:00 – 21:00** [Book now](#)

**Saturday 24th June 2023, 17:00 – 19:00** [Book now](#)

**The Hall, The Media Factory, UCLAN, Preston, PR1 1JN**

**FREE - Please book tickets via Eventbrite**

## ~~Wonder~~ Wounded Land: Photographic Exhibition

Compassion is sometimes also about bearing witness; about refusing to look away no matter how much we are challenged.

This exhibition will feature the works of Ukrainian photographers showcasing the beauty of Ukraine's urban and natural landscape before the war, alongside images of the devastation caused by the ongoing conflict. The images explore the line between the peaceful life that the Ukrainian people lived "before" and the ruins left behind by war. This powerful exhibition is not just about landscapes and houses, it is about human lives that have been destroyed.



This piece will be open for viewing for one hour before the performance of UKRLAND and the On our Land: Ukrainian Film Festival.

**Thursday 22nd June, 18:00 – 20:00**

**Friday 23rd June, 18:00 – 20:00**

**Saturday 24th June, 16:00 – 19:00**

**The Media Factory, UCLAN, Preston, PR1 1JN**

**FREE (No booking required)**

## Preston City of Sanctuary Family Day

Preston City of Sanctuary invite you to join them for their family day for adults and accompanied children which will focus on providing fun, information and new experiences for all the family. We particularly welcome sanctuary seekers to the event as it will provide an opportunity to meet others, find out more about what Preston can offer and have a go at activities aimed at trying something different. International food will be available providing tastes from around the world. Full details from:

**[www.preston.cityofsanctuary.org](http://www.preston.cityofsanctuary.org)**

**Saturday 24th June, 12:00 - 16:00**

**Plungington Community Centre, Brook Street  
Preston, PR1 7NB**

**FREE (No booking required – Just turn up!)**



## Higher Education Open Day for Resettlers

If you have moved to Lancashire as a result of forced migration, and want to study, this event, will enable you to find out more about Further and Higher Education opportunities. This fantastic, day-long event is hosted by Future U, in collaboration with Lancaster University, the University of Central Lancashire and Lancashire County Council Refugee Integration Team. You will have chance to meet with admissions teams from our fantastic Lancashire universities and colleges and ask all your questions about courses and how to apply, entry requirements and student finance.

**Thursday 6th July, 10:00 – 12:00, 14:00 – 16:00, 17:00 – 19:00**

**The Exchange, County Hall, Preston, PR1 1JN**

**FREE - To attend please complete the expression of interest form by [clicking here](#).**

## West Lancashire

### Slice of Working Life

Slice of Working Life is a photographic exhibition celebrating refugee contributions to the West Lancashire community, focusing on their new working environments. The exhibition is positioned in the busy Concourse shopping Centre in Skelmersdale amidst the hustle of everyday life during Refugee week.

**19th-24th June, 9:30 – 12:30 Mon Tues and Wed, 12:30 – 15:30 Thurs, Fri and Sat**

**The Concourse Shopping Centre, Southway,  
Skelmersdale WN8 6LN**

**FREE - No booking required**

### A Celebration of Food and Culture

The Ecumenical Centre in Skelmersdale welcomes you to join them for a celebratory event bringing together the local community and resettlers living in West Lancashire. This celebration of compassion in West Lancashire will allow guests to share culture, stories and have the opportunity to taste traditional foods created by those who have resettled in the area.

**Date and Time: TBC**

**Skelmersdale Ecumenical Centre, Northway,  
Skelmersdale, WN8 6LU**

**FREE - No booking required. For more information contact the venue.**

## Wyre

### Feast for the Nations

Emmanuel Church and The Salvation Army welcome members of the community, in a message of compassion, bringing people together from different nations, to share food and conversation and build relationships.

**Saturday 24th June, 11:30**

**Emmanuel Church, Mount Road, Fleetwood, FY7 6RE**

**FREE (No booking needed - Just turn up!)**



Photo from LIFE 2.0 exhibition by Libby Burke Wilde

## Our Other Projects

### A Taste of Home: Home Cooked Recipes from Syrian Refugees Living in UK

A Taste of Home was dreamed up and created by over 50 Syrian refugee families who have found sanctuary in Lancashire. Through community meals, cooking workshops and neighbourhood gatherings, the people in this book have tried to integrate into their new home, while honouring the land they left. The recipe book was shortlisted for a Guild of Food Writer's Award and has been mentioned by British Chef Nadiya Hussain as one of her recommended buys.

[Buy the book here](#) and enjoy A Taste of Home.





## The Compassion Project

As well as being an opportunity to celebrate the diversity of our communities, Refugee Week is also a chance to raise awareness of the many challenges faced by people who have experienced forced migration. During Refugee Week, we are excited to be able to launch The Compassion Project; an educational workshop developed by members of Lancashire Refugee Integration Team, who have lived experience of forced migration. We will be delivering this workshop in schools across Lancashire during Refugee Week, but it is a project which will also run throughout the rest of the year. If you would like to book this workshop, free of charge, for your school or community group, please email **RITTeam@lancashire.gov.uk** with the subject line “The Compassion Project” and we will be in touch.

## Our Re: Welcome App Launch

Arriving in a new city or town can be very daunting; it can take time to find your way around, to find the services you need to support you. Our new Re:Welcome App brings together all of the amazing support services for resettlers across Lancashire in one place, helping users to locate English classes, healthcare centres, advice drop-ins and more.

The app is available for free and can be downloaded from the **App Store** or **Google Play** by [visiting our website](#)



## Meet Lancashire Refugee Integration Team (LRIT)



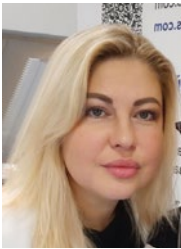
**Name:** Ola Kre  
**Job:** Business Support Officer,  
Lancashire Refugee Integration Team  
**Home:** Syria and now Rossendale

Many people talk about “who is Refugee?”. From my point of view, as a refugee who suffered and experienced difficulties in being herself, and achieving her dreams, a refugee is a human; a human who is homeless, dreamless, who has had a distance put between their family and themselves, who is far away from a hug.

Refugees are fleeing from a range of different situations such as conflict, human rights abuses, environmental disasters, or other crises. In Syria, where I am from, a war has led to the displacement of millions of people, caused widespread destruction of infrastructure and buildings, and resulted in the loss of hundreds of thousands of lives. I was forced to move from my country and try to adjust, starting everything from the beginning again, trying to build myself again. We are a young generation who grew up so fast, who left their dreams in a small box which has been locked with a key that the war took.

It was through the Syrian Resettlement Programme that I came to the UK. This scheme was a new road for my family and myself. This road gave us two options; being able to unlock the little box to make all our dreams come true but this comes at a price. The price is being away from our family again in a new country trying to adjust to everything new for the ten thousandth time. But if we chose to reject this pathway, we would lose this key and even the box, and will be living the rest of our days without thinking of tomorrow.

Now I have been in Lancashire for almost four years. I am studying at college and working in a job I love; helping other families as they arrive and start their journey down this new road.



**Name:** Yullia Yevushko  
**Job:** Business Support Officer,  
Lancashire Refugee Integration Team  
**Home:** Ukraine but, for now, also Morecambe

My name is Yuliia Yevushko, and I come from Kyiv, Ukraine. I arrived in the UK as a refugee on the Homes for Ukraine Scheme in August 2022. Now I am working as a Business Support Officer in Lancashire County Council, and I am happy to be part of Lancashire Refugee Integration Team.

I am extremely grateful to the British People for opening their homes for Ukrainians and providing us not only with safe places to live but also for appreciating our skills and experience. Straight after my arrival I applied to many different companies

hoping to get a job since I wanted to integrate to the system, be independent and contribute my energy and skills to the society. At one of the meetings of Ukrainian Hub in Lancaster I met Rebecca and Mary from LRIT, and we quickly realised that we were on the same wavelength.

I applied, and was successful at interview, to become part of the team which changed my life a lot and made it more meaningful. Every day I communicate with people who are sacrificing their private lives to support refugees and make their wellbeing comfortable. I am happy to be involved and I do my best to perform well and meet my mentors' expectations.

In Ukraine I worked as a managing director in the NHS and the skills I brought from this role, of working with vulnerable people, help me in my job now. Moreover, after fleeing the war I spent three months in the Czech Republic where I volunteered in the refugee Centre Mriya. This experience has changed my life priorities and goals completely. Now I understand that the most important things for people are peace and freedom. And the best way to heal yourself is to help other people in their struggle.

**I am proud to be Ukrainian! Слава Україні! Great respect for the British people!**

## Timetable of Events

Date / Time	Event	Location	Price / Ticketing
<b>Date: Friday 16th to Sunday 25th June 2023</b> Times: Various	Refugee Week Film Screenings	The Dukes Theatre, Lancaster	£6.50 / FREE Book tickets via The Dukes Box Office
<b>Date: Saturday 17th June 2023</b> Time: 11:30 – 14:30	Burnley FC Youth Football Tournament	The Leisure Box, Brierfield	FREE Book tickets via Eventbrite
<b>Date: Saturday 17th June 2023</b> Time: 12:00 – 16:00	Preston and South Ribble Coming Together	Plungington Community Centre, Preston	Contact Calico caseworkers to book a place
<b>Date: Saturday 17th June 2023</b> Time: 10:30 – 15:30	Preston City of Sanctuary at Preston Mela	Moor Park, Preston	FREE Booking not required
<b>Date: Monday 19th to Saturday 24th June</b>	Aawaz Share and Care Week	Various Community Venues, Hyndburn	FREE Contact Aawaz to book
<b>Date: Monday 19th to Saturday 24th June</b>	Slice of Working Life	The Concourse Shopping Centre, Skelmersdale	FREE Booking not required
<b>Date: Monday 19th to Sunday 25th June</b> Times: See venue opening times	Threads of Migration Exhibition	Nelson Library, Nelson	FREE Booking not required
<b>Date: Monday 19th June</b> Time: 13:00 – 16:00	Fun on Fairhaven Lake with AFC Fylde	Fairhaven Lake, Lytham St Annes	FREE Contact AFC Fylde to book tickets

<b>Date / Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Price / Ticketing</b>
<b>Date: Tuesday 20th June 2023</b> <b>Time: 10:00 – 14:00</b>	Football, Food and Fun!	Prairie Sports Village, Burnley	FREE No booking required
<b>Date: Wednesday 21st June to Saturday 1st July 2023</b> <b>Time: See venue opening times</b>	Place of Power: Photographic Exhibition	The Dukes Theatre, Lancaster	FREE No booking required
<b>Date: Wednesday 21st June 2023</b> <b>Time: 11:00 – 14:00</b>	International Food and Culture Festival	Wesley Hall Methodist Church, Blackburn	FREE - Places to be booked through ARC, Wesley Hall Methodist Church or DARE
<b>Date: Wednesday 21st June 2023</b> <b>Time: 18:00 – 21:00</b>	Preston City of Sanctuary Film Night	The Mitchell and Kenyon Cinema, Preston	FREE Contact Preston City of Sanctuary for link to book
<b>Date: Thursday 22nd June 2023</b> <b>Time: 09:00 – 15:00</b>	Lancashire Refugee Integration Team Conference	The Exchange, County Hall, Preston	FREE Book tickets via Eventbrite
<b>Date: Thursday 22nd June 2023</b> <b>Time: 10:00 – 12:00</b>	The Community Harmony	The Quaker Meeting House, Blackburn	FREE No booking required
<b>Date: Thursday 22nd June 2023</b> <b>Time: 10:00 – 14:00</b>	British Red Cross World Food Day	St Cuthbert Church Centre, Preston	FREE No booking required
<b>Date: Thursday 22nd June 2023</b> <b>Time: 18:00 – 20:00</b>	<del>Wonder</del> Wounded Land: Photographic Exhibition	The Media Factory, UCLAN, Preston	FREE No booking required



IN LANCASHIRE

Date / Time	Event	Location	Price / Ticketing
<b>Date:</b> Thursday <b>22nd June 2023</b> <b>Time:</b> 19:00	UKRLAND	The Media Factory, UCLAN, Preston	Book tickets via Eventbrite
<b>Date:</b> Friday <b>23rd June 2023</b> <b>Time:</b> 18:00 – 20.00	<del>Wonder</del> Wounded Land: Photographic Exhibition	The Media Factory, UCLAN, Preston	FREE Booking not required
<b>Date:</b> Friday <b>23rd June 2023</b> <b>Time:</b> 19:00	On our Land: Ukrainian Film Festival	The Media Factory, UCLAN, Preston	FREE Book tickets via Eventbrite
<b>Date:</b> Saturday <b>24th June 2023</b> <b>Time:</b> 12:00 – 16:00	Preston City of Sanctuary Family Fun Day	Plungington Community Centre, Preston	FREE Booking not required
<b>Date:</b> Saturday <b>24th June 2023</b> <b>Time:</b> 11:00 – 14:00	East Meets West Cultural Fair	Lancaster Library, Lancaster	FREE Booking not required
<b>Date:</b> Saturday <b>24th June 2023</b> <b>Time:</b> 11:30	Feast for the Nations	Emmanuel Church, Fleetwood	FREE Booking not required
<b>Date:</b> Saturday <b>24th June 2023</b> <b>Time:</b> 12:00 – 16:00	The Connect Hub Presents "Around the World"	TBC, Blackburn with Darwen	FREE Book through The Connect Hub
<b>Date:</b> Saturday <b>24th June 2023</b> <b>Time:</b> 12:00 – 16:00	Hyndburn Coming Together	The Accrington Stanley Hub, Accrington	FREE Contact Calico caseworkers to book a place
<b>Date:</b> Saturday <b>24th June 2023</b> <b>Time:</b> 16:00 – 19:00	<del>Wonder</del> Wounded Land: Photographic Exhibition	The Media Factory, UCLAN, Preston	FREE Booking not required

<b>Date / Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Price / Ticketing</b>
<b>Date: Saturday 24th June 2023 Time: 17:00</b>	On our Land: Ukrainian Film Festival	The Media Factory, UCLAN, Preston	FREE Book tickets via Eventbrite
<b>Date: Thursday 28th June 2023 Time: 18:30 – 20.30</b>	Wonder Wounded Land: Photographic Exhibition	The Nuffield Theatre, Lancaster University, Lancaster	FREE Booking not required
<b>Date: Thursday 28th June 2023 Time: 19:30</b>	UKRLAND	The Nuffield Theatre, Lancaster University, Lancaster	Adult: £16 Concession: £12 Book tickets via Lancaster Arts website
<b>Date: Thursday 6th July 2023 Time: 10:00 – 19:00</b>	Higher Education Open Day for Resettlers	The Exchange, County Hall, Preston	FREE 17:00 – 19:00 no booking needed 10:00 – 15:00 email for booking information



## MORE INFORMATION

Whether you are a resettler yourself who has moved to Lancashire and are looking for support, or you simply want to find out more about refugee resettlement in the county, visit our website

[www.lancashire.gov.uk/resettlement-in-lancashire](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk/resettlement-in-lancashire)

For more information about Refugee Week and other events taking place nationally, please visit

[www.refugeeweek.org.uk](http://www.refugeeweek.org.uk)

Our 'Refugee Week in Lancashire' Programme is a yearly event which we very much look forward to. If you would like your events or activities to be included or advertised in next year's programme, please email [RITTeam@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:RITTeam@lancashire.gov.uk).

Роби добро - добром озветься

Do good and good will come to you.

افعل خير وحسن النية

"خوب کن و یخر به تو خواهد رسید"

'بسه کار وکړه بڼه به درته راشي'