Swansea City of Sanctuary
Abertawe Dinas Noddfa

A Better Welcome to Swansea newsletter for asylum seekers in Swansea September 2023

This newsletter will come out every month to tell you about activities you can do to keep busy, places to go to meet people, volunteering opportunities, classes you can do and where to go if you need help in an emergency, or any other support.

If you have any questions, please contact us.

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Better Welcome to Swansea Staff – Contact Us

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Welcome to Swansea!

Welcome to Swansea!



New to Swansea or been here a while?

We know arriving in a new place can be very challenging, we have made this newsletter for you to give you some information about settling into the city. We hope you will feel at home here very soon – there are lots of friendly and helpful people waiting to meet you and beautiful beaches, woodlands, galleries and museums to visit!

If you have been here a while, the newsletter is still for you, it will get updated every month with events, activities and news that may help you.

Please familiarise yourself with the Right to Remain Toolkit, which is available in many languages.
https://righttoremain.org.uk/toolkit/



Free for everyone

RE-CYCLE'S

Volunteering-training program 2022: Putting unwanted bikes back on the road

Email:
cibarra.unica@gmail.com

Mobile:
07395373086
(voice, text and WhatsApp)

Alternatively:
recycleswansea@ymail.com



FREE COURSE

Life in Wales
Welsh culture, politics, everyday life

Creche provided.
Bus tickets available if necessary.

Thursdays at 12:30 - 14:30

Start: Thursday 21st September

St. James Church Parish Centre,
Walter Road, Swansea SA1 4QA

PLACES NOW AVAILABLE

Register through SASS:
vol.sbassg@gmail.com | 07853 717017

Taught by
Clare Jones
on behalf of Adult
Learning Wales

SASS
Swansea Asylum Seekers Support



WALES REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKERS ADVOCACY FORUM

12-2PM - MONDAY 25TH SEPT

Join on Zoom, ID: 932 5280 1470
or in Person: DPIA, Hastings House, CF24 0BL

Topic: Education

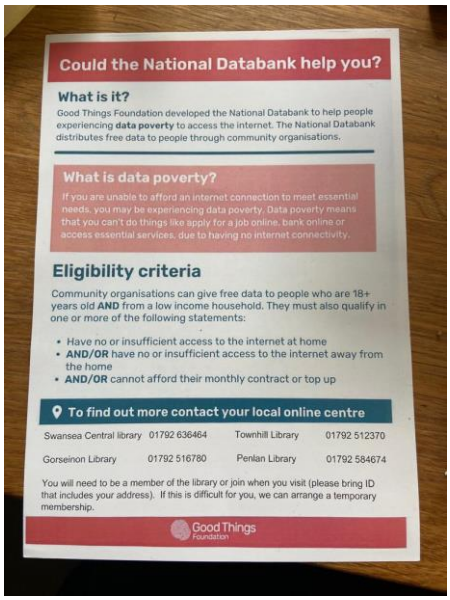
Join us to talk with Reach+ ESOL Wales and Welsh Refugee Council representatives

We can help with data / travel costs

dpia
DISPLACED PEOPLE IN ACTION
ALLTUDION AR WAITH

Contact: sam@dpia.org.uk 07496 840 479
andrii@dpia.org.uk 07415 784 468

FREE CREDIT at the library



Could the National Databank help you?

What is it?
Good Things Foundation developed the National Databank to help people experiencing **data poverty** to access the internet. The National Databank distributes free data to people through community organisations.

What is data poverty?
If you are unable to afford an internet connection to meet essential needs, you may be experiencing data poverty. Data poverty means that you can't do things like apply for a job online, bank online or access essential services, due to having no internet connectivity.

Eligibility criteria
Community organisations can give free data to people who are 18+ years old **AND** from a low income household. They must also qualify in one or more of the following statements:

- Have no or insufficient access to the internet at home
- **AND/OR** have no or insufficient access to the internet away from the home
- **AND/OR** cannot afford their monthly contract or top up

To find out more contact your local online centre

Swansea Central library	01792 636464	Townhill Library	01792 512370
Gorseinon Library	01792 516780	Penlan Library	01792 584674

You will need to be a member of the library or join when you visit (please bring ID that includes your address). If this is difficult for you, we can arrange a temporary membership.

Good Things Foundation

New Social Drop-in!

Every Friday from 4-7pm

Come and join us at the St James Church for an afternoon of friendship, chat, support, games, food, English class and a Friends And Neighbours meeting. 🏓🧕☕😊



St James Church, Walter Road, Swansea SA1 4QF

SASS Swansea Asylum Seekers Support

FAN – Friends and Neighbours

For more information: call- 07853 717017 or email- vol.sbassg@gmail.com

New Social Drop-in!

Every Saturday from 12-3pm

Come and join us at the York Place Baptist Church for an afternoon of friendship, chat, support, games, food, English class and a Friends And Neighbours meeting. 🏓🧕☕😊



York Place Baptist Church, York Place, Swansea SA1 3LZ (across from Vue Cinema)

SASS Swansea Asylum Seekers Support

FAN – Friends and Neighbours

For more information: call- 07853 717017 or email- vol.sbassg@gmail.com

Unity in Diversity

York Place Baptist Church, York Street, Swansea, SA1 3LZ
***near The Vue Cinema**



Every Thursday starting at 4pm:

Various activities
Clothing bank
Meal
Intermediate English Class



COMMUNITY TOGETHER

FUN & FRIENDSHIP

FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH 12-2PM

@ CENTREPOINT

(30 MARKET ST, MORRISTON, SA6 8DA)

EVERYONE WELCOME 18+. FREE

COFFEE CLUB | TABLE TENNIS | ARTS & CRAFTS | TABLE FOOTBALL

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT NICOLA ON 07881 360228

Cyngor Abertawe Swansea Council

Caredig

Libanus Church

Swansea Libraries are Free, warm, has Free access to WIFI and you can also get FREE sim cards at the library – just explain you are an asylum seeker.

Come to Swansea Central Library to check out our new books in different languages



Find us at the Civic Centre on Oystermouth Rd.
01792 636464

ABERTAWE SWANSEA
Llyfrgelloedd
Libraries

Cyngor Abertawe
Swansea Council





Information for Children and families

FREE COURSE

Family Learning

Play, games, stories, school & routines

Creche provided.
Bus tickets available if necessary.

Thursdays at 9:45 - 11:45

Start: Thursday 21st September

St. James Church Parish Centre,
Walter Road, Swansea SA1 4QA

PLACES NOW AVAILABLE

Register through SASS:
vol.sbassg@gmail.com | 07853 717017

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GROW

School uniforms & coats

"ABC 123" is all about providing affordable school uniforms. We welcome ALL donations of children's Swansea school uniform items and coats. Which are then laundered and re-sold at a fraction of the cost of new uniforms, with the funds generated going back into this project.

Primary to Secondary School uniform items with/without logos available; ALL tops; Cardigans, Jumpers and Sweaters, ALL polo shirts and formal shirts, long/short sleeved, ALL Trousers and Shorts, ALL school summer dresses, pinafores and skirts, priced as below;

School uniform items £1 each
Or 3x items for £2.50
Children's coats at £5 each

Come Find us At:

GROW Cymru
Unit 12, St. David's Shopping Centre,
St. David's Place, Swansea SA1 3LG
☎ 01792 712 888
info@growcymru.org.uk



Come inside and see what is available!



RAINBOWS

Baby & Toddler Group

0's – 3's

Thursdays

9:30am

@ The HUB
City Church Swansea
SA1 1QQ

Groups Just for men





Cooking Course

Learn how to cook for yourself and others!

Every Thursday 12:30pm - 2:30pm

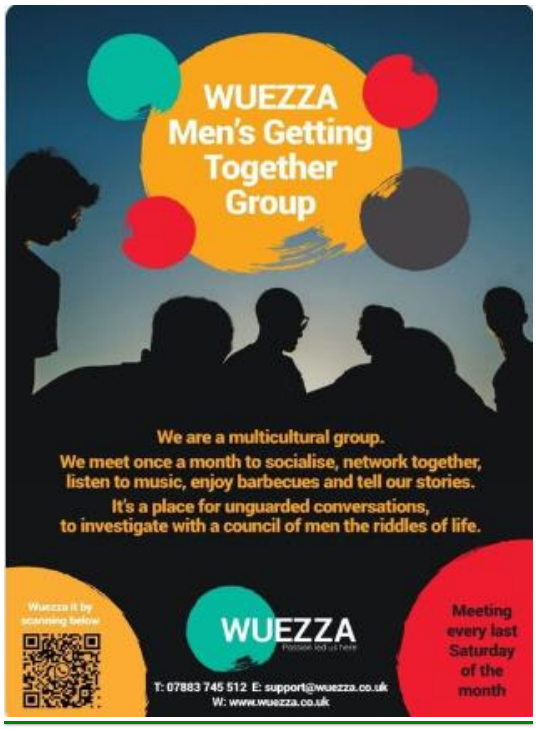
at St. James Parish Centre,
71 Walter Rd, Swansea, SA1 4QA

For men only

Free to attend

Contact 07853717017 to register

SASS
Swansea Asylum Seekers Support



Groups just for Women





Are you interested in studying?

College

- Gower College offers course at A Level and GCSE – FREE for asylum seekers. Look through their website and choose the course you are interested in, then call the admissions office for that course. You DO not need to pay the £50 fee – but you have to speak to someone by phone to authorise this.

University Scholarships

- Swansea University currently offer one Sanctuary Scholarship for a postgraduate taught masters student. Please do keep an eye on our website for details of the scholarship opening for the next academic session: https://www.swansea.ac.uk/money-campuslife/sanctuary-scholarship/.

- The STAR network's database of scholarships here, these are all over the UK, so you might not be able to apply depending on your Home Office situation. Please

speak to EYST, WRC or your lawyer to check. https://star-network.org.uk/access-to-university/scholarships/.

- The Open Futures Sanctuary Scholarship provides the opportunity for new, UK-resident students who have been displaced from their homeland or place of residence for political, economic, ethnic, environmental, or human rights pressures, to study for free. Sanctuary Scholarship | Open University

Funding for study materials

- There are a number of charitable organisations offering support for refugees and asylum seekers too. One such organisation is the Ruth Hayman trust and we have had a few students successfully achieve a scholarship form this organisation so it is worth looking at: http://www.ruthhaymantrust.org.uk/.

Poetry, performing arts & creativity.

Exiled Ink
magazine

Opportunity for all refugee and migrant writers (stories, poetry) - for more information read down!

- Exiled Writers Ink is proud to be one of the Literary Consultancy's partners and we are currently accepting submissions for the Scheme from those with refugee and migrant backgrounds.
- The Scheme is an opportunity for talented, low-income writers to receive professional feedback on their work. This will be a long, detailed report.
- Please now send your poetry or short stories or novels or play extracts to Exiled Writers Ink. exiledwritersink@gmail.com
- We will assess it for quality and then forward it to The Literary Consultancy.
- Send in a 12 size font and double spaced, except for poetry.



Grand Ambition is a theatre company based at Swansea Grand Theatre, right in the heart of our city.
We want to get to know our neighbours better and find out what culture means
to all of Swansea's communities.
We tell Swansea stories, and we want to engage with and create opportunities
for people from all backgrounds.
We'd love to meet to share ideas and stories, to help us all connect through culture.
For more information contact Richard Mylan richard@grandambition.wales 07936798340

Cyngor Abertawe Swansea Council
Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru Arts Council of Wales
ARIENNIR GAN Y LOTERI LOTTERY FUNDED
GRAND

Free English Classes

These are informal Free English classes you can join at any time:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Family learning class, with creche, 0945-1215, African Community Centre (ACC)	Beginners' Conversation Class, ACC, 10-12		UiD (Unity in Diversity) beginners class 10-11am York Place Baptist Church, York Street SA1 3LZ	WRC **Zoom**, 930-1030, mixed levels up to intermediate	SASS all levels, 12-1pm at York Place Baptist Church, York Street, SA1 3LZ (followed by a social drop-in until 3pm and includes a FAN group at 120).
FAN (Friends & Neighbours) 10.30-11.30 Informal conversation group; York Place Baptist Church, York Street SA1 3LZ	Mixed levels, focusing on IT skills, ACC, 1215-245	FAN **Zoom** meeting 4-5pm	WRC **Zoom**, 930-1030, mixed levels up to intermediate	GROW Cymru: Women only beginners class 10.30-12.30; Unit 12, St David's Shopping Centre, SA1 3LG	
WRC (Welsh Refugee Council) **Zoom**, 130-230, mixed levels up to intermediate	Swansea University intermediate **Zoom** class 3-4pm	Swansea University beginners **Zoom** class 4-5pm	Swansea University intermediate **Zoom** class 4-5pm	SASS intermediate **Zoom** class 2-3pm	
Swansea University beginners **Zoom** class 3-4pm		SASS advanced **Zoom** class 450-550pm	SASS advanced **Zoom** class 5.30-6.30pm	Swansea University beginners **Zoom** class 4-5pm	
SASS (Swansea Asylum Seekers Support) beginners **Zoom** class 5-6 pm	SASS advanced **Zoom** class 5-6pm	SASS Women's **Zoom** group 6-7pm	UiD intermediate class 5.45-7pm, York Place Baptist Church, York Street, SA1 3LZ (part of a social drop in that starts at 4pm)	SASS all levels 4-5pm, St James Church, Walter Road, SA1 4QF (followed by a social drop in until 7pm, with a FAN group at 5.30pm	SASS advanced **Zoom** class 7-8pm

HOW TO JOIN THE CLASSES

Swansea University beginners/intermediate classes – use this link below to register:
https://tinyurl.com/2p86cb7e

Pre- intermediate and Upper-intermediate Free classes at Swansea University (face to face): contact elts@swansea.ac.uk

For SASS classes: contact George on 07719876193 or georgefw1@gmail.com

For UiD classes: contact David on 07431294145 or jendavebrowell@gmail.com

For Grow Cymru: classes contact Yvonne on 0791865675 or info@growcymru.org.uk

For FAN: contact Philippa on 07938978397 or philippa.wisdom@thefancharity.org

For the African Community Centre: use the link below to register, or contact Chizobam on 07826596900 or chizobam@africancommunitycentre.org.uk
docs.google.com/forms/d/1FylEaf-Go8sxW0rm8UYYqBbYWMq-KFCh-19LqNVUX4Q/edit

For the Welsh Refugee Council, use this link below to register:
https://forms.office.com/r/DE3xeAgYHK

For formal English classes through college, you must make an appointment for an assessment:

REACH Swansea | Scheduling and Booking Website (simplybook.it)

Please call Charlotte if you want help booking your appointment.

Are you interested in Volunteering?

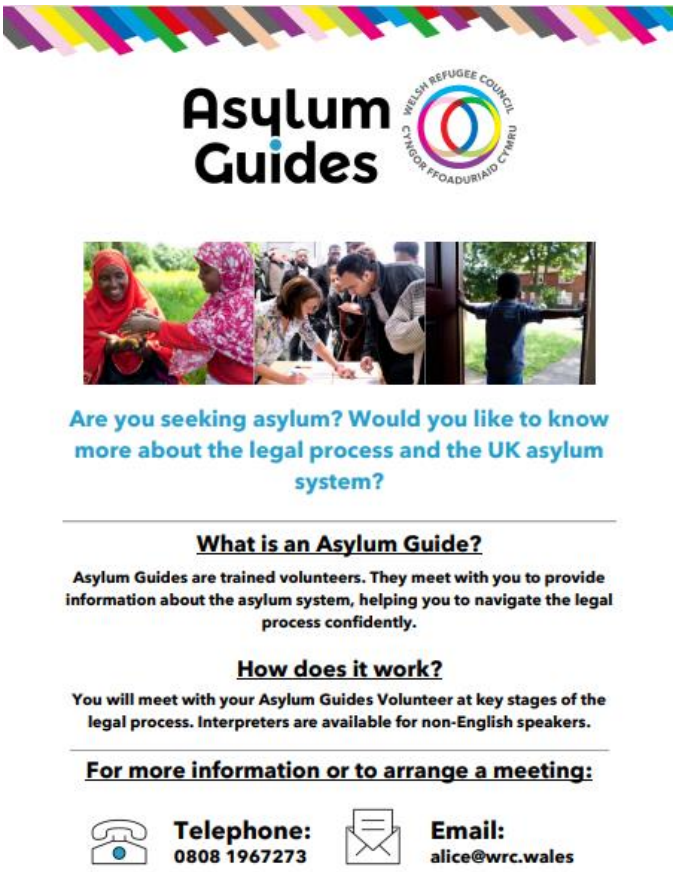


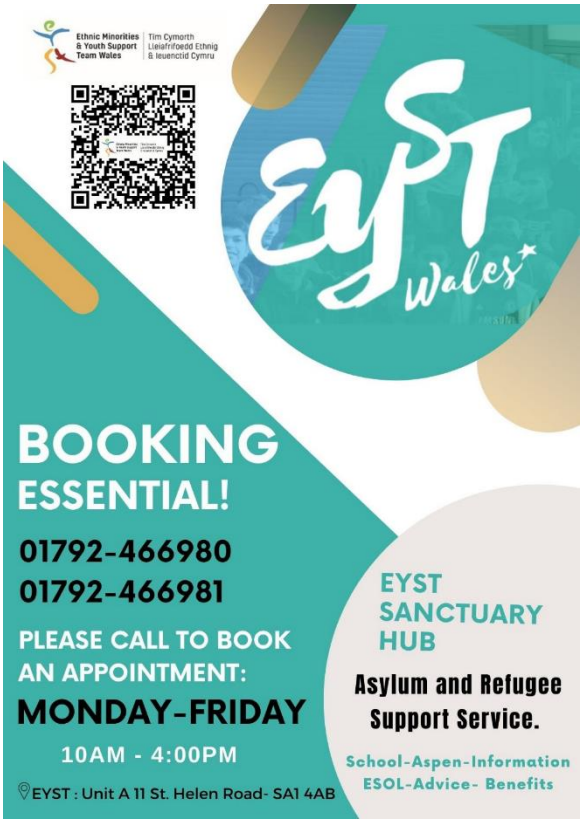
With information on local opportunities, Swansea Volunteer Centre can provide all the support you need to start volunteering - one to one advice and guidance, face to face, by phone or email. Get in touch.

Tel: 01792 544000 / Email: volunteering@scvs.org.uk / Whilst we are currently working remotely, we can offer appointments over the phone or via Zoom – Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

Please call Charlotte if you want help booking your appointment.

Do you need expert advice and support?





CYNGOR FFOADURIAID CYMRU
WELSH REFUGEE COUNCIL

Book an appointment

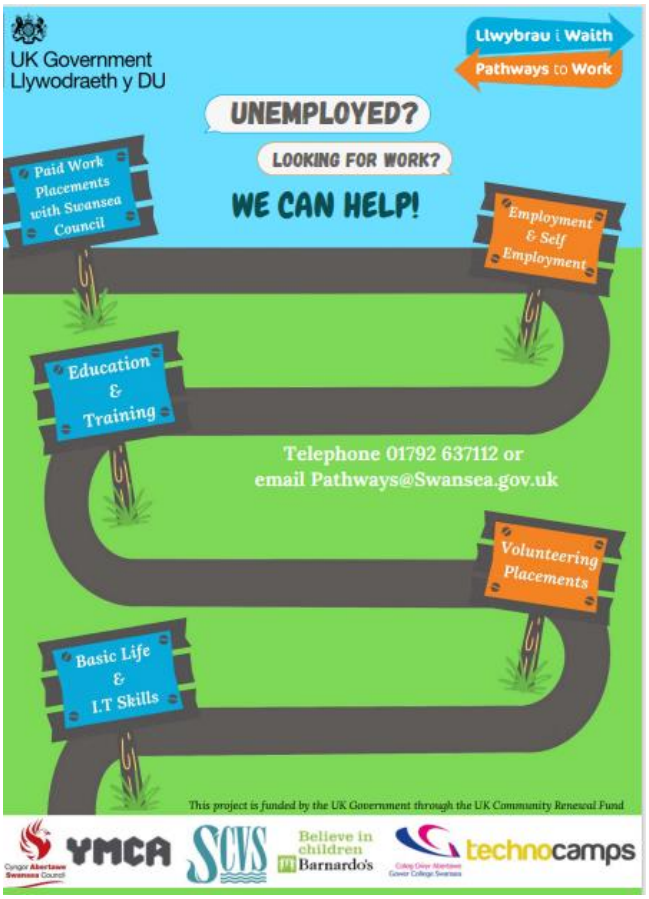
We provide face-to-face appointments in our offices on:

Mondays – 10:00 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 15:00.
Tuesdays – 10:00 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 15:00.
Wednesdays – CLOSED
Thursdays – 10:00 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 15:00.
Fridays – 10:00 – 13:00, **we are CLOSED in the afternoon.**
Saturday – CLOSED
Sunday – CLOSED



[Get Support - Welsh Refugee Council (wrc.wales)]

Are you a Refugee?





Move On Service

Just over half of asylum seekers are granted refugee status. However, they then are given just 28 days to leave asylum accommodation and find housing, employment and means to support themselves.

During this time, homelessness becomes a real possibility. Our Move On Team provides crucial support in this period.

Between 2021-2022 the Move-On service held 2,232 face to face sessions helping **1,296** newly granted applicants and their families.





Better Welcome to Swansea Staff – Contact Us



I'm Charlotte – I can help by connecting you with people and groups in Swansea - we have a team of volunteers who can show you around the city. I can also help you start volunteering or tell you about organisations who will help with different types of support from food, to housing, English classes, Home Office letters, study and so on. I look forward to meeting you. Please call and leave me a message or email me.

Tel: 07952 785127

Email: Charlotte_davies@scvs.org.uk

Emergency Contact details

URGENT

IF YOU ARE A REFUSED ASYLUM SEEKER, OR YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS

THERE IS HELP AVAILABLE

SUPPORT:

EYST Sanctuary Team, SA1 4AB
01792 466980
Advice / Rights

Share Tawe, SA1 4AB
07519 551192
Temporary Accommodation

Red Cross
01633 245759
Financial / Material Support

Swansea Asylum Seeker Support
07853 717017
Community Support / Food

Unity in Diversity
07531 294145
Community Support / Food

FREE FOOD:

Matthew's House, SA1 1LW
07708115903
Monday 11.30 - 13.45
Tuesday 11.30 - 13.45
Sunday 19.00 - 20.45

Zac's Place, SA1 4HH
Friday 11.30 - 13.00

Missionaries of Charity, SA1 2AW
01792 463107
Wednesday 15.00 - 16.00
Friday 15.00 - 16.00
Sunday 15.00 - 16.00

St Marys Church, SA1 3LP
01792 655489
Wednesday 09.30 - 13.00 (takeaway meal)

St Thomas Church, SA1 8BP
01792 455671
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday 10.00 - 13.00
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 09.00 - 13.00
Saturday 09.00 - 12.00