

Brass News



Welcome to the latest news from Bedford Refugee and Asylum Seeker Support.

We have left summer behind and are heading towards the end of the year. You can read about what happened on the **summer coach trip** in this newsletter. You can also find out about the **Christmas Party in December**.

You can also read about the ways that we can help you with welfare benefits. If you are having trouble filling in forms or getting the benefits you need, we are here to help. Finally, we are very excited to tell you about the new **Brass allotment**. Sign up to help out below.

We would all like to say a huge thank you for making this a very successful year at Brass.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Brian Cunningham, Brass Coordinator

Christmas Party!

On Saturday 20th December, we will have our annual Christmas party. It's a fun, family event with lots of food, games and music. Everyone is welcome, so bring your family and friends.
Details: St Peter's Church, Bedford, MK40 2TX, 12:30pm-4pm, 20th December.
More details: **email Brian** at brian@brass27b.org.uk or ask at the office.

Family Reunion Help in Luton

Do you need help to reunite your family? If you are a refugee, we can help you.

Where: Luton Campus of the University of Bedfordshire, University Square, Luton LU1 3JU
When: Tuesdays, 6.30pm to 8.30 pm.

How: Call 0158 274 3880 or email 2014RLAP@gmail.com

Women's Group

Our Women's Group is a great way to make friends and learn new skills. New women are welcome at every session, and you can bring your children too. Just come along!

If you have questions, Glen is happy to help. Email her on glen@brass27b.org, phone, or visit the office.

Meetings are the last Thursday of every month (except December) so join us in January!
Come along 10:30 am—12pm in the Brass offices.

New Allotment. We need you!

Brass has recently got our first allotment in Allen Park, Queen's Park, Bedford. Take a look at the photo! At the minute it is very overgrown. We need your help to clear it out, so that we can plant flowers and vegetables.



Can you help? **If you can help for a few hours, we would love to hear from you.** You do not need to have any experience in gardening!

To get involved, contact Brian at brian@brass27b.org or on 01234 211381



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Spotlight on Benefits with Sanja

Sanja is here to help, every Tuesday, 12:30—5:30pm.

We offer free help with welfare benefits for all refugees and asylum seekers.

It only takes few minutes to check whether you can claim benefits, or whether your current benefits are correct.

The Government has made major changes to benefits recently. This means that if you currently receive benefits, the amount you get and how you get them may have changed.

If you have any questions please make an appointment. These are held every Tuesdays between 12:30—5:30pm.

Appointments can be arranged by calling 01234 211381.

Summer Coach Trip Success!

Our annual coach trip to Hunstanton Beach in August was a huge success. 65 people from 7 countries came along and everyone had a lovely day.

Two families had never seen the sea before! They found it very exciting. We had a picnic on the green and some people even paddled in the sea.

We are very happy that everybody enjoyed themselves. Next year, we hope to have an additional trip so that even more people can come along.

Can you see your family in the photographs below?

AGM

Thank you to everyone who attended the Annual General Meeting. We hope you found it very interesting.

Tom Daly from Migrant Help, The High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, and Richard Fuller MP came along to speak.

Victoria received flowers to say thank you for all her hard work this year. Thank you!



Keep in touch!

Contact Brass in the following ways:

Call: 01234 211381

Email: brian@brass27b.org or glen@brass27b.org

Visit: 27b Tavistock St, Bedford, MK40 2RB

Facebook: Refugee Week Bedford