

Winter 2022/2023



Our Mission Statement

We create together a comfortable and welcoming space especially for people who are seeking asylum or are refugees.

We offer friendship and support and respond quickly to immediate needs.

Working together, we try to ensure that dignity is maintained, hope is not lost and justice is pursued.

Getting back to normal

Space4U is buzzing again! Attendance has been growing steadily since we had to close due to the pandemic and we are now seeing a large number of people each week across all our activities.

It's lovely to see familiar faces returning and being able to give warm welcomes and time to newcomers.

Sister Ruth

It's over a year since we said our fond farewells to Sister Ruth. Ruth started Space4U in 2007 and had the vision of what the organisation became. Over the years she helped and made a difference to very many asylum seekers and refugees. She was loved by so many and she is sorely missed.

Ruth is now in Manchester, using her experience and knowledge to continue supporting people seeking sanctuary.



Art activities

On Mondays Susan treats us all to an art activity. Will it be painting, pottery, drawing? Each week there's a new activity for us all to enjoy.



Hot food

We are pleased that we can now offer hot food in the afternoon. Sitting together and sharing food gives such a sense of community. We thank our chefs for sharing their cooking skills.



Food

The food store team continues to give out food and toiletries to those in need. Thankfully people who need help can now come into Space4U and seeing them face to face helps both us and them. We give food and toiletries to 5-7 people a week on average. The reasons they need our help vary but we have noticed recently that some are struggling to stretch their money due to the escalation in food costs.

Clothing

There is an increasing demand for clothing. Eileen has a team of volunteers who sort and distribute clothes. Each Monday morning about 30 families come and choose clothes. It's not always possible to provide what people want. No appointment is needed. At the moment we are short of men's clothes.

Trips out

We have recently had a few trips out. A group of us walked to the museum in Cardiff and enjoyed the natural history and the pictures. We had two trips to No Fit State circus, who generously gave us free tickets. One Saturday in October a coach load of 48 took the trip once again to our friends in Knighton. The Knighton and District Refugee Support Group provided wonderful food, activities, music and dancing. The day was enjoyed by all.



Help and Information

Those with specific problems can get general help and information at Space4U. We try to give people the time to address the issue and we provide individual support.

English classes

We have four English classes a week with 15-20 learners attending each class. These numbers are larger than before the pandemic and we realise how important our classes are, especially to those who have recently arrived.

Barber

There are many satisfied men who make the most of our free barber service. Often men are queuing to have their hair cut!



Finance and donations

Our funding comes solely from individual donations and grants, for which everyone involved is very grateful. We are also grateful to receive many donations of clothes, food and other items.

What Space4U means to those attending:

'I feel like I am coming to where I belong when I come in the door here.'

'Space4U helps all the people the same, not only me, you help every person who comes.'

Space4U meets at the Trinity Centre
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