

# CROSSING BORDERS

## NOTTINGHAM REFUGEE WEEK LAUNCH PARTY

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June  
from 3pm – 10pm

Sycamore Millennium Centre, 31 Hungerhill Road,  
St Anns NG3 4NB



**3pm**

Arts workshops for children & young people

**4.30pm**

Performance competition for children & young people  
A traditional dress fashion show.

**5.30pm**

DJ Karwen with music from the Middle East and Africa

**6.30pm**

Singers & Poets from Iraq, Kurdistan, Iran, South Africa  
and the Congo

**7.30pm**

Banner Theatre "They Get Free Mobile Phones – Don't  
They?"

**9pm**

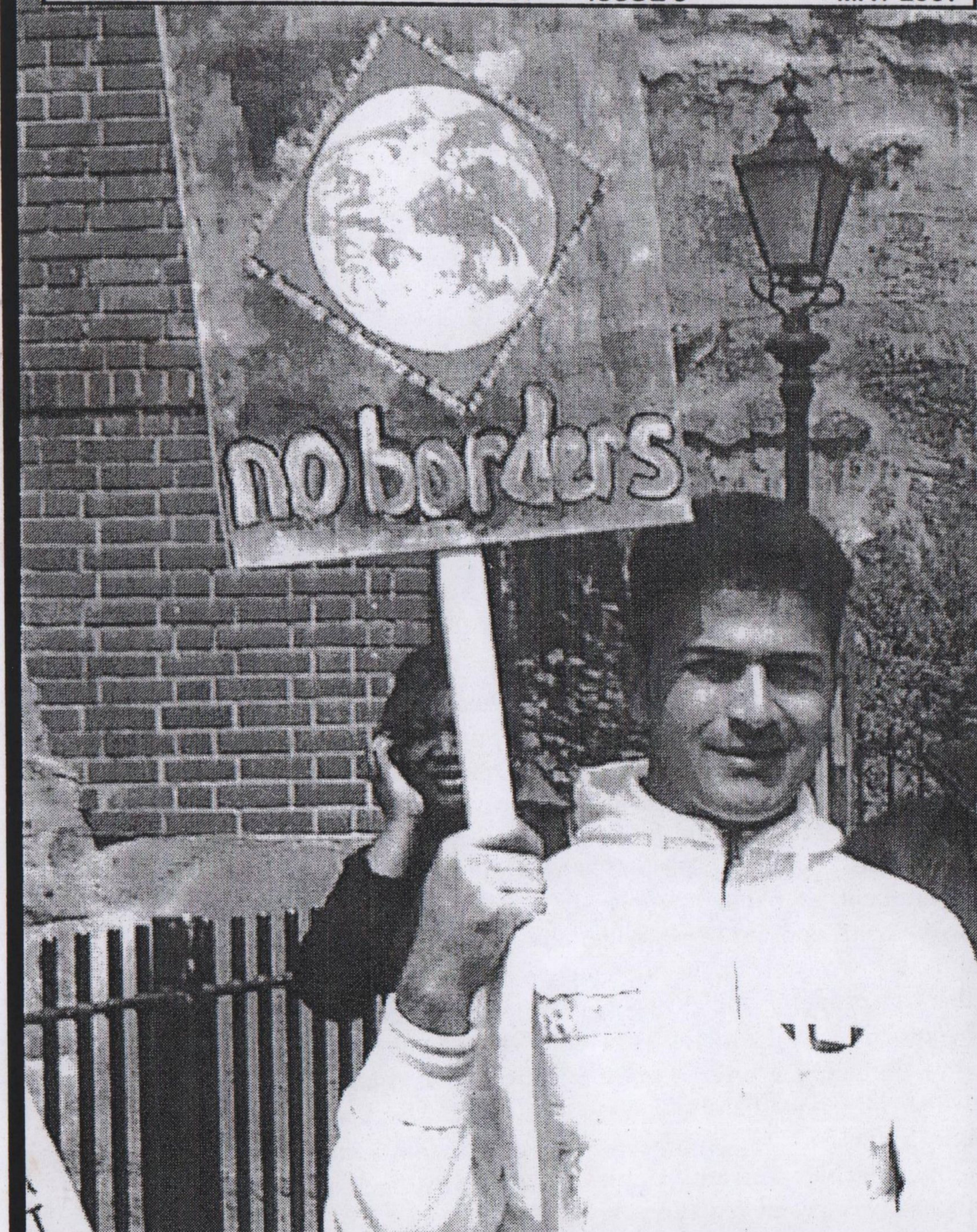
Ngoma – Zimbabwean roots 'n' reggae

# TUSHAURIANE

NEWSLETTER OF NNRF FOOD GROUP

ISSUE 5

MAY 2007



Photograph by Assuman



## NOTTINGHAM WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB

*Photograph by Khani*

This past Saturday, the 26<sup>th</sup> of May saw the birth of Nottingham Wanderers Football Club, a club aimed primarily at refugees and asylum seekers who are looking to meet and make new friends within the city and further afield, and any other who are interested in being a part of this project. Despite the disappointment of having people sign up for the team and not being bothered to turn up, we were able to scrape together a team for the Your Game 2007 football festival which was held at the Southglade leisure Centre in Bestwood. Despite barely having enough numbers to compete, we acquitted ourselves well and the players did themselves proud reaching the 2<sup>nd</sup> round and getting knocked out by an

unlucky last minute goal. The 1<sup>st</sup> round of this competition consisted of 19 teams pooled into five groups of four teams and one of three. We won our 1<sup>st</sup> game comfortably (3-0), but the next two games proved a lot tougher with our players now tiring due to the limited squad of six players that we were able to come up with. We lost our 2<sup>nd</sup> game 1-0, conceding in the 2<sup>nd</sup> last minute. The 3<sup>rd</sup> game was woeful, losing 3-0. However, with our 3 points, we managed to squeeze into the 2<sup>nd</sup> round as one of the best 3<sup>rd</sup> placed teams. The team played with purpose and despite conceding first, we fought our way back into the game with an equaliser.

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The game seemed to be heading for the penalty shootout, when a lapse in concentration led to a goal in the last minute of the game, and thus we were knocked out. As consolation, each player got kit which included shorts, shirts, shin-pads, bibs and socks. This competition also gave us as a team to talk to potential sponsors, namely Football Foundation. We have other sponsors in mind from whom to source funds for footballing kit and expenses that will involve pushing forward with this club, including coaching opportunities. On this note may I point out that this festival was a starting point for us as we seek to build a competitive team that we can enter into the 5-aside and 11-aside power leagues. If you are genuinely interested in playing football and want to meet and make new friends, then this is for you. If you cannot commit to the project then please

**DON'T WASTE  
YOUR EFFORT  
AND OUR TIME**  
by signing up.

If however you feel you are up to it then please feel free to contact myself

**Khani** on  
07859329992 or any  
one of these guys;  
**Joao** 07800963032,  
**Ravi** 07904421939

or  
**Malusi**  
07788852284



*Photograph by Khani*

## No English? No Problem!



**MONDAY**  
**3.00 - 4.30pm**  
**At Refugee Forum**  
**www.nenp.co.uk**



The Aegis Group at Nottingham Trent University in conjunction with Aegis at Nottingham University are organising a weekly walk every Sunday starting at 11.45 a.m. outside the Chaucer Building, Chaucer St (which is between Goldsmith and Clarendon St) for an hour with the aim of ensuring that genocide in Darfur is not forgotten.

Please join in if you possibly can.

# Strangers into Citizens

On bank holiday Monday (7th May), I looked around the crowd and thousands of people gathered in London Trafalgar Square to hear speeches from faith, trade union, and community leaders about the plight of immigrant workers.

The event was the brainchild of London Citizens who have made their name fighting for a living wage among the low-paid cleaners of the City banks and local hospitals. And in case after case they have won. Now their target is the hidden army of migrant workers who have no rights and get ripped off by gang masters and unscrupulous bosses. London Citizens' demand is a simple one - to turn these strangers into citizens.

The rally showed the true face of our capital. The Polish and the Bulgarians mixed with the Caribbeans and the Africans. A roll call of nations from across the globe was greeted by cheers from all. The Labour deputy leadership candidate Jon Cruddas and Dave Prentis from Unison provided the political recognition that some at least are listening and care.

The demand is that migrants who have been here four years should be given a two-year work permit. If they work hard and play by the rules they stay. This is both fair and good for the economy and the country as we start to get tax revenues from them. Instead of undercutting other people's pay they can demand the minimum wage. It's win, win, win.

wondered what it must be like being a stranger in a big city like London. To come here illegally because of economic necessity and desperation. To want to work hard and make your way but live in fear of the knock on the door. To want to start a family and settle down, to grow roots and belong. To want desperately to feel like everyone else. And what legal option do we give people? To steal or starve!

Globalisation cannot be turned back but why is it only a globalisation for the rich, why is it capital that is free and not people? There are no easy answers but the gap that is growing between a rich elite who benefit from special tax status and the rest is becoming more than just uncomfortable.

Britain is benefiting massively from the energy and talent of migrant workers. The economy would no longer function without them. Regularisation of their work and status should now be examined by the government. London Citizens want to build the pressure to make that happen.

Yesterday thousands of fellow human beings were given what we all prize most - recognition. They were able to assert their right to be more than cheap cogs in a business wheel. If enough determined people try to make something happen - then it will. These strangers will become citizens.

*Edited from The Guardian 08.05.07*

## 'Legacy' Cases

In July 2006 the Home Secretary stated that there were around 450,000 asylum claims on which no decision had been made. To deal with these a Legacy Directory was created within the next 5 years.

### What is a 'legacy' case?

A case in which all of the following apply:

- There has been a claim for asylum
- Home Office records indicate there has been no conclusion /decision
- Case is not being dealt with by the New Asylum Model

The Home Office has so far not provided clear information about legacy cases.

Legacy is not an 'amnesty' exercise for granting indefinite leave to remain. Only if the asylum seeker's circumstances meet existing criteria for a grant of leave to remain will it be granted by the Home Office.

For more details ask for ILPA information sheet on 'Legacy Cases'

PUBLIC MEETING

## The Case for Open Borders

TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 7pm

The Square Centre, Alfred Street North

Speaker: Teresa Hayter - writer, activist & author of 'Open Borders'

Migration is the most politically charged issue in the UK today. On one side, the campaign to defend asylum rights: on the other, a policy of deterrence ~ destitution, detention and forced deportation. Refugee organisations call for the reform of the asylum system - for 'humanitarian' immigration controls that protect the rights of asylum seekers. For Teresa Hayter and other advocates of 'open borders', immigration controls are unjustified, ineffective and racist. This is a controversial view but Refugee Week is an ideal opportunity to discuss these issues. Contact: Rob on 07958 732450

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

## MAY DAY PROTEST

This year's Mayday march and rally, which were again organized by Nottingham Refugee Campaign Group, had more stalls, more banners and placards and more participating organizations. It did much to publicize asylum seekers' issues and raise the profile of groups supporting them.

Fortunately May 5th was rain-free and sunny most of the time. Lead by drumming global groove merchants, the Mapperley May Hoppers, the march set off about 12.45 pm, leaving Brewhouse Yard by the Castle Boulevard entrance and heading up Maid Marion Way.

In 2007 we celebrate England's abolition of slavery, yet we live in a capitalist economy founded on another form of exploitation - the low-waged labour of immigrants, both legal and illegal. Asylum seekers, who are painted as scroungers by the popular press, are not allowed to work. This year, Mayday supported asylum seekers' demand for the right to work.

The march made an unscheduled stop in Old Market Square for some

# THE RIGHT TO WORK FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS



*Volunteers from NNRF Anti Destitution Group joined the May Day protest March, supporting asylum seekers' demand for the right to work.*

*Photograph by Assuman*

drumming from the the Mapperley May Hoppers; they made a further drumming/photo-opportunity stop by the statue of Robin Hood in Castle Road.

This year, Mayday hosted the **International Music Festival**, so back at Brewhouse Yard we could listen to **Ngoma** from Zimbabwe, songs of protest and rebellion from the 1st of May Band and musicians from Kurdistan and Iran. The music was interspersed with speeches from the Samson Ake Campaign, representatives of refugees from the DRC, Defy-ID, the Refugee Campaign Group and the Public and Commercial Services Union, currently in a national dispute. Houzan Mahmoud, international representative of the Organisation of Women's Freedom in Iraq ([www.equalityiniraq.com](http://www.equalityiniraq.com)), also spoke about conditions for women and workers in Iraq.

## Solicitors, Not answering your calls, bad representation!!

National Campaign Against Detention Centres (NCADC) receive calls everyday from detainees/refused asylum seekers complaining that their solicitors will not return calls or have not lodged legal papers with the courts or have abandoned them, demanding more money or too much money, etc., etc.

The Law Society has a legal complaints service, to which you can make a complaint about bad service. There is a formal procedure listed below.

However, if you are in detention/facing imminent removal and your solicitor is not returning your calls, and you do not have the time to write; you can ring the Legal Complaints Service helpline 0845 608 6565.

### Legal Complaints Service

The Legal Complaints Service (LCS) investigates complaints about solicitors. They handle over 300 calls a day on a range of legal complaints. They have a dedicated staff of 390 helping you to resolve your complaint.

[www.legalcomplaints.org.uk/home.page](http://www.legalcomplaints.org.uk/home.page)

### Complain about your solicitor - first steps

You should complain to your solicitor about poor service or their bill before you contact us.

### It is likely that you've received poor service from your solicitor if they've

- ◆ not done what you instructed them to do
- ◆ involved you in unreasonable delays
- ◆ given you inaccurate or incomplete information
- ◆ failed to reply to your phone calls and letters or keep you informed about what is going on
- ◆ failed to give you enough information about what they'll charge you before they begin your case or give you the final bill

### All firms of solicitors have a procedure for handling complaints.

If you need help to complain to your solicitor, call LCS helpline- 0845 608 6565 Monday to Friday 8:00am to 6:00pm. Calls are charged at local rates.

If you've complained to your solicitor about poor service or about their bill, and you aren't satisfied with your solicitor's response, the Law Society can help to resolve your complaint for you.

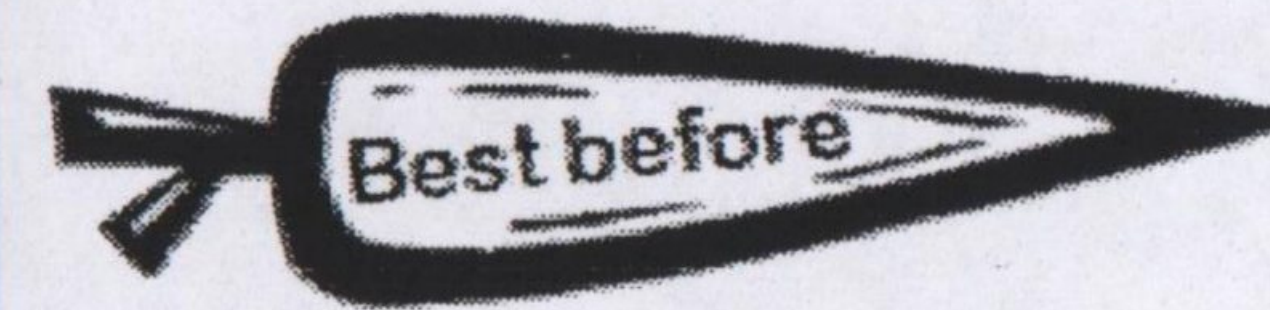
### See also: Legal Aid funding limits:

Asylum applicants whose solicitors are funded by Legal Aid and who are left without legal representation after a refusal or a failed appeal

[www.ncadc.org.uk/resources/legalaidlimits.html](http://www.ncadc.org.uk/resources/legalaidlimits.html)

We often get asked, what's the difference between the "best before" and the "use by" dates on food packaging.

Below is details from the Food Standards website that explains the difference.



'Best before' dates appear on a wide range of frozen, dried, tinned and other foods.

The 'best before' dates are more about quality than safety, so when the date runs out it doesn't mean that the food will be harmful, but it might begin to lose its flavour and texture.

However, you shouldn't eat eggs after the 'best before' date. This is because eggs can contain salmonella bacteria, which could start to multiply after this date.

And remember, the 'best before' date will only be accurate if the food is stored according to the instructions on the label, such as 'store in a cool dry place' or 'keep in the fridge once opened'.

So, if you want to enjoy the food at its best, use it by its 'best before' date and make sure you follow any instructions.



You will see 'use by' dates on food that goes off quickly, such as smoked fish, meat products and ready-prepared salads.

Don't use any food or drink after the end of the 'use by' date on the label, even if it looks and smells fine. This is because using it after this date could put your health at risk.

For the 'use by' date to be a valid guide, you must follow carefully storage instructions such as 'keep in a refrigerator'. If you don't follow these instructions, the food will spoil more quickly and you may risk food poisoning.

**'Use by' does not always mean 'eat by'. If a food can be frozen its life can be extended beyond the 'use by' date.**

But make sure you follow any instructions on the pack - such as 'freeze on day of purchase', 'cook from frozen' or 'defrost thoroughly before use and use within 24 hours'.

It's also important you follow any instructions for cooking and preparation shown on the label.

Once a food with a 'use by' date on it has been opened, you also need to follow any instructions such as 'eat within a week of opening'.

But if the 'use by' date is tomorrow, then you must use the food by the end of tomorrow, even if you only opened it today.

**Food Standards Agency**  
<http://www.eatwell.gov.uk/foodlabels/>

# Nottingham Refugee Week 2007

## 16th - 24th June

Nottingham City is home to a vibrant and diverse population that includes 65 refugee nationalities that have fled repressive regimes. Each individual and group offers a wealth of talent, skills and fresh ideas that contribute significantly to the economic and cultural life of the city.

Rather than demonising and excluding refugees and migrants we should recognise that each successive wave - from Ireland throughout the last century, and South Asia and the Caribbean since the 50s (to name but a few) - have touched us all, challenged our perceptions and enriched the whole of society.

Contrary to popular belief no one wants to be a refugee in a strange land, but sometimes people have to run from their homes because they are facing torture, imprisonment or even death. People who are persecuted are faced with no choice but to flee their countries, and only a tiny proportion of these people come to the UK.

**Refugee Week is a UK wide festival that celebrates the great contribution made by refugees to UK life and promotes understanding of why people become refugees. Every year hundreds of arts, cultural and educational events are organised across the UK.**

### FREE EVENT SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE MUSIC WORKSHOP

#### Putting Down Roots Life, Land, Music

A music workshop exploring our relationship with the land run by James & Gaylan who will be sharing songs & music from around the world. Free food & transport.

Eco-works, Hungerhill Allotments,  
St Anns.

Transport from The Square Centre,  
Alfred Street North at 1pm

Time: 1pm - 5pm

Contact: Becky on 07963 505429 /  
[rbeinart@hotmail.com](mailto:rbeinart@hotmail.com)

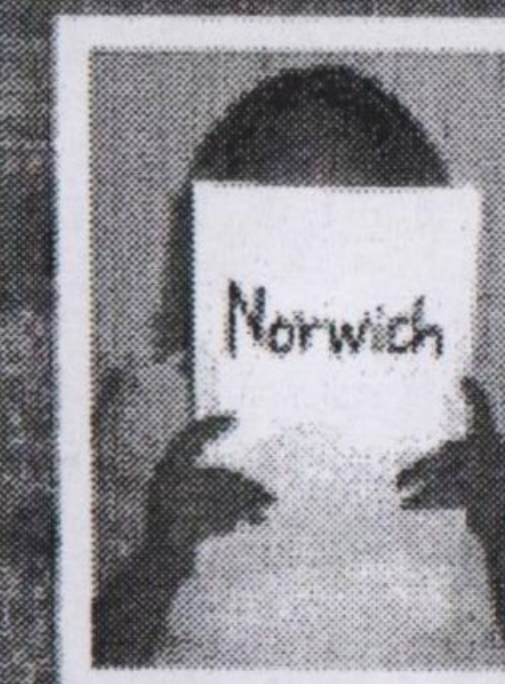
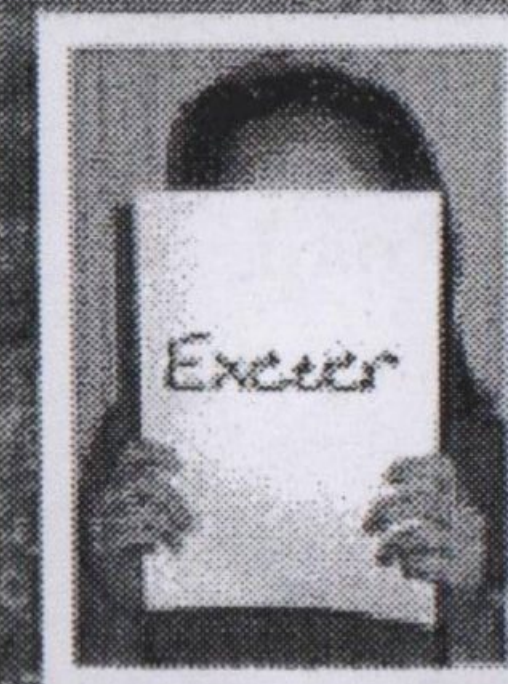
### FREE EVENT SATURDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE FAMILY ARTS PARTY

A fantastic afternoon of arts activities, food, music, things to make and take, face painting, fun photos, games, toys and more for all the family. Baby-changing mat available, space to feed babies, and lots of toys and games for children aged 0+. Everyone welcome. No need to book. A great opportunity to meet new friends. We look forward to welcoming you, your children and friends and hope you enjoy a relaxing, arty afternoon.

Venue: Angel Row Gallery, 1<sup>st</sup>  
Floor Central Library, Angel Row.

Time: 1pm - 4pm

Contact: 0115 915 2867



## Asylum Monologues

THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 7pm

An account of the harsh realities of the UK asylum system told first-hand in the words of the people who have experienced it. Performed by *Actors for Refugees* and scripted by award-winning playwright and Artistic Director of *Ice and Fire Theatre Company*, Sonja Linden, it is an important and powerful work which features live music and different guest actors and musicians. For more information about *Actors for Refugees* [www.iceandfire.co.uk/actorsforrefugees](http://www.iceandfire.co.uk/actorsforrefugees)

Venue: Vine Community Centre, Bobbersmill Road, Hyson  
Green, NG7 5GZ

Contact: Hajar Sadoon - 0115 9415952 / 07810 637476