

# Network!

February 2007

## News and Information for Refugees in Nottingham

### Signing at Loughborough? - information about travel tickets

If you have to report to the Immigration Service at Loughborough Reporting Centre, **remember that you will only be given return tickets back to Nottingham (or tickets to your next signing date) if you ask for them.** If you don't ask, then they probably won't give you tickets!

We've also been told that if you visit the Loughborough reporting centre with a friend, then they will probably not be allowed into the centre with you — they will probably have to wait outside instead!

### Advice on work and training at the Forum!

Do you need help applying for jobs? John is running a weekly advice session at Refugee Forum, providing information and advice about training and employment every Thursday morning. Contact reception to make an appointment.

#### **Training for job applications and interviews**

John will also be running three FREE training sessions at Refugee Forum -

Tuesday 6 March (2-4pm) Interview Skills Training

Tuesday 13 March (2-4pm) Writing a CV

Tuesday 20 March (2-4pm) Application forms

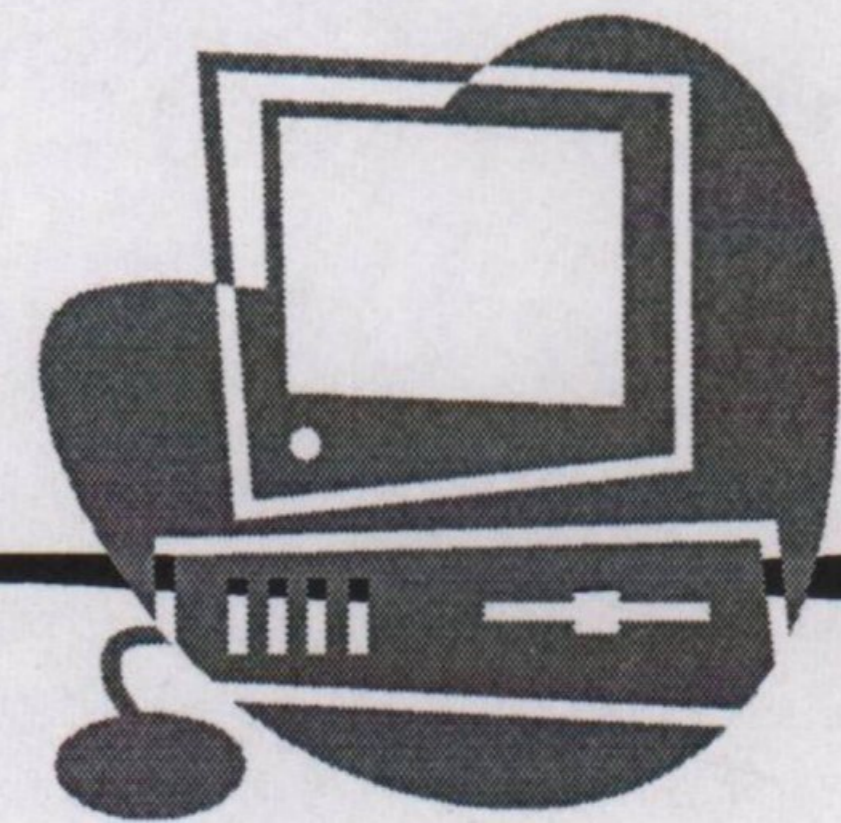
Contact reception to book a place on any of the training sessions.

#### **Saturday Social event at the Forum**

An opportunity to make new friends, talk to people from other countries and listen to music...

**Social events take place every Saturday evening at Nottingham Refugee Forum, from 6pm till late.** Just turn up and enjoy yourself!

For more information contact Karwan on 7809152344



#### **Computer Drop-in**

For people who would like to improve their computer skills, there is a FREE computer class every Wednesday at the Forum, where you can get help to improve your Microsoft Word or Excel skills.

You don't need to have an appointment, you can just drop in!

If you are interested, please come to Refugee Forum, any time between 10am and 12 noon on a Wednesday.

## Changes to Section 4 Accommodation

NASS have set up new contracts with Section 4 accommodation providers. This means that Section 4 accommodation will now be provided by only 2 companies, Refugee Housing and Priority Properties. NASS say that they are doing this because there were problems with some of the Section 4 accommodation and that it would be easier for them to work with a smaller number of accommodation companies. We have heard however that Priority Properties will also be sub-contracting to a third company called Refugee Care.

**What does this mean for you?** If you live in Section 4 housing, then you should receive a letter which will tell you who your accommodation provider is; you may need to move house or you may be able to stay in your current house. Some people may receive a letter asking them to prove that they are still entitled to Section 4 support.

If you need any help or advice about your Section 4 house, please come and ask at one of the drop-in advice sessions at Refugee Forum (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons).

### New social evening for young people

The Children's Society are running weekly social events for cooking, music, games, fitness training and more.

Visit the People's Centre on the corner of Alfreton Road and Hartley Road, **every Tuesday 6-9pm.**

### Refugee Community Network

All are welcome to the Refugee Community Network, which meets on the second Tuesday of every month.

The meetings are an opportunity to exchange news and information and to talk about some of the issues that affect refugees and asylum seekers in Nottingham.

The next meeting will take place on **Saturday 10 March at 2pm** - one of the main issues will be the government's proposals to remove funding for asylum seekers' ESOL classes.

All are welcome — we hope to see you there.

### International Women's Day is coming!

To mark International Women's Day, Refugee Forum will be holding a FREE event for women and children only on **Friday 9 March, from 11am until 2pm.**

There will be food and refreshments and a women-only advice worker will be available. We hope there will also be arts and crafts and an opportunity to use the computers. Look out for more information in Refugee Forum...



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