



NORTH EAST  
ARTS & CULTURE  
FOR PEOPLE  
SEEKING  
SANCTUARY

ENGLISH

**COMPANY  
OF OTHERS**

JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2026

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# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 5th edition of our Sanctuary & Culture booklet! Inside you'll find arts and culture activities in the North East of England for Refugees and People Seeking Sanctuary.

There are regular activities that range from dance and art, to gardening and cooking, as well as one-time events.

Everything in this booklet is free to attend.

## ABOUT COMPANY OF OTHERS

Company of Others is a Dance Company of Sanctuary based in Walker, Newcastle.

Our aim for the booklet is to help People Seeking Sanctuary in the North East access the arts and culture offer of our region more easily.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us if you have any questions about the booklet or any of the information included.

✉ [community@companyofothers.org.uk](mailto:community@companyofothers.org.uk) ☎ 0770 847 0477

📘 Company of Others 📷 @company\_of\_others 🌐 [companyofothers.org.uk](http://companyofothers.org.uk)

# COMPANY OF OTHERS

# ACTIVITIES

## **ART/CRAFT/CREATIVE ACTIVITIES**

This section includes activities that take place regularly, related to art, crafts and creativity.

## **WELLBEING DROP-IN**

*With 'The Comfrey Project'*

A slow paced, relaxing drop-in session focused on health and wellbeing. Take part in nature-based activities in a calm, quiet, and creative space.

**WHEN/** Every Wednesday, 10:30am-12:30pm

**WHERE/** The Comfrey Project, Windmill Hills Centre, Chester Pl, Gateshead NE8 1QB

**FOOD/** Provided

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**TRANSLATORS/** Provided upon request

**ACCESS/** All on one level / garden accessible to everyone

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, no need to book

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 447 7801 ✉ [info@thecomfreyproject.org.uk](mailto:info@thecomfreyproject.org.uk)

## **ABOUT THE COMFREY PROJECT**

*The Comfrey Project is a place where refugees and people who are seeking asylum can come to learn new skills, share what they know with others, and start to build a better life.*

## CULTURE HUB

*With 'The Comfrey Project'*

Gardening, multicultural arts & crafts, and a shared lunch. A friendly space to meet others and celebrate cultural traditions together.

**WHEN/** Every Friday, 10:30am-2:30pm

**WHERE/** The Comfrey Project, Gateshead NE8 1QB

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**TRANSLATORS/** Provided upon request

**ACCESS/** All on one level / garden accessible to everyone

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, no need to book

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 447 7801 ✉ info@thecomfreyproject.org.uk

## WORLD WRITES

*With 'New Writing North'*

A multilingual creative writing group for people aged 16+ who speak English as another language.

**WHEN/** Every Monday (during school term time), 4:30-6:30pm

**WHERE/** John Marley Centre, Muscott Grove NE15 6TT

**ACCESS/** Step-free access

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, or get in touch to sign up

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 204 8850 ✉ johislop@newwritingnorth.com

## ABOUT NEW WRITING NORTH

*New Writing North leads the development of creative writing and reading in the North of England.*

## SEWING GROUP

*With 'Walking With'*

A vibrant sewing group where creativity meets community.

**WHEN/** Every Monday, 10:30am-12pm

**WHERE/** The Walking With Centre, Hugh St, Wallsend NE28 6RL

**ACCESS/** Step-free access to entrance

**HOW TO JOIN/** You must be a resident of North Tyneside and registered with Walking With. Get in touch to register

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 649 8974 ✉ info@walkingwith.co.uk

## COMMUNITY SEWING GROUP

*With 'Walking With'*

A community sewing group focused on creating something to celebrate Refugee Week. All welcome.

**WHEN/** Every Friday until 12 June, 10am-12pm

**WHERE/** Wallsend Library, The Forum, Wallsend NE28 8JR

**ACCESS/** Step-free / lift access / automatic doors / hearing loops / accessible toilets / baby changing facilities

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, no need to book

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 649 8974 / 0749 722 1716

✉ info@walkingwith.co.uk

## ABOUT WALKING WITH IN NORTH TYNESIDE

*A drop-in centre that supports people seeking sanctuary living in North Tyneside with a wide range of activities throughout the week.*

## DANCE/MOVEMENT ACTIVITIES

This section includes activities that take place regularly, related to dance and movement.

### MOVING TOGETHER

*With 'Company of Others'*

A movement project for women who are Refugee and Asylum Experienced, and/or of the Global Majority. Connect to your body, be creative, spend time with others and improve mental and physical health through movement.

**WHEN/** Tuesday (every two weeks), 10:30am-12:30pm

**WHERE/** The Bricks, c/o St. Anthony of Egypt Church, Belmont Street, Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 3SN

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**FOOD/** Provided

**TRANSLATORS/** Available

**ACCESS/** Step-free access / accessible toilet / baby-change

**HOW TO JOIN/** Get in touch to register

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 276 1524

✉ [community@companyofothers.org.uk](mailto:community@companyofothers.org.uk)



# WALKER YOUTH DANCE PROJECT

*With 'Company of Others'*

Dance and movement workshops for children to express themselves, build confidence, and feel part of a community.

**WHEN/** Every Monday (During term time):

4-4:30pm (For ages 4-7), 4:30-5:30pm (For ages 7-12)

**WHERE/** The Bricks, Belmont Street, Walker NE6 3SN

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**FOOD/** Snacks and refreshments provided

**TRANSLATORS/** Available

**ACCESS/** Step-free access / accessible toilet

**HOW TO JOIN/** Get in touch to register. Registration essential

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 276 1524

✉ [community@companyofothers.org.uk](mailto:community@companyofothers.org.uk)

# WALKER YOUTH DANCE PROJECT 12-17S

Dance and movement training with professional artists for young people aged 12-17 years to learn technique and explore choreography in a supportive space.

**WHEN/ Ballet:** Every Tuesday (During term time), 4:30-6:30pm

**Contemporary:** Every Thursday (During term time), 5-7pm

**WHERE/** The Bricks, Belmont Street, Walker NE6 3SN

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**FOOD/** Snacks and refreshments provided

**TRANSLATORS/** Available

**ACCESS/** Step-free access / accessible toilet

**HOW TO JOIN/** Get in touch to register. Registration essential

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 276 1524

✉ [community@companyofothers.org.uk](mailto:community@companyofothers.org.uk)

## FOOD/COOKING ACTIVITIES

This section includes activities that take place regularly, related to making food and cooking.

## WOMEN'S ONLY KITCHEN GARDENING

*With 'The Comfrey Project'*

Explore food growing, food saving, and sharing cultures through food. Learn new skills and celebrate food traditions from around the world. Women only.

**WHEN/** Every Thursday, 10:30am-12:30pm

**WHERE/** The Comfrey Project, Gateshead NE8 1QB

**FOOD/** Provided

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**TRANSLATORS/** Provided upon request

**ACCESS/** All on one level / garden accessible to everyone

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, no need to book

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 447 7801

✉ [info@thecomfreyproject.org.uk](mailto:info@thecomfreyproject.org.uk)





## **COOKING GROUP**

*With 'West End Refugee Service'*

Meet new people while sharing different cultural cuisines and eating together!

**WHEN/** Every Wednesday, 11am-1pm

**WHERE/** Westgate Baptist Church, 366 Westgate Rd NE4 6NX

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, no need to book

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 273 7482 ✉ [info@wers.org.uk](mailto:info@wers.org.uk)

## **ABOUT WEST END REFUGEE SERVICE (WERS)**

*A refugee charity that offers support, advice, advocacy, and activities for people seeking sanctuary in the North East.*

## LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES

This section includes activities that take place regularly, related to learning and practicing language.

## LANGUAGE CAFE

*With 'Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art'*

A fun, friendly place to meet new people and informally practice English speaking and listening. Sessions are family friendly and include artist-led creative activities for adults and children. With special guests to meet and chat with to cover topics like community resources, skills, opportunities and employability.

**WHEN/** First Saturday of every month, 2:30-5pm

**WHERE/** Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, South Shore Road NE8 3BA

**ACCESS/** Step-free access / braille buttons / hearing loop system / accessible toilets / baby-change

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**FOOD/** Provided

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, no need to book

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 478 1810 ✉ info@balticmill.com

## ABOUT BALTIC CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

*A centre for contemporary art and a Gallery of Sanctuary, BALTIC is a place where visitors can experience innovative and provocative new art, relax, have fun, learn and discover fresh ideas.*

# ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP

*With 'The Multilingual Library'*

Informal English lessons at the Multilingual Library. Chat with others about a different topic each week and learn new words.

**WHEN/** Every Monday, 11:15am-12:30pm

**WHERE/** High Street West, Gateshead NE8 1EH

**ACCESS/** Ramp access to entrance / Car parking available

**TRAVEL/** Costs covered for volunteers

**FOOD/** Snacks and refreshments provided

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, no need to book

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0777 668 4940

✉ kittiwake@multilinguallibrary.org.uk

# LEARNING ENGLISH

*With 'Walking With'*

Supportive and welcoming English lessons to help you build confidence and connect through language.

**WHEN/ Advanced English:** Every Monday, 1-2pm

**Mixed English Class:** Every Tuesday, 10:30am-12pm

**Women's Only English:** Every Wednesday, 10-11am

**Mixed English Class:** Every Wednesday, 11:15am-12:45pm

**Beginners' English:** Every Thursday, 1-2pm

**WHERE/** The Walking With Centre, Hugh St, Wallsend NE28 6RL

**ACCESS/** Step-free access to entrance

**HOW TO JOIN/** You must be a resident of North Tyneside and registered with Walking With. Get in touch to register

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 649 8974 ✉ info@walkingwith.co.uk

## SOCIAL/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

This section includes activities that take place regularly, related to socialising and community.

### THE MULTILINGUAL LIBRARY

A cosy library space with books in multiple languages, including poetry, fiction, non-fiction, comic books and children's books. As well as a music space and regular activities and clubs. Volunteering opportunities available.

**WHEN/** Open Monday-Saturday, 11am-6pm

**WHERE/** High Street West, Gateshead NE8 1EH

**ACCESS/** Ramp access to entrance / Car parking available

**TRAVEL/** Transport costs covered for volunteers

**FOOD/** Snacks and refreshments provided

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0777 668 4940

✉ kittiwake@multilinguallibrary.org.uk

### WOMEN'S GROUP

*With 'Walking With'*

A social group for women to connect in a warm, welcoming space. Feel supported, build confidence and enjoy friendly conversation. Children welcome.

**WHEN/** Every Monday, 1-2:30pm

**WHERE/** Walking With Centre, Hugh St, Wallsend NE28 6RL

**ACCESS/** Step-free access to entrance

**HOW TO JOIN/** You must be a resident of North Tyneside and registered with Walking With. Get in touch to register

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 649 8974 ✉ info@walkingwith.co.uk



## HAPPY TO CHAT

*With 'Walking With'*

Drop in, grab a cup of tea, and enjoy good conversation in a relaxed space where everyone is welcome.

**WHEN/** Every Thursday, 10am-12pm

**WHERE/** The Walking With Centre, Hugh St, Wallsend  
NE28 6RL

**ACCESS/** Step-free access to entrance

**HOW TO JOIN/** You must be a resident of North Tyneside and registered with Walking With. Get in touch to register

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 649 8974 ✉ [info@walkingwith.co.uk](mailto:info@walkingwith.co.uk)

## MEN'S BARBER AND CHAT

*With 'Walking With'*

Enjoy a complimentary haircut from skilled barbers and connect with others at Walking With's men's barber and chat sessions!

**WHEN/** Every Friday, 10:30am-1pm

**WHERE/** The Walking With Centre, Hugh St, Wallsend  
NE28 6RL

**ACCESS/** Step-free access to entrance

**HOW TO JOIN/** You must be a resident of North Tyneside and registered with Walking With. Get in touch to register

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 649 8974 ✉ [info@walkingwith.co.uk](mailto:info@walkingwith.co.uk)

## WEEKLY WELCOME

*With 'West End Refugee Service'*

A relaxed gathering to meet new friends. With different activities like cooking classes, table tennis and board games.

**WHEN/** Every Wednesday, 11:30am-1:30pm

**WHERE/** Westgate Baptist Church, 366 Westgate Rd NE4 6NX

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, no need to book

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 273 7482 ✉ info@wers.org.uk

## COMMUNITY MEAL

*With 'West End Refugee Service'*

A joyful community meal at The Seven Bridges Café prepared by the chef and volunteers from an authentic recipe.

**WHEN/** Every Friday, 2pm-4pm

**WHERE/** The Seven Bridges Café, Dance City, Temple St, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4BR

**TRAVEL/** Covered

**HOW TO JOIN/** Just show up, no need to book

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 273 7482 ✉ info@wers.org.uk



# WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

## SUMMARY

A summary of all the weekly activities listed in this booklet; which organisation runs them, what time they take place, who the activity is for, and what page to find more information on.

Day	Activity	Organisation	Time	Who it is for	Page
<b>Monday</b>	Sewing Group	Walking With	10:30am-12pm	Residents of North Tyneside	5
	English Conversation Group	The Multilingual Library	11:15am-12:30pm	Everyone	11
	Advanced English	Walking With	1-2pm	Residents of North Tyneside	11
	Women's Group	Walking With	1pm-2:30pm	Women who are residents of North Tyneside	12
	Walker Primary Dance Project	Company of Others	4-4:30pm	Children aged 4-7 years	7
	Walker Youth Dance Project	Company of Others	4:30pm-5:30pm	Children aged 7-12 years	7
	World Writes	New Writing North	4:30-6:30pm	People aged 16+	4
<b>Tuesday</b>	Moving Together	Company of Others	10:30am-12:30pm (every other week)	Women	6
	Mixed English Class	Walking With	10:30am-12pm	Residents of North Tyneside	11
	Walker Youth Dance Project: Ballet	Company of Others	4:30-6:30pm	Young people aged 12-17 years	7

Day	Activity	Organisation	Time	Who it is for	Page
Wednesday	Women's Only English	Walking With	10-11am	Residents of North Tyneside	11
	Wellbeing Drop-In	The Comfrey Project	10:30am-12:30pm	Everyone	3
	Cooking Group	West End Refugee Service	11am-1pm	Everyone	9
	Mixed English Class	Walking With	11:15am-12:45pm	Residents of North Tyneside	11
	Weekly Welcome	West End Refugee Service	11:30am-1:30pm	Everyone	14
Thursday	Happy to Chat	Walking With	10am-12pm	Residents of North Tyneside	13
	Kitchen Gardening	The Comfrey Project	10:30am-12:30pm	Women	8
	Beginners' English	Walking With	1-2pm	Residents of North Tyneside	11
	Walker Youth Dance Project: Contemporary	Company of Others	5-7pm	Young people aged 12-17 years	7
Friday	Community Sewing Group	Walking With	10am-12pm (until 12 June)	Everyone	5
	Men's Barber & Chat	Walking With	10:30am-1pm	Men who are residents of North Tyneside	13
	Culture Hub	The Comfrey Project	10:30am-2:30pm	Everyone	4
	Community Meal	West End Refugee Service	2pm-4pm	Everyone	14
Saturday	Language Café	Baltic Centre for Contempo-rary Art	2:30-5pm on the last Saturday of every month	Everyone	10

# EVENTS

## REFUGEE WEEK MOVING TOGETHER SESSION

*With 'Company of Others'*

For Refugee Week Company of Others are hosting a special extended session of their project, Moving Together. Open to women who are Refugee or Asylum experienced, and/or women of the Global Majority. Share time with community through movement, conversation, henna, gentle care practices and delicious food.

**WHEN/** Tuesday 16 June, 11am-2pm

**WHERE/** The Bricks, St. Anthony of Egypt Church, Belmont Street, Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 3SN

**TRAVEL/** Transport cost covered up to £6

**INTERPRETERS/** Available

**FOOD/** Provided

**ACCESS/** Step-free access / accessible toilet / baby-change

**HOW TO BOOK/** Get in touch to reserve your spot

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 276 1524

✉ [community@companyofothers.org.uk](mailto:community@companyofothers.org.uk)





## MIDSUMMER X THREADS OF COURAGE

*With 'Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art', 'Walking With' and 'Tynemouth Together with Refugees'*

Celebrate Refugee Week with fashion and textiles and come together with friends, family and community on the Midsummer evening. Enjoy food and creative workshops, including henna, flower garlands, sewing and embroidery, storytelling and music.

**WHEN/** Saturday 20 June, 4-9pm

**WHERE/** The Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, S Shore Rd, Newcastle upon Tyne, Gateshead NE8 3BA

**TRAVEL/** Transport cost covered up to £10

**FOOD/** Provided

**ACCESS/** Fully accessible

**HOW TO BOOK/** Booking advised. Free tickets are available at <https://baltic.art/> or scan the QR code

**SCAN TO BOOK FREE TICKETS**



# WALKER YOUTH DANCE FESTIVAL

*With 'Company of Others'*

A celebration of the talent and creativity of children and young people in Walker and surrounding areas. Enjoy an afternoon of brilliant performances by local dance groups hosted by comedian Nicola Mantalios. Connect with community, support local talent and be part of a growing annual tradition.

**WHEN/** Saturday 18 July, 3-4:30pm

**WHERE/** Walker Park, Scrogg Rd, Newcastle NE6 4HA

**ACCESS/** The park is on flat land with a good network of accessible paths

**HOW TO BOOK/** No need to book, just show up on the day

# SUMMER DANCE INTENSIVE

*With 'Company of Others'*

A week of dance, creativity, and performance during the school holiday with a professional choreographer for children aged 6-17.

**WHEN/** Tuesday 28th - Friday 31st July;

9:30am-1pm (For ages 6-12 years)

1pm-4:30pm (For ages 12-17 years)

**WHERE/** The Bricks, c/o St. Anthony of Egypt Church, Belmont Street, Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne NE6 3SN

**TRAVEL/** Support available

**FOOD/** Lunch provided daily

**TRANSLATORS/** Available upon request

**ACCESS/** Step-free access / accessible toilet

**HOW TO BOOK/** Get in touch to register. Registration essential

**CONTACT/** ☎ 0191 276 1524

✉ [community@companyofothers.org.uk](mailto:community@companyofothers.org.uk)



**This booklet is available in Arabic, Bengali,  
English, Farsi, Kurdish Sorani, Pashto, and  
Tigrinya.**

**To access the digital translated booklets scan the  
QR code below or go to  
[www.companyofothers.org.uk/sanctuary](http://www.companyofothers.org.uk/sanctuary)**



Images:

1. CO Photo: Victoria Wai
2. The Comfrey Project
3. WERS
4. Walking With
5. CO Photo: Luke Waddington
6. CO Photo: Victoria Wai
7. BALTIC
8. CO Photo: Luke Waddington

# **COMPANY OF OTHERS**