

# RAM BULLETIN

Refugees, Asylum-seekers and the Mass media Project

Promoting best practice in media representation of refugee and asylum issues

No 27, Apr 2003

## RAM seminar 'great success' say journos

Judging by the feedback from exiled journalists who attended the RAM seminar 'Working in The UK Media', the 3-day event was a great success.

Thirty five journalists from over 20 countries made the most of the opportunity to meet with colleagues and hear from representatives of the BBC, BECTU, NUJ, *The Big Issue* and others, about the possibilities and problems associated with working in the UK media.

For many it gave fresh hope that their careers are not over just because they had been driven out of their own countries just for doing their job.

Over 60 people were present for the opening debate on the Friday evening which featured lively exchanges between *Guardian/ObsERVER* columnist David Aaronovitch and Stan Szekowka, deputy editor of the *Bristol Evening Post*, both descendants of refugees to the UK (see report in *COMMUNICATOR* column).

One of the high points on the Saturday was the applause given to Jeremy Dear, General Secretary of the NUJ, who pledged the union's support for exiled journalists. Thirteen immediately signed up as members under the special scheme negotiated by the RAM Project.

Perhaps the most instructive session was entitled 'Do-it-Yourself', during which four exiled journalists of various backgrounds, generations and profiles, explained how they had got back into the media business.

Carlos Reyes-Manzo, exiled from Pinochet's Chile in the 1970's now runs the started the Andes Press Agency, which now holds over half a million images.

Abel Ugba from Nigeria now runs *Metro Eireann*, Ireland's only paper for ethnic minorities. Ibrahim Seaga Shaw from Sierra Leone, now based in Paris, relaunched his *Expo-Times* as a web-based newspaper

after he had been driven out of Freetown. And Faqir Mayvand from Afghanistan used the occasion to announce that his latest project refugee TV has at last be granted a licence to broadcast by the Independent Television Commission.

All these positive examples encouraged networking, and a fresh sense of enthusiasm to get back into work as journalists. During the Sunday morning session, the RAM Project team received renewed support for new ways of engaging exiled journalists in its work. See the next *RAM Bulletin* for more details about what is planned. Project.

### SILENT TRIBUTE FOR TERRY LLOYD

Delegates at the RAM Seminar stood for a minute's silence during the final session in memory of ITN journalist Terry Lloyd, killed by so-called 'friendly fire' in Iraq earlier in the week.

As delegates returned home news came through of the tragic death in Iraq of C4 journalist Gaby Rado.

### Sound & pictures on-line

Kosovan e-journalist Besim Gerguri, was quick to turn the RAM seminar into a website. He has uploaded images of the event and recordings of two exceptional performers from Exiled Writers Ink who entertained participants on the Saturday night. Poet and accordion player Vida Kashizadeh from Iran, and oud player and singer Sahira Saad from Iraq.

To see and hear more log onto [http://www6.redstation.co.uk/gerg379124/uk\\_exjour\\_int/](http://www6.redstation.co.uk/gerg379124/uk_exjour_int/)

### .. and now the film

The RAM Project and Bristol-based Omni productions, working with Kosovan refugee film-maker Ekrem Rrahmani, conducted interviews with participants to the seminar. The fascinating footage obtained will be used to produce broadcast quality material.

## EDITORIAL

### IT'S GONE TOO FAR

When *The Sun* newspaper published 'Asylum Army' as front page heading in one of its March issues, for a moment I thought that an alien force had invaded the country.

Although statistical jargon is a favourite ingredient in most British media, equating the number of asylum-seekers with armed forces sends a dangerous signal.

Before the world politics was heated up with war on Iraq the main agenda regarding asylum-seekers was economic.

Many in the UK media complained that asylum-seekers leave their countries to make a fortune. This created enough damage in distorting the real image since few bother to explain that there is more at stake than a fortune considering the risk people have taken to come to the UK.

Adding insult to the injury, the present trend is all the more alarming in that it risks triggering further violence by directly categorising asylum-seekers as a threat to national security.

The whole purpose of this numbers game is obviously to create further negative impressions of the asylum issue by exploiting the current global political agenda.

It also sends a subtle signal to members of the public to be particularly vigilant about asylum seekers. (How do they know who to be vigilant about, since asylum-seekers don't wear badges - yet?).

In general this approach is not only irresponsible but also dangerous.

It widens the gap between the public and anyone looking 'foreign'. Hence I say this should not be tolerated and needs to be challenged in every available avenue.

In this regard a lot is expected from us (exiled journalist) and it is time to wake up and do something about it.

**Meconen Mulgeta**  
Guest Editor

## Bridging the gap between myth and reality

The Swedish Quick Response organisation offers a model for agencies dealing with media coverage of immigration elsewhere.

According to its programme statement Quick Response was set up: 'to nuance media reports on questions concerning immigration, by an initiative from the national co-ordination committee of the European Year against Racism.' Project leader Ulku Holago adds: 'We work against stereotypes spread by the media and encourage journalists to access a variety of information sources.' Quick Response has since grown not only into an organisation providing reliable response to biased coverage, but also into the first port of call for journalists writing about immigration. It provides reliable data about asylum and multiculturalism issues. It also works with schools to promote debates on these issues. With growing prejudice from some members of the public due to the distorted media information about asylum issues, a project like Quick Response could play a pivotal role in bridging the gap between myth and reality.

Visit the website at

[www.quickresponse.nu](http://www.quickresponse.nu)

*PressWise is planning a Right of Reply section as part of its revamped website, and will be consulting Quick Response. If funding is available it may be possible to develop a similar service on the RAM project site.*

## Unique new service for Iraqi journalists

The Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR) has launched a unique service to encourage dialogue between Iraqi journalists and experts.

"Amid the thunderous debate raging in the United States and all over Europe over a possible attack on Iraq, little is heard from Iraqis themselves," says IWPR Executive Director Tony Borden. "Arguments over weapons of mass destruction and global security have drowned out the voices of Iraqi people. Our goal is to provide them

with a means to express their views and allow those most affected by the issue of war and peace with an opportunity to develop strategies for dealing with humanitarian and political crises in the country.

Veteran journalist Julia Flint has been appointed Co-ordinating Editor of the report.

IWPR is an educational charity promoting peace and development by training journalists.

Visit the website at [www.iwpr.net](http://www.iwpr.net)

## Burying Blunkett's bad news for asylum-seekers

War has kept asylum issues off the front pages in recent weeks. But not for long. The war is likely to generate many more refugees – though whether they will want to head for the UK if David Blunkett's latest proposals come into effect is another matter.

There was little coverage of his plans for 'zones of protection' for refugees and potential near areas of conflict (Turkey, Iran and Iraqi Kurdistan for Iraqis; Northern Somalia for Somalis; Morocco for Algerians), and temporary Transit Processing Centres outside Europe to which asylum seekers could be deported while their claims are assessed.

According to Home Office Notes for Editors dated 27 March the new approach is needed because

- support for refugees is badly distributed;
- the current system requires those fleeing persecution to 'enter the West' illegally,
- over 50% of asylum-seekers in Europe don't meet refugee criteria, yet most of the world's 12 million refugees stay in their own regions;
- rapidly fluctuating and unmanaged intakes of asylum-seekers and refugees, often result in poorly resourced responses causing public concern about numbers of unfounded claims; and
- public support for asylum is falling across the developed world.

The plan envisages more intervention to prevent the conditions which cause migration. That includes aid programmes and awareness-raising but does not preclude military intervention – although an earlier report about

Cabinet discussion acknowledged "Any coercive intervention in other states is of course controversial."

Under the new scheme, which would be managed by the UN but funded by the EU, the transit camps and protective zones might also house those who fail to qualify for asylum until it is safe for them to return home.

'Those granted refugee status would be resettled within the EU, on a burden-sharing basis', (sic) according to the report.

A document submitted to the cabinet argues that care must be taken to ensure the initiative is not seen as 'dumping asylum seekers on the poorer nations', nor as 'using money to enable us to wash our hands of the refugee problem'.

However the plan is regarded as a useful way to deter 'potential terrorists' from attempting to enter Europe as asylum-seekers.

## Safe havens?

The burial on Monday 31 March 2003 of 600 identified victims of the 1995 tragedy in Srebrenica was marked by a day of mourning in Bosnia. It went unremarked in the UK media.

Designated by the EU as a 'safe haven', Srebrenica was overrun in 1995 by the Bosnian Serb army which then rounded up and executed up to 7000 civilians.

At the time Dutch soldiers were guarding this safe haven, as part of a contingent of EU forces in Bosnia. They offered no resistance to Bosnian Serbs, and their conduct was later the subject of a parliamentary investigation in the Netherlands.

Resignations were tendered, and coupled with the fact that Serbia's president Milosevic was at the time in the dock at the Hague War Tribunal, it seemed that the some moral redress had been obtained.

But has it? What happened at Srebrenica should be a reminder that refugees need to be taken out of harm's way. How can refugees be sure there is sufficient political will to protect them in safe havens of the future, if none was found in Srebrenica?

## Little white lies

The pressure group OutRage! has condemned home secretary David Blunkett's policy of 'white listing' countries from which no further applications will be accepted, because it includes countries which are known to persecute gay, lesbian and transgender people.

OutRage! has expressed concerns that Jamaica is one of seven states on the list, yet persecution towards gays is well-documented there.

"It is callous in the extreme," said Brett Lock, spokesman for OutRage!. "It sends a message that queers deserve what they get, wherever they get it. Obviously Mr Blunkett does not consider violence against the gay community a legitimate form of persecution or worthy of international attention or condemnation."

In 2002, two Jamaicans were granted asylum in the UK on the grounds that their lives were in danger because of 'severe homophobia'.

For more information see:

<http://uk.gay.com/article/community/immigration/291> or  
<http://outrage.nabumedia.com/>

## Forty attend RAM Liverpool Media Forum

The Media Forum organised by the RAM Project in Liverpool on 19 March brought together exiled journalists, local media figures and representatives of refugee organisations.

Chaired by National Union of Journalists (NUJ) representative and a *Liverpool Echo* writer Peter Grant, the meeting focused on the coverage of asylum issue in the local press.

A number of refugees told the meeting that the press seemed less than keen to get to the real stories 'behind the news'.

On the other hand, representatives of the press pointed out that they hardly ever hear either from refugees or organisations working with them.

RAM Project Co-ordinator Terry Williams comments: "The Liverpool event emphasises the need for training programme which will focus on the needs of refugees

and refugee organisation in approaching and briefing the press.

"Refugees and refugee organisations might have a slightly old fashioned view of how the media works. Nowadays, there aren't as many journalists in the newsroom. So what they are saying is 'here we are, send us information and we might run a story'.

"Clearly, refugees and organisations working with them should know how to do this," concludes Terry.

The Liverpool event followed the pattern set with similar RAM events in Birmingham and Leeds. More such RAM events are planned for Dover, Cardiff, Glasgow and London.

For details please see our website [www.ramproject.org.uk](http://www.ramproject.org.uk) or contact [anna@presswise.org.uk](mailto:anna@presswise.org.uk)

## Supporting asylum-seekers in the S. West

Over 160 people attended the Amnesty International's South West Conference 'Refugees: the truth behind the headlines', at Exeter University on Sat 22 March.

PressWise Director Mike Jempson spoke on the challenges of reporting refugee issues, and then led a workshop on the 'rules of engagement' for those wanting take up media work on behalf of refugees.

Other speakers included Amnesty Director Kate Allen, and Kecia Harris, South West team manager for Refugee Action.

Afghani duttar player Saeed Hashemi provided a recital in the sun at lunchtime.

See also <http://www.amnesty.org/> or <http://www.refugee-action.org/>

## MEDIA WATCH

### Young refugee attacked in Leyton

A seventeen-year-old refugee was attacked in Leyton, East London by four teenagers according to the *Big Issue* (Issue 528).

The report states that the assailants shouted at their victim: "You fucking refugee we know you have money and give it to us".

Police found the young man lying on the street bleeding heavily.

After countless tabloid articles about refugees costing the taxpayer millions, some members of the public may actually believe that they walk around with their pocket stuffed with money, so deep have the lies about asylum-seekers penetrated the public consciousness

## Another crusade under The Sun

Anticipating the second Gulf War, *The Sun* ran a front-page news item on 1 March under the heading 'Asylum Army'.

It stated that the number of people who claimed asylum in the year 2002 was greater than the total armed forces of Britain.

Reading between the lines the suggestion is that the increase in asylum-seekers is becoming a threat to national security, and needs to be balanced by armed personnel.

Who knows, *The Sun* will be suggesting next pairing soldiers and asylum-seekers, so that the former can keep an eye on the latter.

## Courageous initiative by New Yorker

When it comes to reporting on asylum issue most of the media are interested in sound bites rather than the full story.

Constriction of airtime in the broadcasting media and space in the print media means that longer pieces are left to the periodicals.

The *New Yorker* rose to the challenge. A series of stories on asylum, giving initially a view of the situation in Britain moved on to document the plight of Sierra Leonian children and war amputees.

The feature ran for 11 pages, long enough to allow meticulous detail and follow the destinies of the exiles, explaining how and why they were eventually granted asylum in the USA.

There are many disturbing pages but still it is a story worth seeking out.

Which UK periodicals will follow the example of the *New Yorker*, and *Marie Claire*, and do the same?

Deadline for the next bulletin is 25 April. Please send copy to [ram@presswise.org.uk](mailto:ram@presswise.org.uk)

## 'WHEN ELEPHANTS FIGHT, THE GRASS SUFFERS'

Guest Editor **Meconen**

**Mulgata** reflects upon the reasons he was forced to flee Ethiopia for the UK

**Nineteen ninety-eight was a remarkable year for me and my best friend Sami. After a tireless battle to establish our own business venture we finally managed to acquire a promotion studio.**

Our previous popularity in the media was a bonus to our business and in a very short time we came top of advertisers' list, and won a major bid for a leading bottled water supplier in Ethiopia.

However our euphoria didn't last long and we didn't enjoy the fruits of our efforts. The Ethio-Eritrea war erupted and disrupted everything.

During this time the first measure taken by the Ethiopian government was to hunt down Ethiopians with an Eritrean origin - like myself.

Tens of thousands were deported under harsh conditions, others were killed by undercover agents and some ended up in detention centres.

When war was declared I realised that it was going to have a bitter end, but I never thought that they would take draconian action against innocent civilians.

Sami too was convinced that they wouldn't lay a

finger on me since I had served them in various high posts - until he discovered my house was being searched in my absence.

At this stage I could clearly sense the danger hovering over me and decided to go into hiding. My dearest friend never changed with the situation. He remained anxious about my safety.

Things got tense with the security forces crawling everywhere in search for people with an Eritrean background.

Despite the repeated warnings on national radio, Sami tried to do everything to save my life; but I could see in his face that he was aware of what the consequences might be were he caught hiding a fugitive. I considered myself as a liability, and hated myself.

At last decision time came if I was to save my life and, more importantly not to endanger the people who cared for me so much and who had never betrayed me during these formidable crises. I had to resort to the only option on the menu - escape to a neighbouring country.

After deep discussions with Sami and his girlfriend, we decided my best option was to get to Kenya first. When we had finalised arrangements I set off on a journey into the unknown, leaving behind the life that I had built for years.

This is how and why I left my home country and came to Britain half way across the

world. I was not in search of a fortune.

I have now been living in exile for nearly four years. Even now I am struggling to come to terms with it because of the mixed feelings that I have.

On the one hand I feel glad to be in a country where there is a rule of law, and nothing to be scared of because all those who were hunting me are now far away from my life. In this regard I feel I am living in an earthly paradise, when I think of my unfortunate friends who couldn't make it and who ended up vegetating in the dungeons of our despotic leaders.

On the other hand surrounded by loneliness and haunted by nostalgia makes me feel I am living the life of Robinson Crusoe. Furthermore, waiting for a decision on my asylum application fill my life with uncertainty.

The accumulation of all these psychological pressures, coupled with prejudices storming in from different angles are some of the worst nightmares of exiled life.

Despite it all, however, I am still glad to be a survivor.

*Meconen Mulgata is an asylum-seeker from Ethiopia.*

*He served as a senior journalist in various Ethiopian media and was economics editor for the popular newspaper **ABIOTAWI DEMOCRACY** (an organ of the ruling party in Ethiopia). At present he is working in British Telecom as an administrator.*

*Meconen can be contacted at [mmulgata@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mmulgata@yahoo.co.uk)*

## Cut-out-and-keep COMMUNICATOR

*A PressWise use-of- the-media Guide*

### **MAKING A DIFFERENCE, BY DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY**

*The RAM Project believes that balanced reporting on the asylum issue can be achieved by encouraging asylum-seekers a voice to speak directly to the media. RAM Bulletin guest editor **Meconen Mulgeta**, a journalist and PR expert from Ethiopia, explains how this approach proved beneficial not only for public understanding of the problems asylum-seekers face, but for him personally.*

David Byers, a journalist with the *Gloucester Citizen*, asked me if he could do a human-interest story about how I ended up in exile.

As I was deeply upset by the hate campaign and the use of inflammatory language by some irresponsible journalists I agreed to tell my story to the public.

The full account of my interview was published in the *Gloucester Citizen* on 3 December 2002, under the headline '*I was forced to leave my family and smuggled into Britain*', with the strapline '*As another batch of 150 asylum-seekers are set to be housed in Gloucester, Ethiopian asylum-seeker Meconen Mulgeta (sic) – who has lived in Gloucester for four years – tells us his extraordinary story...*'

Illustrated with a large picture of me with my features blacked out, it caught the attention of many of the paper's readers.

To my amazement I received eleven telephone calls on the day of publication from very different people who had been deeply touched by my story.

Responses to the article included job offers. None of them was for journalistic work, but I was able to switch from labouring in a warehouse to an administrative job with British Telecom. The whole exercise helped me to move forward.

However, although the sympathy offered to me from some members of the public made me victorious over the rumour machine, which waged a war against asylum-seekers and refugees, it is the journalist David Byers who deserves the greatest credit.

Unlike many journalists who are purely interested in settling cheap political scores, he took a brave initiative in exploring the other side of the story, and this is what I call the real and true sense of professionalism.

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*Encouraging public debate about the issues can also make a difference to attitudes. The seminar for exiled journalists organised by RAM in Bristol at the end of March kicked off with a debate about media coverage, led by national newspaper columnist David Aaronovitch. Among those present were activists from Bristol Defend Asylum-seekers Campaign and representatives of the local media.*

The walls of the hall in which the debate took place were decorated with cuttings from the national press (routinely negative) and from the *Bristol Evening Post* (which has been generally positive about asylum-seekers living in the city).

Stan Szekowka, Deputy Editor of the *Evening Post* stressed the importance for local papers of taking up issues of concern to the local community. He sees asylum-seekers as part of the community his paper serves, and pointed out that the paper regularly celebrates the multi-cultural nature of Bristol society with features, for instance, about the achievements of hard-pressed inner city schools to which many refugee children attend.

Paulette North of BDAS said that regular campaigning on the street and through the columns of the local paper has won support for asylum seekers. She complimented the *Evening Post* for taking up the plight of families facing deportation. However there was criticism of the *Evening Post* for running 'inflammatory' comment columns in the aftermath of 11 Sept, which had caused offence and put at risk the Muslim community in the city.

Ray Tostevin of HTV announced that a two-part programme about asylum-seekers in Bristol is planned, and agreed with David Aaronovitch that the media need to take on the British National Party and expose their fascist and racist views. Not everyone in attendance agreed, some felt that minority parties with extremist views should be ignored.

Nonetheless all were agreed that human interest stories can go a long way to undermine the hostility generated by stories based on generalisations and statistics.

# 'PEG' BOARD

**Help to set the media agenda by generating stories rather than having to react to theirs.**

**Keep your ears and eyes open for events which might provide you, and the media, with a 'peg' on which to hang positive stories about refugees or asylum seekers.**

**Keep your media contacts informed about what is happening and why it is relevant for them.**

Monday 7 April 7.30pm

## POETRY CAFE

Exiled Writers Ink! present their regular monthly evening of poetry.

'Kabul to London', Afghan images, voices and music with Berang Kohdomani, Suhaila Ismat, Parniyan Zemaryalai, Karim Haidari, Ayesha Tarzi and Shabibi Shah.

Chaired by Marta Niccolai £1 members and unemployed refugees, £3 non-members

Venue: Venue: 22 Betterton Street, London WC2

For more info, contact

[jennifer@exiledwriters.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:jennifer@exiledwriters.fsnet.co.uk) or visit

[www.exiledwriters.co.uk](http://www.exiledwriters.co.uk)

Tuesday 8 April 3.00pm

## TONY BENN IN BRISTOL

Organised by St George Community College and Bristol Racial Equality Council, Tony Benn and Paul Stephenson will be addressing a public meeting on the 40th anniversary of the successful campaign against the racist employment practices of the Bristol Omnibus Co in 1963.

Venue: St George Community College, Russell Town Avenue, Bristol BS5

For more info and to reserve your place, contact Paul Stephenson on 0117 962 3638 or Peter Courier on 0117 929 7899

Tuesday 8 April 6.30pm

## KENT MEDIA FORUM

Organised by the RAM Project, in partnership the

Refugee Council, Refugee Action and the NUJ, a forum to bring together asylum seekers and refugees, organisations working on their behalf and journalists to debate how to best turn the tide of negative coverage.

Food and wine from 6.30pm.

Venue: Council Chamber, Dover Town Hall, Biggin Street, Dover, CT16 1DL

For more info, or to reserve a place, contact Anna

Kelson on 0117 941 5889 or [anna@presswise.org.uk](mailto:anna@presswise.org.uk)

Tuesday 8 April 6.30pm

## PROFESSOR STEPHEN CASTLES SEMINAR

The European Migrations and Transformations Institute & London European City of Immigration Group present a seminar 'The New Global Politics and the Fate of Refugees' by Professor Stephen Castles, Director of the Refugee Studies Centre at the University of Oxford. Free admission but early booking is advised.

Venue: Henry Thomas Room, London Metropolitan University, Holloway Road, London N7 8DB

For more info, contact

Kathryn Johnson on [lerc@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:lerc@londonmet.ac.uk) or 020 7133 2662

Saturday 19 April

## ROCK AGAINST RACISM AUSTRALIA

Port Augusta is a town of about 15,000 people located at the base of the Flinders Ranges, three hours north of Adelaide.

A new maximum security prison for refugees has recently opened near Port Augusta - the Baxter detention centre where at least 250 asylum seekers are being held. This Easter, protesters from around Australia will converge on the detention centre, demanding Free the Refugees! No War! No Racism! and to challenge the 9pm curfew imposed on Aboriginal youths in Baxter. Venue: Port Augusta, Australia

For more info, visit

[www.baxter2003.baxterwat.ch.net](http://www.baxter2003.baxterwat.ch.net)

Thursday 24 April 6.30pm

## CARDIFF MEDIA FORUM

Organised by the RAM Project and the Refugee Media Group in Wales, a forum to bring together

asylum seekers and refugees, organisations working on their behalf and journalists to debate how to best turn the tide of negative coverage. Food and wine from 6.30pm.

Venue: tbc

For more info, or to reserve

a place, contact Anna

Kelson on 0117 941 5889

or [anna@presswise.org.uk](mailto:anna@presswise.org.uk),

or Vanessa Bucolli on

02920 874 681 or

[bucolliv@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:bucolliv@cardiff.ac.uk)

Thursday 15 May 10.00am - 4.30pm

## MEDIA AND REFUGEES

Over the past six months Article 19 has co-ordinated a team of refugee researchers to conduct in-depth interviews with refugees and asylum seekers across the UK to examine their relationship with the media.

Terry Williams and Nikola Medic of the RAM Project, with Beth Crosland of ICAR, will present the findings from our Regional Media Fora, and PressWise director Mike Jempson will also speak in the session on media regulators.

Chaired by David

Aaronovitch.

Participation is free but places are limited so please contact the organisers first.

Venue: Westminster,

London.

For more info, contact

Pauline on

[pauline@article19.org](mailto:pauline@article19.org) or

020 7278 9292.

Thursday 12 June

## THINK LONDON: THINK LOCAL

The RAM Project, in partnership with the Refugee Council and supported by the NUJ, present a one-day seminar to help refugees and asylum-seekers and people working on their behalf make better use of the Capital's media in the run-up to Refugee Week.

Choose two from the following four workshops - Working with local journalists, Writing a Press, Face-to-face interviews and Organising a media campaign

Venue: Lancaster Hall Hotel, 35 Craven Terrace, London W2 3EL. Close to Paddington and Lancaster Gate tube stations.

For more info and to book your place, contact Anna

Kelson on 0117 941 5889 or [anna@presswise.org.uk](mailto:anna@presswise.org.uk)

Monday 16 - Sunday 22 June

## REFUGEE WEEK

Refugee Week is a nationwide programme of arts, cultural and educational events that celebrate cultural diversity and promote understanding about the reasons why people seek sanctuary.

Venue: all over the UK! For more info about events in your area and join to the mailing list, visit

<http://www.refugeeweek.org.uk/>

Monday 7 - Thursday 25 July

## FORCED MIGRATION SUMMER SCHOOL

This three-week residential course provides a broad understanding of the issues of forced migration and humanitarian assistance.

Participants examine, discuss and review theory and practice and develop communication and analysis skills useful for the workplace. Designed for managers, administrators, field workers and policy makers in humanitarian fields.

Combines lectures and seminars by international experts, small group work, case studies, simulations and individual study. Course fees £2300 (incl. B&B accommodation, weekday lunches, tuition fees, course materials, social activities).

Venue: Refugee Studies Centre, Wadham College, University of Oxford

For more info, contact

[summer.school@geh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:summer.school@geh.ox.ac.uk)

## USEFUL WEBSITES

**Amnesty International**  
<http://www.amnesty.org/>

**Institute for War and Peace Reporting**  
[www.iwpr.net](http://www.iwpr.net)

**Outrage!**  
<http://outrage.nabumedia.com/>

**Quick Response**  
[www.quickresponse.eu](http://www.quickresponse.eu)

**Refugee Action**  
<http://www.refugee-action.org/>