

Refugee
Week



18-26 June 2021
celebrating Unity



Refugee Week in Bendigo - 18-26 June 2021

Join us for events to celebrate families from a refugee background in our community.

**From 18-26 June we will celebrate Refugee Week -
2021 Refugee Week theme is**

Celebrating Unity

Did you know that Bendigo is a Refugee Welcome Zone¹?

Refugee Week is an opportunity to welcome refugees and people seeking asylum and to celebrate their achievements.

This year Refugee Week in Bendigo will be a combination of live and online events.



Refugee Week Events - in person and online

Friday, 18 June

5pm - Rosalind Park, View Street, Bendigo

Support the Biloela Family

Roadside Rally - all Welcome

In person event

Facebook Event -

<https://www.facebook.com/events/787693732106252>



FREE EVENT

6.30pm - Feast Space, Old Church on the Hill, 36 Russell St, Quarry Hill, Bendigo

Feast of Stories

Stories that connect, enlighten and delight

Join us for our monthly Feast of Stories, this time in celebration of Refugee Week, with the theme, "I'm not just a refugee..."

Feast of Stories involve two storytellers sharing a true story and a community-cooked meal.

Tickets are free and donations gratefully accepted.

Book your ticket at: theoldchurchonthehill.com/event/feast-of-stories/

FREE EVENT

For any inquiries, please contact

Linto Thomas, Multicultural Lead at Neighbourhood Collective Australia: 0401397129 or linto@collective.org.au

In person event



Wednesday, 23 June

5.30pm - McKay Theatre, La Trobe Uni, Bendigo Campus

FREE EVENT

Mingle Night

Guest Speaker - Sr Brigid Arthur - Founder of the Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project



From 2001, until COVID-19 interrupted in 2020, Sister Brigid Arthur visited detention centres and championed the cause of detainees. She has acted as a litigation guardian for a significant number of people in detention, adults and children.

Sister Brigid is described by refugees as someone they can rely on when hope is all but lost.

In person event

Facebook Event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/472710590470557>



6.30 pm

Band Together

Amnesty International will kick off Refugee Week with an evening of conversation and music at the Sydney Town Hall.

The event will highlight the work of refugee artist Farhad Bandesh and it will include a conversation with Craig Foster and music support by Midnight Oil.

Tickets \$15 - <https://events.humanitix.com/refugee-week-2021/tickets>

Online event - Watch online (livestream)

Friday, 25 June

7.00 pm

FREE EVENT

Making Australia Home: A conversation with refugees about community and change

The National Amnesty Refugee Network will be hosting an online webinar in collaboration with the Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law. Together, creative producer Grace Edward and performance artist Manal Younus will lead a conversation with other refugees about the experience of settling into the Australian community.

Hear from **Hani Abdile**, a spoken-word poet and writer living on temporary protection.

Mostafa Azimitabar, a Kurdish refugee who fled Iran and was held on Christmas Island, Manus Island, Port Moresby and two inner city Melbourne hotels for 2737 days.

And, **Zaki Haidari**, a 2020 Australian Human Rights Commission Human Rights Hero and an Ambassador for the Refugee Advice and Casework Service (RACS).

Register for the event here. <https://bit.ly/3vjqwHt>



Online event - Watch online (livestream)

Friday, 25 June

12.30pm - Cultural Exchange Beehive, 24-26 Pall Mall, Bendigo

FREE EVENT

Community Lunch

Neighbourhood Collective Australia, in partnership with Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services and MAV warmly invite you to celebrate Refugee Week!

Please join us for music, stories and a community-cooked lunch to celebrate Refugee Week and the contributions people from refugee backgrounds make to our community.

Due to COVID-19, places are strictly limited so book ahead to avoid missing out!

Tickets are free but strictly limited.

Please book using the link below: [Collective.org.au/events/refugee-week-lunch/](https://collective.org.au/events/refugee-week-lunch/)

In person event

Saturday, 26 June

6pm - Rosalind Park, View Street, Bendigo

FREE EVENT

Candlelight Vigil

As refugee Week 2021 draws to a close, let's take a quiet moment to celebrate and appreciate the wonderful people, who have overcome extraordinary hardships, to settle in Bendigo, around Australia, and around the world.

Supported by
Amnesty International Bendigo,
Rural Australians for Refugees Bendigo,
and
Grandmothers for Refugees Bendigo

All Welcome

In person event

Facebook event - <https://www.facebook.com/events/334279528066742>



For further information about these events, please contact
Rural Australians for Refugees Bendigo
rarbendigo@gmail.com

¹ There are currently 166 Refugee Welcome Zones in Australia.