

There will be campaigns both inside and outside parliament in the coming months and LOSRAS has already launched the forthcoming 'Orange Hearts Event'.

Despite lockdown, core work has continued, including some members' events:

**October:** a successful Zoom AGM with video messages from refugees: the award winning animation of Elton John's Rocket Man by Majid Adin and Hassan Akkad's powerful message from the White Cliffs of Dover

**December:** Zoom meeting on the Lift the Ban Campaign with personal testimonies of asylum seekers banned from working.

**March:** Change Makers Webinar organised and run by a group of inspiring young refugees who talked about their achievements and their vision, attracting an audience of well over 100.

**May:** from May onwards individual members have consistently made our feelings known about the anti-refugee Bill to our MP and to Government – thankless but important work...

**June:** our annual Refugee Week precinct leafleting was a great success, generating interest and new members

**August:** together with the Lewes Football Club, member-wide campaign to evacuate Afghan women athletes

### Local support work

Work with refugee families in the Lewes District has been affected but not prevented by the pandemic, and now more face to face support including ESOL sessions and tutoring for children and young people has resumed. We have helped new refugees settle in, and have received fantastic donations from Lewes residents along the way. Volunteers continue to come forward to help us meet the needs of families during the period of settling in.

In August, over two days, families visited Lewes castle for a day of education and fun activities. Our thanks to staff at the castle for going the extra mile to make this such a success. A local refugee has also been volunteering at the castle.

We are re-launching, post-lockdown, the Foreign National Visitors Scheme at Lewes Prison with the addition of an exciting innovative partnership with Sussex Migration Law Clinic who will (from later this academic year) provide much needed advice on some aspects of immigration and immigration detention law to some of our clients. We have developed good cooperative working relationships with both the equalities manager and the Chaplaincy and have a new team of committed volunteer visitors.

Extra government money as a result of Covid has enabled us to carry out a new project this year. LOSRAS has been working through the winter months with a range of local organisations supporting low-income families to distribute funds and vouchers for children's clothing and school uniform – always a huge expense for families. The Lewes Winter Warmer project has been made possible through Lewes 3VA (voluntary sector umbrella group) working with LOSRAS and, in all, we distributed £28,000. These funds benefitted some of the families we work with, and large numbers of other low-income families and homeless people locally. It has also consolidated our relationship with other local groups working on social justice and poverty issues and we are grateful to all those organisations who ensured the money was spent where it was needed most.

GRANTS	2021	2020
Hummingbird	500	800
Brighton Housing Trust	500	800
Bail for Immigration Detainees	-	500
Gatwick Detainees Welfare Group	500	500
Freedom from Torture	-	500
Enthum House	500	-
Migrant English Project	500	800
Brighton Voices in Exile	500	1,000
Asylum Support Appeals Project	500	500
Consonant	-	500
K4k	500	1,000
Refugee Action	-	500
Refugee Council	-	500
MSF	-	500
Doctors of the World	-	500
Care for Calais	-	500
UNHCR	-	500
Forum for International Women	-	500
RebuildRCK	-	500
Beirut	-	500
Soul Soup	-	250
MARDi	-	100
	<b>£4,000</b>	<b>£11,750</b>

