

Annual Report

The Sudanese Community Association in Newcastle and Surrounding Areas (2023)

Introduction

The Sudanese Community Association in Newcastle and its surrounding areas (SCANS) is committed to fostering cultural connections, supporting members of the community, and addressing humanitarian needs. The 2023 term was marked by a series of impactful programmes and activities that served both local and global communities.

This report highlights the key events and initiatives undertaken during the year.

Activities and Programmes

1. Christmas Holiday Activities

To strengthen family bonds and encourage community participation during the festive period, SCANS organized:

- **Sports Day** (January 3, 2023): A day of outdoor and indoor sports activities for families.
- **Bowling Event** (January 4, 2023): Unfortunately cancelled due to low registration.
- **Bouncy Castle and Soft Play** (January 7, 2023): A fun-filled day for families and their children.

2. Educational and Awareness Programs

- **Seminar on Housing Law in the UK** (January 26, 2023): Conducted in collaboration with the Union of Sudanese Communities to inform members about their rights and responsibilities under UK housing law.
- **Seminar on the British Benefits and Employment System** (July 2023): A Zoom session to assist community members in understanding available benefits and employment opportunities.
- **Seminar on Adoption and Fostering of Refugee Minors** (July 2023): Addressed the procedures and significance of supporting unaccompanied refugee minors.

3. Cultural and Social Engagement

- **Open Day for Sudanese Families** (February 25, 2023): A vibrant gathering featuring a food and products bazaar promoting small businesses, as well as a youth baking contest.
- **"Cultural Readings" Forum with Author Dr. Amir Taj Al-Sir** (March 4, 2023): A literary evening that explored Sudanese culture through literature.
- **Women's Day Celebration** (March 18, 2023): A family event featuring a performance by artist Yasser Mabyoa and a ceremony honoring women in the community.

4. Ramadan and Eid Programs

- **Ramadan Iftars** (April 2023): Weekly community iftar gatherings with group prayers, dinner, and activities such as children's art, Quran competitions, and writing contests.
- **Eid al-Fitr Celebrations**: Unfortunately cancelled due to the outbreak of conflict in Sudan.

5. Advocacy and Humanitarian Support

- **Support for Earthquake Victims** (February 12, 2023): Collected in-kind donations for victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.
- **Stand Against the Sudan Conflict** (April 2023): Held a public demonstration at the Monument with participation from local council members.
- **Memorandum to the UK Prime Minister** (May 2023): Advocated for the humanitarian situation in Sudan by delivering a memorandum.

6. Medical and Financial Aid Initiatives

- **Virtual Medical Consultation Platform** (May 2023): Established by Sudanese doctors in Newcastle to provide medical advice to those affected by the war in Sudan.
- **Fundraising and Food Assistance**:
 - Fundraising event at Gosforth Mosque (May 2023).
 - Distribution of 30 food baskets to displaced families in Khartoum (August 2023).
 - Food assistance for orphans' mothers through the "We Are All With the Orphan" initiative (October 2023).
 - Collaboration with "Insan Baladna" for family sheltering and food assistance (October 2023).

7. Community Events

- **Family BBQ Event** (July 2023): A summer gathering filled with food, fun, and activities for families.

8. Ongoing Programs

- **Seminars and Discussions on Sudan Conflict:**
 - Addressed challenges faced by Sudanese evacuees (May 2023).
 - Reviewed the progress of the medical consultation platform (June 2023).
- **Activation of the Newcastle Initiative Group** (May 2023): Explored strategies for aid and fundraising efforts.

Conclusion

The 2023 term showcased SCANS' dedication to community welfare, cultural preservation, and international solidarity. From educational programs to humanitarian aid, SCANS has remained steadfast in its commitment to support the Sudanese community in Newcastle and beyond.

We extend our gratitude to all participants, and partners who contributed to the success of these initiatives. Together, we continue to make a meaningful impact.

Looking Ahead

SCANS will continue to build on this year's accomplishments, aiming to expand its reach, strengthen its support network, and provide new opportunities for cultural and social engagement in the coming year.

Finance

Income

Membership contributions	£4,980. 00
Donations	£2,668. 00
Total	£7,648 .00

Expenses

Account fees	£65.00
Charitable Activities	£4,565. 00
Total	£4,630

.00

Balance

**£3,018
.00**

Prepared by:

Sudanese Community Association in Newcastle and Surrounding Areas

Date: November 2023