

SKIPPKO

Newsletter January 2026

We can't believe we're in the last few months of our 'Home from Home' made possible by the National Lottery Community Fund. We've had so much fun the time has flown, and we still have loads on before our final sharing event 'Skippko Fest' at the end of April 2026!

Coming up



'Flowers of the Sky'

'Flowers of the Sky' is this year's winter at home project with over 100 packs being sent out already. We still have a few packs left if anyone is interested in getting involved. We have an online video, made with the help of participants, showing you how to make your flowers and all the materials you'll need are in the pack.

Please contact Cath on **0113 2345355**, or email Cath for a pack (details overleaf).

Skippko Fest

April 2026 will see the end of our 3-year programme 'Home from Home', and we'll be inviting everyone who's been involved to celebrate at our 3-day '**Skippko Fest**' on **28, 29 and 30th April 2026**. Expect wristbands, festival food, performance, exhibitions, creative activities, panel discussions, pop-art taxis and more...



Camera Connections Exhibition

Older people across Leeds have been exploring their creative sides through the camera during our Camera Connections project. We'll be producing a book and there will be an exhibition open to the public **10-3 on 21, 22 and 23rd January 2026** in unit 50 Barkston House, Croydon Street, Leeds, LS11 9RT. All welcome, no need to book, you can turn up at a time to suit.

For details on how to find us see 'Venue, Access and Transport Details' on our contact us page on our website.

Ongoing projects...

Our 'Home from Home' programme hasn't finished yet and we still have lots of wonderful projects with some amazing communities across Leeds.

Tales of HOPE

The people of Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe have been working with artists Sally and Anne to research, design and make three large stained glass effect windows for HOPE project's new venue.

They've spent many hours researching, trying out techniques and planning the designs, which are almost complete. 50 adults and 81 children have been involved in the project and we can't wait to unveil the finished panels at HOPE's new home in 2026.



GDPR info

As you know, there is a lot being said about how organisations look after people's personal details. Skippko does not engage in any form of marketing or sharing personal information. Skippko is registered with the Information Commissioners Office and is committed to ensuring protection of all personal information it holds and recognises its obligations in meeting the requirements of GDPR. Skippko's accountable person is director, Arthur Stafford.

Wish you were here – Skippko Community Research Team

Our community research team have been exploring archives and stories of people who travelled to Spain from the 1950s onwards. We held a wonderful Spanish sharing event with guests invited to come along to share their stories, tapas and sangria!

We will be working with Professor Peter Anderson from the University of Leeds in the Spring, learning skills and ethics to undertake our own audio interviews and creating an exhibition of the work.



Performance and Making Club

Skippko's 'Performance and Making Club' are currently exploring 'hats' and the different characters they become when wearing their hats.

Members will be performing at Skippko Fest in April 2026 – watch this space for more details.

Under the Canopy

This is our outdoor nature focussed project, supporting people's mental health and wellbeing by exploring the great outdoors through creative activities and writing at Hollybush Conservation Centre and other venues.



Monthly Art Club

Monthly Art Club is in full swing with each session including a warm-up activity, a directed activity and time for self-directed artwork.

Last term we were inspired by the Autumn and have explored drawing and painting methods to capture pumpkins and leaves, have made paper sculptures and had a visit to Leeds Art Gallery.

Please contact Cath (details below) to be added to our waiting list.



What's next...

Our 'Home from Home' programme will be ending in April 2026, and we have lots of plans in the pipeline. Our next programme will see a development of our work, all based on detailed lessons learned and the needs and wishes of our wonderful participants. We are currently applying for funding to bring our plans to life. Watch this space for news as we receive it.

And from everyone at Skippko we'd like to wish you a Happy New Year!

For enquiries about projects contact Cath Brooke: cath.skippko@gmail.com

Or for general enquiries to our director Arthur Stafford: arthur.skippko@gmail.com

For information on our current year three 'Home from Home' projects please check out our website:

<https://skippko.org.uk>

