

Bulletin 20 February 2009

SDV News and events

SDV Annual General Meeting – Tuesday 21 April, 6pm

The next AGM will be held on the above date at the Boiler House at the Hidden Gardens. It's important that all SDV members attend.

A new committee will be elected at the AGM so think about putting yourself forward as a committee member.

After 3 years, Michelle will be standing down as Treasurer at the next AGM. This means this role will need to be filled. The person does not need to have massive financial expertise. He or she would simply need to be numerate and Michelle would provide a handover to go through the procedures. If anyone is interested in this role, or knows anyone who might be, please contact Kate or a member of the committee.

Immigration, asylum and detention news

Incidents of self-harm in Immigration Detention, Quarter 4 2008

Information provided to NCADC in response to a Freedom of Information request.

Number of incidents of Self-Harm requiring medical treatment

	October	November	December
Campsfield House	0	2	0
Colnbrook	2	2	6
Dover	2	4	4
Dungavel	0	0	0
Harmondsworth	1	1	1
Haslar	2	1	0
Lindholme	0	0	0
Oakington	0	2	1
Tinsley House	1	1	0
Yarl's Wood	0	3	4
Manchester STHF	0	0	0
Total	8	14	16

[up 18.75% on previous quarter]

Number of individuals on Assessment Care in Detention and Teamwork (AKA Individuals on Formal Self-Harm at Risk)

	October	November	December
Campsfield House	5	5	7
Colnbrook	51	23	49
Dover	14	10	11
Dungavel	6	7	7
Harmondsworth	16	18	4
Haslar	6	2	4
Lindholme	0	0	0
Oakington	7	9	11
Tinsley House	11	8	5
Yarl's Wood	14	15	15
Manchester STHF	0	0	2
Total	116	131	116

[Down 1% on previous quarter]

Deporting gay asylum-seeker 'was unlawful' High Court orders Home Secretary to find and return 38-year-old man to Britain

A gay asylum-seeker who was unlawfully deported last year and now lives in fear of persecution must be found and returned to Britain, a High Court judge has ruled.

Sir George Newman said the failed asylum-seeker's removal was "manifestly unlawful" and ordered the Home Secretary, Jacqui Smith, to "use her best endeavours" to bring him back.

The judge said it appeared to him that officers of the UK Border Agency, which is responsible for controlling immigration, had "deliberately misled" Mr X and deprived him of his right to seek legal advice before his removal. Neither the asylum-seeker nor the country to which he was sent can be named.

The agency's actions were calculated "to avoid any complication that could arise from his removal becoming publicly known," said the judge.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/deporting-gay-asylumseeker-was-unlawful-1627052.html>

Other news and events

Anti-Deportation Workshop Saturday 14 March 2009 - 1:30-3:00 pm

Facilitator: Pol Yates: polyates@phonecoop.coop
Hosted by: Umoja Inc Women's Group
Venue: YWCA Glasgow,
3 Newton Terrace,
Sauchiehall Street,
Charing Cross,
Glasgow G3 7PJ

The aims of the workshop are to discuss:

1. Reasons to set up an anti-deportation campaign
2. How to set up an anti-deportation campaign (basics)
3. Empowering of asylum seekers

Enquiries/further information: Pol Yates: polyates@phonecoop.coop

DEC Gaza appeal

After an 18 month blockade of Gaza and three weeks of heavy shelling the humanitarian crisis in Gaza is now completely overwhelming.

Thousands of people are struggling to survive with many having lost their homes and most down to their last supplies of food and only limited amounts of fresh drinking water.

Click on the link below to donate:

www.dec.org.uk/item/200

Stop the War Coalition Scotland Conference: Saturday 21 February 10am – 5pm

Charles Wilson Building, Glasgow University (intersection of Gibson Street, Bank Street, and Kelvin Way)

Four sessions:

Free Palestine – end the siege of Gaza

War and Occupation: Afghanistan, Africa, Iraq, Pakistan, Palestine ...

Nukes and Nato: Trident, Eastern Europe, The 'Long War' ...

War at Home and Resistance: Islamophobia, Civil Liberties, Military Families ...