

NO BORDER FEST

NOBORDERSWALES.ORG.UK/FEST

3RD & 4TH OCTOBER **J's** CLARENCE PLACE NEWPORT



Newsletter Summer 2008 Free/donation

Web: www.noborderswales.org.uk

FRIDAY

7PM START. £6 ON THE DOOR

The best dubby ska punk from London, back for the 2nd time this year

INNER TERRESTRIALS

Legendary Cardiff Anarcho punk

NO CHOICE

Wales' finest Anarcho folk punk

Kilnboy

Acoustic protest folk from Ammonford

Tracey Curtis

Allotment Crust-lite from Brizzle

JESUS BRUISER

**SPECIAL 2-DAY
TICKET ONLY £10**

**ALL PROFITS GO
TO NO BORDERS
SOUTH WALES**

SATURDAY

5PM START. £7 ON THE DOOR

Swinging ska punk from Yorkshire

Catchin' Kebabz

Folk punk from one of the world's finest political songwriters

ROBB JOHNSON & THE IRREGULARS

Anarcho Ska Punk from Brizzle

SPANNER

Newport's best hardcore punk

ALICIA

Acoustic Anarcho-troubadour

COSMO

Raw Anarcho Punk from Neath

FILTHY HABITS

Classic Cardiff Anarcho Punk

POLITRIX

RESISTANCE TO THE UK BORDER REGIME



On Wednesday 20th August, activists from No Borders South Wales and No Borders Bristol demonstrated outside the UK Border Agency's regional office for Wales and South West at 31-33 Newport Road, Cardiff in protest against the UK's racist and repressive migration controls.

These offices are where snatch squads leave from to kidnap innocent families in dawn raids, where local refugees seeking asylum have to regularly sign in and are treated like criminals and where bureaucrats decide who can and can't stay.

Refugees like Ama Sumani, who was receiving cancer treatment at University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. By deporting her, and denying her medical care the Border Agency caused her early death. Not only can someone receiving treatment vital to their survival be removed from hospital against their will, it is the regular practice of this government funded executive agency.

Immigration - the case for free movement

Activists from No Borders and No One Is Illegal argue why socialists should not compromise on border controls

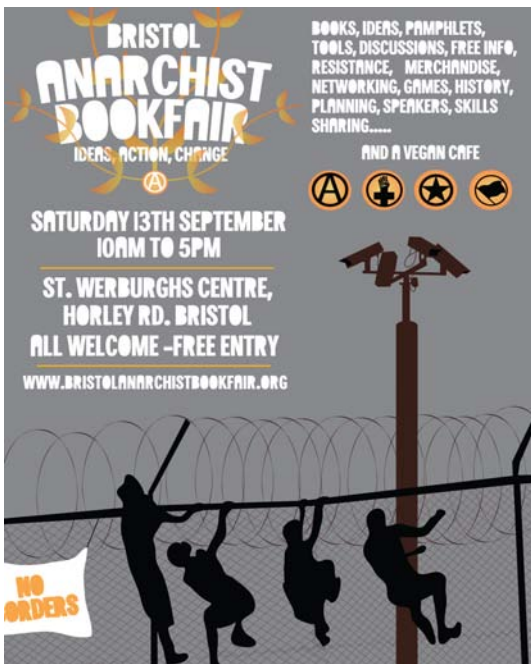
Model Inn
Weds 3 Sept 7.30pm
www.radicalsocialist.org

Cardiff
Radical
Socialist
Forum

Despite some rather petty territorial behaviour from the Border Agency staff (who removed a banner that was attached to 'their' railings) and a short visit from local police who had been 'sent down to check that everything was passing off peacefully', the event went very well.

One of the main reasons we do these regular pickets is to distribute leaflets to the refugees who are victimised there. By informing them about the support that's available and urging them to campaign for the right to stay, we encourage people to take control of their lives rather than submit to the whims of an asylum regime that aims to de-humanise them at every turn.

The next picket will be on Wednesday 17th September at 12 noon for one hour. We currently hold these pickets on a monthly basis and hope to make them more regular events.



Anti-Deportation Campaigns

No Borders South Wales has helped to set up a number of anti-deportation campaigns. Current campaigns include:



Constance Nzeneu fled Cameroon to escape a forced marriage which would have subjected her to female circumcision. She is hoping to soon be granted leave to remain in the UK with her young son Andreas.



Babi Badalov is a gay artist from Azerbaijan where he has suffered abuse and persecution because of his sexuality and radical art work. He has recently been refused asylum.



Jean Pierre Geutechue was a victim of torture in Cameroon. He is currently detained in Campsfield immigration removal prison but is fighting to return to his community in Cardiff.



Kemi Ayinde is 6 months pregnant, she was trafficked from Nigeria and forced into prostitution in the UK. She and her young family are fighting to stay in Cardiff

More campaign info: noborderswales.org.uk

Worried about ID cards?

Then you should be concerned about the repression of migrants by government and corporate immigration 'services'. ID cards have already been tested on migrants seeking asylum and will be used next on other 'foreigners'.



The Application Registration Card has to be carried by everyone seeking asylum for their regular reporting and to obtain National Asylum Support Service payments from the post office. It is an ID card containing the bearer's fingerprint, photograph, name, date of birth and nationality.

From this November foreign nationals wanting to enter the UK will have to apply for "biometric residence permits" and their details will be entered into a national identity database. From next year foreign nationals living in the UK will begin to be issued with ID cards. Once migrants have been used to test the scheme, the government's plan is to issue identity cards to UK citizens on a voluntary basis from 2010, then in 2011 bringing in compulsory 'choice' of a passport, ID card or both.

The fact that ID cards and fingerprinting technology has been tested on refugees shows that the state is prepared to impose ID on those people with the least voice to oppose it, before rolling it out to the whole population. The government is trying to get ID plans accepted by cynical scapegoating of immigrants especially 'asylum seekers'.

On Saturday 4th October at 2pm outside the Passport Office in Dock Street, Newport, No Borders South Wales will be holding a protest against ID cards, biometric passports, and the surveillance society in general. We will be distributing leaflets and raising awareness about the new ID laws that come into force this November. Come and join us.

About No Borders South Wales

No Borders South Wales is a collective of people who organise for freedom of movement for all, spread information, set up anti-deportation campaigns and take direct action against controls on migration. An autonomous part of a transnational No Border network struggling against capitalism and the state. We do not call for 'fairer' border controls, but for their complete abolition, advocating free migration. We work on a non-hierarchical, anti-authoritarian basis, using consensus decision making.

It is in response to poverty, persecution, war, and climate change that people are on the move around the world. The numbers are only set to rise as neocolonial western governments' destabilise resource-rich areas to drive economic growth at home, demanding no barriers on trade, but multiplying them for people. Whilst the rich have become increasingly regular international travellers, the global poor are violently kept out of the likes of Fortress Europe. The wealthy are not affected by border controls, their affluence makes them 'deserving'. Witness the large number of super-rich 'non-domiciles' who are resident in the UK but pay no tax, un-harassed by the government.

Media Barons and right-wing politicians have been quick to demonise refugees, regardless of the truth. So that the government can appear 'tough on immigration' the right of asylum is under constant attack, with regular dawn raids, overcrowded detention centres, and increasing numbers of deportations to places that the government knows are unsafe. These recent phenomenons of immigration policy divide people into citizens and non-citizens, deserving and undeserving, 'legals' and 'illegals'.

We do not believe anyone should have to justify their presence and our actions are not motivated by pity. Though for tactical reasons, when campaigning for someone not to be deported, we use compassionate arguments for their right to remain, our motivation is always one of solidarity with fellow working class people from across the globe.

Borders are rising around all of us, migrants are used as the testing ground for ID schemes and monitoring systems, used as excuse to increase the size of the surveillance state. We are against repression in all its forms and the many controls which would restrict the lives of everyone. The UK is becoming a mass surveillance society, migrants are at the very sharp end.

Since the group began in 2005, we have hosted workshops, film showings, talks, information days, benefit gigs, organised anti-deportation campaigns, taken part in the first UK No Border camp and regularly picketed or blockaded the UK Border Agency in Cardiff.

We hold meetings every other Thursday in the Riverside Community Centre, Cardiff. Contact us for more details. Email: noborderswales@riseup.net Web: noborderswales.org.uk

