

BIG BROTHER IS COMING



ID CARDS COME INTO FORCE THIS NOVEMBER



The card will hold the holder's photograph, name, date of birth, nationality, immigration status and an electronic chip with biometric details, including fingerprints and digital facial image. All indefinitely held on the UK Identity and Passport Service database.



Initially the ID cards will be issued to non-EU students and marriage visa holders, then foreign nationals wanting to enter the UK. From next year other foreign nationals living here will be issued with ID cards. These groups will be forced to enroll on the scheme and use the card, rather than their passport, for identification.

In 2009, once migrants have been used to test the scheme, anyone, regardless of nationality, who works in an area the government deems "sensitive" such as airports will be required to have an ID card. In 2010, students will need ID cards to get a student loan and they will be available to the rest of us on a "voluntary" basis, with ID cards being paired with passports in 2011.

It is patently clear that this card is the thin end of the wedge, the first blow in an attack on civil liberties we all enjoy. The government is open about their plans, it wants everyone in the UK tagged, numbered and repressed, using migrants as a testing ground for it's authoritarian desire to increase the size of the surveillance state. The opposition to ID cards must begin now.

*First they forced ID cards on asylum seekers,
and I didn't protest because I wasn't an asylum seeker.
Now they're forcing ID cards on non-EU migrants,
and I didn't protest because I wasn't a non-EU migrant
Next they're forcing ID cards on airport workers,
and then they're going to force one on me...*

Borders are rising around all of us, immigration law already gives the Home Office some of the powers it would like to exert over all of us. 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.

When we resist the repression of migrants, we defend everyone's freedom!



No Borders South Wales is a collective of people who organise against migration controls and for the freedom of movement for all. We work on a non-hierarchical, anti-authoritarian basis, using consensus decision making.

We hold meetings every Thursday in the Riverside Community Centre, Cardiff. For more details visit: noborderswales.org.uk