

*****Welsh Refugee Council News Review*****

1/1/08-25/1/08

This news review is compiled by the Policy and Communications Team at Welsh Refugee Council and is circulated on a fortnightly basis. It aims to keep readers up to date with the way asylum seekers and refugees are portrayed in the media. It focuses mainly on the Welsh press but also covers UK press.

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Wales

Asylum seeker may escape deportation after arson 24/1/08, *Western Mail*

An Iranian asylum seeker from Rhondda who torched a Cardiff mosque could be allowed to stay in Britain....

<http://icwales.icnetwork.co.uk/news/south-wales-news/rhondda/2008/01/24/asylum-seeker-may-escape-deportation-after-arson-91466-20379945/>

Mosque arsonist can stay 19/1/08, *Western Mail*

An asylum seeker who burned down a mosque could be allowed to stay in the UK because sending him home might endanger his life.....

<http://icwales.icnetwork.co.uk/news/cardiff-news/2008/01/19/mosque-arsonist-can-stay-91466-20369559/>

Deportation fight goes to assembly, 18/1/08 *Swansea Evening Post*

The case of Swansea- based asylum-seeker George William, who is threatened with deportation to Pakistan, has been boosted after his plight was raised in the Assembly...

<http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/displayNode.jsp?nodeId=161389&command=displayContent&sourceNode=161372&contentPK=19587620&moduleName=InternalSearch&formname=sidebarsearch>

Zola Wins Hearts, 17/1/08, *Swansea Evening Post*

A South African-born city resident who has been living in Swansea for the past 16 years has won the backing of more than 700 people in her fight against deportation...

<http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/displayNode.jsp?nodeId=161389&command=displayContent&sourceNode=161372&contentPK=19575892&moduleName=InternalSearch&formname=sidebarsearch>

Family take time to get back a bit of normality, 12/1/08, *Swansea Evening Post*

After all the turmoil of the past month, it was back to normality for charity shop worker George William. He and his family still have the threat of deportation looming over them ...

<http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/displayNode.jsp?nodeId=161389&command=displayContent&sourceNode=161372&contentPK=19527931&moduleName=InternalSearch&formname=sidebarsearch>

“Let Asylum Seekers work”, 8/1/08, *Swansea Evening Post*

A Human rights group in Swansea is backing calls for asylum seekers to be allowed to work. Swansea's Asylum Justice said it was getting behind Barnardos' Like Any Other Child campaign...

<http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/displayNode.jsp?nodeId=161389&command=displayContent&sourceNode=161372&contentPK=19478239&moduleName=InternalSearch&formname=sidebarch>

Concert for the needy of Kosovo, 8/1/08, *Western Mail*

The Bridgend Male Voice Choir is preparing a charity concert to help victims of conflict ...

<http://icwales.icnetwork.co.uk/whats-on/whats-on-news/2008/01/08/concert-for-the-needy-of-kosovo-91466-20322545/>

Asylum family briefly reunited, 2/1/08, *Swansea Evening Post*

A Swansea family at the heart of a campaign fighting their deportation have been given a new year boost. They were able to visit their two sons who are being held by the Government...

<http://www.thisissouthwales.co.uk/displayNode.jsp?nodeId=161389&command=displayContent&sourceNode=161372&contentPK=19418020&moduleName=InternalSearch&formname=sidebarch>

Calls for action on Iran exiles ruling, 2/1/08, *Western Mail*

The Government is giving a group of Iranian refugees a "raw deal" by refusing to withdraw a ruling that they belong to a terrorist organisation, according to Welsh politicians....

<http://icwales.icnetwork.co.uk/news/politics-news/2008/01/02/calls-for-action-on-iran-exiles-ruling-91466-20303779/>

January 5 the day for Darfur, 1/1/08, *South Wales Echo*

To initiate a campaign to highlight the genocide in Darfur the Cardiff branch of the United Nations Association has nominated January 5 as Darfur Day ...

<http://icwales.icnetwork.co.uk/news/letters-to-the-editor/south-wales-echo-letters/2008/01/01/january-5-the-day-for-darfur-91466-20300578/>

Pakistani boys wait on deportation fate, 27/12/07, *Western Mail*

Two sons of a Pakistani family living in Wales will face a two-week wait to find out if they will be deported from Britain, it emerged yesterday....

<http://icwales.icnetwork.co.uk/news/wales-news/2007/12/27/pakistan-boys-wait-on-deportation-fate-91466-20288087/>

UK

MP seeks rethink on asylum father, 22/1/08, *BBC News 24*

A Kent MP is meeting Immigration Minister Liam Byrne to ask the government to look again at the case of an asylum seeker from Angola...

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/kent/7201983.stm>

Boy with sickle cell anaemia to be deported, 19/1/08, *The Independent*

A 14-year-old boy with sickle cell anaemia has become the latest in a string of failed asylum-seekers to be scheduled for removal from the UK despite the risks to his health if he returns to his home country, Nigeria...

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/boy-with-sickle-cell-anaemia-to-be-deported-771195.html>

Deported to the Philippines man whose crime was breaching Asbo, 8/1/08, *The Independent*

A young man has been deported to the Philippines, a country he left as a four-year-old, for breaching an antisocial behaviour order....

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/deported-to-the-philippines-man-whose-crime-was-breaching-asbo-768791.html>

Doctors rebel over plan to prevent treatment for failed asylum-seekers, 16/1/08, *The Independent*

Ministers face a doctors' rebellion over plans to deny failed asylum-seekers the right to free health care while they are in Britain....

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/doctors-rebel-over-plan-to-prevent-treatment-for-failed-asylumseekers-770528.html>

Immigration Chief defends deportation of cancer patient, 16/1/08, *The Guardian*

The head of Britain's immigration agency last night defended the decision to deport a Ghanaian cancer patient from her Cardiff hospital bed by insisting that there were hundreds of such cases each year...

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/immigration/story/0,,2241266,00.html>

Report lists racist abuse at immigration centres, 3/1/08, *Guardian Unlimited*

A catalogue of racist behaviour inside Britain's immigration detention centres was exposed by an official report today.....

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/immigration/story/0,,2235024,00.html>

Barnado's in battle with Home Office, 6/1/08, *The Observer*

Charity says asylum backlog is forcing 110,000 children into "horrifying" lives of fear and poverty...

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2008/jan/06/children.voluntarysector>

Austrian Company offers to remove UK's "disruptive" migrants in adapted aircraft, 27/12/07, *The Independent*

A company specialising in removing failed asylum-seekers is to approach the Government with plans to use specially adapted aircraft to deport hundreds of "disruptive" refugees.....

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/austrian-company-offers-to-remove-uks-disruptive-migrants-in-adapted-aircraft-766862.html>