

Committee to Defend Asylum Seekers

info@defend-asylum.org

NEWSLETTER No.3

Demonstrate at Harmondsworth 30th June

A new 550 bedded Detention Centre is being built at Harmondsworth and is due to open officially on 29th June. Harmondsworth will have provision for imprisoning families with kids and also for people who are sick or disabled.

The Government proposes to save money by using the detainees to undertake the cooking, cleaning and maintenance work. For this, they will be paid the grand sum of £12 per week – virtually slave labour.

The Close Down Harmondsworth Campaign is calling a demonstration on 30th June. A car cavalcade is meeting at 10.30am in M4 westbound Heston Services (details from Elaine 07958 508492). CDAS will be organising a coach from Kings Cross Station (York Road). Contact CDAS to book a place.

Barbara Roche fails to defend New Labour's assylum policy

During the election campaign, Barbara Roche was given a hard time by the audience at a hustings meeting called by Charter 88. As well as criticizing new Labour's privatisation policy, the audience were keen to hear her response to questions on assylum seekers. When Roche tried to claim that Oakington was a 'Rolls Royce' of reception centres, she was challenged by the Socialist Alliance candidate Louise Christianson. Christianson pointed out that conditions were in fact horrendous and that unaccompanied children were detained there. The audience were more inclined to believe Christianson and at the end of the meeting members of the audience took leaflets from the CDAS stall and wanted to know more about our work.

Conference

23rd June 2001 10 am -5 pm

Refugees, Racism and Asylum Rights with Tony Benn and Theresa Hayter.

University of East London

Docklands campus

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Join the CDAS committee

We meet fortnightly on Mondays at Camden Town Hall. For info **E mail:**
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