



# Annual Review 2014/15



*How we welcomed asylum seekers,  
refugees and detainees*



# Asylum Welcome exists for people fleeing persecution and danger in their own countries, who seek refuge in Oxfordshire.

Our members and supporters, of various faiths and politics, have shared values based on a common humanity and social justice.

Our work is to reduce poverty, suffering and social isolation and to enable asylum seekers and refugees to live with the respect and dignity to which they are entitled.

We make every effort to inform and influence public debate and to dispel myths and misinformation about asylum seekers and refugees. We aim for the highest standards of integrity, confidentiality and quality of service; to make no judgements of individuals and to meet the needs left unmet by others.

To these ends, we:

- provide advice, information and support to asylum seekers and refugees;
- befriend, visit and support the rights and welfare of detainees; and
- work with other service providers and the public to meet the needs of asylum seekers and refugees.

## The Trustee Board 2014-15

In addition to their governance responsibilities many of our trustees take part in practical volunteering activities.

### Trustees throughout the year:

Very Revd. Bob Wilkes *Chair*  
Marcus Thompson MBE *Deputy Chair*  
Renee de Louw A.C.A. *Treasurer*  
Judy Boon  
Belinda Cootes  
Dr. Melanie Griffiths  
John Prangle  
Wyon Stansfeld  
Professor Roger Zetter

### Trustees who retired at the AGM:

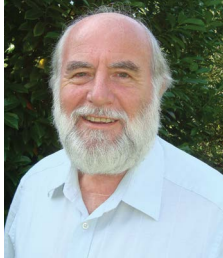
Tamsin Smith  
Richard Taylor  
Professor Lucy Vickers

### Company Secretary:

Olive Gearing  
  
**Patrons:**  
Terry Ranger  
Uwe Kitzing

## Asylum Welcome Members

The experience and opinions of the members guide the organisation and strengthen our links with local communities. In 2014-15 our membership increased to 230 people. An important development this year has been the introduction of free membership for our clients. This resulted in asylum seekers and refugees becoming members for the first time, and it was great to see some attending and asking questions at the AGM. The AGM was a vibrant and celebratory event including space for other organisations to hold stalls and compelling presentations from staff, trustees and guests.



## From the Chair

I do hope that you are encouraged, as I am, when you read this Report. Kate, in 'From the Director', tells us how our services have grown and been improved. There is clearly still a need for the support we give to asylum seekers, refugees and detainees. Once again, sincere thanks are due to the staff and over 100 volunteers who have enabled Asylum Welcome to be effective both at local and at national level.

Having been chair of the Trustees for about a year, I am keenly aware of the heritage we have in Asylum Welcome from all those who have worked so hard over the years. I pay particular tribute to John Prangle who stepped up as acting chair of trustees at a challenging time, and held things together as new staff and new trustees took up their roles.

This past year we have built on the foundations laid the previous year. We have been able to plan ahead, strengthen the trustee group, and ensure sound finances. Now we are setting off into a new year with the will to sustain our work well. Thank you to all the individuals and trusts which support us financially. So we move ahead, hoping that all who seek safety and welcome in today's world will find it.

**Bob Wilkes**  
Chair of Trustees



## From the Director

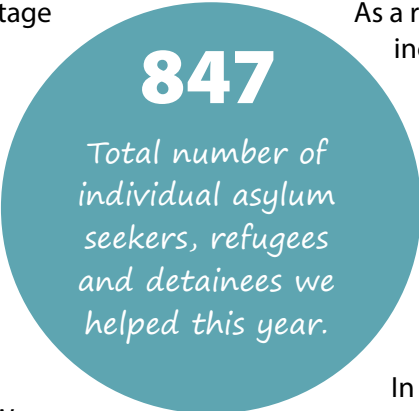
In 2014-15 Asylum Welcome focused on making its services more useful to asylum seekers, refugees and detainees. We registered as an advice-giver with the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC); we provided more technical help to people using computers; we increased our visits to detainees in Campsfield House; we provided more food at the youth club; we trialled new projects like community gardening and sharing recycled bikes; and we increased training for our volunteers.

As a result, demand for our services has increased – we helped more detainees, and attendance at our youth club grew. Advice, English classes and other services running from our Welcome Centre all saw numbers rise. An increasing number of clients became involved in the running of the organisation as volunteers, as members and by doing building work in the offices.

In 2014-15 Asylum Welcome also contributed to community events and to national policy discussions. We were part of the successful challenge to the Campsfield expansion plans.

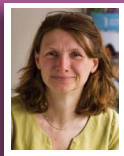
We were able to achieve this thanks to a new and highly committed staff team, more stable funding, the phenomenal efforts of our amazing volunteers and the support of local people.

**Kate Smart**  
Director





Our wonderful staff team:



**Kate Smart,**  
*Director*



**Almas Farsi,**  
*Co-ordinator,  
Volunteer-run Adult  
Advice Services*



**Joanna Crowther,**  
*Youth Service  
Co-ordinator*



**Judy Potts,**  
*Volunteer  
Co-ordinator*



**Fiona McKenzie,**  
*Finance Officer*



**Camille Baziadoly,**  
*Fundraising Officer*



**Hafiz Ladell,**  
*Office Manager*

# A new team

2014-15 began with a new team of staff, restructured to emphasise good quality services. They brought an impressive array of skills and experience to the organisation, and a shared commitment to the cause.



**2,313**  
*visits to our main  
office this year  
asking for help*

An important development this year was to recruit a designated member of staff to co-ordinate volunteers in both the Detainee Support Service and the Adult and Family Advice Service, so bringing much needed direction, energy and expertise. His appointment means Asylum Welcome has recruited its first member of staff who arrived in the UK as an asylum seeker. We continue to employ a qualified social worker as our Youth Service Co-ordinator. The recruitment of a new Volunteer Co-ordinator, after a period when this post had been vacant, has made a positive difference to all aspects of our work and has ensured a well-supported volunteer community. The sterling work of our Fundraising Officer and Office Manager have kept the organisation afloat. Recruiting a Finance Officer who is a qualified accountant has strengthened our ability to manage our finances.

To support the staff team, we have been very grateful for the hard work and commitment of a social work placement student from Ruskin College, and an experienced communications intern from Austria.

# Volunteer co-ordination

As well as being a great asset to Asylum Welcome, volunteering helps people to feel they are contributing to their local community. Our team of around 120 volunteers do an incredible job.

With a new Volunteer Co-ordinator in 2014-15 we have been able to develop a more organised approach to volunteer management, allowing us to recruit a diverse range of talented volunteers and offer them proper training and support.

Training enables volunteers to confidently continue to meet the needs of our clients: to explain their rights and responsibilities, seek improvements in their situation and provide additional help by liaising with other organisations. All new volunteers have been given induction training, plus targeted training courses have been arranged with external experts. These include training on safeguarding children, recognising and dealing with trauma, trafficking, and the basics of immigration and asylum law.

Volunteers have also had the opportunity to attend regular meetings to keep up to date with changes, contribute their ideas and feel part of a team. We also recognised the contribution of long-standing volunteers by presenting them with certificates at our AGM.

We worked hard to increase the number of volunteers with refugee backgrounds, and one of the big successes this year has been that more service users became part of the Asylum Welcome volunteer team. Their confidence, self-esteem and sense of purpose has increased and they are pleased to feel they are “giving something back”.



More of our clients became volunteers this year: we introduced volunteer badges to show when someone is volunteering



Just a few of our amazing volunteers





Our centre offers a warm welcome...



... and lots of useful services



Donations of beautiful hand-knitted items from the charity Knit for Peace

# Welcome Centre

During the year we continued to make improvements in the Welcome Centre to make it more useful and welcoming.

144

visits to use computers

We introduced tea and coffee making facilities, baby changing facilities, children's books, a wider range of toys and a limited amount of second-hand clothing. Some of these changes were in response to the increased numbers of mothers with small children using our services, and in turn it encouraged them to use our services more. We were delighted by a donation of beautiful hand-knitted items from the charity Knit for Peace.

In keeping with our emphasis on improving our advice services, we installed a second interview room for giving one-to-one advice – this was built by our clients (see photo, bottom right). We also improved accessibility by translating key information into languages spoken by our clients.

The computer zone, created in the previous year, has become popular amenity, not least because we have installed Skype so that clients can speak to their relatives.



233

visits to make an appointment, use the phone, collect post or to socialise



# Partnerships

We rely on good working partnerships with other agencies that have a stake in providing for asylum seekers, refugees and detainees. We welcome referrals and are very grateful for all the help we receive. We are developing effective professional relations with statutory service providers, in particular social services and with the staff at Campsfield House.

Asylum Welcome continues to benefit from, and contribute to, the Lottery-funded partnership project Oxford Advice Agencies Stronger Together. We chair the inter-agency meetings on unaccompanied asylum seeking children in Oxfordshire and attend the London Destitution Forum and the UK-wide Detention Forum.

During the year we had a series of meetings with Refugee Resource about how the closely related work of these two neighbouring organisations can be brought together. A practical result was a joint seasonal party for our clients.

Other notable partners during the year have been Red Cross, Open Door, St Francis House, St Mungo's, Children's Society, OCVA, Oxford Foodbank, the Student Hub, Key 2 Housing Association, Association of Visitors to Immigration Detainees, Medical Justice and Bail for Immigration Detainees.



Colleagues from OxGrow at our AGM



An Oxford Foodbank delivery



Case study

A man with UN Refugee Status had permission to bring his wife and child to the UK. They arrived and were living in a very dilapidated studio flat. Although they were entitled to welfare benefits, while his wife's benefit claim was being processed, his benefits were stopped. During this period the family was destitute and entirely reliant on food from Asylum Welcome. The situation became more desperate when a new baby was born. After complaining about the state of their accommodation to their landlord they were evicted. Asylum Welcome volunteers worked hard to involve statutory authorities and thereby secured them temporary accommodation and the support of a regular health visitor.

Adult and Family Advice Service

Our advice service for adults and families provides help on a wide range of topics against a background of austerity measures and tighter immigration controls.



In 2014 we registered with the Immigration Services Commissioner to give immigration advice at OISC level 1. This extends the breadth and the quality of the advice we can legally provide.

We helped asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute to apply for Asylum

Support payments. We helped people to register with GPs, complete HC1 forms for medical costs and we advocated for clients who struggle to communicate with health professionals. Our volunteers accompanied the most severely unwell to the health centre. We advised and supported several people separated from their children who want to bring those children to join them in the UK. We helped families to place their children in schools. We negotiated on behalf of those granted Leave to Remain who find the benefit system increasingly difficult to access, especially those hit by benefit sanctions.

Accessing housing in expensive Oxford is a common problem for people with Leave to Remain. Landlords are reluctant to take tenants on housing benefit, rents are soaring and refugees find it difficult to afford a deposit. The city's strict rule on having a 'local connection' is a barrier to social housing for refugees. To help rough-sleepers we strengthened partnerships with the St Mungo's 'no second night out' scheme, Stepping Stones and Crisis and we passed on donated blankets. We made a small number of payments to clients to alleviate hardship.

652  
adult and family  
advice sessions over  
the year

Detainee Support

The number of volunteer visitors, the frequency of visits and the range of work undertaken on behalf of the detainees makes Asylum Welcome one of the most effective services for detainees in the UK.

In 2014 we significantly increased the number of people that we were able to help by making direct contact with every new Campsfield detainee, rather than waiting for a referral from an intermediary.

We matched each detainee with a regular, one-to-one visitor, and helped overcome communication difficulties by relaying messages between detainees and family, friends, lawyers and other voluntary organisations.

We made efforts to identify detainees who are survivors of torture and/or have serious medical conditions. We referred such cases to Medical Justice and to Bail for Immigration Detainees, and requested that the authorities release them. We also intervened to find lawyers for detainees who struggle to access legal advice.

We made small amounts of funding available via the Campsfield Welfare office to collect detainees' belongings and provided phone cards so they can contact the outside world. After the government's decision to end detainees' access to the Assisted Voluntary Return scheme, we received a number of requests to help with travel costs, which sadly we could only partially meet.

Since detainees are often moved between detention centres, we worked with visitor groups nationwide to endeavour to provide continuity of support.

417  
detainees  
supported

757  
visits to  
detainees



Asylum Welcome visits detainees at Campsfield House

Case study

In early 2015, Asylum Welcome responded promptly to the case of a young person who had challenged Newport Social Services decision that he was an adult but had been detained at Campsfield House before the result of a second age assessment. Asylum Welcome visited him regularly, raised concerns about his detention with the Campsfield authorities and with Social Services in Oxfordshire and Newport. We also worked closely with his solicitor. The second age assessment concluded that he was 18 years of age and we continued to offer him support while his solicitor and social services challenged the decision to detain him. As a result of this combined effort he was released from detention.





# Youth Service

**82**  
*unaccompanied young  
asylum seekers and  
refugees supported*

Unaccompanied asylum seeking children continued to arrive in Oxford through the year, including children from Albania, Eritrea, Egypt and Afghanistan. As each one arrived, Asylum Welcome's Youth Service Co-ordinator – a qualified social worker – was closely involved in the child's 'Orientation Programme'.

During 2014-15, there has been a significant increase in numbers attending Asylum Welcome's Venda Youth Club – a place to relax, play music and games, socialise and get advice from the Youth Co-ordinator. Free food is provided, and this year our young clients warmly welcomed the addition of kebabs once a month. Several trips were organised during the Summer holidays – swimming, skating, sight-seeing – providing a chance simply 'to be children'.

The evening youth club builds trust so that we can work effectively with young people through appointments at the office. Crucially, because we run a charitable service, our support for these young people can continue even if statutory support is withdrawn.

These young people are not only coping with life in a new culture and with the complexities of the asylum system, they are also dealing with the issues that every teenager faces growing into adulthood. The Youth Service Co-ordinator works with voluntary and statutory agencies to help meet health, education and welfare needs.

Sadly, we are seeing an increasing number of young people, mainly Afghan, whose asylum claims have been refused and rights of appeal have been exhausted, and whose discretionary leave is not being extended past 18 years of age. They face the loss of all support, and the possibility of return to their home country. Some of these young people have been in this country for years, and have adopted British culture. A small number of these young people are homeless.

**391**  
*visits to the  
Youth Service*



... a youth club...



...friendship and support

**30**  
*young asylum  
seekers and  
refugees, on average,  
attended weekly  
youth club*

# Education

**415**  
*English lessons  
provided*

We continue to empower asylum seekers and refugees through assistance in learning English and re-entering education. As a result they can communicate more independently, adjust to a new culture and gain independence and confidence.

We provided tailored one-to-one classes from qualified and experienced volunteer teachers for asylum seekers and refugees who are unable to attend mainstream classes (for example because of cost, regulations or personal circumstances). This year we bought some more modern teaching materials, including some learning games – especially helpful for those with very little English.

We also advised asylum seekers and refugees on other options for learning. We successfully referred clients to City of Oxford College, Ruskin, EMBS, Crisis Skylight, and FELLOW. We also offered coaching prior to college interviews. Places were secured mainly for ESOL courses, but also Maths, IT and photography and social studies – many leading to qualifications.

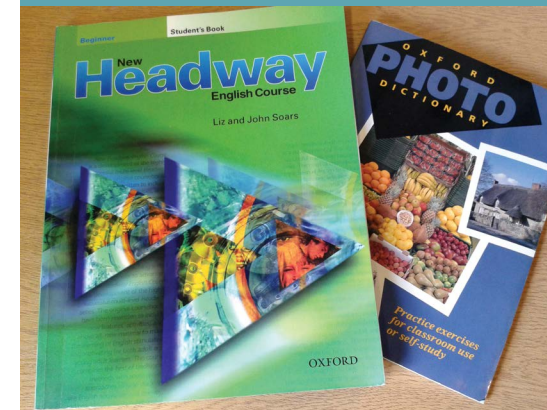
Education service volunteers met regularly with their clients to support them as they progress through their courses, encouraging them to attend classes regularly and complete homework, and congratulating them on their successes. We provided bus passes to travel to college. Free courses are increasingly scarce and so we helped with small grant applications if there were fees to pay.

We have two second-hand laptops which we loaned to students to help them with their courses. Students who would not otherwise be able to afford an individual computer could participate fully in their course and study independently at home.

**153**  
*clients received  
education  
advice*



Our Education Service provides relaxed lessons...



.. loads of resources...



.. qualified teachers



## Case study

A young man from Afghanistan has attended the Venda youth club regularly since his arrival in Oxford as an unaccompanied asylum seeking child over 5 years ago. Over the years, volunteers helped him with his school homework, especially English assignments. On leaving school he asked for help to apply for a full time job with a major supermarket, which could offer him the prospect of a long term career. Asylum Welcome staff and volunteers assisted him with the initial on-line application process, and to up-date his CV and anticipate the sort of questions he might be asked at interview. His application was successful: he is now working full time and very much enjoying the experience.

## Employment and IT advice and support



**Advice and support in applying for jobs and employment-related training is a feature of our three community-based advice services: our Youth Service, our Adult and Family Advice Service and our Education Service. Staff and volunteers across these services help with preparation of CVs, job-searches and advice on interview preparation.**

Following the development of the computer area last year, we have now been able to provide more assistance with seeking and applying for jobs online.

We are very grateful for the help of a volunteer with a strong IT background, who has led this work. He has also helped to teach clients basic IT skills and he is on hand to help with any difficulties they encounter.

We have also purchased a laptop for use at the youth club to help young people with CVs and applications.

## Refugee Rights Support Fund

**Thanks to a fund set up by one individual donor, we made it possible for asylum seekers to pursue their legal claims to be granted asylum in the UK. We used the fund to obtain copies of asylum seekers' casefiles from the Home Office so that they have a complete immigration history.**

We have seen increasing numbers of asylum seekers being asked to 'report' to the Home Office in London instead of at a local Oxford police station, but without the Home Office making available the funds to travel. We used our fund to pay for travel so that appointments would not be missed, but we also lobbied the Home Office (including through a local MP) for clearer and more consistent procedures for reimbursing travel costs.

We also paid travel costs for asylum seekers to attend appointments with lawyers or immigration tribunals in Cardiff, Birmingham and Liverpool. In the case of some youth clients, we paid for our Youth Service Co-ordinator to attend tribunals as a witness. We referred a small number of clients to reputable and professional legal representatives, for which we have agreed to pay. We can see clear benefits in the enhanced legal advice received by clients, and we gain from the advice that these lawyers give to us.

## Case study

Using the Support Fund, we supported a very vulnerable young man from Afghanistan, who had arrived in Oxford as an unaccompanied child. We contributed to travel costs, provided a character witness and gave evidence of his poor mental and emotional health at his tribunal in Birmingham. His appeal was successful and he has been given a further two and a half years Discretionary Leave, at the end of which he should be eligible to apply for settlement in the UK.

## Case study

A single mother from Zimbabwe had given birth after being 'appeal rights exhausted'. She was staying with friends initially but then became homeless. She and her baby approached Asylum Welcome with nowhere to go. Social Services believed that she and her child could apply to the Home Office for accommodation. Asylum Welcome arranged legal advice and representation. The possibility of pursuing a legal case with the Home Office was fully explored and the client was advised accordingly. As a result of this process, Social Services were provided with sufficient information to persuade them to provide accommodation for her and her baby.



# Food

The provision of food makes a big difference to people who are destitute or reliant on Asylum Support payments.

We provided a mixture of fresh food, packaged food and toiletries. This year, in order to manage growing demand, we established a more organised way of distributing the food: preparing food parcels, tracking what kinds of food are popular with clients, and adding options like eggs to increase the nutritional value of the food parcels.

We continued to provide freshly cooked hot meals every week, mostly for clients, but also open to staff, volunteers and other visitors, because socialising is an important element of our service. The meals are cooked by a dedicated group of volunteers, with some contributions from service users: for example, one of our clients who comes from Afghanistan cooked *Bolani* – traditional fried Afghan flatbread stuffed with garlic and leeks.

484

hot meals provided to clients

964

visits to our food bank



Over the year, we received **657** bags of food, from 86 individuals and organisations.

Thank you!



Fresh produce, store-cupboard staples and delicious meals



# The beginnings of new services

## Bikes

In 2014 we began conversations with bike recycling projects: the London Bike Project for asylum seekers, and Oxford's Broken Spoke, to increase access for our clients, especially as Oxford is a city of cyclists. One outcome was the very generous donation of 18 new children's bikes from FrogBikes, which were given away to refugee children over the Christmas period.

## Gardening

A volunteer helped build a connection with the new Oxbow community gardening and food-growing project. Our clients were encouraged to take part during the Spring, Summer and Autumn, and this was particularly valuable for those who had a connection to the land in their country of origin.

## Self expression: Welcome Voices

We began a project to train our clients to speak in public, led by an experienced refugee journalist – they set up a blog and a twitter account. We also set up a reading club – this was a hit with a small group of refugee women, providing useful conversation practice as well as social support.



## Case study

An asylum seeker who has no means of support other than friends was involved in a road traffic accident whilst cycling in High Street. Thankfully he was unhurt, apart from some cuts and bruises, but his bike was badly damaged. Asylum Welcome contacted Oxford Quakers who generously agreed to fund the repair of his bike through the charity Broken Spoke. He is now reunited with his bike, fully repaired and reconditioned.



# Using our influence

In response to the growing political debate about asylum and detention, Asylum Welcome has made some well-judged contributions throughout the year.

We gave many media interviews – for example, we took part in a Radio Oxford debate about numbers of asylum seekers and migrants in the UK, and offered a response to a Sky News investigation into boats crossing the Mediterranean.

Asylum Welcome contributed written evidence to the Chief Inspector of Prisons during the Campsfield inspection, and to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Immigration Detention.

When a film emerged on the internet made by Campsfield detainees complaining about alleged mistreatment by staff, our response to the media, police and Campsfield managers was prompt, thoughtful and well-researched; and raised questions when needed.

## Stop Campsfield Expansion!

Asylum Welcome submitted an impressively detailed and evidenced response to Home Office plans to expand Campsfield Immigration Removal Centre from 279 to 566 beds.

We attended the local authority planning committee hearing, and gave numerous press statements, including a feature article in the Oxford Mail. Asylum Welcome, alongside the Close Campsfield Campaign played a lead role in the Stop Campsfield Expansion coalition which secured pro-bono legal assistance. Our efforts were rewarded by the Home Secretary's decision to withdraw the expansion plan.



**STOP CAMPSFIELD EXPANSION**


**PUBLIC MEETING**

Organised by local groups including the Campaign to Close Campsfield

**Monday 20 October, 7.30pm.**

**Exeter Hall, Kidlington, OX5 1AB**

**Speakers:** A former Campsfield detainee, Kate Smart (Asylum Welcome Oxford), Bill MacKeith (Close Campsfield)



**A waste of lives**  
**A waste of money**  
**An inhuman and degrading system**

The government has announced plans to transform Campsfield House Immigration Removal Centre in Kidlington into a **560-bed mega-centre**, making it **one of the largest detention centres in Europe**. Immigration detention is **unjust and inhumane** and there's no need to expand it in the UK.

**If you think the immigration detention system isn't working, write to your MP**

Comment on the plans when the application has been made by the Home Office at [www.publicaccess.cherwell.gov.uk/online-applications/](http://www.publicaccess.cherwell.gov.uk/online-applications/)

Contact us for more information, including on how to make a submission.  
<http://closecampsfield.wordpress.com/> [closecampsfield@riseup.net](mailto:closecampsfield@riseup.net)

# Promoting understanding

Asylum Welcome encourages sympathy, understanding and welcome.

We regularly provide answers to local people's questions about asylum seekers, refugees and detainees. We support the vision of Oxford as a 'City of Sanctuary' where asylum seekers and refugees are included in all kinds of organisations, institutions, activities and communities.

In 2014, trustees ran stalls at the Elder Stubbs festival and the Cowley Road Carnival. We hosted a workshop as part of the 'Syria Speaks' writers' tour. Maurice Wren, CEO of the Refugee Council, spoke at our AGM and Sarah Teather MP spoke at our seasonal event in December.

An Asylum Welcome trustee gained widespread praise for co-ordinating the most active and ambitious 'Refugee Week' that anyone can remember in Oxford, with events hosted by Refugee Resource, the Red Cross and Amnesty International, including a film, a debate and various musical events.

As the statistics below show, our social media presence rose substantially compared to the previous year.



Maurice Wren, CEO of the Refugee Council, speaking at our AGM



HOT TOPIC: A demonstration to stop the expansion of Campsfield detention centre earlier this year

## Detaining asylum seekers gives out wrong message

**CAMPSFIELD EXPANSION**

The Home Office has submitted a planning application to substantially increase the size of Campsfield Immigration Removal Centre in Kidlington to 566 beds. Cherwell District Council planning committee meets at 4pm today to decide whether to approve the plan. Asylum Welcome is the charity that, for 20 years, has run the volunteer visitor group that befriended and supports detainees at Campsfield. Asylum Welcome and 66 other organisations and individuals have submitted their opposition to the plan and we hope our supporters will contact their councillors to register their opposition.

There are a number of reasons why we are opposing the Campsfield expansion plan. Firstly, we don't believe that detention is "a good thing". In fact, even the Home Office guidelines on detention say people should only be held in detention for the shortest period necessary. So any request to increase the capacity to detain people should be looked at closely. We believe it is hard to argue that more detention spaces are needed when there is so much inefficiency. The Home Office planning application says that they "need extra detention spaces, but doesn't explain its figures. We think it has failed to make its case. This point is important because Campsfield House is in the Green Belt. National regulations state that development on Green Belt land "should not be approved except in very special circumstances".

We fear that with larger numbers of detainees in control, the regime at Campsfield may become more harsh, as happened following expansion at Harmondsworth detention centre. Finally, Asylum Welcome exists to welcome asylum seekers and refugees to Oxford and part of our work is to foster understanding between these newcomers and the local community. In our experience, built up over 20 years of charitable work, asylum workers and refugees are enormously grateful for the opportunity to live in peace. They wish to contribute to the communities that welcome them. Our organisation exists because 120 local people volunteer their time to help, and over 200 are registered as members, with links to a wider network of supporters. Asylum Welcome demonstrates that Oxford is a compassionate city with a strong sense of shared humanity towards people escaping from other places. But we also recognise that many local people have less day-to-day contact with asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants, and may have mixed views about their presence here. We are concerned about the impact on public opinion and community relations of this expansion. Building a huge centre surrounded by barbed wire and security guards sends a message that the detainees made must be inhuman people - whereas in fact they are the ones who are most frightened, isolated from local people, and that myths and anxieties can perpetuate the oppression of what Asylum Welcome stands for.

**Kate Smart**  
Director of Asylum Welcome

**Your views**  
Write to your MP, Oxford and Cherwell, Cherwell Mail, Oxford, OX5 1AB or email [info@closecampsfield.org.uk](mailto:info@closecampsfield.org.uk)



Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2015

	2015 Unrestricted Funds	2015 Restricted Funds	2015 Total	2014
	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES				
<b>Incoming Resources from Generated Funds</b>				
Voluntary Income	99,400	117,720	217,120	195,760
Activities for Generating Funds	5,918	–	5,918	3,878
Investment Income	209	–	209	215
<b>Other Incoming Resources</b>	–	–	–	–
<i>Total Incoming Resources</i>	<u>105,527</u>	<u>117,720</u>	<u>223,247</u>	<u>199,853</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
<b>Costs of Generating Funds</b>				
Costs of Generating Voluntary Income	22,965	–	22,965	16,937
<b>Charitable Activities</b>	72,507	117,720	190,227	170,220
<b>Governance Costs</b>	7,849	–	7,849	6,422
<i>Total Resources Expended</i>	<u>103,321</u>	<u>117,720</u>	<u>221,041</u>	<u>193,579</u>
<i>Net Incoming/ (Outgoing) Resources</i>	<u>2,206</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>2,206</u>	<u>6,274</u>
<b>Transfer between Funds</b>	–	–	–	–
<b>Funds Brought Forward April 1 2014</b>	<u>56,091</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>56,091</u>	<u>49,817</u>
<b>Total Funds Carried Forward 31 March 2015</b>	<u>£58,297</u>	<u>£0</u>	<u>£58,297</u>	<u>£56,091</u>

Balance Sheet as at March 31 2015

	2015		2014	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Office Equipment, Furniture & Fittings		3,001		4,504
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors	7,350		9,245	
Cash on Deposit	82,696		87,557	
Cash at bank and in Hand	<u>13,200</u>		<u>8,309</u>	
	103,246		105,111	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Creditors: Falling due within one year	<u>47,950</u>		<u>47,274</u>	
	(47,950)		(47,274)	
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		55,296		57,837
<b>Creditors:</b> Amounts falling due after more than one year		–		(6,250)
<b>Total Assets</b>		<u>£58,297</u>		<u>£56,091</u>
Represented by:				
<b>Unrestricted Income Funds</b>		58,297		56,091
<b>Restricted Income Funds</b>		–		–
		<u>£58,297</u>		<u>£56,091</u>

Our funders

Without our donors and funders, we simply would not be here.

In 2014-15 we were funded from diverse sources including trust funds, local authorities, faith groups, community organisations and partnerships. Asylum Welcome is immensely fortunate to have a loyal base of local, individual supporters. We most sincerely appreciate the many individuals who support us financially, especially those who contribute by standing order and those who organise fundraising events. This year, in-kind donations also played an important part in our work: for example we saw a steady increase in donations of food.

A huge thank you to you all!



We are thankful to have received major grants and donations from the following, some of whom have supported us for many years:

- A B Charitable Trust
- Advice Services Transition Fund
- ARM Trust
- AW60 Fund
- Beatrice Laing Trust
- D G Montefiore Charitable Trust
- Henry Smith Charity
- Hilden Charitable Fund
- Hilliard Charitable Trust
- Holy Trinity Church Headington Quarry PCC
- J Paul Getty Jnr Charitable Trust
- Jill Franklin Trust
- Key2 Futures
- Lincoln College
- Mactaggart Third Fund
- Marsh Christian Trust
- Oxford Quakers
- Oxford City Council
- Red Cross
- St Michaels and All Saints Charity
- Swan Mountain Trust
- The Tolkien Trust
- Westhill Endowment

And those who wish to remain anonymous



## I'd like to support Asylum Welcome

I would like to donate: £

### MY DETAILS

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Telephone:

Date:

### I'd like to support Asylum Welcome regularly by standing order:

Please speak to your bank, and give them our bank details:

**Asylum Welcome**

**Account number: 65026773**

**Sort code: 08-92-50**

**Co-operative Bank plc, Salford M5 2QP**

### I'd like to be a member of Asylum Welcome:

☐ Please tick here, complete the contact details above, sign below, and please ensure your donation/standing order is at least equal to the membership fee.

**Membership fee: £20** individual

**£6** volunteer/senior citizen/unwaged

**Free** for service users

Signature:

### I'd like Asylum Welcome to claim Gift Aid on my donation:

*giftaid it*

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying gifts of money made ☐ today ☐ in the past 4 years ☐ in the future (Please tick all boxes you wish to apply). I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you very much!*

### Please return this form to:

Membership Secretary, Asylum Welcome, Unit 7,  
Newtec Place, Magdalen Road, Oxford OX4 1RE



## You can help



Our supporters fundraise in all kinds of ways, for example cake sales, books sales and sponsored runs. If you have a fundraising idea, we'd love to hear from you!



*Please consider supporting Asylum Welcome today – thank you!*



Asylum Welcome, Unit 7, Newtec Place,  
Magdalen Road, Oxford, OX4 1RE

Tel: 01865 722082

Fax: 01865 792582

Email: [office@asylum-welcome.org](mailto:office@asylum-welcome.org)

**[www.asylum-welcome.org](http://www.asylum-welcome.org)**

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