



## Spring update

It's been a while since we sent out a newsletter, but hopefully this one is worth the wait.

### FAMILY #2

Our application to resettle a second family has been approved and we are waiting for the Home Office to allocate a family to Falmouth & Penryn Welcome Refugee Families (F&PWRF). The house is fully furnished and spruced up ready to welcome the new family who have been displaced as a result of the ongoing Syrian conflict. We hope to have news soon and will report back on their arrival date. Please, watch this space!

### Jumble In A Box

Despite the limitations over the last year, our tireless and ingenious Jumble In A Box team have continued to raise funds for F&PWRF. Spearheaded by the indefatigable Glyn Winchester, there have been several houses in the area with a "Jumble in a Box" outside their front door, inviting people to give monetary donations for the items on offer. It has become a movement and we'd like to thank all those people who have joined in. Contact Glyn Winchester and she will happily deliver a Jumble in a Box to you and explain how it all works. We've been sharing the takings with Mobile Refugee Support ([mobileresugeesupport.org](http://mobileresugeesupport.org)) who are working under increasingly dire circumstances with displaced people in Dunkirk.

We'd also like to thank everyone who has donated material goods for the Jumble and helpfully given monetary donations for all the fabulous Jumble on offer!

Since starting the Jumble in a Box scheme in September 2020, on random sunny days, together with the festive Mud Club pre-Christmas craft fair at the Cornish Bank, and keen people around Falmouth who have joined in the Jumble in a Box movement, we have raised approximately £5,000!

We have added these funds to our coffers for the welcome and resettlement of our second family and have been able to share the generosity with our friends at Mobile Refugee Support, ([mobilerefugeesupport.org](http://mobilerefugeesupport.org)) in Dunkirk and Attika Human Support ([attikahumansupport.org](http://attikahumansupport.org)) on the Greek island of Lesvos. Both of these organisations are working incredibly hard under increasingly dire circumstances to bring aid and friendship to displaced people.

## A caravan for storage is needed

**Please note: We are full to capacity at the moment for Jumble! Stay tuned for future call-outs and if you have had a clear out recently, please hang on to your "one person's junk is another person's treasure," and we will let you know when we can start to take it again.**

To help alleviate our storage dilemma we're thinking that a caravan could be an ideal solution - it could provide a safe dry storage space temporarily and we could also use it to promote the charity.

If you have a caravan you are willing to sell to us for a modest fee, please contact us by email. Or, please keep a lookout for a reasonable priced caravan and alert us to it!

## Plans for a charity shop

The board of F&PWRF are on the lookout for a shop to rent in Falmouth.

We have such an imaginative and creative bunch of people supporting F&PWRF that we feel it would be a great community asset. Not only could it be a permanent place to sell great stuff, the shop could be a base for:-

- selling clothes, books and other goods to be reused
- an information hub
- a way of providing supported employment opportunities and improving English for refugee

families

- exhibiting and selling art donated by various artists who support us
- and so much more, the list is by far exhaustive.

If you have any suggestions of potential shops to let please do let us know.

## Welcome to our new volunteers

We have had a recruitment drive recently and are overjoyed to welcome 30 new volunteers to F&PWRF. The new volunteers will be doing a number of things with the second family when they arrive, such as teaching English, befriending and supporting the family by helping them to access healthcare, benefits, and getting the children settled in school.

This is an exciting time for us, as it means we are more than doubling our volunteer numbers.

There are lots of ways people can get involved with the charity which aren't so formal, such as helping plan and run events and other fundraising activities - as well as help us get the new shop up and running (when we've found it!).

If you'd like to get involved visit our website and find out more.

## PLANNING AN EVENT

F&PWRF are on the starting blocks, raring to go and have an event when restrictions are loosened and we're able to gather.

We're very lucky that one of our board members, Rufus Maurice, is opening up a new venue in Falmouth and has offered us use of **The Cornish Bank** to run regular events. Pre-Covid our events had been a great fundraising tool, and have really importantly given us a chance to get together with the fantastic local community, recruit volunteers and share information.

As soon as we have something more concrete to report we will send out more information to our supporters.

Again, watch this space..

## Message from Cornwall Refugee Resource Network

Hello, \_\_\_\_\_

CRRN trustees met recently to discuss the government's plan for immigration as announced on 24 March by the Home Secretary, Priti Patel.

In the Plan, it is proposed that people who are seeking asylum in the UK will be treated differently according to how they arrived. For refugees who are resettled after displacing to a second country, who have similar status to the families settled in Cornwall under Community Sponsorship or by the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Scheme, there will be extra help and a guarantee of indefinite leave to remain in the UK when they arrive.

Asylum seekers who arrive via the English Channel or in a lorry, will be treated differently. The first response is that they should be returned to any safe country that they may have passed through, but if this is not possible, they will always have a different status, will be detained while the asylum decision process takes place.

You can read the full details here:-

New Plan for Immigration: <https://newplanforimmigration.com/en/>

The asylum system has a backlog of cases and is by no means perfect as it is. But this plan deviates from international law for refugees and asylum seeking which the UK originally helped to draft and is signed up to. There is more information here:-

<https://www.refugee-action.org.uk/campaigns/stand-up-for-asylum/>

### **The consultation period ends on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

The number of responses to the consultation is hugely significant, as some of the questions are designed to give answers in percentages, and we have heard that there has been advice to encourage people to send in individual replies rather than on behalf of organisations. Trustees of CRRN are taking this approach. So please take the time to respond. You can read the Consultation Questionnaire, by clicking here.

[https://mcusercontent.com/d12871889a3d4e700907bdc15/files/efa6f15f-91e9-42b3-8be8-d5aad91d201c/New\\_Plan\\_for\\_Immigration\\_Stakeholder\\_Questionnaire.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/d12871889a3d4e700907bdc15/files/efa6f15f-91e9-42b3-8be8-d5aad91d201c/New_Plan_for_Immigration_Stakeholder_Questionnaire.pdf)

The consultation is a weighty document and you do not have to answer all the questions, we would encourage you to focus your responses on Chapter 2 (Safe and Legal Routes) and use the free text box if you do not want to answer the questions directly.

Reset have also collated resources/responses from others on the Immigration Plan, see below:

· Women for Refugee Women response and

guide: <https://www.refugeewomen.co.uk/campaign/new-plan-for-immigration/>

· Amnesty International Guide: [https://www.amnesty.org.uk/files/2021-](https://www.amnesty.org.uk/files/2021-04/Immigration%20consultation%20guide.pdf?N3ngN4g_QvGreFx6HaJQJnCPwE3FSyn=)

[04/Immigration%20consultation%20guide.pdf?N3ngN4g\\_QvGreFx6HaJQJnCPwE3FSyn=](https://www.amnesty.org.uk/files/2021-04/Immigration%20consultation%20guide.pdf?N3ngN4g_QvGreFx6HaJQJnCPwE3FSyn=)

· QARN: <https://qarn.org.uk/how-quakers-can-respond-to-the-governments-new-immigration-plan/>

· Asylum Matters

Guide: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nNCa62ptaEAAuEPAuGsHc1ISBms8lwQ9-mcMOPksREA/edit>

You may also wish to write to your MP regarding the consultation. As trustees, we have written to the MPs in Cornwall to raise concerns about the how the consultation is being organised, and that it is shorter than usual. The key points that we have made are below:-

- The consultation is being run by Britain Thinks on behalf of the government, and people can e-mail them at [newplanforimmigration@britainthinks.com](mailto:newplanforimmigration@britainthinks.com) if they wish to comment. However this is not made clear in the consultation document itself. Why is this?
- Will there be a difference in weighting between individual responses and responses from organisations?
- Will those who send comments receive an acknowledgement?
- Why is the document only in English and Welsh and not in other languages spoken by the communities most affected?
- Government guidelines for consultations say they should last for 12 weeks. Why is this one only being run for 6 weeks?
- Who will analyse the responses?
- Will findings from the consultation and anonymised contributions to it be placed in the public domain?
  - Government guidelines for consultations state: Consultation responses should be analysed carefully and clear feedback should be provided to participants following the consultation - How will this be possible when the government is proposing to

— announce their plans in the Queen's Speech, only four days after the closing date of the consultation?

## THE CONSULTATION CLOSES ON THE 6TH MAY 2021

Reset will be sharing their response to the consultation on 04 May 2021 - they will share this on their website and in their newsletter – very focused on community sponsorship, you can sign up to receive this: <https://resetuk.org/get-involved/stay-in-touch/newsletter>.

Our next meeting will be on 11 May at 6pm on Zoom.

## Message from CHARIS

<https://charisrefugees.org/>

### Government's consultation on Immigration

Many of you will be aware that the Government has released its proposed Immigration Plan. This Plan is currently out for consultation for just 6 weeks, until the 6th May. This gives us an opportunity to respond to the proposals and share our concerns as well as welcome the opportunities.

If you haven't read the document, you can find it [here](#). It is a sizeable document, it may take some time. The Immigration plan focusses on a number of topics including safe and legal routes and what they are calling illegal routes. The proposals around asylum are very concerning, resettlement on the other hand comes under safe and legal routes has a number of proposed positive changes including the growth of Community Sponsorship.

In response to Community Sponsorship Groups showing concern for the proposals and wanting assistance to respond to the consultation, Reset are hosting a zoom session on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April on the consultation (12:30-1:30) – it will be an opportunity for you to voice concerns and ask questions. You can find out more details here [New Plan for Immigration: Community Sponsorship Feedback | Reset Communities and Refugees \(resetuk.org\)](#).

In the meantime, you may like to do a few things:

- 1 Read the Immigration Paper, see the link above
- 2 Attend the Reset Zoom on the consultation on the 22nd April, see the link above
- 3 Read the Consultation Questionnaire, [click here](#), it is possible to respond to only some of the questions on the questionnaire. Both Reset and the CS Council are considering how to respond to the questionnaire and share this in due course.
- 4 Write to your MP
- 5 Join with others in sharing your concerns as well as welcoming the positive developments and opportunities.



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