Polish migrants plan mass blood donation

Thousands of Polish workers in the UK will give blood on 20 August in a positive protest against migrant scapegoating.

Chair of the Labour Friends of Poland, Ella Vine, blogged that the Polish Blood campaign shows that "Polish and migrant energy can be harnessed to achieve positive things." That is what we should be aiming for. Not for division, not for hatred, not for inequality – but for inclusiveness, positivitiy and tolerance," she wrote.

Andrzej Rygielski, from Kent, told the Independent: "I would like to donate my blood as I know that Great Britain needs it. And people’s lives are too important to ignore this call."

A spokesperson for NHS Blood and Transplant told FPJ that all potential donors should make sure they book an appointment as there are limited walk-in slots available.

"NHS Blood and Transplant is grateful to the Polish community for their pledge to donate on the 20th August," the spokesperson said. "We would urge new and existing donors to register and book an appointment to donate, rather than just turn up to attend a session without an appointment. Blood donation sessions are planned to meet patient need and are scheduled several months in advance. There are limited appointments available each day. Registering and searching for available appointments is easy – simply visit www.blood.co.uk."

George Byczynski, co-ordinator of the British Poles Initiative, which is promoting the #Polishblood campaign, told the Independent: "Everybody will find something for themselves in this protest. It’s a purely positive thing to foster the British/Polish relations."


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