



Cancer stricken New Zealander denied treatment on Christmas Island

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Bruce Haskell is one of approximately 200 New Zealand citizens, resident in Australia, being detained in Australian immigration detention centres. They have had their visas cancelled under s501 of the Migration Act and are waiting pending deportation.

Haskell has been held on Christmas Island since late September after first being transferred to Villawood Immigration detention centre on 14th August. He was jailed in Brisbane for breaching parole conditions, and after serving the remainder of his sentence was taken to Villawood Immigration Detention Centre for five weeks, then transferred to Christmas Island.

Despite being diagnosed with a suspected brain tumour in July 2014 Haskell has had no medical treatment in detention despite seeing four doctors since being incarcerated. The only help he has received is Panadol tablets for the intense migraine headaches he has suffered over the last several months.

Bruce wants to have the medical treatment he needs and to see his family again, even if that is in New Zealand. He acknowledges that he has made bad choices but has since paid for them; once he receives the treatment he needs then he will be happy to go back to New Zealand.

Haskell has four children and his family has suffered for his time in detention, his 23 year old son had a breakdown two months ago after his father was not released from jail. Haskell's elderly father in law, whom he has not seen since 1990, was approved for a visit but this failed to eventuate as he was removed to Christmas Island two days before the visit was to happen.

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