



NEWSLETTER: ISSUE ONE: APRIL 2006

Welcome to the first of what, we hope, will be many – and, eventually, rather more sophisticated – newsletters about Prisoners' Penfriends.

After successful pilot projects in 2004, the charity has been in nation-wide operation for just over a year now. And we are growing steadily. At present, 108 correspondents are writing letters to their penfriends. Every day brings a bigger postbag; on 13 March this year, letter number 1,000 was forwarded.

In February, those volunteers who had been corresponding for a reasonable length of time were asked to complete a questionnaire about our operation. The results were extremely pleasing: we asked volunteers to rate our service on a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 was "poor" and 5 was "exceptionally good." One volunteer gave the mark of 3 in answer to one question; otherwise, everyone gave us either 4 or 5 in every area, with 85% of answers being 5 ie "exceptionally good."

SECURITY, SECURITY, SECURITY!!

For your own safety, please leave your letter to the prisoner **unsealed** before you put it in another envelope and post it to us for forwarding. Don't worry: nobody is going to read your letter but we must check that you have not reached for the headed note-paper by mistake!

THANKS

Prisoners' Penfriends depends on a large number of donors for their fantastic generosity. We could not carry on without you – so thank you all so much.

And a **huge** thank you to our wonderful volunteers, who write so faithfully to their prisoner penfriends.