



NEWSLETTER TO SUPPORTERS: JULY 2014

Spreading the scheme

In our last newsletter, we reported that we had permission, at Ministerial level, to extend our scheme to sex offenders on a national basis, subject to the approval of individual prison governors. Now, in just six months, we have become established, with full governor's support, at all six prisons which are to hold exclusively this category of offender. We have also been welcomed at three further establishments with substantial sex offender populations.

Many of our new prisoner-penfriends are serving very long sentences and are cut off from the world outside prison, having been abandoned by friends and family. This is a typical comment:

"Having no family and no-one to write to, penfriends have been a really good pick-me-up, something to look forward to, even if it is only a letter but it does bring on a smile when you're having your bad days. And being able to write to express feelings does make me feel better."

New patron

Since our last letter to supporters, Prisoners' Penfriends has proudly acquired a new patron: we very much welcome Peter Moffat, former practising barrister and creator and writer of TV dramas such as Silk, Criminal Justice, The Village and North Square. With enormous thanks, we say "Goodbye" to our former patron, Fay Weldon, who has kindly supported us since 2003.

Funds

We are worse off than we were last July. We need £4,000 to make it till this time next year. If you give £5 per month, could you make it £10? If you sometimes send us a cheque, could you do it again? Thank you.

Patrons: Sir Nicholas Hytner, Sir Peter Lloyd, Peter Moffat, Lord Ramsbotham.
Trustees: Jennifer Gadsby-Peet, Malcolm Duxbury, Stephen Pollard (chair).
Director and company secretary: Gwyn Morgan. Company no: 4629036. Charity no: 1098118.

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