

## **NEWSLETTER TO SUPPORTERS: JANUARY 2007**

Prisoners' Penfriends will enter its third year of national operation in 2007. Its expansion and development has been rapid. On 7 December 2006, we forwarded letter number 2000, having forwarded as many letters during the seven months between April and November 2006 as we did during the twelve months between April 2005 and April 2006. So far, our letters have reached over 200 prisoners in over 60 prisons.

All our administrative costs are covered by donations from our supporters. Thank you so much for making this work possible. We could not do it without you.

## **VISITS TO PRISONS**

Largely thanks to a fantastic donation from the Society of Friends in York, the director has travelled to many prisons, including HMP Frankland, HMP Belmarsh and HMP Parkhurst. The contact made with chaplains and prison officers means that we can operate in a way which suits the needs of the particular prisons and that our scheme is promoted with enthusiasm.

## **TRAINING**

We have begun a programme of "road-show" training events for our volunteer letter-writers. The first was held in London in November. After the session, all participants returned feedback sheets, giving the quality of what they had learned the top rating of "1: very good."

The next session will be in Warwick in February, with others following across the country during 2007.