



NEWSLETTER TO SUPPORTERS: JANUARY 2016

Greater support from prisons and more assistance in the office

Following the report on our work by the University of Warwick and its prestigious launch, prison governors and others working in prisons – such as safer custody officers – have become much more active in support of our scheme. As a result of this and the extension of our operation to include sex offenders (now in place for just over a year) our expansion proceeds apace.

To give just a snapshot of our progress, during the course of December 2013, we forwarded 198 letters; in December 2014, it was 288; and, during December 2015, a whopping 367 letters went through our hands.

There are now two part-time voluntary helpers, assisting Gwyn and allowing her more time for the scheme's administration, organisation and expansion: we are "on the up".

Poor response from funders

Prisoners' Penfriends' trustees felt confident that, given the endorsement of our work by the Warwick report and our continued expansion, major funders would surely get hold of the idea that what we are doing is useful and respond positively to our applications for funds so that the charity could be put on a stable footing for the future.

Sadly, all our applications for sustainable funding have failed. Our funds in the bank dwindle with every month that passes.

There is some good news, however:

- The Worshipful Company of Weavers has kindly agreed to pay for a computer network, which will enable the voluntary helpers to assist Gwyn more effectively.
- For the second time, one of our supporters has sent us a cheque, in place of sending out Christmas cards. For this and for other acts of generosity, we remain enormously grateful.

Patrons: Sir Nicholas Hytner, Sir Peter Lloyd, Peter Moffat, Lord Ramsbotham.
Trustees: Jennifer Gadsby-Peet, Malcolm Duxbury, Stephen Pollard (chair), Shane Holland, Martin Stevens, Eleanor Kennedy.

Director and company secretary: Gwyn Morgan. Company no: 4629036. Charity no: 1098118.

PO box 33460, London SW18 5YB; email: gwyn.morgan@prisonerspenfriends.org; tel 0208 870 6939