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## NEWSLETTER TO SUPPORTERS: JANUARY 2009

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### 5,000 letters

On 3 December last year, we reached the landmark of letter number 5,000, when our volunteer – known to his prisoner-penfriend as “Will” – wrote his usual weekly letter to his correspondent at HMP Kingston. Will has been writing to this young man since the prisoner joined the scheme when he was in HMP Parkhurst in September 2007. Every week, Will sends in a cheerful two or three pages, always including a few jokes. The prisoner writes back with his news, expressing his feelings about his time in prison – due to end in 2020. Will plans to keep on writing just as long as the prisoner is happy to receive his letters.

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### Family Man

Over the past year, Prisoners' Penfriends has built a relationship with the organisation Safeground, which runs the Family Man course in a number of prisons. This intensive, six-week course, encourages prisoners to focus on how to rebuild their lives in a constructive and realistic way, which is free from reoffending. Safeground has recently revised the course, making it possible for students to write regular letters to their families about their progress and plans. Where the prisoner has no family, Prisoners' Penfriends is stepping in, providing a penfriend to correspond with the prisoner.

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All the charity's administration costs are met by contributions from individual donors. It would be impossible to continue this work without you. Thankyou.