



NEWSLETTER TO SUPPORTERS: JULY 2015

Report from Warwick University

Following a major piece of research, Professor Jacqueline Hodgson and Juliet Horne, of the University of Warwick, have published a 56-page report, entitled "Imagining more than just a prisoner: the work of Prisoners' Penfriends."

The report finds as follows: "The Prisoners' Penfriends scheme is likely to improve prisoner well-being by offering a caring and committed listener to help prisoners through their life in prison. The scheme is also likely to raise prisoners' chances of successful rehabilitation, through connecting them with the outside (non-criminal) world, through providing someone who accepts them as more than just 'an offender' and shows belief in their capacity for change."

Prisoners' Penfriends is delighted with the report. We hope to build on this endorsement of our work to expand the scheme even further.

Launch at House of Lords

Prisoners' Penfriends' patron, Lord Ramsbotham, kindly sponsored an event at the House of Lords on 25 June, at which Professor Hodgson launched her report. This occasion was organised by the Criminal Justice Centre at the University of Warwick and supported by Prisoners' Penfriends.

The charity is grateful to Lord Ramsbotham, who opened the event with a moving speech about the correspondence between Christopher Morgan and prisoner Tom Shannon, which gave rise to the book *The Invisible Crying Tree*. Professor Hodgson outlined the research and then there were speeches from Juliet Lyon of the Prison Reform Trust, Lynn Saunders, the Governor of HMP Whatton, and, on behalf of Prisoners' Penfriends, Gwyn Morgan and Martin Stevens.

The full report is available on Prisoners' Penfriends' website:
<http://www.prisonerspenfriends.org/warwick-uni-report.pdf>

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