

New Bridge Annual Report 2017

non-judgemental
relationship
stand-beside
penpal encourage
befriender uphold
help friend.ist
volunteer back-up
trustworthy
belief integrity
confidential guidance
visitor supporter




By befriending people in prison New Bridge volunteers help them to reconnect with the world outside.

New Bridge is non-judgemental, trustworthy and constant in its support of people in prison.

A befriender writes letters, visits the person and keeps in contact wherever they may be moved to.

Any person in prison who wants a befriender can get in touch with New Bridge.



“Before I wrote to my befriender I thought my life as a social leper was going to be rather bleak. Eighteen and a half years of sharing thoughts, hopes, ambitions, dreams and disappointments with him has helped me to realise there are people out there who are prepared to give even sex offenders a second chance.”

A 20th Century Saint

Lord Longford, the founder of New Bridge, was a 20th century saint in his love for prisoners and his dedication to visiting them. I knew him well both as a friend and as a prison visitor.

When I was serving my sentence for perjury, Lord Longford, a family friend of my parents and grandparents, came to visit me three times in seven months. He was 95 years old at the time and in his absent minded way he sometimes turned up unannounced and outside normal visiting hours.

I will always remember the first of these visits at HMP Belmarsh.

A Senior Officer suddenly appeared on my wing to tell me that Lord Longford "was making a bit of a nuisance of himself at the gate with no Visiting Order". As I recorded in my diary the S.O continued:

"I've decided to use my discretion to let him in. Not as a favour to you, but because I've got a lot of respect for the old boy. When I was a young officer starting out at Strangeways, he used to come all the way to Manchester to visit the worst of the worst. Same again at Gartree, same again at the Scrubs.

When you've been in this job for as long as I have you know that even the untouchables, perhaps especially the untouchables need to feel the warmth of human kindness. And that's what Lord Longford had been doing for the last 40 years with his visits. He's a very special gentleman in my book".

As a young Oxford don, in the 1940's, Frank Pakenham (as Longford was then called) heard a sermon on the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats and was struck by the line "When I was in prison you visited me". That inspired his regular prison visiting and led him to found New Bridge in 1956.

How happy Lord Longford would be to look down from his celestial perch and to see that his work goes on and flourishes at New Bridge, with the charity organising over 450 prison visits every year.



Jonathan Aitken

Chairman's Foreword



For some years our annual report has not included a report from the chief executive because we have had to manage without one. At least for the trustees and the staff the most exciting item in the 2017 annual report is by Judith. I hinted in last year's report that we were hoping to recruit another member of staff. I was too cautious to use the words chief executive. Judith arrived as our new part-time chief executive towards the end of 2017. She came to us with deep experience of the third sector which has already proved invaluable. As each month passes her enthusiasm for befriending and her interest in the challenges that it brings seem to grow. It is a great combination.

Like the annual reports of all charities this report tends to dwell on what is going well. That is natural and proper. This year I want to admit that from time to time things don't go well. If we think about our own experience of friendship, that shouldn't surprise us. In our personal lives relationships sometimes go wrong. So we might expect that in New Bridge there can be links between a prisoner and a volunteer that don't really work. For example, a prisoner sometimes says that he or she doesn't want to continue with the particular volunteer who has been in contact.

I mention that for two reasons. It emphasises that befriending is not always straightforward and trouble-free. I am also proud of how our small staff, the Chairs of the support groups of volunteers and the volunteer members of those groups handle the problems when they arise. Experience is shared. Feelings are understood and respected. In most cases the prisoner has another go with a different volunteer and the volunteer befriends someone else.

To take full advantage of Judith's appointment, not least to grow the work of befriending as we hope to do, we need the help of donors and new volunteers. We are not asking because we are such a wonderful organisation that nothing goes wrong. In the nature of what we do it is inevitable that from time to time there will be problems. It is not necessarily anyone's fault. I admire the sensitivity and effectiveness with which problems are addressed. It makes me even more confident that I am right to ask people who read this to help us pay the bills or to join us as a volunteer.

Joe Pilling

"I visited W last week. He had been taken out to visit his father who is in hospital and not expected to last for long. It was his first time out in 27 years. Understandably he found it quite traumatic."**

Chief Executive's report



I joined New Bridge as Chief Executive in October 2017 and was immediately inspired by the commitment of everybody in the organisation – a thoughtful and hard-working board of trustees; a small and extraordinarily experienced staff team who consistently go above and beyond; a volunteer cohort whose unique volunteering activity places them with people at some of the very darkest times and in some of the very darkest places and, finally, the group of people we endeavour to support in prisons, in secure hospitals and in other detainee settings, many of whom, although they have lost all contact with anyone else, are trying to change the ways they've lived their lives.

I'm deeply privileged to join New Bridge at this point – committed to growing befriending so that more people who are detained can access someone who wants to befriend them and who wants to provide some level of support for them whatever the reason for that detention. I've learned very quickly that 'nobody should be solely judged by the worst thing they have done' are not just words but an ingrained ethos to which the whole of New Bridge subscribes even though there may be times when you have to reach very deep inside yourself to do so. I know too that befriending people who have no-one else is absolutely the right, kind and humane thing to do and the response that we have from some of those people is overwhelming.

**"A human voice to stop
me self-harming"**

Our befriending growth spurt really did start in 2017. By the end of the year our 251 volunteers had helped us to support 892 people detained with whom we exchanged 8,535 letters. Volunteers travelled 123,474 miles on behalf of New Bridge and donated 11,665 hours. Just to put that into context – that's nearly 5 times the earth's circumference and



"I want to highlight how productive and happy your service has not only made me but also countless others"

just short of 70 weeks. Overall our volunteer team increased by 6% and we supported 24% more people than we had done in 2016.

"I want to highlight how productive and happy your service has not only made me but also countless others"

We are so grateful to the individual donors, trusts and foundations who support New Bridge befriending - without whom we could not continue as we do not receive any statutory or public funding.

Towards the end of 2017, we were very pleased to be awarded a Transform Foundation grant of £18,000 to develop New Bridge's website. In 2018, this will mean that interaction between staff and volunteers will be improved enormously and that, as digital access for people in prison improves, New Bridge will be geared up to communicate with them in new and innovative ways.

Looking ahead, in 2018 we will continue to grow our befriending through recruiting more volunteers and developing more support groups. We intend to improve our reach into prisons and secure hospitals so that more people can access a befriender through letters, email, phone and voicemail services as well as visits.

Judith Smith

"It can make you feel better getting letters, a little bit loved and not forgotten"

"He continues to complete his psychology degree but states he is losing motivation. He has met the family of his victim through restorative justice and told me it took a year to be assessed as suitable"

Bringing Light into the Darkest Places

When I was in junior school I really struggled trying to get my head around a lot of the work. By the time I was 9 my confidence was at an all-time low. But I then got a new teacher. I felt he saw potential in me and built on my strengths. The amazing thing was by the end of that year I felt better about myself and my work had improved as I gained in confidence. It demonstrated to me at an early stage the power of being believed in. I was reminded of this by one of my congregation when I was a prison chaplain who had just heard he had got a progressive move. When he came to talk to me about it I asked him what had made the difference over the many years he had spent in custody. Whilst pointing to many people over the years, wing staff, psychologists, chaplains and so on the person he especially mentioned was a chaplaincy volunteer. This person had come in faithfully every two weeks for many years and treated the person with dignity, respect and care helping him to believe in himself again.

Through the letter writing scheme and through meetings, New Bridge volunteers help people believe in themselves again, help them to see that change is possible and bring hope. The journey away from crime is challenging and includes dark times when the person faces the impact of their crimes on their victims. This can be especially difficult and the support of a volunteer bringing light into that darkness of guilt and shame can make an enormous difference, and be instrumental in helping people to move forward.

As Chaplain General I know from conversations with prisoners that New Bridge volunteers are believers in change who bring light and hope and I would like to formally express my thanks to all of them who give of their time and energy so generously to make a difference.

Mike Kavanagh, Chaplain General of Prisons

"I know I have so much regret and remorse for my victims so to be given a way of building new bridges with people – it's a way forward."

"Had really good communication with M this month – he has really started opening up, writing really good interesting letters. The visit went really well, there were no awkward silences and really good conversation."**

On Being a New Bridge Befriender

Volunteering as a befriender for New Bridge carries with it both serious challenges and genuine rewards. My own experience as a befriender has challenged me in ways that I could not have anticipated and has shaped my own attitudes and outlook not just regarding those in custody but towards life in general.

At its best, New Bridge offers light to those in some of the darkest situations. At the very least, befrienders are able to be a constant, non-judgemental companion to individuals who are bound up in a mental struggle from which they are unable to escape.

Sometimes, the people we write to and visit will 'go silent'. We may not hear from them for weeks or even months, only to one day receive a letter, explaining what has been happening and seeking a resumption of contact. These requests are never ignored.

It can be a long journey, lasting many years, or comparatively short. Each person that New Bridge befriends is a unique individual, with their own needs, interests, ambitions and problems. As volunteers, we do not always get it right, however well-intentioned we may be. And that is where the regular support from meeting with other volunteers is so helpful.

What I have learned so far from being a New Bridge befriender, is that it is not only the one in custody who travels on that journey, but equally so the befriender. We must be prepared to learn and to adapt, and it is a process that only ends when the volunteer steps down.

I believe passionately in the work done by New Bridge, and it is my privilege to be a small part of that work.

Jimmy Grant

"E sends me very short letters, but they are far more frequent over the past six months. Physical and mental health precarious, but she remains determined to move on with her life."**

“A New Bridge befriender wants to talk and stay in touch – it’s not a chore. That means a lot because they choose you despite your conviction. It’s surprised me what a letter every 2 to 3 weeks means to me”



New Bridge Volunteers Seminar

More than 75 volunteers, staff and trustees participated in our annual development seminar hosted by Birmingham City University. The main focus of the day was on working with sex offenders who make up a growing proportion of the prisoners befriended by New Bridge.

Dr Jackie Craissati MBE, consultant clinical and forensic psychologist, who works with high risk and personality disordered sexual and violent offenders led a workshop. Volunteers learned about types of offenders and their pathways to sexual offending - it is a relationship offence based on real or symbolic relationships.

Insights into states of mind were particularly useful for volunteers in thinking about conversations during prison visits. In any conversation there are four states of mind, as depicted in the wheel:



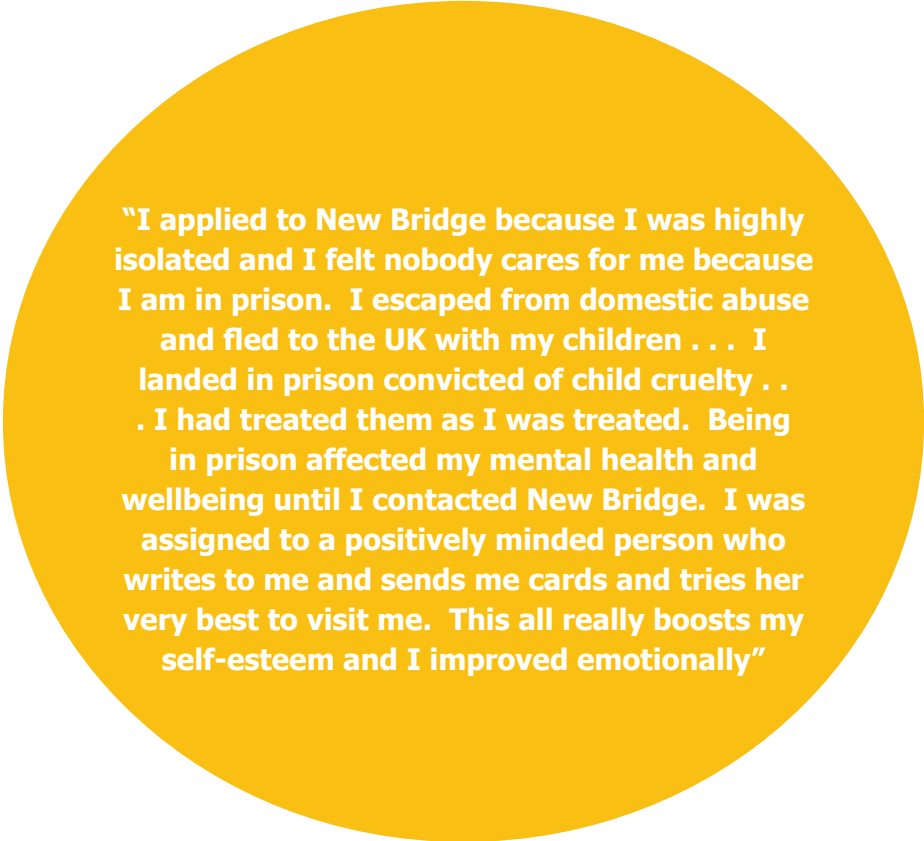
OM: *Offender Management*

"A has really started opening up, writing really good interesting letters. The visit went really well, there were no awkward silences and really good conversation."**

The dilemmas that befrienders face in conversations or correspondence with prisoners were brought vividly to life in the Drama Snapshots acted by two volunteers, Sophie Rowe and Tony Wise.

Paula Harriott, a former prisoner, talked to volunteers about her work with Revolving Doors to encourage a sympathetic rather than a coercive approach to working with offenders. During her time in prison Paula worked as a peer supporter and helped women access distance learning. On release she worked first with NACRO as a resettlement adviser.

A volunteer observed afterwards "Paula made me think afresh about the importance of really listening to prisoners".



"I applied to New Bridge because I was highly isolated and I felt nobody cares for me because I am in prison. I escaped from domestic abuse and fled to the UK with my children . . . I landed in prison convicted of child cruelty . . . I had treated them as I was treated. Being in prison affected my mental health and wellbeing until I contacted New Bridge. I was assigned to a positively minded person who writes to me and sends me cards and tries her very best to visit me. This all really boosts my self-esteem and I improved emotionally"

Mental Health in Prisons

In the 1964 annual report New Bridge drew attention to mental health in prison.

“Too often one discovers that the shelter of prison has masked a mental state so abnormal as to be on the borderline of certification . . . The question is whether grossly disturbed people should be found in prison at all. This in turn raises the question whether the Mental Health Service has the facilities to cope adequately with the numbers of people requiring psychiatric care if not psychiatric treatment. We in the New Bridge find too often when going through a case history that the man has for most of his life alternated between prison and mental hospital.”

The prison population that year was 29,600

In 1998 *Inside Time* conducted a survey of 2,500 prisoners. Findings revealed nearly 4 out of 10 prisoners had not received an outside visit in the previous 3 months. An estimated 90% of prisoners were experiencing mental health problems.

The prison population that year had reached 65,299

In 2017 the National Audit Office produced a report about mental health in prisons. The NAO found there is no good data on the prevalence of mental health problems in prison - the summary referred to the 1998 estimate.

- 37% of people in prison report having mental health or well-being issues to HM Inspector of Prisons. The Inspectorate found 20% of prisoners at a large, local prison were receiving anti-psychotic drugs
- 10% of the prison population were receiving treatment for mental health problems in March 2017
- Self-harm in prison has increased by 73% since 2012
- The number of self-inflicted deaths has risen by 97% in the same period

The prison population in December 2017 was 84,746 and has remained more or less constant since 2010

“Being in contact with my befriender has changed my outlook on life. I tried to commit suicide this year - I was in a dark place. When she found out about it she didn't judge me nor take pity. Instead she was willing to talk to me about what happened and what caused it which was a great help to me. Many thanks not just for being a befriender but for giving me a better outlook and for saving my life – truly”

New Bridge Befriending Service Evaluation

I'm always happy to endorse New Bridge and to recommend its befriending activity to both our staff and to people serving sentences in our prisons. I have seen, at first hand, the difference that contact from outside prison has on those people who would otherwise not hear from or see anyone.

I have seen improvements in confidence and in self-reliance as well as an increase in hope for a better life on release.

I am always impressed by the commitment of the network of New Bridge volunteers who give their time and themselves so freely to support people in prison in a completely non-judgemental and impartial way.

**Carlene Dixon
Governor, HMP Send**

New Bridge has provided a befriending service for 62 years. This evaluation reviews the experience of those supported, evaluates the impact of the service on their lives and considers ways in which to improve the Befriending Service.

A total of 165 individuals contributed to the evaluation, serving predominately indeterminate and long determinate sentences for a range of categories of offence, including serious offences of a violent and sexual nature. For 44 % this was their first time in prison. Prior to contacting New Bridge 42% had no contact with the outside world.

- 60% of responders have been supported by New Bridge for up to four years
- 38% have been befriended for more than four years
- 13% have had a connection to the charity for more than ten years, and 2% for over 20 years

The majority of participants (61%) found out about New Bridge through word of mouth. When asked why they applied to New Bridge for a volunteer befriender, five key themes emerged: (1) access to non-judgemental support; (2) contact with someone outside the prison community; (3) to hear different perspectives; (4) help with building trust; and, (5) emotional support.

“When I had to disclose my offence I had mixed feelings, who would want to write to me, but I’m glad I did”.

95% said that the information they received about the Befriending Service and how it worked was easy to understand. Some commented that they were surprised by how quickly they received their first letter. Overall, participants were satisfied with the Befriending Service.

- 96% said that their expectation of letters had been met
- 93% said that someone outside had taken a long-term interest in them
- 91% said that New Bridge had helped to reduce their feelings of isolation
- 85% said that New Bridge had improved their emotional health and wellbeing

When asked if they would recommend this service to others that they have met in custody, 98% of participants said yes. They especially recommended the scheme for those who do not get visits or outside letters, and those who need additional support.

Participants recommended

- increasing the frequency of visits, and introducing phone calls as additional support
- raising more awareness through advertisements in prison and the community

“Let prisoners give a little back to their befriender, i.e. arts and crafts, for the years of support, it is very important for offenders to give a little bit back”

We wish to thank Sophie Rowe and Morag Kennedy (New Bridge Volunteers and Lecturers in Criminology at Birmingham City University) for this report.

Thanks also to the governors and staff of the establishments where those befriended are located.

My Grandson and Me

A sunny day, a clear blue sky
A hint of a breeze to rustle the trees
We're running in the grass as tall as his knees
It's good to be my grandson and me
We're kicking grass and daisy heads
Gardeners potter in their allotment sheds
Children playing, some grown-ups rest
We kick the ball high to see who's best
"It's time" he says, "to go to the park"
With slides and swings and climbing things
Kids are playing, laughing and singing
From one thing to another, he jumps with glee
That's me and him, my grandson and me
I want this day to last forever
The smell of grass, the sounds of gulls
The sound of laughter fills the skies
For anyone looking, it's plain to see
We're soul mates, my grandson and me
But then it fades, all is not as it seems
Reality dawns, there's that familiar smell
I'm still here, in my prison cell
A dream or a memory – my grandson and me
But do not fear, I'll make it up
I'll soon be out, we'll jump and shout
I promise you this now, as time goes on
I'll watch you grow, never let you go
We'll forever be... my grandson and me

*Written by resident of HMP Durham
Published in Inside Time*

Reading at the New Bridge Christmas Concert

It was a great privilege to be asked to select four poems by prisoners and to read them at the 2017 Christmas Concert. Three of the poems had been published in 'Inside Time' and one in an anthology published by the Koestler Foundation. I write poetry myself and my standards are high.



What was important for this New Bridge occasion was to choose poems that were good in themselves but poems that would be readily accessible to the audience, who did not have the words in front of them. The poems had to 'speak' to people.

'Nightingale at Dartmoor Prison' was a beautifully crafted poem, and well deserved its Gold Award from Koestler, and the same is true of 'The Gate' which, cleverly, was spoken in the voice, not of a prisoner, but of the prison gate which watched prisoners endlessly come and go, and hoped that, one day, it would not see them come back inside. This poem used a lot of repetition, which always helps when one is reading aloud, and the same was true of 'There's a Place Where You Can Go', a poem about the prison 'samaritans', who will always listen to your troubles, in total confidence. All three poems had regrets about having landed up in prison but none of them was self-pitying, indeed, all ended on a note of hope.

I practised reading the poems aloud, on my own at home, trying to get inside the skin of the person who had written them, feeling as he felt, hoping what he hoped, I wanted to read them in a way that would honour the words he had written, and do them justice.

Perhaps the least polished of the four poems, 'My Grandson and Me', packed the most punch because it was so deeply heartfelt. I confess that I was fighting back the tears as I finished. Again, it uses repetition very effectively, the writer dreams of all he could be doing with his grandson, were he not stuck in the clink, and he hopes they will be reunited one day. When

**"I'll watch you grow
Never let you go
We'll forever be...my grandson
and me"**

Poetry can be a lifesaver for the lonely and heartbroken, both reading it and writing it. Let there be much more poetry in prisons, please.

Ann Pilling



Thank You to our Supporters

We could not run our services without your help. We would like to thank all the people, trusts and businesses that support us with donations large and small. You help to give people a chance to change. We list below those donors who were able to support us to the value of £1,000 or above.

1772 Debtors' Relief Funds Charity
29th May 1961 Charitable Trust (The)
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Alec van Berchem Charitable Trust
All Saints Church, Fulham
Astor Foundation (The)
Benjamin Pilling QC
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Constance Travis Charitable Trust (The)
Earl Longford Thomas Pakenham
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Holy Trinity Church, Upper Tooting
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St Luke's Church, South Battersea
The Late Mr Power
Van Neste Foundation (The)
Violet and Mile Cripps Charitable Trust (The)
Zochonis Charitable Trust (The)

New Bridge Youth Conferences

'Who are the offenders and what happens to them?' This was the 'exam question' for the 2017 conferences in London and York, anchored by Professor David Wilson, Vice President of New Bridge and Dr Peter Bennett, New Bridge trustee.

The sixth formers got the facts from Peter Dawson, former prison governor and now chief executive with the Prison Reform Trust. There are 10.3 million people in prison across the world; 2 million in the USA and Britain has the highest rate of imprisonment in Europe. Our prison population has almost doubled over the past 30 years and the number of prisoners serving long sentences has doubled.

There is a staggering rate of mental illness among offenders who go to prison. The prison suicide rate has almost doubled over the past 5 years.

How do prisoners live and what do they do all day? Lynn Saunders Governor of HMP Whatton, the largest sex offender prison in Europe was blunt about conditions. Forty percent of the cells in Whatton are a bit like a cupboard with a WC. The oldest prisoner is 89, 7 are profoundly deaf so use sign language. Governors have to provide 3 meals a day for £2.02.

The men are unlocked for education, employment and training opportunities in textiles, carpentry and warehouse work on site. Behaviour programmes promote healthy relationships and tackle domestic violence; also encourage healthy sex – for those interested in children. There is no reason to escape, because there is nowhere to go and no support outside.

By contrast, HMP Send is a small women's' training prison with a therapeutic community. Governor Carlene Dixon, who has worked in men's and women's prisons, brought out one stark difference: the level of self-harm by women and their higher incidence of mental illness before imprisonment.

The women really care about their environment as seen in photos of the beautifully kept prison garden. Their ingenuity was evident in stories of working around the ban on smoking when it was introduced. Carlene talked about the work-life balance of being a working mother running a prison.

All the speakers shared stories about their journeys to where they are now. The most powerful came from ex-offenders Alex and Jamie who talked about their troubled childhoods.

**"I wanted love.
Nobody wanted anything to
do with me"**

They recounted their persistent and prolific offending and their time in prison. In both cases a New Bridge befriender had been the catalyst for change.

"Always there for me." Not for the faint hearted, though. Alex was soon back in prison; his befriender stuck with him throughout and now he has been 10 years out of prison. Jamie has been 4 years out of prison and is an enthusiastic New Bridge supporter.

For prisoners who are 'locked-up' for much of the day National Prison Radio is a connection to the world - 70% of prisoners 'tune-in', 30% daily. The average reading age of UK prisoners is seven so too much printed matter is no good. Radio offers information, advice and entertainment.

Phil Maguire, CEO of the Prison Radio Association, talked about early days in HMP Brixton with a regular feature of unscripted questions to the Governor. PRA had grown and won Charity of the Year in 2016. Now PRA is offering Straight Line, an app to support prisoners after release.

Steve Tombs, Professor of Criminology, Open University, challenged the sixth-formers. Do we have a distorted view of what crime is and who is a criminal?

What about corporate and 'white collar' crimes by bankers and business people? Or environmental crimes: a butcher killed 21 people in 10 days because of e-coli cross-contamination of cooked and raw meat. It was not 'intentional' so he was fined £2,250 and did not go to prison.

Consumer crime, such as 5 million appliances in UK homes of a type known to catch fire and identified in a tower-block fire before Grenfell Tower, which was caused by a fridge – freezer.

Crimes against employees go beyond no living wage or discrimination to exploitation and lack of safety in the workplace. The worst was the Union Carbide disaster in Bhopal.

There were 137 workplace fatalities in the UK in 2017. Are these crimes? Yes, but they are not treated as crimes. Health & Safety inspections on average happen only once in 50 years. If you kill someone you employ you are fined £67,000.

"I know I have so much regret and remorse for my victims so to be given a way of building new bridges with people – it's a way forward."

The team at Inside Time work tirelessly to ensure the 60,000 plus copies of each monthly issue are distributed to every prison, detention or immigration removal centre and special hospital in the UK.

Since the launch in 1990 there have been several changes within the team but the level of dedication and passion remains as high as ever. A group of people from a variety of backgrounds with complementary skills, knowledge and experience share a common goal of providing readers with 'a voice and platform upon which they can air their views and concerns'. The 1000's of letters, articles and poetry submitted by Inside Time's equally passionate readers clearly demonstrate the importance attached to the newspaper and range of services provided.

This article, published in December 2017, refers to an interview published in August 2017 with the Shadow Justice Secretary, Richard Burgon, illustrates Inside Time's ability to provide a platform for a person in prison to effectively communicate with somebody outside and be able to influence change. At the same time it allows observers the freedom to reach their own conclusions about the rights and wrongs of the attitudes within society toward people in prison. Issues for 2017 are available to view at www.insidetime.org

John Roberts, Director and Publisher - Inside Time Limited

Why prison doesn't work

On the 6th of October 1993, then Home Secretary Michael Howard vehemently stated at the Conservative Party conference that "Prison works. It ensures that we are protected from murderers, muggers and rapists - and it makes many who are tempted to commit crime think twice. This may mean that more people will go to prison. I do not flinch from this. We shall no longer judge the success of our justice system by a fall in our prison population."

When we look at this statement we may loosely agree with Michael Howard, in the sense that prison works by keeping criminals off the streets, however, if "prison works" then why are so many ex-offenders committing further crimes and coming back to prison on an unprecedented scale?

The limited data that is currently available to me shows that the UK had a 47% re offending rate during 2005, compared to Norway, who had a 20% re offending rate in the same period. So, if our prisons really are working in the sense of deterrence, punishment and rehabilitation, then why are the UK's recidivism rates so much higher than some of our Western counterparts?

The answer lies within our society, where a majority of UK citizens still have a "lock-em-up-and-throw-away-the-key" attitude. To quote Richard Burgon (Inside Time August issue) - "there is a problem in society with a view towards prisoners, most clearly shown in the right-wing newspapers. I remember going on the Daily Politics (BBC2) and Kelvin McKenzie (former editor of The Sun) was a fellow guest, and we were discussing prisoners and McKenzie called them 'pigs'"

This kind of mentality has no place in modern society and harms the very principles that penology is based on. Yet a number of Whitehall officials still seem to harbour this type of mentality. Even the former PM David Cameron, can be quoted as stating in 2015 that the thought of prisoners being given the right to vote made him feel "physically sick." What kind of message do these two statements portray to both citizens and its prisoners within the UK? Sir Winston Churchill once said - "there is goodness in every man's heart, we just need to find the key to unlock it." So, why are we, as a civilised society not attempting to do just that?

If any prison is to truly work, rehabilitation has to be at the top of its agenda. There needs to be a 'tough on crime', 'tough on the causes of crime' approach, to tackle the on-going failures within our UK prison estate. Fyodor Dostoyevsky

stated in Crime and Punishment (1866) that - 'You can judge a society by how well it treats its prisoners.' So, what does this powerful statement say about us as a supposedly democratic society? Are we doing enough to help our fellow citizens who have lost their way and ended up behind bars, or are we simply creating more failure, more crime, more prison and more victims? If Governments continues to refuse change, if society continue to refuse rehabilitation, then we as a democratic society will continue to fail.

Any prison system that turns out released prisoners with no accommodation, no job, no money and no skills, cannot be regarded as working. That is probably one of the many reasons as to why we currently have a 47% re offending rate within the UK. This fact alone shows that our prisons are failing on an unprecedented scale. If we continue to fill our prisons with dejection, gloom, misery and pain, then we will continue to fill our streets with more criminals - that is a fact.

When we look at the 95,000 plus prisoners within UK prisons, we need to be asking ourselves this - when these people leave prison do we want them to be angry or rehabilitated? I know which I would prefer, so let's take a chance and put rehabilitation before punishment. Our prisons should be places of hope, rehabilitation and purpose, and ultimately work for the many and not the few.

"Change is the morally right thing to do" - according to Richard Burgon, and I have to agree with him on that.

J Haynes

Resident at HMP Littlehey



INSIDE JUSTICE

INVESTIGATIVE UNIT FOR ALLEGED MISCARRIAGES OF JUSTICE

A wrongful conviction is an injustice not only for the innocent person in prison but for the victim of the crime and society as a whole and has the potential to undermine confidence in the criminal justice system.

Inside Justice has been contacted by 1,122 prisoners who say they are innocent and cannot get help any other way. We began work in 2010 as an initiative of *Inside Time* and most of our referrals are by word of mouth from other prisoners. Each case is assessed on merit, using a template developed over the seven years we have been operating. If the Casework Team identifies reasons to be concerned about the safety of a conviction the case is put to our pro bono panel of experts.

The *Inside Justice Advisory Panel* consists of leading scientists, physicians, investigators and lawyers who all give their time entirely for free. We meet the administrative costs of preparing case papers and convening meetings.

The *Advisory Panel* may recommend work to be commissioned. Examples include:

- New DNA testing**
- Review of blood spatter evidence**
- Examination of digital work on audio, CCTV and cell-site analysis**
- Obtaining new medical evidence**
- Obtaining a new legal opinion**

Once an offender's automatic right to appeal has been used, the only pathway to overturning a wrongful conviction is via the Criminal Cases Review Commission. It is long and arduous. *Inside Justice* prepares submissions, sometimes with a prisoner's legal team. One of our earliest cases had new medical evidence submitted to the CCRC in 2011- we still await a decision. This year less than 1% of all applicants across England and Wales to the CCRC were successful.

So why do we persevere?

For me it's about the people at the heart of these stories.



I have worked in the miscarriage of justice world for 20 years, first in journalism and then setting up *Inside Justice*. This complex and arduous work is not for the faint hearted. I am driven by a need to stand up for the individual who can no longer help himself, coupled with a firm belief that basic human rights should allow new work with the potential to test claims of innocence to be done.

Our work has caught the imagination of the next generation of lawyers, journalists and scientists. University Innocence Projects bring sheer people power to sift thousands of pages of evidence which is proving of benefit to prisoners and to the students who present their cases to the *Advisory Panel*.

Inside Justice has research under way into the worrying variation in practice in retention of crime scene exhibits after conviction - exhibits have been lost or destroyed - with a view to presenting evidence to parliamentarians in due course.

Inside Justice is growing and, with the invaluable support of Inside Time., has taken the first steps to set up as an independent charity.

Louise Shorter



Summarised Financial Statements

Hon Treasurer's Report

The audited accounts for the New Bridge Foundation for the year ended 31st December 2017 have been reproduced in summary on the following pages and are supported by the independent auditor's report.

The accounts do not include the results of the subsidiary company, *Inside Time Limited*, as consolidated accounts are not required. However the figures for Inside Time Limited for the year end 31 December 2017 have been summarised below:

Income & Expenditure Account

	2017	2016
	£	£
Turnover	631,189	562,896
Cost of sales	-428,110	-369,986
Gross profit	<u>203,079</u>	<u>192,910</u>
Administrative expenses	-196,919	-183,236
Interest receivable	-	-
Taxation	-1,177	-2,041
Net Surplus	<u><u>4,983</u></u>	<u><u>7,633</u></u>

Balance Sheet

Fixed Assets - Tangible	<u>1,823</u>	<u>1,405</u>
Current assets		
Debtors	83,428	88,270
Cash at bank	204,195	192,131
Creditors – due within one year	-234,426	-231,769
Net current assets	<u>53,197</u>	<u>48,632</u>
Total assets less current liabilities represented by accumulated reserves	<u><u>55,020</u></u>	<u><u>50,037</u></u>

The New Bridge Foundation

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2017**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2017 Total funds £	2016 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	157,597	-	157,597	194,309
Charitable activities				
Befriending	-	12,000	12,000	12,000
Investment income	5	-	5	-
Total	<u>157,602</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>169,602</u>	<u>206,309</u>
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising funds	34,443	-	34,443	33,651
Charitable activities				
Befriending	111,158	12,000	123,158	107,654
Youth Education	4,140	-	4,140	11,435
Special Events	9,694	-	9,694	16,871
Administration costs	10,793	-	10,793	-
Total	<u>170,228</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>182,228</u>	<u>169,611</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	<u>(12,626)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12,626)</u>	<u>36,698</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	94,581	5,000	99,581	62,883
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>81,955</u></u>	<u><u>5,000</u></u>	<u><u>86,955</u></u>	<u><u>99,581</u></u>

CONTINUING OPERATIONS

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

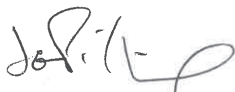
The New Bridge Foundation

**Balance Sheet
At 31 December 2017**

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2017 Total funds £	2016 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	39,336	-	39,336	27,976
Cash at bank	55,721	5,000	60,721	79,505
	95,057	5,000	100,057	107,481
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	(13,102)	-	(13,102)	(7,900)
	81,955	5,000	86,955	99,581
NET CURRENT ASSETS				
	81,955	5,000	86,955	99,581
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES				
	81,955	5,000	86,955	99,581
NET ASSETS				
	81,955	5,000	86,955	99,581
FUNDS				
Unrestricted funds			81,955	94,581
Restricted funds			5,000	5,000
TOTAL FUNDS			86,955	99,581

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to charitable small companies.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 27 April 2018 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Joseph Grant Pilling -Trustee



.....
Alistair Henry Ellis Smith -Trustee

Financial Statements and Accounts

Auditor's Statement

Independent auditor's statement to the Trustees of The New Bridge Foundation

We have examined the summarised financial statements of The New Bridge Foundation for the year ended 31st December 2017, which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and auditors

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with applicable/United Kingdom law and the recommendations of the Charities SORP.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements within the summarised annual report with the full annual financial statements and the Trustee's Annual Report.

We also read the other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 'The Auditors' Statement on the Summary Financial Statement in the United Kingdom' issued by the Auditing Practices Board. Our report on The New Bridge Foundation full annual financial statements describes the basis of our avail opinion on those financial statements.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Trustees Report of The New Bridge Foundation for the year ended 31st December 2017.



Jeremy Harrod FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Grant Harrod Lerman Davis LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
1st Floor, Healthaid House
Marlborough Hill
Harrow
Middlesex HA1 1UD

Dated: 24 April 2018

Patron:

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra
The Hon Lady Ogilvy KG GCVO

President & Chairman:

Sir Joseph Pilling KCB

Vice Presidents:

Jonathan Aitken
Professor David Wilson

Board of Trustees:

The Trustees shown below have held office during the whole of the period from January 2017 to the date of this report.

A H E Smith - Honorary Treasurer
Dr P Bennett
F Dyke
L Garne
R Hill
S Nicholas MBE
J O'Reilly
S Zalin

Other changes in Trustees holding office are as follows:

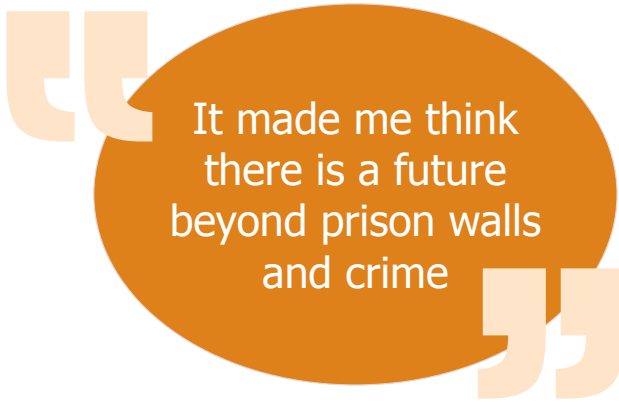
H Bulman resigned 24.04.17
A Gard appointed 24.04.17
A Gard resigned 23.11.17

Bankers:

Barclays Bank PLC	CAF Bank Ltd	HSBC
5 High Road	25 Kings Hill Avenue	210 High Holborn
Willesden Green	Kings Hill, West Malling	London
London NW10 2TE	Kent ME19 4JQ	WC1V 7HD

Solicitors:

Bates, Wells & Braithwaite
10 Queen Street Place
London EC4R 1BE



It made me think
there is a future
beyond prison walls
and crime

New Bridge

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London SW2 2TX

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W: www.newbridgefoundation.org.uk



@new_bridge



www.facebook.com/Newbridgefoundation

The New Bridge Foundation

A company limited by guarantee in England

Registered Company No: 5048063

Registered Charity No: 1103511