



Prisoners Education Trust

Unlocking potential for crime-free lives

Spring/Summer 2010

news

‘Widening access to education’

‘Kvetch’ by M Lester HMP Grendon, courtesy of Koestler Trust



Happy Birthday!

2010 is a special year for the Trust; a year when we celebrate our 21st birthday and when we will make our 20,000th grant. These are significant milestones and, as we look back over our achievements of the last two decades, we reflect on the difference that education has made to prisoners' lives.

Lives like 'J's'

J approached the Trust for a diploma in drug and alcohol counselling, little knowing at the time that it would be the start of a long and fruitful relationship with learning that would eventually lead to counselling work on the outside.

At the onset of his studies J acknowledged that the idea of studying terrified him. Overcoming his fears and learning a lot about himself on the way, J got his diploma. Buoyed by his success he decided to study more and more and more ...

Recently, he wrote:

"I have since gained Adult Literacy and Numeracy OCR Level 2, CLAIT Level 1, Level 3 Certificate in An Introduction to Distance Learning, NVQ Level 3 in Advice and Guidance and an NVQ 3 in Health and Social Care. I am currently considering a degree in either counselling or psychology to start this September.

"So I have come a very long way. I really enjoy my job and at long last have direction and meaning in my life."

With your help we hope that we can continue to change lives for another 21 years.

Please support our 21st Birthday Appeal.

21st Birthday Appeal

To mark our 21st birthday in 2010, the Trust wants to focus on helping more prisoners gain skills and qualifications which offer realistic chances for employment on release.

We want to raise an additional £21,000 from supporters to spend on three key areas of prisoner self-improvement – business skills and knowledge, the sports industry and social care. Courses in these employment areas often make up around half of all our applications.

An additional £21,000 would enable the Trust to support at least 80 prisoners during 2010. That's another 80 prisoners being given the chance to change.

A one-off donation will help us hit this target, but you may also wish to consider regular giving by standing order; if so, please download a form from our website or call the office and we will send one to you. This opportunity can make a real difference to motivation, self esteem and hopes for the future. In their own words ...

"I feel I have been given another chance at turning my life around."

"I believe I can use my positive experiences to benefit others."



Fatherhood by K Powell, HMP Haverigg
Picture courtesy of the Koestler Trust

Old jewellery wanted

If money is a little hard to find at the moment, then how about supporting our work in a different way?

In conjunction with the Fundraising Company Ltd, the Prisoners Education Trust is asking people to donate their unwanted jewellery – gold, silver, and costume jewellery, complete or incomplete – to this recycling initiative. Proceeds will go to your nominated charity registered for the scheme.

Simply parcel up your unwanted items (an old envelope or a small box) and post free of charge to : Prisoners Education Trust, FREEPOST, CENTRAL RECYCLING.

75% of the value of what you send goes to support the work of the Trust, whilst 25% goes to the Fundraising Company to cover their overheads. Visit www.jewelleryrecycling.org for more information and, please, spread the word amongst friends and family.

It costs nothing, raises funds in support of our work and helps the environment through the benefits of recycling.

All proceeds will go to prisoners trying to turn their lives around through education.

Thank you.

Prisoners Education Trust

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info@prisonerseducation.org.uk

charity no:1084718

company reg no: 4132595



'Yes, I wish to donate to the 21st Birthday Appeal'

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Contact No. _____

Donation: £ _____

(cheques payable to Prisoners Education Trust)

If you wish to donate on-line, then please visit

www.justgiving.com/petrust. To contribute regularly please
download a standing order form from our website.

Gift Aid

If you are a standard rate taxpayer, you can increase the value of your donation by 28%. Please just sign the declaration below:

I wish Prisoners Education Trust to reclaim tax on all my donations from April 2000 until I notify you otherwise. I am a UK taxpayer and I understand that I must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax the charity reclaims on my donations in the tax year.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return to: Prisoners Education Trust,
Wandle House, Riverside Drive, Mitcham, CR4 4BU
Tel: 020 8648 7760

News

Back to the beginning

The Trust's work began in 1989 helping a few prisoners at HMP Wandsworth and we are delighted that, 21 years later, Governor David Taylor has invited us to unveil a plaque to commemorate our work. The unveiling takes place in May in front of some of those who have been with us from the very beginning.

Lifelong Learning Conference announced

Trust project, Learning Matters, invites those interested in prison education to attend a major conference entitled "Lifelong Learning and Prisoners" on 27 May at the Institute of Education, Bedford Way, London.

We are fortunate to have Prof. Tom Schuller, Director of the Inquiry into the Future of Lifelong Learning, as our keynote speaker and look forward to the debate on formal and informal learning with experts in the field. Attendance is free, but places are limited. If you would like to attend, please contact gertrude@prisonerseducation.org.uk to check availability.

Advance notice

The Trust is pleased to announce that Archbishop John Sentamu will deliver our Annual Lecture this year at Clifford Chance offices in London. Thanks to Clifford Chance's hospitality, entry to the lecture is free and we are expecting a full house, so, if you would like to be sure of a seat, please contact gertrude@prisonerseducation.org.uk. The date for the diary is 28 September and more details and an official booking form will follow nearer the time.



*It is never too late to be
what you might have been*

George Elliott

