

TRANSFORMING LIVES



Some statistics (since October 2009)

- 16 volunteers available for ministry
- 17 volunteer applications in progress
- Art program being held at Risdon and Hayes with up to 5 inmates taking part
- Women's fitness class being held at Risdon with up to 8 inmates taking part
- One volunteer involved in writing letters to 2 inmates
- 8 Volunteers signed up to undertake Offender Mentoring training

Please pray for

- Inmates to be encouraged and doors to be opened at Risdon to use PF ministries
- Give thanks for the developing mentoring program
- Justice and reconciliation for inmates, victims and our communities
- Volunteers to come forward as offender mentors – we need at least 50

Prison ministry

It's been a really exciting time since our last newsletter. Great things have been happening but it can be daunting work. *The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.* (Matt 9:37)

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THIS IS A TIME OF THANKGIVING!

It's been a while since we were last in contact...

Our great God has been doing some amazing things since our last newsletter. Praise the Lord, bless his name!

The art program running in Risdon

Our volunteer has been able to share her testimony with a staff member. Praise God that staff and inmates are being blessed by this volunteer's ministry.

The women's fitness class being held in Risdon

The women are enjoying the classes. There has been feedback that the women are different on the days that our volunteers go in. The team has been accepted very well by the staff.

One volunteer said *"We found our feet quickly and are feeling very relaxed and comfortable going in."*



O Lord, our Lord, how majestic your name is (Ps 8:1)

Offender Mentoring Program

This is an important initiative since mentoring is a proven and effective way of reducing offending behaviour and helping offenders turn their lives around.

We have recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Community Corrections who will be referring offenders on probation or parole order to us for mentoring.

Our mentors will be trained to undergraduate level in offender mentoring. Course delivery will commence at the end of the month.

UTAS has agreed to assess the outcomes of the program.

Volunteer Celebration

We have held our first celebration day which was a time of encouragement and learning for all.

Inter-Agency Collaboration

We are working closely with other agencies including The Salvation Army, Bethlehem House and Hobart City Mission to support the work that they do and avoid duplicating services.

The Salvation Army has offered to assist us wherever they can to meet the needs of our clients (Burnie 6432 4677, Hobart 6234 1870, Launceston 6333 0488)

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS

- That we will be able to go in for longer so we can have some chat time after the session and that God will lead us and drive us with how He wants us to use the chat time.
- For wisdom as I learn how to relate to inmates.
- For open opportunities and open hearts to share with.
- That God will guide PF volunteers with the right words and encouragement with all they meet.
- Pray that our volunteers will be able to commence a mentoring ministry at the Ashley Youth Detention Centre.

Prison Fellowship Australia - Tasmania

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We're on the web!
www.prisonfellowship.org.au



Changing lives on the inside.

Chairman -

Michael Wood

State Executive Director -

Ray Metcalfe

Donations

To make a donation by cheque or direct debit:

Bank: CBA
BSB: 067 002
Account: Prison Fellowship
Aust.—Tasmania
A/c #: 2800 8452
Ref: Your name

To make a donation by credit card please visit our website.

Please advise us if you make a direct debit or credit card donation so that we can send you a tax-deductable receipt.

Please contact us if:

- You prefer to receive this newsletter by email.
- You would like additional copies.
- You wish to cancel your subscription.

(Prison Ministry from page 1)

If you think God may be leading you to this ministry in some way but you aren't sure, ring Ray for a chat. We need workers in all areas, not only at the 'coal face' prison ministry but also in administration, fundraising and accounting. Maybe you have a skill which isn't being used in another area. What about writing newsletters!!

Prayer Ministry

Prayer is a vital part of our work. Without this we can do nothing. It's so good to know that people are praying for us. One person has told us they have been praying for this work every day for many years! What can be more encouraging than that.

Deputations

So far six presentations have been given at churches in Huonville, Margate, Geeveston, Hobart and Devonport.

An invitation has been received to speak at a men's camp in the North West in September.

State Council

We need four new members for our State Council to bring much needed skills of finance, fundraising, promotion and administration.

Ray Metcalfe

State Executive Director

WEBSITE

Have a look at our website www.prisonfellowship.org.au. It explains the services we offer and enables donations to be made directly to us. For volunteers there are useful resources on the Links and Resources page.

INCOME SUPPORT NEEDED

As with all volunteer ministry regular income is needed to continue the work. All our income is received by donation. At the moment this is about \$1,200 per month. To support the expansion of Prison Fellowship ministries in Tasmania we need an increase of \$1,300 per month. Please consider prayerfully whether you are able to become a regular donor partner.

OUR THANKS TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

Thanks to Our Great God!

PF ministry brochures are now being distributed to male inmates at Risdon via their induction pack.

Thanks to our prayer warriors

Thank you for your prayer support. Without that we can do nothing.

Finance

Thank you for your financial support.

If you have supported us financially you should have received a statement of donations during the last financial year. If you haven't, please contact us.

Our volunteers

Thank you to all those who are giving of their time and gifts to support the work. We now have volunteers working in the art program, women's fitness program, custodial leave, inmate visiting, letter writing, family support, mentoring and post-release support.

Our Mission

Transforming the lives of offenders, victims and their families through the gospel of Jesus Christ.

May we never forget the centrality of this in all we do.

If you would like us to come to your church, home group or community group to talk about this important work, please contact Ray.