

Join our volunteer team

# PRISON OUTREACH NETWORK

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## PRISON MINISTRY

This article is written to let you know about Prison Outreach Network (PON), in particular about its mission and purpose, about upcoming events, and about how you might become involved in prison ministry.

PON was founded in 1986 for Christians who had a passion & desire to utilise their diverse gifts and talents to proclaim their faith to those committed by the courts to HM prisons in the UK. We are a dynamic inter-church ministry with over eighty volunteers drawn from Churches across the UK and Northern Ireland. PON members come from diverse, ethnic and professional backgrounds.

Key to the ministry are members who themselves are ex-offenders. PON members and invited artists/musicians also come from local churches of different denominations which makes for a richness and diversity in the Ministry and in the presentation of the Gospel to inmates. PON is a family ministry which welcomes individuals and church groups who have a single minded vision to be a Christian witness to those in prisons.

Although there is a minimum age requirement to visit HM prison with us (18 years old), there is no upper age limit. As a ministry, we have been blessed by the energy and commitment of our retired

members who join us on visits, who surround the ministry with prayer, and who lead prayer groups at their home churches.

As a ministry, PON recognises the importance of presenting the Christian Gospel message in both traditional and contemporary ways, working with HMP chaplaincies to bring about change.

We therefore hope that whatever the denominational background of our members, they all feel that they have a place to serve and grow within PON

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *About Prison Outreach Network*
- *Thanksgiving and Fundraising event*
- *How you can become involved in prison ministry*

## CONTACT DETAILS

*info@prison-outreach-network.org*  
*SMS: +44(0)7956196019*  
*prison-outreach-network.org*

## MISSION AND PURPOSE

### Mission

To see incarcerated men, women and young people, their families and their communities transformed by the life changing transforming message of Christ.

### Purpose

To deliver the Christian Gospel message to those in prisons, young offenders institutions and immigration removal centres.



**Bringing Deliverance  
To the captives**

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## HOW WE OPERATE

In order that reoffending rates reduce, the Christian foundations of hope, transformation and reconciliation must be translated into practical programmes which promote sustainable recovery and rehabilitation.

We believe that self-esteem, self-control, discipline and the guidance of a Mentor are key elements for successful & sustainable rehabilitation. On this basis, PON teach inmates about the love of

Jesus and his life changing power by imparting bible focused life skills in the form of:

- ◆ Teaching, preaching, bible studies & prayer
- ◆ Anger management and conflict resolution courses
- ◆ Self-control & conduct courses
- ◆ Music vocal workshops

- ◆ Attendance at informal fellowship groups for ex-offenders
- ◆ Participation in accredited mentor schemes for offenders and ex-offenders.

PON deliver training on prison protocol and security to volunteers & churches who visit, or have an interest to visit prisons.

## WHAT WE DO IN THE PRISON

We lead the morning service in place of, or alongside, the Prison chaplain. Generally this means we lead the music, bible reading, prayers and deliver a Christian message / teaching within a 45 to 60 minute service. We usually have an opportunity to pray with, and for, the inmates during and/or after the service.

Including the morning

service times, and taking into account journey times, pre-service preparation and the post-service debriefing, a typical prison visit can take about 5 hours. Depending on the service start time at the prison, we will arrive between 8.30am and 9.30am.

Whilst some members pray or deliver the bible reading, not everyone will speak from

the front. You will provide encouragement & support to the inmates & fellow PON members simply by being present.

On a number of occasions some of the PON members have had the privilege of accompanying a 'chaplain' on their duties after the service. This has allowed our members to visit people in segregation as well the wing.

“...LOVE YOUR  
NEIGHBOUR AS  
YOURSELF”  
MATTHEW  
22:39.

## UPCOMING EVENT

PON have a Thanksgiving & Fundraising event scheduled for **Saturday 29 September 2012** from **5pm to 9pm**. There will be intermission during this event.

The venue will be in London and address details are on our website. Tickets are £10 per person and concessions are:

- ◆ £5 for children aged 6 to 12 and adults aged 65 and over
- ◆ Free for children aged 5 years and younger.

Discounts available for bulk orders.

Please note, unfortunately we are unable to offer childcare provisions.

To make your reservation and book your ticket speak with your church prison coordinator, visit the PON website or email us.

Keynote address: Jonathan Aitken (Patron).

Guest appearances by:

- ◆ No Limits (nolimitsband.com)

Continued...

## UPCOMING EVENT CONTINUED...

...continued

- ◆ San Mi (featured on Premier radio)
- ◆ Terry Campbell
- ◆ Anointed artists
- ◆ Talented speakers.

Join us for a time of celebration. Come enjoy live music and be inspired by our Patron and other speakers who have been transformed in prisons.

It's an event not to be missed!  
Refreshments will be available on the evening.

*“The reason why I want to write is just to say how deeply I and many other prisoners appreciated your group’s visit to our prison. I was moved by your music and inspired by your preaching. Your ministry reaches out and touches hearts in a way that you cannot imagine. I know from my conversations with other prisoners that you brought the Gospel alive and into our hearts in a most remarkable way. Praise the Lord! Since coming out of prison, I have had extensive contact with PON. Indeed when Channel 5 made a documentary about my own prison journey, PON were featured in the broadcast programme. I consider PON to be an organisation of the highest integrity doing wonderful evangelistic work in many prisons. For this reason I have agreed to become the Patron of PON.”*

Jonathan Aitken, Patron

## HOW YOU CAN BECOME INVOLVED

If you feel that prison ministry might be where God is leading you, please speak with your house group leader, mentor or pastor.

You are welcome to join us at our monthly meeting which is held in the morning of the last Saturday of each month, except December. Details are on our website.

If you make yourself available, God by His Spirit will make you capable of partaking in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20).

There are many roles for which we need volunteers, these include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ Venue coordinator for end of month meeting
- ◆ Accountant
- ◆ Treasurer
- ◆ Newsletter editor

- ◆ Assistant to general secretary
- ◆ Advertising coordinator
- ◆ Music & worship coordinator for HMP Guys Marsh
- ◆ Volunteers to visit HMP Guys Marsh
- ◆ Graphic designer
- ◆ Fundraising coordinator

*“I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU CAME TO VISIT ME”,  
MATTHEW 25:36*



Please prayerfully consider your current availability & commitments before applying for any of the voluntary posts listed here.

If you wish to receive further information about this ministry, or have any questions about prison ministry, or would like us to speak at your church about PON, please email us at [info@prison-outreach-network.org](mailto:info@prison-outreach-network.org)





OUR CONTACT DETAILS

E-mail: [info@prison-outreach-network.org](mailto:info@prison-outreach-network.org)

SMS/Mobile: +44(0)7956 196 019

[www.prison-outreach-network.org](http://www.prison-outreach-network.org)

*"I WAS IN PRISON AND YOU CAME TO VISIT ME"*  
*MATTHEW 25:36*

The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners. Isaiah 61:1

**Thanksgiving & Fundraising event**

**Saturday 29 September 2012**

**5pm to 9pm.**

[Refer website for further details](#)

**Prisons we currently visit:**

- |                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) HMP Belmarsh       | 2) HMP Guy's Marsh           |
| 3) HMP Brixton        | 4) HMP Nottingham            |
| 5) HMP/YOI Isis       | 6) HMP Whatton               |
| 7) HMP Holloway       | 8) IRC Dover                 |
| 9) HMP Highdown       | 10) IRC Tinsley House        |
| 11) HMP Coldinley     | 12) IRC Brook House          |
| 13) HMP/YOI Reading   | 14) HMP Spring Hill          |
| 15) HMP Bullwood Hall | 16) HMP Grendon              |
| 17) HMP/YOI Rochester | 18) HMP Blantyre             |
| 19) HMP Swaleside     | 20) HMP/YOI East Sutton Park |
| 21) HMP Elmley        |                              |

