



NAOPV

National Association of
Official Prison Visitors



**Annual
NEWSLETTER 2023**

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Date for your Diary

AGM & Conference 2024

Tuesday 14th May

Resource for London
356 Holloway Road
London N7 6PA

*Details and invitations will be
issued early in 2024.*

Chairman's AGM Report

AGM Tuesday 16th May 2023. By John Kennett



I was honoured to be elected as Chairman of the NAOPV in succession to Roy Hanley, who is going to be a hard act to follow. Roy spent the last two years of his five year term as chairman during the pandemic when visiting was suspended and most prisoners throughout the country were locked in their cells for twenty-three hours a day. Our executive committee meetings had to be held via Zoom and the AGM and conference were cancelled in 2020 and 2021. As a charity we were obliged to hold a formal AGM last year and this was done in October 2021 partly in person and partly via Zoom.

One positive development of the pandemic has been the introduction of video visiting which might well continue and it may be that prison visiting can be done by people at opposite ends of the country.

We also meet quarterly with the Ministry of Justice in Birmingham and the first of these meetings was shortly before the first lockdown and we held that meeting by telephone. Subsequently the meetings were held by Microsoft Teams. These meetings are to provide key performance indicators (KPIs) to justify our grant which in a normal year is £11,000 - a tiny amount in the scheme of things but we still have to jump through the same hoops as charities with grants a great deal larger than ours.

I hope that in the next two years leading up, incidentally, to the centenary of the NAOPV, I will settle into the role of chairman but for some time I will rely on advice and support from Roy, his predecessor Ian Allred and our general secretary, Jenny Haigh who does a fantastic job. I expect that in the next few months prison visiting will be back to normal - long may it continue.

Prison visiting has been returning to normal although some changes have been made following the restrictions due to Covid 19. I, personally, prefer to visit on the wing as it is more intimate and there is no specific time limit.

In February this year I was invited to visit HMP Bronzefield which is a women's prison run by Sodexo. It is apparently the largest women's prison in Europe. They had no official prison visitors and wanted me to introduce some to them. As it happened, I received a few volunteers in the few weeks after my visit and I hope that they will be vetted as quickly as possible and start visiting. HMP Bronzefield have the facility to arrange "Purple Visits" so some of the volunteers may be able to start virtual visits while they are waiting for the vetting process to conclude.

In January the other officers of the NAOPV and I attended the Ministry of Justice in Birmingham and I am sorry to say that it seems very probable that we will lose our small grant. We have enough money to keep us going for about four years and we will be looking into getting funding from elsewhere.



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PRISONS NOW? by Professor Nick Hardwick

Professor Nick Hardwick is currently Professor in Criminal Justice at the School of Law, Royal Holloway University. Last year Nick became Vice President of the NAOPV. For full speech visit the Member area of www.naopv.com



Nick encouraged prison inspectors to communicate to PVs after addressing the NAOPV in 2012 because few other organisations understand the prison system and its human impact. Nick is honoured to be Vice President and humbled to follow Lord Ramsbothom, who was optimistic about jail visitation and taught Nick a lot.

Recently, Nick set his students an essay to discuss Michael Howard's 20-year-old term "*Prison works*". The correct response depends on your definition of 'works'.

Punishment, incapacity, public safety, deterrence, and rehabilitation are all prison roles and are legitimate goals, but overusing punishment, incompetence etc. hinders rehabilitation.

The UK follows the Nelson UN Standard Minimum Rules for Prisoner Treatment. These establish principles in imprisonment, including respect for all detainees and prohibition of torture and harsh treatment. Consider the cruel treatment. Do all prisons meet that standard? Do jails treat the vulnerable fairly? Preventing crime, recidivism, and the disparity between prison and freedom should be minimised.

Boer war prisoner Winston Churchill wrote about captivity from his own experience and when Home Secretary in 1910, he said "*there is a treasure, if only you can find it, in the heart of every person*". Rehabilitation, that prisons have a purpose beyond punishment and containment, and that they should seek that 'treasure' of transformation, that everyone can change, is vital and was long considered prison policy. Lengthening jail sentences impacts the prison population and needs smart choices. We can't provide rehabilitation if we prioritise punishment and lack resources.

Pre-COVID, the House of Commons Justice Committee discussed jail safety and decency in October 2019. From 2009-2019, prisoner mortality rose 86%. Deaths per thousand prisoners rose 85%, suicides 50%, self-harm incidents per 1000 prisoners rose 140%, number of prisoners who self-harm rose 100%, assaults rose 121%, assaults per thousand prisoners rose 122%, serious assaults rose 190%, assaults on staff rose 234%, and serious assaults on staff rose 228%.

Nick displayed an image of a typical prison cell with two prisoners sharing a shower curtain-screened toilet. Even good prisons keep prisoners in cells 18-20 hours a day. He showed a prisoner's calendar with only his trial and birthday written in. The prisoner's life was empty.

The Justice Committee described a catastrophic crisis before the pandemic then the pandemic made us all worry about jails - 1000s were predicted to die. About 120 convicts died by October 2021, although they were imprisoned for 23 hours a day, prevented visits from family, friends, and PVs.

Nick thinks the effects on prisoner mental health and well-being are more subtle than the evidence available. He used a chart showing operational staff, three-year staff, and prisoner mortality per thousand. As staff numbers diminish, especially experienced ones, the fatality rate rises, perhaps because an unwell person didn't obtain the help or hospital appointment they required.

After Liz Truss reversed the cuts, prisons received treasury funds due to the chaos and staff numbers rose. The death rate stabilises until COVID, then rises and falls again. Staff numbers contributed to the death rate. Also at this time, spice and other drugs flooded prisons, and staff were overwhelmed.

COVID wasn't as devastating as expected, but many were imprisoned for 23 hours. Lockdown dropped in summer 2020, increased before Christmas, then relaxed again. Self-harm rose in 2019 but lowers during lockdown and increases afterward. Inmates don't like being locked up 23 hours a day because it's obviously stressful but life on the wing is even more so - they're always on guard, wondering what will happen. We forget how hard prison is every day, especially if there's violence. Assaults and self-harm grow until COVID-19, then drop and flatten. Post-COVID jails are still unsafe for offenders to leave their cells and participate in activities.

Prison population growth - 85k people were incarcerated on 12th May 2023. System capacity was 86k so it's at 98.6% capacity. September 2022 has 5% women, overcrowded prisons were 52% and it's probably worse now. Prisons are congested and prison populations indicate disadvantage over-representation - black and Asian prisoners show this disproportionality and women suffer more.



Pre-pandemic, there were 13k on remand. Since then, it has steadily climbed to 14.5k - a large remand population that affects jail population. They have less system and activity investment. Prisoners serving one-to-four-year sentences have gone from 22k in 2002 to 13k now. Thus, one- to four-year convicts have decreased significantly but four-year sentences have gone from 22k to 31k. Longer sentences are keeping individuals in prison longer.

Prison sentences do deter people but 5 years in prison is probably not a greater deterrent than 4 years. Punishments for some offences have increased by 25% from 4 to 5 years. This has an enormous impact on the prison system and prison population. From 1900 until the pandemic, the prison population increased, peaking under New Labour and falling a bit in the years before the pandemic. Hull prison, that dates back to Victorian times, has a massive extension to cope with this rise in prison population.

The Ministry of Justice forecast that the prison population will increase from 85k today to 94.4k by 2025 and 106.3k by 2027. Some of that growth is baked into the system since more individuals aren't going to prison but longer sentences reduce departures so the population is increasing and overflowing. HMP Five Wells is a vast new prison being built and it's already nearly at full-capacity. Another problem is that you need to find activities to keep that many prisoners occupied.

The 2021 Prisons White Paper says 18k new prison spaces and 2k temporary ones will cost £3.75 billion. If 20k places cost £40k a year, that's £800 million. Resettlement costs £200 million. You have running costs, building costs of about £4 billion, and a billion a year to maintain it, just to serve two more years in prison. The paper also mentioned some positives - 5k extra prison officers, digital implementation and resettlement.

In 2003, the average murder sentence was 12.5 years, now it's 21.1 years. Murder is terrible but this is a choice and unlike hospitals and schools, you can't predict demand. We can impose harsher sentences or we may perhaps determine that the old system was OK. We have to prioritise prison places versus other spending.

The existing judicial backlog drives the remand population - 35k magistrate court cases are pending and crown courts have 63k serious cases pending.

From 2010-2019, the average custodial jail sentence has increased by five months. Murder sentences are lengthening and the IPP issue has fuelled the increase too. The Justice Secretary now rejects nearly 90% of parole board requests to shift offenders from secure to open settings so prisoners who would be safe in open conditions remain confined in closed conditions. Parole system modifications are planned.

The system can't cope. According to the MoJ's official estimate, 9k extra places are needed by 2025 and they can only produce 6k. Prison construction plans are stalled in the planning process and building takes time - they can't increase capacity as fast as the prison population is growing. Staffing declined 13% with 38% personnel having less than 3 years experience plus more days off sick and limited duties. The ability to get personnel on the wings, get prisoners out of their cells, take them to lessons, and take them to workshops simply isn't there. Charlie Taylor, Chief Inspector of Prisons, said about staff shortages. *"The staff shortages are greatest in London and the southeast".* In HMP Woodhill and Swailside he said *"both establishments were and continue to be seriously understaffed...at Woodhill that made (sic) just one overarching recommendation - get enough officers."* At HMP Swailside in 2021, *"We found that the staffing situation was even worse and the prison was running a heavily restrictive regime. Some staff and prisoners told us they felt unsafe, levels of prisoner on prisoner violence had increased"*.

To fix shortage of space and staff, they started Operation Safeguard, where they'll place convicts in police cells. Operating near jail capacity will affect prisoner circumstances - more of them will be in congested prisons with fewer rehabilitative programmes and farther from home, this has even been noted by Dominic Raab. Judges are now saying that prison conditions must be taken into account when they make sentencing decisions. Magistrates, who were given powers to sentence up to 12 months, were reduced back to 6 months as they were sending too many people to prison. Early release from home detention curfew has increased from 135 to 190 days. Feltham modified its age limits so they are holding young adults in the children's section and raising the ages of all young people in other sections. Aylesbury, rerolled unexpectedly from a young offender institution to a class C jail. Prisoners are relocated around the country just to find space, not programmes or the services they need.

So 'Does prison work?' - if 'works' means locking more people up for longer then we're doing that quite well but If we need to try and make sure that when people leave prison they are less likely to offend then it's not working.

THE REHABILITATION OF MEN WITH SEXUAL CONVICTIONS by Jackie Craissati

Jackie Craissati is a consultant and forensic psychologist and director of Psychological Approaches, CIC. She's written six books, her most recent is *Forensic Case Histories*, aimed at lay people with an interest. For full speech visit the Member area of www.naopv.com



Jackie founded a sex offender group in 1993 and still provides therapeutic supervision. Over the past 30 years, the group has treated 8-900 men from London on the Offender Personality Disorder track, including IPPs, the most disturbed men coming out. Jackie discussed risk, denial, and treatment.

- 14k males condemned for sexual offences - 20% of jail population risen 10% in last 12 months.
- 25% of court cases are historical. Risk considerations arise because these persons may have had prolific or not prolific offending histories. Some have been prolific and then desisted for years before disclosure. This does not support the addiction model of 'once a sex offender, always a sex offender'.
- 1% of UK men have sexual convictions (same prevalence as schizophrenia and autism).

The media "others" sexual offenders by making them monsters. NHS England financed a hostel for high-risk men with personality disorder in 2010. *"It can go ahead as long as you don't take paedophiles,"* the community said. The hostel housed murderers, rapists, and arsonists, but the paedophiles lived in the bedsits down the road, making the community feel "safe".

500 persons are arrested monthly for accessing porn. Operation ORD took a long time to acquire data on 5k people. In the time it took to charge them, more suicides occurred than contact offences. Suicide rates are 200 times higher for sexual offenders. 7% of males arrested for images kill themselves within a month. The police are now more mindful of mental health since realising these figures.

Sexual crimes span from the most terrible cases to the common person preoccupied with the Internet and illegal porn. 25-30% of all sexual convictions and sexual offences are in under-21s - the largest group labelled acquires that history at a young age before family life or proper employment.

Re-offending is different from conviction, only 10% of sexual offences, including plea bargaining, result in a conviction. After trial, conviction rates drop dramatically. Conviction and sentencing are a major deterrent. In UK and US, the re-arrest rate has been declining as public disapproval of sexual offences increases. The recall rate has soared - people are being recalled before they commit a crime because licence compliance is challenging. The majority with sexual convictions have a 1% five-year re-offending rate. A smaller, more worrisome group has a 50-50 likelihood of reoffending. Risk assessment ensures that resources follow risk.

RISK: Historical factors: young age, number of court appearances (not convictions), male and stranger victims **Dynamic variables:** • Substance abuse, impulsivity, and an anti-social lifestyle. • Only 30% of men with convictions have a sexual fixation, including rape or children. For the other 70%, it's a combination of emotional and situational issues. Only 5% of convicted rapists are sadistic and these are high-risk yet they are rare so we have to be more sophisticated in understanding what is going on for individuals. • Overusing sex to solve emotional issues

DENIAL: Sexual offenders have high denial - 30% deny guilt, 30% minimise and a minority accept their actions. Denial and lack of regret are not risky - the data is clear: fully acknowledging is connected with slightly higher risk and denial with slightly reduced probability of repeat offence. These high denial rates are due to shame and public humiliation. Research shows deniers are closer to loved ones, some who confess lose all contact with their families. Denial is protective but prohibitive since it affects how long you remain in prison.

TREATMENT: SOTP (Sex Offender Treatment Programme) shames you into admitting everything and having regret and insight. We now know shame-inducing measures don't work and can backfire. Horizon, the current programme, is strengths-based to help offenders find their purpose and live well. Good supervision improves results. All offending behavioural programmes worsen low-risk offenders. Intervention therapy improves with higher risk individuals.

THE REGISTER: Americans know who's on the register in their environment. The registry and mapper have reduced re-conviction and re-arrest rates.

SOCIAL CAPITAL: When individuals feel appreciated in a reciprocal setting, people are more likely to stop offending. Our recall rate shows that not feeling involved in a meaningful life or in yourself as a non-offender can lead to rule-breaking behaviour.



HOW OUR PRISONS ARE FAILING US by Angela Kirwin

Angela writes and lectures on social issues with a particular interest in prison reform, the criminal justice system, mental health, ADHD, and neurodiversity. Her book *Criminal, How Our Prisons Are Failing Us All* was published last year. For full speech visit the Member area of www.naopv.com



Angela told us about her early experiences seeing positive social care systems in action and how we need to defend our welfare state and if, as a society, we keep tearing apart the safety net for our most vulnerable we will be a weaker society for it. Whilst working in Bristol with substance abuse teams she decided to access service users *before* they're released from prison to do rehabilitative work. She went full time into prison and ran through the gate services and dual diagnosis services but found a system that prevented rehabilitation.

She pointed out that England, Scotland and Wales have the highest per capita incarceration rate in western Europe yet there is no proven link between increased prison time and lower crime rate. Of the 82k people in prison only 60-65 will never be released and 62k are released every year with 48% of prisoners re-offending in the first year. The prison population is made up of 12.5k Sexual Offences, 7k Life Sentences and 12k on remand. Almost half of the 59k sentenced each year receive six months or less and 69% didn't commit a violent crime. In 1993 there were 45k prisoners and by 2026 there's expected to be 100k+ prisoners.

Angela shared the story of Shaun, a serial offender and substance abuser. His larger than life character dominated the wings on his frequent times inside and it was a risk inviting him to the groups Angela ran. At first, he seemed baffled but *'When the serious offenders started crying in Group, they weren't rewarded by me in any way for their tears, and no one in the group ever took the piss. And then Shaun started noticing that no one took the piss after the group either. The vulnerability the crimes displayed in the classroom didn't seem to follow them back onto the wings, and in fact, the ones who did talk and cry seemed lighter, calmer and freer when they returned to the landings. Shaun noticed that rather than seeming paranoid and anxious when they left group, having allowed others to see their weakness, they seemed even more self-assured. And the men who came to the group looked out for each other. A connection was created, a sense of belonging in that hour a day off the wing in a classroom. The conversations, the ability to speak openly and be gently challenged by your peers created an environment where change could happen. There was a release that came with being given the space to speak and talk and be heard. We created that space in a classroom, in a basement, off a wing, and when people opened up and were vulnerable, they started to share their hopes and fears. And we just talked and talked in these groups, the group was just talking. But in giving Shaun the space to do this, he started to learn who he was and what he really wanted in life.'* Shaun did 5-6 sentences whilst working with Angela and slowly the change came (a lifetime of learned behaviour cannot be forgotten overnight) and on his final release he completed rehab and is now a hard-working peer mentor. Shaun was never a lost cause he just needed to learn that there could be another way and he did this through talking, listening, connecting with others, learning from others experiences and through speaking about his own.

In Norway, Angela learnt that their prisons had changed in the 1980s. Previously they had a system that was punitive and a recidivism rate of 70% in the first year of release. Then there was a real top down, bottom up pressure for change and it was this grassroots work and a commitment to look at the data on the evidence of what works that changed the Norwegian system. In Oslo prison, despite it being an old Victorian building, Angela found that there was mutual respect between guards, visitors and prisoners. The atmosphere was clean, quiet and calm and included dart boards, glasses and silver cutlery! She quoted Professor Francis Pates, who says we should not just look at recidivism as a measure of success but aim for decency throughout our criminal justice system then the reduction in re-offending and everything else will follow.

Norway's approach is based on 'Who would you want as your neighbour?' as most prisoners will return to our communities. Inflicting hardship and punishment and then dumping someone back out into society is not going to make them feel part of it – it's just a recipe for disaster - as prison further severs the link with society with people that are most often feeling disconnected already. To be a good neighbour, a good citizen, you have to feel part of that wider community. In the US, Angela was surprised to find some incredible community services, really innovative practices and a strong sense of grassroots organising and campaigning.

Having highlighted the power of Connection and Conversations she also said language matters and often prisoners are defined by their crimes and not their humanity. Conversation can sow positive seeds or can make people want to give up. It's not our job to judge anyone, the courts have already judged them and most are ashamed of what they've done. She urged all of us to play a part by starting meaningful conversations in our communities and sharing the work we do in prisons and as PVs. Since writing her book she has discovered, despite what press and government would have us believe, people are reasonable and engaged in debate. We are not going to change these headlines and these tough on crime rhetoric without a groundswell and grassroots movement like in Norway.



HMPPS/NAOPV Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

by Roy Hanley, Past Chairman

For some years the NAOPV has benefited from an annual Grant of £11,000 from the Ministry of Justice, ostensibly to assist in providing an AGM and conference, which was usually paid without issue in 4 predetermined quarterly sums.



In 2018 HMPPS' departmental responsibility for managing the Grant and the NAOPV's involvement in facilitating the OPV scheme, was transferred from Petty France in London to the 'Families Services' division in Birmingham. This resulted in the NAOPV being required to demonstrate increased accountability for the Grant, by way of submitting quarterly reports covering such areas as 'Financial Reporting' and 'Project Delivery', prior to approval for payment; and subsequently claim only against agreed items of eligible expenditure up to the maximum £11,000 per annum, by way of the reports and by submitting quarterly key performance indicators (KPIs).

Some 18 months ago, HMPPS indicated that the Grant may not continue and so should not be regarded as a given in the future. It was unclear at that time whether other benefits, either financial or in kind, would be provided, but it was mentioned that a bidding process for funding could be a possibility.

The most recent 3-year Grant came to an end on 31st March this year and so grant funding has now ceased in its current form from this date. HMPPS' formal explanation being that "*Due to the Government Grant Standards, it will not be possible to 'directly award' any further grant*".

HMPPS have stressed that they value OPVs and the work we do and consequently their relationship with the NAOPV; and have given assurance that they are keen to continue working with us and appraise other ways in which they can provide support to work in partnership. There are no immediate plans to amend annex B of PSI 16/2011, which formally acknowledges the NAOPV role in facilitating the OPV scheme (also in PSI 05/2016).

Barring any unforeseen significant expenditure, the NAOPV's current financial assets, which in addition to ongoing membership subscriptions, are deemed sufficient to continue operating for around another 2-3 years without grant income, but clearly there is a need to investigate financial support from other sources, which could take the form of sponsorship for events such as the AGM & Conference. Chair John Kennett has taken the lead in addressing this financial issue, although initial approaches have not been fruitful to date. HMPPS have indicated a willingness to give support by way of providing HMPPS/MoJ venues for our AGM & Conference and ECM meetings at no cost to ourselves. However, the challenge here is finding venues that are suitably located to allow ready travel access from all areas of England/Wales. They also wish to continue our periodic meetings with the Families/Chaplaincy HQ teams and to explore different ways of working with us. To this end they have proposed creating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to set out a renewed partnership between our organisations.

We were provided with an initial draft of a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** in March, which takes the form of a 19-page document, the purpose of which is to cover the "NAOPV's delivery and operations within HMPPS prison-based ventures and outlines the Parties' commitment to co-operation, collaboration and partnership working, so that together they meet their respective aims and objectives, and further support their relationship and their ability to deliver positive outcomes for all."

The MOU is not intended to be legally binding and the draft presently includes a number of issues requiring consideration and clarification; and a number of conference calls have already been held between both Parties to develop and finalise the text. The MOU will be reviewed annually and the intention is that it will be regarded in conjunction with the 2 PSIs and the NAOPV Handbook, together with our existing Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) with the MoJ.

The overriding concern of this development is really with regard to the **future financing** of the NAOPV. The minimum annual subscription rate for membership has been held at £10 for some years and many members kindly pay more. As previously mentioned, we have sufficient funds for the shorter term and are already exploring alternative sources of funding, but the executive committee would welcome other constructive ideas or suggestions from the membership.

NAOPV Updates

by Jenny Haigh, General Secretary



Policies & Procedures

The Health & Welfare Policy which includes information on insurance and indemnity, was adopted by the Trustees at the January 2023 Executive Committee meeting.

Available on the website:

- Policies & Procedures
- AGM documents
- Constitution

2023-24 priorities

- Trustee agreement on a Memorandum of Understanding with HMPPS
- Training & safeguarding
- Future funding and sponsorship
- Promoting active recruitment through Branches, the website & e-bulletins to encourage a diverse cross-section of OPVs
- Promotional video to be produced for the website to support recruitment

Mega Prisons in England & Wales

HMP Fosse Way, built on the site formerly occupied by HMP Glen Parva in Leicestershire, received its first prisoners on 29th May this year. This category C resettlement prison is operated by Serco under a 10-year contract and has space for some 1715 inmates, with approval to increase by another 250 residents. It is the second jail of six expected to be built as part of the government's £4 billion construction programme to create 20,000 more prison places.

The design follows the blueprint of HMP Five Wells, also a category C men's prison opened in early 2022, built on the former site of HMP Wellingborough in Northamptonshire, with a capacity of 1680 and operated by G4S.

HMP Millsike, a category A prison to be built alongside HMP Full Sutton in East Yorkshire, will hold around 1500 prisoners and is due to open in 2025 and will be the first in the UK to run solely on electricity.

HMP Berwyn in Wrexham was the first of the new mega prisons, which opened in 2017 and is a category C resettlement and training men's prison run by HMPPS, with a capacity of over 2100.

Various locations have been mooted for the remaining three proposed 'mega' prisons, with the South East and North West being the likely regions although, no public announcements on their eventual locations have yet been released.

Financial Review of the year to 31st December 2022

by Richard Hemsley, Treasurer



2022 was the first post pandemic year in which the Association was able to undertake a full programme of events including the Annual General meeting held in May with a full programme of guest speakers. The Executive Committee was able to meet in person at each of its quarterly meetings.

Grant, Subscriptions and other income

Grant income disclosed in the accounts amounted to £12377 of which £1377 relates to the HMPPS grant year to 31 March 2022, and £11000 to the grant year April 2022 to March 2023. As the maximum amount of grant available has already been claimed, there will be no grant due for the final quarter to March 2023. HMPPS have given notice that the Association's annual grant of £11k will be discontinued from April 2023 onwards, although some support may continue to be available by other means.

Because of under/over payments during the year there is a small debtor of £808 due from HMPPS at 31 December 2022 which has been received since the year end.

Subscription income fell in 2022 from £4759 to £4322 thanks in part to the continuing effects of the pandemic. It must be noted that the Association's annual subscriptions have remained unchanged for several years. With inflation now running at 10% per annum, together with the cessation of annual grant support referred to above, it is inevitable that subscriptions must rise in the near future

Gift aid recovered in 2022 amounted to £645, a slight increase over the previous year. The Association continues to receive a modest level of donations (£245 in 2022) and Building Society interest continued at a very low level (£54) although this will rise in the current year because of the increase in bank rate.

Expenditure

The Association's principal expenditure in 2022 related to the reinstated annual general meeting which in total cost over £7000. The cost of quarterly executive committee meetings which were attended in person in 2022 rather than by Zoom amounted to £3479. In other areas the cost of insurance rose to £627 from £511 the year before because of an increased level of cover now provided. The Association continues to develop its website outreach and £864 was spent in this area in 2022.

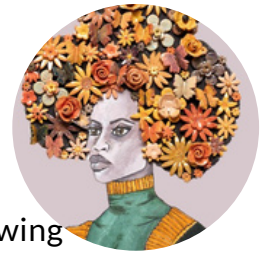
Results for the year

In summary the Association's income in 2022 exceeded expenditure by £3873 (2021 £5097) and this amount has been added to reserves which at 31 December 2022 amounted to £44573, sufficient to cover normal activities for at least two years.

The Future

Currently the finances of the Association remain sound and in the first quarter results for 2023 showed a break-even position. The ending of the grant from HMPPS is a source of concern but action is being taken with regard to the possibility of grant funding from other sources. In addition as noted above a review of subscription levels is overdue.

Equality and Diversity



Equality does not mean ‘everybody being the same’. It is about recognising that individual volunteers are different, yet treating all with an equal level of respect. Diversity is about seeing the bigger picture. It means respecting, valuing and drawing on the positive aspects of differences and fostering an environment that recognises the contribution that every individual volunteer makes, or can make, to the organisation.

Read this policy in full online at www.naopv.com/naopv-equality-and-diversity

Health & Welfare



It is the responsibility of the individual Prison Governor/Director at prisons to appoint OPVs to visit inmates at the institution they govern. It is the duty of the relevant Governor/Director to safeguard the safety, welfare and health of OPVs and to ensure so far as is reasonably practicable that the mental health of the OPV is not adversely affected by the voluntary work they carry out at the institution.

The NAOPV has no legal authority to examine procedures and practices at prisons neither is it practicable to remain in contact with all OPVs at all material times to ensure that their OPV voluntary work is not adversely affecting them.

Nevertheless, the NAOPV considers it is incumbent upon itself to provide advice, support and guidance to all OPVs who seek its aid or of whom the NAOPV have been made aware.

Read this policy in full online in the Member area of www.naopv.com.

Trustee Report year ending December 2022



This report was presented to the AGM earlier this year. Read it in full online at www.naopv.com under “News & Events”

Privacy Policy



This document sets out the standards that you expect when we ask for, use or share your personal information. It tells you how to get access to the information we hold on you.

The NAOPV Executive Committee is the “data controller” under the Data Protection Act 1988, and is responsible for the personal information that we hold.



In memoriam: Lord David Ramsbotham GCB, CBE, OBE – 1934-2022



Following a military career in the Army, Lord David Ramsbotham held the post of HM Chief Inspector of Prisons from 1995-2001 and in 2004 he was appointed as a Vice President of the NAOPV.

In 2005 he was given a Life Peerage, Baron Ramsbotham of Kensington and sat in the House of Lords as a crossbench peer. He was a guest speaker at the 2015 Annual General Meeting and until his death aged 88 following a fall at his home on 13 December 2022 he remained an active supporter of the NAOPV.

Koestler Arts Annual Exhibition

The Koestler Awards have played a unique, national role in motivating prisoners, secure hospital patients and immigration detainees to take part in the arts. Each year over 3,500 people in custody and in the community share their creative work by taking part.



This year, Koestler's annual UK exhibition *In Case of Emergency* at London's Southbank Centre on 2nd November - 17th December, will be curated by T S Eliot prize-winning poet Joelle Taylor who has selected 200 works from the 8000 that were entered.

The exhibition programme will include talks, performances, a pop-up shop, tours and open days for the families of exhibited artists. You can find out more at their new website www.koestlerarts.org.uk

"Bringing the Outside In"

You will all have seen the NAOPV handbook and the A3 and A4 posters and A5 leaflets for use inside prisons. These are designed for display on the wings, in the chaplaincy and communal areas to advise prisoners of their entitlement to request to meet with an OPV - "Bringing the outside in" A5 leaflets can also be included in prisoner reception packs.

To aid in the recruitment of new OPVs, a trifold leaflet is available for use externally to publicise the service we offer and to encourage people to become OPVs.


Due to future procedural changes, the revised & printed edition of the Handbook is on hold, but the current version is available to download from the members section of the website www.naopv.com under **Communications/publications**.

Free copies of this publicity material are available. Contact your Regional Secretary or Shirley Clegg via info@naopv.com

BRINGING THE OUTSIDE IN

**DOING TIME ?
We have the time...
TO LISTEN
TO SHARE
TO CARE**

Prison Visitors respect people as individuals
Whoever they are, wherever they are...
We visit the person, not the prisoner...
We are not attached to any religious group...
Want to find out more ?
**Put a general application in to the Wing Officer
Asking to see an Official Prison Visitor**

 **NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF OFFICIAL PRISON VISITORS** Registered Charity No. 1099041
The NAOPV acknowledges the support of HMPS in the publication of this document



National Association of Official Prison Visitors

Registered Charity No: 1099041

NAOPV General Secretary, 33 Daleside, Greetland, Halifax, West Yorkshire HX4 8QD | Tel: 01422 376132 | info@naopv.com

GDPR Statement

The National Association of Official Prison Visitors hereby clarifies the situation regarding the data we hold on all Official Prison Visitors, both NAOPV members and non-members.

Our Grant Agreement with HMPPS/Ministry of Justice requires the NAOPV to keep an updated record of ALL OPVs who are registered at prisons in England & Wales. The information kept on our database comprises:

- name of OPV
- address
- telephone and email address
- prison at which OPV visits

Our database also includes, where relevant, an NAOPV membership number and it records payment of annual subscriptions in the case of OPVs who are NAOPV members.

The NAOPV database does NOT include personal information, such as may be given on the OPV application form, nor does it hold bank details.

The Ministry of Justice has limited access to this information and as stated above, we keep this information on their behalf. The only information the MoJ ever require of the NAOPV is the name of the OPV and the prison which s/he visits.

This is to facilitate the requirements of the Grant Agreement between HMPPS and the NAOPV in relation to Key Performance Indicators. This information will, henceforth, be required by the MoJ on a quarterly basis.

None of the information stored on our database is ever passed to any outside agencies, nor to any commercial enterprise, nor to any other group or individual.

If, as an OPV, you have any concerns regarding the NAOPV holding the above data on behalf of HMPPS, please contact us at info@naopv.com

Who's Who

Patron:

HRH The Princess Royal

President:

The Lord Chancellor & Secretary of State for Justice

Vice Presidents:

Prof. Nicholas Hardwick

Rt. Hon. David Lammy, MP

The Rt. Revd. Rose Hudson-Wilkin

Officers:

John Kennett - Chairman

Ian Allred - Vice Chairman

Roy Hanley - Past Chairman

General Secretary:

Jenny Haigh

Membership Secretary:

Margaret Henderson

Treasurer:

Richard Hemsley FCA

Executive Committee (All Officers & Regional Secretaries plus):

Mary Bruton - Elected member

John Carroll - Elected member

Emma Dogliani - Elected member

Kathy Govett - Elected member

Ruth Marsden - Elected member

Elizabeth McQuay - Elected member

Regional Secretaries:

North East - Ingelise McNulty

North West - Vacant

Yorkshire & Humberside - Shirley Clegg

East Midlands - Vacant (temporary cover - Nick Holroyd)

West Midlands & North Wales - Ian Allred

East of England - Nick Holroyd

Home Counties North - Ben Benest

Kent, Sussex, Essex & SE London - Roy Hanley

Surrey, Middlesex & Greater London - John Kennett

South West & South Wales - Diana Turner

