

HAVEN DISTRIBUTION
ANNUAL REPORT
2008-2009

General Information

Registered Charity No: 1089868

Registered Office
HAVEN DISTRIBUTION
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London WC1N 3XX

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PATRON
Benjamin Zephaniah
www.benjaminzephaniah.com

TRUSTEES

Lee Humphries - Founder & Chair
Kim Shearer - Secretary
Emma Long - Trustee
Dean Plant – Trustee
Tomas Rawlings - Trustee

BANKERS

CAF BANK LTD
West Mailing
Kent ME19 4TA

ACCOUNTANTS

COMMUNITY ACCOUNTANCY SELF-HELP
1 THORPE CLOSE
LONDON W10 5XL

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

In Jeffrey Reiman's observational book, *The Rich Get Richer & the Poor Get Prison*, he asks his philosophy students to devise a correctional system that, rather than tries to prevent and, ultimately, reduce crime & imprisonment, they design a system that actually maintains & perpetuates crime.

His students discussed having strict laws that criminalise people for using drugs, prostitutes & gambling. People may then develop addictions to the aforementioned acts and then, as with drug addiction, people will inevitably have to steal to feed their addictions.

The students suggested that the police, probation and prosecutors should be given wide powers over who got arrested, charged and sentenced. People could be arrested over looking suspicious, mixing with the wrong crowd of people and not staying within the boundary of their local authority. Thus many people could be held on remand awaiting the prospect of long sentences, knowing their fate is part of an arbitrary, revolving door process, filling them with rage and frustration; these people could then go on to commit anti-social acts, excluding them further from society norms. The prisoners' experience of jail should be as demeaning as possible to prevent further acts of crime, but with no control over their lives and the potential threat of bullying, rape, and violent attacks by other prisoners, the brutalisation of their lives may overwhelm any deterrent effect.

During imprisonment the prisoners should not be trained in any skills or experience that could make them gain full employment and potential employers should also be discouraged from employing ex-offenders. Prisoners should carry the stigma of being an outsider and enemy of 'normal' society for the rest of their lives letting them constantly know that they are outsiders and not welcome outside of the prison walls.

After the students suggesting many ways in creating a permanent class of criminals, Mr Reiman pointed out that in fact they had demonstrated the American criminal justice system. Of course, not all of what they had discussed could be said of the American system but certainly parts of what was proposed could be applied both to the US and UK systems.

Although the rehabilitation and resettlement of prisoners is carried out in every UK prison to a greater or lesser extent, much of this work is carried out by charities who are struggling to survive in this current economic downturn. It is very disappointing and disheartening to hear of the government's plans to continue building new prisons when charitable organisations are having to tighten their belts and make redundancies, thereby reducing the number of prisoners who can be helped, while the prison population itself continues to grow.

Last year marked an amazing achievement for Haven as we managed to secure funding over 3 years (2008-2011) from the Tudor Trust. This funding allowed us to move into an office, thus moving out of trustees' homes and enabling us to invite volunteers to assist with our distribution. We have now employed our first part time worker, Nathalie Griffin, who is juggling the day-to-day tasks of running the distribution and supervising our volunteers.

We were also very lucky last year to build stronger working relationships with the Aldo and Hardman Trusts, enabling us to provide even more books and access better networks through

the Prisoner Funder Directory, who may be able to provide additional support to the prisoners who apply to Haven.

Thanks to this formalisation and expansion of Haven's service and partnerships, we experienced a 25% increase in service provision in less than one year; at times, we have come perilously close to suspending sending books into prisons due to running out of money, but this only confirms what the Haven Trustees have always believed, that prisoners need books not only to help them prepare for release from prison, but also to negotiate everyday life inside. We spent 62% of our total annual budget on directly helping prisoners through the cost of purchasing books and the postage costs of shipping the books to the prisoners and replying to letters and sending application forms.

The development of Haven's services would not have occurred without the continued support of our volunteers and our very loyal donors: The charitable trusts who believe in what we do and the individuals who donate money, books and their time to assist prisoners who want to change their lives forever:

Aldo Trust * AK Distribution UK * J Archer
J Freer * J Gallon * I Gollan * N Griffin/T Beasley * Hardman Trust
JJ Charitable Trust * E Long * S Millett
T Rawlings * D Rooney * K Shearer
The teachers & instructors at Strode College, HMP The Verne
The Tudor Trust
University of the West of England Community Volunteering Programme
Whitaker Charitable Trust
Workers' Beer Company

I would like to finish by saying education in prison is still a privilege and not a right.

Thank you to all the individuals & trusts who have supported us over the years we could not do this work with you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Humphries', written in a cursive style.

Lee Humphries - Founder & Chair

INMATES' & TUTORS COMMENTS

Without the goodwill and help of prison tutors and librarians, Haven's services would not work, as we always ask for a signed letter of support, as an extra step to ensure book requests are authentic.

The Trustees would like to thank all the tutors, peer support learners and librarians who take time out to help prisoners with their applications.

We would also like to thank all the prisoners who spread the word about Haven to their fellow inmates.

Here is some of the feedback we have received this year:

Prison education would be a lot more difficult without you.

Mr McD, Dovegate

I completed Teacher Training Skills Diploma successfully; the book was very useful and will continue to use it in the future in rebuilding my life and career. Thanking you for your support and books you give.

Mr D, Littlehey

This is a wonderful charity for prisoners studying further education courses. I have never encountered any difficulties and for such a small charity the service is admirably managed.

Mr H, Wolds

Thank you very much for the book. This will make a big difference as we only have one copy to share between 11 girls. Thank you again.

Ms F, Drake Hall

Thanks to your charity and the generosity of the people who support it, I can continue with my study in the full knowledge that I now have an invaluable reference book.

Mr H, Usk

Thank you very much for the free dictionary. I may be 61 but I still enjoy learning new things.

Mr M, Littlehey

The prisoners are extremely pleased with the service your charity operates. All the books arrive in pristine condition. May I say a particular thank you for honouring Mr X's request: He is a life sentence prisoner who has mental health problems and receiving his book has given him a definite lift; small things mean a great deal inside. Thank you from all of us.

Mrs H, tutor

Thank you for your continued support in getting books to my students, it is, as you know, an invaluable service, and one that is much appreciated by the inmates here, for most inmates the cost of books is prohibitive and Haven provide a great service.

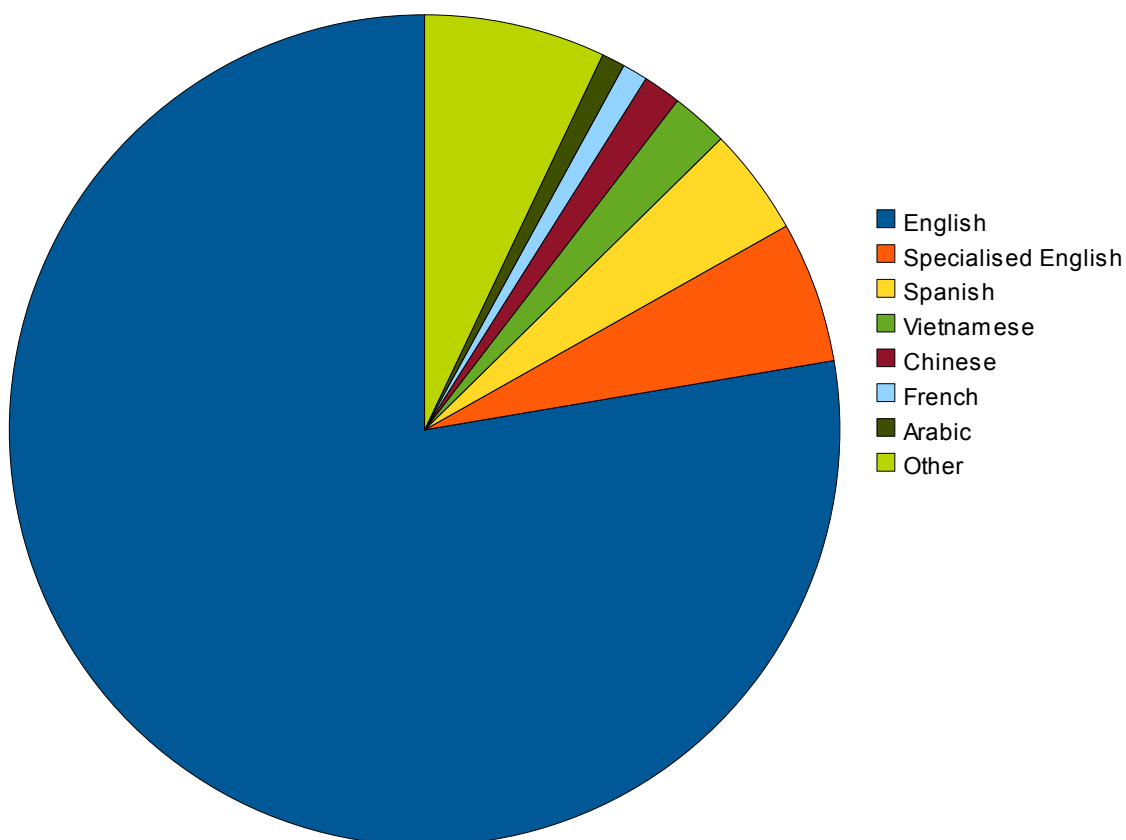
Mr O, tutor

ETHNICITY, DIVERSITY and the ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Of the 2000 educational books provided last year, 60% were dictionaries to help prisoners studying literacy or ESOL. The majority of the over 1200 dictionaries sent were English or specialised English (large print or dyslexia specific) and a significant number were Arabic, Chinese, and Vietnamese (see chart below).

Haven also regularly receives appeals for dictionaries in languages for which there are no affordable good quality dictionaries consistently available, such as Pashto, Farsi and various African and Eastern European languages; we continue to search for reliable sources of these essential books.

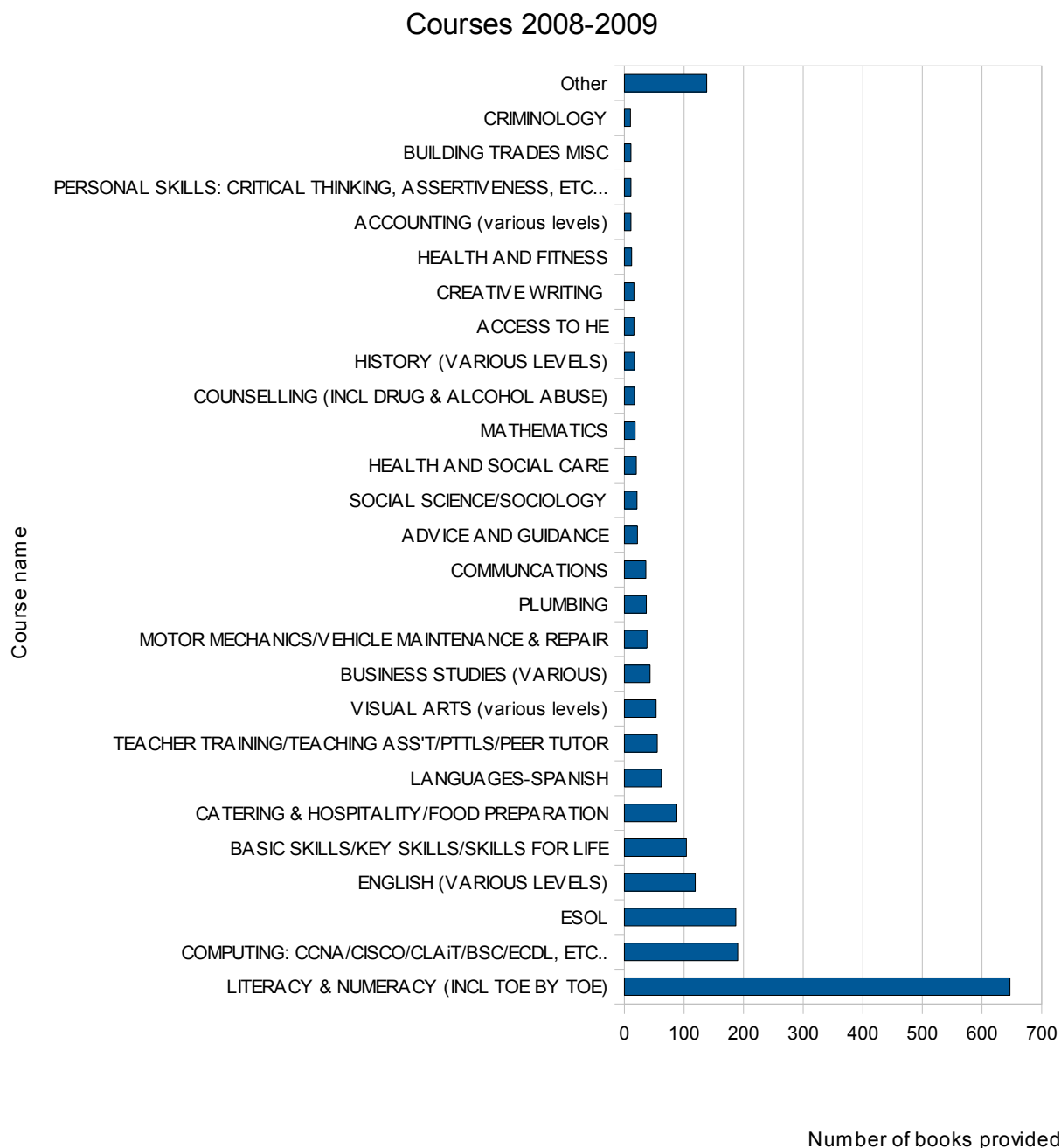
Dictionaries 2008-2009



EDUCATIONAL COURSES

As in previous years, the courses being taken by the prisoners who successfully apply to Haven reflect the need for basic skills training, such as literacy, numeracy and ESOL, throughout the prison estate. However, we are pleased that we were also able to help more prisoners last year with their vocational training in areas such as Information Technology, Catering and Hospitality, Visual Arts, Building Trades and Motor Vehicle Mechanics.

These are the most common courses that Haven has been able to help with during the past year:

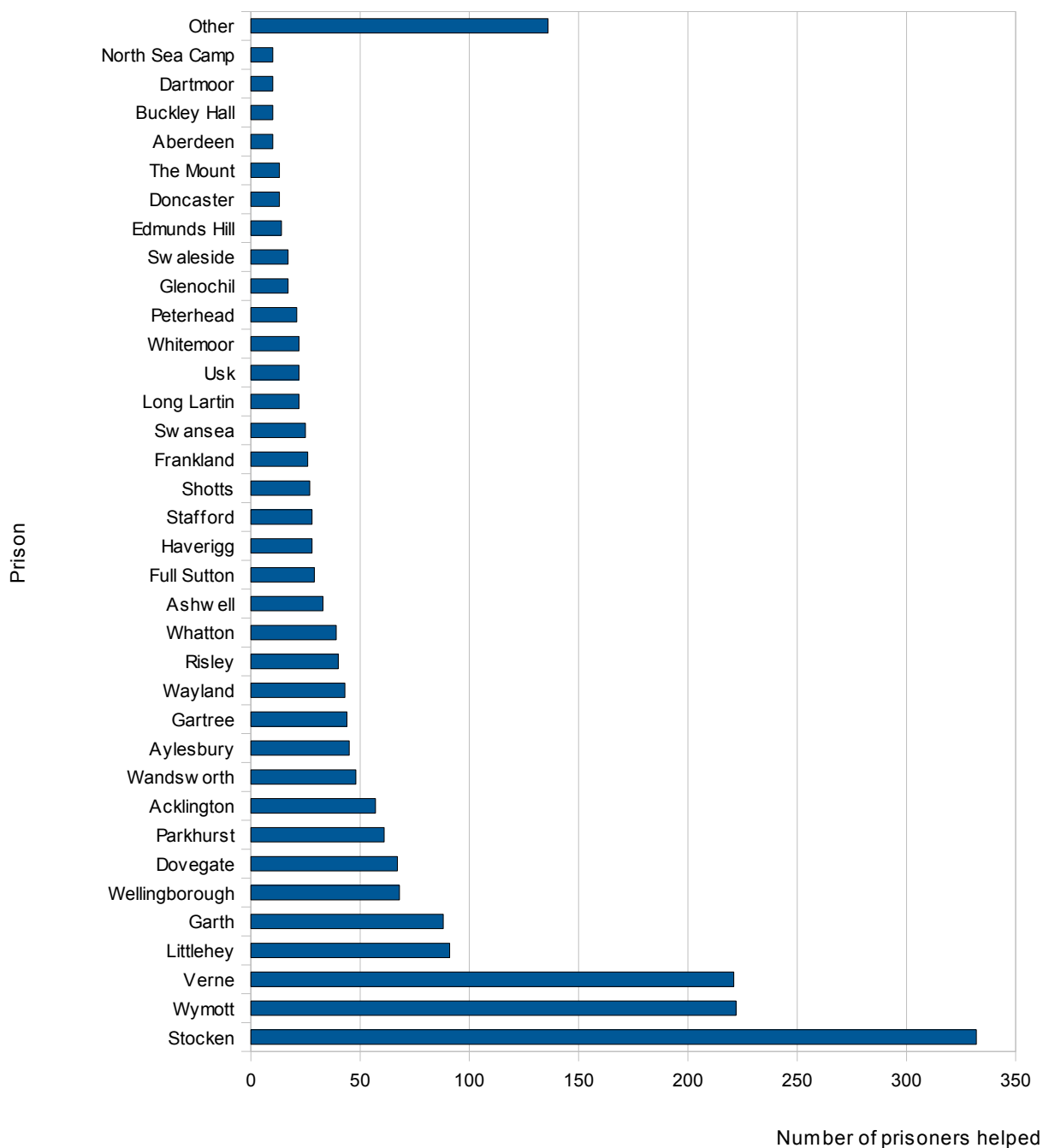


PRISONERS SERVED

In the past year, the number of prison Education Departments promoting Haven's services has increased and we have been able to help prisoners as far away as Jersey and Guernsey. Unfortunately, there is still almost no take-up in Northern Ireland. During 2008-2009, Haven provided 2000 prisoners with educational books as well as sending general reading books to around 100 other prisoners not in formal education.

Here are the the prisons where we have been able to help the most prisoners:

Prisons served 2008-2009



RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2009

RECEIPTS	Notes	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2009 TOTAL £	2008 TOTAL £
Grants	2	20,500.00	13,643	34,143	10,610
Donations & Other grants	3	-	2,629	2,629	1,591
		20,500	16,272	36,772	12,201
PAYMENTS					
Publications		11,342	4,861	16,202	12,021
Publicity		210	315	525	-
Premises		877	1,315	2,192	330
Furniture & Equipment		-	162	162	-
Stationeries		181	422	602	657
Printing		157	365	522	10
Website		-	-	-	150
Stall Hire		-	50	50	45
Travel & Subsistence		-	568	568	653
Postage		4,288	1,838	6,126	4,893
Postal Box		325	487	812	712
Bank Charges		-	-	-	3
Payroll		3,075	4,613	7,689	-
Other Expenses		-	445	445	-
		20,454	15,441	35,895	19,473
Net Receipts/(Deficit)		46	831	877	(7,272)
Balance B/Fwd		-	7,413	7,413	14,685
Balance C/Fwd		46	8,244	8,290	7,413