

No Choices Without Chances



The Longford Trust
Annual Report 2021

20 years...but what really counts?

2021 was, everyone anticipated, the year we were going to put behind us all the disruption, distress and dashed hopes of 2020 and the pandemic. It didn't turn out quite that way, for reasons you will all too easily recall. But if it saw instead a gradual easing, then that was more gradual in prisons than elsewhere. And especially slow to return in many was the education provision that nurtures prison-learners and sends them out on our way with an appetite for higher education.

If you add into that the disruption caused by Covid that continued into the autumn in universities, then it has been another challenging year for the Trust. But we ended it on a high note. The live Longford Lecture returned – albeit with some concessions to the pandemic – and our speaker, George The Poet, pictured on the cover overleaf, brought the audience to their feet with a passionate and beautifully crafted demand that prisons become more 'development centre' than 'punishment centre', especially for those who end up there because for them, 'the game is rigged'.

You can read more about the lecture, the Longford Prize, and our annual poetry award on the pages that follow. There is a selection, too, of voices from our current and recent award-holders, talking about their experiences of education, the challenges and the highs as they move forward in their lives. My colleagues who work at the trust will tell you how our programme is delivering second chances – and more. And there are details about what your support has made possible, and where we are heading as we mark our 20th anniversary as engaged and enthused by the potential of rehabilitation as ever.



Peter Stanford
Director
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The ties that bind us

2020 was a year of lockdown. It was a huge challenge for all of us. But the negative impact was even greater on those already locked up. Their isolation from society was doubled down; prison visits were reduced as was time spent outside their cell with other prisoners. Their connection to society, already precarious, was further weakened.

Happily 2021 saw a revival. What we do best was possible again, so we doubled down our efforts. We set ourselves on a path to long-term financial sustainability with the launch of our endowment fund and legacy-giving programmes. With our lean organisational structure, all contributions have a meaningful impact on the lives of our scholars.

Not only that, but our team got stuck back in with all their commitment and verve. Our mentors were able to meet their mentees again and help them in all the critical ways that they do. We launched a new pilot employability programme to help our scholars find work at the end of their studies. Making the step from education to employment is critical and often far more difficult for those with a criminal record.

The people we as a society imprison are still tied to us. Even if we lock them away. More so because we lock them away. It is our role as a charity, as a society, to strengthen those ties. To bring them back into society in a way that is beneficial to them and for all. As ever, none of this happens without the people who support us. Thanks to all the friends of the Trust for your time, ideas and financial contribution.



Tom Pakenham
Chair

Sentences into Degrees

“There is plenty written about what people lose when they go to prison. We lose our homes, our jobs, our families, every bit of normality that we may have ever had. Coming to prison at the age of 19 changed everything for me. Alongside the crushing realisation of what I'd lost, I distinctly remember thinking about something else on my first night in a prison cell – what could I possibly do with my life in a new world devoid of opportunity?

Fast forward a year and I was working on the induction unit. A group of fresh-faced criminology students from a local university entered the wing as part of a prison tour. I remember feeling that they were just like me but were totally different. All the doors that were closed to me were wide open for them. They asked me questions about my time in prison, eager to know what life was like in our hidden world. When they left, I couldn't shake off the realisation that I would never have that kind of opportunity again.

Another year later, I was asked to conduct a talk for another group of first-year students in the visits' hall. I was sick and tired of being wheeled out as a reliable performer, so for once I was honest about prison: honest about the inequality and deprivation that has filled our prison system to the rafters; honest about the reality that prison is a profitable method for throwing away everyone that society doesn't want to see. For every 'proper criminal', there are another 50 others with the type of trauma histories that could keep you awake at night for the rest of your days.

The head lecturer accompanying the group approached me as the students were leaving, insisting that I should be at university. I still had three years to serve, but he suggested that I could start university as soon as I was eligible for open conditions. There was so much red tape that I never believed it would come to fruition, but my 'open status' (where I could leave the prison on day release for study or work) came in September 2020, just one week before the start of the course.

Walking into the lecture theatre for the first time felt just as unfamiliar and frightening as walking onto the wing for the first time. As terrifying as it was, I somehow felt like I was at home. I started to relax as soon as I realised that I wasn't really that different from everyone else in the room.

This is an extract from a blog by one of our current scholars, which appeared on our website. To read new blogs, follow us on @LongfordTrust to get alerts.

Our Longford Lecture returns

It was touch and go whether the Longford Lecture would succumb to Covid for a second year running, but by a whisker our 2021 event navigated all the obstacles and happened on November 11 at Church House, Westminster. Not just happened, but happened memorably thanks to our brilliant speaker, George The Poet.



He spoke of the 'real connection' he felt with an audience that knew about and cared about prisons. He shared his 2015 poem, 'Rap's Not Music', about spending time with prisoners at HMP Brixton, which turned out to be the first of many such sessions in other establishments. These were, he said, 'the best conversations with people in some of the worst situations'.

Drawing on those meetings, he reflected that, 'the game is rigged...people end up in jail because of their background. Of course, we are all accountable for our own decisions, but if you grew up in a poor area, if you suffered abuse as a child, or were excluded from school, you're more likely to be locked up'.

He wanted, he explained, to look at practical ways to make prison 'a worthwhile place to be'. There are 'two ways to think about education: learning as a means to an end, on the one hand; or learning as a way of life. To see the learning opportunity in every situation is to unlock your own potential.'

If prisons could be 'development centres' rather than, as at present, 'punishment centres', they would support those in them 'to combat the forces pulling them into self-destruction'. There are, he concluded, 'no choices without chances'.

It was a message that resonated around the hall; with the hundreds who joined via a livestream; and with that vital part of the audience, those listening to George's words live on National Prison Radio in their cells.

Watch George's lecture on our [website](#)



The Kevin Pakenham Award

The first winner of our new Kevin Pakenham Award for those who make a major contribution to promoting national debate on prison reform is Jimmy McGovern. The Liverpool-born and -based screenwriter attended our 2021 Lecture in person to receive the award (designed by former Longford Scholar, Paul Grady) from Kevin's wife, the ITN journalist, Ronke Phillips Pakenham. It was in recognition of the impact his 2021 BBC One prime-time series, *Time*, set in a prison, had made on the 20 million who tuned in to its three episodes. It subsequently won two BAFTAs

The Kevin Pakenham Award was established in memory of our founding chairman, who died suddenly in 2020. It is run with the support of the Blavatnik Family Foundation and comes with prize money of £5,000.

"I am absolutely delighted," said Jimmy McGovern, when told he had been awarded the prize by its judges. "I feel truly honoured." He was, he told the lecture audience, working on a new drama project that also touched on prison and probation subjects.

A personal response to George

"I am a third-year Longford scholar, completing a mathematics degree.

I see myself as a numbers guy more than a crafter of words. But I was moved almost to tears by you at the Longford Lecture.

As I know from following you for many years, George, you have passionate views about what happens in our prisons, and about the urgent need for reform and rehabilitation. But nothing prepared me for your mesmerising in-person performance.

I can relate to you and your background. You went to a London boys' grammar school where you felt out of place, travelling for more than an hour each way to a leafy suburb from your home area in a poor part of London. I remember being the only black person in my year 7 top set maths and science class at school. I've always been academic. It felt odd, no-one wanted to sit next to me.

Maybe it was because my friends were getting into trouble. Some were bullies. Or maybe due to race, upbringing or behaviour. I don't know exactly but you know what it feels like not to fit in.

'There are no choices without chances.' That's what you said. That's the bottom line. We need to stop people becoming lost in the system. It has taken many years for me to feel accepted – a long journey with a lot of mistakes on the way. Since my release from prison, I've grabbed a lifeline, one where I'm pulling myself back into society, on the right side of the law.



This is an extract from Kyle's post-lecture blog on our website. To read the scholars' blogs as they go up, follow us on @LongfordTrust to get alerts.

The Longford Prize

Our 2021 Longford Prize winner was **Women in Prison**. Its chief executive, Kate Parradine (pictured below), was presented with the award (designed by former Longford scholar, Ben Levings) on stage at the Longford Lecture by George The Poet.

The Longford Prize celebrates those organisations and individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the work of prison reform. Nominations are made by members of the public, and a final decision is made by our distinguished panel of judges, chaired by Longford trustee and former prison governor, John Podmore. The award comes with a cheque for £5,000.

In their citation, the judges wrote: *'In our first ever Longford Prize awards, Women in Prison and its late founder Chris Tchaikovsky were highly commended. Twenty years on, we believe that this organisation has developed a remarkable resilience and effectiveness to go with that founding vision. It is a powerful force nationally, fighting passionately, practically and persuasively for both women's centres as alternatives to prison, and for women behind bars and after release, as well as for their families, friends and loved ones. What it achieves has an impact on all prisoners in a system in serious need of reform.'*



The Pinter Poem

Our winning Pinter Poem for 2021 'A Caged Awakening' is by Nicholas Ferguson from HMP Barlinnie. It was chosen by a panel of judges from those published in Inside Time, the national newspaper for prisoners, during 2021 and wins the award established by Antonia Fraser, daughter of Frank Longford, in memory of her husband, the Nobel Laureate, Harold Pinter. It was read at the 2021 Longford Lecture by rising young actor, Ziggy Heath, star of *Cold Feet*, *I Am...* and *How To Build A Girl*

*Is it delusion, to think that those that roam the streets aren't truly free?
Don't get lost in confusion, I don't talk in the literal sense, only figuratively.
Their feelings may be tainted ablutions, utterances of impure glee.*

*Taking life and liberty for granted,
Like we all do, thinking a coffee or wine comes at our behest,
But never appreciating or being candid,
That a detour off the moral path can lead to freedom's death.*

*I have to stifle an eye-reaching smile when I consider this:
That it takes being locked in a cage to know the taste of liberation,
Or, at least, to take it back into your heart and let it flood you.*

*But gosh, I daren't argue such things,
It'd be a week-long debate,
Perhaps I'll just ponder on what freedom brings,
Into my heart on the long awaited day.*

*The sweet stench of the farms that await me on my travels,
The prismatic flowers beaming intense, orgasmic colours into my eyes,
The heady manufactured scents on passing people, turning my gaze,
The electric excitement of getting costumed for a first date,
The sounds of the wave-crests crashing onto shore,
The cushion-like touch of a blueberry muffin aside a steaming latté,
The warmth inside, ignited by the hug of a loved one.*

*Most of all, there's one ultimate freedom I crave and will never risk again:
The sight of the stars,
Our creators winking down at me as I lay on cool grass in the night,
With the crickets chirping,
Reminding me to never be caged again.*

Scholarships – a bounceback year

The word resilience is often used to suggest admirable determination in an individual who overcomes adversity. When Longford scholars study a university degree in or after prison, it's usually applied in a personal context of emerging stronger, with a life turned around, facing forward not backwards. In the case of 2021, perhaps the collective resilience of scholars new and old is best summed up as a Bounceback Year.

After a slimmed down intake of new scholars in 2020 whilst prisons and wider society grappled with the pandemic, 2021 saw 21 new students receive awards from us – an increase of three compared with 2020. They are studying everything from law (with a view to a career in human rights) to maths, criminology (whilst on day-release from prison) and business management (as a springboard for a social enterprise start-up).

A quick note on *who* a Longford scholar is. The answer is, it can be and is anyone, irrespective of background. Of 65 current students, 34 per cent of 2021/22 Longford scholars are from black and minority ethnic groups, compared with 28 per cent of prisoners from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. Meanwhile, 9 scholars are women, which is four times higher than the percentage of women in prison.

It was also encouraging to see two scholars, both casualties in different ways of Covid, return to study in autumn 2021. One in particular said staying in touch with his mentor – and making his mum proud! – had stiffened his resolve to continue.



Philippa Budgen
Scholarship Manager
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How far I've come

“The circumstances that led me to spend a year in prison are undoubtedly the worst thing to have happened to me and my family. With my mind and body in survival mode, I don't have clear memories of my time inside. However, in my last days there, I remember vividly one of my closest friends saying, 'Molly, when you leave don't look back'. She was deadly serious. 'Walk out of the gates and do not turn around.'

I was released in the April and, with the Longford Trust's support, hurried straight to Cardiff Metropolitan University in the September. I joined the equestrian team and swiftly took over as president. I worked as a student ambassador, became a student representative, completed 100 hours of work experience as part of the Cardiff Met Award, coached gymnastics, athletics, rugby and cricket... My aim was to place as much distance between myself and HMP Eastwood Park as possible with the hope of making my CV look good despite my conviction.

After graduating, I found a good job with good people who didn't care about my past. More recently, I started my own freelance venture. Life is back on track. Except this summer, two years on, having worked tirelessly to put distance between my new life and my prison experiences, I found myself carrying around an unbearable guilt: guilt for succeeding and leaving the people in prison behind.

I had to do something about it. I got back in touch with the Longford Trust and explained the situation. They put me in touch with a charity working in prisons that happened to be recruiting. Luckily, the role suited me perfectly; working part time means I can develop my freelance venture with the comfort of a stable income. Not to mention resolving my desire to give back.

It all happened so quickly that I'm still confused by it. I spent six years trying to move on from prison and now I'm working in an organisation that challenges me every day to confront a lot of underlying emotions and internalised stigma about prisons. When building my way up, not stopping to look back felt right. Now, however, knowing that I can give back, pausing to look back has allowed me to see how far I've come.'

This is an extract from a blog by ex-scholar Molly, which appeared on our website. To read our scholars' new blogs, follow us on @LongfordTrust to get alerts

Mentoring attributes

It has remained difficult in 2021 to visit prisons, though slowly we are seeing this change. Despite the challenges, our mentors have consistently stayed in touch with scholars in prison, and supported them in their studies and learning. For many, this is the one thing that has kept them going through the isolation of Covid.

Consistency is often what scholars have lacked in their lives: the consistency of education; of community and family support; and of opportunity. Instead, many have been overseen, written-off and ignored. We know from our scholars that they place great value on someone being there for them with their best interests at heart for the duration of their degree, and sometimes, beyond. Continuity and consistency provide the basis for trust which lies at the core of a good mentoring relationship. We also require patience from all our mentors. Learning and making wholesale changes in our lives can go in fits and starts and mentors have to play the long game with our scholars, especially when they are in prison.

So how have Longford mentors demonstrated these attributes over the last 12 months? In no particular order here is a list of things our mentors have done with scholars both inside and outside prison: taking their scholar as a plus-one to BAFTA screening; preparing them for a job interview; having critical conversations about subject reading material; helping secure a job placement; being a steady sounding board about difficulties at home; supporting a scholar to navigate culture wars in the university setting; travelling seven hours in a day to make a face-to-face meeting with a scholar; introducing a social entrepreneur to partner with; navigating the complexities of conviction disclosure at univer-

sity and at work; persuading a university to keep a scholar on a course; and persuading a scholar to stick with their degree and successfully pass. Consistency and patience in abundance.



Natasha Maw
Mentoring Manager
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Our Frank Awards

Since we began in September 2014 offering Frank Awards to serving prisoners, keen to use their time behind bars to start out in higher education with an Open University module, but unable to access a student loan, more than 100 young men and women in 40 prisons in Great Britain have benefitted. The courses they have chosen cover the limited range that the Open University is able to provide to distance learners in prisons (who do not have any internet access) from business, economics and arts to sports and scientific subjects.

With the average cost of an OU module over the last seven years standing at around £3000, we have over that period committed £230,000 to create an educational route forward for those who had no other source of funding. In the past 12 months alone, we have spent £44,422 on Frank Awards. We are indebted to the Linbury Trust, who for the past three years have supported this part of our work with a grant of £30,000.

Like our bigger programme of Longford Scholarships, our Frank Awards offer each recipient one-to-one mentoring as well as financial support. Because they are serving sentences, this has always depended on the willingness of the prison to accommodate such visits by mentors. During the pandemic, however, with jails locked down, such face-to-face contact has proved almost impossible, but our mentors continued to write to their mentees alongside occasional pre-arranged phone calls and emails via the Email-a-Prisoner scheme.

Our current 15 Frank Award holders are doing well. Open University figures show that those who do its courses from inside prisons have higher completion rates than their counterparts in the community. And so our Frank Awards lead some holders to become Longford Scholars when they are released. At present half-a-dozen of the current cohort of Longford Scholars began on a Frank Award.

We have, since the inception of this scheme, worked in partnership on it with Prisoners' Education Trust, who share the administration of the awards with us.

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Education
Trust

Employability: degrees into careers

'I've landed myself a job! Barely finished my last assessment and the second job I went for came good. I'm still pinching myself.'

That's how Sean broke the good news to us about graduating in engineering from Teeside University and straight into a manufacturing engineering management role making air conditioning. Sadly, not everyone finds it as simple turning a degree into a career. Over 80 per cent of our scholars finish their degree and get a job. But for many it's not plain-sailing – making connections with employers, navigating disclosure, conveying the positive strength of learning from mistakes. All can be hard.

That's why 2021 was the year of our Employability Pilot. This involved: listening to what scholars were saying they need to boost their skills and confidence for the graduate jobs market; and hearing what employers need to feel confident about offering internship and placement opportunities for a graduate with experience of prison to ease an initial step onto the first rung of the career ladder.

It's been a learning curve carrying out the pilot, made possible by the support of the Dreamchasing Foundation and the Stone Family Foundation. Thank you to scholars, past and present, who spent time with us online exploring draft plans for what Longford support and training might look like. Despite pandemic restrictions, several internships have taken place, including with the biggest internship provider, Criminal Justice Alliance (policy work and event organising) and Justice Gap (journalism and photography). And most notably, an online training workshop was delivered by specialists StandOut, confirming that training must be at the heart of what we offer.

2022 sees the pilot move to a fully-fledged programme, with a new manager, with lived experience, at the helm. An exciting new chapter of walking the walk.



Philippa Budgen
Interim Employability Manager
employ@longfordtrust.org

Internship is a game-changer

As part of our employability programme, we arrange work placements for our scholars. The Criminal Justice Alliance has hosted five of our award-holders for three-month placements. Here one of them, Lee, discusses the experience.

Q: *Why was the timing right for you?*

Lee: The CJA internship came at a perfect time. I'd been unemployed for a year, so my confidence had dropped quite a lot. This internship came as an opportunity to bring some skills with me, and also learn some new skills and work in a new team.

Q: *How much of a difference did it make that this was a paid internship?*

Lee: It made a huge difference just knowing my input was valued in this way. People deserve to be paid for their work.

Q: *What did you work on?*

Lee: I worked on the CJA's annual awards. They celebrate individuals and organisations helping make the criminal justice system fairer and more effective. Initially, I was encouraging people to make nominations. Through this process, I found out about new, brilliant things happening in the sector. I coordinated the entries for the judges and worked with the video production team to deliver the online ceremony, broadcast live from a studio in London.

Q: *For most of the internship you worked remotely, how was that?*

Lee: I wondered how that would be but from the first day I felt so welcome in the team. I don't even know if it was extra effort for the team, it was just them being themselves. It was the little things that make you feel valued as a person. And the stuff you'd have if you were going into an office every day.

Q: *What key new skills did you acquire at CJA?*

Lee: I learned that the criminal justice sector is bigger than arts and criminal justice. It's been interesting learning about the different bubbles.

Q: *How did you benefit?*

Lee: For me it was a game-changer. My confidence grew, being part of such a nurturing team. If I made a mistake, I was able to talk about the mistake, we could develop on that. It was all about growing and learning. Who wouldn't want that?

Our Patrick Pakenham Awards

Two new Patrick Pakenham scholars joined our programme this summer, both studying law. Chris is at Edinburgh University where he recently won the Junior Mooting Competition, good practice for someone who includes becoming a barrister among the career options he is considering at the start of his four-year degree.

These awards were established by friends and family of Patrick Pakenham, Frank Longford's barrister son, following his death in 2005 to support those ex-prisoners wanting to join the legal profession. We work with organisations such as the Legal Education Foundation, Justice and the Solicitors' Regulation Authority to tackle the obstacles that stand in the way of those with criminal convictions becoming either solicitors or barristers.

And we have seen a number of our Patrick Pakenham scholars go forward to the Legal Practice Course (necessary to work as a solicitor), and to be accepted at the Bar, as well as into careers with legal charities and – in one case with a legal recruitment agency.

Our Nat Billington Awards

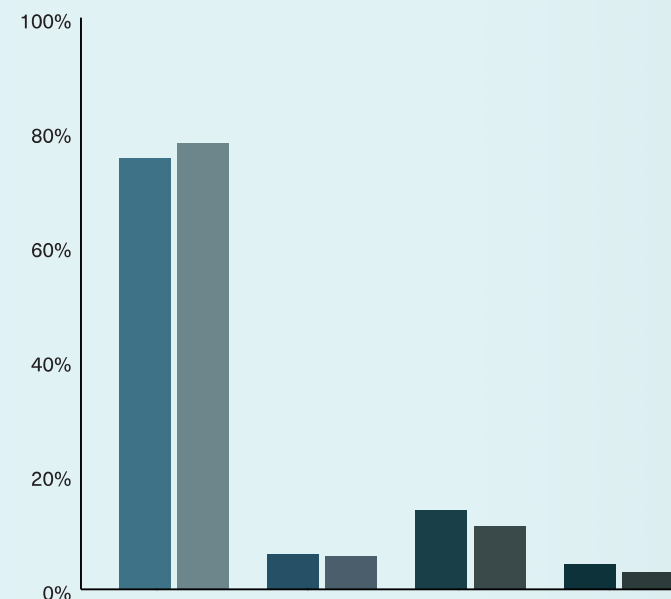
During 2021, we have supported 10 of our scholars to purchase the laptops they need for university through this award scheme, established in memory of one of our trustees, a computer entrepreneur and Frank Longford's grandson. If you have just been released from prison and given a £75 discharge grant to cover all necessities once outside, the idea of finding £300-£400 for a decent

laptop to enable you to keep up with your degree work, the same sort of laptop that most of your contemporaries will have, it can be sufficiently daunting to put you off going to university at all. Some £5,000 of the £16,000 we have spent in the past 12 months on the Nat Billington Awards has gone on laptops. The rest has helped five students, at various stages of computer science and related degrees, to gain the qualifications that make them among the graduates that employers in our burgeoning tech industries are keenest to employ.



Our Outcomes

The impact of Covid on those on our scholarship programme can be seen in our Outcome figures for 2021. The headline 'success rate' of those going on to degree-level jobs (including those who finish their studies early to take such jobs) dropped by 2.3% from 83.9% in 2020 to 81.6% in 2021. Lockdown and so much teaching online took a toll, despite our best efforts to sustain our scholars on their courses. And, though it increased by 1.4% over 2020, our return to prison figure of 4.5% continues to stand in stark contrast to an overall rate for all released prisoners within 12 months of more than 50%.



74.4%(2021)	78.1% (2020)	Graduated or on course to graduate
6.2% (2021)	5.8% (2020)	Left mid-degree for degree subject-related job
13.9%(2021)	11.1% (2020)	Dropped out of studies but not returned to prison
4.5% (2021)	3.1% (2020)	Returned to prison

Making second chances more than words

Getting a place at university and a Longford Scholarship is the first step on a journey. Here is how some of our award-holders and their mentors reported back to us on navigating the challenges and opportunities that came along in the past 12 months

'Following our conversation,' writes one mentor of a Zoom chat with her mentee at a crisis point in his studies, 'he emailed to thank me for listening. He said he felt like a weight has lifted, with cravings significantly reduced as a result of our conversation. He's had a good meeting with his tutor for a presentation.'

'Without the Longford Trust my ship would have sunk long ago,' a recently-released scholar told us. 'With your support I'm flying.'

'I'm finding my conversations with my mentee energising and encouraging,' describes the mentor of a soon-to-be-released award-holder. 'I can see that their release from prison is going to be a big moment – the stresses of life in the community on licence are very different from the stresses of incarceration, but very real (and very frustrating) in their own way. I can see that they are likely to have a good support network – and I'm pleased to be a small part of that.'

'I want to thank you for your support,' says a newly-released scholar, who we were able to help secure rented accommodation after a long and dispiriting search. 'I have just signed a lease on a room. It is a lovely feeling to have that weight off my shoulders.'

'I have, at long last, finished my MSc,' announces another scholar, whose studies, done on day release, were disrupted by the pandemic. 'I won't get the results for three months, but mathematically at least, I cannot not get a distinction. I'd like to thank you once again for the scholarship and support throughout the degree.'

'It was especially touching for my mom and partner as I've often told them about lecture,' one scholar who attended with his family in 2021 emailed us. 'It was nice they got to experience it. More so for my mother who has worked in prisons for years and can relate to a lot of what was mentioned. The trust has been there through some very low points of my life, and has always been on hand when I ring for assistance. I owe a lot of what I have achieved thus far to the support I have received.'



How we raise our funds

Those who support the work of the Longford Trust financially broadly fall into three categories: trusts and foundations; companies; and individuals. Since our inception in 2002, we have enjoyed strong support from grant-giving trusts and foundations, and many have extended that support over many years, allowing us to grow and develop our scholarship programme in all its aspects. We have a smaller but growing number of corporate donors, and have also in recent years been fortunate to see a rising number of individuals who want to sustain and expand our work by signing up to make regular monthly, quarterly or annual donations, many of them also providing Gift Aid declarations so we can claim an extra 25% from the government.

A new development since 2020 has been supporters who undertake sponsored challenges to raise funds for us – people like Harry Wain (pictured) who ran the Richmond Marathon in aid of the trust. If you would like to join their ranks, or become a regular giver, or make a one-off donation, or put us in contact with the charity committee at your workplace, please contact me... Likewise if you are not getting our quarterly newsletter.



Jill Dale
Fundraising Manager
fundraising@longfordtrust.org



Gifts in Wills

Following the death of our founding chairman, Kevin Pakenham, in the summer 2020, his children made a substantial donation to the Longford Trust to enable us to begin to build an endowment fund. We have always raised each year the money we need to fund our programmes, thanks to the generosity of our supporters, but with the trust celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2022 we are hoping that the Endowment Fund will grow towards its eventual target of £5 million, and when wisely invested will provide us with a stable annual income to underpin our other fund-raising efforts and so propel us forward into the next 20 and more years.

Further donations have since been made to the endowment fund, including some pledges made as Gifts in Wills. Our founding trustee, the revered broadcaster Jon Snow (pictured) has spearheaded efforts to encourage our supporters to remember the work of the trust, and what it is able to achieve in providing second chances for young serving and ex-prisoners, when they come to make a will.

'I hope,' he writes, 'as many of you as possible will feel, as I do, that this is our opportunity to put our shoulders to the trust's endeavour that its scholarships remain a practical, proven, life-changing route to reform and rehabilitation for those in our prisons.'

If you want more details, or the draft text of a codicil that could be added to an existing will, contact Jill Dale – fundraising@longfordtrust.org

Evaluation Exercise

Each year the trust appoints an independent evaluator – usually an ex-scholarship award-holder who has graduated and gone on to a career in data analysis or research – to conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of the work of the trust by seeking the views of a random sample of our past and present scholars and mentors. It is a chance both to learn what we might be getting right, but also to identify areas where improvement is needed as we develop.

Our 2021 evaluation exercise found that 57 per cent of scholars questioned rated the one-to-one mentoring they received as very useful, with the remaining 43 per cent describing it as useful. All mentors sampled felt that the mentor training sessions that the trust provides before they begin work had been either useful or very useful.

In regard of the Longford Trust office team, 87 per cent said they had been very well-supported by them and 7 per cent well-supported. The same reactions came from the mentors who were contacted and questioned.

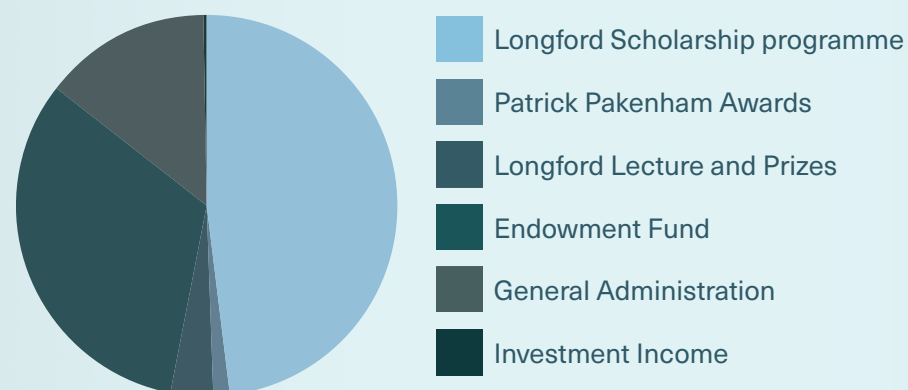
Scholars were asked if they anticipated their conviction would impact on their prospect of getting a degree-level job after graduation. 20 per cent said it would make no difference, 13 per cent that it would be less important than having a degree, 47 per cent that it was as important, 7 per cent that it was more important and 13 per cent that it would make it very difficult.

On well-being: on a rising scale of 1-5, 75 per cent chose number 5 in response to the statement that being at university, with the support of the trust, had made them feel confident in their abilities, and 60 per cent said that the experience had changed them for the better.

'It appears,' concluded our evaluator, 'the mentor/scholar relationship is also positive and extends into areas beyond the immediate environment of the academic relationship offering a point of support and encouragement. The results of the mentoring are more than academic achievements. The fact of having someone who is there for moral and emotional support engenders self-belief and ultimately the achievement of goals that were once very far off.'

Income

<i>Donations to Restricted Funds</i>	2021	2020
Longford Scholarship programme	£208,235	£293,113
Patrick Pakenham Awards	£6,580	£9,081
Longford Lecture and Prizes	£15,997	£7,330*
Endowment Fund	£139,994	-
Sub total	£370,806	£309,524
<i>Donations to Unrestricted Funds</i>		
General Administration	£62,019	£36,691
Investment Income	£180	£283
TOTAL	£433,005	£346,498

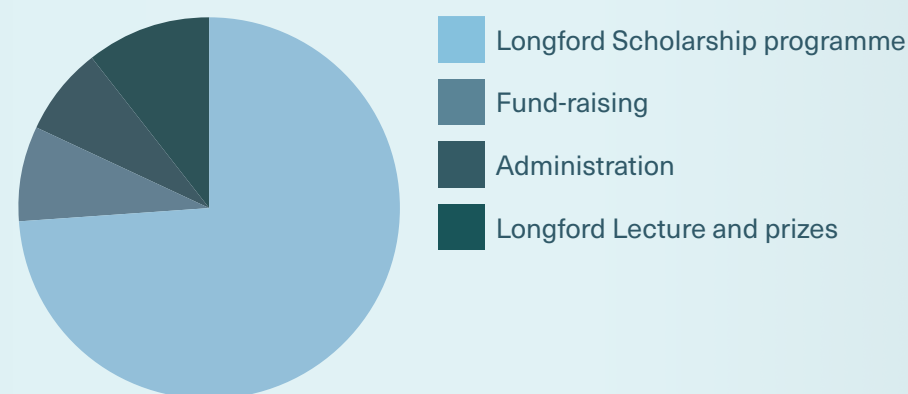


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Expenditure

	2021	2020
Longford Scholarship programme (including Patrick Pakenham Awards)	£223,660	£246,941
Fund-raising	£24,428	£27,714
Administration	£22,124	£18,916
Longford Lecture and prizes	£31,586	£4,906 *
TOTAL	£301,798	£298,477

*No lecture took place in 2020 and no prizes awarded



Current Assets at the end of 2021 £472,996 (2020: £351,502)

Current Liabilities in 2022 (includes scholarship pledges already made) £75,432

Current Liabilities after 2022 (includes scholarship pledges already made) £33,800

TOTAL ASSETS including endowment funds £363,764 (2020: £232,557)

The Longford Trust Team

Chair

Tom Pakenham

Trustees

Hannah Billington

Rachel Billington

CJ Burge

Alex Fletcher

Victoria Greenwood

John Podmore

Imran Shaukat

Jon Snow

Office

Peter Stanford – Director

Philippa Budgen – Scholarship Manager

Natasha Maw – Mentoring Manager

Jill Dale – Fundraising Manager

Sara Boxer – Office Manager office@longfordtrust.org

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Solicitors: *Bircham Dyson Bell*