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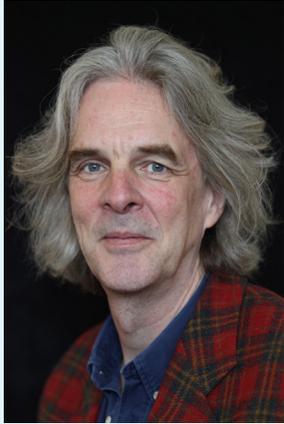
Front cover: Longford Scholar Jacob Dunne celebrates his graduation from Nottingham Trent University with First Class Honours in the summer of 2019



The Longford Trust

Annual Report 2019

Why Second Chances Remain The Longford Trust's First Priority



The best-laid plans, as they say, often go awry. Three weeks before our 2019 Longford Lecture, to be given by the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, Dame Cressida Dick, it couldn't have been going more smoothly. We had a full house and a long waiting list for tickets, as well as new caterers in Liberty Kitchen, direct from HMP Pentonville.

Then along came a December general election, which meant our speaker was under purdah rules for senior public servants, and we were back at zero. Thankfully, Dame Cressida's predecessor and friend, Lord Ian Blair, a patron of the Longford Trust, agreed to step in at the last minute. His

November lecture, "Where Next for Policing and Criminal Justice?" prompted a lively public debate in the days afterwards about why there was so little about either vital subject in the election manifestos of the main parties. You can read some of what he said inside (*pages 5 and 6*).

Thankfully not all of our plans over the course of 2019 suffered similar hiccups. The trust has long been committed to growing our successful Longford Scholarships programme, and this past year saw us make 26 awards of financial and mentoring support, a record number, to young serving and ex-prisoners to continue their rehabilitation by going to university. Over the 12 months, we worked with almost 70 young men and women, some approaching final exams, others just starting out on campus.

I am delighted to report that, even with increased numbers, we have maintained our success rate at around 85 per cent of those who work with us graduating and going on to degree-level jobs, with fewer than 4 per cent returning to prison (*see page 14*). Behind the headline figures are many remarkable individual stories, several of which are highlighted in what follows (*pages 4, 12, 16 and 17*).

We continue to work with employers in the public, private and third sectors to offer our scholars the sort of work placements and internships that other students take for granted as part of their preparation for the workplace (*page 10*). And our secure platform app provides an e-community of support for scholars that builds on the encouragement that our trained volunteer mentors give on a one-to-one basis to our award holders to help them navigate the additional challenges that many experience at university (*page 18*).

This year we have been encouraging those who are willing to share the stories of some of those challenges in the blog on our website (longfordtrust.org/blog/), which we then promote to a wider audience of policy makers and campaigners for a better criminal justice system. We include (*page 16*) an extract from our award-holder Shaun's account of being released from prison and given a tent by his probation officer to live in because there was no accommodation available for him.

Underpinning all our work is the Longford Trust's lean, efficient office team that daily boxes above its weight. You can read inside accounts of their work by Philippa Budgen, Natasha Maw and Jacob Dunne, our scholarship and mentoring managers, and the curator of our app. But my thanks, too, must go to Jill Dale, who for the past 15 years has made sure that the ticketing for our annual Longford Lecture goes smoothly. Jill's first grandchild arrived in 2019 and she is stepping back from her work on the lecture, but will remain with us, part-time, bolstering the fund-raising efforts.

And 2019 has been a record year for income into the charity, up almost 30 per cent on last year (*pages 19 and 20*). So I want to take this moment to convey our thanks to each and every individual, family, group, club, trust and company who have supported us these past 12 months. Without you, we would achieve nothing.

A final sad note: 2019 ended with the tragic events at Fishmongers Hall, next to London Bridge, where our great friends and collaborators, Learning Together, were celebrating their fifth anniversary of promoting education in prisons. Two of their number, Jack Merritt and Saskia Jones, both brilliant, committed young people who had already made this world a better place, were killed by someone they were trying to help. A commitment to rehabilitation is never without risk, but in the worst possible scenario our response to these heart-breaking events cannot be to stop believing in and working for rehabilitation. I attended Jack's funeral in Cambridge with my colleague Philippa. In my almost 60 years I have never been to a sadder event, but it would be sadder yet if all of us did not redouble our efforts, inspired by the memory of Jack and Saskia, to support people whom society has written off with second chances that enable them to realise their human potential.

Peter Stanford
Director
director@longfordtrust.org

What the Longford Trust Does



Since it was established in 2002 by friends, family and admirers of the former Labour cabinet minister and lifelong prison visitor, Lord Longford (1905-2001), the Longford Trust has focussed on three particular areas in its efforts to continue his distinctive work for penal reform.

The first is our annual Longford Lecture, held since 2002 in the spectacular round Assembly Hall of Church House, Westminster, home of the Church of England's General Synod. Speakers have included a Nobel Laureate (Archbishop Desmond Tutu), a Head of State (President Mary McAleese of Ireland), the Metropolitan Police Commissioner (Ian Blair), the Head of the Supreme Court (Brenda Hale) and more recently a former Lord Chancellor (Michael Gove) as well as writers Michael Palin and Will Self, and the campaigners Bianca Jagger and Clive Stafford Smith.

The second is the Longford Prize, awarded annually by a distinguished judging panel to an individual or organisation showing outstanding qualities of courage, humanity and persistence in the field of prison reform. Past winners have included Circles UK, Prisoners Abroad, HMP Grendon, Pact, National Prison Radio and the founder of the Shannon Trust, Christopher Morgan.

And the third is our Longford Scholarships programme, started in 2005. It has since supported more than 300 young serving and ex-prisoners to continue their rehabilitation through studying for a degree at a UK university. Awards include both financial help and one of the trust's trained group of volunteer mentors.

"If we are really concerned with the reform of prisoners, what we do when they emerge from custody is at least as important as what we do for them while they are inside."

Lord Longford (1994)

"Exactly What I Was Hoping For"



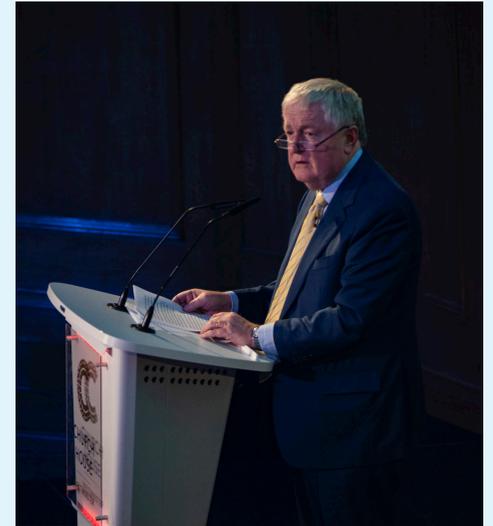
Ashley Rookwood (*pictured above*) began his university studies while inside, having been excluded from school at the age of 15. In 2018, he started an MSc in behavioural economics at City of London University on day release from an open prison, with the support of the trust and his Longford mentor, Will Stadlen. "We're a good match and he's exactly what I was hoping for," 28-year-old Ashley told us after their first meeting.

He graduates next summer and has done internships in financial institutions and at Eurasia Group. He plans one day to start his own business. With the trust, he has been active in encouraging others on our secure app platform, has addressed the senior management team at the Solicitors' Regulation Authority on recognising rehabilitation, and been trained in interview technique and CV writing at our partner organisation, the law firm Mayer Brown. He has been a delegate at the One Young World Summit in London.

2019 Longford Lecture: Ian Blair on Criminal Justice



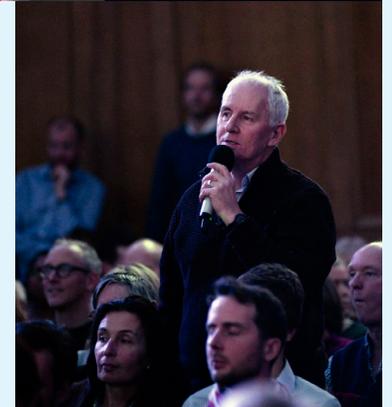
At short notice Lord Ian Blair, former Metropolitan Police Commissioner, stood in for his friend and successor but one, Cressida Dick, who had to withdraw because of general election purdah rules. Taking as his theme, “Where Next for Policing and Criminal Justice?”, he pulled no punches in front of a near capacity audience in Church House, Westminster on November 21. The British legal system and its police service, he said, “look very tattered...my overriding image of those of us who care about criminal justice in its widest sense is that of the frog being boiled slowly, so it does not really notice.” His plea, made during a



General Election campaign, was for “a systematic, holistic review of the whole system, concerned with outputs, not inputs, crossing departmental boundaries both inside and outside the criminal justice system, to see what works and what does not, and where resources can best be spent to prevent crime and victimisation. In my view, the system is not yet actually broken but it is so neglected as to be a matter of serious national concern.” The text of his lecture, chaired by broadcaster Jon Snow, is on our website, with audio and film versions available.

All photos by Russell Bruns

The 2019 Longford
Lecture was sponsored by



The Longford Prize 2019

The Longford Prize celebrates organisations and individuals that have made an outstanding contribution to prison reform. Nominations are made by members of the public to a distinguished panel of judges.



Alice Dawnay, Switchback's founder, accepts the 2019 Longford Prize from Ian Blair at the Longford Lecture, as Jon Snow and John Podmore look on

The 2019 Longford Prize, worth £5,000 and generously sponsored for a fourth year by the McGrath Charitable Trust, went to Switchback. In their citation, the judges praised its work, over 11 years, in engaging with 18-30-year-olds from the London area being released from prison. "It does this so effectively," they said, "that the individuals it helps each year are five times less likely to reoffend than other newly-released prisoners. It is a focussed, inspiring resettlement charity that is a beacon of hope at a time when centrally-funded alternatives are in chaos."



Outstanding Achievement



The judges, chaired by Longford trustee and former prison governor, John Podmore, also made an award for Outstanding Individual Contribution to Jezz Wright, (pictured left) founder of WayOut TV, a two-channel television station that delivers to an audience of 30,000

prisoners in 30 jails. "This modest, determined pioneer has" they said, "persuaded many behind bars to take up education. We hope his work will continue, be further replicated, and that prisons will slowly come to better reflect the digital world outside their walls."

And a final award for Outstanding Contribution went to Prison Reading Groups on its 20th anniversary. Sarah Turvey (pictured right) picked up the award. The judges wanted, they said, "to celebrate the understated but enormously important work in consistently promoting and supporting reading in prisons."



Our Schools' Partner: Clapton Girls Academy



Each year the Longford Trust works in partnership with a Year 11, 12 and 13 group of pupils from state schools within London's orbital M25. In 2019, we were delighted to pair up with Clapton Girls Academy in east London. In September, the team from the Longford Trust office spent a morning at the school, holding an assembly with the pupils, which was chaired by one of our supporters, the actor and comedian, Mel Giedroyc, from *The Great British Bake Off* (pictured above with two pupils from *Clapton Girls Academy*).

Two of our current scholars – Victoria and Andrew – shared their own experiences of the criminal justice system and how they were now making the most of their second chance at London universities. Then, during the autumn term, the pupils produced striking designs for the programme for the annual Longford Lecture. And in November they joined us at Church House, helping with the ushering and meeting the speakers and prize-winners afterwards to further develop their insights into the importance of rehabilitation.

The World of Work: How to Build a Career

With so many of our Longford scholarship award-holders graduating with good degrees, we have been focussing increasingly in recent years on supporting them, while at university, to plan their future careers so as to be best placed to land that dream job. We have accordingly built up a range of work placements and internships to offer them, to help them experience different workplaces, with public and private sector organisations, including the Cabinet Office, the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, and campaigning charities Justice and the Criminal Justice Alliance. We have also worked with the international law firm, Mayer Brown LLP, to deliver day-long training sessions around CV-writing, interview technique and how to present best at interview.

There are, of course, many things that potential employers are looking for when it comes to graduate recruitment. And to that end, we were delighted in 2019 to announce a new annual travelling scholarship for our scholars, in partnership with the British charity, Justice Defenders (previously the African Prisons Project). Funded by the Henry Oldfield Trust, this scholarship will enable one of our current cohort to spend six weeks in Nairobi, working with the Justice Defenders team there, sharing in their transformative work of putting the law in the hands of the poor through offering legal education, training and practice.



Our Scholars Programme: “There’s Life After Prison”



“I owe it to the men behind me, to show them hope. That there’s life after prison.” Scholar Adam joined me on a prison visit to talk to the scholars of tomorrow. Not just any prison. This is the prison he left only a year or so before (following a long sentence). I am continually impressed by the commitment of scholars like Adam to give back, providing inspiration to people earlier in the prison and education process. Every year prison education departments welcome a team member and a scholar to talk about the opportunities a

scholarship offers. In 2019 we made several such visits.

It was also a bumper year for new recruits with 26 scholars joining for a range of degrees from economics and music industry management to cyber security. Our efforts to build awareness of our work in the probation service paid off. Increasingly, too, open prisons are making it possible for people to study on day-release at local universities. Plus it was another good year for graduates. This summer 19 scholars gained Distinctions or Firsts from a range of universities – including Central St Martins, the Royal College of Arts, Nottingham Trent and Anglia Ruskin University, to name but a few.

We are not naïve enough to think a good degree automatically translates into a job. The current reality is that someone with a past conviction, however brilliant their CV and academic performance, still faces extra barriers in getting into the workplace. We continually keep an eye on how best to help talented people with degrees move on from their past. Through paid internships, networking opportunities, training and evolving support, we strive to do our best to support scholars as they turn degrees into successful futures.

Philippa Budgen
Scholarship Manager
scholars@longfordtrust.org

“My Mentor is Amazing”



“I really value the support given by the Longford Trust,” says 30-year-old Toby Rogers, who is studying for a degree in business management at the London School of Business Management. He singles out for particular praise his mentor, businessman Pawel Kisielewski. “My mentor is and continues to be amazing”. The two of them came up on stage at the 2019 Longford Lecture to talk about why their mentoring relationship worked so well (*pictured above*). British-born, but raised in the United States, and then sent back to the UK once he had completed a prison sentence there, Toby has made the most of his time at university, getting involved in its prestigious Business Society, and organising high-profile speaker events, including one featuring the former President of the Supreme Court, Lord Neuberger.

Our Mentoring Programme



Many of our current 80 plus trained volunteer mentors will travel – sometimes a considerable distance - to meet their scholars, either in prison, at their universities, or at a coffee bar, so that they can talk with them in person. But we also have other ways to communicate with them, via text, email or phone, and we are encouraging more of them to

use the trust’s secure online platform. One long-serving mentor Clare Lewis has written a recent blog on our website about letter-writing as a way of “breaking through the visible and invisible walls of isolation that surround mentees - especially if they are in prison”.

Ultimately, though, it does not matter what means we use to communicate with our scholars. The real point is the intent behind it. By providing, by whatever means, mentor support and a kind, listening ear, by expressing empathy, we hope to show solidarity with our scholars and engender their trust and confidence. On such foundations, the specific help needed around academic, psychological or practical problems is built.

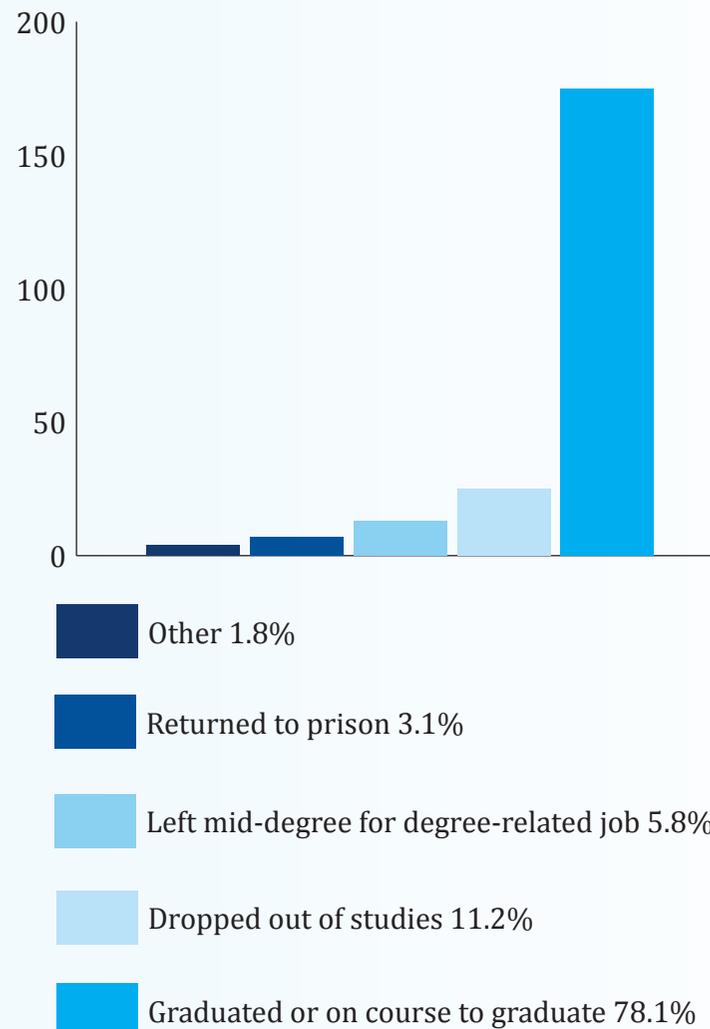
A good illustration of what we try to achieve came at this year’s Longford Lecture, when mentee-and-mentor pairing Victoria and Susan came up on stage to talk to the audience about how it works for them. Victoria had been thinking about dropping out of her degree course, she said, with those around her supporting her to make the right decision. But then Susan – who had patiently built a relationship of trust and confidence with her – was able to help her see it differently and persevere. At which point the two women turned and gave each other a hug, as the picture (*right*) shows.



Natasha Maw
Mentor Manager
mentors@longfordtrust.org

Our Outcomes 2019

Since we began our scholarship programme in 2005 by making just 3 awards, we have supported more than 300 young men and women through their degree courses and beyond. In the summer of 2019 we made 26 new awards of Longford Scholarships and had 70 individuals on the programme at the start of the 2019-2020 academic year. Here is a picture of how the programme has changed lives since its inception.



How We Make A Difference

As well as their contact with their mentor, each of our award holders keeps in regular touch with the office team. Here is a small selection of their feedback on how they are doing.

“Thank you for your support over the last year, I wouldn’t have been able to finish without you”

BJ, facing obstacles in his post-graduate studies in criminology

“I am very grateful for the support I have received from you over the last couple of years. I will come see you all at the next lecture. By then I will be graduated, so will hopefully be able to tell you I got a First”

DD, nearing the end of his construction management degree

“I rely heavily on the scholarship from Longford which is a great help each term”

MW, studying sport science and struggling to make ends meet

“Things are really good. Best they’ve ever been, to be honest.”

JR, at drama school

“I believe in my heart that I can be one of the Trust’s many success stories.”

FR, on the benefits of mentoring in his computer science degree

“I must thank the Longford Trust for all the wonderful support I have received from you this past academic session.”

Abraham Eiliuor who got a first in Law

The Longford Blog

The Longford Blog is a new all-year-round conversation on our website about prison, the criminal justice system and the challenge of second chances. It is an opportunity for our scholars and mentors to share first-hand experiences and ideas for change with a wider public audience. In this extract of a post from July, current scholar Shaun describes his chaotic release from prison.



“This is the best I can do.” These were the words of my probation officer as she produced a tent and a sleeping bag at the end of my fourth prison sentence. Another taste of freedom after prison. To say I was gobsmacked is no exaggeration. I’d already accepted the harsh reality that once I left Her Majesty’s Pleasure I had nowhere to call home. But for a brief moment, I’d entertained the hope of three nights in a B&B while I looked for accommodation. Sadly, those hopes were dashed. Camping it was...

Within a month I had secured accommodation in a hostel for ex-offenders with drug and alcohol addictions to live a sober and crime-free life in the community. I believe having a place to call home has played a fundamental part in my reintegration back into society. I’m now approaching 12 months crime-free in the community. I have faith, confidence, hope and an eager desire to move forward and make something of my life. I’m a Longford scholar scoring top marks in my degree. No way could I have done that on the streets. I couldn’t see past more than a day. Now, I see the future.”

The Frank Awards: How We Turn Sentences into Degrees

Over the past five years since their launch, our Frank Awards have supported 75 serving prisoners to use their time behind bars productively by getting going on an Open University degree module.

Supported for four of the five years by the Linbury Trust, the Frank Awards are run in partnership with the Prisoners' Education Trust and the Open University. Several of our Frank Award holders have already gone on to apply for, and receive, Longford Scholarships.

In 2019, Chris O joined their ranks. "What was once beyond my imagination has become a reality," he wrote of the chance he was given to embark on a degree in prison. "I feel blessed to have been provided not only with funding but with mentoring too."

Another former Frank Award holder, Graham P, was also in receipt of a Longford Scholarship this year, having moved to an open prison, and therefore being able to travel on day release to begin a degree at a nearby residential university.



The Longford Trust's National Support Network



The Longford Trust's secure members-only online forum was set up in 2018, with funding from the Wilmington Trust, to offer an e-community of support for our past and present scholars and mentors, who are geographically miles apart and undergoing often lonely and challenging social and personal transformations.

It is a safe, open platform where everyone can share their thoughts, questions and worries, whether they be professional, academic, social and or emotional. It has one general channel used by everybody, and two separate channels, one for just scholars and one for just mentors.

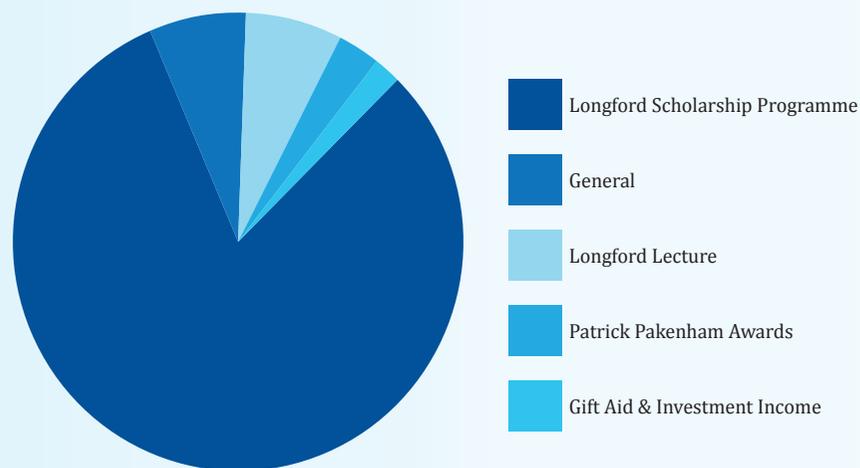
That sense of community that we want to build around this platform has been growing apace, with a strong core group of participants emerging, and bringing more and more people into the fold. There are over 140 members now signed up.

It is also the place where relevant Longford Trust opportunities are posted first, including internships, training events and opportunities to contribute to debates about rehabilitation on public discussions and in the media.

We are now planning to take the platform forward to the next stage by launching a series of weekly live group discussions for 2020, to offer further opportunities for scholars and mentors to share their opinions and experiences on a range of thought-provoking topics.

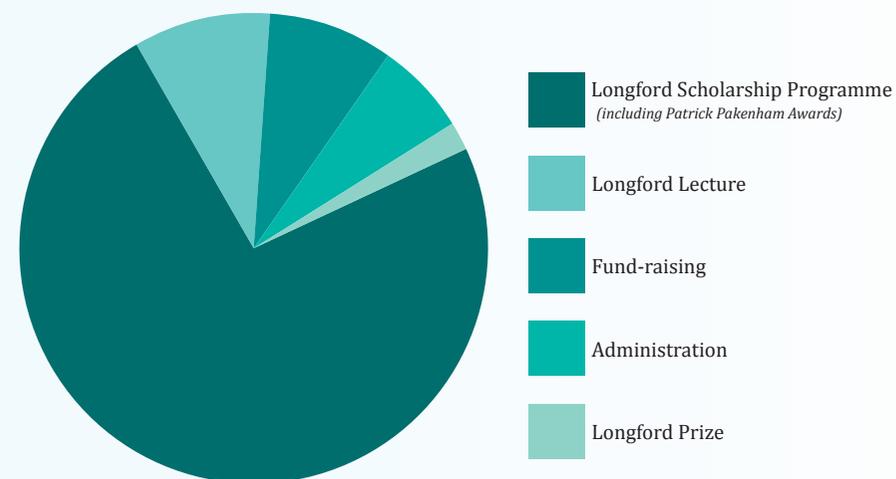
*Jacob Dunne
Forum Curator and Invigilator
slack@longfordtrust.org*

INCOME	2019	2018
Donations to Restricted Funds		
Longford Scholarship Programme	£249,252	£183,366
Longford Lecture	£20,884	£23,666
Patrick Pakenham Awards	£9,080	£6,180
<i>SubTotal</i>	<i>£279,216</i>	<i>£213,212</i>
Donations to Unrestricted Funds		
General	£21,440	£20,134
Gift Aid	£6,431	£3,878
Investment Income	£388	£301
<i>Sub Total</i>	<i>£28,259</i>	<i>£24,313</i>
TOTAL	£307,475	£237,524



We are grateful to the following major donors for their support during 2019: Jon and Julia Aisbitt, Michael Alen-Buckley, Charles Alexander, Lord Archer, The John Armitage Charitable Trust, Lionel Barber, The BEC Trust, The Blavatnik Family Foundation, Gyles Brandreth, The Bromley Trust, Buchanan & Rob Connell, Leighton Harris and Morag Kay, The Sydney Black Charitable Trust, Simon Cairns, Charles Cecil, City & Metropolitan Welfare Charity, RJ Clark, Richard Collins, Shirley Conran, Dr Stephen Corcoran, Dolly Costopoulos, The Violet & Milo Cripps Charitable Trust, Harriet Cullen, The Dischma Charitable Trust, Jane Dominey, Alexander Fletcher, The Robert Gavron Charitable Trust, The GESS Trust, The Glebe Charitable Trust, The Hawthorne Charitable Trust, Kate Hill, Peter Holt, Sir Harold Hood's Charitable Trust, The KW Charitable Trust, The Legal Education Foundation, The Karen and Lawrence Lever Charitable Trust, The Linbury Trust, The Lund Trust – a charitable fund of Peter Baldwin and Lisbet Rausing, The Marsh Christian Trust, The McGrath Charitable Foundation, The Miles Morland Foundation, The Ofenheim Charitable Trust, The Henry Oldfield Trust, Guy Pakenham, The Austin and Hope Pilkington Trust, Richard Pollitzer, The Rank Foundation, The Rivers Foundation, The Rothschild Foundation, Seckford Golf Club Seniors, The Stone Family Foundation, Troy Asset Management, Marina Warner, The Wilmington Trust and The Alex and William de Winton Trust.

EXPENDITURE	2019	2018
Longford Scholarship Programme <i>(including Patrick Pakenham Awards)</i>	£194,462	£176,600
Longford Lecture	£24,775	£20,079
Fund-raising	£23,253	£27,020
Administration	£16,721	£5,837
Longford Prize	£5,500	£5,300
Governance	£3,000	£15,875
TOTAL	£267,711	£250,711



Current Assets at end of 2019	£268,035 (2018 £243,892)
Current Liabilities in 2020 <i>(includes scholarship pledges already made)</i>	£59,100
Current liabilities after 2020 <i>(includes scholarship pledges already made)</i>	£21,400
Accruals	£2,999
TOTAL ASSETS at the end of 2019	£184,536 (2018 £144,772)

Trustees

Kevin Pakenham - *Chair*

Hannah Billington, Rachel Billington, Jason Grant,

Victoria Greenwood, Tom Pakenham, John Podmore, Jon Snow

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The Team

Peter Stanford - *Director*

Philippa Budgen - *Scholarship Manager*

Natasha Maw - *Mentoring Manager*

Jill Dale - *Events and Fundraising Manager*

Sara Boxer - *Office Manager*

Jacob Dunne - *App Moderator*

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"Arcade Behind Prison"

by Joseph Spencer from HMP Leeds



On the eve of your release
Your apprehension and excitement
Pumping your arms in the air
Showering the cell with sweat
Your head and neck roped with thick veins
How does it feel to be getting out?
He lays his hands on his lap
And stares blankly at the future
No one expects to get out of prison to fail
Watch out for that arcade behind prison.

On the day of your release
Extremely nervous, more than ever
Wild hope blossoms in your chest
No time for headache to taint your release
Waiting for the officers to extract you at dawn
What's the first thing to do when you get out?
He tilts his head and eyes
Glistening with emotion at years lost
No one expects to get out of prison to fail
Watch out for that arcade behind prison.

On the day after your release
Other emotions overshadowing your happiness
The stress of exiting into the world
Being pushed to your psychological extremes
Prejudices out there to face and manipulate
What's more to life than the pursuit of money?
Bracing ahead with the conviction of his own morality
Crossing the line again will land you back in prison
No one expects to get out of prison to fail
Watch out for that arcade behind prison.

Actor Charlie Leyburn reads the winning "Pinter Poem" at the 2019 Longford Lecture (pictured above). The prize is awarded by Antonia Fraser, Frank Longford's daughter, in memory of her late husband, Nobel Laureate Harold Pinter, and goes to the best poem by a prisoner published that year in *Inside Time*.

insidetime
the National Newspaper for Prisoners & Detainees