



News from the Office: Who's Overcrowded?

Have the Christmas lights gone up early near you too? From supermarkets and garden centres to the house next door it seems to me that Christmas has come early. I'm glad the guys inside can't see because this time of year can be so hard for them and in a real sense the shorter the Christmas break the better; it means less alteration to a regime already restricted by overcrowding and all the other issues we know our prisons face.

As the year draws to a close I can honestly say we have been rather "overcrowded" in the office too. The LORD has given the increase and at times we have been pushed to keep up. The Letter Writing Ministry and Written Studies growth has slowed a little since the end of the anniversary year in June but continues an upward trend. New volunteers continue to attend our 'On Board with Daylight' training and at times we are having to ask them to wait on the LORD (and us!) in prayer as we seek to find them a

place to serve in prison. Individual teams are seeing opportunities to grow and are being asked to do more. Praise God with us for all that He has done among us and through us.

The LORD has blessed us and answered our prayers but we can feel the challenge of the "lengthening of our cords and strengthening of our stakes" that has been needed to accommodate current growth and prepare for what we believe is to come. (Isaiah 54). Please will you pray:

- that those who can take a break will be refreshed, as they praise Immanuel.
- that we will continue in His strength and never look to our own.
- that as the year draws to a close we can finish well and build into next year.
- for the prisons, which do not close, and for the ongoing Bible Studies, Worship Services and other opportunities for the gospel.

Over the course of 2025 we were active (not including letter writing) in: HMPs Birmingham, Bristol, Bullingdon, Cardiff, Chelmsford, Coldingley, Deerbolt, Doncaster, Durham, Elmley, Feltham, Five Wells, Ford, Frankland, Hatfield, High Down, Hollesley Bay, Holme House, Kirklevington Grange, Leeds, Lewes, Low Newton, Maidstone, Nottingham, Oakwood, New Hall, Portland, Ranby, Standford Hill, Sudbury, Swaleside, Swansea, Usk, Wakefield, Warren Hill, Wayland, Wealstun, & Woodhill.

If you would like to support Daylight's work financially, one-off or regular gifts can be made via the 'Donate' tab on our website daylightcpt.org, or call 01245 252735 to make gifts by phone. Cheques made payable to Daylight Christian Prison Trust can be sent to our office address below, and if you would like a Gift Aid or Standing Order Form, please let us know.

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CHRISTIAN PRISON TRUST



Daylight Newsletter December 2025

It is always an encouragement when those we work with in prison choose to keep in touch after release and a privilege to be able to continue to offer them support. Here we share two recent interactions with prison leavers which highlight both the joys and challenges that come from post-release support.

When Danny found himself in prison, having been taken to church as a child, he decided to come along to services and Bible Studies. In the weeks and months that followed, he became a regular attender, asking good questions and engaging well.

During his time in that first prison, it was a joy to see Danny make a profession of faith, as well as publicly declaring that faith to his fellow prisoners by being baptised earlier this year. Shortly after his baptism, he was transferred to another prison. There one of our chaplains was able to continue supporting him, as well as putting him in touch with a church in the area he was due to go to on release.

Having now left prison, it was good to receive a call from Danny a couple of weeks ago, saying, "I just want to thank everyone at Daylight for helping me through some very difficult times, and for all the help and guidance, the Bible Studies, and the study sheets".

Danny is keen to continue receiving our Written Studies regularly, and went on to share with us that he is currently studying

the book of Isaiah, before saying he would love to volunteer with Daylight at some point in the future. He is currently in temporary accommodation, so please pray that the right place for him to settle permanently will be provided, and that the local church he has been put in touch with will be helped as they seek to support him as well.

For Jamie, a man who was a Christian when he came to prison, he too became a regular member of one of our Bible study groups, making good contributions to discussions, and helping answer questions from other prisoners.

Yet his experience on release has been very different to Danny's. With no accommodation available to him, Jamie is currently sleeping in a carpark, and despite attending a church, unfortunately, he is receiving very little support.

Please pray that as we make contact with different agencies and churches in the area, we might find those who are able to offer ongoing support to Jamie, both practically and spiritually.



conversation on the wing, he shared with our chaplain that he and his whole family have only ever known drug dealing as a way of earning a living.

West Yorkshire Prayer & Support Group – Praise God for all the opportunities He has given the team during this year, and for the ways they have each been blessed and encouraged by their involvement in this ministry. Please pray that His blessing will be on those they share the gospel with, and that many will come to know Christ as their Saviour.

Give thanks that God has greatly answered prayers for additional members, as He initially brought forward not just one or two people, but five, meaning that studies in the prisons can be increased in the coming year and the gospel can be shared with more men, women, and teenagers in prisons. And the blessings did not stop there, as four more new volunteers are currently going through Daylight training with a view to joining the team. We stand in awe of what God has done for the group in this matter.

Give thanks too for positive relationships with the chaplains, who month by month, trust the group with both their points for praise and more often, specific matters of concern. Please pray that God will continue to bless the group in the coming year, as they seek to share the gospel in their nearby prisons.

Written Studies – Give thanks that Simon Allaby of *Turn the Page* has prepared three seasonal Written Studies for us which will be distributed across Advent, Christmas, and New Year. Please pray that these will be used in the hearts and lives of those who receive them.

require a correction, or when things can be left for another occasion. Please pray that the Lord will bless the current studies in the book of Ephesians.

Letter Writing Ministry – Give thanks that the number of prisoners using our Letter Writing Ministry has continued to grow throughout the year, and that new volunteers have also been provided to meet this need. Please pray that these contacts will continue to be a blessing to many.

HMP Weyland (Norfolk) – Give thanks for good numbers (around fifty) attending Sunday services here, with the men attentive and responsive. Please pray that the messages preached will be used in the hearts and lives of many. Give thanks too for the joy of seeing a prisoner's wife and children visiting a nearby church for the morning service recently, as they stopped by on their way to the prison for a family visit.

Please pray for C who is due to move to an open prison which will give him the opportunity to go out to a nearby church on a Sunday. Our chaplain has given him a list of suggestions in the area, so please pray that he will find a spiritual home where he will continue to receive good teaching.

Pray too for N whose outlook is dominated by his ongoing Indeterminate Public Protection sentence. Please pray that he will come to understand the liberty that the gospel brings, even in the midst of injustice.

Please also pray for T who professed to be saved at a Sunday morning service recently, but has not been back on a Sunday morning for several weeks. In

December Prayer Points



Carol Services – Please pray for our workers as they run and take part in Carol Services in various prisons during this month, that the message of Jesus, the One who came to save His people from their sins, will be used to speak to many, both prisoners and prison staff.

Conferences – During this year, we have been blessed by opportunities to have stands at a growing number of Christian conferences, returning to events like the Aber Conference that we've attended annually for many years, as well as visiting places like the Keswick Convention for the first time. Through these stands, it has been a joy to meet many of you who support our ministry, as well as introducing our work to new people who have been keen to get involved in praying and volunteering. Please pray that the Lord will provide the needed resources of both people and finance to enable us to keep up this attendance at conferences next year.

HMP Ford (West Sussex) – Give thanks for the opportunity for a couple of our team to attend a Carol Service here in early December. Please pray that this will help to strengthen the existing relationship with the chaplaincy team and that it will lead to more opportunities for us to work in the prison during 2026.

HMPs Hollisley Bay & Warren Hill (Suffolk) – Give thanks that over the past year we have had a Daylight chaplain working in both of these prisons, which are adjacent to each other.

In HMP Hollisley Bay, our chaplain was able to commence an additional weekly Bible study in September, which attracts good attendance. As an open prison, comings and goings lead to more erratic attendance than in closed conditions, but there is much to be encouraged by. When odd ideas are proposed by one prisoner, then our chaplain often finds that his fellow prisoners can give good Biblical reasoning to correct what has been suggested.

In HMP Warren Hill, our chaplain has been responsible for the existing weekly Bible study for a couple of months or so, and attendance is good, at around a dozen. The Bible knowledge of a number of the men is remarkably strong which leads to quite intensive discussion requiring agility of thinking! As always, the Lord's help is required when it comes to what we at Daylight call 'dodgy conversations' and discerning when ideas or suggestions

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