



AFFECT NEWS

Sharing news and support for families

Registered charity no. 1097087

September 2017

Action for
Families
Enduring
Criminal Trauma

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AFFECT

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Welcome..

After a summer of variable weather, and some very high temperatures, Autumn is in the air and some of us are looking forward to a bleak winter with a loved one in prison. Though you may feel there is not much to enjoy in life, it is possible to take pleasure in small things.



Walking in a park recently, wondering if my loved one would ever get out of prison so we could walk there again, I noticed a small metal snail on a railing. This snail made my day and made me realise that I need to look outwards and not brood on my problems all the time. It has become for me a symbol of hope.

Ed.

Join us at our
NEXT GROUP
GATHERINGS

Saturdays
12.30pm

2nd Dec 2017

3rd Mar 2018

2nd June 2018

If you would like to come please reply to your invitation and you will be given details.

These gatherings are well worth attending as you will meet other people who all have loved ones facing long periods in prison.



Latest from our Chair– Join us on the 7th October

"There has been a significant increase in the number of people requesting help, and in considerable distress. This has led to the Trust Board looking at ways of delivering the service whilst making best use of our small team of committed and hardworking volunteers.

I am delighted to invite you to our AGM (annual general meeting) which promises to be both stimulating and interesting. Our guest speaker will look at the issue of a mother whose son is in prison, and how she coped.

Further details:

Date: 7th October 2017 12 noon- 4pm

**Venue: Fareham North West Community Centre,
Henry Cort Drive, Fareham. PO15 6TL**

I look forward to meeting you there, putting a face to a name, and ensuring that AFFECT continues to flourish in the future.

Warm regards,

Carol Owen

Help raise funds for AFFECT!
Please send your old inkjet cartridges to:
www.recycle4charity.co.uk
For each cartridge £1 goes to AFFECT.
You will need to enter the code:
AFFECT-C8627 to register



A TESTAMENT TO VERONICA

It is with heavy hearts that Trisha and I write to you today, for one of the four founder members of AFFECT, Veronica, died on 27.7.17, having battled with her health for a number of years.

For those of you who knew her, you would know that she did not wish her family and friends to make a fuss, nor to be sad, rather to celebrate her life which was full of humour, joy and fun. Her world was a colourful one. She had a “wicked” sense of humour which helped her overcome many trials.

Veronica worked for many years, more often in the background, sharing her creativity and knowledge. she was caring, supportive and worked with many members of AFFECT over the years.

Veronica served as a Trustee in the position of “chair” for AFFECT, whilst producing the original AFFECT logo, various booklets such as The Family Stories, Court Support and others. There is no doubt she always helped those who might be classed as the “underdog”.

Veronica will be sorely missed by so many. We know her as a colleague and, more importantly, as a friend of 25 years. Her free spirit will live on beyond the life of AFFECT and we feel blessed to have known her. What a legacy she left for us. This is a snapshot of Veronica; her life was so much more and impossible to include.

GO FLY VERONICA

Trisha and Stephen



A new member's impression of her first Group Gathering:

AFFECT was immense, C, T, S and MJ, big warm welcome as I arrived, let out a big sigh and cried. Other souls who know the pain and tribulation of having a loved one in prison.

So many emotions pass back and forth, felt safe and heard. Others too have walked this path, and encouraging each other.

Whether it's our children, or partner, we are there for support, we too hurt. Yet as each moment unfolds, we are all healing souls. The warmth and concern grow. We all hug and say goodbye, Knowing we are not alone, we can pick up the phone. Recycle bin emptied of pent up emotion. Gives us strength to continue with our love and devotion.

This was about my first experience of an AFFECT group.

God bless. K.

Electoral registration

If you are worried that the physical and/or emotional safety of yourself or any of your family is being, or is likely to be, compromised by your appearance in the Electoral Register, it is possible for you to apply for “**Anonymous Registration**”.

This means that your name does not appear under your address on the Register.

Just ring your local Electoral Registration Office (usually based in your Local Authority offices), and they will give you straightforward advice on how to apply. You may need help from your Probation

Problems obtaining Insurance cover?

For anyone having problems obtaining house or car insurance due to having an ex-offender living in the property, these two Insurance Brokers will find companies willing to insure in these circumstances.

1. **Insurance choice.co.uk** St. Albans House, Portland Street, Leamington Spa, CV32 5EZ

Phone: 01926 319112.

E: customerservice@insurancechoice.co.uk

www.insurancchoice.co.uk

2. **Home Protect.** P.O. Box 1124, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 1XT.

Phone: 0330 660 1000 or 0845 155 1944

E: mark@your.homeprotect.co.uk

www.homeprotect.co.uk

Thanks to everyone who has sent articles and information for the Newsletter. We are always interested in your suggestions for content, so if you'd like to share your story (or part of it), send in comments or useful tips or information please send it in via the contacts on the front page. Please aim for a **maximum of 500 words**. Any contributions will appear with your first name only, or will be anonymous if you prefer.

The deadline for the next edition is November 13th 2017

Please note the views expressed in this newsletter are those of the writer and are not necessarily those of the editor or of AFFECT.