

From: Prison Fellowship info@pfni.org
Subject: PFNI News Focus Autumn Edition and launch of the Christmas Hope campaign
Date: 30 September 2026 at 11:29
To: [REDACTED]



Dear [REDACTED],

What does freedom mean when someone's life has been shaped by addiction, imprisonment or fear of what comes next?

In the [autumn edition of News Focus](#), we reflect on Jesus' words in John 8:36: "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." It is a reminder that lasting freedom begins with a transformed heart.

In this edition, we give thanks for:

 **Women exploring faith together** - a seven-week Christianity Explored course has begun for women from our Instilling Hope aftercare group and new guests.

 **Football and friendship at Hydebank** - volunteers spent time playing alongside young men over the summer, sharing their stories and the hope they have found in Christ.

 **Support that continues beyond prison** - one former prisoner shares how PFNI volunteers offered prayer, friendship, Sycamore Tree and practical encouragement as he began a new chapter.

 **A new library at the PF Centre** - more than 140 books are now available for guests at No. 39, thanks in part to generous donations.

 **Hope at Christmas** - preparations are underway to provide toys and hampers for families affected by imprisonment. [Your gifts, prayers and help with deliveries](#) can remind them they have not been forgotten.

We hope these stories encourage you. Thank you for standing with the men, women and families PFNI serves, and for helping us share the hope of the gospel in prison and beyond.

[Download News Focus](#)

Christmas Hope 2026

We have launched [this year's Christmas Hope project](#) to provide hampers and toys to families at a time when those impacted by crime can feel alone, forgotten and under extra financial pressure.

Last year, with the help of many faithful volunteers, **we distributed over 600 food hampers and over 500 toy parcels**, making a huge difference to many of these families. Items were donated by PFNI supporters, including churches, community groups and individuals just like you!

[Please watch our special video](#) that gives a fun overview of Christmas

Hope and how you can support this essential project through donations and volunteering.



[Watch the video](#) | [Visit the Christmas Hope web page](#)

🙏 Please continue to pray

Thank you for supporting Prison Fellowship Northern Ireland through prayer. We could not operate without the prayers of God's people.

To help guide your thoughts, please download our **October Prayer Focus** and [visit our prayer page](#) for the latest prayer requests.

↓ [Download the October Prayer Focus](#)

Thank you again for your generosity, encouragement, and ongoing support. We pray that you will be uplifted by PFNI's ministry and that God may use it to His glory.

Blessings,

From the PFNI Team

newsfocus

PRISON FELLOWSHIP
Northern Ireland

THANKSGIVING THROUGH SERVICE
Autumn 2026

Freedom

Prisoners often look forward to a time without the restrictions of custody, often viewed through the lens of what they have lost.

Yet for others, the loss of personal freedom can bring freedom from addiction. Some come to realise that their lives were so out of control that prison may have saved them from more serious consequences.

Sadly, many refer to prison as the 'revolving door'. A short period of freedom can be followed by a return to custody due to homelessness, drugs or alcohol, old friends, or simply becoming institutionalised.

Our staff and volunteers do amazing work walking alongside those we serve, but we cannot set people completely free. A few days of abstinence can be a great achievement, but lasting freedom can be difficult to sustain in our own strength.

That is why I love the words of John 8:36: "If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." The freedom Jesus offers is not temporary, but complete, lasting and eternal.

Prison Fellowship seeks to show men and women that true freedom is not simply found when we walk out through the prison gates to 'the free world'. It can only be found through a transformed heart, leading to a transformed life.

This journey is not without its challenges, disappointments and failings. But we do not walk it alone. With the help of God's Holy Spirit, there is always hope.

Join us in bringing this message of freedom to those in prison, those who have been released, and their families.

Robin Scott
CEO Prison Fellowship Northern Ireland



Christianity Explored

We are delighted that a seven-week Christianity Explored course has launched for women from our 'Instilling Hope' aftercare support group and some new guests. Using Mark's Gospel, the course explores big life questions and helps the women discover who Jesus is, why He came and what that means for our lives.

I and my team of volunteers would love you to be part of it through prayer. We will keep you updated through Prayer Focus, and thank you for your continued support

Lynne

Prison Fellowship Library

Have you ever read a book that has impacted your life? Would you want a man or woman released from prison to read that book too?

Out of prayer and a love for books, we have opened a small library at the PF Centre, with over 140 books available for our guests at No. 39.

Christian bookshops and authors have generously donated many of them. If you would like to donate a copy of your favourite book, please get in contact with Ali. We have one shelf free and a lot of men and women with a desire to read!



Hope at Christmas

Christmas can be an especially difficult time for families affected by imprisonment. Through *Christmas Hope*, Prison Fellowship provides toys and hampers, bringing practical support and reminding families that they have not been forgotten.

Preparations are already underway, and we need people to stand with us. Whether through giving, volunteering to deliver toys and hampers, or praying for the families we serve, you can help us share hope this Christmas. Visit pfni.org for more details.



Prison Fellowship Northern Ireland

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[Read and Download the Autumn Edition of News Focus](#)



Your faithfulness in prayer is bringing new hope and purpose to the men and women we serve

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