

Issue
26

SAFARI

Supporting All Falsely Accused with Reference Information
Web Site: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~safari>

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"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." (Edmund Burke)

Welcome to the first (delayed due to Christmas, New Year, & hospital appointments!) edition for 2006.

EXPERT DR HARRY GLYN SCHROEDER gave evidence for the prosecution based on a mathematical formula, devised by himself, at the trial in 1996 of Amanda Jenkinson, a former hospital nurse. His evidence has now been described as "fundamentally flawed, inaccurate and misleading." Amanda was sentenced to five years as a result of Dr Schroeder's evidence, but has now had her conviction (for tampering with intensive care equipment which caused grievous bodily harm to a patient) quashed. Her first appeal, in 1997, failed. Dr Schroeder's bungled formula showed (he said) that the settings on the ventilation unit had been altered *before* 9pm – the end of Amanda's shift. Appeal court judges sitting at Nottingham Crown Court threw out the case against Amanda after Dr Schroeder's evidence, which had devastated the lives of Amanda, her family & friends, was shown to be "fundamentally flawed." Further evidence showed that a registrar had checked the ventilator that night, and at 11pm all settings were correct.

RECORDED DELIVERY – NOT WORTH IT? Sending letters to us by Recorded Delivery not only adds 66p to the postage, but in some cases actually *increases* the time it takes for delivery (if nobody is available to sign for it, it is taken away for redelivery another day.) So unless it's *really* important to *prove* your letter has arrived, we advise you to stick to basic 1st or 2nd class post.

CCRC 'OVERRULES' THE ECHR? (European Court of Human Rights) We have received a letter from a reader whose case was turned down by the CCRC *despite* the ECHR making a judgement that the UK had breached his human rights and that his trial had been unfair. Sadly, this doesn't surprise us as it echoes other stories we've heard about the CCRC. [1129]

REPORT ON PAROLE FOR THE INNOCENT. Terry McCarthy, of the Parole Board for England & Wales, has kindly responded to SAFARI's request to write a report designed to assist innocent prisoners to achieve release on parole licence. The report itself is 12 pages long and is therefore too long to be included in this newsletter but free copies are now available via eMail from SAFARI - just eMail us and ask. We also intend making them available for download from the Web Site in the near future. Copies are also available by post – we would appreciate at least two 1st class stamps (total 60p) or three 2nd class stamps (63p) [loose stamps – not SAEs] to cover the costs of photocopying & postage.

Terry's report is really excellent; it is clear, to the point and doesn't make any fairy-tale promises; in short, it tells you exactly what you need to know. A very small extract follows:

"If the Board has to take account of the Directions then so do you. During your time in custody; and when talking to those who are writing parole reports; and when writing your representations, put yourself in our shoes. Ask yourself, 'how do I look to someone who doesn't know me personally but must assume I am guilty? There are some things I can't reassure the Parole Board about, what are the things that I *can* do something about?' Follow each step of the Directions and do what you can in each area to convince the Board that you are motivated and serious. Co-operate, co-operate, co-operate. Be the type of prisoner who stands firm behind his claim of innocence if you wish, but acknowledge that the prisoner who clams up tight, will not speak to anyone about anything, leaves the Board with very little to go on. It puts you at a serious disadvantage and while you may have the satisfaction of knowing you are morally right, that will not help you get out. The fact is, you do not have to compromise your principles in order to co-operate with those who are trying to help you."

GOVERNORS RESPOND ... SLOWLY. We are receiving responses from Prison Governors addressing our concerns over innocent prisoners being refused Enhanced Status or category reduction. Of over 50 Governors contacted, only eight have replied so far (Dovegate, Bristol, Sudbury, Edmunds Hill, Wakefield, Peterhead, Doncaster & Kingston). We hope to report on all replies received in next month's newsletter when all those *likely* to respond *should* have done so.

KEEP YOUR LETTERS SHORT! SAFARI is run by only two people and processing the daily supply of incoming mail is a very time-consuming task so please do try to keep your letters short and to the point! The longer the letter, the more likely we are to miss important points.

LEE O'BRIEN, WHO FALSELY ACCUSED TV star Michael Barrymore of indecent assault, has been given a two year prison sentence but told that it will be suspended for two years. A supervision order was also made for 18 months. He had been convicted of perverting the course of justice by making false claims. He was cleared of another similar offence involving his former gay lover and another similar one was laid on the file.

Thanks to Terry McCarthy (Parole Board for England and Wales) for statistics of those who achieved release on Parole whilst maintaining innocence.

Figures for month of November 2005

Non-lifers:

All offences	19	of 50	38.0%
Rape	4	of 13	30.8%
Indecent Assault	4	of 11	36.4%
Other Sex	1	of 4	25.0%
Violence	1	of 3	33.3%
Property	1	of 4	25.0%
Drugs	4	of 8	50.0%
Others	4	of 7	57.1%

Total Sex	9	of 28	32.1%
Total Non Sex	10	of 22	45.5%

Lifers only 0 of 5 0.0%

[1 of the 5 lifers was recommended for open conditions]

Donations very much appreciated at:



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Contact us by eMail at SAFARI_Editor@yahoo.co.uk

(We can accept no responsibility for errors in this newsletter as we only share information received)