

## WHEATFIELD PRISON

### Annual Report 2007

#### The Visiting Committee to Wheatfield Prison

We the undersigned members of the Visiting Committee for Wheatfield Prison are pleased to present our report to the Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform for the year ending 2007.

The Committee met in Wheatfield on the second Tuesday of each month, all meetings were very well attended.

#### MEETING'S

The members met in Wheatfield each month of their term of office. All aspects of the Inmate welfare were reviewed in addition to inspection of their accommodation and varied facilities. The standard's of hygiene and cleanliness can be regarded as most satisfactory and the Governor and Staff are to be complimented in this respect.

The number of inmates who requested to meet the Committee during the year was 107 which averaged 9 per meeting. All their requests and grievances were heard and disposed of satisfactorily. Apart from the formal meeting's, many members made unscheduled visits to Wheatfield during which the visiting members spoke to the inmates in the work place, which was a less formal atmosphere than that which prevails at the committee meeting.

\* A large number of the inmates were seeking transfers to Arbour Hill Prison and unfortunately due to the length of their sentences it was not possible for that to happen.

#### Education

The total number of students who attended classes during 2007 were 352 average number enrolled at any one time is 245. Total number who received FETAC Certification in May was 60, 86 received FETAC Awards in November.

There was an impressive list of guest speakers during the year.

### **New Work Practices.**

Within the past 22 months new work practices have been instituted in the Irish Prison Service. As a result many of the services available have been reduced. The issue is not a simple one to solve in an institution like Wheatfield where rostering and staff scheduling are complex matters which are added to by the level of institutional absenteeism.

When staff fail to attend for work (particularly at short notice) educational and recreational services are reduced or dropped in favour of security. The library is one area that seems to take the brunt of the shortages. The committee looks forward to seeing services restored and upgraded in 2008.

### **Drugs.**

The committee welcomes the commitment of the Minister to tackle the drug problem in Irish Prisons. But there seems to be relatively easy access to drugs for the prison population. Trustees and non drug users are now under pressure to bring in drugs along with family members who all feel threatened. Screened visits will help to reduce drugs coming in. Sniffer dogs will also help rid our prisons of drugs and we look forward to their full time introduction.

### **Mobile Phones.**

Technology is now available to provide a solution to this issue and it is our recommendation that it cannot happen soon enough.

### **Kitchen.**

The staff in the kitchen continue to supply a range of healthy and balanced diets for the inmates which remains the envy of all who taste.

### **Visit.**

The committee visited Mountjoy Prison during the year and found it most interesting historical and enjoyable. Our thanks to all at Mountjoy.

The committee wishes to thank the following members who enlightened the committee in relation to the workings in the prison ;

Una Gomez , Librarian.

Sinead De Roiste, Work placement officer.

Dr Ruth Kevlin, Chief Psychologist.

Sr Imelda Wickham, Head Prison Chaplain.

Dr Mike Scully, Methadone Doctor.

## WORK AND TRAINING PROGRAMME

In excess of 964 prisoners were processed through the work & training area during 2007. Inmates who completed Training Programmes were awarded various external Certificates of Achievement which include:-

EHOA Primary Course in Food Hygiene.  
FETAC Elementary Cookery Programme.  
City and Guilds Certificate in Food Preparation.  
Guild of Cleaners and Launderers Technician Certificate.  
MIG TIG ARC Welding Certificate.  
FETAC Engineering Process.  
City and Guild Welding  
City & Guilds Computer Skills.  
Safe Pass.  
Abrasive Wheel.  
Road and Street Workers Safety Course.  
An Gaisce Presidents Awards Bronze Medal.  
An Gaisce Presidents Award Gold Medal Award  
FETAC Level 3 Construction Skills.  
FETAC Level 3 Reprographics.  
FETAC Level 3 Tiling.  
City and Guilds Diploma in Food Preparation and Principles.

During 2007 The Work & Training area achieved the following:-

March 2007	Re-Certification in NSAI ISO 9001-2000 (catering area)
April 2007	EIQA Emerald Hygiene Mark (Catering)
June 2007	Retained Q Mark Status in the New Laundry Area.
November 2007	Re Certification to ISO 22000 - International Standard for Food Management.
November 2007	EFQM:/EIQA Committed to Excellence Category Award Winners.
November 2007	EIQA Emerald Hygiene and Food Safety Category Finalist.
November 2007	EIQA Q-Mark Award Category Finalist.

The area completed many works for charity which included Irish Epilepsy Society, Spina Bifida, Stewarts Hospital, Hospice Harolds Cross, Cari ,Trail ,St. Ultans N.S.

**Wheatfield Prison Library  
Report for Visiting Committee 2007**

The Dublin prison Library Service is an agency service of Dublin City Public Libraries to the Irish Prison Service and is an integral part of the Prison Education Service which falls under the ambit of the Irish Prison Service Regimes Directorate through the Coordinator of Prison Education and Library Service.

The primary objective of the service is to provide a library and information service to offenders in the Dublin Prisons and Portlaoise Prison as far as possible of equivalent standard to that provided to the outside community, subject to the constraints intrinsic to the prison environment.

Responsibility for the administration of the prison libraries lies with a team of four librarians while the day to day delivery of the library service to offenders is undertaken by prison officers who have been trained by the librarians to operate as library assistants in the prison libraries.

**Services for offenders provided by the library:**

- Offenders may borrow three books/audiobooks for a period of two weeks.
- Law books. Offenders may request books and Acts of the Oireachtas from an extensive law collection held in the library office. A legal database "Archbold Criminal Pleading and Evidence" 2006 is available on computer in the Open Learning Centre. This is one of the most sought after works of a legal nature among offenders in all the prisons under our remit.
- Book request service. Offenders may fill out a book request form for an item that they cannot find in the library. They may also request subject information. The librarian is committed to satisfying these requests if the books are available.
- Computer Open Learning Centre. Access to a range of multimedia software is available on three computers. Software includes Encarta, Learn to Use MS Excel & MS Word, Learn to Use The Internet, 3D World Atlas, Typing Tutorial, Encyclopedia of Nature, Allen Carr's Easy Way To Quit Smoking, History's Greatest Battles, The Official Driver Theory Test, Chess, Software to help literacy students, Irish, Spanish and Italian learning programmes and more.

- Music listening facilities. Three music listening posts are installed in the library and offenders may listen to a wide range of music titles.
- Documentary videos are available for viewing in the library.
- Quick Reads. Books designed for readers who are developing their reading skills.
- A wide ranging collection of reference books covering most subjects in the non fiction area. Foreign language books are also available.

#### Wheatfield Prison Library 2007

Offenders using the library in Wheatfield are strictly segregated. In the morning the library was available to the ordinary side of the prison and in the afternoon to the segregated side. The library was closed every Saturday and on evenings from January until 16th May when evening opening (lost in January 2004) was restored. Sunday morning was reserved for the ordinary side and Sunday afternoon was allocated for the use of men on twenty three hour lockup.

From the total population of **370** offenders **279** individual library users borrowed books from the library from the start of the year until the 20th December 2007.

Others used the library to read the daily newspapers, listen to music, access the library computers and to request books and legal information.

The library issued **1,347** books to offenders from early January to 20th December 2007.

The library satisfied **151** individual book and law requests in 2007.

Some offenders come to the library because they want to get some time away from the routine on the unit and they like to read quietly at a table in their own space. They frequently select a book from the reference shelves or from the quick reads for this purpose. Time spent in this way is very valuable to offenders.

The library as the informal arm of prison education supports offenders' self-development by the provision of organised activities and programmes.

Wheatfield Library organised two library based activities in 2007 to support the work of other disciplines in the prison.

**Table 1.** Activity programmes in Wheatfield Prison Library 2007

	Date	No.s Attending
Tai-Chi Class with Heather Darling in conjunction with Holistic Health teacher Jane Newman	6 <sup>th</sup> June	8
Tai - Chi Class	13th June	8
Tai-Chi Class	18th June	8
Tai-Chi Class	27th June	5
Tai-Chi Class	4 <sup>th</sup> July	5
*Order of Malta Two-day Basic First Aid Class (with certification) in conjunction with Work and Training Industrial Manager	8th and 9th August	11

\* Six of the offenders used the certificate to enhance their qualification for participation in the President's Gaisce Award. Others in the group used it to enhance their qualification for the City and Guilds Culinary Skills Training Course which they are undertaking.

Due to the shortage of prison officers to run the prison on a daily basis the library has suffered from a high level of closure as the library officers are regularly redeployed to other duties in the prison. Details of library openings and closures are given in the table below.

**Table 2.** Record of library openings and offender visits in 2007

Month	No. of library sessions held am, pm or evening	No. of cancelled sessions	No. of offenders using the library
January	23	58	84
February	23	49	96
March	41	37	190
April	22	56	83
May	29	58	111

June	62	23	224
July	45	35	224
August	63	30	328
September	49	29	242
October	39	45	159
November	35	45	122
December	28	13	129
(from 1st to 20th Dec.)			
Total			1,992

### **Librarian Vacancy**

A librarian vacancy has existed on the librarian team since November 2003. Because the team looks after nine prison libraries the impact of the vacancy is felt especially in the prisons where the librarian is not based on a daily basis. Unfortunately Wheatfield Library has suffered as a result of this situation. This has impacted particularly on the level of programme activity that took place in the library and also on the follow up on offender's book requests which was delayed.

It is hoped that the Dublin City Library Service will be in a position to replace the fourth librarian in the New Year.

### **Library Officer Training**

The two designated library officers attended a one day training course for library officers in Cabra Public Library in November 2007. A three year City and Guilds Library and Information Progression Course Level 3 is available online from Sandwell College, U.K.

Library Officers in the prisons under our remit are contemplating undertaking this course which they can commence in January 2008.

Should the designated library officers wish to undertake this study it would enhance their library skills.

## **Wheatfield Education Unit Report for Visiting Committee 2007**

### **Student Group:**

Wheatfield Prison has a population of 345 prisoners. The prisoners are separated into two main groups known as "segregated" and "non-segregated". We are a City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee school. We have a total of twenty-nine teachers working in the Education Unit. Eight of these teachers are based here full time i.e. Monday to Friday, five days a week. The remaining twenty one teachers are either part-time, on job share or work between different Education Units. In the past our school has operated on a segregated basis i.e. classes have been allocated to either segregated or non-segregated students. However, with the transfer of a considerable number of non-segregated prisoners from Wheatfield (September to December), our school is now mixed i.e. segregated and non-segregated students attend classes together.

Students who wish to attend school are interviewed individually in early September. They are later given a timetable which is delivered to their cells. The interviewing and timetabling process continues throughout the academic year to facilitate any additional students who may wish to attend school, such as those who get transferred into this prison.

### **Attendance 2006-2007:**

Total number of students who attended classes in 2006-2007 = [384] 352.  
Total number of segregated students who attended = [188] 181  
Total number of non-segregated students who attended = [196] 171  
Average number enrolled at any one time= 245

### **STUDENT PROFILE**

#### **Age Range Segregated Students:**

Numbers	%
Aged between 18 and 35 [143] 133	[76] 74
Aged between 35 and 55 [40] 40	[21] 22
Aged between 55 and 65 [5] 8 [3] 4	

#### **Age Range Non-segregated Students:**

Numbers	%
Aged between 18 and 35 [150] 128	[77] 75
Aged between 35 and 55 [41] 39	[21] 23
Aged between 55 and 65 [5] 4 [3] 2	

#### **Length of Sentence Segregated Students:**

Numbers	%
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On Remand	[12]	24	[6]	13
0 - 1 Years	[45]	34	[24]	19
1 - 3 Years	[43]	35	[23]	19
4 - 7 Years	[46]	35	[25]	19
8 - 10 Years	[13]	18	[7]	10
10+ Years	[14]	14	[8]	8
"Life"			[15]	21 [8] 12

#### Length of Sentence Non-segregated Students:

Numbers	%
On Remand	[12] 12 [6] 7
0 - 1 Years	[35] 43 [18] 25
1 - 3 Years	[41] 43 [21] 25
4 - 7 Years	[66] 41 [34] 24
8 - 10 Years	[19] 14 [10] 8
10+ Years	[10] 8 [5] 5
"Life"	[13] 10 [7] 6

#### Educational Background of Segregated Students

Numbers	%
None	[5] 9 [3] 5
Primary	[29] 31 [15] 17
1st Year	[24] 22 [13] 12
2nd Year	[22] 27 [12] 15
3rd Year	[67] 58 [36] 32
Leaving Certificate	[28] 27 [15] 15
Third Level	[13] 7 [7] 4

#### Educational Background of Non-segregated Students

Numbers	%
None	[6] 4 [3] 2
Primary	[26] 25 [13] 15
1st Year	[26] 25 [13] 15
2nd Year	[37] 33 [19] 19
3rd Year	[68] 60 [35] 35
Leaving Certificate	[26] 18 [13] 10
Third Level	[7] 6 [4] 4

#### Students whose formal education, if any, finished before 3rd year:

%
Segregated Students [43] 49

Non-segregated Students [49] 51

Non-National Students:

%

Segregated Students [21] 17

Non-segregated Students [9] 15

Students Seeking Basic One to One Literacy Tuition:

%

Segregated Students [18] 12

Non-segregated Students [12] 8

CURRICULUM OFFERED

1	Literacy.	One to One.	Small Groups.
2	Drama.		
3	English.		
4	Spelling.		
5	Creative Writing.		
6	English for Speakers of Other Languages.		
7	Numeracy.		
8	Maths.		
9	Business Studies.	10	Taxation.
11	Biology.	12	Computers.
13	First Aid.	14	Anatomy and Physiology.
15	Health Related Fitness.	16	Yoga.
17	Kinesiology.	18	Typing.
19	Horticulture.	20	Home Economics.
21	Physical Education.	22	History.
23	Geography.	24	C.S.P.E.
25	Philosophy.	26	Religion.
27	Spanish.	28	French.
29	Irish.	30	Holistic Health Studies.
31	Personal Development.	32	Addiction Studies.
33	Pre Release.	34	Career Guidance.
35	Art.	36	Drawing.
37	Music Appreciation.	38	Keyboards.
39	Music Theory.	40	Song Writing
41	Guitar.	42	Sound Engineering
43	Tin Whistle.	44	Leather Craft.
45	Wood Craft.	46	Pottery.
47	Fabric Crafts.	48	Chess.
49	Photography.	50	Open Learning Centre.
51	Parenting.	52	Study Skills.

Subjects Offered at Junior Cert. Level:

- 1 English
- 2 Irish
- 3 Maths
- 4 History
- 5 Geography
- 6 Home Economics
- 7 Science
- 8 CSPE
- 9 Religion
- 10 Art
- 11 Business Studies

Subjects Offered at Leaving Cert. Level:

- 1 English
- 2 Maths
- 3 History
- 4 Geography
- 5 Biology
- 6 Art

Leaving Cert. and Junior Cert. Entries June 2007:

Leaving Certificate	2
Junior Certificate	22

Microsoft Office Specialist

The Education Unit Wheatfield is an approved centre for M.O.S.  
Students successfully completed the following modules:

Word Core = 4  
Word Expert = 3  
Excel Core = 2  
Excel Expert = 2

Access Core = 2

PowerPoint = 2

Two students completed all 6 exams in M.O.S. and thereby became Masters of the Applications.

FETAC Certification and Results: May 2007

Modules:	Level:		No. of candidates:
Word Processing	L 6	2	
Word Processing	L 5	2	
Computer Applications		L 4	9
Computer Literacy	L 3	14	
Health Related Fitness		L 3	11
Health Related Fitness		L 4	5
Health Related Fitness		L 5	2
Kinesiology	L 5	1	
Communications	L 3	3	
Mathematics	L 3	5	
Spanish	L 3	6	
Food & Cookery	L 3	4	
Food & Nutrition		L 3	1
Drama	L 4	4	
Art & Design		L 3	1
Fabric Crafts		L 3	3
Music Appreciation		L 3	1
Living in a Diverse Society		L 3	2
Personal & Inter Personal Skills			L 3 5
Modules @ L6	=	2	
Modules @ L5	=	5	
Modules @ L4	=	3	
Modules@ L3	=	12	
Total Number of Modules:	=	22	
Total Number of Candidates this period:	=	40	
Total who received FETAC certification	=	60	

FETAC RESULTS: NOVEMBER 2007

Modules:	Level:		No. of Candidates:
Food & Cookery	L 3	7	
Health Related Fitness		L 3	4
Computer Literacy	L 3	8	
Mathematics	L 3	1	
Art & Design		L3	1
Communication		L3	1
ESOL	L3	1	
Computer Applications		L4	10
Personal & Inter Per Skills		L 4	3
Word Processing	L5	2	

Occupational First Aid		L5	7
Sound Engineering & Production	L5	1	

Total Number of Candidates	=	46
Total Number of Modules	=	38
Number of Modules@ L3	=	15
Number of Modules@ L4	=	13
Number of Modules@ L5	=	10

Total number of students who received FETAC AWARDS since May '07 = 86

#### Physical Education

The 2007 P.E plan was implemented in the school and gym with the Gym officers and P.E teachers working together. The following objectives were achieved and are in the process of being evaluated using are evaluation indictors in the Physical Education Plan

#### Holistic Health Week:

Holistic Health Week was held in February '07. 100 students participated. The following eight workshops were available for students to participate in:

1. Relieving Stress
2. Laughter Therapy
3. The beginning of a four week course on Hepatitis and HIV
4. Fathers' Rights
5. Steroid Abuse / Fitness Testing
6. Prisoner Power / Political Change
7. Getting Motivated
8. Men's Cancer

Introduction of Occupational first aid certified by Health and Safety Authority : 7 Students certified.

Certification of health Related Fitness level 3 and 4 : 16 Students completed courses

Smoking Cessation: 10 students completed course

Triathlon: 20 students participate

Superstars: 14 students participated

Tennis competition: 8 students participated in the competition

## Open University and Distance Education Courses

### Open University:

Courses at Certificate, Diploma and Degree levels.

Course commencement dates for individual students in October and November 2007 and in February and May 2008.

In addition new short interest courses were also offered.

### Course Titles.

MU120 Open Mathematics.

MST121 Using Mathematics.

M208 Pure Mathematics.

T173 Engineering the Future.

S103 Foundation in Science.

B200 Understanding Business Behaviour.

BM240 Quantitative methods in Business.

DD100 Introduction to the Social Sciences.

W200 Understanding Law.

A214 Understanding Music.

DD305 Personal Lives and Social Policy.

SK183 Human Nutrition.

S180 Life in the Oceans.

### Distance Education Courses.

College of Management and Information Technology.

Diploma in Small Business management.

ITEC

Sports Consultant.

Number of students = 19

### English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Responding to the increasing need and demand for classes in English as a Second Language, Kate Daultrey and Alan Roberts are the specialist teachers in this field. These classes are essential, as they facilitate the full participation of non-nationals in Education and Work training programmes. It is estimated that 20% of the population in Wheatfield are now comprised of international prisoners.

## THE ARTS

### Drama

#### St.Patrick's Day

The drama students performed a play devised around the life of St.Patrick. It was based on St.Patrick's writings 'The Confessions'. The play was performed as physical theatre i.e. no props/lighting/ costumes - just the physical bodies and voices of the actors.

### Arts Day

A play was developed from working with freeze frame images. It was a powerful piece of theatre around the issues of grief, rage and loss. The play was based on ideas from the students themselves. The title of the play was left open to the audience, who were invited to write down possible titles.

### ART

The National Art Exhibition took place in Kilmainham Jail in May / June. Eleven paintings, prints and drawings from Wheatfield were chosen for this exhibition. A deck of cards was produced from art work in this exhibition which included art from Wheatfield. These cards were handed out on the night of the opening of the exhibition.

An exhibition of the students' work for the year was displayed on the school corridor for Arts Day in June '07.

#### The Artists in Prison Scheme:

- In July, Michael Rowley, in a cross curricular project, produced a 40 foot mural based on the theme of 'UNDERWATER' with a group of students. This was produced in conjunction with the Block Shop. The mural is now on display behind garden ornaments and furniture in the Block Shop. It is visually stunning.

### Music

#### St.Patrick's Day

A concert was held in the school to celebrate St.Patrick's Day. The music teachers Paul Byrne, Brendan Tyrrell and Sonja Kryzanowski worked with the music students on this project. The students performed an array of classic Irish ballads and rock songs. The instruments used during this performance

included: the guitar, the bass, the tin whistle, the keyboard, the bodhran and the mandolin.

Arising out of the song writing workshops, one student recorded a complete album of original songs.

#### Arts Day

The music students accompanied by the music teachers performed a collection of musical scores which they had been practising for over the previous two months. John Sheehan and Patsy Watchorn performed for the invited guests. In addition to this, our guests of honour also performed with the music students.

Music students received certificates in Music Theory from The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

Grade 1 = 3 students: January = 3 Distinctions  
Grade 1 = 3 students: March = 2 Distinctions and 1 Pass  
Grade 6 = 1 student: January = 1 Pass  
Grade 2 = 3 students: July = 2 Distinctions and 1 Pass  
Grade 3 = 3 students: November (awaiting results)

Sound Engineering and Production - F.E.T.A.C LEVEL 5

1 student awarded a Distinction in May

(This is a new course we now offer our students in music. The students use 'ProTools' - the Professional Recording Package)

#### Leaving Certificate Music

We currently have two students studying Leaving Certificate Music.

#### Creative Writing

This course has been running for six years. As usual this year, students entered stories and poems into two annual writing competitions: Listowel Prison Writing and the CDVEC Literary Competition (Dublin wide). A prize in the story and the poetry section was won. In addition a CDVEC Certified Poetry Writing Course was piloted and completed by one of our students. Poet, Tony Curtis, visited the creative writing class and ran workshops over four weeks which was extremely successful. These were funded through the Writers in Prisons Scheme run by the Arts Council.

A booklet of writing and paintings was produced for Arts Day (WRITING ON THE WALL) and distributed to people who attended. It has also been circulated to other prison schools and relevant groups. The booklet was a collaboration between the teachers and the Print Shop.

#### Arts Day



Art's Day took place in June again this year and is a celebration of students' work in the creative arts throughout the year. Following the launch of our annual art exhibition, the invited audience were very appreciative of the art work on display. These works included oil, acrylic and water- colour painting and various drawings, media and print.

There were also readings from the work of the creative writing students, theatre (see Drama) and music (see Music).

The audience and students enjoyed the day and the feedback was very positive.

#### Chess

In January '07 a team from Elm Mount Chess club paid the Education Unit a visit. This was their fourth visit. There were seven players on the visiting team and a group of eighteen prisoners came to the school to play against them. As each game was finished another prisoner sat in for another game. In this way every prisoner had the opportunity to play at least one game against a player from the visiting team. Most of the games were hard fought and although the visiting team did come out on top the score was very close. The final score was 12 wins to 10 in favour of the visiting team. There was a convivial, though intense, atmosphere throughout the match and everyone agreed (winners and losers alike) that the event had been a great success. The Elm Mount Club Captain, Ciarán, said that he would be happy to help organise a similar event again.

#### GUEST SPEAKERS

Hazel Caird, Irish Cancer Society - 05/02/07

Maeve Stewart, HSE Health Centre - 05/02/07

June Colgan, Community Response , HIV/Hepatitis - 06/02/07

Veronica Black, Information Officer Treoir (Fathers' Rights) - 06/02/07

Glen Fury, Fitness Tester - 07/02/07

Cormac Behan, Community Participation and Active Citizenship - 07/02/07

Paul Bradley, Stress Management - 08/02/07

Sean Dutton, Prison Links - 08/02/07

Paul Bradley, Motivation - 09/02/07

Gary Jones - Comedy Workshop - 09/02/07

Catherine O'Connell, Four Workshops on Personality Types - March to April 07

Liam Nicholson, Liz Thomas and Maire Ni Mhaolmhicil, Tallaght Mediation Bureau (Mediation Skills and Conflict Resolution) - Eight Workshops April to June 07

Frank Allen, Public Speaking and Workers Rights (Pathway Project) - 10/04/07

Ballymun Regeneration (Community Development) - June 07

PJ Kinane, Open University Tutor - 07/09/07

Paul Halligan, Open University Tutor - 12/09/07

Gillian Bird, D.S.P.C.A - 24/09/07

Angela Walsh, FAS (Ballyfermot) - 16/10/07

Ruth Davenport, Open University Tutor - 25/10/07

Moirra O'Neill, Prison Links Worker (Rialto) - 06/11/07

Marianne Brigid Fox, FETAC Examiner - 30/11/07

Liam Nicholson and Maura Ni Mulvihill, Tallaght Mediation Bureau - 04/12/07

Geoffrey Corry, Conflict and Peacemaking at Personal, Local and Global Level - 14/12/07

#### IN-SERVICE COURSES

Maeve Donnelly, Physical Education, 09/03/07

Karen Cotter and Sean Twohig, FETAC, 06/03/07

Kate Daultry, ESOL, 13/03/07

Michelle Tyrrell, Home Economics, 21/03/07

Brenda Fitzpatrick, Leaving Certificate History, 28/03/07

Jimmy O'Rourke, Inservice Committee, 19/04/07

Brendan Tyrrell and Paul Byrne, Music, 25/04/07

Laurena McCormack, Planning For Retirement, 02/04/07

Maeve Donnelly, Smoking Cessation, 19/06/07

Brendan O'Hara, Gerard McElligott and Catherin Byrne, Adults Learning Mathematics, 27th, 28th & 29th June

Brendan O'Hara, Bio-energy 2007, 30/08/07

Maeve Donnelly, Smoking Cessation, 25/09/07

Maeve Donnelly, Occupational First Aid Instructors Course - 5th to the 19th July

Brenda Fitzpatrick and Monica Giblin, ECDL Advanced Course - 5th to 10th July

Kate Daultry and Julie Cadogan, Induction Programme For Staff, 12/10/07

Kate Daultry, ESOL, 16/10/07

Kate Daultry, Julie Cadogan and Rita Murray, New Teachers Inservice, 29th & 30th November

This concludes the report from the Education Unit, Wheatfield: 2007.

## ***Conclusion***

The Committee are most happy with the numbers of Inmates gainfully employed and using the Educational facilities. The Kitchen is second to none ! With excellent food quality, content and presentation. The Staff of all ranks are consistently courteous and helpful when Members visit with Inmates.

At present the 3 Drug Free Units up and running smoothly. Now all categories of Inmates can avail of this chance to give up drugs. The Committee realise that this would not be possible without the assistance and commitment of the Staff on the floor, the Governor and his Managers, Trades, Medical, Welfare and Prison Chaplains. We applaud their efforts to rid the system of the curse of the addiction to drugs that effects so many of our youth.

Wheatfield Prison is in pristine condition. It is consistently clean and tidy on our numerous individual visits. All Inmates are in good health.

Cloverhill Prison Visiting Committee visited Wheatfield Prison in September 2007 and they were very impressed with the cleanliness and smooth running of the prison.

The "All Weather Pitch" is fully operational and is continuing to be a huge success with the prisoner population.

The Listener Scheme was set up in Wheatfield Prison in 2005 in conjunction with the Samaritans, so far, it has proved to be a great success.

Queries from inmates in general were not generally of a critical nature, which in itself is a testament to the smooth running of Wheatfield Prison. Those that were deemed most urgent were always acted upon without delay by Management. The Committee feel that the provision of extra dental facilities and psychiatric services would be extended.

Also there is the need for an additional prison chaplain to help with the many queries that the prisoners have about their lives.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank the Governor Sean Lennon and all his Staff for their help and courtesy extended to us at all times.

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**Jerry Hannon**

**Signed on behalf of the members of the Visiting Committee to  
Wheatfield Prison.**

**Ms Elva Mackay Vice Chairperson  
Ms Teresa Clarke  
Ms Sadie Jordan  
Ms Una Ryan  
Mr Stephen O'Neill**

Ms Colette Carter  
Mr John Keogh  
Mr John O Neill  
Mr Jeff Ahern  
Mr Tom Lillis