

The Prisons Handbook 2011



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The Prisons Handbook 2011

Fourteenth Edition

Mark Leech



The Prisons Handbook 2011

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Map of Prison Service Establishments

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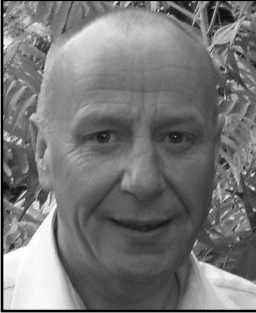
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From prison strip cells and roof-top protests at one end of the scale, to being Editor of the definitive 1,000+page annual reference book on the prison system of England and Wales at the other, Mark Leech has travelled

an astonishing journey.

Though he claims no accolade for it Mark served almost 20 years in 62 of Britain's jails, from Inverness in the north of Scotland to Parkhurst on the Isle of Wight, his prison career was characterised by riots, roof top protests and more than 40 successful legal battles against the prison authorities fought in every legal arena from the County Court to the House of Lords.

Once a tenacious thorn in the side of the prison authorities Mark, who was released from prison in 1995, has risen to become the country's foremost ex-offender expert on the policy and practice of the penal system. For the last 15 years he has been Editor of The Prisons

Handbook, the definitive 1,000+page annual guide to the penal system of England and Wales, and also the Editor of Converse, the highest circulation national newspaper for prisoners - distributing around 50,000 copies per month.

Mark is the Director of the Institute of Prison Law, a Law Society and Bar Council accredited legal training organisation, and he is the Founder and former Chief Executive of the national ex-offenders charity UNLOCK.

Mark is a regular prisons commentator on BBC Newsnight, BBC News, Sky News, BBC Radio 2's Jeremy Vine show and he is much sought after as an after dinner speaker. Mark is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts

Mark lives with his partner in Manchester where they own Thai restaurants and, outside of work, his interests are in aviation; Mark is a qualified Helicopter pilot.



PRISONER LOCATION SERVICE

If you wish to trace someone who you believe is in prison custody but do not know their exact whereabouts you can contact the Prisoner Location Service. Their address is:

PRISONER LOCATION SERVICE
PO BOX 2152
BIRMINGHAM
B15 1SD

The following information must be included with your enquiry:

Full name of person you want to contact
Details of any known aliases
Date of Birth
Sentencing details (if known)
Reason for enquiry

If the person is in custody your details will be passed to them and the prisoner will be asked to give consent for the disclosure of their whereabouts. In appropriate cases the prisoner may be advised to give the name and address of their solicitor. All replies and disclosures of information will be in accordance with departmental rules and data protection legislation and you need to be aware that the process can take about three weeks – no information can be given over the telephone.

You can contact the National Offender Management Service as follows.

National Offender Management Service
Ministry of Justice
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ

Telephone: +44 (0)20 3334 3555
Fax: +44 (0)20 3334 4455
email: general.queries@justice.gsi.gov.uk

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**THE PRISONS
HANDBOOK 2011**
is dedicated to
Dame Anne Owers D.B.E.

Dame Anne Elizabeth Owers, DBE (born 23 June 1947), née Anne Elizabeth Spark, was Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Prisons for nine years – she was the fourth holder of the post, and was appointed in August 2001, succeeding David Ramsbotham. Her appointment was renewed in June 2006 and in March 2008 and she left the post in July 2010.

Prior to this post she was Director of JUSTICE, the UK-based human rights and law reform organisation.

Anne Owers was educated at Washington Grammar School, County Durham, and at Girton College, Cambridge. On graduating she went to Zambia to teach and to carry out research into African history. While taking time out to bring up her three children, Anne Owers continued to undertake research

and voluntary advice and race relations work.

In June 2008, she was appointed Chair of Christian Aid, in succession to John Gladwin. She opposed the Government's former proposal to build "Titan jails".

Anne Owers was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 2000 for her work in human rights and Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE) in the 2009 New Year Honours.

In 2010, Anne Owers was appointed to the position of Chair of Clinks, a charity that supports the work of the voluntary and community sector working with offenders and their families. She is also a Trustee of The Butler Trust.

She was the guest in BBC Radio 4's Desert Island Discs on 27 February 2011.