

## **PQ31 Editorial**

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# WELCOME TO PROBATION QUARTERLY



**Jake Phillips**  
Editor, Probation Quarterly

## PQ31 EDITORIAL

It is – as always – a pleasure to be able to bring PQ31 to your attention. This issue includes a general section with a mix of articles focusing on policy, practice and research as well as a themed section on probation in Wales. The articles in the themed section provide an overview of the work that has been going on in Wales in relation to creating a devolved probation service for Wales and I would like to thank Martina Feilzer and Ella Rabaoitti for collating and editing these articles.

In the general section, we start with an article from Sonia Flynn and Simone Hugo-Lake on the new professional register in probation. This should be a welcome development for staff as it brings the potential to increase the confidence that a range of stakeholders have in the Service, recognises the highly-skilled nature of probation work and reinforces the professional nature of probation practice. Next, Baroness Hamwee provides a summary of the House of Lords Home Affairs and Justice Select Committee report on community sentences which was published at the end of 2023. Anne Burrell is heavily involved in matters related to the Probation Institute. Alongside this she is undertaking a PhD on

professional identity in probation and so it is a pleasure to be able to include an article from Anne in which she shares some early findings from her research. Charlotte Oliver, Andrew Fowler and Tom Brown have been working on their ‘probation in objects’ project for a number of years and it is great to see some emerging thoughts from them on what these objects tell us about probation and the people who work in it. Andrew Bridges then gives his perspective – as the Strategic Director of National Approved Premises Association – on the role independent approved premises play in the field of probation and, crucially, how they should be governed. Finally, David Coley explores the concept of class in the context of probation. This is – as he argues – a neglected but highly pertinent concept and so it is imperative that we understand how it shapes practice and peoples’ experiences of probation supervision.

I hope that you enjoy reading PQ31 – please do get in touch if you have any feedback on the articles or would like to know more about how to contribute.