

HOPE *for* Glasgow

SPRING 2018 UPDATE

NEW FACES

We are delighted to announce that our recruitment for an Addiction Support Worker has been successful. Our new member of staff, Paul Cresswell, will begin in June. We are very grateful for the good response we received, and for Paul, who meets all our requirements. We will introduce Paul in a future newsletter.

We also have a new volunteer, Susan Constable, who is working with us one day a week. She will be helping us as we get ready to comply with new legislation relating to data storage and use. She will be getting in touch with you soon.



Susan Constable

Susan joins volunteer Audrey Sullivan who has been providing us with invaluable help over the past 18 months, writing up our Policies & Procedures and now developing our Staff Handbook.

One of the old faces will be around more often, as Kate Airlie will be increasing her hours with Hope for Glasgow to four days a week from July. This will give her time to explore funding from trusts and foundations.

ROAD TO RECOVERY Day Program

At the heart of Hope for Glasgow is our 15 week program which provides a Biblical response to addiction. This is running for the 3rd time, and signs of changed lives are now beginning to show.



We promote total abstinence from all drugs and alcohol, but we offer places to those who are on substitute medication such as methadone, if they have the desire to work towards abstinence. 15 weeks is not a long time to overcome a lifetime of addiction, so many go through the program several times.

Robert started with Hope for Glasgow in January 2017. He had been using drugs since he was 14 years old - a total of 36 years, the last 18 on methadone. During his time with us, he had been reducing his dosage and his first day clean from all substances was 27 March 2018!

Robert says *"I've been to many places, trying to get clean. I was always told my addiction was a health issue. Hope for Glasgow has taught me that my addiction is a heart issue, at its root is false worship. On hearing this, the penny dropped for me. Worshipping the one true God is the only lasting solution."*

Other changed lives include James, who has been clean for 6 months, and Ian, clean for 9 months. Remember these guys as they continue to "turn from idols to serve the living and true God."



Evening Meetings

Those attending the day program also come to the Tuesday evening meeting in the Tron, which supports a broader community and provides on-going aftercare. This has been well attended, with over 57 coming along this year.

Everyone's anniversary of becoming abstinent is celebrated with a card and a cake. We have now added the keyrings (pictured above) to acknowledge progress and provide encouragement along the way.

We are planning to establish another evening meeting in Govan Free Church later in the year. This is the first of many such meetings that we hope to establish with partner churches across the city.

EASTER FOOTBALL CAMP

Over 40 boys took part during the three days of our football camp. We had a real mix of boys attending due to our many contacts throughout the city. Some came from churches and brought their friends, some boys had been sent our way by the Social Work Department, others came from different housing schemes across the city and quite a few Romanian boys came from the Queen's Park area.



Each session consisted of training drills, challenges, games, and the ever popular Penalty Shootout Tournament. A gospel presentation was given each day. On the Thursday we were reminded that Jesus, not Ronaldo, is the greatest Penalty Taker. Isaiah 53:5

Our football camps are made possible due to the input of our volunteers who come from near and far, including Troon and Helensburgh. Special thanks to Andy Grant and Stephen Donaldson who did the coaching,



Vincent Wake who took the photographs, and Clive Charters who was our resident goalie.

We are thankful for the ongoing support from our friends at VSN Sport, and for the very generous supporter who wrote a cheque to cover all the costs of the event.

Clive "The Cat" Charters

You can support Hope for Glasgow in any of the following three ways.

VOLUNTEERING If you would like to volunteer at the football camps or the festive meals, please contact us for a volunteering application pack.

PRAYING For Paul Cresswell as he starts with us.

For all the men we are working with – that "the penny would drop" for them too.

For contacts to be made as we establish the evening meeting in Govan Free Church.

For new opportunities for gospel partnership with more churches in Glasgow.

DONATING If you would like information on how to donate or set up a monthly gift, please email kate.airlie@hopeforglasgow.org

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR MEALS

Thank you to all our supporters and volunteers who made the Christmas and New Year meals such a success again this year.

Around 60 attended on Christmas Day and 70 on New Year's Day. As usual, Doreen Anderson and Irene Skelton were the head chefs who made it happen, but we would also like to thank all our other volunteers who washed dishes, made desserts, helped serve the food and donated financially. These meals are a very special time for everyone involved, providing a safe and substance-free environment.

THANK YOU

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors. We are so thankful for all the financial support that has been provided by you, both individuals and churches.

We would especially like to thank our regular donors, those who have committed themselves to giving a monthly amount. The size of the donation is not as important as the fact that we can count on it being in the bank each month. This means we can provide all of our services – addiction work, football camps, festive meals – totally free, thanks to you.

HOPE *for* Glasgow

SUMMER 2018

ROAD TO ...

Our fourth Day Programme began on Monday 11th June. Several guys attended assessments and were given a place on the programme. Beginning the programme is the first hurdle and a few fell even before the first day – such is the hold their addiction has over them. Others began the programme and initially showed real motivation and willingness to change, but the reality of dealing with life on life's terms is difficult and so the "easy option" is to return to the fleeting comfort that substances bring.

The Parable of the Sower is a great reassurance. The Lord Jesus prepares us for going about his business - 75% of the seed we sow will not take root and bear fruit, but the 25% that does will produce a harvest more than was initially lost.

When folks drop off or disappear we still keep in touch, reminding them by text of the services that we provide. One guy has re-appeared and begun using our services, after Terry keeping in touch with him for 10 years!



... RECOVERY ...

Our Tuesday evening meeting continues to be a great support and encouragement to many – 74 individuals already this year. Over 25 keyrings have been picked up, each marking the different periods of abstinent time our guys have celebrated – from 1 day to 46 years!

Everyone's anniversary of becoming abstinent is celebrated with a card and a cake. It has been a great joy to have three men celebrate one year of abstinence recently. For one of these men, it was his fourth time being clean for a full year, an example of the ongoing battle we all have with our sin and

idolatry in this fallen world. For another, his battle was against not only substances and sin, but also schizophrenia. He has won this battle with great support from his home church, as well as what we can provide at Hope for Glasgow - a great encouragement, and testimony of the Lord's goodness and grace.



... OR DEATH!

But there have also been sad reminders that not all the input that we have will end in clean time, celebration and cakes, sometimes it ends in the cemetery. Terry has conducted funerals for two men recently. After years of battling addiction, one of the men's lives came to an end,



drowned in the canal.

The circumstances are unclear as to how he got there. The other man died after taking "Street Valium" (there is actually no Valium in them at all). He took these tablets with his girlfriend and a friend.

The girlfriend woke up, the two men didn't. A stark reminder of the lies of the evil one, who promises so much but his banquet is one which is held in the grave.

Proverbs 9:13-18

NEW MEETING

We believe the local church is central to addressing the addiction issues in our city. Hope for Glasgow can help folks achieve abstinence and begin walking with Jesus, but the local church is where real growth and discipleship will happen. There our guys can meet week by week with fellow idolaters and be fed on the staple diet of the preached Word, so that they can fight all the idolatries of their hearts. To that end it gives us great pleasure to announce that we will begin a new evening meeting in early October, held on Thursday nights in Govan Free Church. We hope in time to have these meetings all over Glasgow in partnership with local gospel churches so that, together, we can bring a Biblical response to the scourge of addiction in our city.

SUMMER FOOTBALL CAMP 2018



The summer brought the event we were all waiting for - no, not the World Cup, our Summer Football Camp.

Thirty boys attended over, what were, a fantastic 3 days. Just like the Gospel, football has a way of crossing and breaking down all the cultural, social, economic and language barriers that exist in our world. Boys

come from various areas in Glasgow and beyond, and it is so good to see them mixing together and getting on so well.

Each day we were put through our paces by Stuart Paterson and Stephen Donaldson. Thankfully they left enough in our tanks to play a game and take part in the Penalty Shootout Tournament.

Our talks each day are football themed. One day we heard about “decision making”, which is vital to a footballer; when to pass, when to dribble, when to shoot. The outcome of the game – negative or positive – will depend on the decisions the footballer makes. The outcome of our lives also depends on decisions made. Jesus decided to leave the Glory

and to die for the sins of the world on the cross, he has done all that is necessary to ensure our lives have a positive outcome. Now the decision is ours to make, will we follow and trust Him?



NEW WORKER

Hi, I'm Paul Cresswell, the new Addiction Support worker at Hope for Glasgow.



I have been married to Susan for 4 years and we are both members of Greenview Church, on the south side of Glasgow

I applied for the job at Hope for Glasgow as it is a ministry close to my heart because of my own transition from addiction. I had been looking for something similar for years but this is the first Christian addiction ministry I have found that holds true to sound Biblical doctrine while addressing every-day addiction issues.

My previous experience working in this field was through a residential Christian recovery centre, which was a very intense atmosphere.

During my first couple of months I've been impressed with the thorough work that has already been done in setting up Hope for Glasgow. I am looking forward to being involved in the continuation of this work, providing strong, Gospel centred support to men in Glasgow to help them turn from the idolatry of addiction to the one true God.

You can support Hope for Glasgow by:-

VOLUNTEERING PRAYING

If you would like to volunteer with us, please get in touch – the sooner the better .

For the two families at the centre of the funerals mentioned over the page.

For a good start to the new evening meeting in Govan Free Church.

For all the guys attending the day programme and on Tuesday evenings, that they make the right decisions.

For a good harvest from the seed that was sown during the football camp.

DONATING

If you would like information on how to donate or set up a monthly gift, please email kate.airlie@hopeforglasgow.org

HOPE *for* Glasgow NOVEMBER 2018

NEW VOLUNTEERS

Since the summer, we have welcomed some new faces who are donating their invaluable time to us.



Andy Smith comes from a background of Care Work. He is now contributing one day a fortnight to Hope for Glasgow, providing valuable assistance during the day programme groups.



Jonny Miscampbell, was released by his employers – Gallagher – from his accountancy work to contribute some time to Hope for Glasgow. He used his technical expertise to build a financial management spreadsheet so Kate can now keep even better track of income & expenditure, and can project budgets more easily.

Jonny and Andy join our current volunteers, Susan Constable and Audrey Sullivan.

ROAD to RECOVERY ... in GOVAN

Our new meeting in Govan, in partnership with Govan Free Church, began on Thursday 4 October.

In the 5 weeks leading up to this date, we leafleted the area thoroughly. Paul (our Addiction Support Worker) was previously a postman, so his skills came in handy for organising us and our route.

We posted our leaflets through letter boxes, handed them to people in the street and put bundles in chemists, doctor's surgeries, council buildings, cafés and the social work department. At one point Terry said to the team "Wait there, I'm going across the road to put a bundle in that pub." One of the team replied "Seriously? Are you going to put them in a pub?" Terry said "Of course! Where else do you expect to find alcoholics? In a flower shop?"

It was great being out and about, meeting people on the streets of Govan, working to make sure people knew what was going to happen, rather than just sitting back and expecting folks to turn up at the new meeting. As someone once said "Trust in God and keep your gunpowder dry."

We met lots of people who were encouraged by us being there and by what we are seeking to do for the community. We even met Jim MacMillan, the Outreach Officer for Sunny Govan Radio. Jim invited

Terry to come into the station for a chat to find out who we were and what we are all about. After chatting with Terry, Jim invited him to record a piece about Hope for Glasgow and the Govan meeting. The recording also contained Terry's testimony. This has been played by Sunny Govan Radio quite a bit – a great opportunity!



During this first 8 weeks of the Govan evening meeting, 35 different men have attended. Quite a few of these men are local to the Govan area. This has already translated into one of the men attending Govan Free Church on Sunday and joining the Day Programme at Hope for Glasgow.

Govan Free Church is becoming increasingly known locally as a church that cares and caters for those with addictions. As we have said before, we believe the Church is central to addressing the addiction issues in our city. And so we want to partner with churches and start Hope for Glasgow evening meetings in order that the ministry of the local church would be strengthened and widened.

We already run these two evening meetings

Tuesday – 7 to 9 p.m.

The Tron Church

25 Bath Street, G2 1HW

contact Paul Cresswell

paul.cresswell@hopeforglasgow.org

07383 518 666

Thursday – 7 to 9 p.m.

Govan Free Church

16 Holmfauldhead Place, G51 4PP

contact Terry McCutcheon

terry@hopeforglasgow.org

07738 277 496

Please get in touch if you would like more information about our evening meetings or if your church would like to explore the possibility of hosting a Hope for Glasgow meeting.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!!!

Hope for Glasgow was two years old on 9 September so we held an event to celebrate! Everyone who we knew had donated time or money to us over the past two years was invited. Some of you chose to remain anonymous, so unfortunately we couldn't invite you.

As well as thanking all our supporters at this event, we wanted to tell them just some of the things that had been achieved in the first two years, give them a taste of the fruit that has been produced already and describe some of our ambitions for the future. The afternoon included a message from our Chairman Norman MacKay, a presentation from Terry and video testimonies from some of the men who had used our services. Of course there was also sandwiches and cakes.

Organising the event gave us an opportunity to reflect on how far we have come in just two years. None of this would have been possible without our supporters and, of course, the guidance and amazing provision of our good God.

LOOKING FORWARD TO CHRISTMAS

Amid all the fun and festivities of Christmas time, it is crucial that those in recovery don't take their eyes off the ball and let their guard down. Although it is the holiday season, the evil one never takes a day off, 1 *Peter 5:8*



With this in mind, our services do not take a day off either. Our day programme and evening meetings will run as normal throughout the festive period; providing the guys with much needed stability and structure.

All of this is further aided by our Festive Meals on Christmas and New Year's Day. In addition to a wonderful three course meal, these occasions provide a safe, substance free environment where Christmas and New Year can be enjoyed with no danger and no distractions.

You can support Hope for Glasgow by:-

VOLUNTEERING If you would like to volunteer with Hope for Glasgow, please contact us for a volunteer pack. You could get involved with our seasonal events – the football camps or the festive meals – or you might be able to help in the office on a more regular basis, there is always a lot to do!

PRAYING For Terry as he speaks at an Addiction Summit in Kentucky in December.
For Paul, for courage and clarity while carrying the message.

For new opportunities to form gospel partnerships with more churches in Glasgow.

DONATING If you would like information on how to donate or set up a monthly gift, please email kate.airlie@hopeforglasgow.org

CONNECTING Our website is nearly ready to launch. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook for updates.

Hope for Glasgow OSCR – SC047631

Terry McCutcheon, Executive Director terry@hopeforglasgow.org

FOOTBALL CAMP

Another successful Football Camp ran during the October week. We hold all our football camps at the Toryglen Regional Football Centre, where we normally book one of the outdoor pitches. However, as the Glasgow weather is not always wonderful, we booked an indoor pitch this time. Glasgow weather – 0, Hope for Glasgow - 1.

Twenty-nine boys attended every day, good fun was had by all and the faith was shared.

Thanks to all our volunteer coaches who made this happen.

THANK YOU TO ...

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors. We are so thankful for all the financial support that has been provided by both individuals and churches.

Over the past few months, we have been humbled by generous gifts from several churches – this includes a donation from Allander Evangelical Church; special collections after Hope for Glasgow evening meetings at Bethesda Christian Fellowship and at Greenview Evangelical Church, a further gift from the café at Greenview Evangelical Church and the harvest collection at Maxwell Mearns Castle Parish Church.

It is wonderful how God has moved hearts to provide this support for Hope for Glasgow - we cannot thank Him, or you, enough.