

# HOPE *for*

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# Glasgow

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## SPRING 2019

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### ROAD TO RECOVERY EVENING MEETINGS

We believe the local church is central to addressing the addiction issues in our city, so although we are keen to build upon our Road to Recovery Day Programme, we are also keen to partner with churches to ensure there are Christ centred, biblically orientated addiction groups throughout our city.

We now partner with two churches,

- **The Tron Church**, Tuesday night in the city centre, and
- **Govan Free Church**, Thursday night on the south side.

Ninety-six different men attended the Tron meeting at least once during 2018, and forty-six men attended the Govan meeting, which only began in October 2018.

The format of the meeting is that a Christian man with a background of addiction issues will share testimony of what his life was like, what happened and what his life is like now (Ephesians 2:1-10).

In the second half of the meeting the other men in attendance have an opportunity to speak and to say where they are at, sharing their struggles and victories and how their week has gone. This is a great environment for mutual encouragement, sharing of experience, building friendship and growing in wisdom & grace.

In the second half of this year we will open a new evening meeting in the north of the city in **Bishopbriggs Free Church**.

### ADVANCING ON THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

James and Robert have been attending the Road to Recovery day programme over the last two years and are beginning to move on. Transitioning from a life of addiction has been a long process for them, it is never a quick fix. But both of them have been greatly helped by being rooted in their local church.



**Robert** is an active member of Govan Free Church and is integral to our Thursday night Road to Recovery meetings there. In time we hope that he will lead this ministry.

**James** likewise is a committed member of Ayr Free Church. Most Sundays you will find him on the platform leading the

singing of the Psalms.

They will have less direct involvement with us, and become more involved in voluntary work, gaining experience and seeking employment. This is part of a long process. Please pray for them as they make these changes in their lives.



### NEW FACES



We are delighted to introduce our new Addiction Support Worker, **Martin Begley** who joined the Hope for Glasgow team at the end of April.

Martin has plenty of experience of Christian Addiction ministries in a variety of settings, both in residential and community based programmes.

He also has a BA in Theological and Biblical Studies from Chester University and his long term desire is to minister God's word. To that end, Hope for Glasgow are seeking to be a stepping stone for him along the way. Over the next two years, Martin will be employed with us for three days a week, and, from September, he will attend the **Cornhill Training Course** for two days.

We welcome Martin and his wife Charlene to the Hope for Glasgow family. If you wish to contact Martin to welcome and encourage him in his new role, you can do so at [martin.begley@hopeforglasgow.org](mailto:martin.begley@hopeforglasgow.org)

We also welcome a new volunteer, **Bob Christie**, who is providing valuable help in the office.

### CONGRATULATIONS

We are also delighted that our administrative volunteer, **Susan Constable**, has been appointed to a job with the **Christian Institute**, where she is the P.A to Nigel Kenny, the Scotland Officer. Please be praying for Susan as she settles in to her new role, and for Nigel and the Christian Institute in the very important work they do. More information at [www.christian.org.uk](http://www.christian.org.uk)

## FESTIVE MEALS

This year we served festive meals to 116 people at Christmas and New Year. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who made this possible. We are grateful to all those who donated financially – the costs of £1,091 were covered by generous donors, and we also have £200 to carry forward for next year.

None of this would have been possible without the volunteers - Irene and Doreen of course, and the many others who gave their time and effort. We would also like to thank those who brought a huge range of delicious desserts, and McIntyre, the Butcher, who provided such delicious meat and pies.

If you would like to become a volunteer next year, make sure you don't leave it too late – we need to do a PVG check for you, so make a note in your diary to talk to us about it before the end of September!

## FOOTBALL CAMP

Our Football Camp was held during the Easter Holiday, and we are so grateful for the special donations which covered all our costs for the 3 day event.

Our city has the “No Mean City” reputation, so it was wonderful to see these **34 boys**, coming from all over Glasgow, mixing well together and enjoying the beautiful game. These days give us an opportunity to share the good news of the Lord Jesus as, sadly, we are living in days were a generation have never been in Church, never read a Bible, and never heard the Gospel.



This is a vital ministry to young folks, please pray for us as we think through how we could develop and make more of this ministry.

# THANK YOU

We are so grateful for all the financial support Hope for Glasgow has received, which has included some very unexpected gifts recently:-

- From a family who decided that they would collectively give to Hope for Glasgow, instead of spending money on each other at Christmas.
- From a gentleman who was going to leave us a lump sum in his will, but then decided he was going to give it to Hope for Glasgow right now!
- From a good friend in Troon who ran a couple of fundraisers and raised nearly £1,500 for Hope for Glasgow.
- From an American supporter who wanted to do something for the gospel in Glasgow as he had been so comforted and helped by the preaching ministry of Alistair Begg, who is a native of Glasgow.
- From the Cumbernauld Colts Football Club who took part in a sleep-out to raise funds and decided to give £1,000 of the total to Hope for Glasgow.
- From a new Hope Partner who sold a house and tithed £2,000 to Hope for Glasgow.

While it is wonderful to receive unexpected gifts like these, we are especially thankful to those who have committed to giving to us monthly – whatever the size of the donation. Having this consistent and steady stream of income allows us to be strategic in our ministry and to plan with confidence.

We currently have 47 Hope Partners whose monthly giving covers 25% of our monthly costs. We are keen to see this number of monthly Hope Partners grow to 100. This committed monthly giving increases our confidence in our ability to meet our monthly costs.

Can we encourage you, if you haven't already, to think prayerfully and carefully about becoming a monthly Hope Partner.

## How you can help:-

**VOLUNTEER** 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 or help in the office - there is always a lot to do!

**PRAY** For Martin, as he settles in with Hope for Glasgow and prepares to start Cornhill in September.  
For Terry's trip to the Basics Conference, where he will be taking breakout sessions and preaching.  
For the guys in the programme, that they will triumph in their on-going battles.

**DONATE** For information on giving, please email [kate.airlie@hopeforglasgow.org](mailto:kate.airlie@hopeforglasgow.org)

**CONNECT** Follow us on Twitter and Facebook, like and share our posts.

**TELL** Share what God is doing in Hope for Glasgow in your church and in your communities. Contact us if you would like some Hope for Glasgow materials to distribute.

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# AUTUMN 2019

## “THE THIEF COMES TO STEAL, KILL AND DESTROY ...

Scotland has long been the leader of the world in various industries; industries such as banking, education, tele-communications and engineering to name but a few. Each of these has given our wee country much to be proud of.

Recently, Scotland has been crowned a leader of the world again, but this time it is a title we would rather not own.

No doubt you will have seen the headlines like the one below or watched news stories that announced the shocking and saddening news that Scotland is now, statistically, the **Drug Death Capital of the World**.

When the statistics for 2018 were disclosed in July, they revealed that **1,187 people** - made in the image of God - died in Scotland as a direct consequence of drug use.



This figure is a **27% increase** from the previous year's total of 934.

Deaths in 2018 equates to **21.98 per 100,000 people**, which is proportionally higher than

anywhere else in the developed world. Our drug death rate is now nearly three times that of the UK as a whole, higher than any other European country and even higher than the USA, who are in the midst of their own opioid crises.

A third of Scotland's drug deaths were in Glasgow, where we have an estimated 11,000 to 13,000 problem drug users. In **Glasgow**, we have a drug death rate of **44 per 100,000 people**.

The drug methadone has been for years the medication prescribed as a substitute to help wean addicts off heroin. It is clear year on year that this "Drug Strategy" isn't working. In 47% of last year's deaths, methadone was present in some shape or form. It is unbelievable then that so-called experts have been calling for higher doses of methadone to be prescribed as a way to combat the problem, believing as they do that addiction is a health problem. This is shocking, but not surprising, as where the problem is not properly understood, the solutions will always be inadequate. All addictions, whatever shape or form they take, are ultimately issues of the heart.

It is not just drugs. Alcohol also takes its toll. Last year, in Glasgow, 146 people died as a direct cause of alcohol, either of alcoholic liver disease or mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol. This statistic doesn't take into account all the alcohol-driven violence and destructive behaviour which contributes to so many other ruined lives.

Every one of these people who died was somebody's child, sibling, parent or friend, and no doubt most of them died isolated, alone, with no-one holding their hand and probably lay dead, undiscovered for days or maybe weeks.

## “...BUT I HAVE COME THAT YOU MAY HAVE LIFE IN ALL ITS FULLNESS.” *John 10:10*

This is the context into which Hope for Glasgow ministers, this is our battleground. We are fighting to rescue these men – and they are overwhelmingly men, 72% of drug deaths and 70% of alcohol deaths are men aged 35 to 54.

We hold out real hope to everyone who comes to us - not the false hope of methadone or any other treatment, but the real hope of the Gospel, longing for them to become

- **Clean** from all addictive substances and
- **Connected** – to their families, their communities, their church, and ultimately, to Christ.

In June this year we held a graduation ceremony for **James and Adam** on their completion of the Road to Recovery programme. It has been a great joy to see these men grow and establish connections that will help them to keep going. It was great to welcome some of those connections to their graduation – family, friends and ministers. Please pray for them both as they make their way in the new lives that Christ has given them and the different challenges they will face. >>>>>>

>>>>> Continued

Adam has just begun an internship with the Christian charity **Street Connect**, working in their various services across Glasgow, helping those broken by addiction and homelessness.

James has enrolled for an **HNC in Music at the National Piping Centre** and has also secured a part-time job.

Recently we have been able to expand our services, beginning another **Road to Recovery evening meeting** in the north of the city. The meeting, run in partnership with **Bishopbriggs Free Church**, began on Thursday 8 August. It has been an encouraging start; 14 different men have attended so far. We hope that through the vehicle of the local church, these meetings will help us take the fight right into the heart of our communities.

As well as reaching into another area of our city to bring the hope of the Gospel to those with addictions, this evening meeting will also in turn strengthen and widen the ministry of Bishopbriggs Free Church. This is our third Road to Recovery evening meeting, and we hope to begin a fourth meeting early next year, if we can secure the necessary funding.

#### **Evening meetings currently running**

**TUESDAY** – 7 to 9 p.m.

**The Tron Church**, 25 Bath St., G2 1HW  
Contact – Paul Cresswell, 07383 518 666  
[paul.cresswell@hopeforglasgow.org](mailto:paul.cresswell@hopeforglasgow.org)

**THURSDAY** – 7-to 9 p.m.

**Govan Free Church**, 16 Holmfauldhead Pl., G51 4PP  
Contact – Martin Begley, 07727 100 447  
[Martin.begley@hopeforglasgow.org](mailto:Martin.begley@hopeforglasgow.org)

and

**Bishopbriggs Free Church**, 13 Auchinairn Rd., G64 1RX  
Contact – Terry McCutcheon, 07738 277 496  
[terry@hopeforglasgow.org](mailto:terry@hopeforglasgow.org)

## **BECOMING A HOPE PARTNER**

As we approach the end of our third year, we are so grateful to all of our Hope Partners who have enabled us to grow from a one-man operation in September 2016, to a staff team of four, supported by volunteers, with a vision to reach out to many more of those lost in addiction in Glasgow and beyond.

But as we have grown, our regular costs have increased and we now need £9,700 each month to cover salaries, rent, phones, insurance and all the other costs of running the programme. This year, by the grace of God and through your generosity, we have been able to cover all our expenses.

Nearly 70% of all the financial support we have been given has come from individual supporters of many different ages and stages, an amazing total of around £86,000! But of that generous amount, only a third was through regular giving, while the rest of it was a wonderful surprise. Surprises are exciting, but we would love to be more secure and confident that we will be able to meet our regular costs.

Will you help us to build this confidence and give us greater peace of mind? Regular giving that we can count on – whether once a month, once a quarter, or once a year – will give us precious assurance. No amount is too small!

## **ON-LINE GIVING**

Unfortunately, MyDonate, the on-line giving platform which many of our donors used, stopped operation at the end of June. We have been testing other options, and these two website are our current favourites:-

[www.give.net](http://www.give.net). Hope for Glasgow is one of the registered charities on their site - search the "Charities" option to find our page. Give.net allows you to set up a monthly donation to Hope for Glasgow, or give a one-off amount. However, it does not work outside the UK.

[www.wonderful.org](http://www.wonderful.org) Is an option which does work outside the UK, but can only can accept one-off donations.

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<b>DONATE</b>	contact Kate Airlie ( <a href="mailto:kate.airlie@hopeforglasgow.org">kate.airlie@hopeforglasgow.org</a> ) if you would like further information
<b>VOLUNTEER</b>	if you would like to help at our Festive Meals this year, please apply for a volunteer pack by the end of September.
<b>PRAY</b>	For Adam and James. For the meetings in Bishopbriggs. For clarity and courage in carrying our message.
<b>CONNECT</b>	Follow us on Twitter and Facebook, like and share our posts.
<b>TELL</b>	Share what God is doing through Hope for Glasgow in your church and in your communities. Contact us if you would like some Hope for Glasgow materials to distribute.

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## WINTER 2019

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### REDUCING THE HARM OF DRUGS ???

A new scheme that gives pharmaceutical grade heroin to drug addicts opened in Glasgow at the end of November. The **Enhanced Drug Treatment Service** (EDTS) is the first of its kind in Scotland and the second in the UK.

It is hoped that this new facility will help reduce the use of street drugs, the spread of HIV and the number of overdose deaths in the city. Those selected for the treatment - 20 in the first year - will have to attend the clinic twice a day, every day.

The EDTS will provide diamorphine for the patients to inject themselves under the supervision of nursing staff. This is unlike "fix rooms" that provides addicts with a clean and safe place to inject their own drugs. Having this service will come with an upfront cost of £1.2million. The ongoing cost has yet to be determined.

We at Hope for Glasgow understand that different measures and strategies need to be implemented in order to reach and engage with those lost in addiction. However, this new initiative is providing safe rooms for people to use drugs, at a time when money is being cut to provide safe rooms for people to get off drugs! In Glasgow, abstinence beds available in rehabs have been more than halved this year, from 32 beds to 14. Moreover, the time available to spend in these beds has also been reduced by more than half, from 26 weeks to 12 weeks.

Remember, this is at a time when Scotland is statistically the Drug Death Capital of the world. One third - 394 people - of all Scotland's drug deaths in 2018 were in Glasgow. By all means the Government is welcome to try measures whereby addicts have safe rooms to use drugs, but they need to ensure there are also safe rooms for them to get off drugs.

### REMOVING THE HARM OF DRUGS!!!

It was a great joy for us that in the same week that the Enhanced Drug Treatment Service began, one of our men graduated from our Road to Recovery Day Programme.

**Robert's** addiction spanned 36 years, the last 18 of those on methadone. He graduates having been abstinent for 20 months. He will now be joining us as a volunteer, helping on the Day Programme and leading our Road to Recovery evening meeting at his home church, **Govan Free Church**.

The graduation ceremony was a really special day with Robert's mum and brother in attendance. There was a lot of emotion, and some tears, as we celebrated "**a son who was dead and is alive again, he was lost, and is found**".



*Robert with his mum, Anne, and Terry*

We commemorated the day with a short video, available to view [here](#)

### Evening Meetings - Update

Our three R2R evening meetings continue to be well attended, averaging 30 men per week. Some of these men have been trickling onto the Day Programme and also attending our partner churches, which is so encouraging!

We plan to begin a fourth evening meeting in partnership with **Greenview Church** in the new year. We have secured partial funding for this from **Faith in Communities Scotland** and are hopeful of securing the remainder.

After much prayer and consideration, we have decided that the Greenview meeting will be the first to open its doors to **women** as well as men. We are very keen to provide a full programme of support for women and hope that this will be the beginning of fulfilling these hopes.

Many attend our evening meetings that are interested in the Gospel but can't commit to the Day Programme. So, beginning on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January we will run a **Christianity Explored** course for them to investigate the claims of Jesus. **Alex Bedford** will facilitate this for us.

## DEPARTURES & ARRIVALS

After three years with Hope for Glasgow, **Kate Airlie** will be leaving the team at the end of December. Her skills in development and strategic planning were essential to us during our start-up phase, but she is now ready for a new challenge. We are grateful for all that she has contributed towards our successful establishment and we wish her well for whatever new challenge the Lord opens up for her.

We are delighted to announce that our recruitment process to ensure we covered some of the key duties Kate performed has gone really well. Two ladies will be joining our team from the start of January. **Nicki Adams** is our new **Admin Worker**, 2 days per week and **Nicola Lang** will take care of **Bookkeeping** 1 day per week.

## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

As Hope for Glasgow enters its fourth year, we have a clear plan to develop our work further. To do this, we are in need of some additional skills and support. We are particularly looking for: -

**IT Volunteer** – someone who can be our digital administrator, help us improve our digital filing, and troubleshoot when necessary.

**Design Volunteer** – someone to give a professional look to our publications and improve our corporate image across all platforms.

It would be possible to provide this support remotely and should take only a few hours a month, at the most. Please contact Terry if you would be able to help.

## HOW CAN YOU HELP

**DONATE** contact Nicki Adams ([nicki.adams@hopeforglasgow.org](mailto:nicki.adams@hopeforglasgow.org)) if you would like further information

**VOLUNTEER** if you would like to volunteer, please apply for a volunteer pack.

**PRAY** For the men remaining abstinent over the festive period.

For Nicki and Nicola as they join the HfG staff team.

For the Christianity Explored course starting in January.

**CONNECT** Follow us on Twitter and Facebook, like and share our posts.

**TELL** Share what God is doing through Hope for Glasgow in your church and in your communities. Contact us if you would like some Hope for Glasgow materials to distribute.

## FOOTBALL CAMPS

Over 90 boys attended our football camps this year. Great fun was had, and the Gospel clearly taught each day. We were so encouraged by the news that one of the boys professed faith and also hearing of others beginning to attend church youth groups. Huge thanks to our coaches – Andy, Clive, Raymond, Stephen and Stuart – for their commitment to us and to the boys.



*Cammy, Sam (Penalty King) & Kieran*

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

The festive period presents its own particular challenges to those seeking to leave behind a life of addiction. Temptation seems to press in from every direction. Having structure to your day and filling time positively are essential, especially at this time of year. So, in order to help our guys navigate this time safely, our day programme and evening meetings will continue to run all through the festive period. Having our Festive Meals on Christmas and New Year's Day also provides a safe, substance-free environment to celebrate these days.

We are so grateful to the **Sandringham Trust** who have funded our Festive Meals and our Football Camps this year. We are grateful to all our **Hope Partners** who are enabling us to provide safe rooms for people to get off drugs throughout all of our services.