



Farewell message from Bernie

Thank you to our supporters for your prayers, generosity and standing patiently with us as we have waited for God's directive for Horizon Life Training!

The Horizon Life Training RE- LAUNCH will involve a whole new team, so I will be personally stepping down as manager, making way for the new! You will know that this decision has not come without its wrestling, yet, we have to know when God is saying; 'it is time to pass the baton', and it's time.

Over the last 7 months we have been busy reviewing and improving best working practice, policy and procedures, staff structure, major maintenance and repairs of the centre, cleaning, sorting and a good old sweep out and clear out! Also the joy of walking alongside the final resident of 2022 to 2023, Alex; you can read about what God has done for him below!

I believe that in Christ the best days are today and what lies ahead, not looking back, standing on His promise that this scripture assures; **'The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the Lord Almighty. 'And in this place I will grant peace,' Haggai 2: 9.**

For those into statistics over the last 5 years the team and I have served a

total of **85 residents** and been truly humbled and privileged to witness many lives on the transforming journey.

66% of residents now in meaningful Employment / Apprenticeships

7% of residents continue in Adult Education

Please continue to pray for each resident on their life's journey to freedom and abundant life in God.



Alex...leaves on a high tide!



"Although initially apprehensive about spending another year in supported living (following rehab) the welcome I received when I arrived at HLT helped to alleviate any concerns. We agreed goals for the year and set a time frame for achieving them.

My personal and ongoing relationship with Christ has flourished during my time at HLT. Whether through

morning devotions or personal prayer, the timing, coincidences and essentially miraculous events that have occurred over the last year have truly cemented my faith, creating a lasting substitute for the life I have permanently left behind.

I'm happy to say that through God's grace I have passed both my driving test and CELTA course. I am fully convinced that everything along my journey happened exactly as it was supposed to, and that I have flourished as a result. At the end of my journey with HLT, I am over 2 years sober and have accomplished things that without this support would probably continue to elude me.

In 2023 I was offered a new career as a seafarer, something I had dreamed about for years but had



considered impossible due to a lack of experience.

I cannot really think of a better way to conclude my time here than by embarking on a new life. Thanks again to Bernie for the support given during my time here.

HORIZON LIFE TRAINING

REACHING • RELIEVING • RE-EDUCATING • RESTORING

*See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.*

Isaiah 43:19

The transforming journey continues...

You will be aware that following a series of challenges and reflection in 2023 we placed the service on pause to consider the way forward for Horizon Life Training.

We thank you for your grace and continued prayers and support while we have petitioned the Lord in his plans for the facility in Killinghall and we are excited to announce that we will be relaunching the men's centre in 2024 with a new team and are looking forward to seeing the Lord doing great things in the journey ahead.

We would like to thank the outgoing team for their sacrificial service and diligence over many years providing the platform from which we launch into the new thing!

One of the historical challenges is the fluctuation in resident numbers

impacting on the running costs so this is a priority area for the new trustees to work on, building on and establishing new relationships with rehab centres for future referrals. We would also like to hear from you if you are able to support us in the any of the following ways:

- Would you consider making a regular gift or increasing your current gift?
- Would you be able to help with fundraising and grant applications as a volunteer or arrange an individual or church event to raise funds for HLT?
- Are you an employer that could consider offering work experience or partner with business sponsorship?

- Would you consider leaving a legacy to the HLT charity?
- Do you have a skill or hobby that you could share with our residents?
- Can you be a 'church buddy' in your local fellowship to help someone settle in?
- Are you a church leader that could invite HLT to speak at your church, or consider a regular monthly gift?

HORIZON LIFE TRAINING

Our website and Facebook page is undergoing a refresh but keep an eye out for updates on vacancies and our upcoming celebration and graduation service.

Watch this
space for HLT
Vacancies

horizonlifetraining.org.uk

The new trustees...



Hi, my name is Ruth and I'm the new Chair of Trustees at Horizon Life Training.

After a long period of service the previous Trustees have asked to handover to a new team to take us forward. I am no stranger to HLT and Teen Challenge having left my career in local government management in 2009 and moving with my family to start our journey with transforming lives working for Teen Challenge in South Wales. It was in March 2012 that we then received our call to move to Harrogate, along with my husband Paul and our children Bethany and Samuel, to help set up and launch HLT where we served until 2014.

At the end of 2014 I joined Christians Against Poverty initially serving in the local church as

a Debt centre Manager for 7 year and since 2016 have served as Area Manager for North & East Yorkshire with the charity. I served as trustee for HLT briefly during 2021 and 2022 and returning in 2024 feels like coming home. I was overwhelmed to be asked to take on this challenge, but confident in God's ability to work in and through each one of our amazing team for His glory. My heart is to see residents loved and supported in God's fully functional family and to see them reach their potential in life, the workplace and serving in the local church for the mission to which we have all been called.

I am joined by fellow new Trustees: Andy, Becky, John and the remaining trustee Vernon. I'll leave them to introduce themselves...



I am Andy and I am married to Lauren. I entered the Teen Challenge program over 15 years ago where I was set free from heroin addiction. I continued living and working there for 3 years, eventually becoming a support worker in the same centre where I was a resident.

After Teen Challenge, I married Lauren and we both enrolled in Regents Theological College together where we studied for our degrees. God even enabled me to go on and complete a Masters, despite previously not finishing secondary school.

After that, I became a Minister in Training with the Elim Pentecostal Churches and was invited to lead their Malvern Hills church. After 3 years, I was ordained as a minister and we answered God's call to move to Harrogate where we have the privilege of leading the Elim church here and of raising our 2 beautiful little girls.

It is an honour to be serving Jesus alongside my wife and to be invited to be a trustee of HLT, a charity which helps people who are in the very same situation I was once in myself.



I'm Becky, married to Mark for 32 years and as we contemplated one of life's crossroads, when our 4 children still lived at home, God answered a simple prayer to use our farm for His glory. We were then privileged to watch as God provided the amazing purpose built centre, Horizon Life Training, in some of our old farm buildings.

We have loved getting to know so many of the residents over the last 13 years and watching them develop through discipleship, being part of a community, taking up work placements, gaining qualifications and then going on to live restored lives. We are thankful to those who have worked hard for the residents benefit over the years and also for the incredible work of Teen Challenge and other Christian residential rehab centres, who's foundation this work is built on.

We are excited to be more involved as we start this new phase and have been overwhelmed at the support, passion and sacrificial giving there is for the continuation of this, God's work in people's lives. We are now praying for those who God is currently calling by name and rescuing from addiction and we can't wait to meet them in the future.



Hi I'm John. I worked in the mortgage industry for 30 years at a senior management level. I moved to Knaresborough in 1994 with my family and immediately became part of Life Destiny Church, where I served on the leadership team and as a trustee for 25 years and as Associate Pastor for 20 years.

I am excited to be able to join the trustees of HLT because I have seen so many lives transformed by our amazing God through the work of this organisation.



Hi I'm Vernon. As a long-standing trustee of this great organisation I am excited about and looking forward to the fresh relaunch of HLT. I feel it will once again be the Christ centred lifeline being given to men to assist them in fulfilling their God given potential and making a positive mark in society that can never be erased. Jesus said, "Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men." Here at HLT we don't just give them a fish, we help teach them how to become fishermen, who in time will teach others. I think that's plenty to be excited about!

Teen Challenge UK



"Teen Challenge UK is excited at the prospect of Horizon Life Training reopening. For many years now it has provided a great opportunity for residents from our programmes to move on and receive vocational training in a supported context. We trust we will be able to partner once again with the project to see people continue in their journey of freedom."

Reverend Phil Hills
Executive Director, Teen Challenge UK



"We are really pleased to hear the news that Horizon Life Training will re-open its doors again. This facility is so needed in helping men on their path of recovery from addiction to carve out a new future by learning a trade and new skills to equip them to be successful in their future."

Javier Lesta Candal
Project Leader, Teen Challenge London

A word from the retiring Trustees

Three long serving Trustees - David Smith, Gavin Smith and David Bentley - indicated that they would like to handover their roles to a new team during our 'paused' period, whilst Vernon Roosevelt is continuing as a Trustee. Here is a short message from the retiring Trustees...

Between the three of us we have worked as Trustees at Horizon for approximately 38 years! David Smith has been involved from the very beginning in 2008, Gavin Smith started in 2010 and David Bentley in 2016. We are overjoyed to have seen over 150 lives changed as a result of a stay with Horizon Life Training. There are lives saved, successful careers started and families restored.

Of course it would not have been possible without the prayers and financial giving of so many supporters and so our first thought is to thank you for your consistent support of the work. It has been our privilege to be involved, but it is not always an easy journey and so we are ready to pass the baton along to a new team. There is no 'cut and run' here though - we will deliver a careful and thorough handover for as long as it takes. But we are excited for the future of the work! We believe the new Trustees form a strong and energetic team who are already working on the upcoming relaunch of our services. All of them are suitably experienced and are very familiar with the work of the Charity and of the work of Teen Challenge rehab centres (from where the majority of our residents have come). We thank God for his provision of the right people at the right time and we look forward to new testimonies as the Charity continues to deliver the 'Transforming Journey'!

David, David & Gavin

Some thoughts from past residents...

Gordon - "As the first ever resident of Horizon Life Training back in 2012, I am very excited to hear that the work of this fantastic organisation is now set to continue. More than most, I am highly aware of the importance of such a service provider, as the transitioning period of leaving the more structured environment of residential rehabilitation, back towards more independent living within the community, can be a highly stressful and daunting experience. I am so grateful that Horizon Life Training helped me as an individual as I went through this process over a decade ago, and look forward to seeing many more men receive the same level of support that I myself received as they continue on the journey of rebuilding their lives."

Some lovely news...



Congratulations to Ronan and Jade on the birth of their second child. Ronan and Jade both came through HLT. Ronan is currently in work and university while Jade is working for Life Line, helping provide transitional housing for others in need. Keep them in your prayers.



James - "HLT pointed me in the right direction to get a college education in RHS Practical Horticulture Level 2 with Askham Bryan College York, I will be forever grateful!"

Our newsletter is designed by local graphic designer Rosie Houghton, check out her work at rapportcreativdesign.com

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