REACHING • RELIEVING • RE-EDUCATING • RESTORING

HORIZON
LIFE TRAINING

"Blessed is the man who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers."

Psalm 1

Summer at Horizon

Welcome to our Summer newsletter

My family spent last weekend with the residents of Horizon Life Training at the Cedarwood Festival. We had a great time together with sunny weather, beautiful worship and fantastic teaching.

During the weekend, I reflected on my own personal journey with Horizon Life Training which began back in 2012. While still in rehabilitation myself, a guest speaker shared his testimony and I immediately recognised a centre that would support in that moment. God clearly showed me this was my next step in walking with him, so I moved to Hampshire and became the first ever resident at Horizon Life Training.

I look back in awe of the ways God has worked in my life and I write this with a smile on my face and with deep gratitude as I am reminded of His goodness, strength and faithfulness. I have experienced so much freedom from addiction, had the pleasure of watching my children grow up, and I have been able to find meaningful employment in the job I love. Travelling on mission, married to my soul mate for 12 years, bought our own home, witnessed many people come to faith and be set free!

Oh, how good is our God, nothing compares to knowing Jesus and experiencing His goodness first hand in John 10:10, **"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that you may have life and have it to the full."**

Three years ago, while living the new life God so graciously gave me, He spoke again directly to my heart and I felt my next move clear to me. Despite leaving Horizon Life Training over a decade previously, my love for the place had never dwindled and a deep burden to be involved remained in my heart. I desired to share my experience with men from a similar background to myself. After many months of prayerful planning, I now have been in the position of Partnership Manager for the last 18 months, and what an 18 months it has been!

As new residents have come and gone, it has been a privilege to do the ministry I am most passionate to be a part of their discipleship as they deepen their relationship with God, find healing, freedom, purpose and clear together. They have gained employment, relationships have been restored, they have found new homes, and settled in local churches. We have graved of family funerals together, celebrated baptisms, witnessed miracles, studied God's Word, attended graduation services and much, much more! Thanks to a combination of God's goodness and man's willingness to follow Him, I have watched men build lives they never thought would be possible.

While walking alongside men who are in active recovery from drug/alcohol addiction, we try to emphasise the importance of key truths. One, God is faithful and you can fully trust him with your life, and two, if you can learn to deal with your own personal an before God, addiction no longer need be a problem again. God never promised a life free of struggle, affliction or temptation, but He did promise was to be with us in these times, providing unconditional love, support, companionship and peace.

Thankyou so much to those of you who support Horizon Life Training prayerfully, with your time and financially.

We bring you a flavour of some of our recent news below and I hope you are as encouraged as I am!

Gordon Stewart
Partnership Manager

False Confidence to True Confidence: Andy's Story

Covid had a negative impact on Andy which resulted in him being homeless. He was his spent a long bit of a bat, losing into a pint and eventually decided he needed help. He completed a 12 step programme and managed a year of sobriety. But sadly, within a month of finishing it, he fell back into the grip of his addiction.

Andy said he has always believed in God and as one day, he walked into a church and providentially, met a lady from AT Christian Against Drugs who helped him with his finances, the and others prayed with him and he felt the presence of the Lord. They signposted him to community support & aimed. He contacted a convention called Teen Challenge but when he enquired, he was told he wouldn't like it because he would have to go to church and wear a suit!

Nevertheless, Andy felt a strong conviction that it was for him, so a nurse made a call on his request and handed him the phone. Within 2 weeks, he became a resident of **Willoughby House** where he developed his relationship with God and completed their programme.

Andy visited us for a taster week and interview and says he felt the same conviction that ACI was right for him, and he was eager to join us.

Andy's hard working and has thirteen himself into every setting opportunity. He attended every day, and which led him to settle in the holding church where he is an active member. He said he has a problem again, being that he tries to help others and end with someone from his church. Great news Andy!

Andy helped alongside a few other residents at the Elim Conference and received a special mention for the trains you when "I particularly wish to highlight Andy who stayed with us for the week due to some no-shows and wished as well as part of the team." He is also on the team for the Cedarwood festival, his ways volunteering has increased his confidence and he feels that he has confidence to take when asking.

The highlight of Andy's weekend life is building his relationship with his son, he talks to him every day on the phone and loves spending time with him.

We are always on the lookout for work placement providers so if you or anyone you know could offer our residents a chance in the workplace, please get in touch: admin@horizonlifetraining.org.uk

Serving Together...

ACI continues to run on lots of goodwill and support

Gerald is a faithful volunteer who gives a day of his time every week. We gave him a paintbrush on the first day and he has not put it down since! Our solitaire Christmas Tree looks amazing, and we are looking forward to his Spring Hydrangeas, Daffodils and Tulips!

Philippians 1 v3-5: "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now."

There's lots to do! Would you consider volunteering to help and support us!

New Chapters

Our first resident (since reopening), Mikey has now become a "responsible resident", gaining experience and helping out by taking on more responsibility within the centre. He is moving towards a more independent living while still sharing some meals & attending the Bible study with the other residents. He is thankful to CAP (Christians Against Poverty) for supporting him with budgeting skills which has helped him to save up for a future move to his own accommodation.

When our residents leave or after committing so much time in their education journey, they need good stability, safe accommodation. Do you have available accommodation or contact with a landlord that could support this next step for our residents?

The Way We Roll

One of our trustees, Pastor Vernon makes himself available to our residents during the day and evening at least once a week.

He commenced a weekly Homogenous Bible study and our residents are just thriving as 4 week discipleship evangelism plan. The goal is not only to be a disciple but to make disciples. Simply put, it is to "wear one, do unto teach and repeat in 2 Tim 2: 2b **"And what you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."**

So far, all our residents have attended the Bible study and are enjoying it, seeing hearts to God as the word and Life hit **Great Commission** in their hearts.

Pastor Vernon conducted surveys with the residents using our Client Progress and Satisfaction Questionnaire (CPSQ) and the results were very encouraging with residents feeling safe, supported and listened to and giving positive feedback.

Pastor Vernon reflects: "One touching moment to help us remind us that God is present here at ACI was the recent sudden move on of individuals. Their departure was deeply felt as a loss of close family members. We gathered to pray at the bible study which was attended by some of our residents. We were discussing the mood and feelings of the residents and reflecting on our work with them. The Lord then concluded with a discussion around the Prodigal Son which seemed appropriate for the occasion.

Joe has successfully moved on from HLT and has chosen to lovely home to settle in. He stated some of his story with us in the Easter newsletter and his thankfulness for his time of HLT is a real encouragement to us.

He is actively involved in his church, has built strong friendships, and is engaged in meaningful work. Joe's testimony shows God bless and keep you Joe.

Hope in Action

Michal became a Christian in 2012 but life took him on many twists and turns which came to a head on being in Dover and being in hospital for a long time with a bleed on the brain. Michal's life was in a state of rehabilitation programme & formulated a plan of connecting with us became a resident at HLT.

Since being with us, Michal has reconnected with the Polish community, where if he can have come together at a camp in Allerton to worship God, eat great food and hear testimony and teaching and be loved witnessing baptisms near Rotherham.

Such is an experience he can never forget, hoping to secure part time work in a local care home.

In the Spotlight

Donati is a very talented and accomplished musician. He is making the most of his spare time at HLT by releasing music clips and would love to get back into performing. Check out his link below.

https://www.youtube.com/@donti_mcnee

Some days afterward while sitting through the CPSQ one of the residents commented on the quality and sound of music in the lounge, and he said "that the genuine care shown was "remarkable", unlike anything he's witnessed before. On the same day while going through the CPSQ with another resident, he mentioned that he could sense the presence of the Lord's presence at HLT which was very encouraging."

Pastor Vernon says "I too thought it was remarkable and wondered how the guests could feel the same. Our Bible study, Prodigal Son, felt like a command to love one another. I guess that sums it up. I trust just the way we met need of HLT."

Please do pray for our residents as they face challenging situations and temptation, that they will remain good decisions and stay the course, pursuing, Isiah 30 v 21: Your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it.'

Can you help our garden grow?

Being involved in God's amazing creation, nurturing plants, watching them grow and bear fruit brings such purpose and hope. This opportunity is something that we are so grateful we were able to offer our residents at HLT but it has been on the back burner until now.

We are hoping that our outdoor seating area can be transformed into a peaceful and welcoming space. Residents have been busy painting donated furniture, and thanks to Paul who has crafted a beautiful wooden bench and is so resourceful and has many ideas, the project is really beginning to take shape.

A water trough from the farm will keep "feeding the sheep" by becoming a herb garden for the kitchen and we are thankful to Dobbie's garden centre for a donation of plants to get us started.

However, we really need your help! We need to buy Yorkshire boarding to make more planters and we'd love some more plants. We would love a call for shade, trees and shrubs to create an environment where our residents can enjoy the simple pleasures of being outdoors.

Do you have any shrubs/trees in pots that you would be willing to donate or could you purchase Yorkshire boarding or plants? Make a donation using the reference "garden" here. Thankyou so much!

Incredible Timing...

Just at the point of the most recent issue on the old forum, we were very generously donated a newer Skoda which couldn't have been better timing and provision. Thankyou Lord for our generous supporter!

Holy Hunger

Once upon a time, Rev. Andy Paterson spent a substantial setting an insightful easy to read book about how feeling can enrich our lives and deepen our relationship with God. The book also draws on the experiences of others including Steve, support worker at HLT. **"Holy Hunger"**, is available on Amazon.

A Year to Celebrate

We are excited to announce the date for our Celebration event on 10th October 2026, 7pm at Mowbray Community Church, Hampshire.

We will be celebrating what God has done this year at HLT with a time of worship, testimony and updates followed by refreshments and cake.

We would really love you to join us for this encouraging evening. Please complete your place using this link or by scanning the QR code. **https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/horizon-life-training-celebration-2026-tickets-1993323936364**

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With Guest Speaker, Phil Hills

We are delighted to welcome Phil Hills as our guest speaker.

Phil has been married to Lynn for 40 years. They have 2 adult children and 3 grandchildren. He started pastoral ministry in 1986 and first got involved with Teen Challenge 33 years ago. He helped the Teen Challenge ministry in the UK for the past 12 years and is a life-long speech and audio supporter.

We really appreciate your support for the ongoing work at Horizon Life Training.

Please forward this newsletter to anyone that may be interested and encourage people to sign up for further newsletters here and to follow us on facebook.

As we continue to welcome more residents, our need for staff and resources is growing. Would you consider being our regular monthly supporters so that our residents will continue to be supported in the best way possible?

https://horizonlifetraining.org.uk/donate/

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