



NATALIE DON MSP AND MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

## UPDATE FOR 2023 FROM THE MANAGER

It is difficult to believe we are already more than half way through 2023 and we find our service busier than ever. Traditionally we would be quieter in the summer season however as I write this, another admission is taking place bringing us to 26 men in total that we are supporting. Although we praise God for this it highlights more than ever how desperate things have got to in our country and more people than ever are in need of help to turn their lives around and be set free from the chains of addiction.

Over the first 6 months of this year we have welcomed many people who have visited The Haven, from the world of Politics, Business, religion and Third sector services, all of whom have left with an incredible sense of Love, community and God transforming the lives of men through our staff and volunteers.

Our Key word for the next season is **Growth** as we continue to grow in so many aspects including personal growth as well as in our capacity to support our residents, prior to them being admitted, during their stay here and as they move onto the next chapter of their recovery journey. Please continue to pray for the work we do here at The Haven and we would love to visit your church on a Sunday to share about the work we do along with Stories of transformed lives.

We are so pleased and proud of our Eleven Graduates of 2022. Five have found employment, one is now self-employed and running his own business, two are interning with Christian Ministries and 3 have moved onto Further Education. We praise God for each one and give Him all the Glory.

Gary Lister



ONLINE NEWSLETTER

Receive our newsletter by email:

Charity Number: SCO34641

THE HAVEN KILMACOLM





A LOOK FORWARD  
TO GRADUATION

ANDY CAMERON  
HEAD OF PASTORAL CARE



As head of the Pastoral and Teaching at the Haven I see the outworking of this verse from Psalm 68 as I work with the men every day. God in his holy habitation has extended the offer to man to be part of his family. The very nature of addiction means that the men who come into the Haven are solitary, as addiction will always lead to isolation in the end, either physically or psychologically, and very often both. The staff at the Haven have all accepted that invitation from God and we try our best to model this to the men that come through the doors of the Haven by doing activities together and making our families a part of what we do at the Haven.

We bring in the bells with the residents on New Year's Eve and this year during the quiz I was looking around the room and I couldn't help but sense a real family atmosphere of togetherness. I caught a glimpse of Richard Howat (Support Worker) who has recently become a father, holding baby Isla with his wife, Rebecca, sitting next to him. Richard had entered the Haven 6 years ago a broken man looking for a way out of the predicament that he had found himself in and I've had the privilege of seeing Richard accepting that invitation to be part of God's family and his life being radically changed. I remember seeing the absolute joy on Richard's face as he passed his driving test, being best man at his wedding and now the joy of becoming a father to his beautiful baby girl.

There are stories like Richard's every year at the Haven as men move on through the programme and on to what God has in store for them in the next stage of their journey. Another story briefly is of Dean Ferrie who was also at the quiz on New Year's Eve with his fiancé Ashleigh. Dean came into the Haven 4 years ago from Dundee. I have worked closely with Dean as he has learned to deal with past issues that were still affecting his present. He has experienced restoration in relationships both with his mother and also with his daughter. He now works part time at the Recovery Hub in Greenock as well as being employed part time with the Haven as a Support Worker. It is great to see him now engaged to be married in the summer of this year.

We are made up of three parts; body, soul and spirit, and the soul in itself is also made up of three parts; mind, will and emotion. When we are held captive by our own desires we suffer from poverty in our soul. This leads to minds that are darkened, wills that are weakened and emotions that are chaotic. All of this is evident when a man walks through the doors of the Haven for the first time. But as they move through the programme we see a healing begin to take place which is more than just being free from addiction. We see peace start to enter their innermost being, a peace that surpasses all understanding.

Andrew Cameron  
Head of Pastoral and Teaching

Staff Weddings

Congratulations to Dean and Ashleigh, Now Mr and Mrs Ferrie after their wedding on 15th July of this year. God is good and we wish His blessing on an amazing couple.



Congratulations to Colin and Lorna, now Mr & Mrs Flanagan. Great Celebration with your family and friends. We wish you God's blessing on your journey together as a married couple. Prov 3:5 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart'

NATIONAL  
PRAYER  
BREAKFAST  
JUNE 23

A group of staff, residents and stakeholders from the Haven recently attended the National Prayer Breakfast in Edinburgh. An amazing morning where leaders from churches, Business, Politicians, and christian ministry met to pray for our country and it's leaders. One of our residents Jamie White made a new pal as well.



Above: Jamie White & Susan Boyle.

Right: Andy Cameron, Jamie White, Sherri Black, Garry Lister, Alan Jackson, Lesley Lister & Bryan Fisher.



HAVEN  
GRADUATE  
NEWS

One of our graduates of 2022 hit the front page headlines in the Greenock Telegraph. The article gave John's amazing story of transformation and now works for Your Voice in Greenock helping others find Freedom from Addiction.







## LEE MILROY'S STORY

My name is Lee Milroy. I am originally from Dundee. I first came to The Haven in 2017 after ten years of drug and alcohol abuse. At that time, I thought that I was broken and needed help. After 18 days, I decided to leave The Haven.

I got to Glasgow and the first thing I did was go to a shop and buy a bottle of wine. After I got back to Dundee my addiction got worse and worse. As the years passed, I started to dabble with drugs that I had always said I would never take. Because of this, I was thrown out of my flat by my partner and ended up back with my parents. My alcoholism got so bad that I was drinking 1 litre of alcohol a day, along with street valium.

I clearly remember one day when I was sitting on my parents' couch, more than four years after leaving the Haven. I had reached rock bottom and I cried out to God for help. From that point I started to think about The Haven again and I applied to return to the centre. It turns out a seed had been planted during the 18 days I was there as I knew deep down that the only way for me to get clean would be to get a relationship with Christ.

Thankfully I was accepted back in and I began the programme in April 2021. It was amazing to see guys who had been on the programme with me in 2017 now working as staff. Seeing how their lives had been changed was an inspiration to me. I gave my life to Christ and was baptised. Although I faced challenges, I loved being at The Haven and having the opportunity to learn and grow.



I graduated in September 2022 and I felt like working with others struggling with addiction. I started an internship at Glasgow City Mission. As part of this, I completed a Health and Social Care qualification. A few months ago, as I was coming to the end of my internship, I was seeking God on what was next for me. A job came up with the rehab pathways team at the Mission and I was accepted for the role. I now have the opportunity to speak into other men's lives and tell them about the goodness and grace of God.

## NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR STAFF TEAM



We are pleased to have Stess Ross join the Haven staff team as Fundraiser and Grants administrator.

We look forward to having Stess onboard in this new role and seeing God's hand of blessing on The Haven. The best is yet to come!

## ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF DAY

We were delighted to host our annual charity golf day in June of this year at The Gleddoch Golf and SPA Hotel .It was an excellent day with excellent weather and the event was well attended where we raised some much needed funds for the ongoing work at The Haven. The atmosphere on the day was really special with one of our former residents Kevin Lynn sharing powerful testimony of how his life has been transformed.

The event was won on the day by Refuge church who were sponsored by chalk Autos . We look forward to welcoming everyone back next year as well as some new teams. If you're interested then please feel free to contact us for more info on [havengolfday@gmail.com](mailto:havengolfday@gmail.com)

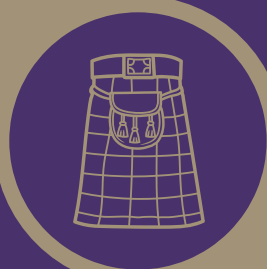


## HAVEN GYM COMPLETED

There's something really pleasing about seeing a project come to completion and you may remember from our last news letter that we were in the process of building our new gym at the haven. I am delighted to say that it is now completed and I would just like to mention a few people who helped make it possible , the SSSC who gave us the initial grant for the gym for staff wellbeing ,Log span cabins in Dumbarton for providing and helping build the gym and the Fitness Factory in Port Glasgow who raised funds that helped us buy the equipment .Our staff and residents are now benefiting from what's is an excellent facility







## KILT WALK

Greetings from the newsletter team!  
We're thrilled to tell you about the amazing Kiltwalk in Glasgow on April 30, 2023. 14,000 kilt walkers gathered to raise funds for 856 charities, including The Haven Kilmacolm.

The event was a huge success, with participants from all walks of life coming together to support important causes.

The Haven Kilmacolm, a local charity providing support for individuals with life-limiting illnesses, was one of the beneficiaries. The atmosphere in Glasgow was electric as participants tackled different routes, enjoying the city's charm and beauty.

Richy Howat, one of our support workers, was able to share his story of how God had transformed his life. 'What a God moment!' Richy reflected and then received a rapturous applause from all the 3,000's of kiltwalkers who were there.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and encourage everyone to continue supporting charitable causes in any way they can.

Congratulations to all the kilt walkers who made the Kiltwalk a success. Your unity and compassion inspire us all!

Stay tuned for more positive news from the Newsletter Team!



## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



### COFFEE MORNING

October sees the 2nd year of our fundraising coffee mornings.

If you would like your church or workplace to host a coffee morning to raise much needed funds for the work of the Haven please set your date and get in touch with us on 01505 872099 or email us on [info@thehavenkilmacolm.com](mailto:info@thehavenkilmacolm.com).

This is also a perfect opportunity to bring your community together in a relaxed setting to share the work of what we do. Once signed up we will send you a pack with information that includes promotional material templates, tips on how to boost your coffee morning income and information on how the money raised will help.

### BBQ AND FOOTBALL

We were delighted to have the staff and residents from Teen Challenge (Whitchester House) down at The Haven for a BBQ and Football tournament recently as we look to continue to build on what is a great relationship between the two centres.



### ENGAGEMENTS

Our good friend and graduate from the Haven, Brian Arlow has got engaged to Gillian Martin and we not only look forward to another wedding, we wish them all of God's blessing on their future together.



SCAN TO DONATE