



Vision

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

Stauros Counselling & Training Centre is officially open!

Welcome to our latest newsletter. As we reflect on the past few months, we are grateful for all that has been happening. In this edition, we are so pleased to share our excitement that on **6th June**, we had the joy of celebrating the official opening of our new Counselling and Training Centre at Straidhavern. It was wonderful to welcome around **200–250 visitors** throughout the day and share this special milestone with so many friends and supporters.

The centre exists to provide **counselling, support and training for those struggling with addiction and their families**, offering a safe place where lives can be restored and hope renewed.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who has prayed, given, volunteered and supported us on this journey. Above all, we thank God for His faithfulness and look forward with hope and expectation to all that He will do through our new Centre. Please read on to discover more about what has been happening and what lies ahead.

A new chapter. A place of hope. A future filled with possibility.

Rory Brown

Devotion

Life changes constantly and as we grow older, things that once seemed constant become not so constant. The landscape of our lives changes irrevocably. Loved one's pass. Our kids, if we have them grow up and move into their own stories, their own lives. Some locally, some far away. Our bodies diminish, and the world as we know it shifts axis.

But the One who made us never changes. Our circumstances change, but God never changes. He is our one true constant. So, when out on a walk, and the barley fields are ripening for harvest, resplendent in their garments of gold, it gives us hope. A tangible link to God. Hope occurs again. Even with the chaos all about in Flanders Fields the poppy grew, giving a glimpse in the midst of all the horror of war, another world sneaking through into our own. One we will all reach if we keep the faith, continue to overcome in the midst of uncertainty in the days we find ourselves living in. We will have shaky days, but we have One we can put those days down into, who will steady our nerves, and stabilise our foundations in Him.

Psalm 46: 1-7 "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling. There is a river whose streams shall make glad the city of God, The holy place of the tabernacle of the Most the High. God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her, just at the break of dawn. The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; He uttered His voice, the earth melted. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."

Don't strive, don't over or under think. Rest in God. He has you. He has me. He has our circumstances, our lives. He is "I Am." He is Alpha and Omega. Beginning and End. The end will not come before it's time. God knows this hour. We just need to keep God in sight. Be constant with and in Him. Lord settle our nerves. As long as there is seed time and harvest. Gen 8:22.

So, if possible, go out into a park or the countryside as summer continues and autumn comes under God's orchestration and see the constancy and faithfulness of God.

One whose fervour never diminishes. Put Your hand, life into His and rest and trust in God. He is All we truly need. He is able to do all.



Opening Celebration



On the 6th June, we celebrated a milestone in our ministry with the official opening of our new Counselling and Training Centre at Straidhavern. Throughout the day, around 200–250 visitors came through our doors, sharing in the excitement and encouragement of all that God has done. It was a special honour to have Beth Williams cut the ribbon and formally open the centre, a moment that felt both meaningful and deeply fitting.

The event offered our supporters the opportunity to see firsthand the vision for this space, a place where individuals can come daily to receive help, support, counselling, and training. Many were visibly moved as they toured the building, remembering its former condition and expressing how the renovations have transformed it into a warm, peaceful, and welcoming environment, and we look forward to seeing it used to support those struggling with addiction, as well as their families who will also receive care and encouragement.



Visitors shared how impressed they were with the facility and the high standard of work carried out. Their words affirmed not only the effort poured into the renovation but also the purpose behind it, that this building will be used to share the hope of the Gospel, the transforming power of Jesus Christ, and extend the Kingdom of God. We want to thank the Lord that since opening, one of our guests has received Christ as her Saviour and Lord. It was a precious moment for those present, as they witnessed the Holy Spirit touching her heart while reading from Mark 5 about the woman with the issue of blood.



Our opening day was filled with activity and fellowship. We hosted a BBQ, offered guided tours, and kept the children entertained with games, Lego, and a small petting zoo. The evening concluded with a celebration of praise and worship, where testimonies of God's goodness and faithfulness were shared. Mike Williams brought the Word, speaking of God's faithfulness to him and his family through the generations. He expressed his deep gratitude

for the Lord's favour, grace, and love, and reminded us

that God desires to show that same faithfulness to us all. Sitting together in this new Centre, having seen God's provision in so many ways, was itself a testimony to the amazing God we know and love. Our website is currently being updated, but a QR code will be included in our next newsletter that will allow you to view some of the testimonies shared during our evening celebration.





For our staff, trustees, and all our volunteers, the day held particular significance. We have walked through every high and low of this renovation journey, so to see the Centre completed and filled with God's people who have partnered with us was a tremendous blessing. It is great to see the Centre being used day by day as we see people coming to make use of the program that is being made available. People come to receive help and support in their daily lives, and we see God at work. We do not take this for granted, and we look forward with anticipation to all that God is doing in this place! All glory goes to the Lord who can do exceedingly more than we can ask or think.



Basement



Counselling Room



Counselling Corridor

Straidhavern BBQ



Our annual BBQ once again was really well attended and was a great success. We had a good mix of our people as well as staff, volunteers and some trustees. Everyone looks forward to this event, especially, as our Stauros meetings stop during July and August. It's a great chance to meet up again for some fun, food and fellowship just before the meetings start in September.



The weather was perfect and everyone including the kids enjoyed the games, food and time spent with one another! The food was good and plentiful and no one left hungry. Pastor Jonathan Clarke from the Welcome Church in the Shankill, where our staff member Kim Cooper holds a Stauros meeting, brought a short Gospel message. It gave opportunity for others who did not make it to the Opening Celebration to come and see the new Centre.



Stauros Meetings

Community support groups called Stauros meetings are held in:

- **Banbridge** Discipleship Bible study every Friday at 12:15pm
Contact *Woody Price* – 07824 485435
- **South Belfast** on Alternate Thursday evenings at 7:30pm
Contact *Ricky Wallace* - 07714 736630 or
Maggie Wallace - 07714 736619
- **West Belfast** every Tuesday morning 10:00am
Contact *Kim Cooper* - 07971 633978
- **Dromore, Co Down** on 2nd & 4th Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm
Contact *Cheryl Eagleson* – 07875 391824
- **Enniskillen** every Wednesday evening at 7:30pm
Contact *Brendan Jones* – 07798 660050
- **Lurgan** on Alternate Wednesday mornings at 9:30am
Contact *Pamela Brown* – 07824 485434
- **Nutts Corner, Crumlin** on Alternate Monday evenings at 7:30pm
Contact *Pamela Brown* – 07824 485434
- **Bolton, England** on Alternate Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm
Contact *Paul Murphy* – 07824 485437
- **Isle of Man** every Tuesday in **Ramsey** at 4pm and every Thursday in **Douglas** at 6:30pm - Contact *Gordon Buist* - 07624 453731



New Prayer Room in the Centre

The Aims of the Stauros Foundation

1. To promote the gospel of Jesus Christ
2. To evangelise, help and offer fellowship to those suffering and recovering from addiction, to their families and to anyone else who feels they could benefit from our straightforward and practical approach
3. To educate society in general, and the Christian church in particular, about the dangers of all drugs used in a social or recreational way
4. To encourage a witness of abstinence from the social or recreational use of all drugs, including alcohol
5. To promote a society free from drug dependence

Stauros, with Gods help, seeks to befriend the individual and to identify the areas which keep him or her in bondage to their substance of choice.

Prayer Points

- We are so blessed with faithful donors but we ask that you pray with us that God will raise up a new generation of steadfast givers.
- Pray that we will continue to see people come to true faith in Christ, freedom from addiction and transformed in their daily lives.
- Pray for all involved in the ministry of Stauros, that in all things we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.
- That the Lord would continue to provide financially as the costs of running our new Centre have increased significantly.

Upcoming Events Everyone Welcome

Our annual Christmas Carol Service will be held on
Saturday 12th December 2026 at T3 Conference Centre,
House of Vic-Ryn, Lisburn for 7:30pm.

Thank you

We are so conscious that firstly we need to keep the Lord at the centre of this ministry, but also, we need God's people to support us. We are so grateful for each and every one of you who pray for this ministry and also for those who are in a position to support us financially. Every donation really does help; therefore, please contact us if you are in a position to partner with us financially and we will help you set up a Standing Order.

Your prayers and support are not in vain. God continues to provide in ways that we could not imagine and we truly are overwhelmed by His goodness. God Bless you and keep you. "We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly". 1 Thessalonians 1:2



Want to know more? Please contact us:

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