

# Newsletter (October 2021)

#### "Gospel Gambling Recovery Online Sharing Sessions"

Praise God! On June 15 and August 3, the Centre hosted two online sharing sessions. Speakers included Hong Kong-based mentors Mr Ng Man-chun, Ms. Ting Lai-fan, and Ms. Chow Nga-ying, as well as Pastor Ina Tan from Australia and our Centre Director, Mr. Chan Lit-ming. Recovered gamblers and their families also shared their journeys.

Director Chan opened by emphasizing that gambling addiction is deeply tied to spiritual brokenness. Mr Ng discussed how gambling habits form and holistic approaches to recovery. Ms. Chow highlighted the importance of families practicing "no abandonment, no enabling, no loans." Ms. Ting shared strategies to prevent relapse, stressing the need to address inner voids through devotional life, church community, and physical, mental, social, and spiritual health.

Testimonies revealed harrowing escapes from gambling's grip and the hope found in faith. Families spoke of enduring "long nights" while clinging to God's light. Attendees left encouraged and equipped.



Centre Reopening! Thanks be to God! The Centre fully resumed services on October 4, 2021 (Monday).

# Featured Article: Avoid Falling into Gambling's Trap

Do these scenarios resonate with someone you know?

- Newly arrived in the UK, struggling to find work.
- Overwhelmed by cultural shifts or role changes.
- Bored by monotonous daily life.
- Retired early with financial security but no purpose.
- Seeking thrills online.
- Overconfident in their "luck" or skill.

"I once gambled non-stop for three days and nights... I believed one big win could solve everything. Instead, it cost me a decade of ruin."

This confession comes from a man who never imagined himself a gambler. Now, through Christ's redemption, he's broken free.

As thousands of Hong Kong families resettle in the UK, many face vulnerability. Gambling venues proliferate nationwide, but the damage extends far beyond finances: shattered relationships, legal woes, unemployment, mental health crises (depression, anxiety), and even suicide.

Will you join us in warning others?

Jesus Christ, God's Son, reveals divine power to save all who believe. Our Centre, guided by God's vision, shares His love to prevent gambling's harm, proclaims the Gospel to addicts, restores lives, repairs relationships, and disciples believers. May God use us to bring repentance and new life through Christ!

#### **New Team Members**

#### Dr. Vivian Lee (Board Member)

Praise God! Dr. Lee, our youngest board member, joined in March 2021. A believer since 2012, she serves at London Chinese Christian Church Soho Gospel Hall and leads short-term missions and Alpha courses. After a family member's struggle with gambling, she connected with the Centre through Director Chan. She now spearheads weekly prayer meetings and revitalizes our Facebook outreach.

#### **Elder Aaron Ng (Full-time Staff)**

Elder Aaron Ng, with 19 years of ministry in Hong Kong and London (now at Stanmore Chapel), joined us in September 2021. Called to ministry in 1993 while studying engineering, he trained at Hong Kong Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife Karen, parents to two teens, moved to London in 2010. Passionate about sharing Christ's love, hope, and comfort, he serves both local and Chinese congregations.

### Vivian Lee (Counseling Intern)

From Malaysia, Vivian studied pharmacy at Bradford University and counseling at Waverley Abbey College. As a pharmacist, she loves journeying with others through life's challenges.

#### Angela Leung (Bookkeeper)

"Stop being lazy!" — This conviction led Angela (LCAC London member) to accept Dr. Chan's invitation to join as bookkeeper post-lockdown. Eager to serve, she now manages the Centre's finances.

#### **Prayer Requests**

- 1. Thanksgiving for the Centre's reopening and resumed services (counseling, recovery Bible studies, support groups).
- 2. 25th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service on November 11, 6:30 PM at King's Cross Methodist Church. Pray for attendees and God's guidance.
- 3. Wisdom for volunteers in expanding outreach and refining services.

#### **Financial Summary**

	2020-21 ( <u>Unaudited</u> )	2019-20
Local donation	£ 24,179.35	£ 31,748.78
Overseas Donation	£0	£0
Other	£ 1,403.61	£ 4,210.65
Total	£ 25,582.96	£ 35,959.43
Staff/Volunteer Costs	£ 19,128.59	£ 24,847.67
Rent/Insurance	£ 1,041.57	£ 2,076.99
Office Expense	£ 657.40	£ 624.74
Other	£ 4,006.63	£ 4,831.08
Total	£ 24,834.19	£ 32,380.48
Balance	£ 748.77	£ 3,578.95

## **Support Our Mission**

Reliant on churches and donors, we need your prayers, donations, and volunteer efforts.

58A Birkenhead Street, London WC1H 8BW United Kingdom Tel: 020 7833 8626 Website: www.ccgr.org.uk Registered Charity No: 1147459