



- We Care
- We Listen
- We Share
- We Help
- We Protect

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Hello Eloise

In the News...

The contribution made by Bideford Street Pastors to our local community has been recognised in several reports recently.

In September, the French Newspaper "Liberation" published a four page feature about our work.



Reporter Maite and photographer Marie spent over two days with us and survived a whole night out on the streets.

Binge drinking has become a problem in many European towns and the continental press are interested in how we tackle those problems.

There have also been several good reports in the local press covering our exploits in Bideford, at Holsworthy St Peter's Fair, Great Torrington Bonfire

and the Potwalloping Festival at Westward Ho!

The North Devon Journal printed a feature about Senior Street Pastor, Peter Hooper; documenting his growing service for the church and his dedication to Bideford Street Pastors.

Together with Street Pastors at Barnstaple and Ilfracombe, we have been honoured to be awarded the North & West Devon Police Commander's Certificate

"In recognition of outstanding commitment, resourcefulness, courage and dedicated service to the community".



New Horizons

Often, we meet young people aged from 12 to 16 years out on the streets after midnight.

Many are just looking for a worthwhile approach to life. Some of them have social and personal problems.

Our schools and police make special efforts to

help these youngsters but inevitably there are still some who do

not respond well to what they see as authority.

We are in discussion with Bideford College and Kingsley School with a view to setting up **School Pastors**.

This is a new initiative designed to get alongside students and help them to adjust and achieve.

In partnership with the schools and Wings South West we will work to meet the needs of Bideford's children.

We hope that the schools will approve our proposals soon.

Recruitment and training will then begin and School Pastors will start work in September.



Financials

The current economic situation is, naturally, having some effect on our income.

Grant funding has become more difficult to secure and we do not expect much improvement in the foreseeable future.

However, our God is not hard up! We thank our churches and regular supporters for maintaining their giving. Your prayerful financial support is critical to us in meeting our day-to-day expenses.

Where possible, we wish to move away from reliance upon grant funding to meet our training and equipment costs. A few people have already signed up to our 1 in 100 scheme by making a monthly standing order.

100 people giving in this way will provide us with a steady income and go a long way to meet our future needs. Please ask for a leaflet or download a form from our website.

New Directors

We are pleased to announce that Eileen and Gerald Crowe (our Prayer Coordinators) have agreed to become directors.

Eileen and Gerald started as Prayer Pastors in Ilfracombe before moving to Bideford about 18 months ago. They have a well developed prayer ministry and to have their support is a very real blessing.

...and finally

Congratulations to Street Pastor Katie Symons and husband David on the birth of Eloise, a Street Pastor in the making.... We'll be booking an R&R Training session for 18 years time!



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On 19 November, Roger Reid from Ascension Trust commissioned 10 new Street Pastors from Bideford and Barnstaple. This makes it possible for us to consolidate our patrols during busy periods and for special events.

Winter Warmers

During the winter we have been

quite busy keeping people warm!

One young man was wet, cold and rapidly descending into hypothermia. The team spent three quarters of an hour warming him up until an ambulance was available to take him to hospital. He could have died.

At 4.15 a.m. a team member on his way home from duty found a young woman, drugged, confused and hypothermic. The Street Pastors came out again and cared for her; eventually taking her to Barnstaple and delivering her into care.

Then it snowed! On the night the snow came down the taxis were off the roads before the clubs shut. Some clubbers had 10 - 15 miles to walk home in the snow and were only dressed for travelling by taxi (use your imagination!). The team stayed on until everyone was safely on their way wrapped up in space blankets and armed with lollipops for energy.

Bideford Street Pastors is a registered charity and run under licence from the Ascension Trust.

We need

Street Pastors to care, listen and help on the streets.

Prayer Pastors to look after the spiritual and physical needs of the Street Pastors whilst they work.

Friends to commit to pray and support the work from home.

Sponsors to help keep the funds flowing. Single donations and Standing Orders can be Gift Aided.

Please contact our Coordinator, Duncan Withall.