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Bideford & District StreetTalk

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1



FEBRUARY 2010

Double Time



Christmas and New Year.

Bideford's Street Pastors were working extra hard in the run up to Christmas. Going out on Fridays as well as Saturdays was only possible because of the generosity of time given by the Street and Prayer Pastors.

Many people were helped to find their way home safely.

On several occasions we have been called into take-aways and clubs to deal with awkward situations to encourage people to go quietly or to give support to revellers hurt physically or emotionally.

As well as providing immediate help to clubbers and traders, this reduces the pressure on the Emergency Services; allowing them to concentrate more on those situations where their specialist skills are most needed.

The gratitude of the traders was expressed when some teams were invited into shelter and hot chocolate on cold wet nights. **Brrrrr! Thanks!**

A special mention to **Subway** who provided hot food and drink not only to Street Pastors but our clients as well.

“1 in 100”

Of course, our work costs money and in the current economic climate we cannot rely on grant aid alone.

With real thanks that we acknowledge all those whose contributions, have made it possible for us to get started.

Local churches and people are so generous to us but we also need to have a stable economic base.

We invite you to **be one in one hundred** who will pledge £10 a month for at least a year to support our ongoing costs.

That will enable our hard working Treasurer, Brian

Hopkins, to budget well and ensure that we can be at our most effective.

Individuals, Businesses, Churches, Organisations

— Yes, everybody can join in and make a real difference. 3 people have already done that.

You can get subscription forms from Brian, Duncan or download from our Website.

Statistics - June to December

Crime Rates

Street Pastor Hours	1106
Prayer Team Hours	686
Calming Aggressive Situations	38
Supporting Vulnerable People	73
Anti-social Incidents Attended	41
Flip Flops given out	187
Water/Hot drinks	61
First Aid	14
Potential Weapons retrieved	1357
Faith Related conversations	169
Other significant conversations	97
Contacts	847

Bideford Street Pastors have real effect on certain Crime Rates in the area patrolled.

Inspector Norman Amey, from the Police Headquarters in Exeter, said that he is certain the Street Pastors have made a significant contribution to reducing crime in Bideford West.

Last Three Months:

All Crimes

Devon/Cornwall -9.4% Bideford West -38.0%

Violence

Devon/Cornwall -3.6% Bideford West -43.2%

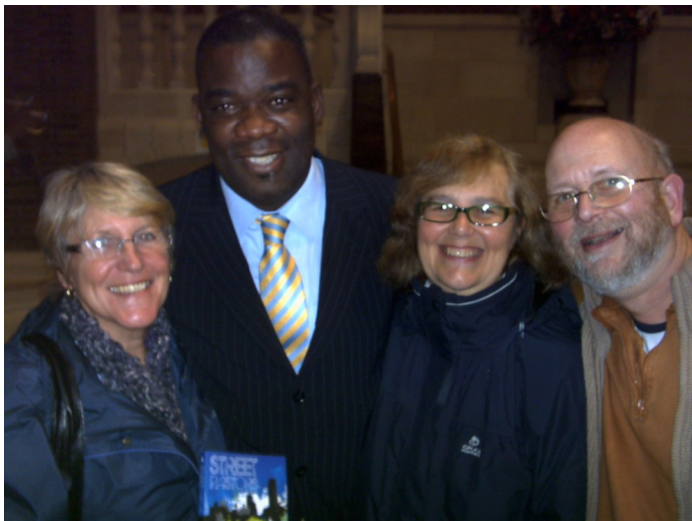
Anti-Social Behaviour

Devon/Cornwall -9.8% Bideford West -22.2%

Vehicle Crime

Devon/Cornwall -22.4% Bideford West -61.9%

That's the way to do it!



Ros, Lesley and Duncan with Les Isaac at the Street Pastors' National Conference in Westminster.

Ros is holding Les' Book "Street Pastors". Available from us or your local Christian Bookshop, price £7.99

Prayer Friends

We are pleased to welcome everybody who would like to join us in prayer for a while on patrol nights. Just come any time from 9.30 p.m. to 3.00 a.m. Stay or go as you wish.

Come to the Baptist Church Centre, ring the bell and the Prayer Pastors will let you in.

....and finally

Bude Street Pastors had their launch event recently and will soon start training. Some of them have been out with us as observers and we wish them all God's blessings.



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

Please volunteer:

Street Pastor to patrol the streets.

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

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

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

Please contact our Coordinator, Duncan Withall.