



Eastleigh

Newsletter

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E-mail: Eastleigh@streetpastors.org.uk

www.eastleigh.streetpastors.org.uk

EASTLEIGH



**Needs
YOU**

See page 4

Stories from the Street

The following are some situations that Street Pastors in Eastleigh have been involved in between March and May 2015. They are selected from the weekly reports that we keep.



Met a man along the alleyway behind Litten Tree and he was extremely drunk. But he said he was fine and he didn't need any help. However after a while we met him again in front of the Tesco with his bike. He was too unstable to ride the bike and he was walking with the bike, though he was struggling to even walk straight. However he kept on saying that he was fine and didn't need any help. We prayed for his safe journey.



Two girls were concerned about their granddad, they asked us if we could walk home with him home, which we did.



A message came over radio from a Doorman asking SPs to attend to 2 young ladies who had fallen & grazed their legs.

When we reached the establishment, we gave 2 of them wipes so they could wipe blood off their shins. In addition one said she needed the loo. The doormen would not let them in as they had no ID, so we escorted them round to another venue where the receptionist was happy for them to use the toilet. The receptionist also gave one of them a plaster to put over a cut as it was still bleeding.



Said hello to a man on his own. He said we looked friendly. As we were chatting he told us he often thinks about suicide, he asked us what we think about it and told us he thinks it's a brave thing to do. He has researched the best way to commit suicide and knows exactly how and where he would do it. He said he had spent years thinking about it. The only thing that stops him is his daughter. She is a young adult and he loves her to pieces, she is his world. After a long chat it turns out he worked for one of the emergency services and had been at an incident where colleagues had died. ...We ensured he got home safely, signposted him to a church worker and we told him we would pray for him. He shook male SP's hand and gave female SP a hug.



We walked down High St and immediately met a young couple, with the woman walking in bare feet and carrying her shoes. We gave her a pair of flip-flops for which she was very grateful.



Walking back up High St one of us commented 'nice motor' to a man getting into a jag. A great conversation ensued where A told us much of his life story, He had a faith and gave a leaflet to us with his number on as he wanted to meet up to pray.



Went over to station to check on lone female. As we spoke to her a young homeless man came up to us. He asked if we would walk with him down to the Texaco Garage shop and back as he was afraid he might be beaten up by a group who had been outside a local curry restaurant ear-

Their other friends arrived and they left, saying they felt much better for having chatted with us.

lier. He had been working there that night and so had some money and some food from there. He told us some of his story on the way there and back.



Met a man for the second time that evening and spoke with him for about 10 minutes. He was trying mostly to prove that the Bible and the God of the Bible is an invention of man itself. As his friends were leaving for Southampton, he was hard pressed for time and finally his friends had to get him to leave with them.



We had seen a rough looking man at different places on High Street standing alone, and the police had also spoken to him once and we saw him again in front of Istanbul grill. He looked like he was homeless. He kept asking us about how to get a job. We gave him a sandwich and a bottle of water.



The man said he was in his 50s "used to be a Christian." We had a discussion about what it meant to be a Christian in the 21st Century.



One of us spoke to one of the girls and

said, the brothers are close to being arrested if they continue; she then went back and encouraged them to move. The brothers then came by one of us; and shook hands; the one who had almost been arrested apologised for the earlier incident.



A lad asked one of us to feed him with his takeaway, as he could not hold both his food and phone at the same time.



Stopped with a confused man at the train station, he was going to Cosham, but had already got on two wrong trains. We made sure he was on the right one.



We got talking and she began to offload about how she'd recently lost her gran and was very upset. We prayed with her and we shared and assured her of God's love. Both her and her friend were very positive about Street Pastors and open to chat about why we were out as volunteers. We all had a chance to chip in . They were from Winchester so we left them with details of a range of churches there. Their other friends arrived and they left, saying they felt much better for having chatted with us. We felt it was a really positive opportunity on such an otherwise quiet night.



We continue give thanks to God for the people we meet and the way He uses us.

Is God calling you?

Eastleigh Street Pastors began in July 2009 with 19 volunteers. Since then nearly every Friday we have had volunteers from local churches out on a Friday night in Eastleigh.

Our current number of active volunteers is 33. However, a number of those are currently unable to patrol for health reasons, and also some others will stand down this year.

At present this enables us to cover from 8.30pm to around 3.30am on three out of four Fridays, with a team out from about 8.30 until 11.30pm on the other Friday. But we need and want to do more and we can only do that if extra people volunteer. Indeed, with turnover of volunteers we probably need around 4 or 5 people a year to just carry on with our current level of service. So with around 8 volunteers we would not only continue but be able to fully cover all Fridays until 3.30am. If we had 20 volunteers it would allow us to consider some late night Saturday patrols too.

The police and council would support us patrolling on Saturdays and I have lost count of the number of times one of the town's doorstaff has asked me about Saturday patrols!

If you are sensing God saying this is something you could get involved in - what would be your commitment? Well you would need to undertake some high quality training (see page 6

for details). The training will equip you for the role of Street Pastor but many of us have found it provides useful insights in all parts of our lives. Then ideally we would like you to consider serving for at least two years giving around 4-5 hours every 4 weeks to be part of Street Pastor patrols.

You do have to be over 18 (no upper age limit!), part of a local church in Eastleigh or the surrounding areas for a year or more. We also take up references and carry out a DBS check. We will also ask if there are any health issues we may need to take account of.

Street Pastors do not preach, we are simply out there to listen, care and help when we can. See the main website for more details:
www.streetpastors.org/about-us/what-is-a-street-pastor/

If you want to know more I, or any of our Street Pastors, would be happy to talk with you. If you would like to find out more or get the application form please:

e-mail eastleigh@streetpastors.org.uk
or ring/text 07984 860590.

You'll be joining a band of around 12,000 Christians getting outside the church walls and serving Christ on the streets of our towns and cities.

Steve Smallwood



Commissioning of New Street Pastors

On 24th of January, appropriately at the Churches Together in Eastleigh Annual Unity Service the four Street Pastors who trained in 2015 are being commissioned. They are:

Martin Ward

Frances Curtis

John Doyle

Linda Lloyd

This is a chance for the church in Eastleigh to acknowledge their service and give their support and for the four volunteers to make their promises to the church in Eastleigh. These are the promises they will make:

Do you acknowledge God's call on your life to serve Him as a Street Pastor in Eastleigh?

Do you acknowledge your dependence of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit as you serve as a Street Pastor?

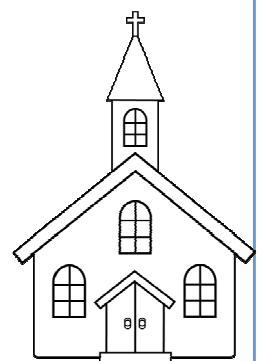
Do you seek with His help to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ in word and deed on the streets of Eastleigh?

Do you promise to serve as a Street Pastor in accordance with the policies and procedures determined by the Coordinator, management & trustees?

All four have already been out on patrol several times and have been great additions to our work. Please pray for them and all the volunteers.

Did you know that Eastleigh Street Pastors are made of volunteers from 8 different churches?

They are : All Saints Church; Eastleigh Baptist Church; Holy Cross Roman Catholic; New Community Church Eastleigh; St Andrews Methodist; St Peters Boyatt Wood; St Edward the Confessor; and, Junction church.



******NEW Training course******

What kind of training do street pastors get?

Our training programme equips you for everything you need to join one of our patrols, and aims to set the tone for continued learning while you are out on the streets. We hope it will also equip you to be a more aware and informed citizen the rest of the time!

Examples of topics covered: Loving like Jesus; Roles and responsibilities of street pastors; Skills - listening, caring and helping; Street craft - observation, assessment and intervention; Police and CCTV; Homelessness; Drugs and alcohol; Youth and Community

When does the next training take place?

All the Street Pastor areas in Eastleigh Borough are joining with Winchester, Southampton, Portsmouth Salisbury and the New Forest in a regional training course. The training will operate over 5 weekends currently planned for the following days and times:

Friday 8 April (19.00-21.30), Saturday 9 April (09.30-16.30), Sunday 10 April (09.30-16.30)

Friday 22 April (19.00-21.30), Saturday 23 April (09.30-16.30), Sunday 24 April (09.30-16.30)

Sunday 1 May (09.30-16.30)

Friday 6 May (19.00-21.30), Saturday 7 May (09.30-16.30), Sunday 8 May (09.30-16.30)

Friday 15 May (19.30-21.30)

Email eastleigh@streetpastors.org.uk for an application form and for more information. Applications by end of Monday 28 March 2016

Prayer Pastors update

Every Friday as we go out we are supported in prayer by teams that come to Wells Place and pray as we are out on the streets. Without this vital prayer support the initiative would not work. Over the last few months prayer support has been very sparse. We have one very faithful team from Holy Cross who come once every four weeks. This year, house groups in Eastleigh Baptist Church are committing to come once to support Street Pastors in prayer—with around a dozen groups this means a second week in a four week cycle is filled. Also one of our current Street Pastors who is unable to patrol has put together a team. So we are now looking for a final group, or groups, to complete the prayer support. We are also still look-

ing for a prayer pastor co-ordinator. There is no need to train to be a prayer pastor—although you are welcome to do the street pastor training. The responsibilities are to come to Wells Place once every 4 weeks between 8pm and 11.00pm (although we would love to have teams between 11.00pm and 3.00am for the late shifts!) and pray. Prayer pastors also make drinks for the Street Pastors when they come in for a break. Additional responsibilities for the coordinator are to organise the prayer pastor rota, arrange one or two prayer events a year, and publicise the prayer support of Street Pastors.



What is a Response Pastor?



As part of the growing Street Pastor network a new initiative is being rolled out called Response Pastors. A Response Pastor is:

- a volunteer who is already trained and active as a Street Pastor;
- someone who will deploy outside of any incident cordons or centres (response pastors are not first or second responders and they do not have an operational role in disasters or crises);
- a volunteer who will be identified by a distinct uniform.

When a disaster or crisis occurs it almost always affects all areas of a community in some way or another. When someone is

tragically injured, many other people are directly or indirectly affected. Those working in emergency services who have had to deal with an incident may also be impacted by its severity or the circumstances surrounding it.

Unfortunately these incidents occur all too often and it is these times of crisis that have been identified as occasions when the need for emotional or physical support could be met by trained response pastors. For example, response pastors were deployed at the memorials for those killed in the Shoreham air crash.

The setting up of a response pastor network around the Southampton area is currently going on and training will hopefully take place in Spring this year. Howard Sheffield (star of our front cover!) is planning to undertake this training.

What is Eastleigh Street Pastors?

Eastleigh Street Pastors is an unincorporated association of the Ascension Trust. This means that the project is an entity in its own right. However, it is not recognised as a `legal body` so cannot take on contracts in the name of the Ascension Trust. A constitution was adopted on 20th March 2009. A copy of the constitution is available from the coordinator Steve Smallwood. Membership of Eastleigh Street Pastors is free, although members must be members of a church and either live in; Eastleigh; an adjacent borough; or work in the town. Volunteers and prayer pastors are automatically members. The last Annual general meeting was on 15th April 2015 and the next will be in April 2016. If you would like to become a member please fill in the form below.



Get involved!

Please complete the Slip below and return it to:

Eastleigh Street Pastors
c/o Wells Place Centre
Wells Place
Eastleigh SO50 5LJ

Or e-mail Eastleigh@streetpastors.org.uk



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Please tick all that apply

- I would like to train to be a Street Pastor
- I would like to be a Prayer Pastor
- I would like to be a member of Eastleigh Street Pastors
- I would like to receive occasional news and updates by e-mail

Name

Address

Postcode

E-mail

Phone

I agree to my details being held on the PCs of the Eastleigh Street Pastors Coordinator