

Welcome to

# Luton Street Pastors Newsletter Autumn 2015



## Hello from Ros

As announced in our April Newsletter, after the success of our application to 'Bedfordshire and Luton Community

Foundations Luton Airport Ltd Fund' we were able to employ our new part-time coordinator, Ros White. Ros grew up in West Cumbria and moved to Luton 7 years ago to study Art and Design at the University of Bedfordshire. Since graduating Ros has been working for LCET/Youthscape and, after getting married in February, joined the Street Pastors team in April. From September Ros will also be working for St Mary's Church, as their hospitality and events coordinator. In her spare time Ros



does her own creative work, and can be found often in Luton coffee shops or at Luton's newest jazz venue, The Bear Club. She has already been working hard in her role as coordinator so many of you will have heard from her.

Ros says; 'I'm really enjoying working with Luton Street Pastors. It's great to work with a bunch of people so passionate about serving their local community. I'm often overwhelmed by the amazing reputation Street Pastors has locally, with the police, pubs and clubs, and other local charities. The hard work of our volunteers makes my job much easier!'

Web: [Streetpastors.org/locations/luton](http://Streetpastors.org/locations/luton)  
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## Climbing, Jumping and Running for Luton Street Pastors

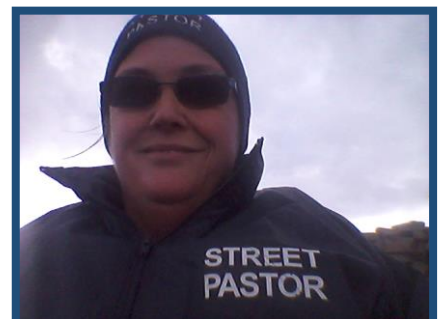
Many of our volunteer team take on fundraising challenges for our work.

Jane would like to say thank you to all of those who sponsored her skydive in May. All the money raised enabled £400 to be given to each of the Luton Street Pastors and NOAH charities.

Donna, one of our volunteer team, has been climbing mountains. "Despite much difficulty and with endless prayers I made it to the top of Scafell Pike (and back down again!) in July." Donna is still collecting sponsorship money for this. We will announce the final amount soon.

Most recently Marc, another member of our volunteer team, has been running to raise money for us. On 8<sup>th</sup> July he ran 5k in Battersea Park; on 6<sup>th</sup> September he ran 10k in Kew Gardens; and on 25<sup>th</sup> October he will be running the Luton half marathon.

To find out more about sponsoring our amazing volunteers, or if you'd like to organise a fundraising event, please get in touch with Ros on the details above.



## Recruitment and Training

We currently have 4 ladies on the training path and are hoping they will be able to join the teams out on patrol very soon.

We are also working hard to promote the work of Street Pastors and to encourage more local Christians to get involved, either by becoming a Street Pastor themselves, praying for our work, or giving financially.

If you or anyone you know are interested in getting involved, please do get in touch.

**On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October we will be having a prayer meeting (8-9pm Word of Faith Centre) to specifically pray for recruitment. Please do join us if you can.**

## Team Breakfast and Worship Morning

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July many of our volunteer team got together for a breakfast and worship morning. We began with a hearty breakfast at Toby Carvery, as a chance to get to know each other better (particularly for Ros to meet everyone).

We then went on to Word of Faith, where we spent the rest of the morning worshipping in song and praying together.

We prayed for Luton as a town; mapping out areas we felt were significant and praying for individuals we know as well as the safety of the town generally and for other organisations and churches working in the town centre.

We also prayed for each other, particularly for our trustees and the responsibilities they hold.

## Prayer Pastors

We believe prayer is a key part of the work we do on our patrols around the town centre. Before a team goes out on their patrol, they spend time in prayer together. Each of our Street Pastors has a friend who will regularly pray for them as they go out on patrol. As they patrol, they pray for the situations they see. If someone asks, they will pray for them on the street. When they get back to base, they pray. And if they feel an issue needs further prayer, they can let the rest of the team know so the rest of us can pray too!

***But we need more.***

Many Street Pastors initiatives across the country have recruited teams of '**Prayer Pastors**' - faithful Christians who work alongside our Street Pastors, praying for them throughout their patrols.

Prayer Pastors meet at the same time as the Street Pastor patrol, praying for the team before they go out. Then while the Street team patrol, Prayer Pastors stay at base and continue to pray. They are often called or texted by the team on the street with specific things to pray for. They can get creative in their prayer and can also worship and even bring along cakes and snacks. They may also get refreshments ready for the patrol when they come back to the base for a break. The idea is to be *dynamic, lively, interactive and accessible!*

We also know that some would want to pray for the work, but can't get out of their homes that late at night. These 'remote' Prayer Pastors, can also be linked up with the team going out, so they also get real time updates of what's going on in the streets.

## National Street Pastors Prayer Week October 25<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>

During the week 25<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> October there will be a national week of prayer for Street Pastors. Across the country people will gather to pray for the work of our volunteers locally as well as nation-wide.

**If you would be interested in finding out more about becoming a Prayer Pastor, organising a prayer event for the National Prayer week or encouraging others in your church to pray for the work of Street Pastors, please do get in touch with Ros via [luton@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:luton@streetpastors.org.uk) or call 07986 533254.**

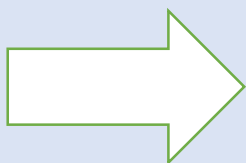
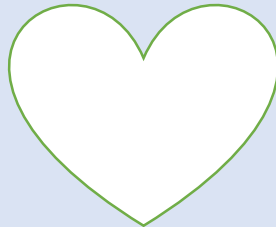
## Facts and Figures

Here are some statistics from our local patrols since our last newsletter (May, June, July and August 2015)



We made direct contact with 367 members of the public, to care for, listen to and help those in need.

We cleared 345 bottles, 636 cans, and 71 broken glasses from the street, making Luton a cleaner, safer place



We gave out 25 pairs of flip flops, 14 bottles of water and 31 hot meals to those in need.

## Street Pastors National Gathering

On 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> July, Ros attended the Ascension Trust National Management and Coordinators Gathering. It was a great opportunity to meet other coordinators, share ideas and be trained and informed by the team at Ascension Trust.

The first day of the conference focused on Prayer Pastors and it was exciting to hear how other Street Pastor Initiatives run things.

The second day included talks and workshops around communications, legal and how to develop the website.

## We need you!

Our amazing trustees work very hard to keep Luton Street Pastors running, but we are currently running without a treasurer.

If you are able to commit a few hours a month and are familiar with basic account management please do get in touch!

## Thank you to:

Our amazing team of Street Pastor volunteers!

The Police, the Council, SOS, CCTV, the pubs and clubs, and their staff who all help to make our work in the community successful.

We are grateful to all those who make gifts and donations towards our work. This is valuable funding, which is so appreciated. We are also indebted to St. Mary's for the continued use of their facilities as a base for all our patrols. And to Word of Faith where we hold our trustees meetings.

## Points for Prayer

- For all those we meet who are in need on the street; the homeless, the lonely and those in distress. Pray that we are a comfort and a help through the work we do.
- For continued positive relationships with the police, council and CCTV.
- For those currently training to become Street Pastors; Ola, Joan, Esther and Andrea.
- For the recruitment of Street Pastors and Prayer Pastors in the coming months.
- For Ros as she visits local churches promoting the work Luton Street Pastors are doing and encouraging people to get involved however they can.
- For our sister towns Dunstable and Leighton Buzzard Street Pastors, as they try and recruit more volunteers and go out on patrols.
- For our fundraising efforts, either through grant applications, people's individual sponsored events or through churches giving.

**May God bless you in all that you do.**

Jane Lipman (Chair); Nick Crago (Vice Chair); Hugh Beeley; Marion Gooding; Olivia Lamptey