



## More Volunteers Needed



Street Pastors are church members of all ages who offer practical help and pastoral support to those out in the town late at night. We are out in teams of six on Friday and Saturday nights each week from 10.00 pm to 4.00 am. We currently have almost 50 trained volunteers from 30 different churches in the area but more volunteers are still needed to strengthen the existing teams and to fulfil our vision of a second team on Saturday nights. Volunteers must be over 18 and attend a local church. They receive full training and a uniform. The next training course will be in the Autumn. You can find out at first hand about the work of Street Pastors in Cheltenham by joining a team one Friday or Saturday night as an observer. For more information see contact details below or visit our website [www.cheltenham.streetpastors.org.uk](http://www.cheltenham.streetpastors.org.uk).

## On the Streets

"We were called to a young man who was cold and confused. We suspected drugs, drink or mental health. We gave him water and a lolly but felt we could not leave him, worrying that he could freeze on a cold night, so called the police who came and offered him a lift home. Later we heard that he had a hypoglycemic attack and it could have been most serious if he had been left on his own in town." (March)

"A group of lads asked us who we were and this started a deep conversation about religion in general. It started with "I don't trust you." but ended with, "Tell me what Christianity means in 30 seconds" which we did." (March)

"We met a girl who lived near the Salvation Army. She had heard their singing and wanted to go in so we encouraged her to join them one Sunday. She had been christened and was concerned that she only prayed when she needed help. We told her that this was OK and encouraged her to keep on praying." (March)

"We were called to a young lady who was drifting in and out of consciousness whether through drink or drugs was unclear. We gave her water because she had vomited earlier. Paramedics were called and we stayed in attendance until they arrived." (April)

"We found a young lady attended by two rather enthusiastic young men. Having established that she didn't know them, we took her to her bus stop and encouraged the young men to go elsewhere." (June)

## 9,000 People Helped

Cheltenham Street Pastors have helped over 9,000 people in the three years since they started in December 2009. During this time we have given out over 4,000 pairs of flip flops, generally to girls walking home in bare feet after a night out on the town. We have provided over 3,500 bottles of water, both to the homeless and those in need of rehydration, and 300 foil space blankets to those at risk of hypothermia. We have collected up well over 9,000 discarded bottles and glass which might otherwise have caused injury or been used as weapons. We have also provided first aid to 75 people and attended almost 200 anti-social incidents.

## Prayer Pastors

Street Pastor teams are supported by a team of Prayer Pastors either at home or at the team base in Cheltenham. More Prayer Pastors are needed to pray for the teams and if you feel called to pray in this way, more information is available from the contact below.

A Prayer Meeting for the work of Street Pastors is held on the second Tuesday of each month at St Matthew's church in the town centre from 10.30 to 11.30 am. Everyone is welcome to these meetings.

## Thank You

We had a phone call from a young lady who said "Last weekend I was celebrating with some friends and rather over indulged. I am really embarrassed at my condition and am most grateful to you for helping me to a taxi."