



Cheltenham Street Pastors

The Church in action on the streets

Summer 2010

New Street Pastors Commissioned

Seven new Street Pastors were commissioned in Cheltenham on Saturday 10 July. The service was held at the Salvation Army and was led by Rev. Tim Welch from Cambray Baptist Church. It was attended by over 50 friends and supporters. The readings and prayers were given by existing Street Pastors and the message and commissioning given by Tim Welch.

The Chairman, Nigel Bennett, reported that nearly 40 volunteers had now been commissioned since December 2009 and this increase in numbers meant that, beginning in August, teams will be going out on Friday nights as well as Saturdays. After being commissioned the new Street Pastors were led out onto the streets and later joined the teams in their patrols of the town centre.

Prayer Support

A prayer group was started last September to support Street Pastors in Cheltenham which was then still in the planning stage. Prayer support is as vital as ever and people with a concern for the work of Street Pastors in our town are invited to spend time in prayer.

Alongside personal prayer are two opportunities to pray with others:

Every Saturday evening we aim to have one or two people at the Salvation Army base to pray for the teams as they arrive from 9.30 until 11pm. We think of the routes they will take, the people they will meet and ask for God's guidance and protection.

Every second Tuesday in the month there is the opportunity for group prayers in a room at St Matthew's church in the town centre from 10.45 until 12 noon.

Anyone who would like to help with prayer support should contact Rachel Denniss on 01242 515257 or email cheltenham@streetpastors.org.uk.



DVD Launched

The new DVD of Cheltenham Street Pastors has been well received by the Churches in Cheltenham. The DVD, which lasts about six minutes, shows Street Pastors on patrol in the town centre and includes comments from volunteers, the Police, club managers and the public.

Inspector Roberts from the Gloucestershire Constabulary says that "Cheltenham is a safe place and Street Pastors help with that. They act as a safety net to pick up vulnerable people who may be casualties of the night time economy."

The volunteers comment that "If Jesus was here he would be out on the streets among the people" and "Being alongside and serving people is what Christ wants us to do."

The DVD can be viewed on YouTube or on our website www.streetpastors.co.uk and follow the links to Current Locations, South, Cheltenham

More Street Pastors Needed

Cheltenham Street Pastors need 50 more volunteers in order to achieve their vision of providing teams on Friday and Saturday nights as well as one weeknight and for other special events such as race week.

Volunteers must be over 18 and attend a local church. They will receive full training and a uniform.

The next training course will be held in the Autumn. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Howard Bartlett for more details on 01242 231644 or email cheltenham@streetpastors.org.uk.