



Millennials... a new generation

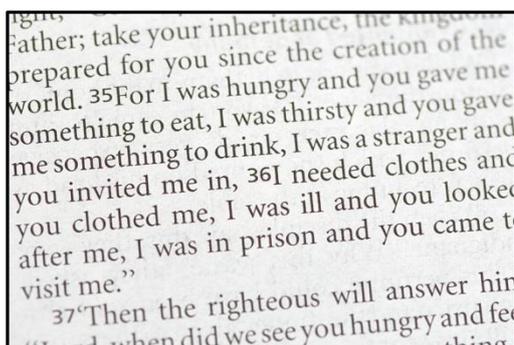
The changing culture amongst young people is interesting. When we started, binge drinking was the 'in thing'. Young people went out a lot and drank a lot. I recall stories of groups buying different drinks, putting them into one container and drinking it – sounds awful to me. We now

seem to have moved on. Talking to my Street Pastor friends in other towns this change has been identified generally. Fewer nights out and less drinking – maybe driven by less money – is a common experience.

One of the benefits of Street Pastoring in Evesham is that we meet the same people and build up relationships with them. Over the course of the past few months there have been a number of people with whom we have built a friendship. Some homeless we have come to know quite well and another group who are 'just about managing', where a sudden reduction in working hours or increase in expenditure creates a crisis. It is good to be able to talk to these people or, more commonly, let them to talk to us. Sometimes just talking does help.

Changing to patrolling on two Saturdays a month enables us to meet with more people and the warmer nights provide opportunities for better conversations. There remains such a need to continue to show the love and compassion of Jesus on the streets of our towns. It is great to have the opportunity of doing this in Evesham..

John Darby – Evesham Street Pastors' Co-ordinator johndarby@icloud.com 07747 842192



An Observation

On Friday 15th of June, I was privileged to be able to spend some time with the fabulous Street Pastors as part of a Worcester diocesan initiative to have a weekend of mission in Evesham supported by the Bishops of Worcester and Dudley.

My night was split into two parts; it began back at base. It was an honour to be able to pray with the Prayer Partners and share stories of how we ended up in that room while the Street Pastors began their rounds. The faithfulness and support the Prayer Partners give made going out on the streets all the more comforting knowing that those back at base were praying for us. It conjured up a sense of unity that although in separate places, together we were unified by a passion for the town and its residents, as well as setting a precedent of Jesus through actions and kindness. It quickly became evident that the Street Pastors have not only formed

relationships with those out drinking but also had formed strong relationships with the police, security guards and even the fast-food shop owners. It was truly a joy to witness the friendly waves, the encouraging conversations and the many lollipops being handed out, not just to those in need of sobering up but also to those who were out working with, and for, the people of Evesham.

I am very grateful to be given the opportunity to see the much-needed work of the Evesham Street Pastors. I am encouraged by your hard work and dedication. Whether you are in prayer base or out on the street, my message for you is that you are all an inspiration! Keep showing the love of Jesus to all you meet because He is doing great things through your servant-heartedness and dedication.

God Bless you all – *Melissa Drinkwater*

From our Prayer Co-ordinator

What is prayer? We will all have our own ideas about prayer: what we like, what we dislike, what we try to make it. Sometimes it is easy, sometimes we struggle with it, sometimes we feel like praising God, sometimes we want to complain to him or feel angry, sometimes we look at our world and we sink into the ‘slough of despond’ and no words can express our feelings in prayer; sometimes we pelt him with petitions. Sometimes we are ‘on the hoof’ and send little arrows of prayer. Many, who never pray regularly, cry out in prayer for help during a crisis. Our compassionate God must smile as he untangles all this!

What matters most is that we do pray, however fluently or hesitantly. It isn’t a competition. In the old-style Prayer Meetings I was once taken to, everyone felt they had to have their say in prayer, putting huge pressure on those who were tongue-tied. No – it should not be like that: just being quiet and spending time with God, waiting for him. Sometimes you feel the connection, sometimes you don’t. It does not matter; it won’t change God but it will change you – for a while anyway.

Words are not essential, nor is beauty of language, although sometimes that can help us. I often think of the words Shakespeare gave to the murderous King in Hamlet:

My words fly up my thoughts remain below.

Words without thoughts never to heaven go.

How perceptive of Shakespeare! Concentration is also important. How easy it is to let the mind wander. How difficult to empty it of the cares and concerns of the day:

‘Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit’

– how perfect is that!

A prayer for now from long ago:

Be to us, O Holy Spirit, breath for our being, purity for our souls, healing for our wounds, fire for our hearts and light for our path, that, with all creation, we may rejoice in your presence; now and for ever. Amen *Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)*

Sheila Himsworth

Prayers from the Patrol reports:



As always we give thanks for the appreciation shown to the Street Pastors from people on the streets.

Thanks for the happiness enjoyed by many who throng the lively Market Square.

Pray for the police who deal with troublemakers and for a known troublemaker that he will be helped.

Pray for under-age drinkers.

Pray for the homeless and for the organizations trying to help them.

Pray for a young woman who was punched in the face and others who have been hurt when violence has broken out, including a man who fell outside the club and cut his head.

Pray for a young Polish man in distress from being made homeless and his disaffected brother.

Pray for the safety of late-night delivery drivers.

Treasurer’s Pleas and Thank You



The encouragement I can pass on to our volunteers and trustees each month is that there is enough money available to continue our work. We have a great God who does provide – through you, our individual supporters, through the churches, charities and the public funders who make money available to us.

At this time of year we particularly appeal to our member churches to consider their annual giving, and for individuals too there is a new way to give, perhaps in response to some answered prayer or an incident you hear about in the town. Just TEXT “EVSP18 £5” (or £1 or £10, or any other amount) to 70070.

THANK YOU ALL.....

Derek Markie

Evesham Street Pastors is a Registered Charity in England & Wales number 1156750

Prayer Co-ordinator: Sheila Himsworth on sheilahimsworth33@gmail.com

Donate: Evesham Street Pastors, c/o 71 Broadway Road, Evesham WR11 3NE

Contact: John Darby on 07747842192 or evesham@streetpastors.org.uk

Website: streetpastors.org/locations/evesham/

Street Pastors is an initiative of Ascension Trust and Churches Together in Evesham & District

Please pray regularly for all those involved in Street Pastors in Evesham

Pray for our town,

- the pubs, the main venues of the 'night time economy'
Ye Olde Red Horse
Royal Oak
Chancers
Ambassadors
DugOut (Gardeners Arms)
Ruby Jack's
Marilyn's
Bar 24
Amber Café Bar
Red Lion
Old Swan
The Valkyrie Café Bar
Orto Lounge
The Outside Inn & Courtyard

- the late night cafés,

- Snappy Pizza
Domino's Pizza
Pomodoro Pizza
Marco's Pizza

Please remember

- the Police and Ambulance Service who support our Street Pastors
- door staff at the clubs who have a serious responsibility to check the clientele and maintain calm.
- taxi drivers who are the last to get to bed
- street cleaners who are the first to get up.

Please pray especially for the emergency services who safeguard us all day and night.

Pray for each of our Street Pastors (leaders in bold) who are on duty on either Friday, Saturday or Sunday nights:

Peter Barry	Lee Fisher
Diane Bennett	Mike Powell
Simon Brown	Rachel Powell
Trevor Burton	Carol Sheehan
Andrew Capel	Chris Sheehan
John Darby	Andrew Spurr
Sandie Davies	Graham Wells
Joy Dimond	Steve Wilderspin
In Training:	
Clarrie Burdett	Simi Bujdošová
Silvie Jelínková	Andy Foster

for Prayer Partners – without whose support Evesham Street Pastors will not set out.

Liz Booth	Lindsay Ladbrook
Stuart Brown	Derek Markie
Robert Bryce	Kay Wall
Joyce Davey	Heather Walsh
Anne Evans	Jackie Johns
Margaret Fuller	Paul Wingert
Sheila Himsworth	Anne Yelland

and for our Board of Trustees

Diane Bennett MBE
Ralph Bolland
John Darby (Co-ordinator)
Sheila Himsworth
Tom Meldrum
Edward Pillar (Chairman)
Andrew Spurr
Kay Wall
Our Treasurer, Derek Markie and representatives of the Police and Wychavon DC who meet with them.



Pray for the churches who reach out to the community in so many ways and also support Street Pastors financially:

- All Saints
- Baptist
- Elim
- Methodist
- Quakers
- Salvation Army
- St Mary's & St Egwin's
- St Peter's
- St Andrew's
- Vale Christian Centre

Pray especially for Churches Together initiatives reaching out to the 'unchurched' in experimental ways

PubChat
1st Tuesdays at 7:30 pm
at Ye Olde Red Horse,
Vine Street

Surprisingly frequently we are asked about our Christian belief; 2.00 am is probably not the best time for these conversations, so PubChat and SoulFood have been set up as a place where these discussions can take place.

SoulFood
Each Sunday at 6 pm
at All Saints

For more information on all of these initiatives please contact John Darby on 07747842192 or evesham@streetpastors.org.uk

Stop Press : Pete and Simon are working on an Evesham Street Pastor video – Wow, what a great way of promoting our work. Thank you, Pete and Simon.