



STREETSIDE

Minehead Street Pastors

A very special birthday

Minehead Street Pastors used their second birthday celebrations on Thursday 11th April, as the opportunity to hold a very special evening of thanksgiving, at Minehead Baptist Church.

Special guest for the day was Rev. Les Isaac OBE, the founder of Street Pastors and well known throughout the world, for his contribution to positively impacting communities with teams of locally placed volunteers.

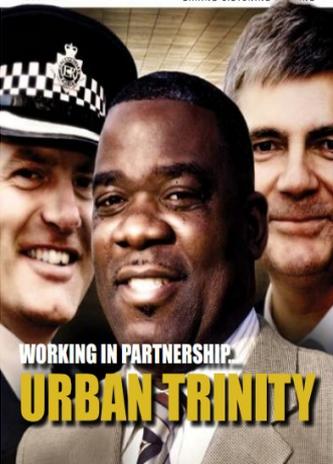
Some 80 plus people from all sections of the community, including local councillors led by Town Mayor, Tony Berry, Street Pastors, Prayer Pastors and friends and supporters gathered to share in the celebrations, kicked off by a wonderful spread of desserts and drinks! New volunteers were commissioned by Rev. Les, who also prayed for our existing team before he went on to challenge everyone to remain committed to the local community, in order to make a real difference.

Earlier in the day, 20 of the Minehead volunteers met with Rev. Les over lunch, as he recalled how the idea for Street Pastors had come about ten years ago, and the group shared a question and answer session with him. The day was not only a huge success, but also an uplifting affirmation of the Minehead Street Pastors scheme.



www.minehead.streetpastors.org.uk

ON THE STREETS



Latest news ...

THANKS

To the Avenue Methodist Church for the use of their facilities as our base

Minehead Town Council and Mayor Tony Berry, for the community grant towards our work

West Somerset Free Press for their coverage

GOODBYE..FOR NOW

Since our last issue, we have had to say a temporary goodbye to Rev. George Bowden, one of our Prayer Pastors, who sadly passed away in March. George was a loyal prayer supporter and we will miss his wisdom and obedience in our Street Pastors Family...

NEW RECRUITS

WELCOME to Ian Candy as he takes over as Chair of our SP Management Group

We commissioned 2 new recruits this month, Lyndsay and Angie from 2 different churches. — Watchet Baptist Church and Watchet Salvation Army. Welcome to the team!

A Street Pastor on the support of the Prayer Pastors . . .

I praise God for all you prayer partners that support the street pastors. Each time we've been out I have felt wrapped up and secure in all your prayers, thank you. The response I have found is very positive and very curious as to what we are about. Hopefully in the future more will join us and sense the joy of Gods' heart as we step out of our comfort zone on to the streets. My heart leaps each time we have a conversation with someone knowing that we are sowing valuable seed into the community by word or action changing someone's heart, bringing them closer to the kingdom of our God. We cannot fail only gain! My prayer is that this initiative from God's heart will expand and make a much needed change in the atmosphere and salvation in our town. I feel privileged to wait on our streets with my brothers and sisters knowing we are making a big difference through Christ Jesus.

STREET PASTOR MANAGEMENT GROUP

It is with sadness but deep appreciation of all his efforts, that we say goodbye to Rev. Andrew McCausland of Minehead Baptist Church, as Chair of our management group. Andrew has worked tirelessly to see the Street Pastor vision come to reality in our town. His drive and commitment have been inspirational and we will miss his input! We know however, that Andrew will still be around and that his support will always be there.

Having only experienced Street Pastor in Minehead, a relatively small town, I thought that I should broaden my horizons.

So I arranged to join the Taunton Street Pastors on 16th February.

Their organisation works differently to Minehead in that they have three teams of Street Pastors but no Prayer Pastors. Two teams go out onto the streets and one stays back at base acting as Prayer pastors. The three teams take turns to be at base.

On the street, things are much the same as in Minehead but more people, more traffic and more places open, and of course a much larger area to cover.

Contact with the Police and CCTV was much the same but they are frequently asked to attend an incident to take pressure of the police. This seems to be very helpful in cases of drunken collapse rather than criminal or dangerous occurrences.

I was made most welcome and enjoyed the experience. I ended the evening thinking that our work was very much the same with only small differences. I would like to thank the Taunton Team for allowing me to share their evening work.

Margaret Cook



Out and About

The Power Unit

Minehead Prayer Pastors are committed to supporting Street Pastors whenever they are patrolling the streets. The prayer and support provided during the night is essential. We need more people to join the team rota at the base or at home.

“What exactly do Street Pastors do when they are out and about?”

“What difference do they make?”

To help answer these questions, our editor presents a typical night from a Street Pastor team leader...

1.45 am: Met a young man who had fallen out with his family and was in B & B accommodation. He was keen to talk and said that he felt very lonely, rejected, and unloved. He was close to tears the whole time he spent with us. He said that he had nobody to talk to and so we shared time with him and tried to cheer him up, by chatting and we even gave him some sweets! When he eventually left us, he was laughing and told us that he loved us! He said there should be more people like us....

2.30 am: Met a young girl who just wanted to chat and share her week with us. She asked for a hug and said, “Thanks for keeping us safe.”

STREET PASTORS™

Over to YOU!

The Church has left the building!

We hope that you are as excited by Minehead Street Pastors as we are.

However, we need your

support to help us continue to work together to make a difference:

- **ESPECIALLY** Street Pastors who actually patrol the streets
- Prayer Team members to look after the spiritual and physical needs of SPs whilst they work
- If you are interested in receiving a short talk or presentation for your school, church or organisation, or an article for a magazine, please email or phone Barbara

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