



STIRLING STREET PASTORS

Annual Review 2022-2023



CARE - LISTEN - HELP

- Christian volunteers from different churches
- Reaching out to people
- In the city and university campus
- At night and during the day

BACK TO NORMAL?

In 2022-23, it seemed that things were back to normal after Covid. We resumed our late night Friday and Saturday patrols and encountered people on the streets who we could help just like we did in 2019-20, pre-pandemic.

But some things had changed.

In 2019-20 we had 30 Street Pastors and now we have 22. That meant that we missed some patrols. We did 75 evening patrols compared to 96 in 2019-20. We are still encouraged by the help we could give on those evenings. 63 vulnerable people were supported, we had 60 important conversations especially about mental health, and 70 people wanted to talk about God. More people are happy to be prayed for too, even if they don't believe. We gave out 101 flip flops, a lot less than usual thanks to fashion changes! We also gave out plenty of water, tea/coffee and lollipops which are always popular. At the end of the night, we made sure many people, who were the worse for wear, got home safely.



A very encouraging change is that we now patrol almost every Friday afternoon on the university campus, 44 patrols last year! We have made many friends there among staff, visitors and students, and been able to comfort several individuals who were suffering from stress and loneliness. It's been great to meet so many people from different nationalities.

OUR AIMS FOR 2023-2024

- Recruitment of more Street Pastors
- Look to identify sustainable funding of the organisation
- Strengthen prayer support with churches
- Develop relationships with key partners
- Continue to look for opportunities to improve public awareness of Stirling Street Pastors

THE THREE PILLARS

VOLUNTEERS - It was great to have 4 new recruits join us last year. We also lost 6 who stood down for various reasons. We really need more volunteers so we can have patrols in the town and campus every weekend. **If you are being called to this service, do get in touch. Spread the word in your church too!**

PRAYER - Every Street Pastor has prayer partners, we pray regularly together, and our supporting churches always remember us in their prayers. Subscribe to our prayer newsletter if you want to pray for us too (it's on our website).

FINANCE - We are grateful and blessed with many regular givers and those who give one off donations. We do need more, though. More details on how you can give are on our website.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."
Matthew 9:36-38

PARTNERSHIPS

Street Pastors come from 16 different churches, a great example of the unity we have in Christ. **Why not ask us along for a talk at your church?**

We work closely with Stirling Council, and even had a couple of local councillors join a patrol during the year. On campus, we liaise with Student Services, the Chaplaincy and Friends International to support the wellbeing of students.

We work together with the Police, CCTV, door stewards and Safebase Scotland. We all use a shared radio network on patrols. We are also supported by Pubwatch and Go Forth Stirling.

Stirling Councillor Gerry McGarvey joined a patrol to observe and support us.



FINANCE



We are very grateful to all those who give regularly or make one off donations, this is a great encouragement for us.

Our costs are greater than our income so our funds are decreasing each year. Many charities are now struggling with costs so there is a lot of competition for available grants. We did get a Government grant in 2021 but not last year.

Several years ago we were blessed with significant legacy donations. If you would like to consider leaving a gift in your will, we can help you with that process.

To support our work with a monthly payment or one off donation, you can do so on our website, or just get in touch.

GET IN TOUCH

We would love to hear from you



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