

www.ascensiontrust.org.uk



For more information please visit
our website:

<https://streetpastors.org/locations/totnes>

Totnes Street Pastor Scheme is part of
Caring Town



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TOTNES STREET PASTORS **AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2018**



Here is one of our Street Pastor Teams about to go out on a shift after praying together and receiving a blessing from Pastor Mark Hatch—seen here in the middle. Jacqui, (not in uniform) stayed at Base to pray, prepare soup etc when needed and to prepare a mid shift snack. Typically, the group gave out soup and coffee during the evening and we always carry water and lollies!

SAMPLE SHIFT REPORT

Totnes Street Pastors works to support the Night Time Economy and to help Friday evenings to run safely and smoothly. As a result we do a wide range of things and have a wide range of encounters. Often an evening starts very quietly, but around the Totnes Grill, later at night, there can be a little unrest. Do pray for the workers in the Grill , we always check that they are ok.

Whilst we were at the Grill, the three of us, individually had up to 5 'interesting' encounters/ conversations with different people, which despite the effects of the alcohol, we felt blessed to have had . We will remember these people in our prayers. I noticed that we all had opportunities to speak about being Christians and to engage with them in a caring way. I think both the younger ones were appreciative of the work done by Mark and Street Pastors. One of them told us she was recovering from an operation but had enjoyed her evening listening to a band at the Barrel House. During some of the conversations there was quite a lot of activity and some shouting and noise going on between various groups and individuals, with some animosity taking place. The man we had seen earlier at the market place was also there in the mix of people a bit worse for wear. Someone, known to Mark, as previously having anger issues, was shouting at his ex girlfriend who was getting into a taxi (he was on a bike which the door on the taxi bashed into) before driving away. There was another similar incident with a girl driving away in taxi and lad shouting abuse at being left behind. Another small group were just being a bit vocal. We stayed at a respectful but clearly visible distance until things quietened down. We ended the shift at approx. 12.50 am. We felt blessed that after a quiet start the encounters that we had were of God and our presence on the streets was good.

MEETING WITH OUR MP AND THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

Earlier in the month the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Alison Hernandez and our MP Sarah Wollaston held a meeting with the community. People shared their concerns, their appreciation of our PSCOs and local police plus the hope for better funding and support. Carole Whitty from Caring Town came up with the idea of a Totnes Town Police Partner to better share intelligence and concerns (particularly around drug dealing which has been a major concern in Bridgetown) with our police. She is in continuing talks with the police, the PCC and Sarah Wollaston. Please hold all this in your prayers. Meanwhile, if you have some concerns about crime, here are some helpful websites:

<https://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk>

www.crimestoppers-uk.org 0800 555 111

When reporting a crime/concern make sure you give clear details—time, place and if a car is involved make and number plate. Accurate descriptions of the persons involved are also helpful.

