



TUNBRIDGE WELLS STREET PASTORS



SEPTEMBER 2022 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Summer, Sun, Celebrations & Reflections



As we approach autumn, I sit in my office enjoying the autumn sunshine and wonder where have the last few months gone. We have had times of celebrations with the Queen's Platinum jubilee weekend in June and then just a couple of weeks ago we were watching as she was laid to rest. She was a remarkable woman giving a lifetime of service and showing her faith in God.

On Sunday 18th September, Katy & Kay joined other Street Pastors in London, patrolling the lying in state queue. They met a range of people: young & old, those from London and the Philippines. We gave out a lot of lolly pops and had some interesting conversations.

Katy also took the time to visit Green Park and lay flowers.

We also saw the interesting developments following the Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast in July where Rev Les Issacs, founder of Ascension Trust & Street Pastors was speaking on 'Serving the Common Good'. Following that there was a lot of coverage about how Sajid Javid heard the word given and felt compelled to resign. What was not covered in the news was the encouragement share about the work of Street Pastors (see over sheet for examples).



Les ended his talk by saying: *"I want to encourage all of us today. I want to remind the Church: it's been difficult, but Christ has called us to be faithful. I want to remind all of us here today that Jesus, being found in the appearance of a man, humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on the cross. I want to remind us today that all of us have influence."*



All of us have the ability to influence and to make a difference. And we are called to serve. We are called to work together for the common good - not just for the party, not just for the denomination, but for humanity. My words of encouragement to us this morning: Give hope a chance. Let hope flourish as you seek to lead and as you seek to have influence and as you seek to exert your influence across the world, across the city, across our community. Let us recognise it's together we will make a difference. It's together the common good of our community would be realised. May the Lord help us as we continue to serve".

Here in Tunbridge Wells we are very much appreciative of the support and contact we have with the local council and police. Through all of this change we have been thinking about what is the role of Street Pastors in Tunbridge Wells and how we best serve our community. From January 2023 we are looking at launching a **NEW AFTERNOON PATROL** at the end of the school day and along St John's Road.

For more information please see over.



If you would like to **DONATE TO THE WORK OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS STREET PASTORS** you can this online via bank transfer:

Account Name: Tunbridge Wells Street Pastors; Sort Code: 40-52-40 ; Account No: 00020600

or CAF Online: <https://www.cafonline.org/system/donate?dbid=ed047f35d8634601952d53c5aeadba57>

Cheque: made payable to "TW Street Pastors" c/o Christ Church, High Street, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1UT

TW STREET PASTOR CONTACT DETAILS: c/o CHURCH OF CHRIST, COMMERCIAL ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT TN1 2RR

Email: tunbridgewells@streetpastors.org.uk ; Website: www.streetpastors.org/location/tunbridgewells/
www.facebook.com/TunbridgeWellsStreetPastors ; www.twitter.com/TWellsSP

Registered Charity No: 1139590

Examples of MP's and Councils supporting the work of Street Pastors across the UK

- Andrew Selous, MP for SW Bedfordshire, shared about his time out with the Street Pastors in Luton. He was deeply moved by their compassion and love for revellers and those vulnerable in the heart of the community. Where people were listened to without judgement and loved without agenda.
- Lambeth, Lewisham and Merton MPs want to spend some time with their local street pastors and management teams to ask what is happening and see what more can be done to build bridges and relationships as we recover and bounce forward from the past two and a half years.
- Police and councils all over the UK are wanting to see Street Pastors and School Pastors supporting their community as they know us to be effective and a vital part of holistic care.



STREET PASTOR AFTERSCHOOL PATROLS

We have now been patrolling the Night Time Economy in Tunbridge Wells for nearly 13 years. As things we review what we are doing we are wanting to develop and are looking at widening the ministry of Street Pastors to provide an After-School Patrol at the end of the school day (2.45pm - 5pm) along St John's Road and town centre area.



Along St John's Road we have five secondary schools, which have a combined total of approximately 7,500 11 - 18 year olds, all leaving school at around 3.30pm. We are aiming to patrol along St John's Road, visit St John's Park and then move into town via Grosvenor Road and past the YFC Café.

We are looking for new volunteers to help us in this ministry. There are two categories:

1) Street Pastor

- i. a Christian and part of a local church
- ii. Have a heart for their local community especially young people
- iii. willing to engage with young people as they come out from school at the end of the school day and either head home or walk into town
- iv. Be available from 2.45pm - 5pm on a week day with minimum commitment of twice a term (based on a six week term)
- v. happy to work in a team and in collaboration with both statutory & voluntary agencies and projects

2) Prayer Pastor

- i. a Christian and part of a local church
- ii. have a heart for praying for young people and the community
- iii. Be available from 2.45pm - 5pm on a week day with minimum commitment of twice a term (based on a six week term)

If you are interested in doing either of these roles and want to apply, or find out more, then please do get in contact with our SP coordinator, Katy Wright on tunbridgewells@streetpastors.org.uk

How you help if you don't want to be a Street or Prayer Pastor?

If you don't feel called to be either a Street or Prayer Pastor but still want to support the work you can do:

- Join the mailing list to get the latest news on what we are doing, along with prayer points
- Donate to our work
- Invite someone to your church, group or work to talk about the work of Street Pastors