



# TUNBRIDGE WELLS STREET PASTORS

MARCH 2023 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## HAPPY EASTER

Last time we wrote we were wishing you all a Happy New Year and now here we are and it is nearly Easter. Where has the last three months gone? I am not sure if it is going quicker because I am getting older or just that so much is happening that the weeks fly past.

Shortly we will be celebrating Palm Sunday, Holy Week, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. I am reminded that it is a week of celebration, reflection, remembering and also forgiveness. Reading the story there is also a whole lot of listening that takes place both from the disciples and Jesus.

At the beginning of March we had our annual **CELEBRATION** service and we were blessed to have Rev Les Isaac sharing with us. We also heard from Doreen (Prayer Pastor Coordinator) Kat (School Pastor Coordinator) and Katy (Street Pastor Coordinator). It was a time to show the new Promotional video to those assembled. If you would like to show this in your church and have someone speak then do get in touch.



As Street & Prayer Pastors we spend a lot of time when we are on duty **LISTENING**, whether it be to the people that we are chatting to on the streets or if back at base listening to God (and the radio to hear what is happening around town!). In a recent meeting with heard from our contacts at Pubwatch that following a recent survey they did about Women's Safety in the NTE, more ladies had heard about Street Pastors then the Ask Angela scheme. They knew who we are and are there to help and keep them safe if required.

We have spent time **REFLECTING** over the last few months about the work of Street Pastors here in Tunbridge Wells. Have no fear, we are not going anywhere, patrols of the Night Time Economy will still be taking place but we are also hoping to shortly start After School Patrols along St John's Road and into the Town Centre.

We have **REMEMBER** all those who have gone before and those who remember us. We really do thank God for those who have patrolled the streets with us over the last 13 years as well as all those we have met and helped. Only this last week when out on patrol the team spoke with a young man who they helped a number of years ago, he had been beaten up. The team had helped him, administered first aid and made sure he got home safely. These stories are good to hear and nice to catch up with these individuals and see they are able to come out and enjoy themselves in town.

There are many times when we are out we have conversations with people about our faith. As Street Pastors we are not allowed to initiate a conversation about faith but can talk about it if asked, although the question 'What is a Street Pastor?' is a good lead into that conversation. Sometimes this covers **FORGIVENESS** and being sorry for what we have done. We listen to what they tell us and pray with them should they wish us too.

As we do come to Palm Sunday we will celebrate and rejoice for everything that Street Pastors has done and continues to do. We also want to **THANK YOU** for your continued support.



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

Email: [tunbridgewells@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:tunbridgewells@streetpastors.org.uk) ; Website: [www.streetpastors.org/location/tunbridgewells/](http://www.streetpastors.org/location/tunbridgewells/)

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Registered Charity No: 1139590

## STREET PASTOR AFTERSCHOOL PATROLS

We 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 down into the town centre area.

We are looking for both Street and Prayer Pastors to help us in this ministry. 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 Street Pastor Coordinator, Katy Wright on [tunbridgewells@streetpastors.org.uk](mailto:tunbridgewells@streetpastors.org.uk)

NEW

### Street & School Pastor Promotional Video

We are pleased to be able to bring a new promotional video about the Street & School Pastor Ministries.

We would love to be able to show it to your church/group.

Do get in contact and we will send it over or arrange a date to come and show it and give a talk.



#### Wadhurst School Pastors Update

The School Pastors have been going into Uplands Academy (formerly Uplands Community College) on Fridays since the beginning of the year.

We love going into school and chatting with students and staff whether around the school grounds, in their new Learning Resource Centre (library!), the lunch hall, or other areas around school,

We have all sorts of conversations, the occasional game of Dobble which also melts away any awkwardness quickly, and we often find ourselves meeting students feeling unwell, anxious or dealing with a difficult situation that we've been able to come alongside to help or encourage.

Year 11 & 13 students have recently completed their mocks and they now have final exams and next steps in their sights. It is a stressful time for them so do pray for them and us as we chat to them when we are in.

Those in Year 6, (the final year of primary) have recently received notifications of their secondary school places. Next term we are looking forward to visiting some of those Year 6 students to introduce ourselves. Last year we had children from 33 different primary schools



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