



CHORLEY STREET PASTORS

The Church in Action on the Streets

January/February 2011 Registered charity number 1140043



Chairman Rev Tony Lacy



bringing peace to the Community

Could you be a Street Pastor?

Chorley Street Pastors go out on to the streets of Coppull and Chorley at weekends from 7.30pm – 1.30am. We work in partnership with Chorley Council and the Police and have people from over 6 different congregations.

Currently we have 21 Street Pastors and a further 13 trainees. A typical night includes giving out lollipops, helping those in distress, signposting people to relevant services, being a visible presence, being a listening ear and where appropriate praying with people and answering any spiritual questions they may have. We also pick up many broken bottles and litter along the way.

We also have a team of over 100 Prayer Pastors who pray at home and at LivingWaters Church whilst we are out on the streets. If you would like to join our team of Prayer Pastors please get in touch with Carol Halton 01257 266155

Street Pastors praised in Home Office Report

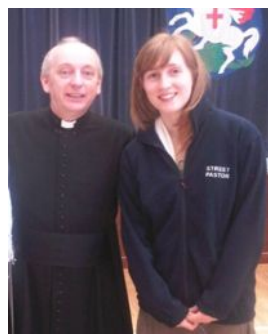
Wednesday, February 02, 2011 The Street Pastors initiative was cited as a good example of street-based work in the newly released Home Office report "Tackling Knife Crime Together" by actress Brooke Kinsella whose brother Ben was stabbed and killed in 2008— "I visited a Manchester scheme and took part in a late night walk with the street team. I was amazed at how many people they knew, how much information was passed on to them and what a difference they made. Estates that used to be notorious for crime and anti-social behaviour were now quiet and peaceful, doors were actually left open for the Street Pastors to come in and have a cup of tea and a chat" for further info please visit www.homeoffice.gov.uk to read Brooke's full report



Hitting the Streets

Catherine Hunter from St Georges Church Chorley transferred to Chorley Street Pastors in May 2010 after already being part of the SP's scheme in Redhill whilst on her education placement there.

"One man I met on my first night out in Chorley was 63 years old, he was scared to walk home, so we walked with him which took 40 minutes. Along the way he chatted happily and told us stories. When we left him at his door he was really grateful for the company and comfort."



"On another night a girl stopped us in town to tell us about a conversation she'd had with some other SP's a few weeks earlier, she'd been unemployed, unhappy and had relapsed into self harming. She shared how the SP's had listened to her and talked about her having love for herself and accepting God's love for her. She said what they said 'made a lot of sense'. She asked if we would pass the message on that since that night she had got a new job which she was really enjoying and was feeling a lot better, and a big thanks to us."....."its quite typical for someone to tell you about their problems, hoping for sympathy and advice, and sometimes prayer.

"We help with a range of things, from local taxi numbers to collecting broken glass, to keeping a bored and cold doorman company for a while! We stand out as a Christian organisation taking practical action to love our neighbour, without preaching to people, by meeting them where they are with open hearts."

A Friday night de-briefing session last year with Inspector Alison Harris this was also a special 'media 'night attended by our local MP Lindsey Hoyle and Councillor Julia Berry, who later went out on the streets with the Street Pastors to experience the night and meet the local people. They both commented on how much they enjoyed it and Lindsay said he would like to return for a second visit



Help Street Pastors

While all the Street Pastors are volunteers and give their time freely, we still have a range of other costs, and rely on voluntary donations and grants to keep going. **We are particularly grateful to Chorley Partnerships and Lancashire County Council** for supporting us in this way to ensure we can keep helping people on the streets each week. If you would like to give a financial gift or support on a monthly basis please contact Carol Halton—01257 266155 or email—chorley@streetpastors.org.uk You will be helping to make a huge difference in our town of Chorley!



Visit from Les Isaac - Founder of Street Pastors UK visits Chorley

Les's visit to Chorley Street Pastors at LivingWaters church proved to be a great encouragement to Chorley Street Pastors and guests, including here



Police Superintendent Richard Robertshaw who spoke on the value of SP's in Chorley accompanied by Inspector Alison Harris. Street Pastors attended from all over the North West to listen to Les' inspirational talk. Following this a number of visitors who came to the event signed up to go out onto the streets as an observer and expressed interest in becoming a Street Pastor themselves.



New Street Pastor Volunteers for 2011



In January 2011 we were thrilled to welcome on board 13 new volunteers. Our new recruits are all from local Churches in Chorley.

The Street Pastor's extensive training course is over 13 weeks and includes subjects such as counselling skills, drugs awareness, sociology, knowing your community, role and responsibility, and street safety.

If you are interested in becoming a Street Pastor, or would simply like to know more about our work, please contact Coordinator Carol Halton - 01257 266155 or email chorley@streetpastors.org.uk

Street Pastors Breakfast

The New Year was off to a good start as we gathered all our Street Pastors together with the Management Team (below) for a hearty breakfast followed by an encouraging message from Inspector Steve Evans .



Chorley Street Pastors have enlarged their Management Team from centre to left:-Chairman Rev Tony Lacy, Rev David Brown, Rev John Lacy, Rev Joseph Elsdon, Rev Andrew Mashiter, Rev David Stoner (absent)



Below are just a few of those we have prayed for over the past year:

- Young man who lost his Grandma, his Mum and his Nephew
- Lady fallen asleep on the street through intoxication during the recent cold spell and would have been in serious danger had not the S.P's not woken her up taken her home.
- Man attacked and badly injured, SP's administered first aid and took him to hospital in a taxi.
- Lady with two children just out of hospital after suffering a mental breakdown
- Young man just moved into his own flat and feeling very lonely
- Man who lost his 17 year old son in a car accident

"As you can see from the details above there is much need on the streets of Coppull and Chorley but all the team members consider it a privilege that so often people open up to them and share details of their lives. Slowly but surely friendships are being built that we pray will lead to deeper relationships developing, and, as people continue to open up and share the problems they are facing in turn the Street Pastors are able to share something of their faith in God, we pray that many will find God to be their answer." - Brian Jones Prayer Coordinator