Hereford Street Pastors
Have a Good Time—Come Home Safe

When Street Pastors received The Pride of Herefordshire award it was a big surprise and a wonderful encouragement. As Faye, Dave and Rob were receiving the reward from Police Superintendent Ivan Powell, they were not aware that someone was writing on our Facebook page:

“I just want to say thank you for helping me out on Saturday. I was in a bad way. I’d made myself real ill. Thank you for calling me some help and not looking down on me and giving me a bit of hope. I wanted to end it all. I’ve got help now, and started to get on the right path. Thank you and god bless.”

Being recognised by winning an award is fantastic, but being there for people in their time of need is what we are all about.

As our county is facing so many challenges, I hope this report will inspire us to grasp what people helping people can do. We must thank the lead professionals in the Police, City and County Councils, the NHS, as well as our MP, Jesse Norman, for pointing this out to us. Sometimes a relationship can meet needs that are beyond professional approaches.

In the past, as church people we have been too slow to lend our support. Please forgive us.

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A needle in a haystack… Now you regret getting so angry with him. Throwing away the rings seemed so appropriate at the time; the tears, the pain, the betrayal. Now you realize how precious those rings are to you. You’re glad your friend has found your wedding ring but appropriate at the time; the tears, the pain, the betrayal. Throwing away the rings seemed so...
**People Matter (continued)**

The pavement hit me... I was just buying chips with friends. Now everything has gone blank. Where did the world go? My friend's shouting. What is he panicking about? Who is he talking to? Ambulance...? For who...? Something is trickling down my forehead – nothing makes sense.

Where did this blanket come from? Who is this woman in the baseball cap laying me on my side and feeling my head? Blue lights arrive.

No head for heights... Dressing in drag for a stag night seemed like a great idea. The outfit looks great, if a little embarrassing. Still it is just for one night. You know you are in trouble when you get out of the car. You are completely sober and yet standing up is a real problem; it's the heels – fashionable but impractical!

At midnight hope comes: the first stag to be rescued from those heels by the Street Pastor's flip flops.

In twelve months Street Pastors have helped 1 in 8 of Hereford’s 18 to 25 year olds.

### Incidents Handled by Patrols

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supporting the Vulnerable</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>19 hrs</td>
<td>12 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helping the Injured or Impaired</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>79 hrs</td>
<td>31 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keeping People Safe</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>20 hrs</td>
<td>16 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventing Anti-social Behaviour</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>16 hrs</td>
<td>12 mins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td>412</td>
<td>134 hrs</td>
<td>19 mins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In a year 45 Street Pastors have helped 2,008 people, 75% aged 18-25... 601 pairs of flip-flops and 526 bottles of water have been given out... First-aid was given to 90 people and 377 alcohol impaired people were assisted.

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**A Night on Patrol**

In Hereford our Patrols are made up of a Leader, First Aider and a Buddy. No two nights are ever the same. Here’s one patrol’s experience.

- The team gathered, enjoyed a cup of tea, ran through the safe working protocols for the night and shared a prayer.
- Out we go, chatting to door staff and people on the streets. Very quiet so far tonight.
- Approached by a young man who was keen to thank us for looking after him after he was injured a few weeks earlier.
- Called by night club door staff to help a young woman who was vulnerable and upset. We took her to the Baptist Church Night Shift and arranged for her family to collect her.
- We found a young lad alone and unconscious in Commercial Road. Revived him, took him to Night Shift and arranged for him to be checked out by paramedics, whilst organising for a family member to collect him.
- Alerted by friends to a young man who had fallen over, causing a cut over one eye and a large bump on his forehead. We applied first aid before he was taken to A&E by an ambulance.
- Observed a woman aggressively challenging men on the street. Reported to CCTV who continued to monitor.
- We find a man from Bradford separated from his friend with no local knowledge. Advised him as to where he could find accommodation.
- The team became aware of a distressed woman with no apparent injuries. Chatted, comforted and ensured she got a taxi home safely.
- Called by night club door staff to care for a young man who had fallen head first into the road sustaining facial injuries. We found him to be unresponsive and semi-conscious. Called for paramedics to attend whilst applying street first aid. He was later admitted to A&E.
- We noticed a vulnerable woman outside of a takeaway on Commercial Road. Gave her water, cared for her and got her into a taxi with her friends.
- Witness three young men fighting. Reported to CCTV who monitored until the police arrived resulting in one man needing to be arrested.
- We bump into the man from Bradford, he’s finally found his friend!
- We regrouped to discuss the night’s events, completed our paperwork and concluded with prayer.

"When I get home I lay awake thinking about what could have happened had we not been there. No one intends to have a bad night; it’s a privilege to be there in people’s moment of need."

Patrol Leader

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**Street Alcohol**

1 in 3 incidents are medically related but take up 60% of patrol time.

### Hours Invested in Training

- Basic Induction: 294 hours
- First Aid Training: 81 hours
- Topical Life Training: 147 hours
- Street Pastor Responsibilities: 144 hours
- Safeguarding and Working with the Police: 297 hours

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A Street Pastor completes 50 hours of training. Training focusses on the steps we follow to help people safely. It provides insight into the issues we deal with on the streets each night.

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