

STROUD STREET PASTORS

Here are a few headlines on the progress of street pastors since our launch last October:

- Police in Stroud are very happy with our performance and have noticed a difference
- Local people living in the centre of town have told us that the town is quieter on nights when we are patrolling.
- Young women on the streets tell us that they feel safer now.
- Young people who are making use of the night time economy tell us that we are doing a good job and that they appreciate our presence, support and help.
- Door staff at 3 establishments now contact us through the CCTV link to ask for our help when they have a young person who is in need.
- We feel that Door Staff are now using mediation prior to more physical means of resolving problems.
- We are very concerned by the number of young women that make themselves extremely vulnerable through drink and drugs and Police and Street Pastors have identified groups of males looking out for such situations and there have been recent reports of attempted abductions and one sexual assault. Street Pastors regularly have to fend off males who try to reach very drunk young women that we are supporting.
- Recruitment has been slow and the 10 people who we started with have been working very hard to provide the service. We have not defaulted on any Saturday nights.
- We have two new recruits and hope that 3 other people who have showed an interest may proceed.
- We have received financial support from Stroud District Council, The Police Commissioners Fund and some local Churches.
- The Prayer Team is now being led by Paul Newbould and is providing regular prayer cover on Saturday nights. We experience and witness the answer to prayer frequently on our patrols.

I hope this is helpful to the synod, if anyone would like more information they can email me

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