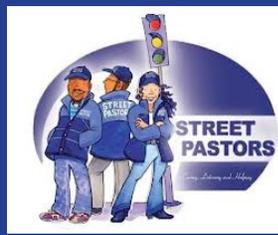


MSP News

Your News, Thoughts and Prayers

January 2022



Don't forget to send me your
news, thoughts prayers, notices
and pictures!
maidstone@streetpastors.org.uk

FANTASTIC PRESENTS

We have been really blessed
with some wonderful gifts
over the Christmas period, our
grateful thanks go to all those
Churches shown for their
financial gifts:

- 1: St. Luke's.
- 2: Allington Baptist Church.
- 3: St. Paul's.
- 4: St Nicholas Otham.
- 5: St Mary's Langley.
St John Harrietsham.
St. Martin's & St Hilary's.

Continued on page 2

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IN ADDITION TO THE FINANCIAL GIFTS ON THE FRONT PAGE WE HAVE BEEN GIFTED WITH

'stop-topp's', from Safer Kent
(glass covers)

Lollipops from Coxheath
Mothers Union

3 tents from a friend of
Mary Cook



Valley Park School held their Carol Service at St. Faith's church

As part of their support for local communities, we were humbled to be the recipient as their chosen charity this year. The collection made at this service was gifted to our work.

I was fortunate to attend, the students sang beautifully and the readers were brilliant, I think I got a little emotional hearing their version of *Mary do you know!*

Thank you all for your support.



If you would like to help us, please text your donation as below

To donate £5 text BECZ01 to 70970

To donate £10 text BECZ01 to 70191

Email: maidstone@streetpastors.org.uk

Web : maidstone.streetpastors.org.uk

Facebook: facebook.com/maidstonestreetpastors

Street Pastor Commissioning Service

We are absolutely delighted to announce that seven Street Pastors and one Prayer Pastor are being commissioned on Saturday 12th March 2022 at 7pm.

This is being held at St. Luke's Church.

simple questions as a sign of their commitment to being a Street and Prayer Pastor, and serving the place where they live.

The questions asked are along the lines of;

"Do you acknowledge God's call upon your life to serve him here in Maidstone?"

"Do you seek with God's help to demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ in word and deed on the streets of Maidstone?"

"Do you promise to serve in accordance with the policies determined by the trustees?"

On the basis of the answers to these questions, the officiating person will say *'It is my privilege and delight to commission you as Street and Prayer Pastors!'*

It is hoped the Mayor of Maidstone along with senior members of Maidstone Police and Maidstone Borough Council will attend.

Those being commissioned will bring along their family, friends, church family to join them in this wonderful event.

The event will include some songs and short acknowledgments from the speakers.

'Commissioning' is a service which marks their commitment as being official.

Ascension Trust CEO Bejoy Pal will 'officiate' the service, where the volunteers are asked to respond to some



Jane Stevens



Ros Gough



Sue Elliott



Jacqui Frances



Robert Philo



Brian Evans



Mark Bingham



Tim Sandberg

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR MORE INFORMATION NEXT MONTH



A previous Commissioning service held at Maidstone Baptist Church



WEEKLY REPORT UPDATES

Saturday 4th December 2021

SP team: Ian, Hazel, Ros, Brian

PP Team: Alice, Beryl, Baron, Nigel

Bid of a sad evening as Beryl is stepping down from her prayer pastor role after many years service. We presented her with some flowers and card; and we thanked and prayed for her.

We were very kindly supplied with two tubs of lollipops as a gift from Coxheath Mothers Union.

As we were getting ready with a coffee, getting the kit bags ready etc, we had the radio on. There seemed to be some hectic calls for Police to attend.

We hosted Urban Blue Bus in the back room at Switch, as they could not get their bus to the square.

After signing on, the team headed out at 10.15pm.

The urinal was out but, it was not in it's usual place by HBSC, it was actually on the square by the monument!

10.20pm: Unclear who made the call, but cameras were asked to be kept on Bank Street near Kala Red.

10.28pm: Team rang in as they went to Bank Street after hearing the previous message. The Police had one male in handcuffs, and another male was them all. We were not sure if this was connected to the above.

10.32pm: The Brenchley radioed a description to The Muggleton of three males who

were all described as no-no's heading their way.

10.40pm: There seemed to be a problem with all radios this evening! There was constant humming/interference etc. which sounded like someone was holding the 'speak' button without saying anything. Coupled with a foreign sounding male at control, this made things very tense. This was not just us saying this; as we had UBB with us, they also said they were having troubles understanding.

Nigel radioed control and was told there were some operational issues tonight? He will try to find out what!

10.47pm: Team rang in to say the male that was with the one in handcuffs above, was 'propped' up at the bus stop by Switch cafe, he was apparently waiting for someone to pick him up.

10.48pm: Team rang in again to say there was what looked like a 'domestic' about to kick off, but the couple noticed the Police were nearby which calmed things down?

10.50pm: Team radioed for UBB to attend a possible spiking outside The Muggleton.

10.50pm: Source Bar put out a very urgent, heated almost incomprehensible request for help. There was no response from control or Police, but equally, Source did not repeat the request?

11.00pm: Market House radioed to control with a description of three males, as no-no's heading up Earl Street towards M&S.

11.19pm: Market House radioed for UBB to attend, as a lady had passed out. UBB were on the way.

11.39pm: Fremlin Walk radioed for Police for an update - we were not sure what for, as there hadn't been anything on the radio, however. Police said they were on their way.

11.44pm: The Brenchley radioed to say there was an 'incident' involving a young girl but gave no details. We then heard the Police were on the scene.

11.46pm: Police asked over the radio if there was any update on the situation by the Taxi rank, no answer from control.

We were concerned about these few incidents that we had not heard of. We wondered if the Police had been using their own Police radios and not the MaidSafe radios. The Police we met were not known to us, so it may have been they were seconded in and did not have the town radio?

11.51pm: Team radioed to see if there were any Police around the Brenchley, as they had met a male who said his wallet had stolen containing several hundreds of pounds? Police said they would attend.

00.12am: Police asking for UBB to attend the Taxi rank as a male had trapped a finger in the car door.

00.33am: Bierkeller radioed for UBB to attend.

Continued.....

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00.50am: Don't know who made the call. but UBB were requested on Jubilee Square as male had fallen and it was suspected he had broken his arm. UBB attended but they knew the male, his shoulder seem to get dislocated easily and they have assisted him previously.

00.50am: Bierkeller gave a description of a male going up Bank Street who was a recommended no-no.

01.00am: Bierkeller radioed to say a male had been assaulted and was on the ground. The assailant was seen running down the High Street past Prison Island. Police responded to say they were on their way.

01.19am: Again, not sure who made the 'hurried' call, but an allegedly very drunk male driver was seen getting into a BMW outside The Green Room. He tried to drive off at speed but had 3 or 4 small crashes. Police asked if there was an update on where he may now be heading. We didn't hear anymore.

Team returned to base around 01.30am for a debrief. They had conversations with some of the Police they met who were asking about our work. They also met our usual street population and supplied them with hot drinks etc. Several other discussions were had along with plenty of prayer requests.

Signed off and headed home around 01.45am

Saturday 11th December 2021

SP Team; Jane, Sue and Mark
PP Team: Grenville, Hazel and Nigel

Bit of a mixed bag tonight. Jacqui could not do her shift due to a prior engagement, Hazel had said she could cover, however. Mary on the prayer team was unwell, so Hazel stayed in with Grenville and myself. Jane and Mark had swapped a couple of weeks ago, but we were blessed that they could be with us tonight.

Usual refreshments were had while the kit bags were sorted out, after a prayer and video, the team headed out just before 10.30pm.

As soon as we signed on, we heard some radio chatter with Bierkeller saying there were two very drunk females, who seemed to have attracted the attention of two males (not known to them). Description of clothing was supplied with one of them in a red dress*. the females and males were observed on camera walking up Bank Street.

10.39pm: Zoo Bar had a very drunk lady* refusing to move, Police radioed to say they were just about at the Zoo Bar so would call in.

10.56pm: Zoo Bar radioed for the Street Pastor team to attend this very drunk lady - see 11.23pm.

11.03pm: Old House at Home put out a hasty - hurried call for Police to attend as a male was being very abusive and refusing to leave. At that moment there was no reply from the Police. OHaH then radioed to say an ambulance was needed as the male now

had blood on his face, they then called for UBB to attend. Shortly after this, the Police were on the radio to say the male did not need an ambulance, and that UBB were on the scene and dealing with the situation. We think it was UBB who then radioed back to the bus to say oxygen and blankets were needed. This incident all seemed a bit strange!

11.23pm: Team rang in to say they had managed to contact the lady at Zoo Bars parents, and they were coming from Isle of Sheppey to collect her. This lady 'J' had been with another woman 'L' in a burgundy dress* but this lady had assaulted a Policeman and had been arrested. As 'J' was in a very vulnerable state, the team decided they needed to stay with her. Eventually 'J's' sister came to collect her.

I have * these three situations as we think this was all the same pair of females?

Not sure who it was, but someone in Bank Street requested UBB to bring down a wheelchair.

00.25am: Bierkeller requested UBB to attend a situation, at the same time, they said there were three males at the back of The Stag as being definite no-no's, description was given of them and they were then seen heading up Bank Street.

00.53am: Bierkeller radioed for Police, there wasn't an immediate response, but Bierkeller went on to say the three males mentioned above were now back at their door and were being aggressive.

Continued.....

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01.01am: UBB radioed for Street Pastor assistance. They had attended to a female estimated to be in her 60's who was quite drunk and seemly very anxious and therefore deemed vulnerable. A member of UBB and our team took the lady in a wheelchair back to her house in Lockmeadow.

01.06am: Police radioed to control to keep watch on the three males mentioned above from Bierkeller, who were now by Leo's mini market (Lower High Street). They thought the situation could get out of hand. A CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) had been actioned by them.

01.30am: There was a message over the radio (not sure who from), to say "the group had now left and were heading towards Bierkeller and were behaving aggressively". We think this may have been the three mentioned above, as it was all in the same vicinity.

During the night, the team reported these incidents; They escorted a very drunk lady from Jubilee Square toward the Mall to meet up with her boyfriend, he was also very drunk! They gave our usual C (sitting near Reddy's) a hot drink, the same with S and her ferret in Bank Street, and C and E also had hot drinks supplied to them.

Team returned to base for debrief and chat and we signed off at 01.50am.

Saturday 18th December 2021

SP Team: Hazel, Mary, Derek
PP Team: Sheila, Tim, Nigel

Mark at Switch had notified me, the inner gate at the car park is now chained and locked. The key for this is in the (open) till with a red tag. Any team leaders opening up, will have to stop at the gate and go in to Switch to get the key. Once all the team have arrived, the gate is to be locked. They have had issues hence the need for this. On leaving for the night, you will have to lock the gate and put the key back in Switch before leaving.

Thanks to Hazel for stepping in again, to cover for Gwyn who could not make it in tonight.

Mary Cook had supplied us with a tin of sweets given to us from the Mothers Union, these were to be given to anyone we met during the night, a nice touch, thank you Mary.

Usual chat, coffee and prayer before going out 10.20pm

As soon as we logged on, there was radio chat going on from Market House requesting the Police. It was found out the incident following, was actually at the Green Room, but they were not using a radio. There was a fight breaking out and a male was 'on the floor'.

10.40pm: Bierkeller radioed to cameras with a description of 4 'definite no-no's', 1 male and 3 females.

10.45pm: A couple were reported arguing heavily on

Jubilee Square. We think it was the Police that asked for cameras to be kept on them.

10.50pm: Cameras gave a description of an aggressive tall male who was described as a no-no. He was described as an older drunk male outside M&S in Week Street.

10.50pm: UBB asked for their team on patrol to return to the bus as they had a patient with a problem.

10.55pm: Control reported cameras were not working in the town centre. Nigel queried this and was informed some of them in Week Street, including camera 25, was not working. In addition the cameras were very slow to respond to being moved to follow anyone!

Not sure who made the call but we were informed someone in Bank Street by a white van was behaving badly.

11.15pm: Muggleton Inn radioed to say a large group outside the Kent Reliance building were getting 'heated'!

Bierkeller radioed to say a group heading towards The Brenchley were no-no's.

Society Rooms requested cameras to be kept on their door as it looked as though a domestic was about to break out. At 11.20pm Society Rooms were then requesting Police to attend as they had an aggressive male, we are not sure if was the same male having the domestic? Police replied to say they were on the way.

Continued.....

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11.25pm:UBB requested Police to attend them. At first there was no reply but soon after the Police did respond to check what the problem was. UBB then said the Police call could be stood down.

11.35pm: Bierkeller requested cameras to be kept on their door.

11.48pm: There was a bit of confusion over this incident! We heard the Police on the radio saying they were in town to attend a 10 person fight, there had been nothing of this over the radio. We can only think the call must have been made on the Police channel radio? We then heard there was a 20 person fight happening at Century Club and Police and paramedics were in attendance. One male was reported as detained on the floor, and another was on a stretcher.

There were a couple of calls over the radio describing; 'big fights going on inside', but we did not know who this was.

We think it was the Police who said they were on the scene but again, we had not heard any of this on the radio, we wondered if like above this was first mentioned on the Police radio?

11.55pm: Cameras reported three of the males in the above fight at 11.48pm, were heading past the Thirsty Pig. One of them seemed to be 'wiping blood of his hands on the grass?'. The Thirsty Pig responded to say they had locked their doors. This group of males then seemed to head along Knightrider Street and were now at Mill Street.

At the same time, the Old House at Home radioed to say they had a 'domestic' occurring outside, similarly, the Market House reported the same!

00.15am: The Brenchley asked for cameras to be kept on a male in a red jacket.

The Old House at Home radioed to say there were a group of no-no's outside their premises.

00.20am: UBB requested Street Pastors to attend a young female they had there. They met a lady who was deemed as vulnerable as she had been left in a drunk state by her boyfriend who had taken her phone, bag and belongings? A reported - plain clothes Policewoman, was trying to assist. The drunk female was refusing to have her dad contacted, and eventually her brother collected her.

Not sure who made the call, but a group of people heading towards Zoo Bar were asked to be kept monitored.

After this quite weird start to the night, the radio seemed to go quiet after this with very little being reported.

The team returned to base - very cold - around 01.30am, where we signed off after a debrief.

Teams for January

Street Pastors

Prayer Pastors

08/01/2022	Ian	Hazel	Ros	Robert			Alice	Baron		Nigel
15/01/2022	Emma Jane	Sue	Brian	(swapped with Mark)			Mary	Grenville		Nigel
22/01/2022	Jacqui	Derek	Mary				Sheila	Tim		Nigel
29/01/2022	Miya	Jane	Mark	(swapped with Brian)	Robert		Katy	Beryl S		Nigel



*Wishing you all
A Happy, Prosperous
and Peaceful
New Year*