

Isle of Wight Street Pastors

incorporating Isle of Wight School Pastors

2015 - Edition 10

NEWSLETTER - 2015

Through the Storms

Storms are something Street and School Pastors are all too familiar with; many of our volunteers have endured more than their fair share of wind and rain while out on patrol! This year has also seen us having to weather some storms as an organisation as well. In 2014 we saw a huge drop in grant funding for the two initiatives and we had already spent some of our reserves to get School Pastors off the ground. Faced with very challenging finances by the summer we had to take some fairly dramatic action to reduce costs, which saw us lose Martin (our retained charity management consultant) from the team and reduce our coordinators' (Rebecca and Denise) hours. As well as this we've redoubled our fundraising efforts and seen a number of people step up to support the charity with very generous donations. We managed to bring back Martin on an "as and when" basis and he has helped us write some successful funding bids. This has left us in a much stronger position starting 2015, though we still need more people to join our dedicated band of regular givers if we are to maintain and grow Street and School Pastors.

We are immensely grateful to the staff and volunteers who have pulled out all the stops to get us through a difficult year without significantly reducing our work. Your prayers, financial support and hard work continue to change lives on our streets and in our schools.

If you haven't been part of the journey so far, why not get involved? It's not always stormy, though it's never dull. You can help us in various ways, see our 1-2-3 guide overleaf.



Image: Jane Richardson, <http://tinyurl.com/kws4gse>

Remembering Marian Blackburn



We wish to pay tribute to the late Marian Blackburn former Street, School & Prayer Pastor. Marian gave her heart and soul to the ministry of Isle of Wight Street Pastors through serving as one of the first Street Pastors in 2009, as a Prayer Pastor and in recent years as a school pastor at Medina College.

Marian was a very special lady. Marian touched many people's lives both within the team of volunteers and those she met within school and on the streets. She was selfless, always offering love, care and encouragement with a great sense of humour. Marian was the very essence of a servant heart and we give thanks for her life and the privilege of knowing her.

“love the Lord your God....love your neighbour as yourself” (The Bible)

New Prayer Coordinator



We are delighted to welcome Bernie Coleman as our new Prayer Pastor coordinator. Bernie has been part of the Isle of Wight Street Pastors prayer team working with School Pastors at Medina College for the past year. Bernie attends Castlehold Baptist Church with his wife Sue, also a former Street Pastor. Bernie and Sue have two daughters, one having gained her degree in business studies and the other currently studying at Chichester University.

Bernie was born of missionary parents, so known as a "Mish Kid". He is in the second year of his retirement and is actively involved in church life. Bernie currently serves on the church prayer team at Casthold Baptist Church and on occasion leads intercessory prayers. He is also involved in "Open the Book School Ministry" and "Messy Church" for children and families.

Bernie is looking forward to meeting everyone in person and taking the prayer ministry forward and the rest of the team are delighted to have him volunteer in this role.

a gift of HOPE

Our regular givers are some of the most important people in the life of the Isle of Wight Street Pastors charity. By giving each month they help ensure we can coordinate, train, publicise, partner, supervise, support and protect our fantastic volunteer Street, School and Prayer Pastors.

When we took a step of faith and started School Pastors our costs increased, and the only way we can continue to grow and thrive is if more people sign up as regular givers. You can give any amount, large or small, based on what you can afford. We've now made it really easy to sign up online at <http://www.iowstreetpastors.org.uk/donate-online/regular-giving/> or you can get in touch and we'll post you a form.



3 Ways to help us change lives

1 VOLUNTEER

Our work only happens thanks to the support of many people who give time or money to ensure Street and School Pastors continue. If you can support us please get in touch or visit the website for more details on how you can help.

2 PRAY

We're always looking for volunteer Street, School, and Prayer Pastors and rely on donations to keep going. We're also firm believers in the power of prayer and hope you can join us in praying for our volunteers and the people they help.

3 GIVE

"Right from the very onset we were able to see a tangible impact from school pastors on the ethos and atmosphere and safety of children." (Nathan Thomas, former head teacher, Medina College)

"Your efforts to support people in vulnerable situations at times of need and to prevent the escalation of situations and preserve the safety of the public, reducing the need for emergency services intervention, have made a significant difference to crime and anti-social behaviour on the Island." (Police Superintendent Julie Fry)



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www.iowstreetpastors.org.uk

Or get in touch by phone or email:
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