

Ipswich Town Pastors Easter newsletter

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Who are we?

Pastors and Prayer Supporters are drawn from a wide range of churches. We come with our church traditions and outlooks to present **a single face of The Church** to people out at night in town.

What do we do?

Ipswich Town Pastors go out on the streets of Ipswich each Saturday night, looking out for people who may have become vulnerable through their own actions or those of others.

Our main work is to keep people safe until help arrives, or get them to a taxi.

Why do we do it?

We just keep on experiencing miracles as God works to resolve dangerous and impossible situations! We are non-judgemental and we do not push our faith, but we're happy to give an account of ourselves when people ask.

Endorsements

We are recognised and respected by the police, venue door staff and revellers, and we make a difference as we pray over the town and minister to people. We receive funding from public bodies who regard us as good value for money.



Alone in Town and no Money to get Home

The door staff at the Cock and Pye called us. We arrived to find a lady who was very distressed. She told us amid sobs that she was desperate to get home but no taxi driver would take her—she'd only got £5 in her purse and home was some way from Ipswich.

It was her first night out since having her baby boy last year. Her phone was missing so she couldn't phone Mum who was babysitting. It was possibly with one of the gang of workmates she'd come out with that night - they'd abandoned her, leaving her completely alone in town as they went on to another venue.

She just wanted to get back to her baby. Her whole life revolved around working and caring for him. It was a workmate's birthday, and she'd reluctantly agreed to come out, and was now deeply regretting it. Her colleagues were younger and she'd not had a good time.

Town Pastors do not carry money (nor do we judge those who have only £5 in their purse). It was **an impossible situation**. All she had was her driving licence as ID. We told her that we'd see what we could do. As we walked her to the taxi rank we said that we'd be praying for a solution. When we arrived, the taxi marshal was very helpful and said he'd talk to the next taxi driver. We have seen many taxi drivers refuse to take anyone who is drunk or without the means to pay. This driver said yes.

God loves us to realise that only He can take us out of impossible situations and He delights in responding to prayer.

We blessed the driver as he left with his passenger.

We need more Pastors!

This is a ministry of The Church!

We believe God is calling us to a unique ministry in Ipswich when the lights are off in the church buildings in town.

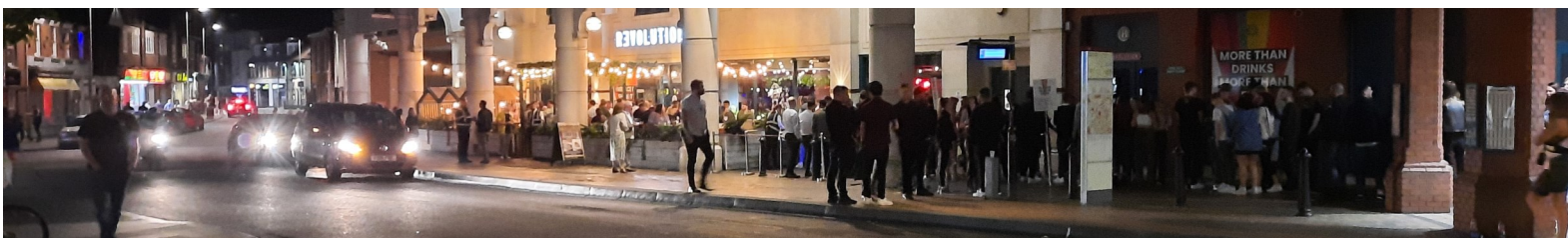
This ministry does not belong to any one church fellowship in town, nor just to our Town Centre churches: it is one of service and witness that can be supported by any church that has people in their catchment who go out at night in Ipswich!

Our numbers have fallen significantly since COVID, forcing us to cancel some shifts. Would you join us in praying the Lord of the Harvest to send workers into the field?

Would you uphold Ipswich Town Pastors in your intercessions and prayer journals?

Is God calling you?

Please consider whether God is calling you. Get in touch with Pete, our coordinator (details above) for more info and to join us for a trial night out.



Out in Town

