

# Glasgow Street Pastors

## Newsletter – 5 February 2021



HOPE

### InDay – Glasgow Street Pastors – Fit for the Future

It was delightful to see so many at the InDay on Saturday. It was such a blessing to be able to come together even if not in person. There was a definite sense of who we are and whom we serve. Welcome once again to all of WESP as they join GSP. My thanks to everyone who brought all of this together. And as we continue in this time of uncertainty it was good that we ended our time together with the message that God is in control.

### Management Team Meeting – Tuesday 2 February 2021

- MT office bearers were confirmed as: Linda Burke (chair); Linda Todd (treasurer); Wilma Pearson (secretary); Karen Anderson (co-opted member)
- PVGs – re-assessment has been carried out and our registration for PVGs is now for protected adults as this reflects the regulated work we carry out when on patrol. So across this year we will be working through the process of doing this. The good news is that it is now an online process making it much quicker and easier! Information will follow by email.
- Ascension Trust is holding a Prayer Gathering on 13 March 9.30am – 11am. This is open to SPs across the country. If you are interested in being part of this, please register by clicking here: <https://marchprayergathering.eventbrite.co.uk> You will receive Zoom login details nearer the date.
- Prayer contact with your home church: if your church does not already receive the prayer letter each month it can be arranged. Please ask the prayer contact in your church to email Willie. ([willie.henry@gsp.scot](mailto:willie.henry@gsp.scot))
- Planning discussion took account of the need to look to the shorter term while keeping awareness of the bigger picture. There will be continued partnership contact and preparations for day time patrols when it is possible to do so. A Team Leaders meeting will be held on 16 February. Possibilities for training will be pursued.
- COP 26 – There is increasing information coming out about this very important climate conference due to be held in Glasgow in November 2021. (rescheduled from last November) We will look to the possibility of our involvement as SPs offering support in the city.

### Kilt Walk 23 – 25 April

Over the recent years some Street Pastors have participated in the Kilt Walk for the benefit of GSP. Thank you once again to you Kilt Walkers! Your efforts have been appreciated. Maybe **you** would like to take part this year? It is a Kilt Walk with a difference – participants can choose walk, cycle, trampoline etc etc in their own locality for their chosen charity. Maybe, we could share some ideas? And whatever is raised will be increased by 50% by the Tom Hunter Foundation. Perhaps, our trusty Kilt Walkers could pass on a few tips??



**And from Stuart (UPDATES FROM PARTNERS AS REPORTED AT THE AGM)**

- Police Scotland. Inspector Ross Kelly expressed concern for the wellbeing of all officers having to respond to incidents. Prayer was requested for the officers and their families. An STV news item earlier in the week highlighted the significant number of COVID related incidents that police officers are dealing with and the strain this is causing.
- City centre clubs are hoping that the 18-30 age group will want to return to socialising but have no clarity or 'roadmap' as to when that might be. Will clubs be able to open when the 18-30 group have been inoculated or after all vulnerable members of society?
- Since opening on 1 December a total of 110 guests have used the Glasgow City Mission Overnight Welcome Centre. The average length of stay has been 6.65 nights due to the fact that the OWC is dealing with more complex cases mainly those seeking asylum or who have been refused. 54 guests have moved on to alternative accommodation during this period.



**PRAY**

*And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6: 18*

**Please pray for Lorna and Stuart as they continue to work from home.**



**Regular giving:** continued thanks to all who give to GSP on a monthly basis or as one-off gifts. Your giving is greatly appreciated. Our finances are only being used just now to cover our financial commitments. If you are in a position to give to GSP, that would help as we move forward. This can be set up easily: bank details and gift aid information are available from Willie. ([willie.henry@gsp.scot](mailto:willie.henry@gsp.scot))

From now on all donations to GSP should be sent to the following account at CAF Bank.

Account Name:	Glasgow Street Pastors SCIO
Bank Sort Code:	83-91-46
Account Number:	20401096

Love and prayer for all of the SP family,  
Linda

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## Context for prayer

- On Saturday 30 January, GSP held our annual In Day, when we all gathered to worship the Lord, review the past year and plan ahead. This year we met on Zoom rather than in person but we had a really wonderful morning, with around 80+ street pastors, safe zone pastors and prayer pastors gathering, including our colleagues from the West End.
- At a recent Management Team meeting there was some discussion as to how we can be "fit for the future." This includes preparing our street pastor and safe zone pastor teams for whatever "new normal" will emerge. In addition to issues of safety for the pastors, we are aware that the people we meet on the streets may well be facing unprecedented problems of bereavement, financial hardship, unemployment and fear and that a wide range of mental health issues will have become much worse. This has implications for training of street pastors to deal with a wide range of serious issues that they may encounter.
- Police Scotland have expressed concern for the welfare of their officers responding to Covid-related incidents and have asked us to pray that officers will be protected from infection.

### Please pray:

- Give thanks to the Lord for the time we spent last Saturday. There was a tremendous sense of unity and ongoing commitment to the work to which the Lord has called us, and a rejoicing over what He has done during 2020 through GSP, including the new daytime patrols and closer liaison with our partner organisations like the Simon Community and Glasgow City Mission. Although we are unclear what shape the future work will take, there was a strong feeling that the Lord will open up the way for us to continue to listen, care and help in our city.
- For the management team as they try to assess how training needs can be identified and met and how street and safe zone pastors can be prepared for the tasks ahead. Pray also for the street and safe zone pastors themselves that the Lord will equip them for the challenges that they will face.
- For police officers, ambulance crews and other professionals responding to Covid-related incidents that they will be protected from infection and that the Lord will relieve the strain on them and their families resulting from worries about their potential exposure to the virus. Pray also that, as the vaccination programme is rolled out, the levels of infection in our city will fall and that the risk will diminish.