

As you know Totnes has a reputation for caring and compassion and has responded to the current refugee crisis by working with Dartington to offer accommodation and support. You can find our more about this on the following websites:

beyondborderstotnes.org.uk

embracingrefugees.org

We often stop to chat with foreign language students on our shifts and will be looking to support any initiatives to help Asylum Seekers or Refugees who may eventually settle here. I joined the round table talks at Dartington to keep informed and support their plans.

You can contact me, Liz Waterson Coordinator, with any queries with regard to Totnes Street Pastors on [01803 849345](tel:01803849345) and don't forget to check out our website!

<http://streetpastors.org/locations/totnes/>



Totnes Street Pastors: Registered Charity 1000179

Totnes Street Pastors

Autumn Newsletter 2015

Happy 6th birthday!

October 2009—October 2015!



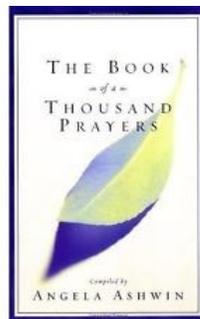
The Autumn term is when new Street Pastors join Torbay for training and others complete any outstanding training sessions. Laurence and Gaye are completing their training and Zaida Hillier is training in order to join our teams in the new year. It's good to meet with other groups of Street Pastors and share stories and experiences and so we are pleased to welcome to Totnes Street Pastors Gillian Francis, a trained Street Pastor from Chard. She will be joining us later this month to observe on one of our shifts. Please remember them all in your prayers.

In 2016 we will be planning our
3rd Commissioning Service.

News from our Prayer Pastors

During the last week of October Wendy Thomas, the National Prayer Pastor Coordinator based in London at Ascension Trust is undertaking a drive from Land's End to John O' Groats with her husband Colin. They will be stopping along the way to pray with as many teams as possible and to pray for God's blessing on our land using the Lord's Prayer as their framework. We contacted her to let her know we would remember them both in our prayers and they too will be adding Totnes Street Pastors to their prayer list!

We have had a questionnaire from Ascension Trust re support for our prayer ministry and also asking if we have any suggestions that they could share with others. Anthony Cosgrave introduced us to Angela Ashwin's The Book of a Thousand Prayers. I shared this with the national team who took it up with alacrity! They will be buying several copies for use at Ascension Trust and recommending it to teams around the country.



News from the streets

We are very blessed in Totnes to have 2 really great PCSOs: PCSO Jason and PCSO Gemma and we continue to receive invaluable support from Inspector Andrew Tomlinson. As you know we have been very involved with Caring Town Totnes in raising awareness of how best to support those in need and the homeless. The information poster campaign and the launch of the Giving back Scheme (which has raised £2000 to date) have been widely publicised and we are very grateful to PCSO Jason who gave up his time to come and speak to the Caring Town Totnes Group with regard to the needs of those currently on the streets so that we are fully up to date with information. As Winter approaches Mark will be preparing to open the Drop In as a Night Shelter and we now carry spare blankets in our cars (along with the foil blankets in our rucksacks) to give out to people who are rough sleeping. Once again we have found ourselves in several situations that could have proved violent if we had not been there to chat to people and bring calm to the scene. We are recognised and regularly thanked and had an amusing incident when a Stag Party couldn't get the 'Stag' to go home. When they spotted our team they dashed out: 'We know what you do, can you help him safely on his way?' and with much coaxing and general chit chat the man was safely guided to a taxi and taken home. We have collected over 200 bottles since January, helped an unaccompanied man from out of town (who had either taken illegal drugs or too much drink or both), to medical assistance and A&E. We have had numerous chats with young and old and consider it a great privilege to work ecumenically to bless our town and bring to it the gift of peace.

