

## Whitstable Street Pastors Update – Feb 2014

Summer 2013 was really busy and Autumn remained very mild which kept us much busier than in 2012. We have had some amazing encounters and have been able to provide “just in time” help to some vulnerable people. One incident ensured we were able to find a very vulnerable youngster on the beach and call for support from the Ambulance Service. Sad to see the mis-use of alcohol at the centre of a lot of things we come across. That said, it is why we are out there on Fridays – listening, caring and helping. The good news is that Kent Police tell us that ASB continues to reduce across Whitstable. It is our intention that Whitstable Street Pastors continue to provide support on Friday evenings to help in that reduction.

We have three new Street Pastors who are just finishing their training. We continue to have fantastic prayer support every time we are out on patrol. We have also seen a growth in the numbers of volunteers to the prayer team which is excellent.

We continue to work with Canterbury Street Pastors and have carried out joint training together in 2013. We have also recently attended a Church Leaders meeting in Herne Bay to discuss the possibility of Street Pastors in Herne Bay. The local Police Inspector and the Canterbury City Council Community Safety Officer attended and are really supportive of the idea. It would be great if we could get Herne Bay covered too.

Some of our team receiving a Whitbread Community Champions Award in 2013. We were joined by Julian Brazier MP who is a strong advocate of Street Pastors.

