

Perth Newsheet

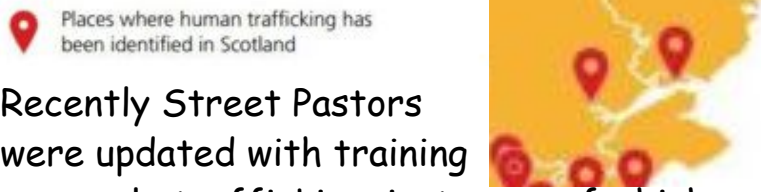
November 2019

At P+K's cutting edge!

Street Pastors interface with folk at the cutting edge of issues facing society, e.g.

Trafficking

LOCATIONS WHERE VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN SCOTLAND

 Places where human trafficking has been identified in Scotland

Recently Street Pastors were updated with training on people trafficking, instances of which have occurred in P+K.

Loneliness

In September the Scottish Government published the results of a recent survey which showed that loneliness is a major health issue, - sometime leading to suicide - including the 16-24 age group. The "Courier" said that 35% of Perth folk are lonely. One division of Police Scotland say 80% of calls are welfare not criminal issues. We need to listen beneath the superficial !!

A lack of hope

Whether it is bewilderment or frustration with politics, concern about world tension or climate change, although they try to fill the gap with alcohol, entertainment, gaming or holidays, many have an underlying feeling of emptiness. A God-shaped blank !



SC03961

Identity

Are we just a biochemical mix, dependant on the money we have or popularity on facebook?



Everyone has a world view within which they operate day by day basis. But is their world view adequate to cope with what they are facing as individuals and in society?

Someone working with students noted that there are many "**reluctant atheists**" - folk who assume that atheism is the only tenable position, but are acutely aware that it doesn't answer the most profound questions

A Christian response

Commercial exploitation has blunted the real message of Christmas : that in Jesus God opted right into the real world, meeting all kinds of people at their point of need. Jesus said that as the Father sent Him into the world, so Christians are sent into the world as His representatives.

Christians cannot opt out into a cosy ghetto It is not us doing things for God, but God working in and through our lives as we seek to represent Jesus and His love on the streets, listening, helping and caring. Street Pastors would value prayer ...

..for sensitivity to notice and listen to folk
..for wisdom to know when to speak and not!
..for the emergency services
..for more people to become Street Pastors as this would make it easier to ensure cover if e.g. a team member is unwell.

Commissioning of new Street Pastors

Perth Baptist Church Fri 29 Nov. All Welcome

