

## GSP Annual report for 2021

2021 has been a year of slowly emerging. No patrols in the first part of the year as Covid ruled our lives, but a steady return to a normal pattern of work in the second half of the year as the immunisation campaign made life safer for us all and the threat of major illness became less. Covid is still very much present in Gloucester.

Nightlife in the streets of Gloucester has returned pretty much to normal now, noisy, boisterous, usually happy, sometimes worrying and sad. And there has been work for us to do.

We have continued to pick up bottles and broken glass, give out flipflops, chocolate biscuits, water and smiles, and to look out for and help those who find themselves in situations that they cannot cope with. There are still casual conversations that offer opportunities to share our faith, or to pray for those who need it and/or request it.

There has been a gradual change in the pattern of care for those out clubbing. When GSP started there was little except policing directed at control of criminal, antisocial and aggressive behaviour. We have been part of a movement towards recognising the needs of young people for sympathetic care. This more pastoral approach has been pioneered by GSP, but is also increasingly a feature of current policing, and supplemented by Street Medics and City Marshalls/Night Safe Officers. Our role is still very much valued but has changed, and in some ways reduced. We are still the most appropriate people to help in many situations. As an organisation we will spend some time in the next few months assessing how we should respond to the new circumstances.

Some stats:

People helped	150
Flipflops given out	71
Bottles collected	593

GSPs who have retired during 2021: Sue Yates, Jan Spencer, Max Rakeseta, Karen Williams. Great thanks to each of them for serving with us.

New GSPs in 2021: Bruce Clifford, Stacey Ainsley, Carrie Thompson. It is wonderful to have them with us.

We do need more Street Pastors to allow us to staff our patrols comfortably.

We continue to be well supported by funds from the Police and Crime Commissioner, The Sylvanus Lysons Charity, and some generous churches and individuals. We are deeply grateful for that.

We are also very grateful for the work of Robert, our coordinator, Sue our administrator, and to The Brunswick Baptist Church who have kindly hosted us over the last year.

Alastair Sammon

Chairman

April 2022

Gloucester Street Pastors (Registered Charity No 1175271)

## Receipts and Payments accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

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