

HAPPY FIFTH BIRTHDAY!

Street Angels is five years old on 25th November! Many thanks and well done to all who have made the initiative work over these five years - volunteers, sponsors, funders, those who pray, churches, businesses, Police, council, Town Centre Management, media, organisations such as PubWatch, Community Foundation for Calderdale, Voluntary Action Calderdale and many more! It has been an exciting journey and always one where we have a sense of trying to keep up with where God is taking it! **This is very much YOUR project** - celebrate with us, in our fifth birthday year, all that we have achieved and all we will achieve in the years to come...

Thanks to Sarah Kelly at **Halifax Courier** who wrote an excellent article to mark our five years on the streets (there is a link from the Street Angels website and Facebook) and to the **Courier Comment** which said: "Our streets are better and safer for them", "It makes all the difference to know that there is now an organised group of people on hand to help those in difficulty.", "We say a big well done for five excellent years of making our streets safer for everyone to enjoy themselves. We hope you stay around a lot longer to help many other people."

The on-line version of **Inspire Magazine** ran a feature on Street Angels - Christian Nightlife Initiative and the Calderdale Christian Resource Exhibition - www.inspiremagazine.org.uk (latest news).

FGBMFI have produced a TV interview with Paul Blakey around his life and Street Angels - this is available at www.fgbmfi.org.uk and also features regularly on **UCB TV** (586 on SKY / www.ucb.co.uk)

Street Angels organised a **Calderdale Christian Resource** on behalf of Churches Together. The day, held at The King's Centre, attracted around 300 visitors and was an example of 'The Big Society' in action. Forty exhibitors, highlighted the amazing wealth and range of initiatives the church runs and the story of people and communities for whom life has changed because of this work. To finish Impact Calderdale, a prayer and celebration event, saw Ian Gray (Calderdale Council's Economy and Environment Officer), Heather Smith (Pastor Halifax Central Church), and Paul McMahon (Pastor King's Church), led prayers for Calderdale as an area, the work of the council, young people and the local church across the Borough.



Halifax is now a Purple Flag town! Purple Flag is the new "gold standard" that recognises great entertainment and hospitality areas at night that offer a positive experience to night time visitors and users. Just as Blue Flag is an indicator of a good beach and Green Flag a good park, Purple Flag is set to be the indicator of where to go for a good night out. The judges were in Halifax in September and saw the town from 5pm including restaurants, coffee shops, pubs, clubs and the Police, Nightlife Marshals and Street Angels in action. More information on Purple Flag is at www.atcm.org/purple-flag

purple
flag

Street Angels was entered in a "Faith Through a Lens" competition thanks to David Black who spent a night taking photos of the town and Street Angels in action.

Goodbye and thank you to Beth Ward and Emma Housman who are leaving **Marketing Halifax** for pastures new! Beth and Emma along with Diana have supported and worked with Street Angels on a number of projects - we wish them well for the future and will be a big loss for Halifax...

Are you or do you know an **Accountant** who can help SA-CNI complete its annual accounts in April? If so please contact Paul - 07725 501465.

The fifth **Street Angels Birthday Bash** will be on Tuesday 7th December, 7pm onwards at The Circle Lounge...

Thu 4th Nov - Paul talking at Halifax Minster Mothers' Union

The planned **auction** will now happen in 2011 (and on-line...)

Sat 20th Nov - Halifax Christmas Lights Switch-on - 12noon - 5pm in Piece Hall, SA volunteers needed to be around.

Fri 3rd Dec - SA invited to Stockton Town Pastors party event - see Paul.

Fri 26th Nov - HOPE Quiz, 7.30pm at Pellon Social Club. Info from 01422 250213 - Street Angels to enter a team, see Paul...

Happy Birthday: Vickie Bullough (7th), Diz Harley (7th), Chris Thompson (9th), Paul Bellenger (10th), Steve Monaghan (17th), Street Angels (25th)!

WWW.

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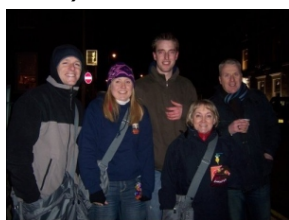
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Eleven years ago one cold September night a group of students and two men ventured into the streets of Dundee City Centre handing out some leaflets about God and lollies to people attending the bars and nightclubs of the city. That night R.O.C.K. Street Chaplains started.

Eleven years on you will find a team of R.O.C.K. Street Chaplains on the streets of Dundee three nights a week on a Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday night.

Our outreach starts at 10.30 pm and finishes around 2.30am, we meet in a local city centre church office for a time of prayer and a briefing about the night ahead and then we venture onto the streets.

Over the years we have developed contacts with Tayside Police, the DUNCAN Project (Dundee Anti Crime Network) and with churches.



Our evening consists of chatting to nightclub managers, club Prs, DJs and people attending the bars and clubs. We also have a small team that goes around the city giving out hot drinks to the homeless and those who have addiction problems.

Dundee has two universities and 22,000 students many attend the bars and clubs in the city and we as R.O.C.K. street Chaplains meet and chat to many of them and try to connect them to a local church where the live.

We have just finished a big weekend of outreach over the Halloween weekend where we chatted and helped many people.

So what does the future hold for us at R.O.C.K. Street Chaplains?

Christmas

Christmas is just around the corner, and on the 19TH November we will be involved along with Dundee City Council the local churches and Tayside police in the Christmas lights switch on. This is normally a very busy night and we are all looking forward to it.

The Homeless

Many of the homeless need shelter over the winter and plans are being set in place so that this who are homeless can come into a church for the night have a bed and some breakfast before they return to the streets, this we hope to have in place for January 2011 and it will run until the end of march 2011.

This event with be run is association with Bethany Christian Trust, the Dundee Churches and R.O.C.K. Street Chaplains.

General Outreach

During the winter we will continue to work on the streets of Dundee chatting to the clubbers and others, and we would value your prayers for our ministry that God will continue to bless it.

We all at R.O.C.K Street Chaplains would like to wish all other team doing the same work in the UK and Ireland every blessing this winter.

Andy Burns - coordinator

Steve Chalke will feature Street Angels - Christian Nightlife Initiatives on his **Premier Radio show Catalyst** on Friday 19th November at 6pm. Catalyst is asking with so much talk of 'Big Society' - what role can Christians play? How do we develop a vision for our communities? How do we make the Gospel more than words? Can the local church really be a catalyst for change? The show will feature an interview with Paul Blakey and Adam May and is on Premier Radio (on DAB, Freeview or www.premierradio.org.uk)



It is fantastic that increasingly on a Friday and Saturday night the church is to be found on the streets, working in partnership with a wide range of agencies and individuals, offering practical ways of ensuring our communities are better places. Projects such as Street Angels, Street Pastors, Town Pastors, StreetLights, etc make a difference in over 270 towns and cities across the UK.

But what about other areas of the night-time economy? The Purple Flag Award looks at what happens in town and city centres between 5pm and 6am - café culture, restaurants, theatres, late night shopping, young people, residents within town centres, cocktail bars, those working, homeless provision including night shelters and soup runs, sex-workers needs, social activities such as bingo, car boot sales early Sunday mornings, college and university life...

How does the church be church for the whole night-time economy is something we are currently asking in terms of the Christian Nightlife Initiatives Network. Various models, such as Town Centre Chaplaincy, Costa Coffee Church, informal events in coffee bars already do much and it seems natural to begin to look at the much bigger picture.

Steve Clifford writing in November's IDEA magazine, which makes reference to Street Angels and Street Pastors, also says a survey three years ago in Wales looking at the faith communities contribution to the Welsh economy showed that in a nation of just under 3 million the faith communities contributed more than £100 million worth of voluntary work annually with 97 per cent of this from the church. He goes on to quote Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government who says "Some see religion as a problem that needs to be solved - the new Government see it as part of the solution."

CNI projects are well placed, in this age of Big Society, to be part of the solution that shows the faith community can make a difference and build on the work carried out so far to be more responsive within night-time society - your thoughts please!!!