

STREET ANGELS

Street Angels Maidenhead (SAM) is a Christian-run charity whose main aim is to be of assistance to those who need help at night-time in Maidenhead. Maidenhead's Street Angels took to the streets for the first time on Friday 11th February 2011.

Street Angels has worked successfully in many other towns in the UK. We are Christian volunteers who believe that people deserve care and love in their time of need. Those needs could be homelessness, intoxication, drug abuse, assault or any other issue that has caused personal distress or the potential for physical harm. We'll help people whoever they are, whatever their situation by listening, caring, offering practical help or by referring people to other specialist agencies who can help them. We currently work on the streets of Maidenhead on the last Friday of the month and every Saturday night between 10.30 pm and 1.30am.

The project involves volunteers from almost all the churches of Maidenhead whether they are actual street team members, base supporters, prayer team members, or financial backers. Street team members have received training including conflict management, drug and alcohol awareness and first aid skills. They also have been CRB checked.

Street Angels Maidenhead have currently about 30 volunteers from different churches in Maidenhead. There were two people involved with Street Angels from All Saints Church in year 2013. Mike Moss works as a trustee for the charity and Sirpa Arovaara as street team members. Street Angels also receive weekly prayer support from the ministerial team of All Saints Church.

The project has now been going on in Maidenhead for more than three years. It has been very successful. Every time that we are out on the streets at night we manage to help people. This can mean anything from assisting someone who has become separated from their friends and has no means of getting home to helping people who are suffering from the effects of alcohol and are at risk. We also offer a friendly presence and a listening ear to anyone who needs that, and are happy to pray with anyone who asks. We receive a lot of very positive feedback every week.

However we currently need more street team volunteers for us to be able to keep the fantastic project going and expanding.

Sirpa Arovaara, Street Angels Maidenhead street team member