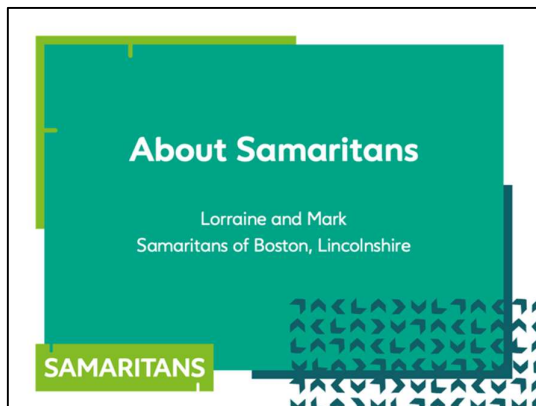


# Samaritans Quarterly Report for Boston Big Local – July 2021

## Rotary Club talk

On the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021 Boston branch spoke and shared the ‘How to offer emotional support to others’ training to the Rotary Club of Boston St. Botolph. Around 15 Rotarians attended.

Boston St. Botolph Rotary Club are based in the BBL area at the County Club near the central park.



## New room

Our new furniture arrived around the first week of April and led to our new room being operational the very next week.

Initially it was for email support only whilst we waited for our additional phoneline to be installed. Since this happened at the beginning of May, we have the capability to have a third volunteer on duty.

This means that due to success of our profile raising exercise that has been supported by BBL over the last 2 years, we now have increased our volunteers and call taking capacity by a third.



# Samaritans Quarterly Report for Boston Big Local – July 2021

## Volunteer week

Held from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> June this year's Volunteer Week was quite poignant because of the herculean effort our volunteers have delivered through the pandemic. As a vital service, we continued supporting contact all the way through every lockdown.

To recognize the challenges they overcame, instead of the usual card and box of chocolates we gave each volunteer a 'Treat yourself' £10 gift card.

We also decorated our branch with banners and thank you posters.

Boston branch has no paid staff and is run solely by its volunteers, without them (and our amazing funders) there would be no Boston Samaritans.

## Volunteer expenses

With our volunteers giving their time freely, Samaritans believe that no volunteer should be out of pocket. Some of our volunteers travel from as far as north of Skegness into the BBL area to offer support to others.

As an organisation we refund parking and petrol to ensure that we keep our volunteers and that they feel valued and not taken advantage off.

A slight victim of our own success, our volunteers' expenses have increased considerably for the 3 month period leading up to July.

Your funding is helping us through this transition of increased expenses and for that we are very grateful.

## Coasters

As the pubs and coffee shops opened in the BBL area we shared Samaritans coasters for their tables to raise their customers' awareness of the support we can offer them if they are struggling since lockdown.



The venues that took our coasters were Weatherspoons, Stump and Candle, Church Keys, Delfinos, Café Rouge, The Bakehouse, The Bus Station Cafe and more.

# Samaritans Quarterly Report for Boston Big Local – July 2021

## THANK YOU!

As always, a big thank you for all your support in helping our branch grow, and adapt to that growth, which ultimately helps us to offer emotional support to those in need.

