

the Pavement

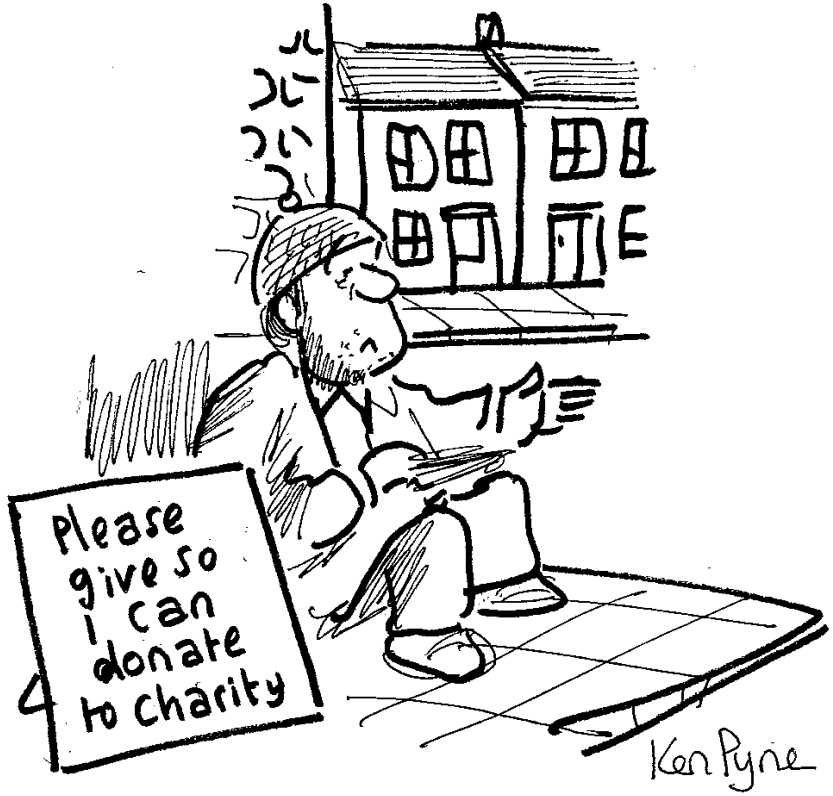


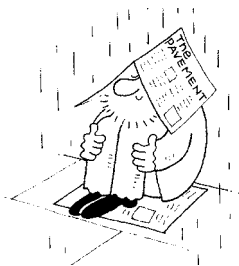
The paper for the homeless – London edition

Issue 18 – free

Inside: The court case of Mr Yamauchi, and all the top homeless stories. Plus, an interview with John Bird

February 2007





the Pavement

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The Editor

More stories from readers in future, please

Thank you to all readers who have contacted us with stories this month. It's the only way we can report on what's happening, and we'll follow up every hint of news we receive. Most rumours prove half-true at best, but if we investigate them we can, at least, get a definitive answer, and we'll print the truth about a false rumour just to see it quashed.

The story that's grabbed my attention in this issue is from the streets of Osaka, Japan (p4). It may seem far off, but there are parallels with life in the UK that I'm sure many readers will recognise. We'll watch to see what happens with Mr Yamauchi's appeal.

Some of our regular columnists are on holiday this issue, but we've the first part of a two-part interview with John Bird on page 13, which I'm sure will raise some reaction from readers.

Our address is to the left.

Richard Burdett
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Portrait by Robert Lenkiewicz – Richard holding bentwood chair (2001, oil on canvas). This, from the artist's series on *Addictive Behaviour*, and other works from *Vagrancy*, will be showing at the Halcyon Gallery, 29 Bruton Street, London, from 8th – 24th February.

Centre spread

Milford Lane, Westminster; a regular for several stop for soup runs, and the location for Councillor Angela Harvey's impromptu visit on 17th January. *Photography by Rufus Exton*

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Mr Yamauchi's loss

But this case is just part of the problem facing Japan's homeless

A Japanese man has lost the right to use a tent as his legal address, after a court in Osaka ruled against him. The man had initially won the case in the lower court last year, but this ruling was eventually overturned by Osaka High Court.

Yuji Yamauchi, who has lived in a removable lightweight tarpaulin tent in a park in the western industrial city of Osaka since 2000, was told by the High Court it was illegal for him to use a park for his address.

Local news agency Kyodo quoted the Osaka High Court as saying in its judgement: "The tent is simply constructed of pieces of wood and tarpaulin. It can easily be removed and is not fixed to the ground."

The authorities argued by this rationale that the tent did not meet the standards of a residence by 'conventional wisdom'.

They concluded that: "Under the city parks law, it is not permitted for a private individual to use a park as their address."

Mr Yamauchi's case had been sent to court by the City Office, which appealed against the original ruling from concerns that it would encourage other people to move into the park.

Mr Yamauchi told Kyodo that he faced difficulty joining the public health insurance system and registering as a voter without a legal address. The 56-year-old said he planned to take the case to the Supreme Court.

Suzuko Yasue, who works for the Homeless Human Rights Resources Centre in Tokyo, said the ruling was disappointing: "Today's verdict is a great shame. It is very difficult to

exercise one's rights as a citizen without a registered address.

"We want people to be able to register themselves as living in the park and use that as a springboard to return to an independent life," she added. "No one wants to live in a park forever."

Four years ago, a Japanese government survey found there were more than 25,000 homeless people living in the country, and that more than 40% lived in parks.

There has been a great shift towards park-dwelling since the 1990s, when the economic crisis saw unemployment rocket. The country had experienced rapid growth from the 1960s, fuelled by cheap labour and mass housing. When the recession hit, it hit the casual labourers hardest.

Osaka was particularly affected by this, as it was a city that depended on construction for much of its wealth.

Osaka has the largest homeless population in Japan – 7,700 by official figures, and more than 10,000 unofficially. Japan has a relatively high average for the ages of its rough sleepers – 55.9 years, according to latest figures. Rather than sleep on the streets or face the hostels, the majority of the country's rough sleepers found the instantly recognisable blue tents to be more comfortable.

As the recession continued, more people became homeless, and communities sprang up. Many of Japan's parks are dotted with these blue tents, visible from space (see them on Google Maps Japan).

In Osaka, a homeless peo-

ple's association has been set up to create a support network for those who live in the city's parks. The community pools their resources to buy food and other necessary items, with all the members of the association taking an active role within their community. More recently, they have even started to grow food together in the park.

But, as they spread, the colonies are becoming more at risk from being destroyed, as the Japanese authorities try to evict people like Mr Yamauchi.

It also seems that the people are being moved on because of the city's sporting aspirations. Back in 2000, it was with hopes of wooing the Olympic committee (it went to China), and this year it is in anticipation of the 2007 IAAF World Championships in Athletics.

The people were given a deadline of 21st January to leave peacefully, or face having their tents removed.

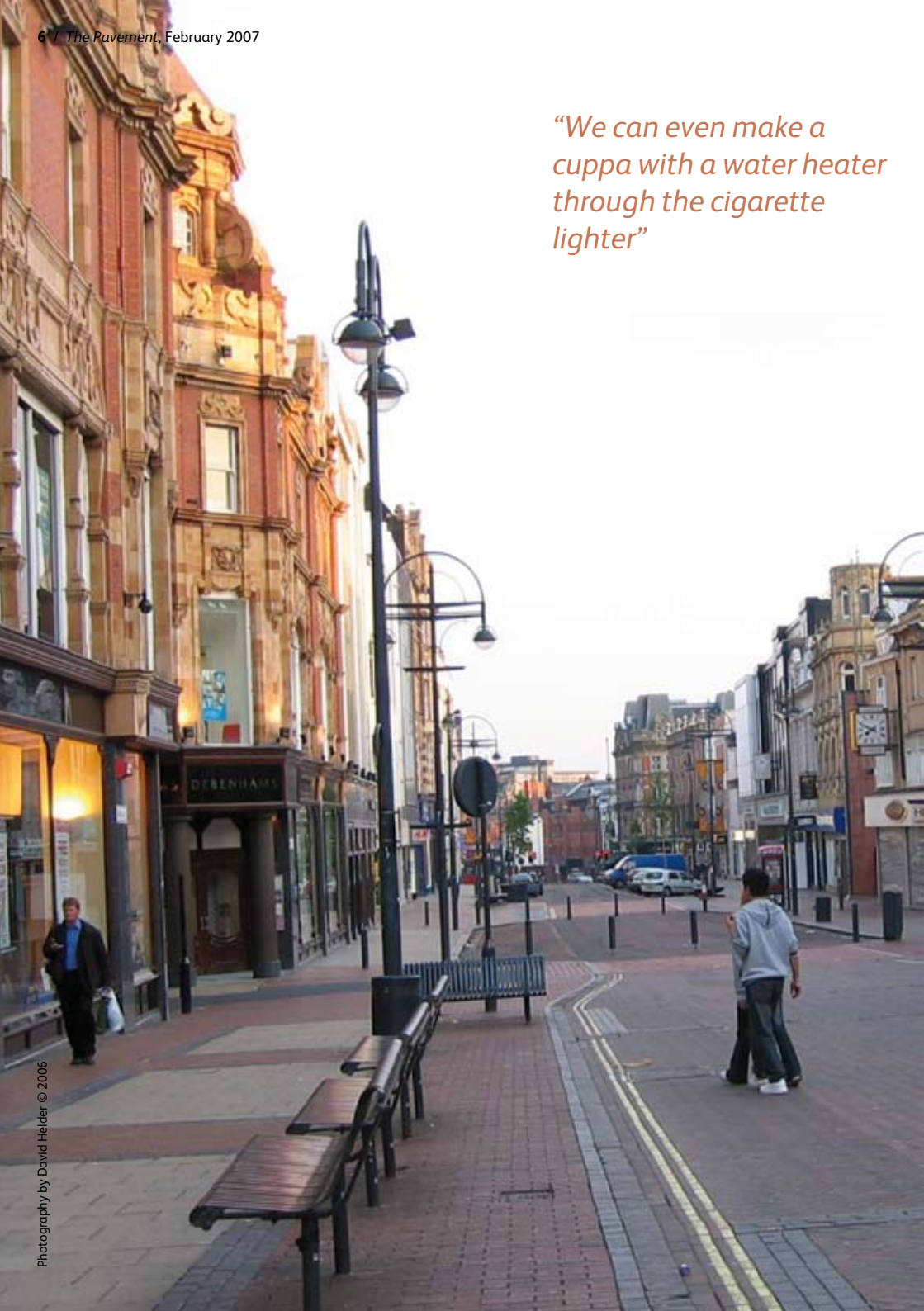
Two years ago, the government shut Tokyo's Okubu Park in an attempt to rid it of rough sleepers. The closure was the last move in a series of initiatives carried out by the authorities, which included concreting over parts of the greenery and removing the children's play area in order to make the area less comfortable for those who camped there. In the oldest of Tokyo's parks, Ueno Onshi, benches have been made 'anti-homeless.' They have a metal arm going into the back centre of the bench, and the seat tilts downwards.

Carlo Svaluto Moreolo & Catherine Neilan

“Today’s verdict is a great shame. It is very difficult to exercise one’s rights as a citizen without a registered address.”



“We can even make a cuppa with a water heater through the cigarette lighter”



An Englishman's car...

With a housing shortage in Leeds, one family moved into their Mondeo

A family of three from Leeds has finally been re-housed after having to live in their Ford Mondeo for nine months.

Club singer Daniella Prestwich, her 12-year-old daughter Hayley and her partner Duncan Haigh lost their accommodation in May, and had been sleeping in their car until just a few weeks ago.

The Mondeo became home for the three after they were taken off the priority list for Leeds City Council housing.

But after nearly nine months, and thanks to a lot of pressure applied to the Council, the three have finally been offered a suitable house in the area.

Local press reported that the family was taken off the Leeds City Council housing list after they refused to accept property which they felt "was not fit for human habitation."

Miss Prestwich told journalists that the accommodation the Council had assigned them was in an area "where huge gangs of yobs roamed the streets."

Her husband added that that while they were there, someone had thrown bricks at passing cars, and that the family was warned not to take the place by neighbours.

The family found no solution but to adapt to life in a car – staying in public car parks or on residential streets near friends' homes at night.

Miss Prestwich said when the cold weather came, the three would put the car heater on and make the most of their set of covers, thermals and layers. She said: "We can even make a cuppa with a water heater through the cigarette lighter."

The family turned to local MP Fabian Hamilton – who is said to be dealing with a huge number of complaints about council housing in Leeds.

Mr Hamilton told *The Pavement*:

"Daniella, Duncan and Hayley approached me, and we have been working with them and Leeds city Council to get the family housed."

When his constituents have housing issues, Mr Hamilton said he works closely with the Arms Length Management Organisation (ALMO), which runs housing in one part of Leeds.

He added: "The problem with housing in general is that it is so low on the political agenda, and yet around London it is the most critical issue facing people and families. We could easily solve the problem by building more low-cost homes for rent or for rental-to-purchase schemes."

Gerry Harper, spokesperson for MP Fabian Hamilton, said when the family got in touch with Mr Hamilton, he wrote a letter on their behalf to Leeds City Council, asking to have them returned to the priority list.

Mr Harper said that the family had bid for many houses but the Council had not responded – even after Mr Hamilton had written letters to the council to support them.

He decided to make the most of his contacts in the local media, and he got in touch with some journalists to raise the alarm.

The story was published by several newspapers, including the region's biggest – *The Yorkshire Post* – and slowly attention was drawn towards the case of Danielle's family.

Mr Harper said: "I wanted to highlight the case of the family – once it had hit the headlines, the Council would have looked a bit silly if it did not do anything about the case."

The coverage on the local media rewarded the family, which has finally assigned a house by the Council. However, a large number of people – around 32,000 – remain

on Leeds City Council's housing waiting list.

Mr Harper said: "There are so many families on the list because the Council is facing a severe housing shortage – and this is the effect of 25 years of the 'right to buy' policy."

Introduced by the Conservatives in the early Eighties, the bill saw more than five million council house tenants gain the right to buy their home with discounts between 33% and 50%, depending on how long they had lived there.

Mr Harper said: "The proceedings from the sale of the houses to the tenants went into the Treasury's coffers instead of being given to the councils, which now do not have money to build social housing, and people are waiting to get into the reduced number of council houses."

The authority's executive board approved the sale of council land in Kirkstall, Leeds, to a private company, Home Housing Association, for £85,000, even though the land was valued at £800,000.

The company intends to build 17 affordable family homes on the land. The properties will be sold by Home HA to eligible applicants in a shared equity scheme.

Another plan to regenerate one of Leeds's deprived communities – Beeston Hill and Holbeck – is ongoing.

Leeds' Council is to select another private company to develop a £90m project to build 200 council homes and 500 other homes over the next 15 to 20 years.

Carlo Svaluto Moreolo

News-in-brief

A round up of all the news from the streets of London and around the world

Morning visit

Westminster Councillor Angela Harvey, accompanied by a police presence, made an unannounced visit to the Simon Community soup run on Wednesday, 17th January.

Westminster City Council confirmed her presence in Milford Lane, of the Strand, but was concerned that it had been misconstrued.

Cllr Harvey was there with Westminster Council press officer Paul Marinko and a *Sunday Times Magazine* journalist who was writing an article on London's rough sleepers. The journalist's name, and the angle and publication date of the story, was not revealed. Two policemen were parked around the corner from Milford Lane.

Simon Community staff only found out about the visit from their guests. Tim Nicholls, director of the charity, said that he was keen to work with the council: "We would welcome good effective co-operation with any agency in terms of being able to support the people we meet better and more effectively." He was keen to point out that Cllr Harvey did not need permission to visit the Simon Community. "It is there for anyone who might be hungry or in need of a cup of tea on a cold night," he joked. "I am pleased that she found everyone to be welcoming."

Mr Nicholls hoped the journalist's article would aid the work his charity sets out to do: "I understand that she probably saw other soup runs, and I am pleased that more than one charity is involved in trying to help tackle the isolation and hunger that so many people experience on London's streets," he added.

Rebecca Wearn

Out of sight, out of mind?

A property developer in Daytona Beach, Florida, has unveiled plans to give rough sleepers their own resort.

Michael Arth says removing 2,700 homeless people from affluent suburbs to a 125-acre site near the local prison will solve what he dubbed a "vagrancy problem". He claimed that this "permanent and compassionate solution" would be a cheaper alternative to imprisonment for illegal vagrancy or re-homing. However, critics claim the separation of residents is akin to Soviet gulags.

The plans outline a 5,600-bed village of bungalows, communal gardens and a pool, as well as counselling and job training, at a total cost forecast at \$50m (£25.33m).

The idea has earned mixed reactions from local charities. "I have concerns about creating a gulag for homeless people who are not integrated into society, of essentially sending them to a reservation to live," Lindsay Roberts, the executive director of the Volusia-Flagler Coalition for the Homeless, told a local paper. But she added that the scale of the problem was such that the plan was a step in the right direction. The Daytona Beach police chief has become so desperate that he recently proposed offering rough sleepers free bus tickets out of the city.

Rebecca Wearn

Look Ahead evictions - a false rumour

Look Ahead's hostel in Bayswater has dismissed claims that it evicted residents shortly before Christmas, claiming it has one of the best records in London.

The Pavement was told that eleven people had been forced to leave their accommodation in the run up to the festive period, but this was denied by members of staff at the hostel.

It was suggested that these expulsions came as a result of the increase in beds available at Crisis open Christmas.

But Mark Lewis, head of operations concerning homelessness for Look Ahead, denied this was the case, stating that the Bayswater hostel had the lowest percentages of evictions every year.

Customers were evicted only if they would not pay the rent or if they constantly broke house rules, he said.

Mr Lewis said he was surprised to hear the allegations of an eviction taking place during the season.

"We very rarely would evict over Christmas, and certainly not for anything like rent," he said.

"It would have to have been a very serious incident – and by that I mean something like an attempted murder – in which case, the person would be then arrested," argued Mr. Lewis

The hostel had only evicted two people since March 2006, and that was for behavioural issues, he added.

"The two evictions took place last summer, and if my memory

serves me right, the police were called as there were drugs and a gun involved." said Mr. Lewis.

There had been no evictions since then, and none for non-payment of rent, he said.

"The Bayswater hostel has the lowest percentages of evictions per year. You can count them in two hands to be honest, which is why we are seen as one of the best hostels in London," added Mr Lewis.

According to Mr. Lewis, before anyone can be evicted there is a long warning process. The first warning is verbal, then two more warnings follow and then the eviction note is given. Residents still then have a period of time to appeal, and those appeals would be referred to people outside of the hostel.

"They also have the chance to appeal to myself, as the operation manager" said Mr. Lewis.

The whole process can take two or three months, he said.

The Look Ahead organization was awarded with the 2006 Andy Ludlow Homeless Award for its customer involvement program and has a special complaints policy.

Reneé Maltezu

Violence in Surrey

Homeless man Stephen Kitchingham, 34, has been jailed for a further 11 weeks after pleading guilty to two counts of criminal damage in Redhill, Surrey.

Mr Kitchingham terrified Walton-on-the-Hill residents on 22nd November last year by smashing windows of shops and cars. Police located him after an all-night manhunt in their helicopter. Mr Kitchingham has already served three months in jail, but following a report into his continuing mental health difficulties, he was held in custody. His solicitor had voiced his concern for his safety if he was released.

Mr Kitchingham was arrested in the same village in 2002 for stabbing a bar manager in the head, and hospitalised for treatment. At the time, Detective Sergeant Mark Preston-Heard, of East Surrey Police, said: "I am delighted with the verdict, which means that Stephen Kitchingham will no longer be a danger to the general public. He has proved himself to be a dangerous and unpredictable man, and this case had a profound effect not only on the victim and his direct family, but on the whole community."

Rebecca Wearn

Dead man walking... away

A man who was thought to be dead has been discovered in New York by his ex-wife, after being sued for anti-social behaviour.

Rough sleeper Roger Greenlee, 64, was slapped with a \$100m lawsuit for passing his days outside an up-market antiques shop on Madison Avenue.

The story was aired on US national television. When Elsie Sparks, 60, spotted her former husband, she was 'flabbergasted'. "We've been looking for him for 30 years," she told local news. "I'm glad he's safe and that people care about him. Quite frankly, I thought he was dead."

She last saw Mr Greenlee in the late 1970s before he left her and their children, Michelle, now 35, and Dan, now 41. He suffered from a bi-polar disorder, forcing the family to move 20 times in 14 years to find work.

Ms Sparks was hurt that Mr Greenlee had no interest in reuniting the family and felt she was being rejected again. "I'm glad he's OK and that he's doing what he wants to," she added. "I guess you would call him a survivor. Obviously, he has done fairly well at doing that."

Rebecca Wearn

Mystery beating

Rumours have been circulating of two rough sleepers being severely beaten with a piece of wood near the Strand in the week ending 12th January, near Southwark Bridge, in the centre of the capital.

Although the details are vague, sources claim that one man was badly cut and bruised, and received stitches for a head wound. The reports also claim that a second man remained in an unknown London hospital for a week and the perpetrator had been arrested.

Inspector Malcolm Barnard, of the homeless unit in Charing Cross police station, has asked colleagues for further details: "I have spoken with senior officers in CID and officers on the Safer Neighbourhood teams, and I cannot find any account of such an incident involving rough sleepers," he said. "I am keen to establish whether such an incident occurred, but without a date or details of the individuals involved, it is impossible to verify."

Rebecca Wearn

Mutual support, please

An outreach charity has lamented the lack of co-operation between service centres in London.

Tim Nicholls, director of the Simon Community, wants more mutual assistance from night shelters to give better to support to London's vulnerable rough sleepers. "Our outreach teams often meet people in crisis late at night," Mr Nicholls explained. "Despite repeated attempts to secure referral rights into the St Martin's night shelter, we have been refused, for no reason."

He and his colleagues were aware that the night shelter was often only half full. "In the interests

of the people we meet, it would be good to be able to get those in deepest need away from the streets and into a safe environment," said Mr Nicholls. "This is just one area where I think there could be effective co-operation."

Mr Nicholls has consistently stated that his organisation is pleased about the increased investment in building-based services. "It is silly to assume that building-based services need to be in conflict with the range of outreach services offered by the likes of the Simon Community," he said. "It is wrong to assume that there is a 'one size fits all' approach to tackling the issues of rough sleeping and homelessness; there is a sizeable group who cannot – or will not – access building-based programmes."

Mr Nicholls felt that the support services offered on the streets needed to be improved, but they should work alongside those offered by day centres and other building-based providers.

He voiced concerns of a 'blame and shame' culture against smaller agencies such as the Simon Community and hoped that the sector would grow up: "It's time for all agencies – voluntary, local government and central government – to return to this serious matter and work more effectively together to support those both on the streets and in hostels."

Rebecca Wearn

Bad smack

Westminster Drug And Alcohol Team released another alert on 31st January. It stated that those using the needle exchange had told of their experiences of an overdose.

They all claimed to be using their regular amount, and some have described the heroin as creamy in colour. It is particularly common in the W9 and NW8 areas.

Staff

Funding cut for Thames Reach

Rumours that Thames Reach were going to lose some of their funding from Westminster Council were proved true recently.

James Francis, their head of street and hostel services, made this statement to *The Pavement*: "Thames Reach's street-based outreach contract with the City Council to respond to the needs of long-term rough sleepers in Westminster ends on 31st March, and is not being extended. Thames Reach has been part of the 'building based services' partnership since the outset and had planned to reduce the streetwork we do for Westminster City Council as the balance of resources being spent on streetwork shifts more to day centres. Our team has out-performed the council's targets set in the contract and we are pleased with what we have been able to achieve. The council's wider strategy is to

now focus resources into day centres and 'building based services'. In this sense the demise of our specialist Westminster outreach team is a natural and expected consequence of that approach. We will not be losing the expertise that we have gained through this work and continue to work with rough sleepers who are referred into our hostels and support projects in Westminster.

"Thames Reach will not therefore be part of the building based contract into 2007-8, but will continue to work towards ending street homelessness through its London Street Rescue teams which undertake outreach work throughout the M25 area and has recently been extended with additional money from the Treasury to provide support to the London Ambulance Service and local hospital Accident & Emergency Departments."

Staff



"I've only got eyes for YouTube"

Greener pastures

Green Pastures has called for leading charities and the Church in Britain to take a more dynamic role in providing permanent homes for the nation's homeless.

Rev. Peter Cunningham, founder of Green Pastures, said that there was a huge discrepancy between the Government figures and the exact number of those who are considered to be sleeping rough.

"Government counters are purposely misleading, to avoid alarming the public and generating bad press," he said. "The Ministry of Misinformation fails to tell us that there are 500,000 homeless people in Britain and 750,000 empty houses."

The problem of homelessness would be resolved with the acquisition of 220,000 empty homes, less than a third of those that appear on the empty homes register, he said.

In 1999, Pastor Pete, who used to be a stockbroker, promoted a new ethical investment company in the property business, designed to buy property for homeless families by renting it to investors.

The objective was for investors to gain interest equivalent to what they would receive on other financial instruments, as well as shares in the rising value of property.

With just £26,000 Pastor Pete purchased a ramshackle building that had two self contained flats. Since this first step, the company has grown to 136 units with about 300 tenants.

Green Pastures has also made the somewhat controversial suggestion of using church land as a source of finance. Churches are usually surrounded by hectares of land that could be used to set up internet cafes, or conference, leisure and sports centres.

A well intentioned Government could come alongside with mort-

gage and contract guarantees.

Clara Denina

Ministerial pow-wow marred

Thames Reach has defended itself from accusations that a meeting between rough sleepers and a member of parliament last month was little more than a publicity stunt.

A group of nine participants met with Hilary Armstrong, MP for Social Exclusion, in Whitehall on 9th January, in an initiative organised by the charity.

But this meeting has come under fire for failing to deal with issues of long-term homelessness.

One source, who spoke to *The Pavement* having attended the meeting, said: "Had the meeting been about rough sleepers as it was supposed to be, more time would have been spent discussing the street issues, but too much time was spent on non-street issues."

The objective of the meeting was to get to grips with the issues around the use of outreach services or Building Based Services and how to improve their suitability.

But the choice of participants – five hostel residents, two who were squatting and two long-term rough sleepers – has been questioned as representative.

"This meeting was supposed to be about those rough sleepers who would not engage with the outreach service and why they would not. The five who were in hostels had obviously already engaged with the outreach service, and by that fact alone were not authentic participants. They were no longer rough sleepers, and should not have been there," said our source.

But Mike Nicholas, communications manager for Thames Reach, defended the meeting, saying the purpose of the visit was to en-

able direct dialogue with those in authority, so that people could raise any concerns they had.

"Our outreach workers were talking to people who were sleeping rough. They were asked what they wanted to do in terms of having their voice heard. The rough sleepers said they wanted to speak to people in government. We contacted the government and Ms. Armstrong agreed to meet them," said Mr Nicholas.

"There was a discussion about bureaucracy that hinders people's journey off the streets and into accommodation and it was described by one participant as 'hurdle, hurdle, brick wall'", said Mr Nicholas.

Outreach service manager Petra Salva, who co-organised and attended the meeting, said: "There were people there who find services very supportive, others who do not, and others still who sleep on the streets of London and are unhappy about it.

"The meeting was a good opportunity to crystallize issues, but it would be dangerous to say the attendees were representative of the homeless community in London. We tried to have people with different experiences to cover a wider range of issues," she said.

Ms Salva said although the initial goal had been to reach the Prime Minister, the fact that Hilary Armstrong accepted was a success.

Kellie Manchip, who spent six years on the street before finally moving to a Thames Reach hostel one month ago said she thought the meeting had been worthwhile.

"I felt like people paid attention to me at the meeting and I'd love the chance to go back to the Cabinet Office in the future to see if the government has not only listened, but acted upon the issues we spoke about," she said.

The group discussed the possibility of providing a helpline for those facing eviction, dealing with a specific individual's needs, and the advantage building communi-



ties of those who shared the experience of sleeping rough to prevent isolation.

Small-scale hostels with a personal feel were discussed, alongside a recommendation that hospitals provide specialist help at point of discharge.

The participants also requested that the homelessness sector and government do more to reduce the barriers that prevent people from getting into accommodation.

A Cabinet Office spokesperson said: "Hilary Armstrong does visits and outreach on a regular basis, and said during the meeting how valuable it was to get the sort of direct feedback the guests were giving. There was a free and open discussion."

The spokesperson added: "One of things we want to both emphasise and learn about is how people can be enabled to turn around their lives. To have people who are no longer rough sleeping in attendance is crucial to getting

that understanding."
Reneé Maltezos

St Martin's work continues

Services at Connection at St Martin's day centre near Trafalgar Square have been moved to a temporary wooden building while the charity's main building goes through a £6.5 million refurbishment scheme.

Helen Garry, fundraising director for the charity, said that services at Connection & St. Martin's – located in 12 Adelaide Street – are running business as usual and that their quality had not been affected.

Miss Garry said: "We have moved to a three-storey purpose built wooden building so we are able to continue offering our full range of services."

The centre operates a day and night centre, with practical facilities

including medical care, specialist support workers, housing & benefits advice and employment & training support. Services are run on a drop-in basis and people can either show up at the centre or make appointments with the specialist workers.

Miss Garry said: "We plan to move back to No 12 Adelaide street within 10-12 months. In the meantime, our address remains unchanged."

The redevelopment programme is affecting the whole area of St Martin's-in-the-Fields church and the buildings owned by the Parish – a £37 million programme partly funded by the government and partly by trusts and corporations.

Carlo Svaluto Moreolo

Hostel raided

On 30th November 2006, police carried out a series of raids on properties providing accommodation to the homeless, across Kensington and Chelsea, with Princess Beatrice House being one of several properties raided.

Princess Beatrice is a hostel operated by Look Ahead.

During this series of raids, it is believed that 25 people were arrested on suspicion of drug offences. Four of those arrested were residents at Princess Beatrice House, although no Class A drugs were found on the premises.

Look Ahead cooperated fully with the police, and Chris Ingram, operations director for Look Ahead housing and care, said: "We have a strict no drugs policy. We will evict any residents where there is evidence of drug dealing."

Princess Beatrice House in Earls Court provides supported housing for 118 single, homeless people from Kensington and Chelsea.

Staff

The interview

John Bird is not a man of few words. Famed for founding The Big Issue and – more recently – for speaking out about the vulnerably housed, Bird is seen in equal measures as a hero and a villain, with a talent for controversy. In his own words, he tells Naomi Glass his (Bird's eye) views on what lies in store for those with no fixed abode

You recently published a manifesto called 'A Rolls Royce service for the homeless, please'.

"We're making a programme with Channel 4 all about this. Nobody really wants to bite the bullet over the issue of homelessness, so people get a shoddy service. Some of my friends and family – because they can afford it – have had what I would call a Rolls Royce service to help them out of their addictions or whatever it was that lead them to ill health or homelessness. They go to places like the Priory for help.

"Then there are others who have no money, have gone through the state system and have never changed. They have been continually homeless, and often continuously in and out of the prison system. A mate of mine died recently at 49 years of age. He was a London-Irish lad I'd known since I was about 15. For the last 26 years of his life, he had social security, he got a flat, and he was supported in and out of the prison system and in and out of long-term hostels. But in the end, he was killed by the system because nobody ever did a fucking thing for him, other than maintain him.

"What homeless people with deep problems need is intensive care. They need to come out the other side, recovered and independent."

How much would it cost to provide a Rolls Royce service?

"On average it costs £60,000 per year to maintain a homeless person

in a hostel, so holding their hands for 10 years costs £600,000. And there are many, many homeless people who have been in the homeless sector for longer than that.

"Why not spend more money on them now in order to save later? If we were to spend £30,000 a year for two years – £60,000 – on bespoke treatment, plus intensive care and counselling, we would save £540,000.

"Spend a couple of years on rebuilding someone's life, and you give them what the upper and middle classes give their families. Just give them what they really need, whatever it is, whether it's dance lessons or detox, and they will start to get better.

"And I've seen this work again and again in the lives of people I know."

Why do hostels fail to help in the recovery process of someone homeless?

"On the whole, hostels should not be called hostels: they should be called *hostiles*, because hostels are largely hostile to the needs of homeless people.

"Certainly, homeless people need to be lifted off the streets because they are destroying themselves. They need to be given places of safety in therapeutic communities whether they like it or not, because often their mental health problems do not allow them to make decisions by themselves. But this just has to be one of a number of stages in getting the homeless off the streets.

"If you go into the homeless system, it's a bit like going into hospital. You see the doctor, who tells you you're very ill and that you need to go to hospital. You go to hospital, and they say you need a major operation and a long recovery. They show you where the TV is, the remote control, the bed. They give you a library book and ask you what you want for tea tomorrow night. That's your first day of hospitalisation. The second, third and fourth day are just the same. But on the fifth day, the nurse comes in and tells you that you're going home tomorrow. "But I thought I was really ill – I haven't even had my operation!" you say. And that is what generally happens to the homeless within hostels.

"95% of all money in this sector goes into emergency or stabilisation, and only five per cent into cure. If you've been fucked over or abused as a child, will a big house with a café area, dorms, toilets and a consulting room (where you can see your key worker for two hours a week or get a couple of hours a month of psychological help or some career advice) really change your situation? A lot of these people are well over the top, as I was when I was young. They need what, unfortunately, nobody gave me either: deep and intense psychological help."

With an emphasis on cure not maintenance, how could a Rolls Royce service for the homeless come about in the UK?

"For me, the future of the world

“...they are always demanding things as if they were children, because no one has allowed them to grow up”



is about participatory and not representational democracy: I don't want you to represent me – I want you to represent yourself. It's about getting the people with the problems involved in the solutions. Homeless people have to be involved in the solution, which is just what we did with the *Big Issue*. The solutions should not be left just to experts and trained professionals.

"If you look at homeless people, they are always demanding things as if they were children, because no one has allowed them to grow up. They are kept as eight-year-olds. Eight-year-olds put their hand out for money, for sweets, for the clothes they want... and Mummy and Daddy put something in it. Homeless people should be given the freedom to make their own choices.

"You can't leave all problems to government or to your MP to solve. I want people to be trained to understand government budgets so they can vote on how the budget's going to be spent because they know how it works.

"The world trains us to be children because the people in power treat us like children, so a change could come about if we recaptured the heights of politics. We have to start with a revolution where we make the decisions based on knowing where the wealth goes."

Have you been in conversation with the British government over the issues of homelessness?

"I have been in conversation with them over the years, but they have never listened to me. I'm probably going to stand for the Mayor of London in 2008 and I shall be making a lot of noise about why it is that London is full of homeless people and why they're warehoused.

"Why is it that there are 16 prisons in the London area which are a kind of social machine for

creating homelessness, poverty and crime? I'll be telling the Home Office that I don't want them polluting my London any more and getting them to tell me how they plan to stop the creation of crime, homelessness and social abuse. I don't tolerate the indifference that society has towards the homeless. I don't want London to be like Lagos, and I don't want London to turn into a Third World city where people can live and die in the streets and you don't care."

"I don't want London to turn into a city where people can live and die in the streets and you don't care"

How does life for the vulnerably housed differ from what it was like when you were on the streets as a young man?

"The homeless used to work for a living – they didn't get things for free. They weren't allowed to beg because if they did, they got done under the Vagrancy Act. If they slept rough, they got done under the No Fixed Abode Act. The laws are still there; we just don't use them. Forty or 50 years ago, the homeless would have to live in a place like a roundhouse or the Salvation Army. Then they'd have to work, which they could because hundreds of businesses employed people on a day-to-day basis, on a casual list which paid around five shillings a day.

"Now the homeless are sitting in hospitals or are being paid to do nothing and not to be responsible. They need a chance to grow up. They just live on state benefits and

their minds are being destroyed by well-intentioned do-gooders who think they're helping when all they are doing is creating dependency rather than independence in the people they are trying to help."

What does the future hold for UK's homeless and vulnerably housed?

"There will come a time when the industry will lose its support because more money is being spent and fewer people are coming out the other end. In the same way that climate change is having enormous and increasing effects, the problems of homelessness are rising. More and more people are getting more and more desperate. Unless we pass our buck to the people, we're lost."

John Bird's views are sure to raise some comment from readers, so do write in to let us know your thoughts. Is he calling for a fairer world or a class war? Are his comments accurate? Is he in touch with today's homeless? Tell us your opinion on what he's said here; you can write in or e-mail us at the addresses on page 3.

Next month: Naomi Glass continues with a day-in-the-life of John Bird.

*Naomi Glass – interview
Rufus Exton – photography*



Milford Lane, Westminster, one of the cleanest streets in London due to its daily spray from Onyx cleaners. This was the site of a Westminster councillor's nocturnal visit - see story page 8.

MILFORD
LANE WC2

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

Health

Nurse Flo on... piles



Photography by Steve Store © 2005

A man went to see his doctor and he was diagnosed with piles. The doctor gave him some suppositories and told him to "place one in his back passage for the next two weeks."

When he had used them all, he went back to his doctor. "Well my man, how did you get on?" the doctor asked.

The man replied: "No good. You know you said put them in the back passage, well we haven't go a back passage in our house, so I put them on the stairs. And for all the good they did for me I might as well have stuck them up my backside."

Haemorrhoids, or as they are more commonly known, piles, affect nearly half the population at some stage in their lives, and at any age.

But, apart from material for jokes, what are they?

Essentially a pile is a swollen, bulging vein, caused by increased pressure. Not so funny.

Age old myths about piles being caused by sitting on radiators or cold stone walls are thought not to be true. However, there are several medical factors implicated in why people get piles; namely constipation and/or prolonged straining, a low fibre diet, and obstruction of blood flow.

Low fibre diet is often key: food without fibre doesn't bulk as much and so the average daily amount of stool produced by a poor western diet is often only half the 80-120g firm stool produced when eating a high fibre diet.

Obstruction can be caused by pregnancy or liver cirrhosis. It's also known that being overweight or doing lots of heavy lifting can contribute to the development of piles.

Unlucky for some, more men than women suffer piles. You may experience pain, itching and bright-red rectal bleeding; which you may notice on the paper, streaking the faeces or splashing around the toilet pan. You may also find that you have the sensation of incomplete bowel evacuation, known as tenesmus. This is due to engorgement and further straining will exacerbate the problem, so do try not to sit and push.

You may not be able to see your piles as they can be either internal or external; the former are the most common, sit about 2-4cm above the rim of the anus and are usually painless, and the latter painful.

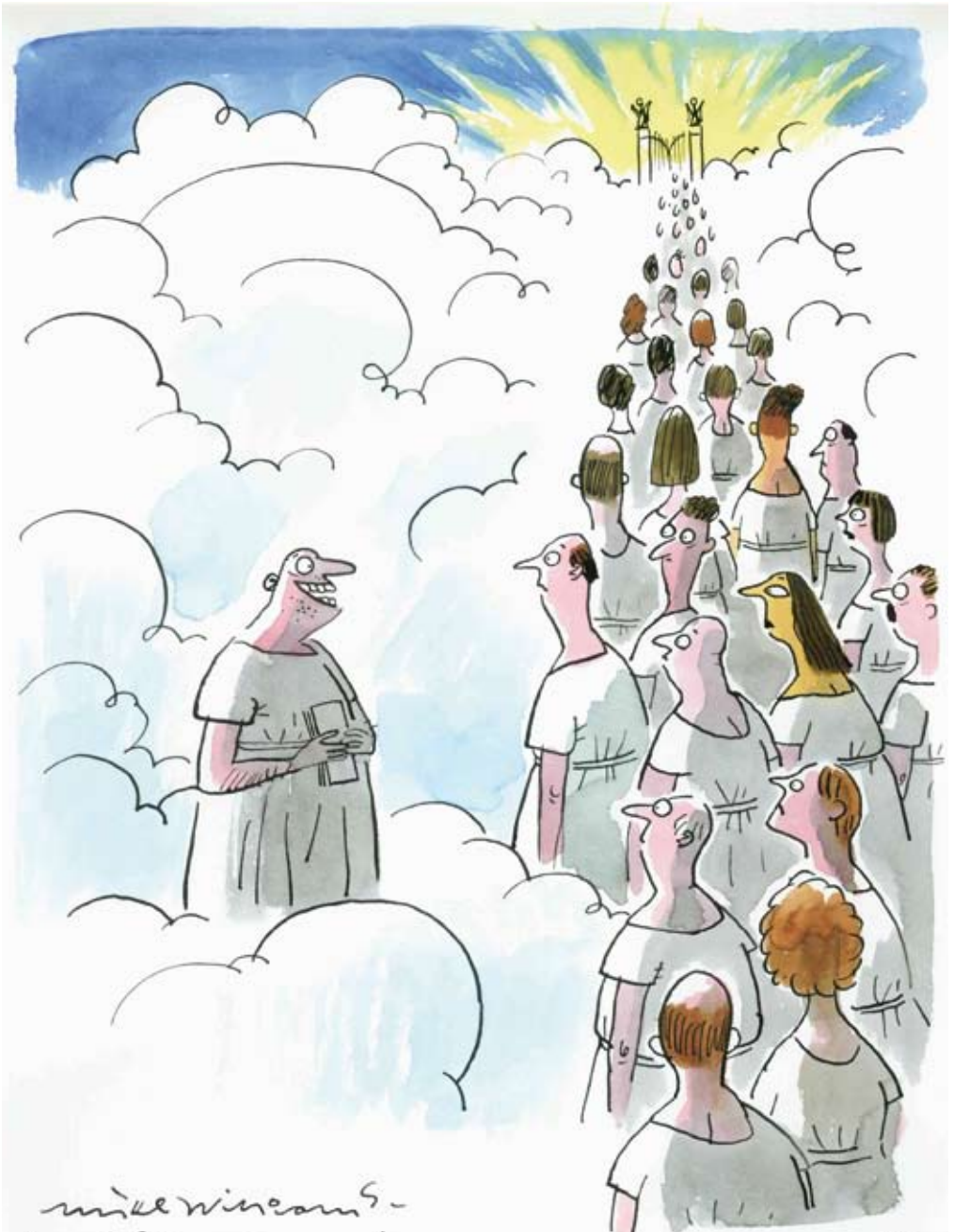
Piles can be graded:

1. *Don't prolapse out of the anal canal*
2. *Prolapse on defecation, but reduce spontaneously*
3. *Require manual reduction*
4. *Can't be reduced*

Management is best achieved through prevention, i.e avoiding constipation and eating foods with plenty of roughage/fibre. General guidance is to cut down on fatty foods, eat lots of wholegrains and to drink enough fluids, other than coffee, fizzy drinks or alcohol.

Usually piles will tend to settle down by themselves, over a few days, but if they persist you'll probably be advised to keep the skin clean and dry, and to use a cream such as Anusol which helps to reduce the size of the piles. The cream should only be used for seven days at a time as it can irritate the surrounding skin. If severe, consult your nurse or GP.

Good Health,
'Flo'



"Wings? You must be jokin' ...ticket touts don't get wings, mate"

Foot care

It's bittersweet, when you have sore feet

It is staggering that one in four people with diabetes can develop ulcers on their feet. If untreated, these can become infected, cause disability and – ultimately – lead to leg amputation.

The main reason feet ulcerate is nerve damage called peripheral neuropathy. When this is combined with high pressure on the sole of the foot and repeated rubbing, skin tears are inevitable.

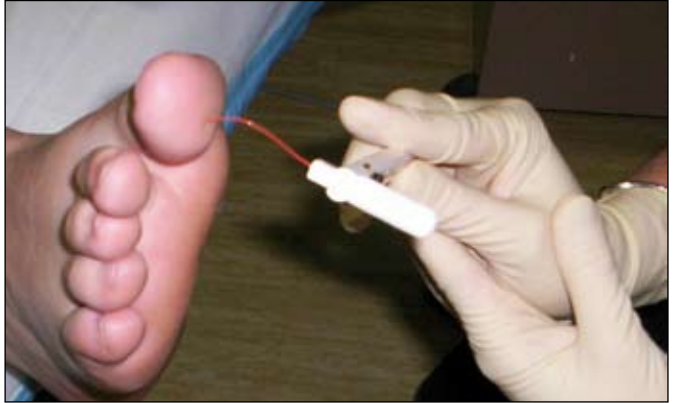
A history of foot ulcers, amputation, long-term diabetes, trouble controlling blood glucose, vision problems, smoking and excess drinking are all indicators that the feet are at serious risk. Loss of feeling in the feet (which is common with peripheral neuropathy) can keep people from recognising that there is a problem.

Numbness or pins and needles are often the only indication sugar levels are unstable and should never be ignored. Diabetes affects the larger nerve endings responsible for vibration, skin pressure and sharp/blunt sensations.

Early diagnosis and treatment can prevent complications from worsening, so people at risk should have their feet checked regularly (at least once every six months) by their doctor or podiatrist. Some simple tests (right) are used to check for loss of feeling, and the examination only takes a matter of minutes.

Nowadays helping people understand the causes and treatments of lifestyle disease involving peripheral neuropathy is the main prevention focus. Better blood glucose control leads to a lower risk of peripheral neuropathy. Stopping smoking and modifying alcohol intake may also help. Well-fitting (comfortable) shoes are essential.

'Toe Slayer'



Ask Agnes

Our agony aunt Agnes answers all

Can you help me? I'm not coping with all the deaths that seem to come my way.

The things we try hard to avoid seem to follow us around: we end up coming face-to-face with them frequently. This could be what is happening to you now – it's as if death is following you. What is scary is that death doesn't always make sense, though we desperately need it to when our emotions are so scrambled.

In the West we are not taught how to deal with death and its consequences. Adults offer us little – if any – guidance when we are children: they don't know how to deal with it, so how can they be expected to help a child, when in some way they are like children themselves? So on we all go, as if we are in a dark tunnel with no light to guide our way.

Yet hundreds of books have been written about bereavement and grief. They try to give guidance on ways to rationalise the whole spectrum of feelings, for some of our reactions may be quite

irrational. Such confusion in the mourning process is quite usual: for many, this may last around a year; for others, the emptiness never quite leaves.

I think that homeless people have more death to deal with than the average person. Their lifestyle and experiences create more opportunity for complications.

It may have started at the baby stage if you were put into a care home. How many homes did you end up in? How many social workers and carers came and went, without you having the opportunity to say goodbye or prepare for their loss? How many schools where you began to fit in, only to be moved on again? How many foster families did you make a connection with, only to be taken away and given to strangers? Did your family split up? How often did you see your siblings, let alone a parent? Did step-parents interfere with your relationship with your parent?

Then, as a grown, up did you wordlessly befriend others like yourself, because there was a natural understanding between you? The

down side of this is that we tend to attract people who – like ourselves – frequently hurt themselves. All they are trying to do, like you, is to cope with the endless pain that they have endured.

And with this can come death from not having any safety net and no one to say: "Stop! Danger!". Maybe for some, death is a release. For the rest of us left behind, it is often hard – we may just not understand and be left with lots of unresolved feelings.

The list of reasons you are not coping could be endless. All the scenarios mentioned above represent huge losses and bereavements in their own right. For all of us, death and grief can be uncomfortable, and we may only learn to gauge our feelings when we are going through the experience. So when it keeps happening, you are entitled to ask: what tools do I have to cope with all of this?

Have you ever stopped to think that it is not surprising you are on overload and your body is saying: "Enough! I just can't take any more!"

My suggestion is to talk to others who are going through the loss too. If you will allow yourself, why not take the opportunity to talk things through and begin to give rest to some of your personal demons?

Go and treat yourself to some professional help from someone who can help you make some real sense of all these completely understandable confusions. Day centres and your doctor will be able to get you the help you deserve.

Good luck... and by the way, I think you're worth it!

'Agnes'



"I want to be an impressionist"

Good Soup Guide

Know where to get it, and what's good

All Souls' Local Action Network (ASLAN) **4 slabs**

Hot food and sandwiches for early risers. Sat 5.30am–8.30am – Covent Garden, Milford Lane, Surrey Street, Strand and Waterloo.

The London Run

Mondays (including bank holidays). Van with tea/coffee, sandwiches, eggs, biscuits, soft drinks, clothes, and toiletries: 8.45am–9.30pm; The Strand, opposite Charing Cross police station: 9.30pm–10.15pm; Temple: 10.15pm–11.00pm; Waterloo (St John's Church). A brilliant van & people, and a fitting tribute to The Colonel.

Hare Krishna Food for Life

The Hare Krishna food run provides wholesome and tasty vegetarian meals from Soho and King's Cross Temples. The former can be found at Lincoln's Inn Fields, Mon–Thurs; 7:15pm, finishing at Temple if there's food left. The latter from Monday to Saturday all year round: Kentish Town (Islip Road); 12pm: Camden (Arlington Road); 1pm: King's Cross (York Way) 2.15pm.

- We've updated this entry to reflect the two temples that run the service.

Harlow Chocolate Run

This run is from Harlow, and serves hot chocolate! They also have sandwiches and cakes, coming out on the Second Tuesday of the month. Behind the Army and Navy in Victoria.

House of Bread – The Vision **3 slabs**

Second and fourth Sunday in the month (6.45am onwards) – Hot food; note that an excellent full

cooked breakfast is served on the fourth Sunday. On the Strand (Charing Cross end, outside Coult's).

Imperial College **3 slabs**

Serving sandwiches and hot beverages on Sunday evenings (8.0pm–9.30pm) at Lincoln's Inn Fields.

Lincoln's Inn Fields

Mon–Fri: 7.15pm; Many vans with food and occasionally clothing. Sat –Sun: 6.15pm onwards.

New Life Assembly

A run in Hendon, that comes into the West End once a month.

Westminster Quaker Tea Run

It is likely that their tea run (with sandwiches) that used to cover Victoria will be restarted on 26th March. When it does, it'll be on the Fourth Sunday of the month, at around 8.30pm.

The Sacred Heart

This run from Wimbledon has several teams coming up once a month to the Piazza of Westminster Cathedral. Sandwiches and hot beverages around 9.30pm every Tuesday and Friday.

Sai Baba

Third Sunday of the Month: 93 Guildford Street, WC1 (Coram's Fields); 11am–1pm. Vegetarian meal and tea. Another branch of this sect also have a service at Lincoln's Inn Fields – a great curry!

Simon Community **4 slabs**

Tea Run: Sun & Mon (6.00pm–9.30am): Islington – St Mary's Church 6am; Euston – St Pancras

Church 6.10; Hinde Street 6.30; Milford Lane 6.45; Strand 7.05; Southampton Road 7.30; Victoria Street; Victoria – Buckingham Gate (Sun only); Victoria – behind Sainsbury's (Sun only); Victoria – Army & Navy 8.15 (Sun) 8 (Mon); Grosevenor Gardens (Sun only); Marble Arch 8.45 (Sun) 8.20 (Mon); Waterloo Bridge 9.15 (Sun) 8.50 (Mon).

Soup Run: Wed & Thurs (8pm–10.30pm): Euston – St Pancras Church 8pm; Hinde Street 8.30pm; Maltravers Street 8.50pm; Waterloo – behind NT 9.10pm; Victoria Street 9.30p.; Victoria – Buckingham Gate 9.45pm; Victoria – back of Sainsburys 10pm; Victoria – Army & Navy 10.10pm

Street Café: Always in the enclosed area at St Mary-Le-Strand (Strand) – Mon (5pm–7pm) & Wed (10am–12.00pm)

Silver Lady Fund, a.k.a. 'The Pie Man'

4 slabs

Piping hot pasties, pies and sausage rolls from the van down behind the Festival Hall early mornings (it's white with 'Silver Lady Fund' written on the side).

SW London Vineyard – The King's Table

3 slabs

Sun 2.30pm–4.30pm beneath Waterloo Bridge (Embankment). Superb hot stews and potatoes, bread, fruit, and tea and coffee.

Please note, soup kitchens are listed on page 29.

Could you rebuild
your life in less
than 16 hours?

If you are
homeless
and over
19 you have
no choice

Government rules mean that thousands of young people are being denied a chance to study full-time for the qualifications they need to build themselves a future

Scrap the 16 hour rule
www.giveusachance.net


FOYER
opening doors
for young people

The Foyer Foundation, Registered Charity No. 1040466

theList

Key to the list:

Accom assistance – AS

Advocacy – AD

Alcohol workers – A

Art classes – AC

Barber – B

Benefits advice – BA

Bathroom/showers – BS

Bedding available – BE

Careers advice – CA

Clothing – CL

Counselling – C

Debt advice – DA

Dentist – DT

Drugs workers – D

Education/training – ET

Free food – FF

Food – F

Foot care – FC

Housing/accom advice – H

Internet access – IT

Laundry – L

Leisure activities – LA

Leisure facilities – LF

Luggage stowage – LS

Medical services – MS

Mental health – MH

Music classes – MC

Needle exchange – NE

Outreach worker links – OL

Outreach workers – OB

Pavement stockists – P

Safe keeping – SK

Sexual health advice – SH

SSAFA – SS

Tenancy support – TS

No new services have been added this issue, but with new stockists taken on every month we'll expand more in March. As always *The Pavement* needs your help. If you notice any omissions or any mistakes, please email Phil Lee at thelist@thepavement.org.uk

ADVICE SERVICES

Borderline (for Scots)

7–9 Belgrave Rd, SW1V 1QB

0845 456 2344 (advice line)

Mon–Fri: 9.30am–10.30am (drop-in

advice service); 9.30am–4.30am

(appointments). Closed Wed pm

A, BA, C, CL, D, H, MH, P

CHAS (Central London)

19–20 Shroton St, NW1 6UG

020 7723 5928

Housing and debt advice, by

appointment only

KCAH

36a Fife Rd

Kingston, KT1 1SU

020 8255 2439

Housing advice and accommodation

London Irish Centre

50–52 Camden Sq, NW1 9XB

020 7916 2222

Ring for service times

A, BA, C, CL, D, ET, H, MC

Notre Dame Refugee Centre

5 Leceister Pl, WC2H 7BX

020 7434 1619

Mon and Thurs: 11am–4pm (drop-

in) Service for French-speaking

refugees and asylum seekers

BA, C, CA, FF, H

No 10 – Care Advice Service

10 Princess St

Oxford Circus, W1C 2DJ

020 7629 5424

Wed: 6.30pm–8pm (drop in – 18+)

BA, C, CA, ET, H

ScotsCare (for Scots in London)

37 King St

Covent Garden, WC2E 8JS

Call the helpline on 0800 6522 989

BA, C, CA, H, B, P, TS

St Giles Trust

64 Camberwell Church St, SE5

020 7703 7000

Mon–Fri: 9.30am–12.30pm

A, BA, BS, D, ET, H, L, MH, MS, P, TS

Women's Link

Rm 417, London Fruit & Wool

Exchange

Brushfield St, E1

020 7248 1200 (ring first)

AS, BA, H

BENEFITS AGENCY

Southwark Homeless Unit

Wedge Hse

36–40 Blackfriars Rd, SE1 8PB

020 7902 8600

DAY CENTRES AND DROP-INS

Ace of Clubs (16+)

St Alphonsus Rd, Clapham

020 7622 3196

Sun, Mon & Tues: 2pm–6pm; Wed &

Thurs: 12 noon–2pm; Fri & Sat: 12

noon–6pm

BS, DT, F, FC, H, IT, L, MS, OB, P

Action Homeless Concern

Emmaus Hse

1 Berrymead Gardens, Acton

020 8992 5768

Call for opening times

A, B, BA, CL, D, DT, ET, F, FC

Aldgate Advice Centre

See **Providence Row** (The Dellow

Centre)

Broadway Day Centre

Market Lane, Shepherds Bush

020 8735 5810

Mon–Fri: 9.30am–2.30pm (drop-in);

8.30am–4.30pm (breakfast for

rough sleepers)

CL, ET, F, FC, H, MS, P

Bromley 999 Club

424 Downham Way,
Downham, BR1 5HR
020 8698 9403
Mon-Fri: 10am-5pm
Thurs: AD, L, FF

Cardinal Hume Centre

Arneway St, SW1
020 7222 8593
Mon-Fri: 9.30am-12 noon &
1.30pm-4.30pm (drop-in - 16-25);
Mon-Thurs: 10am-3.30pm (family
centre, with pre-school children)
A, BA, C, D, DT, ET, H, IT, MH, MS,
P, SH

Choral Hall Lifeskills Centre

310 Barking Rd, Plaistow
020 7511 8377
Mon-Fri: 10am-2pm
A, BA, BS, C, CL, D, F, FC, L, M

**Church Army, Women's Day
Centre**

1-5 Cosway St, NW1
020 7262 3818
Mon-Thurs: 9.30am-12pm

(advice); 12pm-3.30pm (drop-in);
12 noon-1pm (sandwiches).
AC, BA, BS, CA, CL, C, ET, FF, H, IT, L,
LA, LF, MC
Women only

The Connection at St Martin's

12 Adelaide St, WC2
020 7766 5544
Mon-Fri: 9am-1pm (12.30pm
Wed). Various afternoon sessions
from 1pm (except Wed). Weekends:
9am-1pm (no entry after 10.30am).
There are also drop-in sessions on
Tues & Thurs 4.30pm-7.30pm.
A, AC, BA, BS, CA, CL, D, ET, F, FC, H,
IT, MC, MH, MS, OB, P, SK, SS
**Now a mixed service, and due to
be running from portacabins.**

Croydon Resource Centre

70a Wellesley Rd, Croydon
020 8686 1222
Mon-Fri: 10am-3pm
AS, BA, CA, CL ET, F, IT, LA

Cricklewood Homeless Concern

020 8961 8599
Homeless drop-in: 28a Fortunegate
Rd, Craven Park.
Tues & Fri: 10am-2.30pm; Weds &
Thurs: 12.30pm-2.30pm
Mental health drop-in: in flat
above St Gabriel's Hall
77 Chichele Rd, Cricklewood, NW2
3AQ
Tues-Fri: 10am-12 noon.
AC, BA, BS, H, IT, L, MS, OL

Crisis Skylight

See **Performing Arts**

Deptford Churches Centre

Speedwell St, Deptford
020 8692 6548
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri: 9am-3.30
pm
BS, ET, F, H, L

Finsbury Park

Street Drinkers Initiative
See **Whitaker Centre**

**Hackney 180 First Contact &
Advice**

See **Thames Reach**

**The Dunloe Centre - The Tab
Centre**

St Saviours Priory
Dunloe St, E2
Call Tab Centre for details

Hanbury Community Project (SCT)

22a Hanbury St
Spitalfields, E1
020 7377 2497
Wed-Thurs: 10.00am-4.00pm
AC, BA, C, ET, IT, P

The Haven Club

At the Holy Cross Centre.
Mon: 6pm-10pm
For self-treating drug & alcohol
users: no using on day or no entry

Holy Cross Centre

The Crypt, Holy Cross Church
Cromer St, WC1
020 7278 8687
Mon: 2pm-5pm; Tues: 6.15pm-
9pm; (ticket required) Thurs: 5pm-



"you're fired!"

8pm (Italian speakers session); Fri:
12 noon–3pm (refugees and asylum
seekers session).
AC, FF, H, IT, LA, LF, MH, P

Kings Cross Baptist Church

Vernon Sq, W1
020 7837 7182
Mon; Fri: 11am–2pm; Tues:
11am–1pm
FF, LF

Manna Day Centre

6 Melior St, SE1
020 7403 1931
Mon–Sun: 8.30am–1.30pm
AD, B, BA, BS, CL, DT, FF, FC, H, MH,
MS, P

New Cross 999 Club

All Saints
Monson Rd, SE14
020 7732 0209
Mon–Fri: 10am–5pm
Ad, ET, FF, L, LA,

North Lambeth Day Centre

Closed

**North London Action for the
Homeless (NLAH)**

Church Hall
24–30 Bouverie Rd, N16
020 8802 1600
Tue: 12pm–1.30pm; Thurs:
7pm–8.30pm
BA, BS, CL, FF, P

The Passage (25+)

St Vincent's Centre,
Carlisle Place, SW1P
020 7592 1850
Mon–Fri: 7am–10.30am (for
rough sleepers); 10.30am–12pm
(appointments); 12 noon–1.30pm
(lunch, small fee); 2pm–5pm
(appointments); 5pm–7pm (verified
rough sleepers, by invitation)
A, BA, CA, CL, D, ET, F, FC, H, IT, L,
MH, MS, P, TS
No smoking

Providence Row

The Dellow Centre
82 Wentworth St
Aldgate, E1 7SA

020 7375 0020
Mon–Fri: 9.15am–11.30am (for
rough sleepers) & 1.30pm–3.30pm
(appointments & activities); Fri:
3pm–4pm (for rough sleepers)
A, BA, BS, CL, D, ET, F, H, L, MH, MS, P

Rochester Row Day Centre

97 Rochester Row, SW1
020 7233 9862
Mon & Fri: 5.30pm–8pm
(appointments only); Tues: 2pm–
4.30pm (art workshop); Wed and
Thurs: 5.30pm–8pm (drop-in);
Thurs: 1pm–5pm (benefits); Thurs &
Fri 2pm–4pm (English classes)
AC, BA, BS, CL, ET, FF, P

Shoreditch Community Project

– The Tab Centre
St Leonard's Church
Shoreditch High St, E1
020 7613 3232
Mon & Wed; 9.30am–12.30pm
FF, BA, OL, P

Simon Community

House of Hospitality
129 Malden Rd, NW5
Mon: 11am–4pm; Wed & Thursday:
3pm–8pm
**So much more than a drop-in
centre, and they've many services
listed with the soup runs.**

Spectrum Centre

6 Greenland St, NW1
020 7267 4937
Mon–Fri: 9.30am–3pm
A, BS, C, CL, D, FC, H, L, LS, MH, MS,
P, TS

Spires Centre

8 Tooting Bec Gardens
020 8696 0943
Tues & Thurs: 9am–10.30am (rough
sleepers only), 10.30am–2pm
(drop-in); Wed: 10am–12pm
(rough sleepers), 10am–1pm (adult
learning centre); Fri: 10am–1pm
(women only); Sun: 11.30am–3pm
(drop-in)
A, BA, CL, D, ET, FF, FC, H, MC, MH,
MS, P

**Spitalfield's Crypt Trust/The Tab
Centre**

See **Hanbury and Shoreditch
Community Projects**

St Christopher's Centre

Lime Grove Resourch Centre, 47
Lime Grove, W12
Please call for opening times: 020
8740 9182
AC, BS, CA, ET, FC, IT, L, MS

St Cuthbert's Centre

The Philbeach Hall
51 Philbeach Gdns, Earls Court
020 7835 1389
Mon–Fri: 11.45am–3.45pm
AC, BS, C, CL, F, H, IT, L, OL, P

St Stephen's Church

The Manna
17 Canonbury Rd, N1 2DF
020 7226 5369
Tues: 7pm–9pm (drop-in); Weds:
1pm–3pm (drop-in – B and FC); Fri:
10am–1pm (drop-in)
BS, CL, FC, FF, L, P

The Tab Centre

20 Hackney Rd, Shoreditch, E2
020 7613 3232
Friday: 9.30am–12.30pm
CL, FF

Thames Reach

Now called **Hackney 180 First
Contact & Advice**
Venue 1:
Hackney Methodist Church
219 Mare St, E5
0208 985 6707
Mon–Thurs: 8am–9.30am
(breakfast club)
Venue 2:
St Johns at Hackney
Lower Clapton Rd, E5
Mon–Wed: 10.30am–12.30pm
(advice service) & 1.30pm–3pm
(appointments)
BA, BS, CL, ET, F, H, IT, MS

Triumphant Church International
136 West Green Rd
South Tottenham, N15 5AD
020 8800 6001
Sun: 10am–11am (open drop-in)
AD, C, FF

Union Chapel (Margins)
Compton Terrace, Upper St, N1
020 7359 4019
Sun: 3pm–5pm
BS, CL, FF, HA, L, LA, LF

Upper Holloway Baptist Church
11 Tollington Way, N7
020 7272 2104
Mon: 10.30am–1.30pm
CL, FF, LF

Upper Room, St Saviour's
Cobbold Rd, W12
020 8740 5688
Mon–Thur: 5.30pm–6.45pm; Tue:
9.30am–11.45am; Sat–Sun: 12.30
pm–1.30pm
A, BA, C, CA, D, ET, FC, FF, H, P

Waterloo Christian Centre

6–8 Webber St, SE1 8QA
020 7928 1677
Mon–Fri: 9am–12pm
B, BA, BS, CL, FF, H, MS, P
Reopened with improved services
West London Day Centre
134–136 Seymour Place, W1H
020 7569 5900
Mon–Fri: 8.45am–10am (rough
sleepers drop-in); Mon–Fri: 10am–
11.30am (drop-in, hostel residents
join); Mon–Fri: 11.45am–12.45pm
(advice, appointments only); Mon &
Thur: 1.30pm–3.30pm (drop-in for
those with tenancies)
AC, BA, BS, C, CL, F, IT, L, LS, MS, OL,
P, SK, TS

The Whitaker Centre
91–93 Tollington Way, N7
020 7272 8195
Mon–Thurs: 9am–3pm
Alcohol allowed
BS, FF, L

Whitechapel Mission
212 Whitechapel Rd, E1
020 7247 8280

Daily: 6am–11am (cooked breakfast
8am–10am)
BS, CL, FF, MS, OL

**DIRECT ACCESS HOSTELS/
NIGHTSHELTERS**

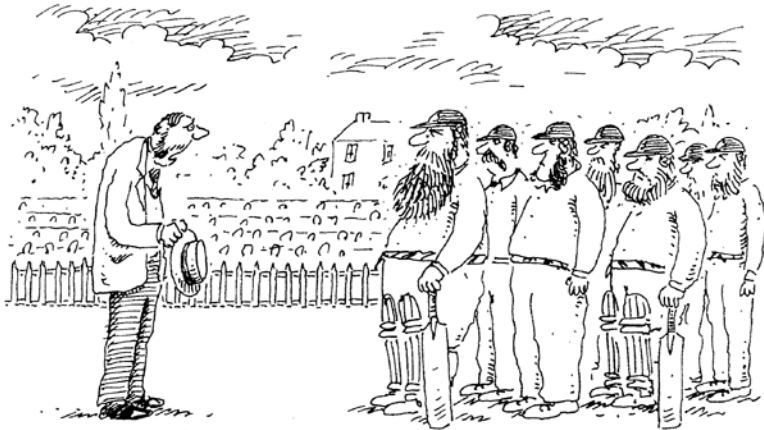
All – low-support needs

Livingstone House
105 Melville Rd, Brent NW10 8BU
020 8963 0545
Ring first. Local connection only

Redbridge Night Shelter
16 York Rd, Ilford
IG1 3AD
020 8514 8958
Ring first

St Martin's Night Centre
12 Adelaide St, Westminster
020 7766 5544
10pm–7.30am
Referral from St Martin's

Turnaround (Newham)
Choral Hall



Cliff

*“I’m afraid I’ve been nominated to inform you that your
team’s infested with head-lice, Dr Grace”*

020 7511 8377

7.30pm–7.30am

Referral from Choral Hall Day Centre

Waltham Forest Churches Night Shelter

740 Forest Rd, Walthamstow

E17 3HR

020 8509 4687

Ring or visit Mon–Fri: 10am–4pm

Men

Missionaries of Charity

112–116 St Georges Rd, Southwark

020 7401 8378

Ring first, 9am–11am except Thurs

Age 30+ (low support)

St. Mungo's (Ennersdale House)

1a Arlington Close, Lewisham SE13

6JQ

020 8318 5521 (ring first)

Medium-support needs

Women

Church Army

1–5 Cosway St, Westminster NW1

5NR

020 7262 3818

Ring first. Daily vacancies

Home of Peace

179 Bravington Rd, W9 3AR

020 8969 2631

Women only. Open access (dry)

St Mungo's

2–5 Birkenhead St, Camden WC1H

020 7278 6466

Young people (16–21)

Centrepoint

25 Berwick St, Westminster W1F

8RF

020 7287 9134/5

Ring first. Daily vacancies

MASH

8 Wilton Rd, Merton SW19 2HB

020 8543 3677

Ring first

DRUG / ALCOHOL SERVICES

Addaction (Harm Reduction Team)

228 Cambridge Heath Rd, E2

020 8880 7780

Drop-in: Mon, Fri 10am–4pm; Tues,

Wed & Thurs 12 noon–6pm;

Closed each day 1.30pm–2.15pm

D, OL, MS, NE, SH

Angel Drug Services Drop-in

332c Goswell Rd, EC1V 7LQ

0800 169 2679

Mon–Fri: 2pm–5pm

C, OB, MS, NE

Blackfriars Road CDAT Team

151 Blackfriars Rd, SE1 8EL

020 7620 1888/ 6500

Mon: 2pm–4pm (drop-in)

MH, MS, NE

Central and NW London Substance Misuse Service

Crowther Market

282 North End Rd, SW6 1NH

020 7381 7700

Mon–Fri: 9am–5pm

C, MS



HOUSING JUSTICE | UNLEASH JUSTICE

Volunteers needed to help count up and contact Soup runs

UNLEASH is organising a week of counting up and contacting all the soup runs in London. The purpose is to encourage everyone to join the soup run forum, and to get an up to date figure of how many groups there are.

If you can spare an evening between Monday 26th February and Sunday 4th March please contact Alastair Murray on 020 7723 7273 ext. 242 or email a.murray@housingjustice.org.uk

the Pavement

Volunteers needed to help distribute The Pavement by bicycle

We're looking for a couple of volunteers from our readership, rough sleepers or hostel residents, who will help in our trial to deliver this magazine by courier-trike.

We cannot say where this will lead if successful, but initially we will only pay expenses and provide a fortifying breakfast.

If you're fit, can read a map, and want to help out, contact us with your details:

PO Box 43675

London

SE22 8YL

editor@thepavement.org.uk

Druglink

103a Devonport Rd, Shepherds
Bush, W12 8PB
020 8749 6799

*Mon–Fri: 10am–5pm (needle
exchange and telephone service);*

*Mon & Fri: 2pm–5pm & Wed:
3pm–6pm (drop-in)*

C, D, OL, NE

The Hungerford Drug Project

(Turning Point)

32a Wardour St, W1D 6QR

Mon–Fri: 2pm–5pm (drop-in)

020 7287 8743

C, D, MH, P

EASTERN EUROPEANS

Ania's Poland Recruitment Agency

31 Fallsbrook Rd, Streatham

020 8769 0509

Ring for appointment

UR4JOBS

*Running twice a week from the
Upper Room, Cobbold Road. Call for
details - more details next issue.*

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

Dress for Success (Women)

Unit 2, Shepperton Hse

89–93 Shepperton Rd, N1 3DF

020 7288 1770

www.dressforsuccess.org

Smart clothing for job interviews

OSW (London Bridge)

4th Floor, The Pavilion

1 Newhams Row, SE1 3UZ

020 7089 2722

CA, ET, IT

EX-FORCES

Ex-Service Fellowship Centre

40 Buckingham Palace Rd, Victoria

020 7828 2468

AS, BA, CL

- 75 years, and going strong.

AWOL? *Call the 'reclaim your
life' scheme from SSAFA on 01380
738137 (Mon–Fri: 9am–10am).*

MEDICAL SERVICES

Great Chapel Street Medical Centre

13 Great Chapel St, W1

020 7437 9360

*Mon–Fri: 2pm–4pm; Mon, Tues &
Thurs: 11am–12.30pm*

A, B, C, D, DT, FC, H, MH, MS, P, SH

Dr Hickey's – Cardinal Hume Centre

Arneway St, SW1

020 72228593

*Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri: 10am–
12.30pm & 2pm–4pm*

Wed: 10am–12.30pm

A, B, C, D, DT, H, MH, MS, P, SH

Health E1

9–11 Brick Lane, E1

020 7247 0090

Mon–Thurs: 9.15am–11.30am

Friday: 10.30am–12.30pm;

Mon, Wed & Fri afternoons

– appointments only; closed

1pm–2pm daily

King's Cross Primary Care Centre

264 Pentonville Rd, N1

020 7530 3444

*B, BS, CL, DT, FC, H, MH, MS, NE,
P, SH*

Project London (Médecins du Monde)

Pott St, Bethnal Green, E2 0EF

Mon & Wed: 1pm–5pm

07974 616 852

MS, SH

Project London also operates at

Providence Row and U-Turn

PERFORMING ARTS

Crisis Skylight

66 Commercial St, E1

020 7426 5661

Mon–Thurs: 2pm–9.30pm

AC, ET, IT, MC, P, PA

Workshop programme from

www.crisis.org.uk

Cardboard Citizens

020 7247 7747

PA

Workshops at Crisis Skylight.

Programme from

www.cardboardcitizens.org.uk

Streetwise Opera

020 7495 3133

PA, MC

*Workshops at the Passage, Skylight
and the Connection at St Martin's*

www.streetwiseopera.org

SOUP KITCHENS

All Saints Church

Carnegie St, N1

020 7837 0720

Tues & Thurs: 10am–12pm

Cooked breakfast

American Church

(Entrance in Whitfield St)

79a Tottenham Court Rd, W1T

020 7580 2791

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat:

10am–12pm

P

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church

235 Shaftesbury Ave, WC2 8EP

020 7240 0544

Sunday: Roast lunch 1pm

10.30am for ticket (very limited)

City Temple

Holborn Viaduct, EC1A 2DE

020 7583 5532

Mon–Fri: 1pm–2pm

£3 voucher (1 per week) redeemable

at local café. ID required

Emmanuel Church (Stratford)

Corner of Romford Rd & Upton Lane

Thurs: 7.30am (booked breakfast)

Muswell Hill Baptist Church

2 Dukes Ave, N10

020 8883 8520

Sun–Thurs: 7.45am–8.45pm

Our Lady of Hal

165 Arlington Rd, NW1

020 7485 2727

Tues, Weds, Fri & Sat: 12.45pm–

2pm

Salvation Army (King's Cross)

Faith Hse, 11 Argyle St, WC1
020 7837 5149

Mon: 5.30pm–7pm (men-only drop-in);
Tues–Fri: 2pm–3pm (women-only drop-in);

Weds: 7.45pm–9pm (open drop-in);
Thurs: 12.30pm (hot meal)

St John's Ealing

Mattock Lane, West Ealing
W13 9LA
020 8566 3507

Sat & Sun: 4pm–5pm

St John the Evangelist

39 Duncan Terrace, N1 8AL
020 7226 3277

Tues–Sat: 12.30pm–1.30pm

St Mary's Church Islington

Upper St, N1
020 7354 3427

Mon: 11.30am–2pm

SEASONAL SHELTERS

Camden and Clerkenwell

Various churches
07908 131518

01 Jan – 31 Mar 07
8pm – 8.30am, arrive by 9pm.
Age 18+, mixed, beds for 15
(separate area for women)
Local referral only.
Dry: no smoking

Croydon Churches Floating Shelter

Various churches (7 from 01 Nov;
15 from Jan)
020 8774 9872 (office)
07914 988208 (out of hours)
Mobile switched off if no vacancies
01 Nov – 31 Mar 07; 7.30pm – 8am.
Last admission 9pm, age 18+,
mixed, beds for 14
Local referral only
Dry

Finchley Area Churches Winter Shelter

Various venues
020 8446 8400
03 Jan – 30 April 07
8pm – 8am. Last admission 10pm
Age 18+ Mixed
Beds for 15
Referral from Homeless Action in Barnet
Dry

Hackney Winter Night Shelter

Various churches
07962 447373
01 Jan – 31 Mar 07
8pm – 8am
Age 16+, mixed, beds for 15
Self or agency referrals: 1st come 1st served.
Dry

Islington Churches Cold Weather Shelter

Various venues
07960 491151
01 Jan – 31 Mar 07
7.30pm – 8.30am, arrive before 8.30pm
Age 18+, mixed, beds for 15
(separate area for women)
Self or agency referrals. Phone 1pm – 9pm to check
Dry

Turnaround Project

0207 511 8377
Open all year
7.30pm – 7.30am
Mixed, beds for 25
Referrals from Choral Hall Day Centre
Dry

Waltham Forest Churches Winter Shelter

0208 509 4687 (Day centre)
0208 509 4674 (Nightshelter)
www.wfcns.org.uk

West London Churches Winter Shelter

Various venues
Priority for those in the Hammersmith, Fulham, and Kensington and Chelsea.



"Ice-lolly, Prime Minister?"

0207 351 4948
(Mon – Fri 9am – 5pm); 14 Nov – 01
Apr 07
8pm – 7am, with last admission at
8pm
16+, mixed, beds for 35 (separate
area for women)
Self referrals; must phone first.
Dry

SOCIAL EVENTS

ASLAN

All Souls Church – Clubhouse
Cleveland St
020 7580 3522
Sat eve: by invitation

SPECIALIST SERVICES

Quaker Mobile Library

Every second Mon: North Lambeth
Day Centre (Waterloo); The
Christian Centre in Webber St
(behind the Old Vic); and The
Manna Centre (the busiest stop).
Every Sat morning: The Passage and
St Martin's

TELEPHONE SERVICES

Domestic Violence Helpline

0808 2000 247

Frank

0800 776 600
Free 24-hr drug helpline

Get Connected

0808 808 4994
Free advice for young people
(1pm–7pm daily)

Message Home Helpline

0800 700 740
24 hrs daily

National Debtline

0808 808 4000

Runaway Helpline

0808 800 7070
Free line for under-18s who have
left home

The Samaritans

08457 90 9090

Shelter

0808 800 4444
Housing info and advice
8am–12am daily

Eaves

020 7735 2062
Helps victims of trafficking for
prostitution

Poppy

020 7840 7141
Helps women who have been
trafficked for sexual exploitation

UK Human Trafficking Centre

0114 252 3891

WEBSITES

Homeless London Directory (RIS)

Although updated irregularly
this public access website has
full details of all major services
in London, including emergency
accommodation.

www.homelesslondon.org

The Pavement

Regularly updated online version of
'The List'

[www.thepavement.org.uk/
services.htm](http://www.thepavement.org.uk/services.htm)



Adam Kershaw

Age at disappearance: 31

Thirty one-year-old Adam has been missing from Lambeth, south London since 22nd September 2006. Although there was a possible sighting of Adam in the Vauxhall area on the 18th December, Adam has not been heard from since.

His sister is greatly concerned for Adam's welfare and is anxious to know that he is OK. She urges him to make contact with someone to reassure his loved ones of his wellbeing. Adam can call the Message Home Helpline on Freefone 0800 700 740 where he can leave a confidential message.

Adam is 6' 2", slim with dark brown, curly hair and brown eyes. He is likely to have a beard now. When last seen, Adam, who walks with a stoop, was wearing a black shirt, black trainers and black trousers that rest above his ankles.

If you have seen Adam contact the confidential National Missing Persons Helpline on Freefone 0500 700 700

Phil Lee



Loki Spring/Summer '07 range
coming soon...

www.lokiclothing.co.uk

