

# the Pavement

The free magazine for homeless people



Issue 141 : Winter Homeless  
December 2022 – January 2023

# Missing



**Ngo "Ago" Van Nghia**

Ngo "Ago" Van Nghia disappeared from Sidcup, London, on 17 March 2020. He was 16 at the time.

Ngo, we're here for you whenever you need us; we can talk through your options, send a message for you and help you be safe. Call or text 116 000. It's free and confidential. Or email us on [116000@missingpeople.org.uk](mailto:116000@missingpeople.org.uk).



**Neil Dryden**

Neil Dryden went missing from Swanage, Dorset, on 23 April 1985. He was 25 at the time of his disappearance.

Neil, call our free, confidential helpline for support and advice without judgement and the opportunity to send a message to loved ones. Call or text 116 000.

If you think you may know something about Ngo or Neil, you can contact our helpline anonymously on **116 000** or [116000@missingpeople.org.uk](mailto:116000@missingpeople.org.uk), or you can send a letter to 'Freepost Missing People'.

Our helpline is also available for anyone who is missing, away from home or thinking of leaving. We can talk through your options, give you advice and support or pass a message to someone. It's free and confidential.

**missing  
people**

Registered charity in England and Wales (1020419)  
and in Scotland (SC047419)

**A lifeline when someone disappears**

**TURN TO PAGES A – P  
FOR THE LIST OF SERVICES**

**Cover:** Our colourful cover is by an unnamed artist from Arbury Court. The work, titled *Beach Fever*, is on display at the Koestler Awards show in London. Koestler Arts is a trust working with people in criminal justice settings to encourage creativity and explore new skills. Learn more about the Koestler Awards on page 7.

© Koestler Arts

### *The Pavement magazine*

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[thepavement.org.uk/complaint](http://thepavement.org.uk/complaint)



**Paul Atherton (right) and Mike Stokoe pictured in front of their collaborative cartoon at the Cartoon Museum. © Mike Stokoe**

Congratulations to regular contributors to *the Pavement* Paul Atherton and Mike Stokoe for having their work featured in the Cartoon Museum's current exhibition, *This Exhibition is a Work Event*. The exhibition runs until April 2023 and features memorable cartoons from a wide range of cartoonists printed during Boris Johnson's tenure as Prime Minister. Paul and Mike's collaborative cartoon titled *Best of Times... Worst of Times...* – depicting real-life events affecting Paul and drawn in humorous detail by Mike – will also enter the museum's permanent collection.

The cartoon follows Paul as he experiences homelessness during the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic. *Best of Times... Worst of Times...* was first published in issues 132 and 133 of *the Pavement*.

## Welcome to *the Pavement*: a magazine for homeless readers

We're a small charity, founded in London in 2005, producing a pocket-sized mag full of news, views and cartoons that helps people in moments of crisis as well as giving info which may be needed to move on. Right in the centre is a list of places to help you.

We believe that sleeping rough is physically and mentally harmful, but reject the view that a one-size-fits-all approach to getting people off the streets works. Each issue we print 8,500 FREE bimonthly magazines written for homeless and insecurely-housed readers in London and Scotland. You can find *the Pavement* at hostels, day centres, homeless surgeries, soup-runs and libraries.

## Help needed

We are always looking for volunteer journalists and photographers to create exclusive content that's written with our readers in mind. We particularly welcome those who've experienced homelessness. Or can you fundraise or donate so we can keep providing *the Pavement* for free? We also need London volunteers to help with distribution.

A big thank you to our readers and writers.

• [editor@thepavement.org.uk](mailto:editor@thepavement.org.uk)

# Winter and homeless

Winter is often the harshest season. Freezing temperatures punish people sleeping rough, and feelings of isolation and loneliness can be all the more acute during the festive season. But every person experiencing homelessness has a friend in *the Pavement*.

This issue we take a look at experiencing homelessness during the winter, with a number of articles aimed at finding some shelter or some support during the colder months. See page 18 for information on Crisis at Christmas 2022, including a helpful map of where the centres are located. Sophie Glickman pens a piece on how The Connection at St Martin's can offer help this winter on page 28.

Alongside the regular news, views and cartoons, there are short stories and absorbingly creative pieces to enjoy. See page 22 for Chris Sampson's latest, and page 26 for David Wishart's return. We hope everyone enjoys the holidays and have a happy new year.

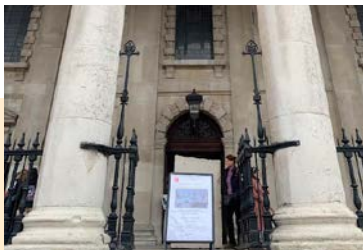
**the Pavement team**

[www.pavement.org.uk](http://www.pavement.org.uk)

**We remember:** The annual service of commemoration for people who have died homeless was held at St Martin-in-the-Fields in November. The service was hosted by St Martin-in-the-Fields and organised by the Connection at St Martin's, the Museum of Homelessness and Housing Justice.

Everyone at *the Pavement* wishes to thank the organisers of the service, and pass on our deepest condolences to people who have lost somebody this past year. Reverend Richard Carter, who led the service, commented that "this service is one of the most important services that we hold at St Martin's each year. Usually we remember one person who died but at this service we remembered more than 140. Our aim is to give those who died recognition, dignity and peace".

The names of people who died experiencing homelessness were read out during the service, which also featured moving performances from the Choir with No Name and Streetwise Opera. After the service Reverend Carter noted "the average age of the names we have read out today [at the service of commemoration] is 48 – in this one of the richest cities in the world. As the economic situation worsens [this winter] it is the poorest who will suffer most."



St Martin-in-the-Fields on the day of the service © *the Pavement*

## Home office shame

In late October 2022, the news erupted with reports of a racially motivated attack on Manston, a detention centre in **Kent**. Two were injured and the assailant killed themselves shortly after staging their attack. Instead of inspiring hate, this attack brought focus to the inhumane experience many of those seeking asylum in the UK have endured since arriving. Many have been detained in Manston immigration centre, a prison-style centre surrounded by barbed wire. Reports from the inside speak of widespread diseases caused by poor sanitation, and it is estimated that 4,000 people have been held in a space built for just 1,600.

## Home office shame II

Amid growing criticism, hundreds of people staying at Manston have been moved, with some of these people let go with no secure accommodation, money, warm clothing or food. One of the people left stranded told the *Guardian* they were informed that they would be moved to **London**, and to contact friends and family to stay with them. A group of 11 asylum seekers, many of them without coats and some even wearing flip flops, were released from Manston and dropped at Victoria station on a Tuesday

night in November 2022, they didn't have any contacts in London. It was only after charities helping them contacted the Home Office did the reply arrive claiming an "operational error". Enver Solomon, chief executive of Refugee Council said that "people are not being supported with dignity, humanity and compassion."

## 3D home

A £6m housing project will develop 46 eco-friendly homes for homeless veterans and low-income families in Accrington, **Lancashire**. The project, run by not-for-profit Building for Humanity, will build the UK's first 3D printed houses. Many of the homeless veterans included in the project will be given the opportunity to work on their new homes, receiving training in the printing of the houses. The *Big Issue* reported in November 2022 that Building for Humanity is hopeful of starting construction in 2023.

## Far from home

More than 6,000 homeless households were moved more than 20 miles outside of their local area in England in out-of-area placements in the past four years, according to



© Stephen Pover

**Award season:** This year's Koestler Awards Southbank Centre show marks the 60th anniversary of Koestler Arts, with the annual exhibition this year curated by multimedia artist Ai Weiwei. The show, titled *Freedom*, runs from 27 October to 18 December 2022 and features artworks created by people in criminal justice settings. *Freedom* is free to visit. Koestler Arts is a prison arts charity encouraging people in criminal justice settings, including immigration detention centres and prison, to explore creativity and new skills. If you'd like to visit the Koestler Awards exhibition, make your way to the Royal Festival Hall, **London**. The exhibition is open Monday to Tuesday 10am-5:30pm; and Wednesday to Sunday 10am-8pm.

- **Learn more about Koestler Arts on its website:** [koestlerarts.org.uk](https://koestlerarts.org.uk)

figures obtained by the *Guardian* in a freedom of information request. The practice sees councils rehouse homeless families outside of the local area, often forcing people to change jobs and children to change schools. One family caught up in the practice, a mother and three children, has been experiencing homelessness

since July 2022. Originally from Nottingham, by late October 2022 they had been placed in 20 B&B rooms across the Midlands. Another homeless household from London was relocated to Blackpool, a staggering 233 miles from their local area.

## Chain mail

Research by Combined Homelessness and Information Network (Chain) put the number of people sleeping rough in **London** between July and September 2022 at 3,628, a 25% rise on the network's figures from the same period in 2021. Chain relies on frontline workers from numerous services to provide data. Chain figures are generally considered more reliable than other counts, as the network doesn't rely on one-night counts and estimates. However, the discrepancy between Chain figures and City Hall figures (see *Capital gains* story) points towards the difficulty in identifying the true number of people sleeping rough in London.

## Cost of giving

Before the graffiti artist Opake, aka Ed Worley, rose to fame within the art scene, he struggled with homelessness and addiction. Speaking to the *BBC* on his recent east **London** exhibition *Sanity Through Repetition*, Worley talked about how his hardships informed his art. His work, which he describes as "urban, chaotic, pop art", explores the realities of his repetitive day-to-day existence with drug abuse and rough sleeping. Despite being offered a contract at a prestigious gallery, he decided to exhibit his work

at Quantus Gallery, where he was able to work with homeless charity Centrepont and inspire others who have similar experiences to him. *Sanity Through Repetition* ran from October to late November 2022.

- **Follow Opake on Instagram at [@opake\\_lwi](#)**

## Capital gains

The number of people sleeping rough in **London** between April and September 2022 marked a 21% increase on figures from last year over the same period. City Hall figures show 5,712 people people slept rough between April and September. Quoted in the *Evening Standard*, the mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said that the cost of living crisis has meant that we are seeing a "revolving door of people ending up homeless." Rising levels of rent and energy prices has driven people into further vulnerable positions. Khan is calling for an end to Section 21 notices, commonly referred to as 'no fault' evictions, a leading cause for homelessness that allows landlords to kick tenants out without reasonable cause. Khan also announced his £36.6 million annual budget to tackle homelessness and called on the Government to freeze private sector rents to prevent further instances of homelessness.





*St Mungo's hostel resident Nicky with her pet chihuahua Foxy © Dogs Trust*

**No dogs:** Dogs Trust is working to make it easier for people to keep their dogs with them when accessing homelessness services in the UK. Through the charity's Hope Project, homelessness service providers were surveyed to assess the experiences their service users with dogs have when applying for accommodation. A startling 70 % of the service providers surveyed say their clients face barriers to accessing homelessness services because they have a dog. On top of this, 84 % knew of people who had refused temporary or emergency accommodation because they couldn't bring their dog.

- **Learn more about the Dogs Trust Hope Project on its website here:**  
[www.dogstrusthopeproject.org.uk](http://www.dogstrusthopeproject.org.uk)

## University challenge

University students in the UK are finding themselves vulnerable to homelessness, as the housing crisis continues to spiral out of control. The situation has become so bad that some universities advise students to remain at their family homes instead of returning after the summer holidays. One student at the University of **Glasgow**, who spoke to the *Big Issue*, said they had spent the first term of university between hotels and friends' sofas. Alongside other University of Glasgow students, the student speaking to the *Big Issue* founded the group Unhoused Students, a collection of students without access to secure housing. At the University of Glasgow alone, Unhoused Students connected with 25 fellow students who are also sofa-surfing. Across other universities, such as Durham, students have held protests against unaffordable housing in the city, and their universities' inaction in increasing the amount of university-owned accommodation. For students coming from low-income backgrounds, this issue is increasingly worrying and may serve as a further barrier to higher education.

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25,525

## Long stay

*The Paveiment* sends its deepest condolences to the family, friends and everybody fortunate enough to have known Maya Nager, who passed away in late October. Nager, from **Glasgow**, passed after collapsing at Terminal V festival. She was 19-years-old. An avid volunteer and friend of the homeless community, Nager has had a fundraiser created in her memory. All proceeds will go to the charities Homeless Project Scotland, animal charity the SSPCA and Refuweegee, a refugee charity. By mid-November 2022, more than £12,000 had been raised for the charities.

- You can visit Maya Nager's fundraiser here:  
[www.justgiving.com/team/maya](http://www.justgiving.com/team/maya)

**53%** rise in people approaching housing advice services in Scotland aimed at preventing homelessness, according to Scottish Labour figures.

**554** people approached services in 2021-22 because they faced homelessness due to eviction or mortgage defaults (*PA Scotland*).

current open housing advice cases at housing advice services in Scotland.

## Going south

Shelter Scotland has warned homelessness services in Scotland are “on the brink of failure”, as an increasing number of councils ask homeless people to move hundreds of miles to England. *STV News* understands people are being asked by their local authority in Scotland to move as far afield as England, due to a lack of suitable accommodation. A Scottish Government spokesperson said they were “concerned” by the reports, adding “this year [2022] we’re providing councils with £23.5 million for homelessness prevention and response measures, on top of £8 million to help them reduce use of temporary accommodation by moving people into settled homes as quickly as possible.”

## Kitted out

Football clubs in Scotland have signed up to Shelter Scotland’s #NoHomeKit project for December 2022, which will see home teams wear their away or third kits to raise awareness for the Shelter Scotland project. Teams in the men’s leagues will wear their alternative kits for the fixtures on 23 and 24 December. Teams in the Scottish Women’s Premier League will wear away or third kits on 4 December, reports the BBC. Scottish Professional Football League chief executive Neil Doncaster said: “We are delighted to support Shelter Scotland’s #NoHomeKit this season and are committed to helping this worsening problem in Scotland.”

**579** people housed and supported through Scotland’s Housing First Pathfinder Programme, according to a new report published in *Scottish Housing News*.

**88%** level of tenancy sustainment rate over 12 months in the Pathfinder Programme, which has Housing First developments in Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Stirling.

**1,333** Housing First tenancies across Scotland as of November 2022. With the Pathfinder evaluation report highlighting numerous benefits to the scheme.

# Ode to you all

The winter months are often difficult and challenging, especially when family life is complicated. A reminder of your strength and resolve, by *Greta Gillett*

This will be my first Christmas in my new home. The first time I have had my own flat that is in my name and not temporary and not shared and not with rent so high each month it scares me.

I will celebrate on Christmas Eve with my daughters who live with my parents. For the day we are a family and then they will go back to their home, and I will not completely be mother/mum but return to woman/woman/Greta.

I will light candles for my other two children who are 300 miles away who are alive and surviving, but whose father says we cannot see each other and they cannot see their sisters.

On Christmas day I plan to walk close to the trees, to listen to them, to ask them to reach out and touch the sky where the moon lives and to send sweet words of love to my children.

I will tell myself I am here, still standing. Alive, despite it all. I have faced death clean in the eye, and insanity has hovered over me too many times, and yet I'm here.

Survivor they say now instead of victim. I wish all of you a peaceful Christmas, one where you too can

## Alone this winter?

- Check out Page 18 for information on Crisis at Christmas centres operating during December 2022
- Visit the List of services in the centre pages of the magazine for a directory of services near you
- You can call the Samaritans on **116 123** for free at any time. The number works across the UK. Volunteers will be on the line to talk through any concerns, troubles or worries you may have.

acknowledge yourself and say how damn amazing you are.

How each and every one of us who has lived through poverty, homelessness and war in our own homes, whether as children or adults or both, deserve statues to be erected of our beautiful selves in each and every city.

I'm writing here an ode to you all. You made it another year despite a hopeless, often callous government, despite the police and ignorant housing officers, despite sanctions



A colourful landscape featuring some houses, trees and a contented moon © Chris Bird

and fucking noodles from the food bank.

Look up at the moon, for she is smiling at you. Look across to the trees, for they are listening to you. You did it. You are the living embodiment of not giving two fucks.

Many people will complain about the cost of living crisis forcing them to hang their washing instead of using the tumble dryer. They might not get their three holidays this year, spare a thought. But those of us who are or have been homeless and have spent many years in poverty, crisis, chaos and in desperate need of food or heating; those of us who rob Paul to pay Peter each month with the

bills and doing cash-in-hand work to top-up meagre benefits: we met the cost of living crisis with an “oh yeah, I’ve budgeted all of my life! I know a million ways to spread ten quid till Friday and how to cook for my family with three quid.”

We are and will continue to be amazing. We will decorate our bedrooms with tinsel from Poundland and cards from family, we will eat chocolate and wrap presents for our children, we will make all the sacrifices we can so that we can make everything as special and exciting as possible for ourselves. And exhale.

Till next year. ■

# Wales makes rough sleeping a priority

In a new law, Wales has made people sleeping rough a priority group when applying for accommodation assistance with their local authority. *Jamie McGowan* explains what this means

Wales have just brought in a law change making it easier for homeless people to get help. From 24 October, any person sleeping rough will be able to demonstrate to local authorities that they belong to a priority group for being offered assistance obtaining accommodation.

Housing policy in the UK is devolved, which means Scotland and Wales can (and increasingly do) have different rules to England. We've already seen both countries take a bolder stance on no-fault evictions: Wales significantly extending landlords' notice period for issuing them and Scotland abolishing them altogether. This latest example of innovation by the Senedd (Welsh parliament), should come as good news to anyone experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Wales. Better still, it's just the beginning of a raft of new measures that ministers hope to introduce down the line.

Wales and England both brought in emergency homelessness measures during the pandemic which saw rough sleeping figures fall. But Wales are making it very clear that

## Getting support

Check the List of services on Pages A – P for organisations which can offer advice on finding a home.

they plan to springboard off of these short-term successes and bring in major new legislation as part of their 'Ending Homelessness Action Plan'. Julie James, the minister responsible for introducing this regulation on 18 October, emphasised that it was just a start, saying:

"I make no bones about the fact that this is a sticking plaster on a system that doesn't work, but it's a necessary sticking plaster".

Unfortunately for anyone reading in England, that 'system that doesn't work' is essentially what they will have to contend with for the time being. Although there are a number of longer-term projects in the pipeline aimed at ending rough-sleeping entirely 'within this parliament', it does not look as though there is the same desire to bring in interim measures as bold as this recent regulation in Wales.

## What exactly does the change mean?

It is worth mentioning that the simplified summaries in this article should not be relied on as legal advice by anyone. The 'statutory tests' that councils use for establishing if someone will be offered homelessness assistance can be complicated enough already, as many readers will know. And now this new regulation in Wales means there are three separate tests in Britain.

They are set out briefly here but if anyone is unsure please make sure to get advice from somewhere like Shelter or Citizens Advice.

In England the four tests for getting statutory assistance are that someone is:

**1) Homeless:** more complex than it sounds, but essentially means unsuitably housed.

**2) Eligible for assistance:** basically the need to have correct immigration status.

**3) In priority need:** can be very complicated, some groups are automatically, such as people at risk of domestic violence, but not street homeless applicants who still need to show another vulnerability like a medical condition on top of this.

**4) Not intentionally homeless:** a question of how someone became homeless, you can't have deliberately left or refused suitable accommodation.

In Wales it will still be necessary for most applicants to meet all four tests as in England. However, following the introduction of The Homelessness (Priority Need and Intentionality) (Wales) Regulations 2022 in October street-homeless applicants are one of the groups that will automatically be regarded as in priority need.

In Scotland where we have probably seen the most significant departure from what was once mainly shared British homelessness law, step 3) the 'priority need' test was abolished altogether in 2012. Applicants now only need to meet the other three steps above to get statutory assistance.

So it has become even more important to check that any advice you read applies to the region you're in as the rules in England, Scotland and Wales diverge. There are promising plans to continue significantly reducing rough sleeping in all three British countries, although probably more cause for optimism in Scotland and Wales right now. What we know for now is that this recent change in Wales will make it much simpler for anyone who has been sleeping rough to demonstrate to local authorities that they need to be offered assistance.

• **Jamie McGowan works in social welfare policy research and the advice sector** ■







"GO FOR THAT FRANKINCENSE AND IT MIGHT  
KNOCK AND BRING DOWN THE GOLD WITH IT..."

# Crisis at Xmas

Crisis cordially invites you to celebrate the holidays at one of its Crisis at Xmas centres. This year there will be four centres in London and one in Edinburgh, read on for more information

Every winter Crisis run Crisis at Xmas, a network of day centres across the UK covering Christmas and some of the surrounding days. For Crisis at Xmas 2022 there will be four centres in London running from 24-28 December 2022, 11am-5pm. A map of how to get to the centres, which are spread across north, east, south and west London, can be found on page 19.

Guests cannot stay overnight at the centre, but during the day numerous services will be available. These include information and support, healthcare, podiatry and opticians, internet access and support to get online, toiletries, hot meals and snacks, haircuts and beard trims, films and TV, creative sessions, and games such as bingo and quizzes.

The centres are run by volunteers, and are a space to feel companionship and find support during a tough time of the year. Crisis do not allow alcohol, drugs, smoking, weapons or violence at the centres. Regrettably pets are not allowed in the centres and guests must be 18 or over.

**DON'T FORGET TO TURN TO PAGES A – P FOR THE LIST OF SERVICES**

## What's near me?

There are Crisis at Xmas centres and projects dotted across the UK. Find out more about Crisis at Xmas here: [www.crisis.org.uk/crisis-at-christmas](http://www.crisis.org.uk/crisis-at-christmas)

## Xmas help

Spaces at Crisis at Xmas do fill up. If you are looking to access services this winter, check out the List in the centre of the magazine.

For advice or support, you can contact the free Shelter helpline on **0808 800 4444**. Use this number in England and Scotland.

In England, the helpline operates Monday – Friday, 8am – 8pm and on weekends and bank holidays from 9am – 5pm.

In Scotland, the helpline is open Monday – Friday, 9am – 5pm.

If you are feeling alone or isolated, or would just like to talk, you can call the Samaritans for free on **116 123**. The helpline is available to call any time.

## Where are the centres and what time do they open?

Our day centres are in North, West, South and East London.

The centres are open 11am-5pm from Saturday 24 December to Wednesday 28 December 2022.

**Please make your own way to the centre.**



### 1 Bermondsey Day Centre

Harris Academy Bermondsey  
55 Southwark Park Road  
SE16 3TZ



### 3 Hackney Day Centre

The City Academy, Hackney  
Homerton Row  
E9 6EA



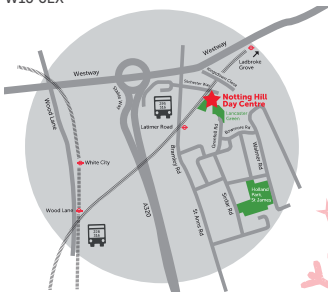
### 2 Camden Day Centre

Haverstock School  
24 Haverstock Hill  
Chalk Farm  
NW3 2BQ



### 4 Notting Hill Day Centre

Kensington Aldridge Academy  
1 Silchester Road  
W10 6EX



# Stop blaming addicts

On using drugs, the stigma attached to addiction, and the problem with criminalisation. By *Mat Amp*

Blaming an addict for using is like judging a house for being made out of bricks. As an addict I've wrestled with the mechanics of addiction and the thorny issue of just how much blame I should accept for the ramifications of an obstinate and enduring habit. The answer to that is there is no easy answer because addicts are human beings and the only thing we have in common is this: we are all different in so many different ways.

In my opinion, it is possible to accept responsibility for all the fucked up shit you've pulled in active addiction without wearing the blame like a concrete trench coat. While every addict differs from the next, my observations have been that an understanding network comprised of supportive services, friends and family (if you've got one) is far more likely to help someone into recovery than anger, blame, guilt or reprimand.

Sure, it can be difficult to live with an addict but being angry with that addict for using ain't going to achieve jack shit. Sever contact with someone if you can't abide their chaos but please don't do it to teach them a lesson or punish them.

Anger directed at an addict

just for being an addict is fuel to their fire, feeding the greed of self loathing's infinite furnace that burns bright at the heart of what I do now recognise to be a disease. I know it is easier said than done, to withhold our anger and frustration, but if we really want to understand addiction we have to stop blaming people who suffer under its yoke.

It's understandable, the way that people make these emotive judgements about addicts. After all we are bombarded with mixed messages when it comes to addiction from an early age. People are the victims of drugs, according to the *Daily Mail* et al, but addicts are lambasted for being the scourge of our society. At the same time booze is everywhere; on billboards, in corner shops and mixed with sweet pop in bottles that are marketed to under 18s. Meanwhile, heroin addicts have been cast as society's lepers for a long time. And while the thieving pockmarked junkie stereotype is front and centre of every anti-drugs campaign, there are many heroin addicts who quietly indulge their habits.

You see, the truth is, the truth that nobody dare speak, is that a vast majority of the problems

associated with drug addiction are the direct result of criminalisation. You can argue about this all day long but what is undeniable is that we find the same problems with the criminalisation of drugs as we saw with alcohol prohibition in the early 20th Century. Okay, let's leave the detail of that argument for another day and just make the point that so much of the way we perceive and talk about addicts is shaped by this crusade to criminalise drug users.

Long-standing, entrenched opinions have led to the widespread use of labels such as 'junkie'. These labels dehumanise addicts and when you think about it they are no better than labelling someone with mental health issues as a nutter. People are struggling with addiction, they are not just another junkie to be abandoned at the margins, like trash.

One of my lowest points as an addict came when the Maudsley Hospital refused me access to counselling because I was in active addiction. The twisted irony of this policy is clear when you consider that the entire reason I wanted counselling in the first place was to understand my addiction so that I could stop using drugs. In other words, they wouldn't give me access to the counselling I needed to stop using drugs because I was using drugs. They told me to get clean and reapply. As far as I am concerned this is part of the stigmatisation,



© Marius Samivicius

labelling and blame of addicts that is the result of a criminal justice system based on the prohibition of drugs and the criminalisation of the user.

Recently I have repeatedly heard people suffering with mental health issues express disapproval at having to share emergency accommodation with drug addicts, citing addicts' chaotic behaviour as something they shouldn't have to put up with.

What has disturbed me is the tone in which these criticisms have been delivered. There is a blame attached, a kind of disgust at having to put up with our dysfunctional behaviour.

The truth is that none of us should have to be living with anyone we don't want to live with. We should be able to choose our flatmates like everybody else, but in the meantime we have to stick together because if we can't do that, then what hope do we have that others are going to respect us. ■

# A lovely winter's tale

In this otherworldly story, a hideous rhubarb-faced creature speaks (to an alien). By *Chris Sampson*

Journalistic integrity is supposed to get both sides of the story. But when people claim to have been abducted by aliens, no one ever seems to get the otherworldly creature's version of events. So in the interests of equal time, *the Pavement* sent this reporter on an all-expenses-spared trip to UFO Central. Which is, of course, in...?

Roswell, New Mexico? Nope. Then surely the Blaze Channel on Freeview, which is festooned with shows about, erm, shall we say, unusual ideas? Not even close. The Bermuda Triangle, then?

Ah! Not quite. Yet its UK equivalent – The South London Dodecahedron – has long been a hotbed of weird and wonderful characters and goings-on. So where better for a not-of-this-earthling to hide in plain view?

And so in a greasy spoon, I met up with Kvob-Blorq (an 11-dimensional hyperbeing from the Thropple star system). K-B for short.

"Embezzle the ferrets at glughouse," he began in greeting. "Fondue nay truncheon..oafish!"

I must admit to being somewhat taken aback by this. "Erm, hello," I offered meekly. "All right?"

"Sorry," he resumed, indicating a

small metallic device clamped to his green throat. "It takes a while for the translator to adjust and convert into Earth-tongue. English, isn't it? The language you use?"

"More or less," I replied, thinking how my editor might have something to say about my usage of the language of Shakespeare, Milton, Dickens and Stormzy.

K-B grinned an alien grin; a smile far too indescribable to be described here, which is a shame given that this is a writing assignment. Ahem.

Anyway, over a cup of overpriced coffee with twigs, essence of Marmite and lord knows what else they put in it to justify the bank-account-curdling price, I quizzed the otherworlder about allegations of abduction and experiments on humans aboard spaceships.

"Oh, that's all cobblers," he snorted. "What they see as being probed is just a form of greeting in our culture."

Hmm. And what about cattle mutilation, then? Loads of farmers in the USA claim that aliens slice up their cows of an evening. K-B rolled three eyes, and squinted with the other two. "Puh-leezel!" he tutted. "I mean, yes my boy Glumbie-Woopiz gave an ostrich a burn once, and I've

given several wasps a funny look, but cattle mutilation? Honestly!"

Then I rolled out the big guns; the sort of question that wins obscure hacks Pulitzer prizes. "If you're really an advanced species," I began, "then why don't you share your superior technology with us humans?"

Yet far from crumbling at this devastating line of questioning, K-B merely sighed, shook his head and looked pityingly at me.

"Isn't it obvious?" He said. "Earth is full of lunatics; some of the worst ones are allowed to have guns, and even the best of your societies allows poverty, homelessness, inequality and even James Corden to proliferate. It would be irresponsible of any civilised race to allow you out into the universe, now wouldn't it?"

He had a point, damn him! But was I to allow the worst of humanity to howl down the best of us? What about music, art, football? Comedy, love, kindness?

"Ah, yes," he agreed. "But what about Putin, Trump, and that fascist woman who is now Italy's leader?"

You can't argue with such logic. For every Leonardo Da Vinci I proposed in defence of humanity, he countered with a Windrush scandal or *Love Island*; for every Pele, Nina Simone or Jimi Hendrix I lauded, he reminded me that my species had produced Hitler, Piers Morgan and semolina pudding (yuck!).



**The Homeless People** © Eve McDougall

Like any disgraceful hack, I let him pick up the tab. As we rose to leave, I – and humanity – was beaten; perhaps never to join the ranks of civilised species in the celestial chumocracy of the cosmos. War, pollution, famine, climate catastrophe. And yet more austerity to come. That's the way of humanity, sadly. Bearing all that in mind, I said: "One final question: Can I come with you?"

He laughed like a drain of course. Maybe one day, the twinkle in some of his eyes seemed to suggest, the human race would have evolved and matured enough to allow it to be considered to join in with the civilized species, but not today.

"Time I was going," K-B smiled. "I've got wasps to give funny looks to in the West Country!"

And off he went. Still, at least Christmas was coming. And New Year. Maybe we can improve things on this planet after all, before we start ruining other worlds. Maybe... ■

# One of a Kind

An in-depth focus on east London's the Kind Counter, a soup kitchen for homeless people and people struggling with the cost of living crisis. Report by *Emdad Rahman*

The Kind Counter is a pop-up soup kitchen based in east London. The community support project believes in collaboration as the best way to provide excellent service and is run entirely by volunteers from the Stratford-based One Third Soup Kitchen, which closed in 2020.

Helpers were apprehensive about volunteering as they were worried about their health and exposure to Covid. It was during the very early days when there was heightened fear and a lot of misinformation being spread, which resulted in high anxiety and fear among people.

Two volunteers decided to carry on as they felt strongly about having an ongoing presence out on the streets when people were struggling like never before.

They were correct. Despite the Everyone In scheme housing many homeless people and rough sleepers, it didn't take away from the fact that many of these people had serious issues in their lives that wouldn't be resolved through having a room to lock themselves away in. Others were left out on the streets.

So, despite a national and global lockdown, it was not uncommon

to see many homeless friends out on the streets. Some were less visible as they were aware of lockdown rules and didn't fancy facing repercussions despite being able to explain why they were out. Others were just too focused on their own problems to worry about the complicated rules.

The Kind Counter continued to operate throughout lockdown as a pop-up soup kitchen and relied greatly on donations of food and essentials to distribute. Many organisations approached the team to offer hot/cold food and items for sharing with homeless friends.

As a result of the needs of the patrons who visited and based on homeless visitor feedback a decision was made to make use of Bookbike London – a free book sharing social enterprise project which involves cycling to deliver books to individuals and establishments, including homeless hostels, care homes and schools. During the Covid-19 pandemic, Bookbike London expanded its remit and operations to include food parcels, clothes and medicine collection, along with the usual books for home visit drop-



offs. The soup kitchen expanded its services to hostels using Bookbike in order to be able to serve hard-to-reach homeless friends, or those who were unable to venture out and had requested support.

The success of the Kind Counter has been consistency. It is a very small and under-resourced soup kitchen set up, but draws strength from using shared resources and accessing available help from others.

**The Kind Counter can be found operating two days a week in east London, outside East End Cycles every Tuesday lunchtime (12:30pm – 1:30pm) and opposite Westfield shopping mall and the Stratford Centre every Saturday.**

I once had an exchange with a lady who I had noticed for two weeks at Stratford. She had situated herself behind a pillar and her furtive glances caught my attention. I decided to get to the bottom of the matter and approached her to have a chat. Mary explained that she had noticed the “delicious food” being shared and really wanted to take some but felt too shy to do so. She also explained that she wasn’t homeless and had convinced herself that it would be unfair to take food. Whilst we chatted, I learnt that both she and her husband worked full time but she had her hours reduced by more than 50%, whilst he had suffered back trouble and had been



**Emdad (first on right) with the One Third Soup Kitchen in east London.**  
© Emdad Rahman

off work as a cabbie for over six months. Things had slowly started to get on top of the family. Mary told me that for three weeks she and her husband had not been able to afford a hot meal and had kept going on buttered sandwiches.

I was astonished and told Mary that she didn’t have to join the queue if she felt self-conscious and all she had to do was get my attention and I would walk up to her with her food parcels. My interaction with Mary changed my perspective completely and we changed our criteria at the Kind Counter to include people who weren’t homeless. Many may not be living rough on the streets but they need support as the level of hardship they are facing due to the cost of living crisis is simply off the scale. ■

# Home is...

A collection of thoughts on homelessness and what home means, from the imagination of *David Wishart*

My first separation from a safe place I called a refuge would be 26 September 1949. On a large double bed in a small white bungalow in a village near Lockerbie, Scotland called Hightae. Exactly two hours later my twin sister arrived. It was quite a quick birth I believe, as I gracefully slid down my mother's birth canal.

I can remember being pushed by my sister's feet on my head, which may account for my strange thoughts at times, as she helped me speed up my journey along the way. It's been an interesting ride. In France when you're going home you say you're going *chez moi*, meaning my place, but not all of us have that luxury, of course. In farming country, they say a home is not a home without a dog or a cat.

If you are sick, or if you are sad, it's impossible to settle in a place you might like to call home. Home is always better if there is a friend you can share a home with, and you are really homeless if that friendship ever breaks down. It's not easy to live with people. For some, institutional life is the safest place, like prison, or the army, or the navy. Different words come to mind, such as sanctuary, retreat, nest, or even

## Get creative

Do you have a story you would like to share? Fancy flexing your creative talent? If you are interested in contributing to *the Pavement*, get in touch with the editor via email at: [editor@thepavement.org.uk](mailto:editor@thepavement.org.uk)

hut in the garden.

To be more topical, I ask you a question: Is a palace a home? You may reply, *depends who is there with you, or is it warm? Or is it clean?* It surprised me how comfortable people appeared to be queuing for the Queen's funeral in a little tent or a blanket. So maybe a blanket can be a home, especially if you are sharing the blanket with a nice person.

A home could be where you eat or where you keep your most precious books or music. Maybe a home is a place inside your head, or your heart.

When I was a boy, 73 years ago, I learned to sing a song called *There's No Place Like Home*, although some people may think Ibiza is like home. I camped on a beach in Sardinia for three months once, and it was the best home I ever had. ■

# Mental health in winter

You have the right to access mental health support. Read on for advice from Groundswell and Mind if you're experiencing homelessness and are having thoughts, feelings or experiences that are upsetting or overwhelming

## Treatment and support options

- Talking therapy is offered by the NHS and some charities
- Medication is sometimes offered by the NHS
- Peer support is available from charities, social groups and some religious groups
- There are alternative therapies, such as meditation, herbal remedies and yoga, offered by some charities and social groups
- Approach your GP, support worker, or local charities to see what treatment and support options are available to you
- You do not need an address to sign up to a GP
- For urgent help call 999
- The NHS has a dedicated web page for people needing urgent mental health support. Visit the website here: [www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/mental-health-services/where-to-get-urgent-help-for-mental-health](http://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/mental-health-services/where-to-get-urgent-help-for-mental-health)

Groundswell exists to enable people who have experience of homelessness to create solutions and move themselves out of homelessness – to the benefit of our whole society. Our vision is of an equal and inclusive society, where the solutions to homelessness come from the people with experience of homelessness.



# 'Tis the season

For a lot of people in London the festive period can be the least wonderful time of the year. A member of the team at The Connection at St. Martin's shares what The Connection is offering this winter. *By Sophie Glickman*

At The Connection at St. Martin's, we've seen more than 100 Christmases in Westminster. For most people, this brings excitement. For staff, the upcoming holidays mean time off work to relax with family. It gives supporters a chance to get more involved in our work giving them a sense they've really made a difference this year.

But what about the people we work with?

The truth is, Christmas can be a time of great joy but once the new year begins, this can quickly fade.

As the weather freezes, so can donations, leaving many without support in the harshest months of the year. Ultimately, a roast dinner and one night in a warm bed can't undo years of trauma.

This year may be especially difficult as we've seen the number of people sleeping rough increase by 25% in the last year alone, while the cost of living crisis means resources are even more limited.

To make matters more distressing, many people struggle with their mental health at this time of year as it's a stark reminder that, for some, they will have no home to

## In a nutshell

- If you would like support with homelessness this holiday season, visit The Connection at St. Martin's centre at 12 Adelaide Street or call [020 7766 5544](tel:02077665544)
- Find information on Crisis at Christmas centres on page 18
- The List in the centre pages of the magazine carries information on helpful services.

put a Christmas tree in or family to celebrate with.

From the months of build-up, to the quick return, to the indifference many face while homeless, the winter months can be emotionally, physically and mentally draining for people who've already faced so much.

So what can we do?

What's important is that no one faces this time of year alone. Even during what can be a lonely time of year, The Connection will welcome and support you with anything from a hot meal to searching for housing. ■

# Walking down Arlington

A rhyming story written in the vernacular. Step on to the streets surrounding Arlington hostel, Camden. By *Eve McDougall*

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Walking down Arlington Road,  
 Hiding fae the people in my shabby clothes,  
 Laughing in the sun on a showery day.  
 Hiding in the shadows,  
 Dodging the light,  
 Like a mongrel dog,  
 Keeping out of sight,  
 Like a mongrel dog.  
 Lying on a park bench looking at the stars,  
 Tramping around picking up dog ends from outside of the bars,  
 Eating from the gutter on a hunter's moon.  
 Thought the streets of London were paved wi' gold,  
 Now am homeless getting old, lying in filth outside Camden Town  
 underground.  
 Shivering in the dark an it's battering with rain,  
 On a bench in Regent's Park, soaking wet freezing tae the bone.  
 Crouched in the doorway of a bank out of my face  
 Awe that money behind me but a don't have a key,  
 Out my face on this grey dreich day,  
 Streets above, streets below, hard roads I don't even know.  
 Climbing high in the light of the spiders web,  
 Walking through the shadows of yesterday,  
 Waiting for Harry Krishna van down Arlington.  
 Cold, cold nights, don't know if I'll wake when the daylight breaks,  
 Hoping for the sun tae warm the skin forget the long bitter harsh  
 nights,  
 It's a living crime in the shadows down Arlington Road,  
 In the shadows down Arlington Road.

LAST TIME MYSTERY MEAT'S CREW OF HONEY BADGERS HEADED UP BY RONNIE AND REGGIE (BADGER) DEFEATED THE EVIL ANACONDA SPECIES AND MYSTERY MEAT ANIMAL IS FEELING LEFT OUT!

WAHHH I NEVER DEFEATED ANYTHING!! IT'S NOT FAIR!

AFTER TEN MILLION MYSTERY MEAT HOURS...  
**BOY HAVING THE HUMP IS TIRING!**

MAYBE I'LL FIND GOD INSTEAD

**JUST TIME 4 ONE LAST CRIME!!**

LATER...

MAYBE I'LL FIND THE GOD OF MYSTERY MEAT ANIMALS

WHO IS ENTITLED?

GOD'S NOT HERE!

SELFISHES

!?

THE WEATHER WILL BE SHIT

MYSTERY-MEAT-ANIMAL THROWS ALL TOYS OUT OF PRAM..

IS IT COS I'M TWO-TONE?

IT IS ISN'T IT!

WAAA!!!

OR HERE!...

THIS IS DISCRIMINATION!  
THIS IS A CRIMINAL NATION!  
TO BE CONTINUED...

ROKSOPH 22

# Housing in England: Your Rights

Your local council does not always have to help you find emergency accommodation if you are homeless.

If you need help right now, please try these numbers below.

Ask them to help you make an emergency housing application.

**For free help with your emergency housing application:**

**1. Streetlink**

- Tel: **0300 500 0914** & also an App

**2. Shelter**

- Web: [www.shelter.org.uk](http://www.shelter.org.uk)
- Tel: **0808 800 4444**  
(8am–8pm Monday – Friday,  
8am–5pm weekends)

**3. Citizens Advice Bureau**

- Web: [www.citizensadvice.org.uk](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)
- Tel: **03444 111 444**

**If your application is rejected:**

- You should appeal the rejection if you think it is wrong. You have 21 days to do so.
- Shelter and Citizens Advice Bureau can help you with your appeal.

Visit [www.thepavement.org.uk](http://www.thepavement.org.uk) for a more detailed version of your housing rights in England and Scotland.

# Housing in Scotland: Your Rights

Call Shelter Scotland for free housing advice

9am–5pm, Monday to Friday on **0808 800 4444**.

You may be able to make a homeless application with a local council. This is different from a housing options interview and from an application to the mainstream housing waiting list.

You have the right to temporary accommodation while the council considers your application. The council must notify you of its decision in writing.

**TELL US:** If you want to order more or less copies of *the Pavement* OR need to make a change to the list of services in the centre pages please use the contact details on p3. Thanks!

Make sure you read...

*the* **Pavement**

online at  
[www.thepavement.org.uk](http://www.thepavement.org.uk)





## London List

### KEY TO ALL SERVICES

<b>A</b>	Alcohol workers
<b>AC</b>	Art classes
<b>AD</b>	Advocacy
<b>AH</b>	Accommodation/housing advice
<b>B</b>	Barber
<b>BA</b>	Benefits advice
<b>BE</b>	Bedding available
<b>BS</b>	Bathroom/showers
<b>C</b>	Counselling
<b>CA</b>	Careers advice
<b>CL</b>	Clothing store
<b>D</b>	Drugs workers
<b>DA</b>	Debt advice
<b>DT</b>	Dentist
<b>EF</b>	Ex-forces
<b>EO</b>	Ex-offenders
<b>ET</b>	Education and training
<b>F</b>	Food
<b>FF</b>	Free food
<b>FC</b>	Foot care
<b>IT</b>	Internet access
<b>L</b>	Laundry
<b>LA</b>	Legal advice
<b>LF</b>	Leisure facilities
<b>LS</b>	Luggage storage
<b>MD</b>	Music/drama
<b>MH</b>	Mental health
<b>MS</b>	Medical/health services
<b>NE</b>	Needle exchange
<b>OL</b>	Outreach worker links
<b>OW</b>	Outreach workers
<b>SF</b>	Step free access
<b>SH</b>	Sexual health advice
<b>TS</b>	Tenancy support

Updates: [web@thepavement.org.uk](mailto:web@thepavement.org.uk)  
Compiled: November 2022

This is a partial list, tailored for this issue of *the Pavement*. Full list at [thepavement.org.uk/services.php](http://thepavement.org.uk/services.php)

### Are your details incorrect?

Please send changes to:  
[web@thepavement.org.uk](mailto:web@thepavement.org.uk)

### WINTER SHELTERS

#### ASHFORD PLACE ASSESSMENT CENTRE

60 Ashford Road, Cricklewood NW2 6TU  
020 8208 8590

[www.ashfordplace.org.uk](http://www.ashfordplace.org.uk)

Mon – Thurs: 9:30am – 5pm;

Fri: 10:30am – 5pm;

Shelter: 1 January – 31 December

Wednesday: 2pm – 4pm (drop-in)

Our Housing Service helps with housing related queries which can be made by telephoning on **020 8208 8590**, option 3 (Housing) and leaving your name, contact number and message we can get back to you.

Alternatively, you may email us directly at [housing@ashfordplace.org.uk](mailto:housing@ashfordplace.org.uk) and provide a description of your situation, along with your name and number for us to contact you.

*MH, AH, A, AC, BA, BS, CA, CL, C, DA, DW, ET, F, IT, L, MS, MD, OW, TS, LF*

#### CRASH PAD – YOUTH SHELTER

020 7700 2498, <http://bit.ly/2I7Izef>

Opens in November to May.

Project runs 7 days a week; Islington-based shelter for people 18 – 23 with low support needs. 12 bed spaces, separate room for females. For referral email: [momodou.piliontrust@gmail.com](mailto:momodou.piliontrust@gmail.com)

*AD, AH, BS, FF, ET, AC, MD, LF*

## BROMLEY WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

c/o Bromley Council Homelessness Service, Civic Centre, Stockwell Close, Bromley BR1 3UH  
email: [bromleyshelter@tbhs.co.uk](mailto:bromleyshelter@tbhs.co.uk)  
November to 15 March  
Monday – Sunday: 7:30pm – 7am; 18+, mixed, beds for 12, dry, no-smoking, priority to local connection.

*AH, F*

## CARIS ISLINGTON CHURCHES COLD WEATHER SHELTER

020 7527 6371

[www.carisislington.org](http://www.carisislington.org)

Jan to Mar, 7:30pm – 8:30am  
Food, showers and a safe place to sleep.  
Phone after completing and emailing a 1-page registration form to [iccws@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:iccws@hotmail.co.uk).

15 guests; 18+, dry.  
There are a range of local services available to support individuals at risk of or experiencing homelessness. You can also contact the Islington Council Advice Service. The council manages referrals to homeless shelters in Islington and will assess your requirements to build a solution that meets your needs.

*AD, BS, BE, CL, FF, F, IT, L, OL*

## CATALYST NIGHT SHELTER AHAVA COMMUNITY (PREVIOUSLY HOPE 4 HAVERING)

01708 755 321

[ahavacommunity.org](http://ahavacommunity.org)

Email: [hello@ahavacommunity.org](mailto:hello@ahavacommunity.org)

Monday – Sunday: 6pm – 8:15am; Year-round night shelter for 20 people, 18+. Self- and agency referrals, inc prison and probation services. No drugs, alcohol.

*F, AH*

## CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS 66 Commercial St, E1 6LT

0800 520 0606

[www.crisis.org.uk](http://www.crisis.org.uk)

Winter shelter/Crisis at Christmas:

Monday: 11am – 9pm;

Tuesday – Sunday: 9am-9pm;

We are still committed to ensuring our members are not homeless and alone this Christmas.

As such, we will be opening a number of day centres which will provide hot food, access to advice and guidance, companionship, health, wellbeing and activities.

Crisis at Christmas provides food, good cheer and great company.

Take part in fun and relaxing activities and get one-to-one advice to find your way out of homelessness.

*AH, AD, BS, BE, CL, D, ET, FF, IT, LF, OL*

### KEY

*A* Alcohol workers

*AC* Art classes

*AD* Advocacy

*AH* Accommodation/  
housing advice

*B* Barber

*BA* Benefits advice

*BE* Bedding available

*BS* Bathroom/showers

*C* Counselling

*CA* Careers advice

*CL* Clothing store

*D* Drugs workers

*DA* Debt advice

*DT* Dentist

*EF* Ex-forces

*EO* Ex-offenders

*ET* Education/training

*F* Food

*FF* Free food

## EALING CHURCHES WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

07930 378263; [bit.ly/1L1pyBO](http://bit.ly/1L1pyBO)

November to the end of February 2023  
Monday – Sunday: 7:30pm – 8:30am;  
Referral via St Mungo's outreach team,  
Streetlink (0300 500 0914), Acton  
Homeless Concern (020 8992 5768) or  
Ealing Soup Kitchen (020 8566 3507  
x7). Ealing Foodbank (020 8840 9428).  
14 bed spaces. No self-referral. We are  
a Night Shelter running through the  
winter months to provide a warm, safe  
place for people who find themselves  
homeless. CODES:

This winter we will be running a shared  
program with Churches and a small  
hotel. We are able to provide 10  
places safely, in line with public health  
England from November to the end  
of February 2023. Whilst the guests  
stay at a different Church the same  
hospitality will apply, they will open  
their doors to our guests, providing a  
hot meal, somewhere to sleep, breakfast  
and above all else, companionship  
and friendship. In the small hotel,  
we are sheltering guests in single  
rooms. Churches are providing meals,  
while we work to support the guests  
to try and move on into permanent  
accommodation.

[AH](#), [BA](#), [OL](#), [FF](#), [DA](#), [BE](#), [L](#), [BS](#)

## FIRM FOUNDATION WINTER NIGHT SHELTER (ALL PEOPLE ALL PLACES)

30 December to 31 March  
Monday – Sunday: 9pm – 6:30am  
A local charity based in Harrow working  
with the homeless. (initially men-only;  
after 1 January, mixed.);  
18+, 20 spaces (15 men, 5 women in a  
separate building)  
Agency referrals only.  
Rough sleepers, NRPF and asylum  
seekers.  
Priority to those with connection to  
Harrow.

[fdp@firmfoundation.org.uk](mailto:fdp@firmfoundation.org.uk)

[FF](#), [AH](#)

## FOREST CHURCHES EMERGENCY NIGHT SHELTER

<http://forestnightshelter.org.uk/>

1 Nov to 31 Mar, 8pm – 7.30am

In the past we have provided a rolling  
night shelter with up to 30 bed spaces  
every night from 1 November to 31  
March – guests sleep at a different  
church venue each night.

Since the Covid-19 we have been  
providing emergency accomodation to  
our guests at a hotel, and providing the  
guests with casework support and all  
their meals.

Phone **07739 870 411** before 3.00pm.

We also accept self referrals by visiting  
St Mungo's Hub or Waltham Forest  
Housing Services for referral.

[AH](#), [BS](#), [FF](#)

[FC](#) Foot care  
[IT](#) Internet access  
[L](#) Laundry  
[LA](#) Legal advice  
[LF](#) Leisure facilities

[LS](#) Luggage storage  
[MD](#) Music/drama  
[MH](#) Mental health  
[MS](#) Medical services  
[NE](#) Needle exchange

[OL](#) Outreach worker links  
[OW](#) Outreach workers  
[SF](#) Step-free  
[SH](#) Sexual health  
[TS](#) Tenancy support

FULL LIST  
AVAILABLE ON  
OUR WEBSITE



## GLASS DOOR HOMELESS CHARITY

020 7351 4948.

155a Kings Road, Chelsea SW3 5TX

[www.glassdoor.org.uk](http://www.glassdoor.org.uk)

9am – 5pm main office

Winter shelter: Dec to Apr,

8pm – 8am (come to the day centre or phone to check vacancies)

Glass Door runs London's largest emergency winter night shelter, providing men and women a safe, warm place to sleep from November to April. Individuals affected by homelessness also access advice, food, showers and laundry facilities year-round from drop-in day centres.

Mon, Tue, Thu: 9am – 2pm (Chelsea Methodist Church); Wed: 9am – 2pm (St Augustine's); Mon – Fri: midday-3pm (Ace of Clubs); Mon-Thu: 9:00-11am (Vineyard Community Centre); Tue:

12.30 – 3pm (The Yard, Putney)

Advice, food, showers and laundry facilities year-round.

*AH,BS,CA,CL,ET,FF,L,IT*

## GREENWICH WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

[gwns.org.uk/contact-us/](http://gwns.org.uk/contact-us/)

for online contact form.

Monday-Sunday: 7pm – 8:30am;

Referral by agreed partner agencies must be confirmed by GWNS project worker. 18+, mixed, 15 places.

*FF*

## GROWTH (TOWER HAMLETS)

302 The Highway, Shadwell E1W 3DH

[thisisgrowth.org](http://thisisgrowth.org)

SHELTER: 1st October to 30th April

Monday – Friday: 9am-5pm

GrowTH is a partnership of churches opening its doors to those homeless in Tower Hamlets. Our main project is an emergency night shelter which provides both immediate shelter for homeless men and women and assistance in securing more permanent longer-term accommodation. Referrals made by agencies in Tower Hamlets (<http://thisisgrowth.org/referrals/>) Crisis, Whitechapel Mission, Praxis, Providence Row, Health E1, Spitalfields Crypt Trust, Look Ahead Low support, 15 bed spaces, 28 nights max, men and women

*AH,AD*

## HACKNEY WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

020 853 3808, 020 3729 8864

[hwns.org.uk](http://hwns.org.uk)

Winter shelter (dates TBC):

1st November to 30th March

Monday-Sunday: 7:30pm – 8am

(6.30pm Sundays. Closed during Crisis);

Mixed; beds for 25 (screened area for women); dry. Last admission 8.30pm.

Agency referrals only - phone to check details and leave message if voicemail.

15 bed spaces

*AH,AD,C,FF,OL,OW*

KEY	<i>A</i> Alcohol workers	<i>B</i> Barber	<i>CA</i> Careers advice	<i>EF</i> Ex-forces
	<i>AC</i> Art classes	<i>BA</i> Benefits advice	<i>CL</i> Clothing store	<i>EO</i> Ex-offenders
	<i>AD</i> Advocacy	<i>BE</i> Bedding available	<i>D</i> Drugs workers	<i>ET</i> Education/training
	<i>AH</i> Accommodation/ housing advice	<i>BS</i> Bathroom/showers	<i>DA</i> Debt advice	<i>F</i> Food
		<i>C</i> Counselling	<i>DT</i> Dentist	<i>FF</i> Free food

**HOPE 4 BARKING NIGHT SHELTER**

[h4bd.org.uk/](http://h4bd.org.uk/)

1 January to 31 December

Monday – Sunday: 7:30pm – 8am; aims to run 12 months of the year for around 15 single people aged 18+ in the LB of Barking & Dagenham.

Self- or agency referrals.

Email:

[h4bdnighshelter@outlook.com](mailto:h4bdnighshelter@outlook.com)

Also contact form online:

<http://h4bd.org.uk/contact-h4bd/>

*AH, FF, AD, BS*

**MERTON WINTER NIGHT SHELTER**

YMCA LSW Wimbledon,

200 The Broadway,

SW19 1RY

020 8542 9055

[ymcastpaulsgroup.org/merton-night-shelter/](http://ymcastpaulsgroup.org/merton-night-shelter/)

[info.wimbledon@ymcaspg.org](mailto:info.wimbledon@ymcaspg.org)

Dec to Mar, 6.30pm – 8.30am

Self- & agency referrals, most from Faith in Action Homeless Project.

Referral form:

<https://bit.ly/2OMyusa>.

18+, dry, mixed, 12 spaces.

*FF, F, AH*

**NEW HORIZON YOUTH CENTRE**

68 Chalton Street NW1 1JR

020 7388 5560, <http://bit.ly/TgoIt>

Monday: 2pm – 3:30pm (alcohol support); Monday – Sunday: 10:30am – 3:30pm (showers, laundry, breakfast & lunch; 10.30am-1pm advice);

Day centre runs Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10am – 1pm and 1:30pm – 3pm.

For young (16-24) homeless people.

Free lunch. Women-only groups.

Mental health, life skills & advice, and employment/resettlement support.

Sex worker project. Street outreach.

Refugee worker. 7-day drop-in provision.

First-time visitors should arrive outside the centre at 10.00am to make an appointment with the Advice team.

Support with referrals into winter night shelters. Our day centre is currently

open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 10:30am and 3.30pm.

*MH, AH, AD, A, BA, BS, CA, CL, DW, ET, FF, IT, LF, MS, OL, OW*

**NEWWAY PROJECT (NEWHAM)**

Bonny Downs Baptist Church, Darwell Cl, E6 6BT

[www.newwayproject.org](http://www.newwayproject.org)

Oct to 30 April, 7.30pm – 8.30am

Referral-only winter night shelter and year-round NEWday centre for homeless people in Newham, with extended Advocacy services and life-skills workshops.

Office hours: Monday to Sunday, 9am – 2:30pm. mixed; 15 spaces.

*AH, AD, A, DA, D, FF, L, TS*

*FC* Foot care  
*IT* Internet access  
*L* Laundry  
*LA* Legal advice  
*LF* Leisure facilities

*LS* Luggage storage  
*MD* Music/drama  
*MH* Mental health  
*MS* Medical services  
*NE* Needle exchange

*OL* Outreach worker links  
*OW* Outreach workers  
*SF* Step-free  
*SH* Sexual health  
*TS* Tenancy support



## ROBES PROJECT (SOUTHWARK & LAMBETH)

020 7407 5623; robes.org.uk/

Winter shelter: 1 November - 15 April  
Monday – Sunday: 7pm-8am (closed during Crisis, 23 – 30 Dec); Rolling winter night shelter. Referrals ONLY through Manna Soc, Spires, Ace of Clubs, Webber St Day Centre, Crisis, Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers, Southwark SPOT, Lambeth Safer Streets Team, The Big Issue, Shelter. 18+, 35 beds, low support needs.

*AH, AD, BA, BS, BE, FF*

## SEVERE WEATHER EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

When the weather dips to zero degrees, severe weather emergency protocols (SWEP) are activated, and bed spaces will be available for rough sleepers in all parts of London. All referrals will be via the St Mungo's outreach team via [www.streetlink.org](http://www.streetlink.org). If you are concerned about someone you are supporting during a SWEP period, please email [swepreferrals@islington.gov.uk](mailto:swepreferrals@islington.gov.uk) for advise on available accommodation.

## SIMON COMMUNITY

074 230 6000;

[www.simoncommunity.org.uk](http://www.simoncommunity.org.uk)

129 Malden Rd, Kentish Town NW5 4HS  
1 Jan to 31 Mar, 7pm – 8am; Mon, Wed, Referral via Simon Community outreach services and Quaker Homeless Action.

*FF, CL*

## THE OUTSIDE PROJECT & STAR REFUGE

02073595767

<https://bit.ly/2LbtkEb>

Monday – Friday: 10am – 1pm (phone referrals); Monday: 6pm – 9pm

(drop-in, Castlehaven Comm Assn, 23 Castlehaven Rd NW1 8RU);

Wednesday: 5pm – 7pm (drop-in for trans people, 1st Wed of month, cliniQ, 56 Dean St, W1D );

Wednesday: 2pm – 3:30pm (drop-in, Origin Housing, St Richards Hse, 110 Eversholt St, NW1 1BS);

Friday: 2pm – 3:30pm (drop-in, London Friend, 86 Caledonian Rd, N1 9DN);

Wednesday: 12pm – 2pm (drop-in, 2nd Wed of month, Camden LGBT Forum

Hub, Union Chapel, Compton Terr, N1 2UN); The UK's first LGBTIQ+ crisis/homeless shelter & community centre.

For referral, please download the form <http://stonewallhousing.org/services/referral-form/>

phone the Stonewall Housing Helpline (020 7359 5767) or email

[info@stonewallhousing.org](mailto:info@stonewallhousing.org)

All services are free and confidential.

For changes to services during Covid-19 please call.

*SF*

## Are your details incorrect?

Please send changes to:

[web@thepavement.org.uk](mailto:web@thepavement.org.uk)

KEY	<i>A</i> Alcohol workers	<i>B</i> Barber	<i>CA</i> Careers advice	<i>EF</i> Ex-forces
	<i>AC</i> Art classes	<i>BA</i> Benefits advice	<i>CL</i> Clothing store	<i>EO</i> Ex-offenders
	<i>AD</i> Advocacy	<i>BE</i> Bedding available	<i>D</i> Drugs workers	<i>ET</i> Education/training
	<i>AH</i> Accommodation/ housing advice	<i>BS</i> Bathroom/showers	<i>DA</i> Debt advice	<i>F</i> Food
		<i>C</i> Counselling	<i>DT</i> Dentist	<i>FF</i> Free food

**EX-FORCES****COMBAT STRESS**

01372 587 000; [combatstress.org.uk](http://combatstress.org.uk)  
 Monday-Sunday: 12am – 12am (24hr, 365 days helpline); Residential clinical treatment and community outreach. Helpline (0800 138 1619) is open 24/7.  
[MH, AD, C, OL](#)

**STOLL**

446 Fulham Road SW6 1DT  
 020 7385 2110; [stoll.org.uk/](http://stoll.org.uk/)  
 Monday-Friday: 8am-8pm (closed 12.30 – 1.30); Saturday & Sunday: 8am-5pm; Stoll is the leading provider of supported housing for ex-servicemen and women. As well as housing, they provide life-changing support including employment training, advice, addiction services and health and wellbeing activities.  
[MH, AH, AD, A, BA, CA, C, DA, DW, EF, ET, MD, OW, TS](#)

**SSAFA FORCESLINE**

0800 260 6767  
<https://www.ssafa.org.uk/>  
 Monday-Friday: 9am – 5:30pm; SSAFA helps combat homelessness among ex-Service personnel. Their London Homeless Division works with ex-Service rough sleepers. If you have gone AWOL, contact their Reclaim Your Life scheme and get your life back on track.  
[AH, EF, TS](#)

**THE QUEEN VICTORIA SEAMEN'S REST**

121-131 East India Dock Road, Poplar E14 6DF  
 020 7987 5466  
[qvsr.org.uk/](http://qvsr.org.uk/)  
 Monday – Sunday: 9am – 8pm; For unemployed, retired and active seafarers (25+), other male ex-services personnel and single homeless men with low support needs. Phone, visit or write. If you would like to make an application for accommodation, download a referral form and send it to the address above or to [welfare@qvsr.org.uk](mailto:welfare@qvsr.org.uk)  
[IT, LF](#)

**VETERANS AID**

40 Buckingham Palace Road, Victoria SW1W 0RE  
 020 7828 2468  
[veterans-aid.net/](http://veterans-aid.net/)  
 Monday – Thursday: 8:30am – 3:30pm (helpline); Friday: 8:30am – 1:30pm; Free helpline: 0800 012 68 67. On your first visit, staff will assess your problems so the right specialist help can be arranged.  
*For 90 years, Veterans Aid has been battling homelessness among the ex-service community.*  
[MH, AH, AD, A, BA, CA, CL, C, DW, ET, MS, OL, OW, LA](#)

**FC** Foot care  
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FULL LIST  
 AVAILABLE ON  
 OUR WEBSITE



## FOOD

### STREETS KITCHEN

[streetskitchen.org/locations/london](https://streetskitchen.org/locations/london)  
Daily food Mon, Tues, Thurs & Friday  
breakfast from 7am, Camden/Kings  
Cross.

Also, **Monday:**

#### Tooting Streets Kitchen

6:45 – 7:15pm outside Iceland at  
25 Tooting High St, London, SW17 0SN

**Tuesday:**

#### Clapham Common

7.30pm near Joe's Pizza, opp Waitrose  
8-1 The Pavement, London, SW4 0HY

**Wednesday:**

#### Camden Streets Kitchen

7.30pm nr Camden Town tube, NW1 8QL

**Thursday:**

#### Camden Streets Kitchen

7.30pm nr Camden Town tube, NW1 8QL

#### Hackney Streets Kitchen

8pm outside Hackney Central Library,  
25-27 Hackney Grove, E8 3NR

**Friday:**

#### Camden Streets Kitchen

7.30pm nr Camden Town tube, NW1 8QL

#### Kilburn Streets Kitchen

7.15-8.15pm nr Kilburn High Rd tube

#### Dalston Streets Kitchen

8pm Ridley Rd, opp train station E8 2PN

**Saturday:**

#### Hackney Streets Kitchen

8pm St John's Churchway, opp M&S

**Sunday:**

#### Camden Streets Kitchen

7.30pm nr Camden Town tube, NW1 8QL

#### Haringey

5pm Outside Seven Sisters Station

### ACE OF CLUBS

St Alphonsus Rd, Clapham SW4 7AS  
020 7720 2811; <http://bit.ly/1B0VMJY>  
Mon – Fri: 12pm – 2.30pm; Lunch.

AH, B, BA, BS, BE, CL, ET, F, MS, OL

H | *The List* Dec 2022/Jan 2023

### AMERICAN INT'L CHURCH

79A Tottenham Court Road, W1T 4TD  
0207 580 2791

[soupkitchenlondon.org](https://soupkitchenlondon.org)

Provides hot food - Lunch

Monday: Clothing

Toiletries & mental health support

Opening times & days: 11:30am –

12:30pm: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat.

FF

### AMURT UK

3A Cazenove Road, Stoke Newington  
N16 6PA

0208 806 4250

Thursday: 6:30pm-7:30pm (Lincoln's  
Inn Fields) Pre-packed Hot Meals, Tea &  
Coffee and Healthy Energy Snacks

Thursday: 12:30pm – 1:30pm and 17:30  
onwards (3A Cazenove Road, Stoke  
Newington) Pre-packed Hot Meals and

free fresh vegetables for the taking.

Thursday: 1:30pm onwards

(The Greenhouse GP surgery, London  
Fields) Pre-packed Hot Meals and  
Healthy Energy Snacks

Thursday: 1:30pm onwards (Health E1  
Homeless Medical Centre, Brick Lane)  
Pre-packed Hot Meals and Healthy

Energy Snacks [amurt.org.uk/projects/  
feeding-program/](https://amurt.org.uk/projects/feeding-program/)

Serving free hot vegan meals every  
Thursday from 3A Cazenove Road

(Stoke Newington) and Lincoln's Inn  
Fields (Holborn). *Mission statement:*

*Empowering people, inspiring change.*

*Love is all there is.*

FF, F, SF

### HOLY TRINITY CHURCH (TOOTING) HOMELESS SUPPORT CAFE

74 Trinity Road, Tooting Bec, SW17 7RH  
0208 696 1564

BA, FF



A man wearing a red vest with 'THE BIG ISSUE' logo is smiling and handing a coin to a woman. He is holding a yellow magazine titled 'THE BIG ISSUE' with a 'NEAT BIG IDEA' section. The woman is wearing glasses and a purple and white scarf. They are on a busy city street with other pedestrians in the background.

**THE BIG  
ISSUE**

**Become a vendor**

**Looking for a flexible way to earn extra cash and develop new skills?**

Selling The Big Issue allows you to work when you want, and you can earn a decent living.

**Selling the magazine** also improves your people skills and sales skills, and places you at the heart of a loyal community of customers and supporters.

You'll get **5 free magazines** so you can start earning straight away, and you'll receive ongoing support from our team.

Go to [www.bigissue.com/become-a-vendor](http://www.bigissue.com/become-a-vendor) to find out more or call **020 7526 3445**

## JCT

83 Margaret St (Down Marylebone passage) W1W 8TB  
**07719828267**; [jct.charity](mailto:jct.charity)  
by appointment only, please call.  
Help with: accommodation needs, showers & clothing, benefits & immigration advice, healthcare referrals, and signposting to other agencies.

FF

## MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY SOUP KITCHENS (ELEPHANT)

112–116 St George's Rd, Elephant & Castle, SE1 6EU  
**0207 620 1504**  
Tues, Wed, Sat & Sun 9:30 – 11:30am  
Hot takeaway available outside

FF

## MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY SOUP KITCHEN (LADBROKE GROVE)

PIUS X Church Hall, 79 St. Charles Square, London W10 6EB  
**020 8960 2644**  
Tues & Fri 4 – 5pm, Sun 3:30 – 4:30pm  
Free takeaway for local homeless people

FF

## NIGHTWATCH

Queen's Gardens, Croydon, SE23 3ZH  
[croydonnightwatch.org.uk/about/nightwatch/](http://croydonnightwatch.org.uk/about/nightwatch/)  
Mon – Sun: 9:30pm – 10pm  
Sandwiches, soup, hot drinks & biscuits

FF

## NORTH LONDON ACTION FOR THE HOMELESS

St Paul's Church Hall, Stoke Newington Road, N16 0AJ  
**07421 032 553**  
[www.nextmeal.co.uk/places/northlondonactionforthehomeless](http://www.nextmeal.co.uk/places/northlondonactionforthehomeless)  
Mon: 12noon – 1:30pm; Wed 6 – 7:30pm  
vegetarian meal, shower and laundry facilities. Due to Covid-19 all food is take-away.

FF

## OUR FORGOTTEN NEIGHBOURS

Outside Toynbee Hall, Commercial Street, E1  
Soup kitchen: Thursday 5pm.  
We provide hot meals drinks and perishable and non-perishable food. We also give toiletries.  
We also help ensure that refugees are not 'forgotten' and our support is focused on the goods and services that refugees need most.

FF

## REFETTORIO FELIX ST CUTHBERT'S

The Philbeach Hall, 51 Philbeach Gardens, Earl's Court, SW5 9EB  
**020 7835 1389**  
Mon – Fri 12noon – 1pm take-away lunch.

- Call our mental health worker for advice on **07928 831 372**

Tue, Wed, Thu & Fri.  
And housing advice available.

AH, F

**KEY**  
A Alcohol workers  
AC Art classes  
AD Advocacy  
AH Accommodation/  
housing advice

B Barber  
BA Benefits advice  
BE Bedding available  
BS Bathroom/showers  
C Counselling

CA Careers advice  
CL Clothing store  
D Drugs workers  
DA Debt advice  
DT Dentist

EF Ex-forces  
EO Ex-offenders  
ET Education/training  
F Food  
FF Free food

## REFUGEE NETWORK UK SOUP KITCHEN

Beside the Embassy of Zimbabwe, Agar Street, Charing Cross.

Saturday: 1pm

*FF, CL*

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST CH

Brownswood Park, Queen's Dr, Finsbury Park, N4 2LW

020 8809 6111

Tue 6.30 – 8.30pm (Soup Kitchen)

Fri 11am – 12noon (Clothes bank)

Sun 12.30 – 2pm (Hot Lunch)

Tue & Sun (Food banks)

*FF*

## ST JOHN ON BETHNAL GREEN

200 Cambridge Heath Rd, Bethnal Green, London E2 9PA (Tower Hamlets)

0208 980 1742

Tuesday 6 – 7pm

'Tuesday Night Bites' free hot meal

*FF*

## ST PATRICK'S OPEN HOUSE

21a Soho Square, London, W1D 4NR

020 7437 2010;

[www.facebook.com/stpatricksoho](http://www.facebook.com/stpatricksoho)

Mon, Fri & Sat: 8:30am: Breakfast Club, indoor seated service with limited capacity, first come first served.

Limited showers also available.

Tue & Thu: 7pm: Open House evening meal, indoor seated service with limited capacity, ticket holders only. Meal

tickets for the week on Mondays at 1:30pm from Sutton Row entrance.

*FF, BS*

## STREETLYTES

Saint Stephens Church  
1 Coverdale Road, London,  
W12 8JJ

0207 602 9011

[www.streetlytes.org/](http://www.streetlytes.org/)

[streetlyteslondon/en/page/need-help](http://streetlyteslondon/en/page/need-help)  
Mondays: 5 – 6pm

Dinner - restricted opening hours during Covid-19.

Our drop in offers a free hot meal, friendship and donated items.

*FF*

## SELBY FOOD HUB

Selby Centre, Selby Road Tottenham, London, N17 8JL

0208 885 5499;

[selbytrust.co.uk/our-services](http://selbytrust.co.uk/our-services)

Tue: 2 – 4pm; Thu 4:30 – 6:30pm

*FF*

## WHITECHAPEL MISSION

212 Whitechapel Road, London, E1 1BJ

0300 011 1400;

[whitechapel.org.uk/help/timetable](http://whitechapel.org.uk/help/timetable)

Free breakfast Mon – Fri from 8am

Advice worker available for questions on benefits, accommodation, night shelters and even Zoom interviews.

We have takeaway food parcels and clothing parcels.

*AH, B, BA, BS*

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## WOMEN

### CLEAN BREAK

2 Patshull Road NW5 2LB  
**020 7482 8600, [cleanbreak.org.uk/](http://cleanbreak.org.uk/)**  
 Monday: 11am – 1pm (health and wellbeing); Inspirational theatre company working with women whose lives have been affected by the criminal justice system. Free courses in acting, writing, singing and recording. The Women's Space will be for women offenders and women at risk of offending due to drug or alcohol use or mental health needs. CODES: [MH,A,DW,ET,MD,C,MS](#)

### THE MARGINS PROJECT

19b Compton Terrace N1 2UN  
**020 7704 9050, [unionchapel.org.uk](http://unionchapel.org.uk)**  
 Monday & Wednesday: 11am – 2pm; Showers, clothes, food. Advice on health, housing, money & legal issues. Also therapy, job club & English tuition. [AH,BS,DA,F,LA,C](#)

### THE TRICKY PERIOD PROJECT

[www.trickyperiod.com/pick-up-points/](http://www.trickyperiod.com/pick-up-points/)  
 Together we are working to end period poverty. Tricky Period is a grassroots group collaborating with local libraries, stations and other welcoming community spaces to provide period products to those experiencing homelessness and poverty. Social media group: [www.facebook.com/TheTrickyPeriod/?ref=page\\_internal](http://www.facebook.com/TheTrickyPeriod/?ref=page_internal)  
[MH](#)

## YOUNG PEOPLE

### ALONE IN LONDON FOR YOUNG PEOPLE (DEPAUL)

Endeavour Centre, Sherborne House, 34 Decima Street, London SE1 4QQ  
**0207 278 4224; 0207 939 1220**  
[uk.depaulcharity.org/london-get-help](http://uk.depaulcharity.org/london-get-help)  
 Mon – Fri: 9am – 5pm  
 Our direct-access services provide advice and support for young people aged 16 to 25 who are at risk of homelessness. Also counselling services for 11 to 25. [AH,AD,CA,C,ET,MH](#)

### FRANK

**0300 123 6600, [www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)**  
 Mon – Fri: : 2pm – 6pm (live chat); Drug advice for young people.  
[www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com) or text: 82111  
[AD,C,DW,OL](#)

### NEW HORIZON YOUTH CENTRE

68 Chalton Street NW1 1JR  
**020 7388 5560, [nhyouthcentre.org.uk/](http://nhyouthcentre.org.uk/)**  
 Monday: 2pm – 3:30pm  
 For young (16-24) homeless people. Free lunch. Women-only groups. Mental health, life skills & advice, and employment/resettlement support. Sex worker project. Street outreach. Refugee worker.  
 Our day centre is currently open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 10:30am and 3.30pm.  
[MH,AH,AD,A,BA,BS,CA,CL,DW,ET,FF,IT,LF,MH,OL,OW](#)

#### KEY

**A** Alcohol workers  
**AC** Art classes  
**AD** Advocacy  
**AH** Accommodation/housing advice

**B** Barber  
**BA** Benefits advice  
**BE** Bedding available  
**BS** Bathroom/showers  
**C** Counselling

**CA** Careers advice  
**CL** Clothing store  
**D** Drugs workers  
**DA** Debt advice  
**DT** Dentist

**EF** Ex-forces  
**EO** Ex-offenders  
**ET** Education/training  
**F** Food  
**FF** Free food

## SHOWERS

### 999 CLUB (DEPTFORD CENTRE)

21 Deptford Broadway SE8 4PA  
020 8694 5797

<https://999club.org/our-services/>

Gateway Centre:

Weekdays: 9am – 12pm & 1pm – 4pm  
serving food and access to a shower.

A warm and welcoming environment.

*AH, AH, B, BA, BS, CA, ET, FC, IT, L, MS, TS, LA, EO*

### CONNECTION AT ST MARTIN'S DAY CENTRE

12 Adelaide Street, London, WC2N 4HW  
020 7766 5544, [services@cstm.org.uk](mailto:services@cstm.org.uk)

[www.connection-at-stmartins.org.uk](http://www.connection-at-stmartins.org.uk)

Keeping many of our services open  
during Lockdown.

Reduced Service and referral only  
showers, food, laundry and assessments.

*BS*

### MARGINS PROJECT

19b Compton Terrace N1 2UN

020 7704 9050, [unionchapel.org.uk](http://unionchapel.org.uk)

Monday & Wednesday: 11am – 2pm;

Showers, clothes, food.

Advice on health, housing & legal issues.

*AH, BS, DA, F, LA, C*

### OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION & ST GREGORY

10 Warwick St, Piccadilly Circus, W1B 5LZ  
020 7734 9313

[warwickstreet.org.uk](http://warwickstreet.org.uk)

Wednesdays 6.30 – 10.30am

Showers, toiletries and clothes.

*BS*

## SHOWERBOX

St Giles Church, High St, WC2H 8LG  
near Leicester Square / Covent Garden

[showerbox.org](http://showerbox.org)

Sat: 10am – 2pm

Offering a free and secure shower space  
for homeless people in London.

Shower, some toiletries,  
sanitary towels and a pair of socks.

*BS*

## SPIRES CENTRE

8 Tooting Bec Gardens SW16 1RB

020 8696 0943, <http://bit.ly/FrCQf>

Clothing, showers and healthcare. Also  
breakfast between 9 and 11am

*BS*

## ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Greyhound Road, London, W14 9SA

0207 385 5023

15 mins walk from Barons Court Tube

Sat: 9 – 11am

Hot takeaway meal with snacks, fruit  
and drinks and we offer a shower from  
8:30am on a first come first served basis  
(with towels and toiletries provided) for  
12 slots throughout the morning.

*FF, BS*

## ST PATRICK'S OPEN HOUSE

21a Soho Square, London W1D 4NR

020 7437 2010;

[www.facebook.com/stpatricksoho](http://www.facebook.com/stpatricksoho)

Mon, Fri, Sat: 8.30 – 9am

Breakfast and showers available.

Tues, Wed, Thurs: 7pm dinner - limited  
availability; tickets Monday at 1:30pm.

*FF, BS*

*FC* Foot care  
*IT* Internet access  
*L* Laundry  
*LA* Legal advice  
*LF* Leisure facilities

*LS* Luggage storage  
*MD* Music/drama  
*MH* Mental health  
*MS* Medical services  
*NE* Needle exchange

*OL* Outreach worker links  
*OW* Outreach workers  
*SF* Step-free  
*SH* Sexual health  
*TS* Tenancy support



## THE MARGINS PROJECT

19b Compton Terrace N1 2UN

020 7704 9050

[unionchapel.org.uk/](http://unionchapel.org.uk/)

Monday & Wednesday: 11am – 2pm;  
Showers, clothes, food. Advice on health,  
housing, money & legal issues. .

*AH, BS, DA, F, LA, C*

## WEBBER STREET (LONDON CITY MISSION)

6-8 Webber Street SE1 8QA

020 7928 1677, <https://bit.ly/2vPkv9n>

Showers - also clean clothes & toiletries

See DAY CENTRES for more.

*BS, CL*

## WHITECHAPEL MISSION

212 Whitechapel Road, London, E1 1BJ

0300 011 1400;

[whitechapel.org.uk](http://whitechapel.org.uk)

Mon – Sun: 6am (day centre opens)

Mon – Sun: 7 – 9am (free breakfast)

Mon – Fri: 7:30am – 9:30am

(showers by appointment)

Mon – Fri: from 9am

Take-away food parcels and clothing  
parcels.

Haircuts every third Wednesday.

*FF, BS*

## WOMEN@THEWELL

54-55 Birkenhead St, WC1H 8BB

020 7520 1710; [watw.org.uk](http://watw.org.uk)

Numbers limited - ring ahead if possible.

Opening hours: 12.30pm – 3:30pm

Showers, laundry, food, care packages.

*A, AD, A, BS, C, L, SH*

## DENTAL

### ACE OF CLUBS

St Alphonsus Rd, Clapham SW4 7AS

020 7720 2811

[www.aceofclubs.org.uk](http://www.aceofclubs.org.uk)

NHS Dental Van: every Wednesday (for  
rough sleepers and people with NRPF).

*DT*

### ACTON HOMELESS CONCERN

Emmaus House, 1 Berrymead Gardens,  
Acton, London W3 8AA

020 8992 5768

<http://bit.ly/1rY49Ay>

Monday – Friday: 9am-12pm

Call for the times of their wide range of  
services.

*AH, A, B, BA, CL, C, DT, DW, F, FC, MS*

### CENTRAL LONDON COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE NHS TRUST

Homeless Dental Service, Soho Centre  
for Health and Care, 1 Frith Street.

020 7534 6628

Appointments Tues – Fri: 9am – 5pm

<http://bit.ly/1DDHrCo>

*DT*

### COMMUNITY DENTAL SERVICES

0203 286 4186

[facebook.com/CommunityDentalServices/?ref=page\\_internal](https://facebook.com/CommunityDentalServices/?ref=page_internal)

Complete the 'enquiry' page online.

Dental services available for rough  
sleepers in London and UK.

*DT*

**KEY**  
*A* Alcohol workers  
*AC* Art classes  
*AD* Advocacy  
*AH* Accommodation/  
housing advice

*B* Barber  
*BA* Benefits advice  
*BE* Bedding available  
*BS* Bathroom/showers  
*C* Counselling

*CA* Careers advice  
*CL* Clothing store  
*D* Drugs workers  
*DA* Debt advice  
*DT* Dentist

*EF* Ex-forces  
*EO* Ex-offenders  
*ET* Education/training  
*F* Food  
*FF* Free food

## GUY'S HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DENTAL SERVICES

23rd Fl, Tower Wing, Thomas St,  
SE1 9RT  
020 7188 7236  
bit.ly/2SPruMn  
Opens at 8am (at full capacity by 9am.)  
*DT*

## KING'S DENTAL INSTITUTE

Bessemer Road, Denmark Hill SE5 9RS  
0203 299 9000; bit.ly/2aZpDAO  
Mon – Fri: 8:30am – 12:30pm;  
Walk-in service - first come, first served.  
Patients queue from 7am.  
*DT*

## NHS 111

For dental emergencies call NHS 111

## EYECARE

### VISION CARE (LONDON SITES)

0203 286 4186  
visioncarecharity.org/  
Free sight tests and spectacles.  
London, Tower Hamlets.  
Wednesdays from 11am until 3:00pm  
Vision Care for Homeless People

### CRISIS SKYLIGHT

66 Commercial Street, London E1 6LT  
0300 636 1967  
Nearest tube: Aldgate East/Liverpool  
St; Bus: 67  
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY – To enquire  
about appointment availability email  
london@crisis.org.uk.  
*MS*

## BARBER

### ACTION HOMELESS CONCERN

1 Berrymead Gardens W3 8AA  
020 8992 5768  
bit.ly/1rY49Ay  
Hot lunches, showers and clothes too  
*AH, A, B, BA, CL, C, DT, DW, F, FC, MS*

### GROOVE, GROOM & GRUB

Tuesday 12pm – 2pm: next to Angel  
Station, under the covered area.  
Tuesday 3pm – 5pm: outside Finsbury  
Park Station under the bridge.  
*B*

### HAIRCUTS4HOMELESS

The Whitechapel Mission at  
212 Whitechapel Road, E1 1BJ  
or The West London Mission,  
19 Thayer Street, Marylebone, W1U 2QJ  
or email team@haircuts4homeless.  
com  
*B*

### NORTH LONDON ACTION FOR THE HOMELESS

St Paul's Church Hall,  
Stoke Newington Road, N16 7UE  
07745 227 135; nlah.org.uk  
Barber/hairdresser Mon 12 – 1:30pm,  
put your name down when you arrive.  
*B*

## Are your details incorrect?

Please send changes to:  
[web@thepavement.org.uk](mailto:web@thepavement.org.uk)

FULL LIST  
AVAILABLE ON  
OUR WEBSITE



*FC* Foot care  
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## NEED TO TALK

### AZIZIYE MOSQUE

117-119 Stoke Newington Road  
N16 8BU

020 7254 0046

[bit.ly/2O1x7Rn](https://bit.ly/2O1x7Rn)

Monday-Sunday: 11am – 11pm

Drop-in for advice and support on  
housing, family, substance use etc.

Turkish & Arabic, interpreters available  
for other languages.

[A, AD, BA, C](#)

### BRIXTON ADVICE CENTRE

167 Railton Road  
SE24 OLU

020 7733 7554

[bit.ly/9Q6Xk](https://bit.ly/9Q6Xk)

Monday-Thursday: 10am-3pm.~

Advice on benefits, housing,  
employment & debt (first-come, first-  
served). Online info on health services.

[AH, AD, BA, DA, ET, LA](#)

### FRANK

Need some friendly, confidential advice?

0300 123 6600

[www.talktofrank.com](http://www.talktofrank.com)

Mon – Fri: 2pm – 6pm (live chat);

Drug advice for young people.

email: [frank@talktofrank.com](mailto:frank@talktofrank.com)

Or text: 82111

[AD, C, DW, OL](#)

### NATIONAL DOMESTIC ABUSE

Call 0808 2000

Dial 999 for emergencies

[C](#)

### SAMARITANS

116 123 (open 24/7)

Provides support to anyone in  
emotional distress or at risk of suicide.

### SHELTER (CALL OR GO ONLINE)

0344 515 1540

[england.shelter.org.uk/get\\_help](https://england.shelter.org.uk/get_help)

Monday-Friday: 8am – 8pm;

Monday-Weekends: 9am – 5pm.

Website offers an online chat,  
advice line and directory. Advice on  
homelessness, eviction, benefits,  
repossession and council housing.

### VETERANS AID

40 Buckingham Palace Road,  
Victoria SW1W 0RE

020 7828 2468; [bit.ly/1qnjco6](https://bit.ly/1qnjco6)

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am – 3:30pm

(helpline); Friday: 8:30am – 1:30pm;

Free helpline: 0800 012 68 67.

[MH, AH, AD, A, BA, CA, CL, C, DW, ET, MS, OL, OW, LA](#)

### YOUTH ACCESS

020 8772 9900; [youthaccess.org.uk](https://youthaccess.org.uk)

[admin@youthaccess.org.uk](mailto:admin@youthaccess.org.uk)

Local contacts for mental health  
counselling, advice and information.

[MH, AD, C, OL](#)

### AKT (LONDON)

19-20 Parr Street, London, N1 7GW

020 7831 6562; [www.akt.org.uk/refer](https://www.akt.org.uk/refer)

Mon – Fri: 10am – 4.30pm

Supports LGBT 16 – 25-year-olds

[C](#)