

# *the* Pavement

Issue 5

The Paper for The Homeless (London Edition)

Free

## All dressed up...but nowhere to go

### Lack of accommodation undermines new policy

Camden council's latest homeless strategy is doomed to failure before it even gets off the ground because of an ever-worsening shortage of hostel beds, *The Pavement* has heard.

Sources at a Camden homeless service provider have said that their key scheme, the 'Pathways Approach', which is due to be rolled out across Camden in the coming months, will not help move people off the streets and into permanent housing because no extra beds are being provided at hostels or move on accommodation.

Worse, closures and

refurbishments at Camden hostels and service points mean that the number of beds in some areas is actually in decline.

The Pathways Approach aims to give service users a clear idea of how, with the support of Camden council and other providers, they can move towards living an indoor independent life. In short, Pathways is an attempt to make each individual service user understand exactly what needs to be done and when, in order for them to get off the street and into permanent housing. This is backed up by re-training and education. Depending on good behaviour and the successful completion of each stage, users will be able to advance along their individual pathway



towards independence.

"It's not a bad plan," one source close to the project told *The Pavement*. "However,

behind all the high rhetoric is the reality that there is no space to move anyone on."

*cont. pg2*

## Number of rough sleepers increases as BBS falters

### Building-based services strategy disrupted by London bombings

Outreach workers are back on the streets of Westminster after the roll-out of Building-Based Services (BBS) in the borough has resulted in an increase in the number of rough sleepers.

Staff at one of the major homeless charities involved have pronounced the move a failure so far.

"Signposting isn't happening," said one outreach worker. "Clients work with us on the streets but they are not wanting to get involved in what police are asking them to do. The number of rough sleepers has risen and we aren't seeing new faces coming in." At least two charities involved in the project have found that demand for BBS is low.

"We introduced an evening service but there were no clients. There would be three members of staff and one client," said an outreach worker.

The London bombings have played their part. The terrorist attacks resulting in police being taken away from primary duties.

Former outreach workers at agencies involved in the move to BBS were given permission to go back out on the streets again, and their return has led to an increase in the number of rough sleepers using the services.

A spokesperson at Westminster Council said that it is unclear when policing levels will return to normal: "Because of the bombings BBS has not been as effective as we'd like. It's hard to say how long outreach staff will be back on the streets and when all 'Safer Streets' police can return to normal duties." See page 4 for more on the Police's Homeless Person's Unit.

While not returning to their former level of outreach work, staff are now signposting rough sleepers to services.

Jeremy Gray, who is coordinating the roll-out of BBS amongst charities, said that Westminster Council has been responsive to

the need for more staff out on the streets. "We haven't had a chance to see BBS working yet, but it covers most of the bases," he said.

But some outreach staff are unconvinced. "Lots of clients are reluctant to come into buildings. We are concerned about losing the contact we previously had with them on the streets."

*'Hector'*



"I see you have Sky"



# News

## Camden services...cont.

Camden uses a points system to allocate housing. This means that people are allocated points according to their needs and those judged to be most in need go to the top of the list. Already people have to wait years in order to get a place of their own, and the hostels themselves have huge backlogs.

"The council is backing this new scheme but it won't make any difference unless there are beds available to start moving people on, and there just aren't."

*The Pavement* has also learned that a number of major hostels are scaling down the amount of people they can offer beds to. A source at Southampton Row, which has

35 beds at present, admitted that there had been talk of closing the centre, although they refused to comment further.

Elsewhere, Arlington Road, which once had over 450 beds, has recently lost 60 because of a refurbishment programme, and in the near future plans to halve its number of beds. The council have made no commitment to replace these lost beds.

A source at Arlington Road made it clear that the scale down was part of a plan to improve the quality of services for clients; however, with the number of beds falling across the borough it remains a mystery as to how the new Pathways system could be effective.

"The council is spouting all this stuff about pathways while reducing the number of beds on offer," said our source in Camden. "There's nothing wrong with the Pathways scheme but it's not being introduced in a professional way. It's all very well to come up with ideas like this, but without more move-on accommodation it's worthless."

The Pathways plan states that everyone, whether they are engaging with council services or rejecting them, should be helped to make the most of local opportunities to improve their lives and develop personally, and that Pathways will help this to happen by designing support

plans with individual outcomes agreed upon by both service providers and their clients.

In return for taking part, the council maintains that Camden will explore ways to help service users into work by amending rent policies and providing better childcare. It also states that users who take up opportunities offered to them and reduce negative behaviour will progress faster through the hostel Pathway structure.

*The Pavement* tried to contact Camden council directly but was unable to reach anyone. It is planned that all hostels will start to work on the Pathways plan before the end of this year.

*'Hack'*

## Local connection rule to be scrapped...or is it?

**The 'local connection' rule is still to be enforced, but not overly**

Terrie Alafat, director of homelessness & housing support at the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), has written to chairs of an ODPM initiative and other statutory housing bodies telling them to relax implementation of the 'local connection' rules.

Some of our readers, particularly those now returning to London after summer breaks in Bournemouth and Brighton, may have come across the need for 'local connection.' This policy goes beyond stating that people cannot apply for housing in an area unless they have 'local connections' with the relevant housing authority, by preventing them using some services, such as day centres, unless they have a 'local connection.'

But, in a letter on 10<sup>th</sup> August, Mrs Alafat said she was "seriously concerned" about signs "indicat[ing] that a growing number of administering authorities are introducing and implementing strict local connections

criteria which may prevent provision of effective and essential services to meet the needs of mobile vulnerable groups."

For cash-strapped agencies and overwhelmed services, 'local connection' has been the ideal tool to turn away prospective users, and even old users, who

do not qualify. For such services the letter may come as a shock, and even more so to those who've been turned away. To others – those who've ignored the rules, sometimes in contravention of funding agreements – this news will have elicited a sigh of relief. Most, however, will simply be confused.

Mrs Alafat goes on to state in the letter that "it is clear that 'local connection' is also being applied more extensively to other vulnerable groups [besides the homeless], including women escaping domestic violence where there could be serious consequences if 'local connection' was strictly adhered to." However, she fails to state the exact definition of 'vulnerable', and it is again left to individual agencies to decide if and how they should implement this policy.

*The Pavement* applauds the realisation from ODPM's director of homelessness & housing support that the 'local connection' rule is impossible to enforce without leaving many people out in the cold, but is concerned that the changes will cause equal confusion, especially as they will seek to replace the policy with something called 'reconnection'.

*'Cobbet'*



Terrie Alafat (right), director of the homelessness & housing support at the office of the Deputy Prime Minister presenting the 2003 Tony Denison Award for Homelessness Research to Nicholas Pleace (left)



## News

### Too many services?

Charity boss rejects accusations of too many agencies

Crisis chief executive, Shaks Gosh, told the Homeless Link conference in Nottingham that the homeless agencies needed to offer a wider variety of services.

He was responding to comments made by *The Big Issue* founder John Bird who said that there are too many agencies which "mollycoddled homeless people". Gosh said that agencies have to be careful about working with people for too long, but that the housing shortage made it difficult to plan the next step.

Meanwhile, Thames Reach Bondway chief executive, Jeremy Swain, said "There's too much of a range of organisations that do the same thing."

*Simeon Brody, Community Care*

• Please let us know if you feel "mollycoddled". Address on pg 6.



"It will never work: you see me as this glamorous beachcomber figure when in reality I beg in the city!"

## End of an era

After 40 years of service, Roger Shaljean retires from St Martin's

We regret to report the retirement of Roger Shaljean from St Martin's on 31<sup>st</sup> of August.

Many of our readers, young and old, will remember Roger Shaljean as director of St Martin's Social Care Unit (SCU), and all will agree that there are few on Earth made in Roger's mould. A man of principle and poise, his charm will be missed by those who use St Martin's.

Although director of the SCU from 1985 until 1998, Roger had worked at St Martin's since 7<sup>th</sup> of August 1965, clocking up a respectable 40 years of service at the day centre on Trafalgar Square. Roger told *The Pavement* it felt "like one hundred and forty years," and many users will share the view

that it has been so long that it is hard to imagine St Martin's without him.

Asked about his future, Roger replied, "I have no firm plans" but said that he hopes to learn a musical instrument. Whether this is real retirement is questionable as he added that he is "committed to keeping the pilgrimage, commemoration service and Charing Cross station carol-singing going 'until I drop.'"

And the personal highlights of Roger's time at St Martin's? They were many, but he told this paper that the principle ones were "seeing Raymond resettled in Barnsley, Anneka Rice's revamp of the old soup kitchen, and extending the hours to include Saturday mornings."

*The Pavement* wishes a very happy and well deserved retirement to Roger and his wife Kath.

*'Cobbett'*





## Focus

# Inside the Homeless Persons' Unit



## The Pavement goes behind the scenes at Charing Cross

The Homeless Person's Unit at Charing Cross police station is the only division in the Met dedicated specifically to dealing with our readers. The 15 police staff in its team, including one inspector and a number of Sergeants, are specifically trained to work with homeless people.

Each morning and evening officers will conduct 'sweeps' across three key areas within the borough of Westminster to identify any problems within the rough sleeping community.

"We go out and meet and identify homeless people and see if anyone needs services," says PC Lee Ristow, one of the police officers based in the Unit.

Wearing plain clothes the officers get to know regulars and offer signposting to services for newcomers.

Since Westminster Council shifted its homeless policy towards Building-Based Services

(BBS), the Homeless Person's Unit no longer makes referrals to hostels or other homeless provision, but merely directs rough sleepers to where those provisions are based.

While many, even some within the police force, question the cut-down in outreach staff since the introduction of BBS, and the suitability of police officers in directing the homeless to provisions, Ristow says that there is no conflict on this issue within the unit.

"We've been going out on the streets for a long time and hopefully most rough sleepers are aware of us," he says. "We're not there to put pressure on them or to target them but simply to identify and check they are okay."

If some are causing an obstruction or a public nuisance, officers will wake them up and move them on, often permanently, but Ristow says the officers in the unit are trained to act with discretion.

"We won't stand and watch them dress. If people are

sleeping on public property or if there are complaints from the public we will invite them to move on."

The majority of arrests made by the Unit are to pick up those begging within its patch. Section Four of the Vagrancy Act legislates against street beggars. Included in Section Four is legislation against not only those overtly begging but also those placing themselves in a position where they may look like they are begging, an additional aspect of the law which often causes conflict between officers and some of our readers.

"If someone is sitting under a blanket next to a cash machine then they may be arrested for putting themselves in a position where begging may occur," says Ristow.

But another section of the Vagrancy Act, which legislates against those found 'wandering abroad' is not practical to enforce in today's London.

"Technically someone can be arrested if they are told to go to a hostel and don't, but these days

people have to be referred to a hostel," says Ristow.

The Unit takes calls from residents worried about a homeless person in their neighbourhood, or police officers and agencies within London and across the UK who may be looking for a missing person. It is often called to help with mental ill-health cases, assisting social workers and doctors who have been called in to section a rough sleeper. Meanwhile, some homeless people use the Unit to pass messages onto others living on the streets.

Ristow says that as a dedicated unit it can respond more quickly to problems.

"We have the flexibility to deal with problems as they arise. If an outreach person called up a normal officer they may be too busy to give the problem the time and attention it needs."

One of the Unit's recent duties has been to deal with the huge influx of immigrants from Eastern Europe, many of whom end up living on the streets when they fail to find work.

The Unit issues travel warrants to those who wish to return to their home countries. "We send back a number of people a week," says Ristow. "They are mostly young people who have come looking for work and it has not worked out and they want to go home."

The Unit also deals with criminal activity within the homeless community itself.

"If one homeless person is assaulted by another, that needs to be reported just like any other crime," says Ristow. "Many may be sceptical of coming to the police but we are here to be of use to those living on the street."

The Homeless Person's Unit is based at Charing Cross Police Station in Agar Street.

*'Hector'*



## Streetlife

## Spit and polish

*The Pavement*  
meets the founder  
of StreetShine

In Issue 3, *The Pavement* reported on StreetShine, a project encouraging homeless, unemployed people to get back into the routine of full-time work via shoe shining. The idea is that people are trained up and then paid a wage to offer a shoe shining service to employees of large firms at their desks. And it raised questions regarding certain negative connotations which may be associated with this type of service.

In response to this, *The Pavement* received a letter from Simon Fenton-Jones, the director of StreetShine, who was eager to explain the positive aspects of the service and the impact it can have on the lives of the employees.

He began by explaining that most of the 'negative connotations' come from some of the homeless people he approaches rather than the businessmen to whom his organisation offers a service. Mr Fenton Jones thinks the latter actually see it as "the return to personal service and customer values". StreetShine operates at a number of large companies, including KPMG and Deutsche Bank, although one company, oddly, does not wish to be named, preferring to be mentioned only as "a major global management consultant".

The idea that this is a return to a servile culture is contested by StreetShine who cite their successful results. Mr Fenton-Jones told us of past employees who have overcome introvert approaches to life and gone on to college, having benefited from the social contact that their jobs as shoe shiners provided.



Employees have all the statutory rights of other full-time employees, including holiday pay, although there have been individual cases of high absenteeism.

Mr Fenton-Jones is keen to expand the project, looking at the possibility of developing dry-cleaning or key-cutting services, although the short-term focus is to "iron out" any problems with the current service and then expand from there.

StreetShine currently employs a range of homeless and unemployed people, and looks to recruit three or four people per month, including rough sleepers. Each applicant is considered on an individual basis.

If you would like to be considered for a position in StreetShine, call 0207 840 3468 or visit their website at [www.streetshine.com](http://www.streetshine.com).

Alternatively, if you can get a large enough group of interested people together, the team at StreetShine may be able to organise a hostel or day-centre visit and talk to you en masse.

'RN'



"The Dog's begging again"



# Letters

## Editorial

Dear Readers

*The Pavement* just appears and you read it, but plenty of you want to know more. Many of you have asked fundamental questions about our paper, and rightly so; as a result I'll use this opportunity to answer some of them.

Keith asked me last week on the Charing Cross Road, "who did it?", meaning "who is involved in *The Pavement*?". This is an easy starter: there are about ten of us in all, volunteer journalists and professionals who contribute each month. Then there are the cartoonists, who send us a healthy supply of their work; these are not the ones rejected by the national papers and indeed many are drawn especially for us.

We are a now registered charity so we also have three trustees who, although not always directly involved with the production of the paper,

keep us on track with what we want to publish, which leads me on to another oft asked question – why?

We publish *The Pavement* because they isn't anything like it about, and it's got a lot to report on. We don't have a 'mission statement' as such, but want to produce a good read whilst keeping our readership informed of events. Although some of our items may be a little dry, we try, and will continue to try, to lighten it with a little humour. Also we hope to keep our service listings comprehensive and up to date, as we feel it's a valuable tool for readers.

Someone did ask where we publish it? The answer is nowhere, as we don't have offices. We're not attached to any organisation, although we do rely on many to distribute us, and we publish from a laptop, using our e-mail and PO box for communications. That's us.

So what's the future got in

store for this paper? We're advertising for more journalists to help us write, and have some new columns planned; Mike has suggested, by mail, that we offer a queries service in our pages called 'Street Whys' in which readers will ask questions which we'll put to experts. It's a good idea, so get those questions in. We were also asked if we could do some big interviews with people such as Ken Livingstone and Tony Blair; which is feasible, and we'll try to arrange it so that readers can submit questions. We're forging ahead with our plans for a comic strip as mentioned in last issue's Editorial, and it's coming together with the firm promise of ink-work from Bryan Talbot (*Heart of Empire*) and Dave Gibbons (*Watchmen*). Only the best in this paper.

What is encouraging, having turned five (months) old, is that we're being asked to meetings to report for our

readers on plans that affect them. For example on 9<sup>th</sup> September we attended a meeting held by Unleash, along with a broad selection of soup run providers from across the country. It seems that a group of soup runs may arise from this that will unite to prevent political pressure affecting them and to improve services. We have been invited back, and will keep you informed of what goes on. Also, as this issue goes to press we will be travelling to Westminster's Soup Summit, and next issue we will report in detail on what was said there.

Finally *The Pavement* T-shirts are now printed, featuring original art by Neil Bennett, and we'll be giving them away to ALL writers of printed letters in future. So keep them coming in.

Editor

*P.S Our apologies for the lack of The Opinion Pole section. It will return next issue.*

## Letters to the editor

Dear Editor,

Is it indicative that you feel your readers are 'ignarus', or is it the slipshod way in which you publish, but there was a gross spelling error in you latest issue [Issue 4]. On the front cover, on a headline for a story on football, you had 'vini vidi vici.' This should have read, 'veni vidi vici' – Julius Caesar's famous "I came, I saw, I conquered." Perhaps you were trying for "wine, I saw, I conquered," and even this would have been incorrect (winum). Shades of "Ich bein ein Berliner" I feel.

Mark

By email

Dear Editor

"Vini, vidi, vici"? Perhaps you

mean "veni, vidi, vici."

Jon

By email

Dear Mark and Jon

*The ignorance was on my part, and that of the proofreader. Thank you for pointing out the error.*

Editor

Dear Editor,

I like your magazine, and enjoy most of its contents, but why do you have a cryptic crossword on the back and why can't you write on it?

Simon

Address Provided

Dear Simon,

Two reasons: The cryptic

*crossword lasts longer, and that's important with a monthly paper – a 'quick' crossword just doesn't have the long term appeal. The difficulty with writing on the paper is just as simple to answer – we were given the paper. A company called Mediamark were kind enough to donate the paper for four issues to help us reduce our print costs, and it's not great to write on. It does tend to discourage the use of spare copies of The Pavement as a jointing pad though.*

Editor

*Don't be shy about getting in touch, anonymity can be easily given on request, and like any publication we edit contributions where necessary*

*(hardly any of our letters start with something as polite as "Dear Editor").*

*If you want to get in touch with The Pavement you can do so in several ways: Email us at editor@thepavement.org.uk or go to the website, www.thepavement.org.uk, and fill in the contact box there – there's no need for an email address.*

*Or you can write to us at:*

*The Editor,  
The Pavement,  
PO Box 43675,  
London,  
SE22 8YL*

*...it makes a change from all the press releases and bills. Keep them coming in (not the bills!).*



## Legal Affairs

# Are you 'intentionally homeless'? No, really – are you?

The minefield of moving into accommodation often starts with this decision

Few readers will find this an easy question to answer once they've thought about it, and fewer still by the end of this article. It's an important question to ask, for peace of mind and, most importantly, when applying for accommodation. If you feel that your answer is irrelevant, and that it only matters what the council thinks, you are wrong: your views and background are important in forming authorities' decisions. Remember, it's not always cut and dry.

It's true that the council can decide if you are 'intentionally homeless' with a few questions, but they should (and usually do) dig deeper if there is any doubt. It's a complex area. The onus is on the council to prove that you have made yourself homeless, not for you to prove that it was

unintentional. They, the council, will make enquiries around any reasons you gave for becoming homeless to ensure that you did not deliberately do, or not do, something that caused you to leave stable accommodation.

When the council starts to look at all the circumstances surrounding your case, particularly in deciding whether you deliberately did or didn't do something, the following are likely to be considered as appropriate proof: that you deliberately didn't pay the rent or mortgage when you could have afforded to; were evicted for anti-social behaviour; or left accommodation that you could have stayed at. If you cite non-payment of rent or mortgage as a reason for leaving accommodation this will be taken into account only if it was due to financial difficulties that are deemed to have been beyond your control.

Similarly a council will not (or should not) state that are 'intentionally homeless' if the

loss of accommodation was due to something that you were not aware of, such as receiving bad advice or a partner failing to pay the rent without informing you.

In all these cases the authorities can decide that you have become 'intentionally homeless' if you left your accommodation because you were deliberately doing or not doing something. You are not 'intentionally homeless' if lack of action prevented you taking up accommodation, for example not following up on an offer from a landlord, although you may be found 'intentionally homeless' if you have turned down a final offer of appropriate council accommodation.

The reasons for losing accommodation are countless, but a few are relatively common. For example, it's not enough for a council to say that you are 'intentionally homeless' if you were experiencing domestic violence or threatening behaviour; if the housing was of a very poor standard for that

area; if you couldn't afford to live there without cutting back on the basic necessities; or if it was seriously affecting your health. As stated, reasons are countless, so there may be other valid reasons that can be given, but in all cases try to get evidence: a police report in the case of violence or a doctor's letter in the case of ill-health.

If you are listed as 'intentionally homeless' they don't brand you, but they should inform you in writing, explaining the reasons why they have come to this decision. It must also inform you of your right to appeal the decision by requesting a review.

'Intentionally homeless' often isn't a fair description in many cases, but if you are ever in doubt about whether it applies to you, you should get professional advice. Even if you are 'intentionally homeless' it's not the end of the world, and perhaps not as bad as being 'unintentionally housed.'

*'Humanitarian'*

## Homeless Hobbies No. 5: Collecting tart cards

Most telephone booths are festooned with them in London, their gaudy images mesmerising some and revolting others: tart cards. These adverts for specialist telephonic services are the bane of some campaigners' lives and defy councils' attempts to clear them up, but they've also spawned a collecting sub-culture.

Seriously. Aside from the 'sordid' use of tart cards as an ad-hoc top-shelf magazine, they make excellent collecting material.

Getting mint examples is difficult with so many telephone booths open to the elements; but there are some great examples out there and swapping is as 'red hot' as some of the cards. A recent 'Danish Beauty,' in very fine/near-mint condition, from a Shepherd's Bush booth changed hands for 50p, and I had the pleasure recently of holding a genuine 1988 'Buxom Housewife'. Of course, I wore cotton gloves with such a collectors' item.

*'Anorak'*



"I'm on 'out-of work' experience."



## Health

# Dear Flo...

**Tuberculosis is a crippling disease that demands medical attention.**

No letter this month, because Tuberculosis (TB) is not the sort of illness that can be dealt with by correspondence; if you're writing in for advice on TB and not making an appointment with your GP, I don't believe I can advise you. This is not the romantic affliction of Mimi (La Bohème) and Doc Holliday (gunslinger and dentist), but a crippling modern day disease.

TB is an infectious disease caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. TB commonly affects the lungs, but can reach any part of the body. It is usually spread by the coughs or sneezes of an infected person, but is not as highly contagious as most people think. Prolonged close contact with a person with TB, for example, living in the same household, is usually necessary for infection to be passed on, and it may take many years before someone infected with TB develops the full disease.

TB worldwide is a massive problem. In England cases fell

progressively until the mid-1980s but started to rise again in the early 1990s; cases have increased by 25% in the last 10 years! Around 6,500 cases are now reported each year and, as TB is curable, the most important part of controlling TB is identifying and treating those who already have the disease, to shorten their infection and to stop it being passed on to others.

Most TB in England is in inner-cities, indeed 40% of cases are in London, a figure that has doubled in the past 10 years.

### High risk factors:

- Live in cities;
- Are in close contact with a person with infectious TB;
- Have visited, lived or worked in countries with a high rate of TB (If you are unsure please ask your doctor or nurse);
- Have parents whose country of origin has a high rate of TB;
- Have a weakened immune system due to disease, under-nourishment or treatment (HIV is a particular risk factor);
- Are homeless or living in poor or overcrowded conditions;
- Have been in prison;
- Misuse drugs or alcohol.

### Common symptoms are:

- A cough with or without sputum for over three weeks;
- tiredness;

- loss of appetite;
- loss of weight;
- night sweats;
- Coughing up blood (this may occur only very late and is not essential for the diagnosis).

• swollen glands (usually neck).  
TB can be fatal if untreated. If you recognise the symptoms, get checked out!

Pulmonary TB should be suspected in anyone with a cough of more than three weeks' duration for which there is no other explanation, particularly if it is accompanied by the other symptoms. Such cases would be investigated urgently, initially by chest X-ray and/or sputum smear examination. But, don't panic, TB can be controlled by the prompt recognition and treatment of those infected, although it is essential to make sure that treatment is completed.

There are also preventative methods, such as the BCG vaccination. If you haven't had a BCG, ask your nurse about it. BCG vaccinations are given in the top of your left arm, so if you've got a scar there you may have been immunised.

TB is treated with a combination of three to four antibiotics for a period of six months or more. People usually

begin to feel better two to four weeks after starting treatment, but at least six months of drug treatment is required to make sure the disease is cured.

### Where to go:

Any surgery listed in *The Pavement* (pg 11), the mobile screening van operated by Camden, or clinics listed below:

*St Mary's Hospital*, Paddington: Chest and Allergy Clinic, ground floor, Mint Wing for general walk-in, if concerned or symptomatic. Monday 1-3 and Friday 9-12. for recent arrivals to the UK (within past five years) and from a country of high incidence there is a drop-in service on Thursdays 10-12. *Middlesex Hospital*, Cleveland St. Chest Clinic, drop in Monday 1.30- 3.30 and Thursday 9-12. *Whittington Hospital*, Highgate Hill. Chest Clinic, St Mary's wing. Appointment only, though you can self-refer and do not need to go through your doctor. Please call 0207 288 5248, Mon-Fri 9-5. All appointments will be on Fridays 9.30-12. *Royal Free Hospital*, Pond Street. Appointments only – either through your GP or call 0207 941 1832. Clinic time is currently Fridays 1.30-3.30.

*Good health,  
Flo'*

# Foot Care

**Keep your feet warm and dry over the colder months**

Most of us suffer the annoying discomfort of cold feet from time to time, and for others cold feet can be a sign of serious circulatory disorder, but keeping feet warm and dry is very important for everyone over the coming colder months. Over-exposure to cold and damp can even cause Trench Foot, a painful affliction which can prevent one walking and in

bad cases cause serious infection.

Protecting our feet began when we wrapped animal skins around our feet and lower leg. In prehistoric times hay was used for cushioning and insulation. Later the Egyptians developed knitting, and thick and chunky socks became the fashion. In other parts of the world felt was used to keep feet warm.

Socks are still important, regardless of changes in outer footwear, so during the cold

winter months the comfort and warmth that socks provide is paramount. Winter socks need to be thick enough to keep feet warm but thin enough to fit comfortably in regular shoes. They should not irritate the skin and should ideally be easy to wash and dry over-night. Today's socks come in all forms from the argyle patterned for the man about town, to the hiker's functional with anti-fungal properties woven in to conquer Everest. Many of the best are sold in outward-bound stores;

they are often a little more expensive than your average socks, but the double knit sole, which traps hot air and insulates the foot, can leave you walking in bliss.

It is important to keep your feet warm and dry so you may also want to keep a second pair handy. As always, should painful symptoms persist then do not hesitate to see your doctor.

*'ToeSlayer'*  
*Registered podiatrist  
and shoe historian.*



## Soup Runs

# The Pavement Good Soup Guide

Get your nominations in to [editor@thepavement.org.uk](mailto:editor@thepavement.org.uk) or to The Pavement, PO Box 43675, London, SE22 8YL.

## No.2: Simon Community

The Simon Community is out on its soup run every Wednesday and Thursday evening (see *Soup Run listings below*). Offering a hot cup of homemade soup, usually chicken or vegetable, you can also get a cup of tea and a sandwich. These sandwiches, unfairly compared to the old British Rail ones, come in cheese, ham, peanut butter, jam, corned beef or tuna. If that weren't enough, they often have fruit and tobacco.

The latter item obviously scores the Simon's highly in this guide, but there is more to this community than soup and a smile. They often have blankets and socks, and clothing can also be requested, which is then brought to the next run; ask one of the volunteers to put your name on the list.

The Simon Community (a registered charity) is unique in being a community of homeless people and volunteers living and working together. Founded by Anton Wallich-Clifford in 1963, the resulting partnership of homeless people and volunteers has changed very little over the past 43 years. Simon was created to meet need where need is greatest and it aims to come in where other organisations leave off. Its outreach work extends to include street work, the Street Café and tea run.

In the words of one happy customer and guest, Anthony: "I had been staying in St Martin's night shelter and not knowing anything about soup runs, only what I read and heard about through television and radio.

"After about two weeks I heard about The Simon early morning tea run on a Sunday on The Strand, and on my first encounter I was surprised to be met by a bunch of openly,



David Wheatley 2005

friendly people who gave you tea coffee, sandwiches and a fag. They also talked to you and listened. I was surprised and looked forward to their runs. Through the help I had from Brian at St Martin's and meeting Noreen at the open air café in the Strand, I now live in Simon House and help to make the sandwiches that I was once so grateful for."

Anthony, and all the Simon Community's members, meet at 129 Malden Road, Kentish Town every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon before the evening run in order to help prepare

sandwiches to accompany the soup. It is refreshing to see former and current street homeless working together with volunteers to make the soup runs possible, and The Simon Community is very grateful to those who help out. But be warned: if you come to 129 Malden Road on a Wednesday or Thursday you are likely to get roped into sandwich making!

Although its sandwiches aren't the best, for service and quirky ways, the Simon Community gets a rating of four slabs.



### SOUP RUNS\*

#### All Soul's Local Action Network (ASLAN)

Sat 5.30am-8.15am – Tea Run  
Covent Garden, Milford Lane, Surrey Street, Strand, Waterloo and The Passage.

#### Hare Krishna Food for Life

The Hare Krishna food run provides vegetarian meals from Monday to Saturday all year round.  
Isle Road (Kentish Town) 12.30pm; Arlington Road (Camden) 1.30pm; York Way (King's Cross) 2.30pm; Lincoln's Inn Fields 7.15pm (Mon, Wed, Thurs); and then Temple (if there's food left).

#### House of Bread

Sun 6.45am onwards  
Hot food and a full cooked breakfast once a month  
The Strand (the run at the Charing Cross end; opposite McDonald's). They also offer food, and sometimes clothing and showers, back at their church.

#### Sai Baba

Thurs 7.30pm: Lincoln's Inn Fields – curry.  
This group provide several food services, both in buildings and on the street; the above is the most popular.

#### Silver Lady Fund

Pies, pasties and sausage rolls

from Mick's van; each day 6.30-6.45am on Upper Ground, next to the Royal Festival Hall.

#### Simon Community

Tea Run: Sun and Mon (6.00am-9.30am): Hinde Street, Milford Lane, Strand, Exeter Street, Covent Garden, Army and Navy, Waterloo, Lincoln's Inn. Wednesday and Thursday (8.00pm-10.30pm): Milford Lane, Chaplin Walk (Waterloo), Army and Navy (Victoria), Marylebone Church, Hinde Street.

Street Café: Mondays (4.30pm-7.30pm) and Wednesday (9.30am-1.30pm): St Mary-le-

Strand Church on the Strand.

Soup Run: Wednesday and Thursday (8pm-9.20pm): Hinde Street, Milford Lane, Waterloo (National Theatre), Victoria Street (House of Fraser), and Howick Place (This is the busiest stop, around 60 – 70 people per night).

#### SW London Vineyard

Sunday 2.30pm 4.30pm: beneath Waterloo Bridge (Embankment) Stew and potatoes – perhaps good enough for a future review?

\*Please note: soup kitchens are listed under 'Services' on pg 11.



# Services available in London

Copies of *The Pavement* turn up all over over London but it's important that we continue to spread the word and ensure that it reaches as wide an audience as possible. Please then, do spread the paper to other day centres or other suitable outlets. We have received emails and letters urging us to approach particular day centres and this is proving extremely useful. If you know of any day centres that you think should stock *The Pavement*, please ask them to get in touch with us (see *letters page*). Likewise, if you notice any inaccuracies please ask that service to let us know.

Alcohol workers – A  
Art classes – AC  
Benefits advice – B  
Barber – BA  
Bathroom/showers – BS  
Counselling – C  
Careers advice – CA

Clothing – CL  
Drugs workers – D  
Dentist – DT  
Education/training – ET  
Food – F  
Free food – FF  
Foot care – FC

Housing advice – H  
Internet access – IT  
Laundry – L  
Luggage stowage – LS  
Music classes – MC  
Mental health workers – MH  
Medical services – MS

Outreach workers – OB  
Outreach worker links – OL  
Pavement stockists – P  
Sexual health advice – SH  
Safe keeping – SK  
SSAFA – SS  
Tenancy support – TS

## DAY CENTRES

### Ace of Clubs (16+)

St Alphonsus Rd, Clapham  
020 7622 3196  
Sun, Mon, Tues: 2pm-6pm;  
Wed, Thur: 12 noon-2pm; Fri,  
Sat: 12 noon-6pm  
**BS, DT, F, FC, H, IT, L, MS, OB**

### Acton Homeless Concern

Emmaus House,  
1 Berrymead Gardens, Acton  
Call for opening times:  
020 8992 5768  
**A, B, BA, CL, D, DT, ET, F, FC**

### Aldgate Advice Centre/ Dellow Centre

Aldgate High Street, Aldgate  
020 7283 1950  
Mon-Fri: 9.15am-11.30am for  
rough sleepers; 1.30pm-  
3.30pm: appointments and  
activities; Fri: 3pm-4pm for  
rough sleepers  
**A, B, BS, CL, D, ET, F, H, L,  
MH, MS, P**

### 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**

### Choral Hall Lifeskills Centre

310 Barking Road, Plaistow  
020 7511 8377  
Mon-Fri: 10am-2pm  
**A, B, BS, C, CL, D, F, FC, L, MS**

### Cricklewood Homeless Concern

60 Ashford Road, Cricklewood  
020 8208 1608

*Housing drop-in:* Mon, Wed,  
Fri: 10am-11am (for advice  
please be at front door at 9am  
for ticket). *Day services:* Mon,  
Wed, Fri: 10am-3.30pm (10am-  
12.30pm for advice; 1pm-  
3.30pm basic services)  
**AC, B, BS, H, IT, L, MS, OL**

### Crisis Skylight

66 Commercial Street, E1  
020 7426 5661  
Mon-Thurs 2pm-9.30pm  
**AC, ET, IT, P**  
•This listing in no way does justice to the  
number of activities they have running –  
for a full list visit [www.crisis.org.uk](http://www.crisis.org.uk) and  
look under 'Projects and Services'.

### Dellow Day Centre

see 'Aldgate Advice Centre'

### Deptford Churches Centre

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

### Finsbury Park Street Drinkers Initiative

91 Tollington Way  
020 7263 4140  
Mon-Thurs: 8.30am-3pm  
**A, BS, D, F, H, L, OL**

### Hanbury Community Project (S.C.T.)

22a Hanbury Street,  
Spitalfields, E1  
020 7377 2497  
Wed-Thurs 10.00am-4.00pm  
**AC, B, C, ET, IT, P**

### Holy Cross Centre

The Crypt, Holy Cross Church,

Cromer Street, WC1

020 7278 8687  
Mon: 2pm-5pm;  
Tues: 6.30pm-9pm  
**FF, H, MH**

•David Jackson of Holy Cross told us: "We  
are running an open access session on  
Mon and Tues from 2 to 5pm at the United  
Reformed Church, whose entrance is on  
Wakefield Street. We're encouraging our  
regular members to attend on Monday as  
we will be running outings during this  
period."

### London City Mission

Waterloo Christian Centre,  
628 Webber Street, SE1  
020 7928 1677  
Mon-Fri: 9am-12noon  
**B, BA, BS, CL, FF, H**

### Manna Day Centre

6 Melior Street, SE1  
020 7403 1931  
Mon-Sun: 9.30am-1.30pm  
**B, BS, CL, DT, FF, FC, H, MH,  
MS, P**

### North Lambeth Day Centre (St Mungo's)

St John's Crypt,  
73 Waterloo Road, Lambeth  
020 7261 9622  
Mon-Fri: 9.30am-12pm (drop-  
in); plus 12 noon-2.30pm  
**F, BS, ET, CL, B, H, AC, A, D,  
MH, MS, FC, P**  
•Building work scheduled for later this year.

### North London Action for the Homeless

Church Hall,  
24-30 Bouverie Road, N16  
020 8802 1600  
Tue: 12pm-1.30pm  
**B, BS, CL, FF**

### Rochester Row Day Centre (Salvation Army)

97 Rochester Row, SW1  
020 7233 9862  
Mon and Fri: 5.30pm-8pm  
(appointments only); Tues  
2pm-4.30pm (art workshop);  
Wed and Thurs: 5.30pm-8pm  
(drop-in session); Thurs 1pm-  
5pm (Benefits); Thurs and Fri  
2pm-4pm (English classes)  
**AC, B, BS, CL, ET, FF, P**  
•Sorry, the English tutor's not Polish.

### Shoreditch Community Project (S.C.T.)

St Leonard's Church,  
Shoreditch High Street, E1  
020 7613 3232  
Mon, Wed, Fri: 9.30am-  
12.30pm; Tues: 2.00pm-4.00pm  
**FF, B, OL, P**

### Simon Community

House of Hospitality, 129  
Malden Road, Kentish Town  
Mon-Fri: 9am-5.30pm - Drop-in

### Spectrum Centre

6 Greenland Street, NW1  
020 7267 4937  
Mon: 10am-12pm (advice),  
2pm-4pm (drop-in); Tues:  
10am-12pm (advice),  
2pm-4pm (women only); Wed:  
2pm-4pm (advice); Thurs:  
10am-2pm (advice);  
Fri: 10am-2pm (advice); 2pm-  
4pm (advice)  
**A, BS, C, CL, D, FC, H, L, LS,  
MH, MS, TS**

### Spires Centre

8 Tooting Bec Gardens  
020 8696 0943  
Mon, Tues, Thurs: 10.30am-



2pm; Wed: 10am-1pm;  
Fri: 11am-2pm (women only);  
Sun: 11.30am-3.30pm  
**A, B, CL, D, ET, F, FC, H, MS**

**Spitalfield's Crypt Trust (S.C.T.)**  
see Hanbury and Shoreditch  
Community Projects

**St Christopher's Fellowship**  
Lime Grove Resource 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: 11.30pm-3.45pm  
**AC, BS, C, CL, F, H, IT, L, OL, P**

**St Giles Trust**  
64-68 Camberwell Church St, SE5  
020 7703 7000  
Mon-Fri: 9.30am-12.30pm  
(advice/no drop-in)  
**A, B, BS, D, ET, H, L, MH, MS, P, TS**

**St John's at Hackney**  
Community Space Centre,  
Lower Clapton Road, E5  
020 8985 6707  
Mon-Thurs: 10am-12.30pm;  
2pm-4.30pm; Wed: 10am-12.30pm  
**B, BS, CL, ET, F, H, IT, MS**

**St Mary's Church**  
St Mary's Community Centre,  
Ashley House, N19  
020 7272 1783  
Tues: 11am-2pm; Wed:  
10.30am-2pm; Thurs: 6pm-  
9pm; Sat: 1.30pm-4pm (must be  
drug and alcohol free). Closed  
last Sat of every month  
**A, B, BS, C, CA, D, ET, FF, H,  
IT, L, MS**

**St Stephen's Church Manna**  
River Place, 17 Canonbury Rd, HA5  
020 7226 5369  
Tues: 7pm-9pm; Wed: 1pm-3pm  
**BS, CL, FC, FF, L**

**The Connection at St  
Martin's (Social Care Unit)**  
12 Adelaide Street, WC2  
020 7766 5544  
Daily 9am-12.30pm drop-in  
with some afternoon sessions.  
On the weekends the service is  
mixed (16+) from 9am-1pm (no

entry after 10.30). There are  
drop-in sessions on Tues and  
Thurs 4.30pm-7.30pm (26+  
only), and sessions on Mon,  
Wed and Fri 4.30pm-7.30pm  
(strictly by appointment only).  
Social Care Unit is to the left of  
the church's step (age 26+)  
**A, AC, B, BS, CA, CL, D, ET, F,  
H, IT, MC, MH, MS, P, SK, SS**  
•We left out benefits advice on our last  
issue - Who could forget Dat?

**The Connection at St Martins  
at No 12** (age 16-25) **A, AC,  
BS, CA, CL, D, ET, F, H, IT,  
L, MC, MH, MS, SK, SS, TS**

**The Passage (25+)**  
St Vincent's Centre,  
Carlisle Place, SW1P  
020 7592 1850  
Mon-Fri: 7am-11am for rough  
sleepers. Appointments only  
beyond this time  
**A, B, CA, CL, D, ET, F, FC, H,  
IT, L, MH, MS, P, TS**

**Upper Room, St Saviour's**  
Cobbold Road, W12  
020 8740 5688  
Mon-Thurs: 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**

**West London Day Centre**  
134-136 Seymour Place, W1H  
020 7569 5900  
Mon-Fri: 8.45am-10am for  
rough sleepers; Mon-Fri: 10am-  
12.30pm (drop-in)  
**AC, B, C, F, IT, L, LS, MS, OL, P, SK**

**West London Mission**  
New Lambeth Walk-in,  
3-5 Lambeth Road, SE1  
020 7735 9012  
Mon-Fri: 1.30pm-4.30pm  
**B, ET, IT, TS**

**Whitechapel Mission**  
212 Whitechapel Road, E1  
020 7247 8280  
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun:  
6am-11am (cooked breakfast)  
**BS, CL, FF, MS, OL**

## SOUP KITCHENS

**American Church**  
(entrance via Whitefield Street)  
79a Tottenham Court Rd, W1T  
020 7580 2791

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 10am-  
12pm. Serving hot meals, soup  
and bread, and/or sandwiches  
•No drinking is permitted on the premises;  
inebriated guests will be asked to leave.

**ASLAN**  
All Souls Church -Clubhouse  
Langham Place, W1  
020 7580 3522  
Sat AM: tea and sandwiches  
•Clothing often available.

## MEDICAL SERVICES

**Great Chapel St Medical Centre**  
13 Great Chapel Street, 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 Street, SW1  
020 72228593  
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 10am-  
12.30pm & 2pm-4pm.  
Wed: 10am-12.30pm  
**A, B, C, D, DT, FC, H, MH, MS, P, SH**

**King's Cross Primary Care Centre**  
264 Pentonville Rd, N1  
For opening times, call  
020 7530 3444  
**B, BS, CL, DT, FC, H, MH, MS,  
P, SH**

•Rachel from Camden told us "Primary  
Care for Homeless People are a team of  
GPs and nurses providing medical care to

people who are either homeless or in  
temporary accommodation in Camden or  
Islington. We operate a drop-in service at  
various sites including Spectrum Day  
Centre, Southampton Row and Kings Cross  
Primary Care Centre."

## EX-FORCES

**SSAFA Forces Help** are listed  
above as SS.

**Ex-Service Fellowship Centre**  
40 Buckingham Palace Road,  
Victoria offer an excellent  
service. Tel: 020 7828 2468.  
•A new address.

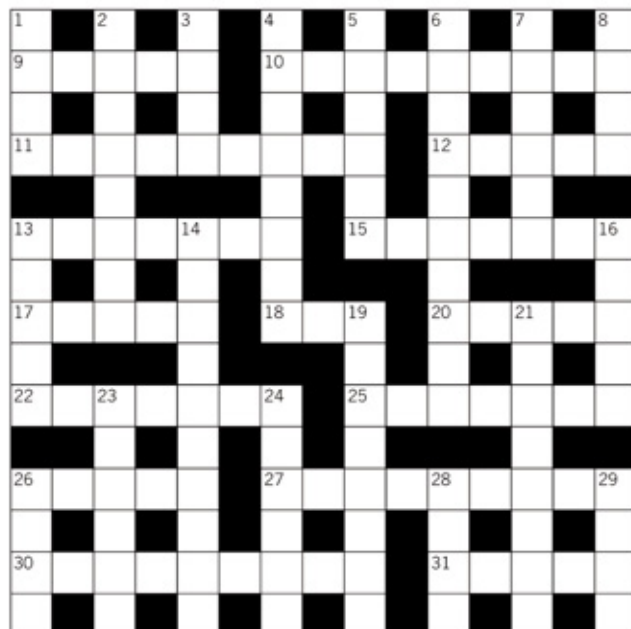
**AWOL?** Then call the 'reclaim  
your life' (SSAFA) scheme on  
01380 738137 (9am-10am Mon-  
Fri) for independent and  
confidential advice.

## TELEPHONE SERVICES

**Shelter** housing info and  
advice: 0808 800 44 44  
(7 days, 8am-12am)  
**Saneline:** 0845 767 8000  
(12noon-11pm Mon-Fri;  
12noon-6pm wknds)  
**Message Home Helpline:**  
0800 700 740 (24-hrs)  
**Get Connected:** 0808 808  
4994. Free advice for young  
people (1pm-7pm, 7 days)  
**National Debtline:**  
0808 808 4000





**Across**

- 9 Ring determined to acquire repute (5)  
 10 Alien's leg fitted with 360° vision? (3-6)  
 11 King, getting Queen fine dish, so avoided commotion (9)  
 12 One was set up for men in order to change baby without embarrassment, initially (5)  
 13 Front of car fitted with lights and immobilised (7)  
 15 *star@alien* set back by infectious disease (7)

- 17 Look round the stereotypically Yorkshire cell (5)  
 18 Lap part of a garment (3)  
 20 Put out energy on cross to power overhead railway (5)  
 22 Sun backing topless model deal? Rupert's in his element here! (7)  
 25 Breathes, so constricting medium neck (7)  
 26 Wives/partners collectively live away from part of Manhattan (5)  
 27 Lack of faith in how rapper Viking

- explorer might be heard to introduce himself? (9)  
 30 Far from clever to put black pelt, perhaps, on old hat (9)  
 31 Captain Bobby's last low note (5)

**Down**

- 1 I'm surprised Kay's on fiddle (4)  
 2 Corporation has pan for meat dish (3,5)  
 3 Wife abroad? Cheat endlessly! (4)  
 4 Fancy up-ending Fido off Lake Bloomer (8)  
 5 Complaint: medical department running smoothly! (6)  
 6 Carriage ring replaced by one division in France (10)  
 7 Celebrated striker very important to nameless left-wing MP once (3,3)  
 8 Say "heartlessly merry" describes a foolish-looking person's face? (4)  
 13 Having something up top makes one plump for the table (5)  
 14,29 On with pet irritant: member of circus in much reduced circumstances (10,4)  
 16 Sailors' purgative? (5)  
 19 Legs said to crumple in controlled descent (8)  
 21 Act like a younger Schwarzenegger with dancing shoe? Smooth! (4,4)  
 23 Swinging yodeller — 24 31's was deficient, as 17 1 pointed out in the 18 6 (6)  
 24 The old Queen's favourite borough (6)  
 26 Cooker part? Ring itinerant workman (4)  
 28 Oscar's equivalent of a burglar tool (not jack) (4)  
 29 See 14

**Can you help us?!**

Our apologies; we are unable to source the answers to last month's crossword. The reader who sends us the correct answers, which we will then print, will win a T-shirt.

Many thanks to *The Guardian* for allowing us to borrow its puzzle setters

Please note, *The Pavement* is written for your entertainment and information. Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the publication, *The Pavement* cannot be held responsible for the use that its readers make of the information it publishes. The information should not be relied upon as a substitute for medical, legal or professional advice.

*The Pavement* is a forum for discussion and opinions expressed in the paper are not necessarily those of *The Pavement*.

**Missing**

**STEVEN GRAHAM**  
 Age at disappearance: 22

Steven has been missing since September 16<sup>th</sup>

2002 when he left home suddenly without warning. Steven, from Birchwood, Warrington, had been working for an agency before going missing and it is thought that he may have felt unsettled when the job finished.

There is great concern for Steven, as although he briefly made contact with his family shortly after he disappeared, it has now been nearly three years since he has been heard from. His family would dearly love to know that Steven is safe and well. He doesn't have to say where he is, just that he is ok.

Steven, who is now 25 years old, is 6ft tall of slim build with short brown hair and grey/brown eyes. It is thought that Steven might be sleeping rough in the London area.

If you have seen Steven or have information that may help please call the National Missing Persons Helpline on Freephone 0500 700 700 or email sightings@missingpersons.org

**Stop press!**

In last month's feature on the Jesus Army we asked readers for their views. There was an unexpected response...

Last month *The Pavement* ran a feature on the Jesus Army ('Sects in the City' - Issue 4) where we asked readers for their views, but it appears that the Jesus Army might have themselves responded!

Someone from the Jesus Army may have read our piece and noted the address we gave for [www.jesusarmywatch.org.uk](http://www.jesusarmywatch.org.uk), a site that monitors their activity, because Mike Aldrich from Jesusarmywatch contacted us to say they've responded.

Mr Aldrich told us, "Shortly after the release of *The Pavement*, the Jesus Army released a new website: [www.jesus-army-watch.org.uk](http://www.jesus-army-watch.org.uk), which may amuse you much as it did me."

Whereas [jesusarmywatch.org.uk](http://jesusarmywatch.org.uk) offers discussion on the Jesus Army's work, [jesus-army-watch.org.uk](http://jesus-army-watch.org.uk) offers a view of the church's timepiece! One which is, unfortunately, not for sale.

Because of the similar names this may well

cause confusion to web surfers who are seeking Mike's site, but on enquiring as to the nature of the site, John Cambell of the Jesus Army simply said: "I believe it [the website] is merely intended as a joke."

A bizarre move on the part of the Jesus Army, one which might stop a few people visiting Mr Aldrich's site but which must be applauded for its links to the "No. 1 site in the world for high quality Christian wristwatches!"

If you wish to learn more about the Jesus Army visit [www.jesusarmywatch.org.uk](http://www.jesusarmywatch.org.uk). The site also includes links to the organisation's own sites.

RV



K.J. Lamb