

# *the* Pavement

The *FREE* monthly for Scotland's homeless

September 2011

**FREE  
AND  
WORTH  
EVERY  
PENNY**



*"I'm covered in shame!"*

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**News Editor**

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**Web Editor**

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Lizzie Cernik, Dearbhla Crosse, Stephanie  
Davis, Rebecca Evans, Simon Gwyn  
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Nicholas Olczak, Jim O'Reilly  
Natalie Peart, Garnet Roach  
Carinya Sharples, Katy Taylor  
Anthony Walsh, Rebecca Wearn

**Photographers**

Rufus Exton, Katie Hyams

**Contributors**

Susie Rathie, Toe Slayer, Evelyn Weir

**Cartoonists**

Neil Bennett, Cluff, Pete Dredge,  
Kathryn Lamb, Ed McLachlan, Ken Pyne  
Steve Way, Mike Williams

**Printed by**

Evon Print Ltd, United Kingdom

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The Pavement (print) ISSN 1757-0476  
The Pavement (Online) ISSN 1757-0484

# The Editor

*We're back and I'm back.*

We're back from our holidays and open for business. First up this month we bring you news about a private Glasgow hostel that's turned its back on the homeless and it now looking to attract backpackers.

The mainstream press are celebrating this as a victory for local residents, who claimed the hostel was linked to rising crime. No one who had the dubious pleasure of staying there seemed to have thought much of the place, so its closure may have been for the best. B&Bs aren't the answer to homelessness.

But it's difficult to celebrate when we still don't know where the folks who would have stayed there (mostly being bussed in by nearby local authorities) are going to be put instead. Is their new gaff going to be much better? Closer? Or are those in charge finally going to get their finger out and provide more much needed affordable housing?

The bottom line is, in many areas – Glasgow included – that there's simply no room at the inn. And with the Government's 2012 deadline to eradicate homelessness looming, we'd like some answers please!

In other news we give coverage to the Big Issue vendors who feel they're being taken advantage of, and celebrate the achievements of the Homeless World Cup in Paris – congratulations to the Scottish team!

*Karin Goodwin*

Editor

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

## Contents

### News

	Pages
<i>Missing People</i>	4
<i>Scottish news</i>	4–8
<i>The future of soup</i>	9–10
<i>Squatting changes</i>	11
<i>News-in-brief</i>	12–20
<i>Homeless city guide</i>	14

### Street Life

<i>Street Shield – the homeless hero</i>	22–23
<i>See the nurse – the health column</i>	24
<i>Foot care – care for your pair</i>	24
<i>The List (incorporating soup runs)</i>	36–27

# Scottish news

*All the homeless news from Edinburgh, Glasgow and beyond*

## Hostel turns away the homeless... and goes after backpackers

A notorious Glasgow homeless hostel has closed its doors to its former clientele and rebranded itself as a budget hotel for backpackers.

The shabby Queens Park Hotel, in Glasgow's Southside, which locals blamed for rising levels of crime and antisocial behaviour in the area, was popular with no one.

Those who stayed at the Balvicar Street 'hotel' claimed it was 'scary', while some said they were given little support to manage addiction problems and other issues while living there. Others complained about the lack of kitchen facilities and private bathrooms – both of which are required in order for B&B accommodation to be judged suitable for housing homeless households with children.

Glasgow City Council stopped using the hostel three years ago following concerns about the standard of accommodation it provided.

However three other councils – South Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire and East Renfrewshire – continued to send those with no one else to turn to the Glasgow B&B. According to the Scottish Government, 'out of area placements' such as this should only be done as a last resort.

Yet last month, following a meeting with Glasgow's Green councillor Danny Alderslowe, local authority representatives, hotel management and Strathclyde Police, an agreement was reached that the hotel would stop providing accommodation for

homeless people. It is understood that councils are still looking into alternative places providing emergency accommodation.

The Queens Park Hotel was previously owned by Alistair McKeever, whose McKeever Group ran the equally controversial Park View Hotel nearby until it was closed due to pressure by a residents' campaign. The building was later converted to luxury flats. But after the group went into administration in 2009, with spiralling debts of £70 million, the Queens Park Hotel changed hands.

*The Pavement* understands it was bought with the intention of converting it back to its original use as a hotel and that the new owner is keen to shake off the bad reputation it had gained.

It has now undergone a badly-needed refurbishment, and is marketed on the web as the Queens Park Budget Hotel – "Clean, basic accommodation facility available for those who are on a tight budget". It has attracted favorable reviews from those staying there who include parties of Spanish tourists and Australian backpackers.

Alderslowe said the decision was the best one all round. "We had long had concerns that local authorities were making use of this hostel without providing them with adequate support," he told *The Pavement Scotland*.

"People were being put in this hostel, where staff were not professionally trained to meet their needs, residents were unhappy and it wasn't actually helping anyone."

But he claimed the real issue remained the lack of adequate homeless accommodation. "This is an issue that had a domino affect for everyone in society



**John Ferris**

Age at disappearance: 44

John has been missing from Gosport since October 2010. He was last seen in the Scottish highlands in November 2010.

There is concern for John's safety and he is urged to call our confidential service **Message Home** on **Freefone 0800 700 740** for advice and support.

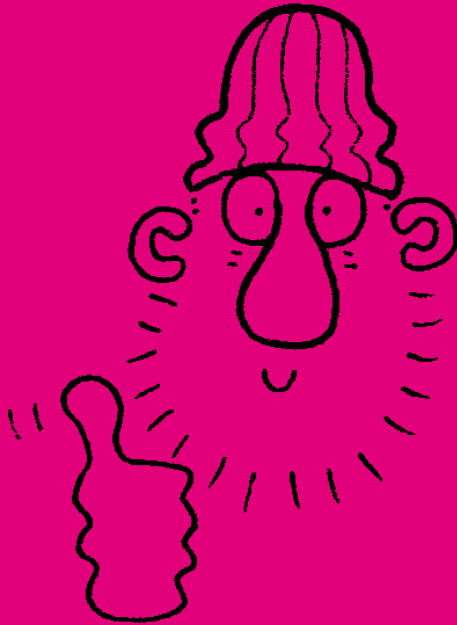
John is 5ft 10ins tall.

If you've seen John please call the 24-hour confidential charity **Missing People** on Freefone **0500 700 700**  
Email: [seensomeone@missingpeople.org.uk](mailto:seensomeone@missingpeople.org.uk)

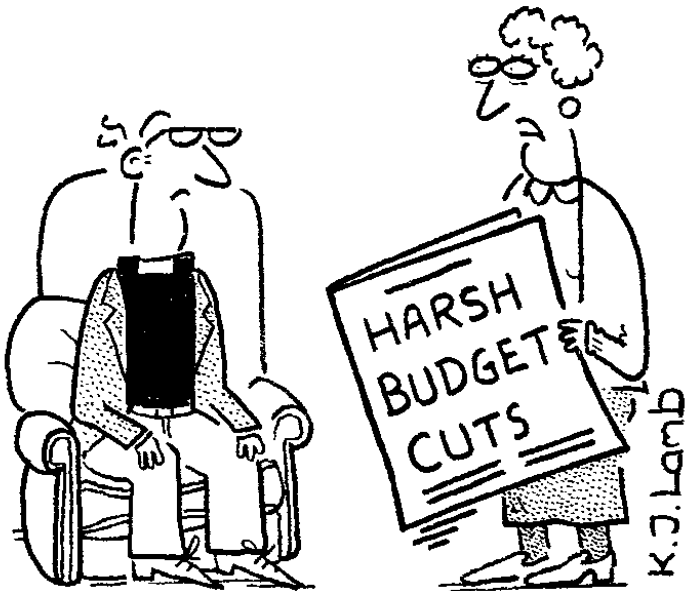
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keep informed & search  
our directory of services  
online @**



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



*"Less tea, Vicar?"*

and it urgently needs to be addressed.” Alderslowe added. “In many local authorities, there are literally no rooms at the inn.

“I fear that due to current financial pressures, more people than ever before are going to find themselves in a position of needing to be housed. And already we are at breaking point. “

The manager of the Queens Park Hotel confirmed that they had severed ties with councils and were now taking only private bookings but did not wish to comment further.

*Karin Goodwin*

## Vendors take big issue with alcoholic sell-out

The *Big Issue* has sparked further controversy over allegations that vendors are forced to pay for tabards bearing the logo of a wine company sponsor.

The *Big Issue* signed a controversial deal with wine company Fairhills last year that saw vendors wearing ‘high visibility’ red tabards with the Fairhills logo emblazoned on the back. But many feel that forcing vendors – some of whom struggle with alcohol addiction – to pay to wear tabards with wine branding is inappropriate.

Vendors must pay £15 for a tabard if they want to continue selling *The Big Issue*, according to the magazine. The highly-criticised move will be the first time that *Big Issue* tabards have been used for marketing purposes. The decision has faced much opposition, especially from those who fear that it will increase stereotypes and damage the image of the vendors.

The *Big Issue* maintains that the £15 is a deposit and that vendors may return them if they are still in good condition. However, some have told *The Pavement*

that they are worried that rain and snow will erode the lettering, resulting in a loss of their deposit.

*Big Issue* salesman Ben said: “I am an alcoholic and refuse outright to wear a tabard advertising wine. It’s like they’re profiting from my misfortune and forcing me to pay to wear it. It is just wrong.”

One source close to the *Big Issue*’s headquarters, revealed that despite being highly criticised, management have told vendors that there is no exception and every vendor has to wear them. “Vendors were told if they didn’t have tabards, they would lose their spot even though £15 could potentially have bought them 15 magazines,” she said. “They were even going to charge vendors for the plastic covers that kept their magazines dry when it rained.”

The *Big Issue* insisted that if vendors are struggling to pay the £15, they have four months to do so and it may be paid in instalments. If vendors have old tabards, then they are allowed to exchange them.

The *Big Issue* regional manager for London and South East, Tristan Wallis, said that that genuine wear and tear of the tabards was to be expected and the deposit would be returned as long as it wasn’t “vandalised and defaced purposely”.

He told *The Pavement* that Fairhills fit into the company’s ethos; “Fairhills is an organic wine company. If it was canned lager, then it would be different. If another company was prepared to offer sponsorship then, of course, we would have gone with them.”

Vendors buy the magazine for £1 and sell them for £2, keeping a £1 profit for themselves. Those affected feel that the tabard price is too expensive despite the option to use instalments.

*Big Issue* founder John Bird dismissed the arguments as puritanical, adding: “The biggest temptation for homeless people with drink problems is to be found

in the money they get for selling. That really is a big issue.”

*Dearbhla Crosse*

## Honoured soldier forced into homelessness

A soldier who has served in Iraq and Afghanistan could now face homelessness upon his return to Aberdeen because the council cannot find accommodation for him and his family.

Dean Ramsay – who was honoured with the prestigious Freedom of the City award for his 10 years’ service with the Highlanders 4th Battalion Royal Regiment Scotland – was told that his family, including his baby son, might have to register as homeless until suitable housing became available.

The 26-year-old father-of-one is due to return to Scotland later on in the new year to carry out off-shore inspections work after a non-combat-related injury forced him to leave the army. Meanwhile, his wife and one-year-old son are due to return to Scotland ahead of him and have nowhere to live.

Expressing concerns on the matter, Ramsay said: “My wife and son are due to move back to Aberdeen in the middle of August. Why does a soldier who has been fighting for his country have to be homeless before they can put a roof over his or her family’s head?”

He has since contacted members of the Scottish Parliament in his endeavors to resolve the matter, including Aberdeen Donside SNP MSP Brian Adam, who offered to make representations on his behalf to the city council. Mr Adam said: “Unfortunately there is a shortage of social housing in Aberdeen and the number of people on the waiting lists exceeds 8,000, while the council’s stock has been severely depleted due to ‘right to buy’.”

Councillor Gordon Graham has also offered to take up his case, saying: "An exception should be made in this family's case to provide housing or at least help in some way."

*Laura Blakely*

## Stirling Albion signing

A homeless football player has been signed to Stirling Albion FC after being given the chance to raise his game through training for the Homeless World Cup.

Sean Lawrence will play for Stirling Albion FC after he was invited to try out for the second division side on 4 June. The defender currently plays for Scotland's Homeless World Cup five-a-side team. Street Soccer Scotland is currently seeded sixth in international homeless football.

Along with team-mate Liam Forbes, Lawrence, 20, was invited to attend the 'So You Think You're Good Enough?' trials held at Albion's Forthbank homeground. The aim was both to add to next season's line up (eight players so far) and to raise money for cash-strapped Albion. Thirty hopefuls paid a £200 fee to participate in a series of six 25-minute matches.

The games were observed by team manager Jocky Scott, assistant John Blackley, as well as Ally Dick, former Spurs striker, and scout Kevin Hamill. Lawrence and Forbes were invited to the trial and thus had the fee waived.

Meanwhile, the eighth Homeless World Cup kicked off last month in Paris.

The Edinburgh-based operation, joint founded by Mel Young, who also set up The Big Issue Scotland, was born in 2003 and is going from strength to strength. This year, 48 nations took part in the tournament held in the French capital.

Organisers claim sport is the best way to help people turn their lives around, allowing them to become 'heros' on the pitch and feel proud of both themselves and their nation.

Research shows that more than 70 per cent of the players in previous World Cups have moved on since the experience, getting jobs, houses or recovering from addiction problems.

"We didn't believe the research at first, but we checked and checked," Mel Young told the Independent newspaper. "Being part of a team creates a change and allows people to participate in something international. You watch them standing proud and almost growing physically."

In 2007, Scotland lifted the trophy, and this year its women's team also competed for the first time.

Look out for news of how Scotland's teams fared in next month's Pavement.

*Zara Cameron*

## Smart diners dig deep

A scheme raising funds for homeless charities by adding £1 on to diners' restaurant bills, is calling for people to dig deep as the recession bites.

Streetsmart, which has raised £4.2 million nationally since it was founded in 1998, is coming to the end of its most recent Edinburgh festival campaign. It has been supported by a clutch of famous names including best-selling crime novelist Ian Rankin and celebrity restaurateurs such as Tom Kitchin and Martin Wishart.

Other participating restaurants in the scheme, which distributes money to projects aimed at getting people off the streets and onto their feet again, include the Vintner Rooms and Harvey Nicols restaurant.

The idea is that in the midst of the party atmosphere of the Edinburgh Festival, few diners will object to paying an extra pound to charity, particularly when the small amount is simply added to their bill.

However, Scottish organiser Martin Irons admitted that despite the high-profile support, raising funds for the homeless was getting increasingly difficult, with both restaurant owners and diners feeling the pinch.

"Times have been very tough for restaurant owners in the current financial climate and restaurants all over Edinburgh are closing or facing closure," he said.

"The same goes for diners. They are stretched to the limit with price rises in everything from food to fuel. Why should they spare another pound for homeless charities at the end of their meal out?"

However, Irons insists they remain optimistic about the future of the scheme. "It just means we need to work harder to ensure it is a success," he said.

They are now looking for volunteers to get involved in the Christmas campaign, which will run later in the year, who can help sign up and restaurants across Scotland to help them take part.

Streetsmart runs twice a year in Scotland, during the Edinburgh festival and in the run-up to Christmas. In England, it runs just once a year, in November and December.

While some of the money goes on basics – such as beds for the night, clothing and food – most goes on projects with longer-term goals to support homeless people to move on with their lives, address health and other underlying problems, get into education or training and find work.

The charity more recently launched Sleep Smart, which targets hotels and asks them to add £1 to the bill of all of their guests.

*Scotland staff*



# The future of soup

*The 'illegal' run ban lives on in London*

It's been branded illegal by human rights group Liberty, but Westminster City Council's proposed byelaw banning soup runs around Westminster Cathedral Piazza has still not been withdrawn.

Soup run representatives agreed to move out of the area to avoid the ban, but despite this the council has not ruled out enforcing the byelaw.

Furthermore, having moved away from Westminster Cathedral Piazza, soup runs are facing fresh complaints from local residents and businesses in their new locations.

Liberty highlighted the illegality of the byelaw with a high-profile stunt, in which it delivered letters to Westminster City councillors, urging them to rethink, in a giant can labelled 'Cream of Conscience Soup.'

In its letter, Liberty said the plans were unlawful on a number of human rights and common law grounds. It also quoted lawyers from London chambers 11KBW as describing the proposed byelaw as 'over-broad and draconian, criminalising lawful and benign conduct which... is entirely unconnected with any legitimate aim which Westminster claims to pursue.'

The lawyers, it is reported, go on to ask: 'Is it genuinely the case that a mother who gives her child milk while travelling home... is to be criminalised? That a diabetic cannot be given a piece of chocolate? Or that two students sharing a soft drink... should be subject to arrest and criminal fine?'

The human rights group also drew attention to fellow organisations against the campaign, including Housing Justice, Church Action on Poverty and the British Medical Association. While in a further letter to Alastair Reeves from Westmin-

ster City Council, Liberty's policy officer Sophie Farthing declared the human rights group would "consider seeking redress in the courts" if the byelaw was passed.

Soup run organisers operating around the Westminster Cathedral Piazza were made aware of the decision to move out of the area through the recent Cathedral Soup Month awareness campaign and on-the-ground promotion by Housing Justice, The Passage and other groups and individuals.

In response, as *The Pavement's* listings demonstrate, a number of soup runs have relocated and others *The Pavement* has been advised are taking a break until further notice, including Harlow Chocolate Run and Winchmore Hill Quakers.

Coptic City Mission, Missionaries of Charity and Street Souls all moved to Brewers Green, while Sacred Heart relocated to Tothill Street. However, some groups have had to uproot once again after residents, owners and staff of luxury flats on Brewers Green issued complaints. Housing Justice has also been contacted by concerned residents around Tothill Street.

'The council didn't inform residents who live around Tothill Street that the soup runs were going to move there, which residents were quite upset about,' explains Housing Justice Soup Run Forum Support Worker Ellie Schling. 'They'd had problems with people sleeping in their doorways... so they were worried that the soup runs being on Tothill Street would increase that and they wondered why the council didn't talk to them about it.' So far there have been no specific complaints about increased rough sleeping in the area.

All the upheaval has also provoked confusion around where the soup runs are taking place, as readers in the Victoria area will no doubt have found. 'People are frustrated,' continues Ms Schling. 'They feel like it's almost as bad as the ban, having to move every two weeks. I think people in Victoria are missing out on food, there's less food available, there's a lot of confusion but hopefully it will settle down.'

Chief Executive of Street Souls David Coombe has also noticed frustration and confusion among soup run users. Street Souls recently moved to Brewers Green – away from its previous site on Ashley Place, adjacent to Westminster Cathedral – but was forced to leave away just one week following reports of complaints from residents. Street Souls' soup run now operates from Christchurch Gardens, a non-residential spot, surrounded by offices. The first run in the new location proved a success, says Mr Coombe: 'The problem was getting the word around. But we had quite a big team come out and what we did on the way up was drive around where we used to distribute food... we found probably 30 people on Brewers Green, about 10 at our old place – Ashley Gardens, and around 20 in Tothill Street.'

Street Souls plan to continue their twice-monthly distributions at Christchurch Gardens – unless a better offer comes up. 'If an indoor service became available in Central Victoria we'd certainly favourably consider it,' says Mr Coombe, 'but we will not move out of the Central Victoria area. We're being pressured to do that – even by The Passage – but we're not going to do it.'

Until a new routine is established, the advice is to keep an eye on the Housing Justice website and *The List*.

Westminster City Council's aim is to engage people with 'building-based services,' however turning outdoor soup runs into indoor soup kitchens is not so simple. The problem is not lack of interest, as demonstrated by a recent questionnaire carried out by Miranda Keast from The Passage, Ms Schling and Christian Morgenstern from Imperial College Community Action Group (CAG). The survey found that 64 percent of respondents would prefer indoor services if available, 28 percent did not mind and 8 percent preferred outdoor services – some because it meant they could bring their pet. The real problem is lack of provision.

Although Westminster City Council frequently cites its three build-based services – The Passage, St Mungo's and Connection at St Martins – these don't constitute a suitable or even potential space for soup runs to move into. The only option at present seems to be King George's, an already small space where several runs have now relocated.

With no assistance from Westminster City Council on finding suitable indoor venues, Housing Justice has taken on the task of calling churches and hostels in a bid to find more space. 'The council hasn't helped at all, hasn't come up with anywhere for us to go, which is a problem,' said Ms Schling. 'We could really, really use more indoor places.'

Westminster Council is however still meeting with the small group of soup run representatives, made up of residents groups, hostel representatives, police, members of the Soup Run Forum and Westminster Council's manager of Rough Sleeping and Street Activity Janet Haddington. The meetings are chaired by Thames Reach Chief

Executive Jeremy Swain, who has recently been out visiting soup runs in Victoria. 'I have seen two soup runs in action myself tonight,' he reported recently on his blog, 'and I'm told by those who have gathered that another two are expected... The sheer drama of the scene and its compelling actors is seductive. But this is the summer of 2011 and I have witnessed the mass feeding of the poor on the streets of central London. There has to be a better way.' How long the multi-party meetings will continue for is unclear, although a spokesman for Westminster City Council said that the group is to report back in another couple of weeks and suggested the council may be able to say about the situation then.

Ms Schling from Housing Justice believes that although there are still reasons for them not to pass the byelaw, the council don't want to withdraw the threat of the byelaw because that means it can still be held over their heads. Also, she adds, 'I don't think the residents of the Cathedral area are satisfied because there are still homeless people sleeping in the Cathedral Piazza and hanging around McDonalds.'

Clr Daniel Astaire, Westminster Council's cabinet member for Adult Services and Health, gave *The Pavement* his update of the situation: 'There have been productive discussions between providers, the council, charities, residents and other interest groups, chaired by Thames Reach, to find the best way to address the over provision of soup runs in this particular area of Westminster.'

Indoor provision of food is one way to help rough sleepers and great strides have been made towards increasing such this provision, with a number of organisations already making space available. We would also urge voluntary groups and local authorities across London and the UK to work together to tackle rough sleeping.

In some cases we know that people have been told to travel into Victoria from outside London to wait for food. This is not a dignified way to treat people, especially when their best hope of finding somewhere to live lies in their local connections.

'The byelaw remains a last resort, we would much rather find other solutions. And whilst taking provision indoors, where people can also access other forms of help, is a positive step forward it is by no means the complete solution to tackling the difficulties faced by vulnerable people and rough sleepers. We are encouraged by the work done to date, but are under no illusions that more still needs to be done.'

Meanwhile London's Camden Council has shown signs of joining neighbouring Westminster Council's drive to bring soup runs under local authority control. In a letter to Mr Morgenstern, Camden Council's Community Presence Manager Guy Arnold highlights 'ongoing community safety concerns with regard to the provision of free food in public spaces, including Lincolns Inn Field' – despite, as pointed out in Mr Morgenstern's reply, the CAG soup run taking place in a non-residential area within Westminster.

As well as muting the idea of CAG moving into a building, Mr Arnold offers a deal: 'If, for example you were to consider ceasing to provide actual soup runs and instead offering homeless people practical help in different ways then I would be able to assist in bringing about this change... There are for example many useful voluntary roles including providing escorts to assist those who decide rebuild their lives in their home area and I believe that your organisation could make a valuable contribution to this work.'

*Carinya Sharples*

# Squatting changes

*The government has called for criminalisation of squatting*

The government last month issued a consultation paper proposing the criminalization of squatting in order to end what they described as the 'distress and misery' the practice can cause.

The paper, entitled 'Options For Dealing With Squatters,' outlined different actions that the government is considering taking including stricter enforcement of current laws and a new offence that would make squatting a criminal act.

In the introduction to the paper, the parliamentary under-secretary of state, Crispin Blunt, writes: 'The government has become increasingly concerned about the distress and misery that squatters can cause.'

'Law-abiding property owners or occupiers who work hard for a living can spend thousands of pounds evicting squatters from their properties, repairing damage and clearing up the debris they have left behind.'

Squatters Action For Secure Homes (SQUASH), a squatter's advocacy group, said that criminalising squatting would lead to tens of thousands more people facing homelessness and the erosion of civil liberties. They added that it would place a significant extra burden on the police.

The government's action can be seen as a response to recent reports of squatters occupying residential properties. Last September, for example, the Sun newspaper reported how squatters had occupied the home of George Pope, a 72 year old pensioner from East London, whilst he was walking his dog.

The Advisory Service For Squatters (ASS) said that both the government and media were misrepresenting squatters. They explained

that coverage, through using the blanket term 'homeowner,' tended to imply that properties being occupied were those of individuals when this was rarely the case.

'The vast majority of squatting takes place in property owned by institutions and left empty for a significant amount of time,' they wrote in response to the consultation paper.

They added that presentations of squatters incorrectly suggested that they would attempt to live in homes that were occupied. This normally did not occur, they said, as squatters generally recognised that this was illegal.

'Squatters occupy empty property,' ASS said. 'If the property had an existing or planned occupier the squatters have made a mistake and have to leave. Apart from the legal aspect, squatters are looking for a home where they will be able to live for as long as possible. This obviously excludes places that are occupied.'

Squash agreed that there was a 'massive and widespread' misrepresentation of squatters. They added that the media frequently sought to present squatters as people existing outside of normal society.

They said that squatters' activities were typically discussed as though they were already illegal, when under current laws this was not the case.

Rather than the social nuisances and house stealers they were presented as, Squash said that many squatters came from vulnerable backgrounds.

'The thing that unifies those who squat is that state services are unable to provide them with adequate accommodation for their needs,' they said. 'Whether that

be because they do not wish to bring up their children in a hostel, because they are immigrants who cannot access housing provision, because they suffer mental health issues that state-provision may only exacerbate, or simply because the job they do could never afford them rent where they need to live.'

SQUASH anticipate that the number of people needing to squat will rise rapidly as a result of the recent benefit cuts.

*Nicholas Olczak*

# News in brief

*The homeless news from around the bazaars – here and abroad*

## Support and guidance for new night shelters this winter

Christian homelessness charity Housing Justice has appointed a new shelter liaison coordinator to assist with its winter programme development.

The organisation launched a resource called Shelter in a Pack last year, to give practical advice to anyone setting up a night shelter for homeless people. 'Our job is to support existing shelters, help develop new shelters and develop the community of night shelters,' new liaison coordinator Paul Reily told *The Pavement*. 'We don't know yet how many shelters will be opening this winter, but we do know that an increasing number of churches are keen to help.'

In terms of launching a successful night shelter, Reily states that the main issue is confidence. 'People wonder whether they can do this and it puts doubts in their minds. The fact is they can, with a bit of help and advice.' So far, Shelter in a Pack has received positive feedback, with many users claiming it had been a very valuable and informative tool.

New to the role of shelter liaison coordinator, Reily anticipates that the position, and his responsibilities, will grow and develop over time. 'When you take on a new role you need to listen to everything that needs doing and that's what I'm doing now,' he said, adding that he was also keen to help on the ground. 'I believe in both social action and social justice. Social action is about pulling someone out of the river; social justice is

about asking how they fell in. We need both to successfully address the problem of homelessness and solve the underlying issues.'

According to Mike Nicholas, Communications Manager at London-based charity Thames Reach, 3,975 people were recorded sleeping rough in London at some point last year. He added that, while progress was being made, more will be done this year to pull rough sleepers out of the homelessness trap. 'People need more than just tea and sympathy,' he told *The Pavement*. 'We need to put our energy into outreach programmes to get more people off the street.' Nicholas added that one soup run had managed to get twenty people into accommodation by moving into an indoor hostel environment with greater outreach resources.

For people new to the streets this year, the introduction of 'No Second Night Out' (NSNO) is already proving successful. The programme, which aims to ensure that anyone found sleeping rough is immediately transferred to accommodation, has helped some 200 homeless people to move off the streets. Nicholas states that while more than 3000 rough sleepers were recorded last year, many of these are brought into accommodation quickly due to the numerous hostels and programmes such as NSNO. 'We found 349 'entrenched' rough sleepers last year,' he said. 'Many of these people suffer from mental health and addiction problems and need much more help and support.'

In addition to more winter shelters, Nicholas said that severe weather emergency shelters will be set up during the colder months. 'When we have cold snowy weather

this winter there will be extra beds across the capital available to anyone who needs them.' He added that, while many people struggle to get hostel accommodation at other times of year due to immigration and addiction issues, bed spaces will be available to all regardless of circumstances during harsh weather.

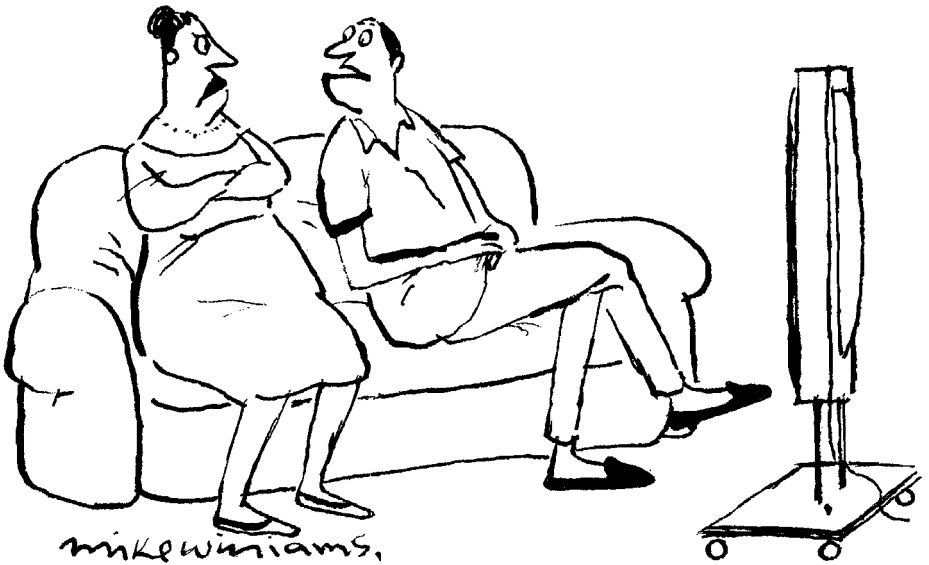
*Lizzie Cernik*

## Homeless World Cup kicks off

The last week of August saw the beginning of the ninth annual Homeless World Cup, which kicked off in Paris with a game between France and Portugal held near the Eiffel Tower. The competition involves over 500 homeless men and women from 48 countries, and, organisers say, gives players their best chance of rehabilitation. Over 70 per cent of participants in previous tournaments have succeeded in beating their addictions, or finding themselves jobs or homes.

The French footballer Emmanuel Petit - part of France's famous 1998 World Cup-winning side - was on the pitch for the first match with Mel Young, who founded the tournament in 2003. Young, who also co-founded the Big Issue Scotland, said in a statement that 'the impact of this competition is profound.'


'The tournament has engaged over 100,000 homeless people since it started and over 70 percent of participants have changed their lives for the better,' he said. 'The Paris 2011 Homeless World Cup is an opportunity for homeless people to move from being invisible to standing proud on a global



*"It's not a load of old rubbish, it's a load of old 'High Definition' rubbish"*


# HOMELESS CITY GUIDE


 squat


 empty building

 dangerous neighbourhood


 danger


 guard dogs


 an attack happened here


 good place to drink / smoke


 unfriendly place


 friendly place


 soup run (with rating)


 strong police presence


 potential for work

 good food thrown away here

 safe for sleeping

 message board x mins that way

 security guard

 you'll get moved on here

step 1



step 2



**MAKE YOUR MARK AND HELP OTHERS TO READ THE CITY**

Make non permanent marks to keep the system up to date and stay within the law.



stage, and become the true ambassadors of their country that they are.'

To qualify, players have to have been homeless for the past year, or asylum seekers in the country they wish to represent. Competition for a spot in each national team has been fierce - in Mexico alone, over 17,000 people tried out for a place.

The England team for the tournament is made up of eight young men from cities across the country, who have been supported by the Manchester United Foundation. Reds manager Alex Ferguson said: 'I've heard they've been training hard. The players have done well to make the team, being selected from hundreds of people and it's a fantastic opportunity for them. I wish them the best of luck. If Scotland don't win then I hope the England team will bring the trophy home.'

For many players, their time in

the tournament gives them a unique opportunity to escape from other problems in their lives. 'When I play football, I feel good,' said Sylla Fauly, of the France team. 'I don't have to get worked up any more. I am at ease.'

#### STOP PRESS:

As we go to press it has been announced that Scotland raised the cup (pictured left) on 30 August. They beat Mexico 4-3.

*Jim O'Reilly*

## Peter Pickles on film

Homeless man Peter Pickles walked 70 miles from Islington to Kent in a bid raise money for charity (as covered by this paper) - and now a documentary is being made about his three-day trek.

The hour-long film details Pickles' walk from St Luke's Gardens in Old Street to his birthplace of Dymchurch last August.

His friend Lionel also went along for the 70-mile stroll. 'I decided to go for a little walk and he just followed me,' joked Pickles.

Pickles raised over £1,000 for the Kings Corner Project, an Old Street-based charity offering advice and support for young people.

'Workers and volunteers at Kings Corner have really looked after me' said Pickles. 'They treat me as a normal person - and this is my thank-you to them.'

Filmmaker Patrick Steel followed Pickles on his inspirational walk, and his documentary is now in production.

The film examines how the government's plans to end rough sleeping by 2012 are actually affecting people on the streets, said Steel.

But it also focuses on the positives. 'Just because you're homeless doesn't mean you're not an active member of society and don't have a lot to give' said Steel. 'Peter is a perfect example of that and a great role model.'

*Garnet Roach*

## Homeless fear violence as riots erupt on Britain's streets

In the minds of many, the riots that began on 6 August in Tottenham and spread across Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester have strengthened the perception of British society as 'broken'. Three men were killed in Birmingham, when they were hit by a car while defending their property, and many business owners have feared for their premises.

The anxiety caused by violence on the streets has also reached our readers. Mike Nicholas of homelessness charity Thames Reach commented that 'there was an air of nervousness and people were moving away from the areas of riots.' Although Nicholas had heard of one case of a phone being stolen from a homeless man he hadn't heard of anyone being hurt or assaulted in any way, despite working with thousands of homeless people every year.

While there were reports in Liverpool of assaults on outreach workers, some of whom apparently suffered bruising, it is unclear whether this was as a result of rioting. Matty Roberts, at the Liverpool YMCA, was relieved and said that 'none of our members have really been affected by the riots. Luckily we're out of the area where it happened.'

Elsewhere, Manchester City Council has been praised for its swift efforts to ensure housing was available to some of the city's rough sleepers. Councillor Paul Andrews, the Executive Member for Neighbourhood Services, stressed his commitment to tackle rough sleeping. He said: 'I will ensure that the City Council and its partners continue to do as much as we can to prevent people from rough sleeping. Where people do end up on the streets I will ensure that they continue to be given the appropriate support they need to move away from them as quickly as possible.'

Meanwhile confusion and debate over the possible causes of the riots is widespread. Many involved in the Tottenham riots have cited reported police misinformation regarding the death of Mark Duggan as an initial trigger for the violence. However, Duggan's family has sought to distance their son from the actions some appear to have carried out in his name.

Since the trials of looters began, words like 'stupid', 'prank' and 'opportunistic' have appeared frequently in the press. To many commentators, it seems the rioters were driven entirely by greed and not by political motivation.

While not everyone has been directly affected by the riots the rippling financial effects will be felt by most. David Cameron has promised that aid will be made available to help stricken areas recover following the riots. £10 million has been allocated to ensure that the worst hit areas recover to a pre riot standard and more money

is promised to help businesses re-establish themselves and to compensate home and business owners.

*Zara Cameron*

## Body found in tent

The body of a rough sleeper found in Staffordshire parkland has been identified as Clare Bromley, 40, from Leek. Ms Bromley's body was found by a member of the public in a tent in Festival Park, Stoke-on-Trent, at the beginning of July. The circumstances of her discovery lead to a police investigation into her identity and cause of death, which has now been declared 'not suspicious.' It is believed that Ms Bromley died of a liver disorder, caused by alcoholism.

Ms Bromley's partner, Stephen Armstrong, told local reporters of his distress. 'I am very upset she's died because I loved her. Yes, she had a temper, but she had a heart of gold. I'm going to miss her terribly. I don't think I will start courting again.'

'I thought it would be me who went first. We'd both been heavy drinkers since being teenagers - and it had been me who had first started to go yellow.'

Stephen said that he met Clare in the A&E department at the University Hospital of North Staffordshire. He added: 'She was having her leg stitched because she used to be a self-harmer, and I was there because I had been having chest pains from too much alcohol.'

Ms Bromley was well-known to locals in Leek, where she often slept rough in the porch of a church. Local historian Bill Cawley said he had frequently seen Clare near the town's war memorial. 'Her life seemed to be a cheerless one with a broken childhood, addiction to alcohol and the depressing carousel of regular court appearances, eviction, homelessness and begging,' he said.

'I am sure that the authorities, the police, Salvation Army and others did their best, but it is likely she was unable to change her situation.'

*James O'Reilly*

## Homeless man arrested for unlawfully charging phone

A homeless man was arrested after being caught charging two mobile phones in a plug socket outside of a US shop.

Shaun Fawster, 23, was charged with theft of services and remanded in custody in Bangor, Maine after a police officer found him charging the phones in an electric outlet hidden behind some flowers.

Bangor Police Lieutenant Jeff Millard said he was charged with theft of services and carrying a concealed weapon, which was a folding knife discovered tucked under his shirt after his arrest in June. He was taken to Penobscot County Jail but released shortly afterwards on bail.

The District Attorney's Office has since dropped the charges against Mr Fawster, who was described by police as a 'transient.' Susan J. Pope, assistant district attorney, said: 'Prosecutors have declined to pursue the case.' She added that the District Attorney's Office had discretion over whether charges brought by police are carried forward or not.

The case of Mr Fawster is not the first instance of someone being arrested for charging their phone with electricity they have not paid for. In May, US lawyer William Webb Greenfelder, 38, was charged with breaking into an empty mobile home and stealing electricity after his phone was found plugged into a socket via an orange extension cord.

*Rebecca Evans*

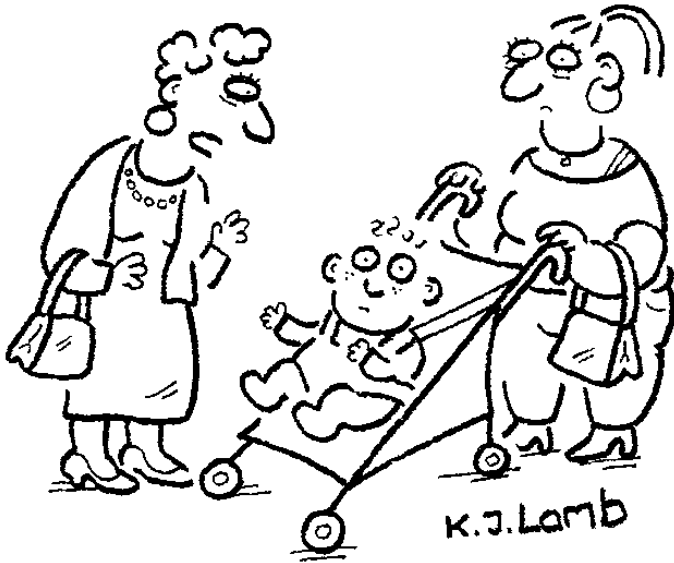


*The Pavement*, which operates without any funding from the state, has decided to try something new – asking readers to help support our operation. Not salaries or new kit, but our basic print operation.

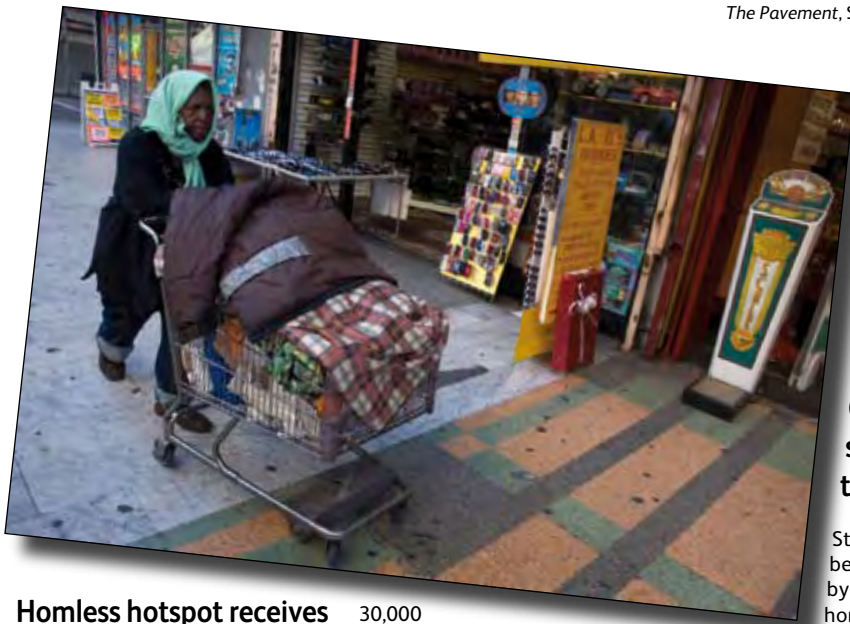


If you have a mobile, and can spare a few pounds, please text **PAVE11** followed by the amount in pounds\* (max £10) to **70070**

\*all this money will go to *The Pavement* (registered charity no. 1110656), the charges being met by Vodafone. Find out more at [www.justgiving.com/the-pavement](http://www.justgiving.com/the-pavement)



*"Oh, he has his father's debts"*



vulnerable youngsters walk through its doors to be taught performance and visual art since it was founded in 1989.

Rebecca Evans

## Centrepoint staff threaten to strike

Strike action is being threatened by staff at leading homelessness charity Centrepoint over

proposed cutbacks, following government funding losses.

Centrepoint staff and member of union Unite have voted 82 per cent in favour of industrial action in a dispute over unevenly distributed pay cuts and job loss at the charity. Unite claims that this has resulted in front-line staff bearing the brunt of restructuring proposals.

Centrepoint is under the patronage of the Duke of Cambridge and has been hit by a 27 per cent decrease in overall local authority funding. The latest cuts not only affect staff members but also the 1,200 young people helped by Centrepoint each year.

Matt Smith, Unite Regional Officer, told *The Pavement* that out of 121 posts there will be at least 116 affected either through pay cuts or redundancies with up to 28 job losses expected.

'Our members are very concerned about the service that will be left if draconian cuts go through,' he said. 'The irony is that with these cuts some of our members will have to look at alternative employment and there is a major concern about what will this do

## Homeless hotspot receives royal visit

A spotlight was thrown onto the homeless capital of the world after a visit by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge during their recent tour of North America.

Prince William and his new bride Kate spent the day at a children's arts centre in Skid Row – an impoverished five square mile area of downtown Los Angeles where around half of the population of 17,000 live below the poverty line.

The notoriously deprived area has around 7,000 homeless people, the largest stable population in the United States, and the streets are lined with tents and cardboard boxes.

William and Kate, who are more familiar with the glamorous trappings of their royal lifestyle, saw men and women pulling shopping trolleys containing their scant belongings and tents erected on pavements as they were driven through the streets.

The couple were visiting Inner-City Arts – a project delivering dance, drama, music, ceramics and visual and media arts to around 10,000 children each year. Some

30,000 'at risk' children live within a 2.5 mile radius of the centre, 90 per cent of whom live below the poverty line. Its interests overlap with those of British homelessness charity Centrepoint, of which the prince is patron (see following story).

The aim of the royal visit, during a three day trip to California in July, was to learn about the extent of homelessness and the issues affecting children in Los Angeles. Whilst at the centre, William and Kate heard about the challenges faced by children in the area, before sitting at easels to paint.

Cynthia Harnisch, the academy's president and chief executive, spoke to the couple about Skid Row and the challenges of poverty and homelessness faced by many students at the school. She said: 'Everyone has felt so uplifted that the most famous couple in the world came to their campus, visiting their neighbourhood.'

But some Skid Row residents were less than impressed. Sitting on a piece of cardboard, Victor Green, 53, said: 'It's a dog-and-pony show. It's not going to change anything.'

Inner-City Arts, a not-for-profit organisation, has seen 150,000

to Centrepoint. They're restricting the frontline workers so we want to make sure the cuts are distributed as fairly as possible.'

'The senior leadership team aren't taking any cuts in pay but other members are. You can't just simply dismiss the lowest paid; we should be in it together to mitigate the cuts.'

Centrepoint claims that Unite have not provided any 'constructive counter proposals' to the restructuring and that they were currently engaged in 'full and meaningful consultation' with staff having explored all other options.

A spokeswoman for Centrepoint said: 'Like many other charities, we are responding to cuts in government funding, which is necessary to continue our commitment to delivering high quality support to vulnerable young people.'

Smith revealed that communications between the two parties had broken down but was optimistic about reaching a solution.

*Dearbhla Crosse*

## Increasing numbers of youngsters turn to the streets

An estimated 100,000 children became homeless last year due to issues including substance abuse, sexual harassment and problems within care homes.

A recent report from The Children's Society suggested that one in nine youngsters would run away from home at least once before the age of 16, with just under a third of these leaving three or more times.

The organisation, which assists homeless youths across the country, said that runaways are getting younger, with many children aged just 11 or 12 taking to the streets. Officials added

that the charity was doing its best to improve its handling of these situations and offer more support to young runaways.

'Every child who runs away should run to safety,' the charity's Chief Executive, Bob Reitemeier said. 'Society is failing young runaways, condemning tens of thousands of children to misery and danger by failing to provide an adequate safety net to break their fall.'

Reitemeier said that children are often made to feel 'fearful' of authority due to their unsettled backgrounds and that the organisation aimed to build trust with young homeless people. To address the issues at hand, the charity is implementing an action plan to work with troubled families and improve responses from local authorities.

*Lizzie Cernik*

## Bid to elect 'Supertramp' as bearer of Olympic torch

More than 17,000 people have joined a Facebook group to nominate a Bournemouth eccentric to carry the London 2012 Olympic Torch.

Gordon Roberts, 82, is affectionately known to locals as 'Gordon the Supertramp' because of his amazing time-keeping ability - despite not wearing a watch. He is being proposed as a torchbearer on the basis of his being an inspirational member of the community.

Mr Roberts, who is not homeless, has become something of a local celebrity in his Dorset hometown, where he has spent more than 20 years wandering the streets sporting a trademark white beard, football scarf and Parka jacket - and always

knowing the exact time.

But despite his mass backing, Mr Roberts says he has still not made up his mind if he will accept, commenting: 'I'll still have to think it over. It won't change my life and if it's heavy I might drop it.'

Jade Reynolds, 21, who started the Facebook campaign with her cousin, said: 'Gordon is the nicest, most genuine man you could meet, so when we saw an advert for local heroes to carry the Olympic Torch, he was the first person who came to mind.'

The Olympic Torch Relay will take place next year from May 19 to July 27, with 8,000 torch bearers carrying the flame for 300 metres each across the length and breadth of Britain.

Gordon added: 'I like sport and it would be very good fun - but what if it rains?'

His supporters will now nominate Mr Roberts to the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (LOCOG) as a worthy candidate for the job.

*Rebecca Evans*



“Where do they get the booze from?!”



# STREET SHIELD

## EPISODE 23

STREET SHIELD AND THE POPSTAR ARE RESTING AFTER THE RIOTS...



SLEEPING OUT IN A TORRENTIAL SHOWER...



YOUR WORK..?

HE LEFT THE HIGH STREET PICKINGS. HE IGNORED THE LOOT TO ADMINISTER KICKINGS.





MY VOICE WILL SOOTHE  
IF I TRY, BUT UP THE  
VOLUME AND I CAN FLY.

A RUNNER-UP IN  
A REALITY SHOW, I  
COULDN'T MAKE MY  
LIFE GO SLOW.

THE RENT WAS  
HIGH, AND I WAS  
LOW...

I SAW YOU LITTLE  
IN THE FIGHT, BUT I  
SAW THE RESULTS OF  
YOUR MIGHT.

I FELL ONTO THE  
STREETS AND FOUND  
MYSELF NEEDED, BUT  
WHY'S SOMEONE OF  
YOUR TALENT SLEEPING  
ROUGH?

I'M NOT PRYING.  
JUST CURIOUS.

...I THOUGHT  
THE STREETS  
THE ONLY  
PLACE TO  
GO.



HOW LONG DOES  
IT LAST?

I USED HALF-POWER,  
FEELING KIND, BUT THIS  
ONE MUST BE WEAK  
OF MIND.



ONE LAST QUESTION...

DO YOU ALWAYS  
SPEAK IN RHYME?

NOPE.

**NEXT:** THE PAIR  
ON PATROL!

# Health and wellbeing

*The Pavement's health team aim to help keep you healthy and so happier*

## Male sexual health

How seriously do you take your sexual health? If you're like most men, you'll only think about it when things go wrong and then you'll get really stressed about it. Sexual health problems cause anxiety as they are so deeply personal.

Women get used to sharing sexual health issues with friends – you can't really avoid it if you have babies! We're deluged with information about breast cancer, have to go to the doctor for contraceptive advice and are invited for smear tests every three years. What do the boys get? Not much.

Your testicles produce sperm and the male sex hormone testosterone, so they're very important organs. They should feel smooth without any lumps or bumpy bits. It's normal for one to be lower than the other and they have a little tube at the back called the epididymis. There are a number of reasons for getting lumps in the testicles: don't immediately assume a lump is cancerous, but get it checked by your GP.

Testicular cancer is the one of the most common cancers in men between the ages of 20 and 35. If detected early, it's easily treated and curable. If you're a young man, you have roughly a one in 400 chance of developing testicular cancer. The best way to protect yourself from it is to get into the habit of checking your testicles regularly. It's really easy to do and only takes a few minutes. Here's how it's done.

Grab a hot bath or shower; this will loosen your scrotum and muscles, making it easier. Next have a good feel about, gently roll

your testicles between your fingers and thumb. When you first start checking yourself, you are really just getting to know what they normally feel like so you can pick up any changes later on. Your testicles will not be exactly the same size and shape and you'll feel some little tubes in there. This is normal. Do this once a month and you'll get to know your own testicles and what they should feel like.

The changes you are looking for are lumps, changes in size or swelling. Some men describe the early symptoms of testicular cancer as being like a "dull ache", while others find one testicle swells up, gets heavier or becomes tender. Some men also get back pain, abdominal pain or coughing. Everyone is different, so follow your instincts and if you find something while checking that you're not happy with, go to the doctor.

Non-cancerous causes of lumps and changes in the testicles are usually benign cysts, fluid or enlarged veins and may still need treatment. It is estimated that four out of every 100 lumps are caused by testicular cancer.

Finally, testicular torsion is when one of your testicles gets twisted and the blood flow is cut off. It usually happens to teenagers but can also happen to adult men. It is pretty rare but if it happens, it is a medical emergency and you should get medical help immediately.

**Susie Rathie**

The Pavement's nurse

## Science and your feet

When you think of your feet, 'science' isn't probably a word that springs to mind, yet our feet are a scientific wonder, a spectacular blend of physics, biology and chemistry that keep us mobile. Although we give them little thought, they are so important in our daily lives. Understanding the scientific principles that keep our feet happy and healthy may go some way toward keeping us walking and keeping those feet sweet.

Physics

Physics considers many aspects of movement, energy and angles. Most people are surprised to learn that each foot contains 26 small bones, and this structure allows the foot to move freely when we walk across different types of surfaces.

Each bone makes a joint with the one next to it, and these joints are supported by tight ligaments, which are the structures which hold this whole bag of loose bones together. Muscles and tendons then help us move these joints.

When we walk, we exert a force onto the ground as we take each step, but the ground also sends a force back into us. Sir Isaac Newton summed it up for us in his third law (broadly, 'for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction'), meaning that as our foot hits the ground with each step, essentially the ground hits us back.

If we floated around, our joints would last forever, but as we have to hit the ground, and it has to hit us back, our foot joints have to take quite a lot of shock and trauma over our life course. This can



lead to arthritic changes within the joints, and that, combined with ageing ligaments, means that we tend to have less movement available in our joints as we age. Our feet can't fight physics (energy, forces and gravity are all inevitable), so all we can do is keep our feet cushioned a little by wearing shoes with thickish soles which can help absorb some of the normal shock sent back up into the feet and legs with every step we take.

### Biology

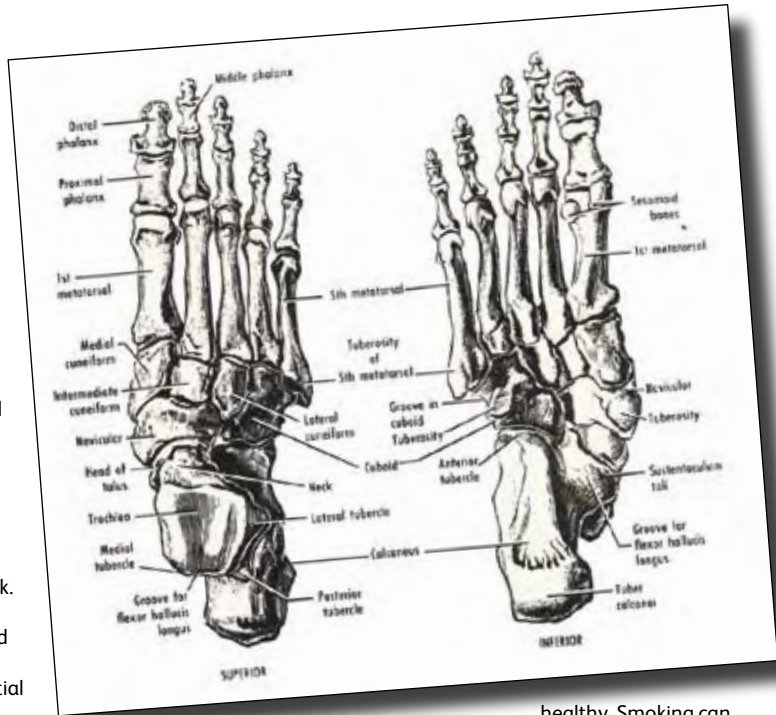
Biology considers life and development, the cells we are made from and how they work.

Our feet push out somewhere between a half pint and a pint of sweat each day, and this normal sweating is essential and an important part of

keeping our temperature regular and our fluids balanced. This sweat is mainly water and salt, but when it hits our skin, socks and shoes, the normal bacteria that lives happily there mixes with it and makes the characteristic 'sweaty feet' smell.

The best way to limit this is to use natural materials on our feet that allow evaporation of the sweat. Cotton socks and leather shoes are good examples of these, but not always easy to acquire, as most 'cotton socks' are blended with something, and shoes which are made of natural materials on the outside often have synthetic linings. Keeping our feet at a constant temperature is important, so try to avoid extremes of cold and extremes of heat.

If your feet are cold, warm them up slowly: sticking cold feet in front of a hot fire may feel nice, but it is too much for the blood flow in your feet to cope with. The skin around our feet is vital in protecting all the important stuff beneath,



and operates with a fine biological balance to keep us healthy. Keeping your skin intact is also important, and given that a lot of infections can be passed on via standing on damp floors, try to wear something on your feet in the shower (like old flip-flops) to avoid catching veruccæ and other bacterial, fungal and viral foot infections. Keep your feet as dry as you can, as wet feet encourage all these bugs to flourish.

### Chemistry

Chemistry considers the way things are made, and what they are made from.

Chemistry affects our feet in ways we may not think of, particularly in the maintenance of the nerves that supply our feet to help us move and give us the ability to feel things through our skin. The blood that travels through our circulatory system also relies on a fine chemical balance to keep our feet

healthy. Smoking can have an impact on the blood supply to our feet, and drinking large amounts of alcohol over a long time can also affect the nerves to our feet. Drugs, both prescription and street drugs, can also have an influence on the chemical function of the nerve supply and blood supply to our feet. Chemistry also influences the skin condition of our feet, giving us dry skin, or wet, macerated skin, both of which can make breaks in the skin and let the bugs in.

Feet are a wonderful blend of art and science, and as they hopefully have to last us a long number of years, keeping them healthy is part of keeping healthy for life. To quote a little piece of useful guidance from Thomas Merton: "Be good, keep your feet dry, your eyes open and your heart at peace..."

*Evelyn Weir*

Lecturer in podiatry  
Queen Margaret University  
Edinburgh



*“Ugg’s stuff seems so chocolate boxy these days”*

**Streetwork UK - Womens Services**

4 Bellevue Street, Edinburgh  
 0131 467 2023  
 Mon, Tue & Thu: 1-4pm  
 Drop in for women  
 AD, AC, BA, CA, CL, DA, ET  
 LA, OL, OB, P, SH, TS

**SPECIALIST SERVICES GLASGOW**

**GAMH Homeless Support Project**  
 123 West Street, G40 1DN  
 0141 554 6200  
 Mon - Fri: 9am - 5pm  
 (4.30pm on Friday)  
 Practical support and advice  
 for homeless people in Glasgow  
 with mental health problems.  
 Phone, write or just drop in  
 C, MH, P

**Glasgow Rent Deposit and Support Scheme**

3rd Floor, Crowngate Business  
 Centre, 117 Brook Street, G40 3AP  
 0141 550 7140  
 Mon-Thu: 9am-4pm; Fri: 9am-3pm  
 AS, BA, C, H, IT, TS

**Glasgow Women's Support Project**

See *Telephone Services Glasgow*  
**SAY Women Accommodation Project**  
 3rd Floor, 30 Bell St, G1 1LG  
 0141 552 5803  
 Provides support and counselling  
 to young women aged 16 - 25  
 who are homeless or threatened  
 with homelessness and are  
 survivors of rape or sexual abuse  
 AS, C, SH

**TELEPHONE SERVICES**

**Community Legal Advice**  
 Nationwide  
 www.communitylegaladvice.org.uk  
 Mon-Fri: 9am-8pm;  
 Sat: 9am-12:30pm  
 AD, BA, DA, H

**Domestic Violence Helpline**

Free, confidential service, offering specialist advice on housing, benefits, tax credits, debt etc.  
 0845 345 4345  
 www.communitylegaladvice.org.uk

**TELEPHONE SERVICES GLASGOW**

**Glasgow Shelter Advice Service**  
 0808 800 4444  
 Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm

**Glasgow Street Service**  
 0800 027 7466  
 Mon-Thu: 8am-1pm; Fri: 8am-5pm; Sat: 8am-3pm; Sun: 4-1pm

Street outreach team partner-ship between Simon Community and Barnados Scotland

**Glasgow Women's Support Project**  
 31 Stockwell Street, G1 4RZ  
 0141 552 2221  
 Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 10am-4:30pm; Wed: 2-4:30pm

Information, advice and initial support for women who have experienced sexual abuse

**WEBSITES**

**LGBT Youth**  
 Advice for LGBT people  
 http://www.lgbtyouth.org.uk

**The Pavement online**  
 Regularly updated online version of *The List*  
 www.thepavement.org.uk/  
 services.htm

**Sock Book**  
 sockbook.refrata.com

**WEBSITES EDINBURGH**

**Homeless Edinburgh**  
 A comprehensive website containing information about services in Edinburgh including hostels, advice and support centres. Also has information on over 8,000 services outside Edinburgh  
 www.homelessedinburgh.org

**WEBSITES GLASGOW**

**Homeless Information Pages Glasgow**  
 Lots of useful information and advice on homeless services in and around Glasgow  
 www.hipinglasgow.com

**Frank**

Free 24-hr drug helpline  
 0800 776 600  
 Free advice for young people  
 (1 pm - 7pm daily)  
 0808 808 4994

**Get Connected**  
 0808 808 4994  
 To make a claim  
 0800 055 6688

For queries about existing claims for Income Support, Jobseekers Allowance or Incapacity Benefit  
 0845 377 6001

**Job Centre Plus (benefits agency)**  
 For Social Fund enquiries  
 0845 608 8661  
 For the Pensions Service  
 0845 60 60 265

**Message Home Helpline**  
 0800 700 740  
 24 hrs daily

**National Debtline**  
 0808 808 4000

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

**The Samaritans**  
 08457 90 9090  
 The Samaritans

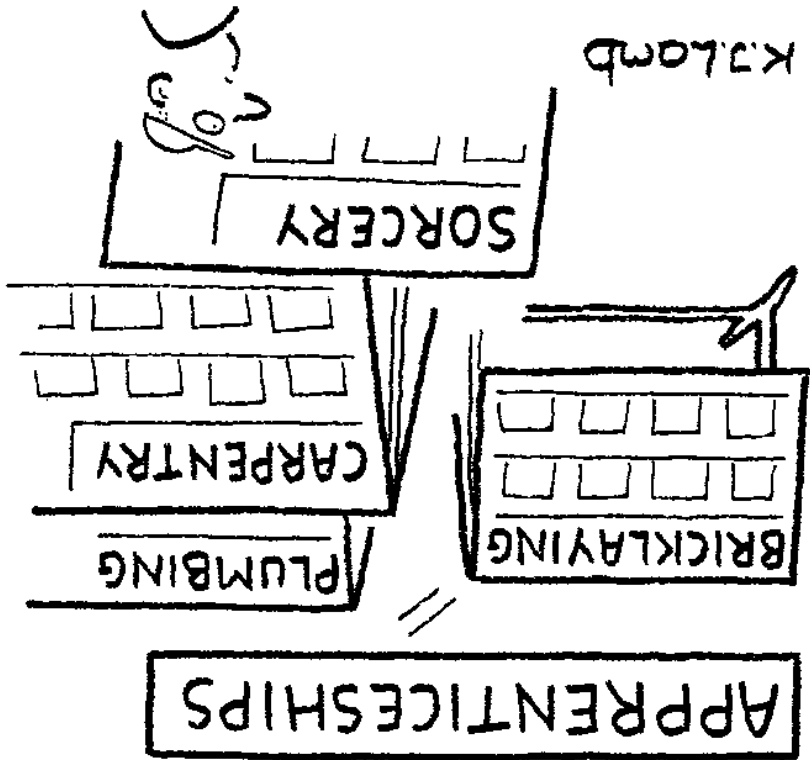
**SANeline**  
 6 - 11pm  
 0845 767 8000  
 Out-of-hours helpline for those affected by mental health

**Shelter**  
 0808 800 4444  
 Housing info and advice  
 8am-8pm daily

**UK Human Trafficking Centre**  
 0114 252 3891

**TELEPHONE SERVICES EDINBURGH**

**Edinburgh City Mission**  
 Counselling and crossline helpline  
 0845 658 0045  
 Providing a listening service for anyone in emotional crisis. Also offers face-to-face counselling by appointment



**MEDICAL SERVICES EDINBURGH**

**Edinburgh Access Practice**

**(Cowgate Clinic)**

20 Cowgate, EH1 1JX

0131 240 2810

Mon, Wed - Fri (closed on the

morning of the third Wednesday

of the month): 9am - 12.45pm,

1.45 - 5pm, Tues 9am - 12.45pm

Health service for homeless people,

including a general nursing and

treatment room, mental health

care, 10 GP sessions a week, as well

as dental services two mornings

a week. Also provides a chiropody

service, occupational therapist, clin-

ical psychologist and psychiatrist. A

clothes exchange is available too

*A, D, T, D, FC, MS, MH, P, SH*

**Opticians services and spectacles**

**(TAP clinic)**

20 Cowgate, EH1 1JX

0131 240 2810

Every Fri: 9-11am

Free eye examinations and

spectacles for all, NHS benefits

not required for free spectacles

- drop in or make an appointment

*MS*

**MEDICAL SERVICES GLASGOW**

**The Physical Health Care Team**

55 Hunter St, G4 0UP

0141 553 2826

Mon - Fri: 1 - 5pm

Has two GPs and a team of nurses

and office staff who also run

clinics at some hostels. Appoint-

ments not necessary. They also

provide support for people who

have hospital appointments

and want someone to go along

with them. There is also an

addiction and mental health

team based at this address

*A, D, FC, MH, MS, P, SH*

**SOUP KITCHENS & SOUP RUNS**

**EDINBURGH**

**Barony Contact Point**

101 High Riggs, EH3 9RP

0871 700 7777 / 0131 622 1867

Tue: 10.30am - 4pm;

Thur: 10am - 1pm,

9pm; Tues: 8.45pm - 12.30am -

Wed: 9 - 10pm; Fri: 8 - 9pm

**Calton Centre**

121 Montgomery Street, EH7 5EP

0131 661 5252

Tues: 6 - 8.30pm

**Care Van**

Bethany Christian Trust's soup

run in Edinburgh city centre

364 evenings a year

**Carubber's Christian Centre**

65 High Street, EH1 1SR

0131 556 2626

Sun: 8 - 9am

**Grassmarket Mission**

79/3 Grassmarket, EH1 2JH

0131 225 3626

Mon: 7 - 9pm; Tues: 6 - 7pm;

Wed: 1 - 4pm; Fri: 1 - 4pm,

Sat 9 - 10.30pm

*AC, FF*

**Jenicho house**

53 Lothian Street, EH1 1HB

0131 225 8230

Sun: 10am - 2pm; Weds

and Thurs: 6 - 7.30pm

*CL, FF*

**Little Sisters of the Poor**

43 Gilmore Place, EH3 9NG

0131 229 5672

Every day 1 - 2pm and 6 - 7pm

**Missionaries of Charity**

18 Hopetoun Crescent, EH7 4AY

0131 557 8219

Every day except Thur:

3.45 - 4.30pm

**Soup Van**

Every night: 9 - 9.45pm

Runs from Waverley Bridge to

Grassmarket and North Bridge

(Tue - Fri they have woodwork, art,

gardening and textiles 10am - 4pm)

*ET, FF*

**SOUP KITCHENS & SOUP**

**RUNS GLASGOW**

**Balvicar Street**

G42 8QU

Thurs: 7 - 9pm

**Caodagan Street**

Glasgow G2 7AB

Runs at these times:

Sun: 9 - 10pm; Mon: 7.30 -

9pm; Tues: 8.45pm - 12.30am -

Wed: 9 - 10pm; Fri: 8 - 9pm

**Rokpa Glasgow**

Kagyü Samye Dzong

The Tibetan Buddhist Centre

7 Ashley Street, G3 6DR

0141 332 9950

**St. Columba's Church**

St. Vincent Street, G2

Sun: 7.30 - 9pm

**St. Patrick's Church**

North Street, G3 7DA

Thur & Sun: 8pm - 9pm

**St. Simon's Church**

Dunaskin Street, G11 6PG

Sun: 1.30 - 2.30pm

**Waterloo Street**

G2

Thur: 10pm - 12am

**SPECIALIST SERVICES**

**Support in Mind Scotland**

(formerly the National

Schizophrenic Fellowship)

6 Newington Business

Centre, Dalkeith Road Mews,

Edinburgh, EH16 5DU

0131 662 4359

Mon-Fri: 9am-4pm

Support and action for people

affected by mental illness

(including friends and carers)

*MH*

www.supportinmindscotland.org.uk

**SPECIALIST SERVICES**

**EDINBURGH**

**Edinburgh Women's Aid**

4 Cheyne Street, EH4 1JB

0131 315 8110

Mon: 1-3pm; Tues, Wed &

Fri: 10am-3pm; Thur: 10am-

7pm; Sat: 10am-1pm

Information, support and refuge

for women, and accompanying

children, fleeing domestic abuse

*AS, AD, C, H, OL, P*

**Streetwork UK - Out of the Cold**

2 New Street, Edinburgh

0131 556 9756

Working with people over 50

years who are or have been

homeless / housing crisis

*AS, AD, BA, DA, HA, LA, OL, OB, P, TS*

**The Mungo Foundation – London**  
**Road Project**  
 1920 London Road, G32 8XG  
 0141 778 1784  
 Works with 16-25 year olds who cannot access mainstream accommodation. (Open 24 hrs) www.themungofoundation.org.uk

**Drinkline Scotland**  
 Freepost, PO Box 4000, G3 8XX  
 0800 7314 314  
 Advice and info for people with alcohol problems or anyone concerned about alcohol misuse  
 D, NE, OL, OB, P, SH  
 Fri: 9am - 4pm  
 Mon - Thurs: 9am - 4.30pm;  
 www.castleproject.org.uk

**Alcohol Focus Scotland**  
 166 Buchanan St, Glasgow  
 0141 572 6700  
 Call-in, phone or email: Mon - Thurs: 9am - 5pm; Fri: 9am - 4.30pm  
 A, C, ET, P

**Breakthrough**  
 James Duncan House, 331 Bell Street, G4 0TJ  
 0141 552 9287  
 A joint health and social work project offering services to people with drug and alcohol problems. It also incorporates methadone prescribing.  
 A, C, D, MS, NE, P

**Cocaine Anonymous Scotland**  
 0141 959 6363  
 www.scotland.org.uk  
 Helpline offering help and support to those with or recovering from an addiction. Also offer meetings and literature on addictions  
 A, AD, C, D

**Drug Crisis Centre**  
 The West Street Centre, 123 West Street, G5 8BA  
 0141 420 6969  
 www.turningpointscotland.com  
 24hr service offering information and advice to those who abuse drugs. Also residential drug rehab program. Family support unit operates on this site. D, NE, P

**Glasgow Council on Alcohol**  
 7th Floor, Newton House, 457 Sauchiehall Street, G2 3LG  
 0141 353 1800  
 www.thegca.org.uk  
 Mon - Fri: 9am - 9pm  
 Offers help and support to anyone experiencing problems related to alcohol consumption.  
 A, AS, AD, BA, DA, ET, H, LA, OB, TS

**Glasgow Council on Alcohol Support (Community Alcohol Support Service)**  
 26 Orr Street, G40 2AR  
 0141 554 5368  
 www.thegca.org.uk  
 Mon - Fri: 8.45am - 4.45pm  
 Supports people who are homeless or at risk of being homeless as a result of alcohol misuse.  
 A, AS, AD, BA, DA, ET, H, LA, OB, TS

**EDINBURGH EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING**  
 65 Bonnington Road, EH6 5JQ  
 0131 625 5411  
 Community Education programme with a range of courses aimed at giving skills to get back into work or volunteering. FF

**Bethany Christian Centre (Men only)**  
 6 Casselbank St, EH6 5HA  
 0131 554 4071  
 For homeless or vulnerable men with alcohol or drug problems who wish to take part in a work training programme www.bethanyct.com  
 CA, ET, P

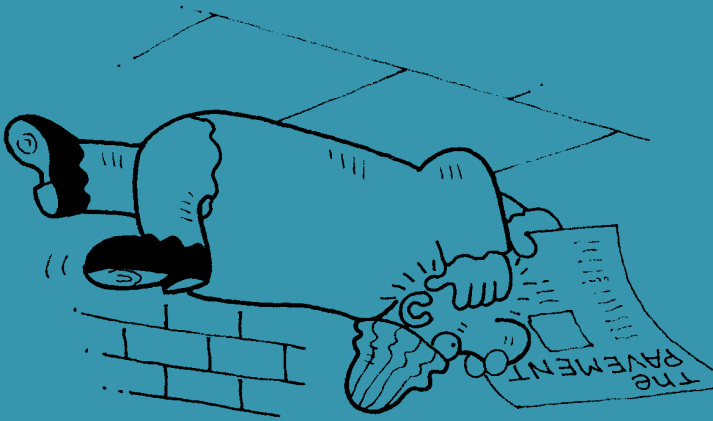
**EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING GLASGOW**  
 Glasgow Simon Community – Resettlement Training Service  
 12 Commercial Road, G5 0PQ

**Whiteford House**  
 53 Canongate, EH8 8BS  
 Ring first  
 Mon - Fri: 7am - 5pm  
 Accommodation for homeless ex-service men and women, including ex-merchant mariners. Can accept married couples  
 P

**EX-FORCES EDINBURGH**  
 Veterans UK  
 0800 169 2277  
 Fee help and advice for veterans and access to dedicated one-to-one welfare service  
 www.veterans-uk.info

**Job Centre Plus**  
 See Telephone Services for helplines

**Or email corrections to  
thelists@thepavement.org.uk**



**If you know a service that  
isn't listed here, get them  
to submit their service @  
our website:  
www.thepavement.org.uk**

"You...me...online...now!"





- Gowrie Care – St John's Hill**  
 1 St John's Hill, EH8 9TS  
 0131 557 5502  
 Ring or drop in: Mon - Fri 9am - 2pm  
*p*
- Randolph Crescent Hostel**  
 2 Randolph Crescent, EH3 7TH  
 Supported accommodation for single men and women from Lethian and Edinburgh Abstinence Programme (LEAP) referral from LEAP on: 0131 220 1607  
 0131 552 5705  
 Single homeless people who are eligible for housing benefit  
 www.salvationarmy.org.uk  
*p*
- Salvation Army – Ashbrook**  
 492 Ferry Road, EH5 2DL  
 0131 552 5705  
 Young single homeless people aged 16-21 with a range of support needs  
 www.foursquare.org.uk  
*p*
- Men**  
**DIRECT ACCESS HOSTELS/NIGHTSHELTERS GLASGOW**  
 All with low-support needs
- Gowrie Care – Caledonia House**  
 Gilmore's Close, Grassmarket, EH1 2HD  
 0131 220 5078  
 www.homelessedinburgh.org.uk  
*p*
- Women**  
**Cranston Street Hostel**  
 2 Cranston Street, EH8 8BE  
 0131 556 8939  
 Temporary registered accommodation for single homeless women. Although the maximum stay is six months this can be extended under certain conditions  
 www.homelessedinburgh.org.uk  
*p*
- Number Twenty**  
 20 Broughton Place, EH1 3RX  
 0131 557 1739  
 Young single homeless women aged 16-21 with support needs. Ring first (8am - 11.30pm every day)  
 Young people (16-25)
- Open Door Accommodation**  
 Project  
 7-12 Adelaide Street, Livingston, EH54 5HG  
 01506 430221  
 Young single homeless people aged 16-21 with a local connection to West Lothian
- Rock Trust**  
 55 Albany St, EH1 3QY  
 0131 557 4059  
 Various activities and services for 16-25 year olds, including drop-ins, one-to-one sessions and Night Stop on referral.  
 www.rocktrust.org  
*p*
- Stopover (Edinburgh)**  
 40 Grove Street, EH3 8AT  
 0131 229 6907  
 Young single homeless people aged 16-21 with a range of support needs  
 Ring first  
 www.foursquare.org.uk  
*p*
- Govanhill Women's Project**  
 14 Polmadie Street, G42 0PQ  
 0141 423 5599  
 Works with single homeless women aged over 25 from the Glasgow area. The project is not suitable for women under 25 or those wanting to be accommodated with a partner or with children in their care. Ring first
- Rachel House**  
 503 Baitic Street, G40 4SG  
 0141 556 5465  
 Provides supported accommodation for single/pregnant mothers aged 16 to 25 and children up to ten years old  
 Young people
- Council for Homeless Young People (CHYP)**  
 171 Wilton Street, G20 6DF  
 0141 945 3003  
 Details at  
 www.queenscrossha.org.uk  
 Residential support for youngsters and young, single homeless people  
*p*
- Quarriers Stopover**  
 189 Pollockshaws Road, G41 1PS  
 0141 420 3121  
 For young people 16-25. Accommodation is on the upper levels of a four-storey building so not suitable for people with physical disabilities  
 A, C, D, ET, H, P  
 www.quarriers.org.uk
- Simon Community – Castlemilk**  
 86-88 Arnprior Road, Castlemilk, G45 9HE  
 Offers a group-living model of supported accommodation to men who have experience of long term homelessness and are committed to addressing addiction issues. Possibility of continuing support after moving into own home. Referral from social work or similar agency is required, accepts men from all over Glasgow  
 0141 631 1798  
 www.glasgowsimon.org
- Men's Accommodation Project**  
 171 Wilton Street, G20 6DF  
 0141 945 3003  
 Details at  
 www.queenscrossha.org.uk  
 Residential support for youngsters and young, single homeless people  
*p*
- Simon Community – Castlemilk**  
 39 South Portland Street, G1 9JL  
 0141 429 6533  
 Open office hours only  
 A, AS, BS, F, P
- Salvation Army – Hope House**  
 14 Clyde Street, G1 5JW  
 0141 552 0537  
 Referral by Glasgow City Council only  
 A, AS, BS, F, P
- Laurieston Centre**  
 39 South Portland Street, G1 9JL  
 0141 429 6533  
 Open office hours only  
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 Various activities and services for 16-25 year olds, including drop-ins, one-to-one sessions and Night Stop on referral.  
 www.rocktrust.org  
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 Young single homeless people aged 16-21 with a local connection to West Lothian

**ADVICE SERVICES GLASGOW**

1.30-4pm; Fri: 1.30-3pm  
Emergency assistance outwith  
office hours phone 0800 731 6969

**GENR8 Action for Children (16-24)**

Westwood Business Centre, 69  
Aberdalgie Road, G34 9HJ  
0141 771 6161

Advice and support for 16-24 year  
olds seeking accommodation

AS, AD, BA, C, DA, H, P, TS

**Glasgow Shelter Advice Service**  
First Floor Suite 2, Breckennridge  
House, 274 Sauchiehall Street  
0808 800 4444 Mon-Fri: 9am-5pm

Emergency surgery at office  
Thu 2-4pm, at all other times  
call the helpline above

AD, C, H, P

**Glasgow City Council**  
For anyone who is homeless,  
threatened with homelessness, or  
in need of advice about homeless-

ness issues. Staff will be pleased  
to discuss your circumstances  
with you in a private interview  
room and provide advice on what  
can be done next to help you  
www.glasgow.gov.uk

AS, BA, C, DA, H, TS

**Glasgow City Council**  
Homeless Person's Team  
Hamish Allan Centre, 180  
Centre Street, G5 8EE  
0141 287 1800

Mon-Thu: 8.45am-4.45pm;  
Fri: 8.45am-3.55pm

AS, BA, C, DA, H, P, TS

**Glasgow Street Service**  
See Telephone Services Glasgow

**DAY CENTRES AND DROP-INS**  
EDINBURGH

**Barony Contact Point**  
101 High Riggs, EH3 9RP  
0871 700 7777

Mon: 6.30-9pm; Tue: 10.30am-  
4pm; Thu: 3.30-7.30pm;  
Fri: 1am-2pm (women  
only); Sun: 11am-4pm

C, MH, P

Drop-in advice and support.  
non-profit making cafe, post-  
reach for people affected by

0131 657 2000  
East, Edinburgh, EH15 2SR  
Charis House, 47 Milton Road

see **Streetwork UK - Womens Services**  
0131 657 2000  
East, Edinburgh, EH15 2SR  
Charis House, 47 Milton Road

AS, AD, BA, C, DA, H, P, TS

**Social Care Council**  
Crossreach - Church of Scotland  
0141 657 2000

**Bethany Christian Trust**

Letih Acom Centre YMCA,  
Junction Place, EH6 5JA  
Tue: 12.30-2.30pm (women  
only drop in); Thu: 1-3pm  
(men only drop in)

**Cowgate Day Centre**  
see **Streetwork Crisis Centre**  
0141 771 6161

AS, A, BA, C, DA, ET, FF, F,  
H, IT, LF, MS, P, SH, TS

**Wayside Day Centre**  
32 Midland Street, G1 4PR  
0141 221 0169 (option 1)  
Mon-Fri: 7.30 - 10pm; Sat: 1-4pm

AS, AD, BS, CL, FF

**Wayside Day Centre**  
See The Marie Trust

**DIRECT ACCESS HOSTELS/**  
**NIGHTSHELLTERS EDINBURGH**  
All with low-support needs

AS, AD, A, BS, BE, D, F, H, L, LA, P

**Bethany House**  
12 Couper St, Leith, EH6 6HH  
Emergency accommodation  
for single homeless people  
0131 467 1010

**DAY CENTRES AND DROP-INS**  
GLASGOW

**Bethany Supported Housing**  
65 Bonnington Road, EH6 5JQ  
0131 553 1119  
Ring First

AS, BA, C, DA, H, TS

**Glasgow City Mission - The**  
Shieling  
20 Crimea Street, Glasgow, G2 8PW  
0141 221 2630

Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri: 10am  
-4pm (drop in); Thur: 1-5pm

AS, AD, AC, B, BS, BE, C, CL, ET,  
FF, H, IT, LA, MC, MS, OB, P  
www.glasgowcitymission.com

Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri: 6.30-11pm

AS, AD, AC, B, BS, BE, C, CL, ET,  
FF, H, IT, LA, MC, MS, OB, P  
www.glasgowcitymission.com

Mon, Tue, Thu: 8am-3pm; Wed,  
Fri: 8am-2pm; Sun: 4-6.30pm

BS, CL, E, F, IT, P

**The Marie Trust**  
32 Midland Street, G1 4PR  
0141 221 0169 (option 2)  
Mon-Fri: 10-11.30am; 12.30-4pm;  
7.30-10pm (Thu closes 3pm)

AS, BA, P, S

**Dunedin House**  
4 Parliament St, Leith, EH6 6EB  
0131 624 5800  
www.dunedin-harbour.org.uk

AS, AD, AC, BA, BS, CA, CL,  
ET, F, FC, H, IT, L, OL

**Salvation Army - The Laurieston**  
Centre  
39 South Portland Street, G5 9JL  
0141 429 6533

**Salvation Army - The Laurieston**

AS, AD, AC, BA, BS, CA, CL,  
ET, F, FC, H, IT, L, OL

**Wayside Day Centre**  
32 Midland Street, G1 4PR  
0141 221 0169 (option 1)  
Mon-Fri: 7.30 - 10pm; Sat: 1-4pm

AS, AD, BS, CL, FF

**Wayside Day Centre**  
See The Marie Trust

**DIRECT ACCESS HOSTELS/**  
**NIGHTSHELLTERS EDINBURGH**  
All with low-support needs

AS, AD, A, BS, BE, D, F, H, L, LA, P

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Emergency accommodation  
for single homeless people  
0131 467 1010

**DAY CENTRES AND DROP-INS**  
GLASGOW

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0131 553 1119  
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AS, BA, C, DA, H, TS

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Homeless Person's Team  
Hamish Allan Centre, 180  
Centre Street, G5 8EE  
0141 287 1800

Mon-Thu: 8.45am-4.45pm;  
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AS, BA, C, DA, H, P, TS

**Glasgow Street Service**  
See Telephone Services Glasgow

**DAY CENTRES AND DROP-INS**  
EDINBURGH

**Barony Contact Point**  
101 High Riggs, EH3 9RP  
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Mon: 6.30-9pm; Tue: 10.30am-  
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C, MH, P

Drop-in advice and support.  
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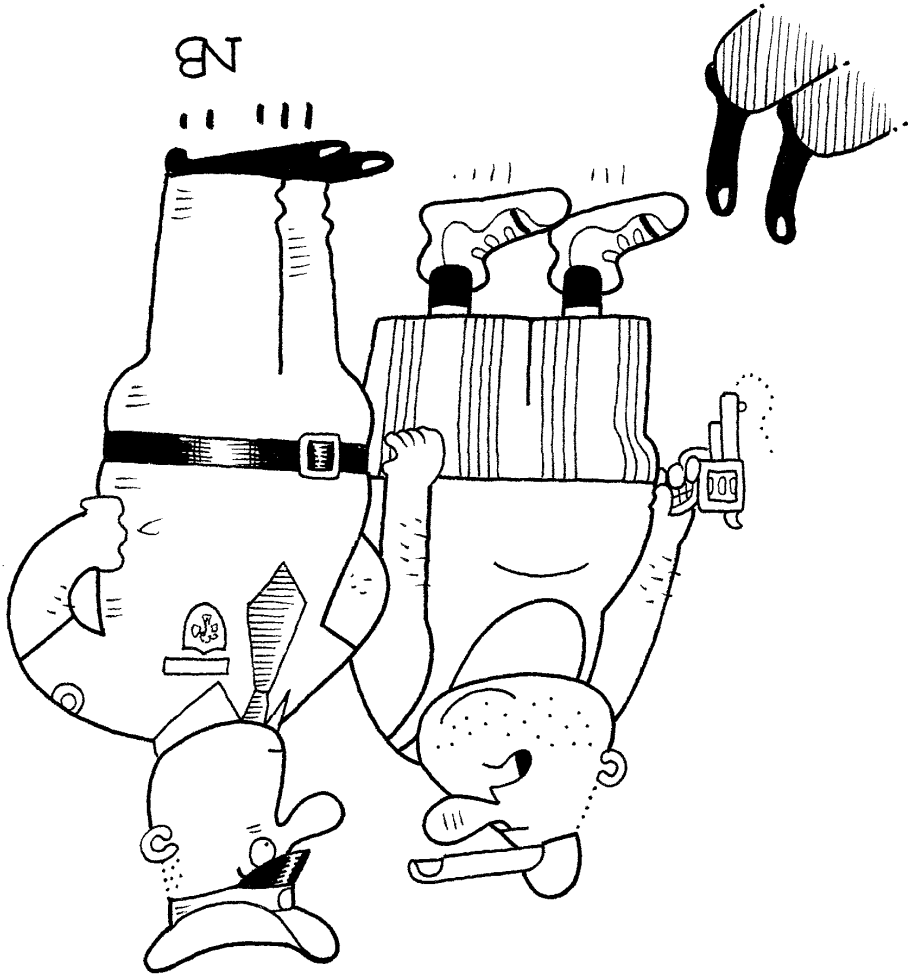
0131 657 2000  
East, Edinburgh, EH15 2SR  
Charis House, 47 Milton Road

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0131 657 2000  
East, Edinburgh, EH15 2SR  
Charis House, 47 Milton Road

AS, AD, BA, C, DA, H, P, TS

**Social Care Council**  
Crossreach - Church of Scotland  
0141 771 6161

*"He was violating my constitutional right to shoot him"*



# the LIST

The directory of Scotland's homeless services

Updated 30 August 2011

Debt advice – DA	Outreach workers – OB
Dentist – DT	Outreach worker links – OL
Drugs workers – D	Needle exchange – NE
Education/training – ET	Music classes – MC
Free food – FF	Mental health – MH
Food – F	Medical services – MS
Foot care – FC	Luggage storage – LS
Housing/accom advice – H	Medical services – MS
Internet access – IT	Mental health – MH
Laundry – L	Music classes – MC
Leisure activities – LA	Needle exchange – NE
Leisure facilities – LF	Outreach workers – OB
Counselling – C	Outreach worker links – OL
Clothing – CL	Needle exchange – NE
Careers advice – CA	Mental health – MH
Bedding available – BE	Medical services – MS
Bathroom/showers – BS	Mental health – MH
Benefits advice – BA	Medical services – MS
Barber – B	Mental health – MH
Art classes – AC	Medical services – MS
Alcohol workers – A	Mental health – MH
Advocacy – AD	Mental health – MH
Accom. assistance – AS	Mental health – MH
Key to this list:	Mental health – MH

If you've any changes or suggestions write to us at the address on page 3, or email: [thelist@thepavement.org.uk](mailto:thelist@thepavement.org.uk)

## ADVICE SERVICES EDINBURGH

**Advocard**  
332 Leith Walk, EH6 5BR  
0131 554 5307  
[www.advocard.org.uk](http://www.advocard.org.uk)

Mon – Fri: 10am – 4pm, MH, P

**City of Edinburgh Council – Housing Options Team**  
1 Cockburn St, EH1 1BJ  
0131 529 7584 / 7368

Mon, Wed, Thurs 8.30am – 5pm; Tues 10am – 5pm; Fri 8.30am – 3.40pm

Advice and information on

Updated entries: 1  
Services added: 2

housing options for homeless people, including assessment of priority need for housing. Out-of-hours emergencies phone 0800 032 5968, AS, H, P

**Edinburgh Cyrenians**  
57 Albion Rd, EH7 5QY  
0131 475 2556

Mon - Fri 10am - 4pm

Advice, information and support for people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness AS, ET, H, P

**Homeless Outreach Project**

65/5 Niddrie Mains Terrace, EH16 4NX  
0131 661 7137

Mon - Fri: 9.30am - 5pm  
Outreach service for homeless people experiencing difficulties with their mental

22 Holyrood Road, Edinburgh  
0131 557 6055

Free phone 0800 178 2323  
24/7 crisis centre for people in housing crisis or at risk of sleeping rough. Includes outreach service / needle exchange.

AS, AD, A, BA, BS, CA, CL, D, DA, ET, F, H, I, J, L, LS, MH, NE, O, L, OB, P, SH

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

**The Access Point**

17-23 Leith Street, EH1 3AT  
0131 529 7438

Services for people 16 years or over who do not have care of children  
Mon, Wed, Thu: 9am–5pm;  
Tue 10am–5pm; Fri: 9am–4pm  
(drop-in services only): Mon–Thu