



# CHEESE ON TOAST



**November 2011**

**Newsletter of the Soup Kitchen (SK) at the American Church in London  
Helping the homeless and marginally homeless in Central London**

79a Tottenham Court Rd London W1T 4TD Reg. UK Charity1051770 & US 501(c) 3 org  
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## **Unprecedented Demand for Food and Warm Space!!!**

In October, for the first time, we welcomed 100+ guests in one day and served more food than ever. FareShare, who redirect food trade surpluses to those in need is also seeing a sharp rise in demand. This rise in numbers makes the potential impact of our new cabin even more urgent for our guests (see below for more details). It will be a great investment for our future work.

So please keep donating food and funding, so that we can keep helping some of the most vulnerable people in the West End.



## **CABIN BUILDING BEGINS IN LATE JANUARY**

Miranda and Jake look over the drawings for the warm and robust Cabin that will replace our aging tent. Go to <http://www.justgiving.com/Jake-Evans0> to see the plans and how fundraising is going.

**We now have 50% of our £30,000 target.**

Can you and/or your friends do our sponsored run 'Footsteps of the Homeless', or would your children enjoy our sponsored 'Blackbird Trail', around the Victoria & Albert Museum? See more info in this newsletter or call us.



## **ON YOUR MARKS FOR FUNDRAISING**

"Footsteps of the Homeless" follows a 4 mile route that a homeless person might take around several different day centres in the West End (e.g. to shower, wash their clothes, see a doctor, get benefits advice) finishing at the Soup Kitchen, for refreshments with our guests (between 10am and 12 noon). Do get in touch if you are interested in getting a group of colleagues or friends together.



## WRAPPED UP WARM

Our distribution of free clothing becomes even more vital in winter. New research from Heriot-Watt and York Universities predicts that the current economic downturn is "certain to increase all forms of homelessness" and "the worst is yet to come". Our free food and clothing are a lifeline. Casual men's clothing is most useful but we can benefit from all clothing, pairs of shoes, blankets and fabric.

The **co-operative membership**   
Community Fund



† Please pray for the guests above and all who come to the SK to find strength and encouragement among us.

## GUEST ACTIVITIES

Our Art Group helps provide company and acceptance for our guests, and in August some of us visited 'Treasures of Heaven', an exhibition at the British Museum.

We also have a small Bible Study group, and a few guests who help with tidying and cleaning.

### When we know guests better we can help more effectively:

Don was told to appear in court and thought he would be evicted, so we called his landlord. We found out that he was not going to lose his flat but had forgotten to make important payments. We are now helping him with paperwork.

Steve had lost his job and flat. We referred him to a project who found him new accommodation.

Ken's key worker was planning his detox but Ken was worried about the details. We called up with him and got more information that reassured him.



## FREE CHRISTMAS LUNCH FOR 250

Please support our Christmas events:

Camden Wholefoods' Community Day on 16 November, when 5% of net sales will be donated to the SK;

The American School Carol Service at the American Church on Sunday 11 December at 6pm (tickets on the door);

Our Luncheon for the Homeless is on Saturday 17 December - can you sponsor a £20 turkey butterfly joint?

**And if you can help on the day, please email [sarahadair@mac.com](mailto:sarahadair@mac.com)**

**A Very Happy Christmas and New Year to all our supporters!**

**RESPONSE SLIP for November 2011: Enclosed is my gift of £ \_\_\_\_\_ for the Cabin Appeal**

**£ \_\_\_\_\_ for Christmas SK expenses**

*(Please make cheques payable to The Soup Kitchen or The Whitefield Corporation)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Pls. send me more info on:  **setting up a standing order to make regular donations**

**Gift Aid Declaration for Taxpayers only:** If you have NOT filled in a Gift Aid Declaration form for the Soup Kitchen before, please fill in the following now in order to increase the value of your donations by about 25p in £1.

**Gift Aid Declaration:** As a UK taxpayer, I want the Soup Kitchen to reclaim tax on all my donations made after 6 April 2000

**Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

NB: You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the charity reclaims on your donations in the tax year.

**Data Protection:** Your details will NOT be used by anyone except the Soup Kitchen, who will send you occasional news/ appeals.

If you do NOT wish to hear from us again, please tick here

Pls. fill in slip and return to: **Miranda Suit, Director, Soup Kitchen at American Church, 79a Tottenham Court Road, London W1T 4TD (020 7580 2791) [www.amchurch.co.uk/soup\\_kitchen.htm](http://www.amchurch.co.uk/soup_kitchen.htm) E: [soupkitchendirector@hotmail.com](mailto:soupkitchendirector@hotmail.com)**