

# Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter 17/18

## News #4 (Jan, 18)



**The shelter is open! Many thanks to Steve Maslin, the Venue Coordinators, and volunteers for working hard to be ready on time and open the doors.**

**Shelter Venues:** Phase 1 has begun (a reminder of the phase dates is below). We do have a challenge in that we don't yet have a venue for Friday night during Phase 2. We are following up a couple of possibilities but if you know of any church that could be available please contact Steve directly.

- Phase 1: **5<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018**
- Phase 2: **16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 to 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

**Deputy Project Coordinator:** During December we were able to appoint a **Deputy Coordinator, Amanda Munday**, to support Steve during the final stages to preparations and to provide cover whilst the shelter is open. Amanda has access to the same project e-mail.

**Volunteers:** Over 400 volunteers have registered and been trained at sessions held centrally and in each host church. Further training is available ahead of Phase 2 and registration remains open – it's not too late! Some nights/venues have a surplus of volunteers but particular nights and hence locations would benefit from more volunteers for overnight and morning shifts. Please register via [www.bcwns.org](http://www.bcwns.org). If you want to volunteer for the Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter 2018 project you **MUST** register using the above online link (or ask someone to help you do this). Please see overleaf for the Volunteer Flyer. This [short video](#) might help to give an idea of what the church shelter is like. We encourage you to share this information.

**Training:** Attendance at a training session is **mandatory for all volunteers**, *EVEN IF* you volunteered in the pilot project. The next opportunities for training include:

- **Saturday 20th January** at 9:30 for 10 am to 12 noon at Ivy Church in St Werburghs BS6 5HZ - PRIOR to the second 6-week phase of the project; **OR**
- **Venue based Training** available at participating venues for those in contact with a Venue Coordinator. Please speak to the Venue Coordinators first about what venue based training there is.

Please see details on previous news updates and on the [Facebook](#) page.

**Finances:** We have been able to reduce the anticipated budget. Many thanks to those of you who have contributed so far. Based on gifts processed we have 35% of the funds needed with further donations pledged. We continue to ask you to consider a contribution from your church funds, and/or a special offering, to help fund the shelter. Expenditure remains in line with expectations. Contributions towards the BCWNS can be forwarded directly to the following account:

**Account Name:** Crisis Centre Limited

**Account Number:** 01408518

**Sort Code:** 40-14-13

**Payment reference:** BCWNS



Crisis Centre Ministries will hold all funds for the project as a 'restricted fund' meaning that they will not be used for any other purpose. Continued...

### BCWNS Contacts

Project Coordinator: Steve Maslin; [BristolChurchesWinterShelter@gmail.com](mailto:BristolChurchesWinterShelter@gmail.com);  
Mob 07507 735798; [BristolChurches Winter Night Shelter](#)

Steering Group: Jonathan Lee (CEO [Crisis Centre Ministries](#));  
Andy Street ([Christian Action Bristol](#));  
Claire Fenner ([Bristol & Bath Regional Capital](#));  
Peter Gifford (Redland Parish Church)



# BRISTOL CHURCHES WINTER NIGHT SHELTER



The Bristol Churches Winter Night Shelter is a project aiming to offer a safe space to sleep and a hearty meal for homeless guests over the winter months.

"I am so delighted we have done this – our whole church community has really got behind it and I think it has been an eye-opening and unifying exercise for us."

**Volunteer from 2017**



## A typical night at the shelter

**6pm**

Volunteers arrive and set up for the night. This often includes a time of prayer and worship.



**7am**

Lights on.



**7.30pm**

Doors open and guests are registered.



...and guests have showers. Toothbrushes and towels are provided.

**8.30pm**

Everyone enjoys a hot meal and pudding prepared by volunteers.



**7.30am**

Breakfast is served.



**9pm**

Guests and volunteers play games and chat.



**8.30am**

Guests set off, volunteers put away beds.

**11pm**

Lights out and sleep for the guests.



**9am**

Volunteers leave.



✉ [BristolChurchesWinterShelter@gmail.com](mailto:BristolChurchesWinterShelter@gmail.com) ✉