

# SAFEHAVEN STORIES

Winter 2020

Bringing Hope, Changing Lives



We have had an exciting term, continuing to meet amazing people and see wonderful things at Safehaven. We are pleased to be able to share some of what we have been up to.

**Thank you for your support,** for enabling us to do these things and be part of these stories.

*Sam Coates and Jonny Gumbel, Safehaven Ministries*

## Safehaven Women



99 guests were welcomed by 45 volunteers to our annual **Christmas Party**. Guests were each given a present and a full Christmas dinner in front of a roaring fire!

This term, participants in our **Arts & Crafts Group** made hot water bottle covers(see right) for each guest staying at our Churches' Night Shelter.



Over 30 **Mother & Baby** volunteers(left) helped some of our mothers move into new accommodation by sourcing furniture, etc and redecorating their new homes. *"I am so grateful... am blessed to have a beautifully warm homely feeling home. Been meaning to decorate [but] due to being a single mum and mental health was a struggle. Then you guys come along gave me wings and energy to get motivated to put the sparkle in my home."*

# Safehaven Saturday



*“Safehaven is a place to relax and to talk to people about issues I have and I am so grateful for that. I’m thankful for the love and support.”*

Over 121 guests and 60 team participated in our **Christmas party**.

Each guest enjoyed a lovely Christmas dinner and received a hat, some lovely Temple Spa products, Christmas biscuits and a Christmas card made by one of our kids at St Peter’s.



# Safehaven Men



Safehaven Men was re-launched at the start of last term, welcoming around 75 men each week and 15 team!

Hot food is now served each week, with guests, volunteers and staff joining together around tables, helping build community.

Says one volunteer: *“I love to volunteer at Safehaven Men because of the interesting life stories of the men, the chats, laughter and fellowship of volunteers and guests.”*

# Churches' Night Shelter

We are so excited to announce our Night Shelter is now running **year-round** out of the permanent site of St Patrick's Hove. This has been possible thanks to the continued support of our church partners, a new partnership with the YMCA and funding support from the Brighton & Hove Council, The Church Housing Trust, The Homity Trust and Souter Trust and all of our amazing volunteers!



Just before opening at the end of November, we hosted a **Launch service** at which previous guests of the Shelter shared their experiences both in person (see below) and by video.



Darren was one such previous guest who shared his experience, ***“The Shelter was great, very unique, very special. The Night Shelter saved my life. This time last year I was out there. The people in the Shelters they cooked for us and looked after us, we all sat down together and ate. They did so much for me. It was mind blowing!”***

## **WELCOME!**

We are thrilled to have our full-time chef Gary and intern Ollie with us!

Gary has been on staff since April and was joined by our new intern Ollie in October. Ollie is a graduate of the Spear Brighton programme ([www.spearbrighton.org](http://www.spearbrighton.org)), a separate charity based at St Peter's which runs employability training and coaching for disadvantaged young people.

Thanks to the huge efforts of Gary and Ollie we are now able to cater in-house for all of our programming. They especially pulled out all of the stops for our Christmas parties!

## **THANK YOU!**

To our amazing **VOLUNTEERS**, who give over 600 hours every week, and are key in creating a place that guests feel is *'a family, a home and it's a safe place. It's just an amazing place to be.'*

To all of our **FUNDERS** and those who have **DONATED** to and supported Safehaven.

We couldn't do it without you!



## **COULD YOU FUNDRAISE?**

Could you help us raise money for SAFEHAVEN? By yourself, with friends or even colleagues...We would LOVE your support!

Contact Sara at [sara@stpetersbrighton.org](mailto:sara@stpetersbrighton.org) for more info.

## **COULD YOU VOLUNTEER?**

**Safehaven Women**

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**Churches' Night Shelter**

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**Safehaven Saturday or Safehaven Men**

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