

Letter of Introduction

I am writing to you on behalf of Birmingham Christmas Shelter (formerly Birmingham Open Christmas); a registered charity which has been operating for over 30 years.

Our aims are to provide food, warmth, shelter and friendship to the homeless and lonely of Birmingham during the Christmas period, regardless of gender, colour, race, or religion. We provide an essential service during a time when many other facilities are closed.

Our doors are open to guests 24 hours a day during Christmas week and, typically, we welcome between 50 and 150 guests on a daily basis, providing 3 hot meals per day, breakfast, lunch, dinner, a continuous tea, coffee and sandwich bar service, haircuts, chiropody, showers, dental treatment, entertainment, clothing and a safe and warm place to sleep.

We depend entirely on donations and around 200 very generous volunteers who give freely of their time. Each Christmas we take over the premises of St Georges Post 16 College, Great Hampton Row and convert it into a shelter for a week.

Should you wish to learn more about our charity, any one of our trustees will be delighted to speak with you.

Yours faithfully

The Trustees