

Christmas Day Rail Meal

Name _____ Date _____

London's Euston Station transformed into huge homeless shelter for Christmas dinner and festive cheer!

Mark Molloy 25 DECEMBER 2017 • 2:43 PM

Christmas Day Rail Meal



Euston Station opened its doors on Christmas Day to provide dinner and company to homeless people with nowhere to go over the festive period.

The transport hub, which is closed to commuters until after Boxing Day, was transformed for the festive feast serving 200 homeless guests, with the station's concourse filled with colourful decorations and tables.

Around 30 Network Rail volunteers gave up their time to help serve the dinner and talk to those living on the street in Camden and neighbouring boroughs.

Christmas Festive Cheer

Steve Naybour, head of transformation in Network Rail's track team, said using the station to give homeless people a Christmas dinner and some festive cheer was "a great thing to do".

"Working on Christmas Day is pretty much par for the course for many of us who work for Network Rail but this year, because I wasn't scheduled to work, myself and a handful of colleagues came up with this plan to feed some of London's homeless instead," he said. "I can't think of a better way to spend my Christmas Day – it even beats working on the railway!"

They partnered with homelessness charity St Mungo's and Streets Kitchen, which provides meals for 1,000 people on the streets every week, for the unique event.

The Heart of Local Communities

Joe Hendry, station manager at Euston, added: "Stations are at the heart of local communities and we want to provide a legacy through good relationships with organisations like St Mungo's and Streets Kitchen that supports the homeless community in and around our station long after the buzz of Christmas has died down."

Beth Nordon, from St Mungo's, said Christmas can be a particularly lonely time for rough sleepers as "many people become homeless because of relationship breakdowns". She added the day helped their residents "feel included in the community" on Christmas Day.

Streets Kitchen's Jon Glackin called the day a "shining example" of local businesses, community groups and individuals "coming together" in solidarity to assist others in need over Christmas.

"It's fantastic to work with all the Network Rail team innovatively employing one of their prestigious stations to spread some festive cheer for our homeless community," he added.

There are more than 300,000 people homeless in Britain, according to Shelter, who receive a call for help every 22 seconds over the Christmas period of November and December.



Adapted Source: www.TelegraphMediaGroupLimited2017.com

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/christmas/2017/12/25/euston-station-transformed-huge-homeless-shelter-christmas-dinner/>

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Reading Questions

1. What sections has the article been divided into?

(3 marks)

2. List one fact about homelessness from the article.

(1 mark)

3. How does the layout of the article help you to locate information on the page?

(3 marks)

4. What opinion does Joe Hendry identify about stations within the article?

(1 mark)

5. What phrase does Steve Neybour use to describe how the station was used on Christmas day to provide dinner for homeless people?

(1 mark)

6. At a glance, what opinion does Street Kitchen's Jon Glackin provide about the day?

(1 mark)

7. How many meals does St Mungo's and Streets Kitchen provide per week?

(1 mark)

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Writing Activity

Beth Nordon, from St Mungo's, said Christmas can be a particularly lonely time for rough sleepers as “many people become homeless because of relationship breakdowns”. She added that the day helped their residents “feel included in the community” on Christmas Day.

Your task is to write a letter to your council about the article you have just read, particularly focussing on making homeless people feel included in the community. You want your local council to invest in a meal for the homeless next Christmas, in your local train station.

The person to write to is James Turner, Camden Council, Camden, London W1G 96F.

Points to include:

- Why you are writing
- What investment you would like from the council
- The advantages of providing a meal for homeless people on Christmas day
- The benefits of including homeless people in the community

Remember to use persuasive language techniques, formal letter layout and write a minimum of 190 words.

Plan your work below.

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Writing Activity Checklist	
I have proof read my work	
I have written a minimum of a paragraph per bullet point	
I have used IHADAFORST persuasive devices	
I have used formal letter layout	
I have written a minimum of 190 words	

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Answers, notes and curriculum mapping.

Level 1 Functional Skills English mapping

Coverage and range statements provide an indication of the type of content candidates are expected to apply in functional contexts. Relevant content can also be drawn from equivalent (school) National Curriculum levels, and the Adult Literacy standards at <http://www.excellencegateway.org.uk/content/etf1286>

✓ indicates the main coverage and range skills that are (or can be) covered in this resource. However, these will vary with the student group and how the resource is used by the teacher. **Reference:** Ofqual (2009), *Functional Skills criteria for English: Entry 1, Entry 2, Entry 3, level 1 and level 2.* <http://www.ofqual.gov.uk/>

Level 1 Reading skill standard: Read and understand a range of straightforward texts

Coverage and range statements

- a) Identify the main points and ideas and how they are presented in a variety of texts (Q1, Q3) ✓
- b) Read and understand texts in detail (Q2, Q4, Q5, Q7) ✓
- c) Utilise information contained in texts (Q5, Q6, writing task) ✓
- d) Identify suitable responses to texts (Q2, Q4) ✓

Level 1 Writing skill standard: Write a range of texts to communicate information, ideas and opinions, using formats and styles suitable for their purpose and audience

Coverage and range statements

- a) Write clearly and coherently, including an appropriate level of detail ✓
- b) Present information in a logical sequence ✓
- c) Use language, format and structure suitable for purpose and audience ✓
- d) Use correct grammar, including correct and consistent use of tense ✓
- e) Ensure written work includes generally accurate punctuation and spelling and that meaning is clear ✓

1. What sections has the article been divided into?

Christmas Day Rail Meal, Christmas Festive Cheer, The Heart of Local Communities.

2. List one fact about homelessness from the article.

There are more than 300,000 homeless people in Britain

3. How does the layout of the article help you to locate information on the page?

Bold text, underlined text, images to support the text.

4. What opinion does Joe Hendry identify about stations within the article?

Stations are at the heart of local communities

5. What phrase does Steve Neybour use to describe how the station was used on Christmas day to provide dinner for homeless people?

"A great thing to do"

6. At a glance what opinion does Street Kitchen's Jon Glackin provide about the day?

A shining example of local businesses, community groups and individuals coming together.

7. How many meals does St Mungo's and Streets Kitchen provide per week?

1,000

I HAD A FOREST persuasive devices

Imperative

Hyperbole

Alliteration

Direct Address

Anecdote

Fact

Opinion

Rhetorical Question

Emotive Language

Statistics

Triplets (Rule of Three)