

You are going to read an article about a London pub's offer for lonely people.

- Some words are missing from the text.
- Use the words in brackets to form the words that fit in the gaps (1-9).
- There might be cases when you do not have to change the word in brackets.
- Use only one word for each gap.
- There is an example (0) at the beginning.

FREE CHRISTMAS MEAL FOR LONELY PEOPLE

This will be the fourth time that The Alexandra, a pub in (0) **central** (*centre*), Wimbledon, has provided a free Christmas lunch to people spending the holiday by (1) _____ (*they*). Landlords Mick and Sarah Dore dished up 62 roasts last year and are aiming for 100 this year. But, they say, "getting people to come out of the house is (2) _____ (*unbelievable*) difficult."

Loneliness (3) _____ (*special*) are well aware of the problem. Jill Mortimer, psychologist at Age UK, told *The Independent* that "some people are actually hiding, especially due to (4) _____ (*ability*) or grief," and that many feel ashamed of being lonely. Weeks of (5) _____ (*investigate*) of "what's stopping them from connecting" may be necessary to convince someone to come out of their shell, she said, adding that men in particular are more (6) _____ (*like*) to attend events if they can play an active role.

To get people (7) _____ (*involve*) was one of the reasons The Alexandra upgraded their previous offer of a drink at Christmas to include a meal. "Once we had a (8) _____ (*widow*) come in and I sat and had a couple of pints with him," said Mr Dore. "He obviously had (9) _____ (*where*) to go. I said: "Why don't you come and have dinner with us, the staff and my family?"

"He said he wouldn't because he had somewhere else to go – and he clearly didn't have. It was really the interaction with him that year that made me think we should offer food as well."



(www.independent.co.uk)

Picture by kannojiashreyak Pixabay