



Community Foodbank

Welcome to the October 2013 Nourish Community Foodbank e-Newsletter. September was a very active month for Nourish and the pace of development has, in all areas, accelerated as we prepare for what we believe will be considerable demand on foodbanks as we move through the winter months.

www.nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk

Newsletter
October 2013



A note from Olga Johnson, Co-Chair of Nourish Community Foodbank..

"What an amazing month we have just had! In early October, as part of 'Love Where You Live', Nourish were voted winner of the 'Best Group' award. We were thrilled and it is such an honour to receive recognition for all the hard work of our amazing volunteers.

We have been really pleased with the donations of food from local schools and churches for the Harvest Festival. Tunbridge Wells Girls Grammar School donated nearly

a ton of food and local churches, Southborough Lions and Bunny Run Child Care have also been very generous. We now have an amazing new bigger store-room, donated by Big Yellow and it is full! However, as the impact of the 'Bedroom Tax' and rising winter fuel costs are felt, we are going to need every tin.

Finally we are pleased to announce the start of our fresh food voucher system. We are including £5 vouchers in family food bags to enable families to purchase fresh meat from J Rook and Sons in Mount Pleasant Road and fresh fruit and vegetables from Locality in Camden Road.

We have lots more ideas so watch this space!"

Art Sale in aid of Nourish

Stella Hayes and her husband Kevin held an Art Sale at their beautiful Langton Green home on the weekend of the 28th and 29th of September. Until recently Stella ran a successful gallery in The Pantiles and was selling stock following her decision to close it. Volunteers from Nourish were in attendance throughout the weekend to collect entrance fees and donations from visitors.



Carole Wanless (left) from Nourish with Stella Hayes



In total nearly £1,000 was raised for Nourish Community Foodbank. A big thank you goes to Kevin and Stella for hosting the weekend, to the Nourish volunteers for attending and the very generous visitors.

Thank You to The London Softwood Club...
...for their very generous donation to Nourish Community Foodbank via the Art Sale. It will make a big difference.

Move to New Storage Unit...

Following the recent successful ASDA collection and the continued generosity of our many supporters, Nourish had outgrown the original storage unit we used within the Big Yellow Storage Company. Realising our situation, Big Yellow Storage very kindly offered Nourish a bigger unit but this meant we had to move the considerable amount of stores from one unit to another. Operations Manager Dawn Stanford sent out a call for volunteers



and on the morning of Thursday the 26th of September the not-inconsiderable task was undertaken. Dawn commented: "Wow, what a day! We started with a little prep work the day before but started the move properly at 8.00am and clicked the padlock shut on the new unpacked and much bigger unit at 1.30pm. Huge thanks to Rosie, Ann, Tracy, David, Howard, Joelle, Allen, Alan, Paul, Daniel, Richard, Claudia, Olga and Wayne. Fantastic teamwork by everyone involved."



'Love Where You Live' Award..

Nourish Community Foodbank was proud to win the 'Best Group' award at the Tunbridge Wells 'Love Where You Live' Awards held on the evening of the 2nd of October at the Assembly Halls Theatre. The Love Where We Live awards recognise individuals, groups and organisations who are dedicated to helping others in our community, benefitting the environment or accomplishing personal goals. The prize of £500 was presented by Mr Ronan Basu, Mayor of Tunbridge Wells. For Nourish, the monetary prize will, of course, be very welcome but the additional promotion that the award will provide will also be extremely useful. After receiving the award Olga Johnson, Co-Chair of Nourish, commented: "We were thrilled and it is such an honour to receive recognition for all the hard work of our amazing volunteers".



Could you arrange a food collection at your workplace, school or church? If you would like to support the work of Nourish Community Foodbank, please e-mail office@nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk

New Corporate Supporter...

AXA PPP Healthcare very kindly agreed to support Nourish by collecting donations of food across their Tunbridge Wells sites. Coordinated by Graham Thomas (AXA PPP Healthcare Community Officer – Culture and Community Team) AXA collected for one week and asked Nourish to be prepared to receive their donations on Friday the 4th of October. Dawn Stanford, Operations Manager and Olga Johnson (Co-Chair) visited the AXA building in Hawkenbury on the afternoon of the 4th and packed AXA's considerable donations into two cars. Nourish would like to thank AXA PPP Healthcare very much and we hope that this is a relationship that can be built on as we move forward.



Bunny Run Child Care..

Nourish was Very pleased to receive a donation from Bunny Run Child Care of Tunbridge Wells. Bunny Run held a coffee morning to raise funds and Olga Johnson and Tracy Haigh were delighted to receive a donation in excess of £60. Thank you very much to all at Bunny Run who supported the event.



Food Vouchers...

In order that Nourish can Support families in time of distress with more than just tinned and packaged foodstuffs, we are about to launch a new voucher-based scheme to allow recipients to collect fresh fruit, vegetables and meat. We are launching the scheme with the support of two retailers in



Tunbridge Wells, one well-known name – J C Rook and Sons who have been trading in Kent for over forty years and a newer name – Locality of Camden Road.



Dawn Stanford, Operations Manager writes..

"Donations have been very generous this last month and we would like to thank the following: Bidborough School (175.3kgs), St Augustines (424.7kgs), Fosse Bank School (116.9kgs), FL Capital (320.7kgs), TWGGS (854.06kgs),

Cranbrook Church (58.7kgs), St Luke's Nursery and Stephens Road (92.1kgs), Sacred Heart, Wadhurst (159.6kgs, Bunny Run Pre-School (50.9kgs) and Chevening Church (97.7kgs). That's 2,351.2kgs since the 24th of September in donations of food with more coming in every day. These donations have meant that we can easily fill the 30+ referrals we are fulfilling each week. Whilst we have lots of donations we are running short of a few items – donations of small bags of sugar, coffee and cereals would very welcome. "

Can You Help?

We have been delighted with the new applications for volunteers in the last month. However, we are very short of volunteers for driving and packing at the storage unit over the next month so if you can spare any time, we would be very grateful. Please call 01892 548892 if you can help.

If you would like to contact Nourish to offer your support in any way or to discuss a potential referral, here are some contact details you may find useful:

Main E-Mail: office@nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk

Main Enquiry Number: 01892 548892

Co-Chair: Olga Johnson

E-Mail: olga@nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk

Operations Manager: Dawn Stanford

E-Mail: dawn@nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk

Home: 01892 671389

Mob: 07785 987532

Volunteer Coordinator: Vix Daniel

E-Mail: vix@nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk