

Nourish

Community Foodbank

Newsletter
September 2013

Welcome to the September 2013 Nourish Community Foodbank e-Newsletter. Nourish has been very busy over the summer and hopefully this newsletter will give you a taste of what has been happening, what impact this has had and plans for the next few weeks. Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to whoever you think may be interested. If you are interested in volunteering for Nourish, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Vix Daniel at vix@nourishcommunityfoodbank.Org.uk.



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

"August has been a busy month for Nourish. Asda in Tunbridge Wells enabled us to collect nearly one ton of food from their customers on the 16th and 17th of August and The Potato Shop in Tenterden donated 100 kilos of potatoes. This has enabled us to help more families who need help in Tunbridge Wells and to reach those in other areas to include Uckfield, Tonbridge and Crowborough and, as fuel and other costs rise, this will increase.

Setting up these systems and getting food bags to families across a wide area takes time and effort so we are delighted to have over 35 volunteers to help us each week. We have also just appointed Dawn Stanford as our new Operations Manager who will be responsible for all Nourish operations. We have great plans for the future so watch this space for more news!"



Thank You, Asda!

Nourish Community Foodbank held a collection for food donations at the Asda Supermarket in Longfield Road, Tunbridge Wells on Friday and Saturday the 16th and 17th of August. Although we already knew of the generosity of Tunbridge Wells shoppers and were confident that the collection would be successful, we were overwhelmed with how positively the customers of Asda received our message and supported the foodbank. Over the course of the two days we collected over 848 kgs of food, enough to make our storage shelves in the Big Yellow Storage Company, also in Longfield Road, full to overflowing. If you donated to our

cause over the two days, thank you very much indeed. Of course the weekend could not have gone ahead without the space and support provided by Asda supermarkets so very many thanks to Asda as well. Asda has a fine reputation as a supporter of foodbanks and they have offered Nourish the possibility of having a permanent collection point in their store which we hope to have in place very soon. Adrian Tofts, a Nourish volunteer, initiated the initial contact with the Asda so thank you to Adrian. The weekend could also not have gone ahead without the help of the tireless Nourish volunteers who manned the collection point throughout the two days. Those volunteers were Olga Johnson, Penny Atwood, Glenda Ratcliffe, Jackie Osborne, Jill Padley, Laurel Soden and Rosie Smith.

Tracy, Anne and Dawn spent a long time weighing and arranging the storage of the contributions in our Big Yellow storage unit so a huge thank you to all Nourish volunteers who made the weekend the success that it was. As we develop and grow, we hope to arrange further supermarket collections which we hope will be as positive as our Asda collaboration.

Thanks Very Much....

As with any charity, many people and organisations offer their time and resources to support Nourish Community Foodbank and we would like to offer our acknowledgement and thanks to our supporters. They have recently included...

The Potato Shop on the Morghew Park Estate, Tenterden (www.thepotatoshop.com) for their continued support.

St Luke's Church, Tunbridge Wells (www.stlukestw.co.uk), The Benenden Chapel of St Theodore's Church (www.sttheodore-cranbrook.org) and Sacred Heart Church, Wadhurst, all of whom have been very generous with their donations.

The Bridge Trust (www.thebridgetrust.org.uk) for their kind offer of office space in Barden House, Southborough.

The Black Dog Café, Tunbridge Wells (www.blackdogcafetw.co.uk) for hosting Nourish for a day and offering space upstairs for recent interviews.

Larrytech of Tunbridge Wells (www.larrytech.com) for their support in hosting our web-site and ongoing IT developments.

...and to all our volunteers, whatever services or support you may be providing...thank you.



Dates for your diary...

On Saturday the 14th of September a volunteers meeting will be held (venue and time to be announced). This meeting is open to all volunteers for Nourish and is an excellent opportunity to hear about current activities, discuss future plans and meet other supporters to build your network and exchange ideas. Please check the Nourish web-site (www.nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk) for exact venue and timings.

Additionally, with Harvest Festivals soon upon us, if anybody has contacts with schools or churches who will be celebrating the Festival and could support Nourish with contributions, we would be very grateful.



Thank you to the Southborough and District Lions Club!

The Southborough and District Lions Club have very generously donated £250 to Nourish. A big "thank you" goes out to all their members. The Southborough Lions are keen to see their donation used towards our new Voucher scheme which we hope to report on shortly.

Appointment of our new Operations Manager..

During August Nourish were delighted to announce the appointment of our new Operations Manager, Dawn Stafford. Dawn joins Nourish having worked with Porchlight as a Voluntary Rough Sleeper Outreach Worker and as a Non- Executive Committee Member with the Town and Country Housing Group in Tunbridge Wells. Let's let Dawn introduce herself...

"I have had a passion for foodbanks and helping those in need for a few years now and am delighted to be working for Nourish. Everyone has made me very welcome and I am looking forward to the challenge of building it from strength to strength together with a dedicated group of volunteers.

I have been a volunteer myself for over ten years for various charities and local organisations, most recently for the winter shelter and Porchlight and am an active street pastor. I am a mum to four beautiful children who embrace all my work life and help out wherever they can. My daughters loved being involved in the food collection at Asda recently and even enjoyed the unpack-and-stack at Big Yellow afterwards."

Welcome to Nourish, Dawn and the very best of luck as we move forward together.

If you wish to contact Dawn to discuss any aspect of the work of Nourish she can be contacted on 07785 987532 or 01892 671389 or e-mailed at dawn@nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk.

Some things we would find useful...

There are always going to be items which we might need and which you may have spare in your homes or offices so we hope you don't mind us asking in this way.

Aside from your always welcome donations of food, time and financial contributions, the team who work at the Big Yellow Storage Facility in Tunbridge Wells would really appreciate a folding wallpaper table so that they can use it to pack bags on. Bearing in mind that some of the bags can be quite heavy, the table would need to be sturdy.

Additionally the team would find a small table that can be used for paperwork or placing a laptop on useful. If you have either of those items that you could offer to Nourish, please call our Project Manager, Dawn, on the numbers above.

Art Sale in support of Nourish Community Foodbank

Nourish supporter Stella Hayes is holding an Art Sale at her home in Langton Green later this month when she will be selling a large number of works from her former Pantiles Gallery.

There is an entry donation of £10 which includes wine and canapés and all proceeds are going to Nourish.

Please contact Carole Wanless at carole@nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk for further details. The sale will be held over two dates: Saturday the 28th of September from 1.00pm to 8.00pm and Sunday the 29th of September between 12.00 and 4.00pm

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
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Volunteer Coordinator: Vix Daniel E-Mail: vix@nourishcommunityfoodbank.org.uk