

CCfb UPDATE AUGUST 2014

Cambridge City foodbank
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Patron: Dr Rowan Williams FBA, FRSL, FLSW

FUNDING

Since the last Newsletter we have been very fortunate in receiving donations through competitive selection by two well-established local events: the Cambridge Cambourne 10K Race and Cambridge RAG.

The Race, in its sixth year, a wonderful day drawing 941 individual participants, contributed £5,000 to the Foodbank as its sole beneficiary.



The RAG puts on a range of activities throughout the year through college and one-off events - cycling from London to Paris, Blind Date, Jailbreak shown here where students have to get as far

away from Cambridge as they can in 36 hours, the winners in 2012 reached Singapore - and gave £7,000 each to five local and five national charities. The committee organising the Wolfson College Summer Event (equivalent of a May Ball) very generously donated £1,000 from the proceeds of their night of celebration.

Other local groups supported us: the Cambridge Kerala Cultural Association held a very well attended dance and music event; Little St. Mary's Church presented an evening of music and readings, including one from our patron Dr. Rowan Williams.

But it is to the hundreds of individual donors who contribute anything from 50p in a collecting tin to an anonymous donation of £5,000 who must be thanked as well - they are our lifeblood and without them we could not continue our work of supporting Cambridge people in crisis.

STATS

Clients fed financial year 2013 - 2014
4,712 (3,046 adults & 1,664 children)

An 85% increase on 2012 - 2013

= 2,218 vouchers redeemed
= 41,099 kgs of food

This year from April
1,043 (681 adults & 362 children)

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS

From time to time local companies make contact to offer the opportunity of engagement with their corporate volunteering scheme where employees are given the option to volunteer with time off in lieu.

It isn't always possible to find the right kind of activity for one-off volunteer offers but we were able to do just that with Bidwells of Cambridge in conjunction with two recent fundraising events whose outcomes are reported under 'Funding'. Bidwells staff volunteered to be marshals for the Cambourne 10K Race and to work through the night as cloakroom attendants at the Wolfson Summer Event. Huge thanks to these staff and to Bidwells.

ARE FOODBANKS PART OF THE PROBLEM?

Foodbanks have been accused of creating a need rather than meeting one, but Patricia Williams, Manager of the CCfb Distribution Centre at Our Lady and the English Martyrs doesn't take this view. "Some people who come haven't eaten for about a week and they are so hungry they cannot sleep. One girl said to us, 'I've eaten, I've slept and

now I feel so much better.'

It takes a lot of courage to come through the door and admit to someone else that you need emergency food, especially if they have children. People are sometimes in tears and are embarrassed about having to come to us, but we make them feel very welcome and you can see them relax a bit and breathe a sigh of relief.

They can be anybody. We do not

pry into the reasons why people are referred to foodbank but sometimes they tell us - it's often things like unexpected bills, relationship break up etc., the sorts of things that could happen to anybody."

CCfb is currently partnered by 100+ agencies who assess clients needs and issue a red voucher when appropriate. Unless there are extenuating circumstances there is a limit of 3 vouchers in any 6 month period.

THANK YOU

CCfb would like to thank the many churches, businesses, community groups and personal donors for their support through finance and food donations. We couldn't do it without you.

Helping local people in need

DISTRIBUTION CENTRES:

St. Paul's Centre:
Mon & Fri afternoon
Chesterton
Methodist Church:
Tues morning
English Martyrs:
Wed morning
Church of the Good Shepherd:
Thursday morning
C3 Alpha Terrace & Barnwell Baptist Church:
Friday morning

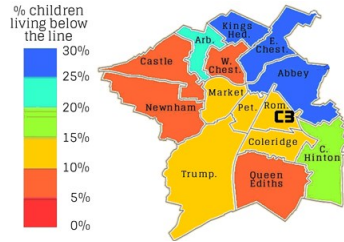
Warehouse open to receive donations:

Monday & Friday
0930 - 1300 hrs.

Supermarket Collections:

807.1 kgs & 1,322.5 kgs donated

'Recently CCfb has been working with the Corporate Strategy Officer for Cambridge City Council, Suzanne Goff.



We were invited to present to the Diversity Forum and to engage with discussion and strategy around any issues concerning food e.g. food provision, food waste, food preparation facilities and food education within the city. The morning was excellent with over 40 council workers in attendance.

Since the forum has met their has been ongoing communications between the Meadows Community centre who would like to work closer with us, NCVO (National Council for Voluntary Organisations) who have requested statistical evidence that the foodbank has had an increase in demand since the changes in the welfare system. and The Cambridge Sustainability food group who again was interested in information and a further partnering with the charity if possible.'

STRAWBERRY TEA

The weather was just good enough for us to enjoy the Volunteer Strawberry Tea outdoors on 15 June. As we are all volunteers this was a tea-party for all of us! Many of you came, making it a great chance for those who volunteer in different parts of CCfb to meet one another for the first time and also for Trustees and volunteers to meet.

We intend to make this an annual event as a small 'thank you' for the faithful work done by CCfb's volunteers week in, week out.

Our thanks to the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology for allowing us to use their fabulous garden for the occasion. Thanks also to Susan (Volunteer Co-ordinator) and helpers for organising this event.



SUPERMARKET COLLECTIONS

On Saturday 26th April a total of **807.1 kgs** of food was collected at Waitrose, Trumpington. Grateful thanks to all who volunteered and to the Waitrose staff and shoppers for supporting us in this.

National Collection:

As part of the Trussell Trust National Collections at Tesco stores we collected at the Fulbourn store, where we also have our permanent collection bin as part of a TT National Agreement with Tesco. The collection took place over 3 days, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 3rd to 5th July; when our volunteers 'stood down' Tesco staff took over. As a result of everyone's efforts a total of **1,322.5 kgs** of food was donated, so a big thank you to all who volunteered to help and to all shoppers for their kind contributions to this total.

SUPPORTERS & SPONSORS
2013/2014



MILLS & REEVE

