

Newsletter



Nov 2022

Updates

Storeroom Update

This year we have once again been the recipient of many harvest donations from local schools, churches and community groups. With the news being filled with information regarding the ongoing pressures that we are facing on energy costs and cost of living crisis we anticipated that this year we may see a fall in the level of donations during Harvest, but to our amazement we have in fact received 5% more in weight of donations than we did last year. 17 groups collected very nearly 2.9 Tonnes of food between them. An amazing response from our local community who continue to support our work. What a fantastic town we live in.

Figures for January to October

- 1637 total people supported,
- 704 children
- 4260 volunteer hours annually
- 592 parcels
- Our largest client group is Single people at 31%.
- Main referral partners;
 - Citizens Advice
 - Cheshire East
 - NHS



Reverse Advent

DROP AND GO

The Nantwich Food Festival is once again ran their “Drop and Go” at Brine Leas on Saturday 28th of November to help support our “Reverse Advent Calendar” campaign. It was a huge success with 2 tonnes of donations collected. Their continued support means that we can spread some Christmas cheer across many struggling households in our community.



“

4,160 volunteer hours annually keep our Foodbank running...

”

Meet one of our new Trustees – Claire Keen



I have lived in & around Nantwich for over 15 years, having moved into the town centre itself in 2021 with my little cat, Pops. I used to live out near Wybunbury but have really taken to town living in Nantwich & I'm enjoying the challenge of renovating my little Victorian house slowly but surely!

I am a Yorkshire lass! As I was born in Rotherham, South Yorkshire, & grew up with my Mum & Dad, 3 older sisters & brother. My Mum came from Galway in Ireland, so there is also a strong Irish streak in me!

My career has spanned several decades working in the Grocery food retail industry, working mainly in Commercial roles, & more recently working for The Coop at head office in Manchester. My world of work has therefore predominantly been discussing & planning all things food. product ranges, new trends, ingredients & retail prices!

I have worked for several food retailers & sadly am old enough to remember the first time Aldi & Lidl attempted to break into the UK market! At the time they had limited success, but many years on, & for all the right reasons, they are making a real difference to keeping the market on its toes.

My interest & passion for working as a Foodbank Trustee stems from this Retail background, as it's an industry I know well & love.

But this is not my first experience of working with Nantwich Foodbank. I was a volunteer in the storeroom some years ago, but unfortunately had to stop when I went back to the corporate retail world full time.

At the time, my husband, Richard was diagnosed with MND in 2015, and sadly died at the end of 2018, but in that short time, whilst he was still reasonably able bodied, he offered to take over from me in the storeroom!

I will always be grateful to the team around him, he enjoyed the banter & it helped distract him from the harsh reality of what was ahead, & whilst he had to eventually stop, he was so grateful for allowing him to continue to volunteer & make his contribute as long as he could.

So, I just want to give something back to Nantwich Foodbank & say 'thank you' for that support, & the dignity Nantwich Foodbank gave him in his last few years. Hopefully my broad commercial background will prove useful in supporting the governance & running of the Foodbank

I am really looking forward to working with all the other Trustees, employees & all our wonderful volunteers in helping others in our community.

ALDI VOUCHERS

Our new initiative to give Aldi vouchers to our clients has proven very successful and it has been received very positively by all who have received them. We have now decided to continue issuing them. Along side our Fresh Produce we are now provide more choice and dignity to our clients.



Welcome to our new member of Team



I am Caroline, Foodbank Administration Assistant. My journey with the foodbank started when I left my admin role at a local primary school during the pandemic. Being made aware of the Foodbank during my time there it seemed the right place to offer to do volunteer work. I started in November 2020 by doing collections from Sainsburys during the Christmas period and a chance discussion with Emily about my background in Admin led to various tasks which has led to this role. I am enjoying experiencing the various roles of the other volunteers which make up the great team that is Nantwich Foodbank.

Prayer

Dear God,

At Christmas we remember the coming to earth of your son Jesus Christ as a baby. In his ministry as an adult he showed us what God was like. He spent time with those on the edge of society: the hungry, the sick, the lonely. He gave them hope as he showed his love and compassion for them. We thank you for the rich blessings most of us have received: warm homes, loving families, secure income. We remember those less fortunate than ourselves and pray that through our work at the Foodbank and other charities our clients' practical needs may be met, and their hopes rekindled by the expression of love and support. In Jesus name we pray,

Amen.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS & THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!



Nantwich Foodbank

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