

Diane Hyett appointed Assistant Manager

We are delighted to announce that Diane Hyett has been appointed as part-time Assistant Manager to help Rhian Morgan with running the North Cotswold Foodbank. Diane lives in Bishops Cleeve with her husband and two boys and has been a volunteer at the Bishops Cleeve Outlet since January and her interest in the Foodbank has grown since then.



Most recently she has been working for Bishops Cleeve Primary and its sister schools and hopes that her project management and administrative skills will be useful in supporting the important work the Foodbank does. Diane said: "I think it is so sad and frustrating that we need such an organisation in this day and age, when we are surrounded by so much wealth and excess, but as we do, I felt strongly that I would like to get involved and do my bit. When the Assistant Manager position was advertised it just seemed like the perfect opportunity! I am really looking forward to getting stuck in and learning more. I do appreciate that it will not always be easy work, but I am so pleased to be joining such a great team and doing all I can to support the North Cotswold Foodbank."

Thank-You Tea Party

On Saturday July 28th, the Trustees of North Cotswold Foodbank invited supporters, donors and volunteers to a Tea Party at Encounter Church in Winchcombe to thank them for all their support. Around 50 people attended from around our network. In addition to meeting other volunteers, a presentation was held to say goodbye and thank you to James Milton, who has stood down as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of North Cotswold Foodbank, although he remains a Trustee. James and his wife, Fiona, were delighted to receive a small gift from us as a thank you for all James' hard work and advice in setting up and running North Cotswold Foodbank. James is now based at the Trussell Trust office in Salisbury. We are grateful to Paul Fisher who has taken over as Chairman.



Tesco Summer Collection



Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraising day at Tesco in Stow-on-the-Wold on June 16th. We raised a fantastic £470 in donations and 450kg of food, which helped us to replenish our stocks ahead of the school holidays when we are always busy. There was a lot of interest in the work of the foodbank and we had some interesting conversations with visitors from Australia and Belgium about the foodbanks in their countries. We also met a man who had experienced

a house fire and was so grateful to the foodbank which had helped him out. And a special thank you to the young girl who spent all her pocket money on a basket of items for us.

Our next collection will take place on November 29th and 30th and December 1st – please come along and support us as we prepare for the Christmas holiday period.

Harvest



We rely on donations of both food and money to provide support to people facing crisis within the local community. Without your goodwill, food-banks would really struggle to operate.

We have been really busy over the school holidays and are now very short of a number of items, so your support is needed more than ever this Harvest time.

We are currently short of:

- Tinned meat: mince, ham, chicken, stew
- Tinned pasta: spaghetti, macaroni cheese
- Tinned fruit in juice
- Sponge puddings
- Packets Angel Delight or Trifle/crumble mix
- Jellies
- Tinned vegetables, particularly carrots and ratatouille

Please note that we have plenty of pasta, baked beans and porridge at the moment.

All food donations should have a sell-by date of at least 3 months.

We are always short of different items to make up our food parcels, so please check our website for what we need most before donating. You can find an up-to-date list here:

<https://northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Holiday Hunger

An increase in demand for emergency food for children drove increased foodbank need during the summer holidays last year, according to data published by The Trussell Trust.

Over a third of all food distributed by the foodbank network throughout the year goes to children, but there is extra financial pressure to provide main meals during the school holidays for families who rely on free school meals during term time. A report from The All Party Parliamentary Group on Hunger in 2017 estimated the loss of free school meals during the holidays adds between £30 and £40 a week to parents' outgoings.

The school summer holidays are one of the busiest times for us at North Cotswold Foodbank, as there is a huge financial impact on a family having to feed children who are at home for six weeks and we regularly come across parents who will go without food all day in order to feed their children. Between 20 July and 12 September this year, we gave out 48 food parcels, providing food for 90 adults and 126 children. A number of schools offer Foodbank vouchers to those families where the children would normally be entitled to a free school meal, providing some help to families struggling to make the money they have stretch to cover the essentials. We also expect to be busy in the first couple of weeks after the children return to school as parents have to spend money on school uniforms which pushes them into debt.

Whilst this help is vital for meeting immediate need during the holidays, better support needs to be in place all-year round to protect people from hunger. We urge policy makers not to lose sight of the underlying issues that leave families needing foodbanks at any time of year by unfreezing child benefits and making changes to work allowances so families keep more of their earnings before Universal Credit payments are reduced.

Country Food Trust

We are extremely grateful to the Country Food Trust, who have donated 320 meals to North Cotswold Foodbank. The Country Food Trust is a charity, founded in 2015 which produces food and donates it to people in need. The meals are given free to those people living in poverty and sold to those people who appreciate country food in order to help feed more people. The charity is funded by individual donors, corporate supporters and charitable organisations.

Currently, two meals are available: the Country Casserole and the Country Curry. The food is packed in a pouch so it can be stored for a year without chilling. For more information or to buy the pouches, see www.thecountryfoodtrust.org/ For every meal bought, one will be donated to someone in need.

Follow us

Keep in touch with us on social media:

via Twitter: @NthCotsFoodBank

via Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NorthCotswoldFoodbank>

via Instagram: www.instagram.com/northcotswoldfoodbank



You can leave food donations at a number of collection points around the area. In Winchcombe, there are Foodbank collection points at:

- Encounter Church
- St Peter's Church
- Methodist Church
- St Nicholas Church
- Coventry Building Society
- Alderton Church



Store opening

Please note that the Guiting Power store is only open on Tuesdays, from 10-12, for donations of food only.

Donations

Just a reminder that in addition to food, financial donations are always welcome as these support our ongoing work at the Foodbank. Details of how to donate can be found on our website here:

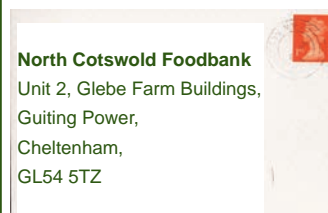
<https://northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money/>

Don't forget to complete the Gift Aid form if you are a taxpayer: for every £1 you donate we can reclaim 25p tax to help your donation go even further.



Contact details

Address:



Tel: 07879 375562

Email: info@northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk

Website: <https://northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk>

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