

Newsletter

Spring 2025



December at the Hatfield Foodbank is always a busy month and this year was no different. We handed out 455 parcels of emergency food compared to December of the preceding year when we gave out 364. This means that we gave out an additional 91 parcels, a 25% increase. We are more grateful than ever for the wonderful donations that we have received from many different sources.

Some of the local schools had a collection for us and several of them made an event out of it, for example, having different forms competing to collect the most donations, or seeing who could decorate their collection boxes best. We are very lucky to receive this support.

We were also supported by many local businesses and churches who collected donations for us to give to our clients during the Christmas period.

In our final session before Christmas, we had additional help from three local PCSOs and a PC. All our clients were appreciative of the tea, coffee and biscuits that they served to them - thank you to you all for your presence.



Events – Tim and the Bologna Marathon



We are privileged to announce that Tim Bechervaise will be participating in the Bologna marathon on Sunday, 2 March, to raise funds for the Hatfield Foodbank. This cause is particularly close to Tim's heart, as he has seen firsthand the challenges faced by many local residents through his involvement with St John's Church, where his wife Laura serves as the vicar.

Since moving to Hatfield in January 2023, Tim has gained valuable insight into the community's needs. Each month, the Hatfield Foodbank requires over 6,000 kg of food to support those in need, equating to around 350 food parcels. The demand is especially high during winter, when many people face the difficult choice between heating their homes and eating.

As a passionate runner, Tim saw the Bologna marathon as an excellent opportunity to make a difference in his local community. He aims to raise £500 to support the vital work of the Hatfield Foodbank.

We invite everyone to support Tim in this noble cause. Whether through donations (see Tim's [GoFundMe](#) page), cheering him on during the marathon, or spreading the word, your involvement can make a significant difference. Together, we can help the Hatfield Foodbank continue its essential work and provide hope and sustenance to those who need it most. Thank you for your support!

Wishing you the best of luck Tim - we deeply appreciate your support.

Help Received

We are very grateful for the ongoing donations from the public, organisations and corporate businesses which enable us to keep helping people in crisis. It means so much to us and those who receive the food. We are very blessed to receive many donations from so many sources. In addition to donations from the public, we are grateful for the continued support from - Alstom, Applecroft School, Arla, Asda Hatfield, Bishop's Hatfield Girls' School, Bookers, Brookmans' Park School, BT Hatfield, Busy Bees, Chancellor's School, Christ Church Little Heath, Commons Wood Club Campsite, Computacenter, Co-op Bishops Rise, Co-op Brookman's Park, Countess Anne School, Dame Alice Owen School, David Lloyd Hatfield, De Havilland School, Detector Testors, Digihaul, East of England Child Health Services, Earth Breeze, Evangelical Baptist Church, GE Healthcare, Green Lanes Primary School, Hatfield Community Free School, Hatfield Rotary Club, Herts Young Homeless, Hope and Glory, Howe Dell School, ICB NHS, IMO Precision Controls, King's Community Church, Knightsfield School, KwikFit, Links Academy, Macs Hart Trust, Microsoft, NatWest, New Zion Church, North Mymms Parish Council, Oak View School, Onslow St Audrey's School, Oxlease Methodist Church, Rotary Club, Rotech, Sibthorpe Arms, Simmons Bakery, St Etheldreda's Church, St John's Hatfield, St Luke's Church, St Mary's Church North Mymms, Tesco Extra Hatfield, Tesco Moors Walk, Tesco Heart, Tesco Welwyn Express, Tesco Woolmer Green, Tewin Cowper School, The Marble Group, The Ryde School, Trussell, University of Hertfordshire, Viatris, Vision plc, Waitrose Welwyn Garden City, Wavenet, Welhat Community Lottery, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council and Willmott Dixon.

Shopping list

Items we most need are...



Ways to donate

The amount of emergency food parcels being given out each week has been steadily increasing over the last couple of years. It is only the amazing gifts that we receive from the public, supermarkets, companies, churches etc that we can continue to provide food to those who find themselves needing to ask for additional support.

For details of what, how and where you can give (including financial gifts), please see the [Give Help](#) section of our website.

You can also donate via -

Give today -

<https://www.givetoday.co.uk/hatfieldfoodbank/>

Bank the food - <https://bankthefood.org/>

Supermarkets - there are collection points in Asda, Tesco and Waitrose.

Do you need help?

We are here for you.

So you can get the most appropriate help for the circumstances of your situation, we work with local agencies. If they feel you are struggling to put food on the table, they will issue you with a foodbank voucher as an electronic code. The local agency can also provide or signpost you to long term support, if needed, to help address some of the issues behind the reasons for your crisis.

You can also call the [Help Through Hardship](#) line on [0808 208 2138](tel:08082082138). It can take a while before you get through, but they will answer your call and they can then talk through your current situation with you and help to direct the way to the best agencies for the help you may need.

A full list of our partner agencies can be found on the [Get Help](#) section of our website.

From our clients...

(*names changed)

Cleo*: I was (in a) difficult situation not receiving housing benefits for 1 year, food bank helped me to sort out basic needs. I would like to volunteer for (them) one day.

Hatfield Foodbank is run in partnership with local churches, facilitated by
Gracemead Church and King's Community Church

Hatfield Foodbank

Open Tuesdays, 11.30am-2pm
Gracemead House, Woods Avenue,
Hatfield, AL10 8HX
(for SatNav use AL10 8EW)

[///loved.look.sums](http://www.loved.look.sums)

Registered Charity No. 1174288 (England & Wales)

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