

Newsletter

Spring 2023



Making a Difference

Hatfield Foodbank is making a massive difference to people's lives. Don't take our word for it, hear what our clients say...

Jo*: The food bank has been a very great help to me, keeping me assured that I will be able to eat. The staff are amazing people and always available to chat to and easy to approach. Without the food bank, I certainly wouldn't have got the help that I needed and be where I am today. Thank you.

Evie*: In February, my partner and I separated. My partner took most of my furniture and my car. All things that were in his name, he took. I had to fight to get him off the tenancy. I have a 3-year-old who is struggling to understand what is going on. The foodbank has been amazing. I feel there is support.

*names changed

Café Reopening

It has been great to welcome clients back into our building again. We now offer two ways to receive food parcels: *Grab'n'Go* or *While U Wait*. Clients choosing the *While U Wait* option are invited to come into our café area for refreshments, an opportunity to talk and a personalised food parcel.



Our Stats (as of 31st December 2022)

| | | |
|--------|---|--|
| 19,157 | people fed with emergency food by Hatfield Foodbank since it opened | |
| 616 | people on average fed by Hatfield Foodbank each month | |
| 266 | vouchers issued by our partner front-line care professionals each month | |
| 4,300 | kg of food required each month to feed people in crisis | |
| 3,200 | kg of harvest donations given by local schools and churches | |
| 3,100 | kg of Christmas donations given by local schools, churches and businesses | |

Citizens Advice Project



We launched a new service with Citizens Advice Welwyn Hatfield last year to support clients who are finding themselves trapped in food poverty. Davis, a Citizens Advice advisor, works with foodbank clients to assess and help tackle their needs. In the last three months:

- over 50 people have been helped;
- more than £3000 of debt has been written off for individuals;
- over 20 people have moved on from needing foodbank support.

"If it wasn't for you guys, I wouldn't be eating. Thank you for your help."

Give Help

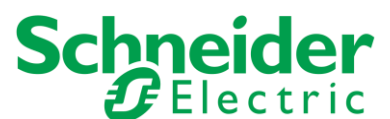
For details of what, how and where you can give (including financial gifts), please see the [Give Help](#) section of our website. Our social media is also kept up to date with most needed items.



Thank you to everyone who supported us during the Tesco Winter Collection. We had a whopping 2,135kg of food and toiletries donated!



In addition to donations from the public, we have also received significant amounts of food and toiletries from:



We are so 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 want to see a future where food banks aren't needed and we know that together, we can make that happen.

Shopping list

Items we most need are...

- tinned tomatoes
- pasta sauce
- tinned vegetables
- tinned meats
- tinned custard
- tinned rice pudding
- tinned fruit
- jam and spreads
- long-life fruit juice
- small coffee jar
- shampoo

Financial Donations



Dom and Heather receiving a cheque from The Wellfield Trust.

We have been greatly blessed by financial donations and grants we have received recently including those from: Computacenter, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council, Infinis, The Wellfield Trust, Trussell Trust Winter Support, Hatfield Rotary Club, St Mary's Church North Mymms and Pro Rail Services.

Give while you shop!

This year we are part of the @Coopuk Local Community Fund which means you can give when you shop. To find out more, visit

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/75102>



We're part of the Co-op
Local Community Fund

Select us
as your
cause

coop.co.uk/membership



Don't forget: the *Bank the Food* app can keep you updated about what we need.

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.

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

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

Hatfield Foodbank
Open Tuesdays, 11.30am-2pm
Gracemead House, Woods Avenue,
Hatfield, AL10 8HX
(for SatNav use AL10 8EW)
///loved.look.sums
Registered Charity No. 1174288 (England & Wales)

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