


Spring News 2015

Dear Foodbank Supporter

There's been a heck of a lot going on at Stoke-on-Trent foodbank over the last few months. This bulletin is one way of sharing this with you.

Do keep in touch with what's going on by going to our website www.stokeontrent.foodbank.org.uk and/or Like us on  – we use it a lot!

Our main warehouse has moved to
Magdalen Road, Blurton, ST3 3HS

The first order was picked from there on 20th April
(pictured here)

We said farewell to Kev (Warehouse Assistant) the week before. He was touched by everyone's wonderfully generous collection leaving gift

Interviews were held, and Eugene was appointed as our new Warehouse Assistant, whilst Jon has become our Warehouse Co-ordinator.

The office is now located in the Hanley Community Fire Station, Bethesda Street, Stoke on Trent. ST1 3RP.



The new phone number is 01782 899 018



National and local Trussell Trust foodbank figures released:

- **10,371** people received three days' emergency food from Stoke-on-Trent foodbank in 2014-15, compared to **10,875** in 2013-14.
- **Over 1,000,000** emergency food parcels were handed out from Trussell Trust foodbanks nationwide in 2014-15, compared to 900,000 in 2013-14.
- Faculty of Public Health supports Trussell Trust's call to listen to the experiences of people in crisis in order to reduce poverty and hunger in the UK.

Go to <http://stokeontrent.foodbank.org.uk/news-events> for more on these Statistics



Our annual stocktake took place on 31st March.

Every item was counted and the figure checked against what our computer said we have. Thank you for the extra help given by our volunteers for this.

We thanked the Team at Church of the Saviour, Chell Heath, at their last foodbank distribution session on 5th March. Their work ensured 4205 people received food there since May 2012.



Training

Manual Handling Training was offered to all volunteers. This was funded by grants. There are various other training opportunities for our volunteers. Please contact Corrine@stokeontrent.foodbank.org.uk

Centre Leads attended a session at 'The Walk Centre' to support them in building safe working practice at their Distribution Centres to minimise risk to Volunteers and Guests.

New Testament Church of God in Union Street, Hanley opened our latest Distribution Centre on 23rd May
Open every Thursday 4:30-6:30, we are delighted to welcome them to our foodbank family.



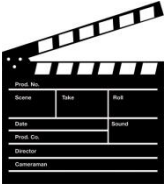
Later this year we will see a return of Money Matters advice at distribution centres. Approval of a joint funding bid between Money Matters and Stoke on Trent foodbank for a full-time advisor has been achieved!

"Thank you" to all our Centre Volunteers who are working to ensure our Guests are given a feedback form. Some feedback so far is that:



- 90% of Guests are satisfied with the welcome and service received during their visit
- 63% of Guests have received signposting
- 200 questionnaires have included the guest giving us their contact details for us to hear their story or for them to be contacted to volunteer themselves.

This is great news, and will help us know how we may better support our guests.



The New Victoria Theatre Borderlines group is working with us to offer our volunteers who are budding interviewers and film-makers a series of workshops. We hope that these volunteers will then take part in creatively capturing the stories of guests who have given us their contact details in order to share their story with us.

Please contact Anna on 07833 231 105 if you are a Volunteer who is interested in this opportunity



- Five “Cook, Taste and Learn” sessions have taken place at distribution centres recently (thanks to Rev. Howard Jones - recent Masterchef star!)
- Interested Guests have then taken up the opportunity of a follow-on programme which is linked to these sessions
- Cooking on a budget recipe booklets are now available, courtesy of Potteries Moneywise. Our Health Co-ordinator, Keith, will be getting these to you soon
- The first of the school holiday breakfast/lunch clubs was held in February. Two more will take place at Burslem and Meir over the May half-term break. These have a theme of healthy eating and healthy activity. 400 packs of cereal will soon arrive from Kelloggs to support this (thanks to corporate contacts team at the Trussell Trust)
- SOT foodbank has established a new partnership with Burslem Park. They have offered to allocate a section of their allotment, which is located within the park, to Stoke-on-Trent foodbank for the 2015 growing season!

For more information on these items please contact Keith:

Keith@stokeontrent.foodbank.org.uk

