

# Community Food Link

Winter Newsletter 2021/2022



TAKING A BITE OUT OF HUNGER

CFL is a volunteer led project based in Basingstoke & Deane. We collect fresh food that cannot be sold from our partner supermarkets and sort, repack and deliver it to our distribution partners, charities, schools and playgroups to help the most vulnerable in our society.

## New Year at CFL

We have had a busy start to the year continuing to collect and deliver across Basingstoke and Deane despite the challenges of Covid. All our hubs remained open over the Christmas period thanks to our hard-working volunteers.

**Thank you!**

Another huge thank you to all who are involved with our work at CFL, especially to all our new volunteers.

## New Van

Early in the new year we were kindly offered a retired Tesco delivery van free of charge to use for our deliveries. We were just starting the process of looking to purchase a new refrigerated van so the timing was perfect. This was officially handed to CFL in February and will allow us to pick up more fresh produce during the week.



## CFL Hubs—Feb 2022

**Monday** Melrose Community Hall, Popley 11.30-1pm

**Monday** Salvation Army, Wessex Close 10.30am-12.30pm

**Tuesday** Basingstoke Baptist Church, Brighton Hill 10.30am - 12noon

**Tuesday** Westside Community Centre, South Ham 10am-2pm

(WCC is slightly different as it is a Food Pantry with a small charge of £5 for 12 items)

**Wednesday** St Peter's Church, South Ham 12noon - 1.30pm

**Wednesday** Church of the Good Shepherd 10.30am - 12.30pm

**Thursday** Inspero at Kempshott Village Hall 10am-2pm

**Thursday** St Marys Kingsclere 12noon-1pm

**Friday** Oakridge Methodist Church 1pm - 3pm

**Saturday** United Reformed Church (URC), London St 12noon - 1pm

## Store Liaisons Required

We are looking for volunteers to come and help build a relationship between CFL and the stores that we collect from. This would require visiting a local supermarket occasionally to speak to a member of staff about how the CFL collections are going. If you are interested please contact: [volunteers@bcfd.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@bcfd.org.uk)

## New Hub—St Peter's South Ham

*An update from St. Peters Food Hub which started in December 2021:*

At the early sessions there were between 6 and a dozen locals that visited the Hub. By the end of February, the numbers of participants had increased to around 30 with the numbers slowly rising each week. We have had visits from students, local tradespeople and other passers by as well as the manager of the local nursery who thanked us for the donations and also pointed out that there were some needy families who felt unable to visit us but were happy to receive food via the nursery.

The only problems have been a leaking roof, what to do with all the cardboard boxes and finally trying to guess where the tables would be found!

The final (most positive) point is that of all the donated food only a few brussels had to be thrown away and there is a nice stock of food in the new large freezer (for that rainy day, when there is no food delivered) along with some long life items such as tins, ready to cover any lean weeks. Every week is there is always a need for eggs and gluten free bread.

**Thank you to David and Viv and all the other regular volunteers who help to run the hub at St Peter's each week!**

### New Premises Required

We need to vacate our current premises at London St, URC before 31st August this year.

We are looking for new premises with 100sqm+, no stairs.

With car parking and all utilities in or near Basingstoke Town Centre. We can move in ASAP. Please let us know at [contact@bcfd.org.uk](mailto:contact@bcfd.org.uk) if you know of anywhere suitable.



**Donate  
here**

Community Food Link is proud to be registered with FareShare and Neighbourly.

Details can be found at:  
[www.fareshare.org.uk](http://www.fareshare.org.uk)  
[www.neighbourly.com](http://www.neighbourly.com)



The Community Food Link Project is run by a group of volunteers based at London St. United Reformed Church Basingstoke and is part of Starfish Enterprise Trust Ltd, Basingstoke.

Community Food Link Basingstoke  
[www.bcfd.org.uk](http://www.bcfd.org.uk)