



Annual General Meeting 7pm
Wednesday 8th July 2009

at

St Andrews Church,
Long Street, Devizes.

www.devizesfoodbank.co.uk

Greetings and welcome to Devizes Food Bank's first ever annual report. What an amazing 19 months this has been. From November 2007, when the foodbank became operational, to 19 May 2009, we have issued 202 family boxes plus 253 single boxes. This amounts to 8.9 tonnes of food.

Devizes Food Bank touches many lives and is meeting an ever increasing need especially in the present economic climate. We are a Christian charity that operates as part of the Trussell Trust Food Bank Network based in Salisbury. We began life out of an initiative from churches in the villages of Worton & Marston, Market Lavington and the town of Devizes itself.

At the heart of our operation is a dedicated leadership team and helpers from the churches in these areas. The Trustees recognise, and are deeply grateful for, the huge commitment of the leadership team and helpers to ensure that the foodbank fulfils its mission - that **no one** within this part of Wiltshire facing a crisis should go hungry.

We are also immensely grateful to all the schools, organisations, churches and individuals who give regularly gifts of food and money, and for the support of our local supermarkets Morrisons and Sainsburys who allow us to place collection boxes in their stores. Storage and a base to work from are of course vital for the ongoing work of the foodbank and we thank Gaigers of Devizes who generously supply this space without charge.

We believe that through the work of the foodbank peoples' lives are changed for the better and that **hope** is brought to them in a time of crisis. As you will see from the articles within this report we are not content to rest on our laurels. We have a vision for the future and a long term development plan. Your continued support is something we value highly, and on behalf of all the trustees I thank you for all that you do!

Food boxes are supplied to people and families in crisis regardless of their faith or non faith, yet it is the words of Jesus that best describe why we do what we do, *'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me...'* Matthew 25:35-36

If you would like to know more about how **you** can help with this important work, maybe as a trustee or as part of the leadership team or as a helper in the food bank store, then please make contact - we would love to hear from you.

Every Blessing, Chris Cory (Chair of Trustees)

CO-ORDINATORS REPORT

Steady supplies of flat bits of cardboard kept appearing, and were transformed so that they left all box shaped and full of food and properly labelled. DFB is certainly all about making a difference. Let empty stomachs be full.

When I was asked to write a report for 2008 my first thought was that it would be difficult, as I only came to post in January 2009. But it quickly became apparent what work had been going on. Our present shape bears witness to the whole range of people and activities that my predecessor Cathy Griffiths managed to keep her gentle and domestic hand on as the other reports here outline. That the Project has been so carefully nurtured in its first months will surely stand it in good stead as it grows as the year ahead looks set to be a time of further expansion and exciting development.

I must mention Rosa Lancaster who was the first ever Devizes Foodbank coordinator who was in post at the inception and who was particularly instrumental with the securing of our Gaigers premises. Many thanks to Rosa and to Cathy.

Now the role is to keep the project “whole” to be a link with everyone, and to let the energies of all those involved come together. It’s a real privilege to do this. The Trustees, Leaders and teams of volunteers are a wonderful group of people and every single one has shone with the truth for me to see that our God is the God of Love .And I am truly grateful for this.

Devizes Foodbank is a prayerful Christian project, collaborative and ecumenical, people based, humble and hard working.

Essentially the task of the Foodbank is to continually seek to marry donated resources to the needs of the people and the beneficiaries say “Thank You”. Often it is more than food that they receive. Often it is hope and dignity. Again, “Thankyou”.

The Devizes Foodbank has come into being, in faith and in trust that Christ moves amongst us every day calling us to follow Him “Love the Lord your God. And love your neighbour as yourself”.

Here’s to the year ahead and may God bless the Foodbank.

Sue Kemp (Foodbank Co-ordinator)

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

The charity is managed by a board of four trustees at the AGM date, selected because they strongly endorse the charitable objectives of the organisation and support its Christian ethos. The chairman is the Revd. Chris Cory, minister of St. Andrew's Church, Devizes. The charity aims to ensure that there is broad representation from different denominations and Christian churches in the Devizes area, on the board of trustees.

Trustees meet on a regular basis to set the framework within which the organisation operates. They decide all new projects and budgets, and monitor and control the finances of the organisation.

On a day-to-day basis there is a co-ordinator, Sue Kemp, who took over from Cathy Griffiths during this past year. Sue works with a leadership team, comprising six people at the date of the AGM. The co-ordinator and the leadership team deal with the ongoing activities of the organisation. It is this team that has responsibility for the delivery of services and the achievement of objectives. They meet regularly and provide the trustees with minutes of their meetings. The co-ordinator, leadership team and trustees meet together several times a year. There are in addition a number of volunteers who help regularly with the activities associated with the Food Bank.

A risk assessment has been carried out in all the properties in which the organisation works. The organisation seeks to be transparent in all its activities, so all stakeholders are able to participate in its development.

Trustees:

Revd. Chris Cory (Chair)
Mrs Janet Tanner
Mr John Starling (Treasurer)
Revd. David Howard

Leadership Team:

Sue Kemp (Co-ordinator)
Mr Les Charlton
Mrs Jan Charlton
Mrs Cathy Griffiths
Revd. Jean Simmonds
Mr. Michael Simmonds
Mrs Liz Thom

Revd. David Howard (Trustee)

OBJECTIVES AND AIMS

Objectives

- To relieve persons in Devizes and wider Kennet area who are in conditions of need, hardship, or distress (beneficiaries) in such ways as the Trustees from time to time think fit.
- In furtherance of the first objective, to supply to the beneficiaries food boxes containing tinned and dried foods to ensure a healthy, balanced and nutritious diet for up to three days, either directly or through partner agencies approved by the Trustees.
- To do any other thing consistent with the primary purpose of the charity.

Strategic aims

To assist the charity to meet its objectives the Trustees employ a number of strategies. These include:

- To work closely with churches so that the Christian community has local opportunity to live out its faith in social action.
- To encourage wider community participation in the charity's work . This includes members of the public as well as businesses and other services.
- To build good local media links.
- To regularly update the charity website.
- To use every opportunity for networking, and build a good reputation for the Project .
- To cherish the volunteers and provide them with support and training where appropriate.
- To utilise, and so benefit from, the Networks best practice guidelines

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE 2008

Nearly everything that we did in the Foodbank in 2008 was an achievement because we are such a new group. What has happened since our inception is marvellous.

We have our Food Store where all food is sorted and packed by volunteers - last year seven tonnes of it. At the end of 2008 a further two tonnes were in stock. Every so often an officer from the Local Authority's Environmental Health team calls in at the Store and leaves happy. We more than meet all the requirements on Health and Safety, Risk Assessment and insurance.

We have a system of partner agencies who act as distributors, twenty-one at present. Last year they gave out 142 boxes to families and 182 to single people.

We have a coffee shop on Thursday mornings, sharing with St. Andrews' long-standing coffee morning. Here we are able to meet our clients directly, although the numbers are still small.

Our office space, which was gratefully shared with Alabare, initially, in Station Road, had to move when the building was declared dangerous. We were very pleased to accept St. James' offer of space in their newly re-furnished Church. We have had a satisfactory Annual Quality Audit, carried out by the Trussell Trust.

Our supply of food comes mostly from donations. Regular sources are boxes near the check-outs in local supermarkets and an annual drive generously made by Curves Gym. Additionally, people bring food to the Store: sometimes these are group collections, sometimes individual. At Harvest time one of the Leadership Team wrote to all local schools and churches – a great achievement in itself! - asking if they would consider giving appropriate food to the Foodbank. The wonderful response almost overwhelmed us!

Inevitably we measure many of our achievements in numerical terms. What we have achieved in terms of the difference it has made to people's lives is not known; a key characteristic of the Foodbank is confidentiality. However, from time to time we hear brief comments from our distributors that make clear the need that exists, which we are able to alleviate. In the current economic climate, we do not foresee any diminution of this need.

Mrs. Janet Tanner (Trustee)

**DEVIZES FOODBANK – STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL
ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008**

	2008	2007
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Donations	£4,865	£3,417
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£4,865	£3,417
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
Purchase of Food	£337	£0
Administration	£2,891	£321
Insurance	£341	£341
Trussell Trust	£225	£1,200
Purchase of Equipment	£744	£223
TOTAL PAYMENTS	£4,538	£2,085
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)	£327	£1,332
Balance B/Forward 1 January	£1,332	£0
Balances C/Forward 31 December	£1,659	£1,332

Food Donations

Value of Food received £11,000

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2008**

	2008	2007
	Unrestricted	Unrestricted
<u>CASH FUNDS</u>		
Cash Balance	£1,659	£1,332
<u>FOOD STOCK</u>		
2180.5kg Food	£3,598	£3,047
TOTAL	<u>£5,257</u>	<u>£4,379</u>

Notes:

1. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993, Section 42(3) on the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. Devizes Foodbank was formed in 2007, with the first receipts received in May 2007, and first payment made in September 2007. 2008 therefore represents the first full year of activity for Devizes Foodbank.
3. In addition to the cash receipts, Devizes Foodbank has received gift in kind as follows:
 - a. Rent free accommodation for the store.
 - b. Rent free office accommodation.
 - c. Gifts of food.
4. Value of Food stock based on stock take on 7 December 2008 and costed at Tesco own brand prices.
5. Value of Food donations based on prices used for stock take on 7 December 2008.

Mr John Starling (Trustee & Treasurer)