



Bethany Food Bank Support Newsletter: 28th May



THANK YOU EVERYONE, FOR ALL YOUR HALF TERM DONATIONS

Another excellent week of donations of all kinds – and especially for the ‘Special Buys’ of tinned fish & tinned fruit & veg, so a very big ‘thank you’ indeed! We had so many that we were able to share and extend our giving to St Chad’s Sanctuary who were in need this week, as well Bethany Food Bank. We have also been receiving regular cash donations, often from those who are having to self-isolate and cannot get out to the shops. We are happy to do this, although the main focus for us is obviously being able to supply food & provisions for the Food Bank, so that they are well-stocked and ready for their customers. However, it has been a great honour to be able to offer financial support to the Food Bank on your behalf, and know that this money will be well spent, going towards fresh foods that we are not able to provide, or towards important equipment such as a new additional Freezer that the Food Bank needs. Please, please, please keep all the donations coming!



This week’s Special Buy requests:

- **Coffee**
- **Rice**
- **Men’s Deodorant / Shave Gel**
- **More tins of fruit, please!**



A big **‘THANK YOU’** from **ST CHAD’S SANCTUARY** for all the donations they received from us this week, especially the **MEN’S SHOES** that were sent in as a response to our special plea in last week’s Newsletter.

WELL DONE & THANK YOU LEANNE!



Big News! Wedding Photographer & former St G & T pupil **Leanne Perrins** has had a very busy week with her ‘Door Step Portraits’ project, of which she is generously donating **25%** of her profits to the SVPs Bethany Food Bank support (that’s us!). Have you booked her in yet? **Incredibly, she has already managed to donate a fantastic £225 after her first weeks’ shoots!!!** **THANK YOU** so much Leanne! Booking details page 2...



Bethany Food Bank Support



BE KIND
for
EVERYONE
YOU MEET *is*
FIGHTING
a **HARD BATTLE**



Let us yet find ways to show we care



**May we, who have been merely inconvenienced...
Remember those whose lives are at stake.**

**May we, who have few risk factors...
Remember the most vulnerable.**

**May we, who have the luxury of working from home...
Remember those who must choose between preserving their health or paying their rent.**

**May we, who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools are closed...
Remember those who have no options.**

**May we, who have had to cancel our trips to wonderful places...
Remember those who have no safe spaces to go to.**

**May we, who are losing income in times of economic turmoil...
Remember those with no income at all.**

**May we who have settled in for a quarantine at home...
Remember those who have no home.**

**As fear and uncertainty surround us,
Let us choose love.**

**During this time, when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other,
Let us yet find ways to show we care**

(Source unknown)

The origins of Bethany Food Bank

As far back as 2001, Pastor Kevin of the Bethany Pentecostal church in Erdington realised that there was a need for a 'Meals on wheels' facility to provide for some of the local elderly residents who were housebound. So, together with his wife, he set up a 'Meals on Wheels' service that initially ran for two days each week in the Erdington area. In running the meals on wheels service, Kevin's work became known locally, and five years ago, led to the local Council asking him if he would set up and run a Food Bank. So Kevin rose to the challenge!

It was agreed that he would set up an independent Food Bank from his own church hall, run by volunteers, some of whom were members of the Bethany congregation. However, the Food Bank soon outgrew its original location. One of the big challenges that Kevin has had to deal with over the years is finding a unit big enough to run a Food Bank from, and that has enough of a long-term, uninterrupted lease.

With three different upheavals over the years, many prayers, and a couple of Local News appearances later, the Food Bank now has its current premises on the industrial estate in Witton. It's in an ideal location, being next to the main No. 11 Ring Road bus route allowing customers easy access from a wide radius around the city, and it is customised to provide all the space, storage and equipment that running a Food bank needs.



Show your support for the Food Bank by booking a 'Door Step Portrait'



With **25%** of profits being donated to the SVP's Bethany Food Bank support, your portrait will be helping others in lots of ways. Perhaps you'd like a lovely photo to remember precious time during lockdown, or maybe someone you know has a lockdown birthday or anniversary coming up that they'd like to mark, despite the lack of a party! Whether you are single, in a couple or part of a family, Leanne Perrins can provide you with a beautiful photographic memory of this time to look back on and say: **'Do you remember when.....?'** **Cost: £20 for one photo; £40 for 4**
To contact Leanne, phone: 07929 576605
www.leanneperrins.co.uk/theporchproject