

Dover Foodbank's Annual Thanksgiving Service

On Sunday 17th April 2016, over 50 people gathered at Dover Baptist Church to celebrate Dover Foodbank's second annual Thanksgiving Service. The theme of the service was 'A week in the life of Dover Foodbank', and five volunteers were interviewed about their roles, highlighting the various stages of the process.



Chairman of CTiD,
Noel Beamish



Colin sharing his role
in the Foodbank

We heard from Church Rep, Nicky, who encourages those in her church to donate to the Foodbank, as well as providing them with up to date information on what is most needed by being our Facebook and Website Editor. Lynn, our Warehouse Co-ordinator, gave further insight in to the vast amount of work that goes on at the warehouse where the food is sorted and stored. Colin then shared how he helps by delivering food from

the warehouse to the various distribution centres. One of our agency workers, Penny, described the process that is involved in allocating vouchers to those in times of crisis, referring to how much the Foodbank is appreciated by workers like herself as well as clients. Finally Jan, a distribution centre volunteer, spoke of how she enjoys being able to meet with people in need, helping them in a practical way, as well as being able to pray for those she comes in to contact with regularly.



Penny, one of our
agency workers



Jan being interviewed by Jonathan

Noel Beamish spoke from Isaiah 61, challenging the congregation to keep doing more to help rebuild our broken world by being the solution that God created us to be. A time of musical worship was enjoyed by all and Marianne also led us in prayer.

Refreshments followed the very informative service and people continued to share their experiences of Dover Foodbank in a relaxed atmosphere.

A MASSIVE THANK YOU!

On Thursday 17th March, volunteers of the Foodbank were invited to attend a get-together as a thank you for their amazing commitment and



hard work in serving their local community. Many different volunteers attended, representing all aspects of the Foodbank, including the warehouse, distribution centres, supermarket collections, the communications team and more. A light supper was enjoyed by all and we heard several volunteers share their experiences. Here are just a few highlights ...

'I've met lovely people working for the Foodbank. It's good for me too!'

'It's a privilege to serve the Lord in this work.'

'It's worthwhile. It can change people's lives.'

'We're privileged. It's humbling.'

'It's one of the greatest initiatives churches have been involved in.'

'Agencies and clients are so supportive and appreciative.'

Overstocked Items

We are well supplied with the following items and currently do not need:

Baked Beans

Meat

Pasta

Rice

Soup

Tomatoes

Tea

**Thank you for your generosity!
Please check Facebook & our website
for current shortage shopping lists.**



On Good Friday, 25th March, Dover's annual Walk of Witness took place, organised by CTiD.

It was great to see so many people on the walk which

unites Christians from different churches in Dover to celebrate Easter. Many people involved with the Foodbank were present and David Slater, a member of the Foodbank Team, was able to share about the work of the Foodbank during the stop at St James' ruins, highlighting the vast number of local people who have been helped through this venture.

The vision of Dover Foodbank is for all people in Dover to have the opportunity to live life to the full with hope for the future. Providing food in a crisis situation is part of the action we take to help realise that vision, and the figures here show how many people are being helped in this practical way. In an ideal world there

Month	Total people fed in the month	Total people fed to date
November 2015	147	3796
December 2015	125	3921
January 2016	154	4075
February 2016	200	4275
March 2016	200	4475

would be no need for a Foodbank. However whilst there are those in need in this area, we will continue to serve them by providing food in this way, thanks to the amazing support of our volunteers, fundraisers and donors. We could not do this without you. Thank you!

Meet a Volunteer...

Michael Curtis from Dover Baptist Church tells us more about his experience volunteering for Dover Foodbank...

How long have you been volunteering at Dover Foodbank?

Since 29th October 2013.

What does your role involve?

Working in the warehouse team. On a typical session I help sort the overflow food supplies and lift heavy crates from one area to another. I usually make the coffee and wash up afterwards. Occasionally I clean the warehouse premises and wash the Foodbank van.

Why do you volunteer?

I do it because God has given me the calling to do it. I also prayed at the time.

What do you enjoy the most about volunteering?

Seeing the amount of food in the warehouse and all the sorting we do, and also meeting the other volunteers. What a great team they are and the cups of tea I make.

What has been your most memorable moment so far?

When we met the Archbishop of Canterbury at the warehouse with other volunteers during Easter 2014.

Would you recommend others to join the volunteering team?

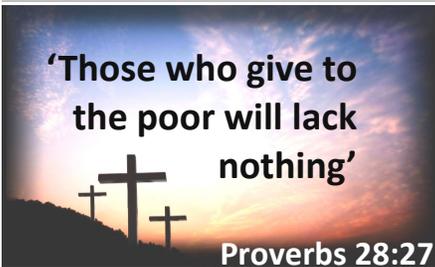
If they felt it was right for them, pray to God on it. I never looked back myself, just carried on doing this work for the Lord, not for myself.





Workers in the warehouse were extremely excited at the arrival of 100 new crates in February, which are making their jobs of moving and storing food a little easier.

The purchase of a van for the Foodbank has also eased the work of those involved in moving the donated food from our various collection points to the warehouse and then on to our distribution centres.



On Wednesday 17th February, some of our volunteers attended a networking event at Buckland Community Centre where they spoke to people about the work of the Foodbank and showed examples of the types of food packages our clients receive. It was a great day!

Dates for your diary

30th June - 2nd July 2016

Tesco Collection Days

23rd July 2016

Dover Community
Regatta - we'll be
there!



There are a number of ways you can become involved in Dover Foodbank, through fundraising, volunteering or donating. Without our team of dedicated volunteers, we would not be able to continue supporting those in need in Dover and we are always on the look out for more volunteers and those wishing to get involved in any way, however large or small you may feel it is. Every single contribution, whether food, money or time, is invaluable...If you are interested in finding out more, please get in touch. We'd love to hear from you!

Contact Us

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