

# March 2020 Newsletter

# We are still standing and always winning!!!

Hello all,

I know times are starting to get a bit difficult and am so grateful for the positive response I have seen from our volunteers. It is my aim to ensure the Foodbank continues to serve our community no matter what is thrown at us. Thank you all for your ongoing support in all the forms it comes.

I hope you find this Newsletter informative and helpful. for more information keep an eye on the Volunteer Facebook Group. To join search in Facebook for 'Newquay Foodbank Volunteers' or <u>follow this link</u>.



# **Latest News**



#### Co-Vid 19

Unfortunately it has to be mentioned and as I have said above thankyou to all volunteers who have stepped forward to ensure the foodbank continues to run over this period. The committee have taken the difficult decision to ask all

volunteers over the age of 70 to step back from sessions allowing them to look after them selves in accordance with the government guidance. I know many of you will not like this decision but please know it is for no other reason then concern that the decision was made and that we are trying to do our best for both our volunteers and our clients. As soon as the government changes their advice we will get you back in and volunteering again. In the mean time if you need anything please get in touch and we will be there for you.

For those who have underlying health conditions, please look at the government advice and let me know as to what you can and can not do. I will not make a blanket call on this as you are the best experts on your health, but please be realistic and stay safe.

To all other volunteers who have stated they are happy to continue, please just keep me posted with your situation, if you are not feeling well DO NOT come to a session. Message or ring me on 07826558545 and I will find cover for you, please do not worry.

## **Food Distributed**

Thanks to all the volunteers who have supported us throughout the month of February we were able to give out 108 Food parcels. Working closely with other Agencies we continue to ensure those who most need the support are receiving it.

We have also received a grant for Emergency funds from The Cornwall Community

Foundation. This grant will support clients with particular struggles highlighted to us
from agencies. The leads will support them with help towards electricity, gas, logs, baby
products etc. If you are aware of clients with these concerns please highlight them to the session leads.





# **Fundraising**

# **Merrymore Coffee Morning**

Another amazing coffee morning was held on the 26<sup>th</sup> Feb. Well done to Sara and Louise for organising and to all of the volunteers who supported the event. The day raised £700!!!!! An amazing effort by all.





# **Shop Collections**

Since the last Newsletter two shop collections have run and both received a very positive response from the public. St Columb Road Co-op raised £53.20 and 4 big bags of donations whilst Lidls amount is yet to be confirmed but again a massive trolley worth of stock. Thankyou to all the volunteers who supported the events but a particular massive thankyou to Emma and Louise who supported both events for extended periods.

### More Fundraisers needed!!

Whilst the fundraising team are doing an amazing job organising these events they are only as good as the support they receive from extra pairs of hands on the day. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to give even as little as 1 hour on fundraising days to share the burden and allow shifts manning the fundraising tables to be shorter. If you would be willing to do this, get in touch or keep an eye out for upcoming events and let Emma or me know that you are free to help. Any time you can offer will be greatly received.



#### **Food Donations**

Food donations continue to come in and our amazing Collections team are up and running and bringing it in regularly to restock the shelves!! Thankyou to all involved. This month in particular schools have learnt of the plight of the foodbanks with the ongoing health crisis and therefore have started to collect donations for us. Recent donations have been canned products from Treviglas Academy and Easter Eggs from the Newquay Surf Life Saving Club.









# **Upcoming Events**



## **Bowling - CANCELLED**

It is with regret that we have had to cancel the bowling, previously planned for 25<sup>th</sup> March. Clearly again in line with Governmental guidance. This will be rearranged as soon as guidance changes.



# Annual General Meeting - May 20th - 6pm - Reefs

This is currently planned to take place at Reefs Restaurant in Newquay with the AGM followed by a meal for all volunteers. We are currently seeking funding to keep costs of this meal down. Please ensure you get this date in your diary as max attendance is needed at these meetings. Plus it is an awesome opportunity to get together and catch up. If you decide not to stay for the meal that is absolutely no problem. Clearly this date may be affected by the current situation, we will play this by ear and I will let you all know.



# **Time Credits**

# **Ajuda Training Academy**

Ajuda provides fully-accredited online courses in subjects from management to employability. Their fully approved, interactive-video e-learning courses are perfect for gaining qualifications. <u>Click here</u> for more info or go to the time credits website.

# **Friends and Family**

Chatting to some volunteers I wanted to clarify who could use the time credits you are earning. Once we give you the credits there is no link between that credit and you. Therefore you are more than welcome to give these credits to friends and family who may wish to join you on one of your trips whether that is cinema or water world etc. Or in the same way you may wish to gift these to people who are going to activities you may not wish to join them on. There is no problem with this at all. Just check the time credits site for where they can be spent and then share them between your friends and family as you desire.

Go to the Time Credits Website for more info. If you want to get involved just let me know,

# **Great Links**

### **Newquay Food Bank**

- Main Website
- Public Facebook Page
- Private Volunteer only Facebook page

# **Training**

- Safeguarding Training
- Safeguarding Children and Young people
- Designated Safeguarding Lead Training

#### **Funding**

- Cornwall Community Foundation

## Support to those in need

- Age UK Winter Well Being
- <a href="https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/winterwellbeing">https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/winterwellbeing</a>

# All the best and stay safe

Please keep up to date with all the advice being sent out from the government and if needed let me know of any changes to your situation that affects how you support the Foodbank.

If you need any support yourself, just ring and we will be there for you.

All the best

## Steph

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