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Dear Partners,

Well the weather may still feel chilly, but we are on our way towards summer! Hopefully for our clients who struggle to find the money to pay for their utility bills this will mean a slight respite for them.

Our figures for last month show a small dip, which perhaps reflects the changing weather. Last month we processed 28 vouchers, which represented 38 Adults and 29 Children, making a total of food supplied to 69 people, or food for 621 meals. However, this trend is not reflected in our end of year figures or in the latest statistics released from the Trussell Trust.

EVENTS LAST MONTH

End of Year Statistics from Trussell Trust

1,182,954

The number of three-day emergency food supplies given to people in crisis by

Trussell Trust Foodbanks in the financial year 2016 - 2017

Between 1st April 2016 and 31st March 2017, **The Trussell Trust's Foodbank network provided 1,192,954 three-day emergency food supplies to people in crisis** compared to 1,109,309 in 2015 - 16. **Of this number, 436,938 went to children.** The figures for the South West Area which includes Tewkesbury are **103,947. Of this number 436,938 went to children.**

To find out more statistics please follow the following link:

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/news-and-blog/lateststats/> .

This link will also let you access the Trussell Trust new report: **Early Warnings: Universal Credit and Foodbanks**. This report highlights that although the rollout of the new Universal Credit system for administering benefits has been piecemeal so far, foodbanks in areas of partial or full rollout are reporting significant problems with its impact.

Fair share Partnership with Tesco

We are pleased to announce that from this month Tewkesbury Foodbank will be working in partnership with our local Tesco Metro store in their 'Fair Share' food initiative. This is a national scheme aimed at reducing the amount of fresh food that is dumped at the end of a trading day. This means that we will now have some fresh food that is still in date available for our clients which we hope will include pre-wrapped bread and vegetables and fruit. In line with Trussell Trust policy we will not be giving out anything that is out of date or passed its use by date.

FUTURE EVENTS

SUNDAY, 7TH MAY 12.00 – 4.00 PM

We really enjoyed our first day at the Abbey Tea rooms this year and we made £200 to add to our income. Our second event is this coming weekend. Do come along and support us by indulging in a cup of tea or coffee and a delicious slice of homemade cake. A perfect end to a Sunday stroll around our town or a visit to the Abbey.

If you would like to help in any way, please contact Sandra at the Foodbank Centre 01684 296824 or info@tewkesbury.foodbank.org.uk

Wing Walk

This is just a reminder that Sian Jackson is going to attempt a 'Wing Walk' to raise money for Tewkesbury Foodbank. This will take place, weather permitting, at Staverton Airport on Monday, 12th June. We still have sponsorship forms available if you would like to sponsor her. Fingers crossed for a fine day!

Finally, thank you for all your help, prayers, and support. Without you we would not be able to reach out to those in crisis in our community.

Best wishes,

Jack Lowe,
Project Manager

*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, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.”
– Matthew 25:35-36*