

New chapter on horizon for our chairman Simon

OUR gratitude, love and best wishes go to our chair of trustees Rev Simon Boxall, who is retiring.

Simon joined Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank in October 2015 as a trustee and became chairman in 2017. He has led the charity through several milestone moments.

Under his leadership, we have navigated the complications thrown up by the Coronavirus pandemic. We have been able to continue feeding growing numbers of people in need and have built up a dedicated volunteer base and workforce to ensure foodbank continues to live out its purpose with focus.

Simon, a father of five, joined Holy Trinity Church in Chesterton and St Chad's Church in Red Street in early 2014 from Thamesmead in the Diocese of Southwark.

Following his ordination 42 years ago, keen cyclist Simon and his wife Rachel carried out extensive mission work in Brazil.



They are now preparing to move to Bridgnorth where they hope to spend more time with their grandchildren. Jane Baker, project lead at foodbank, said: "We are incredibly grateful for all the time and energy that Simon has given to the Foodbank on top of a busy job looking after his church family in Chesterton. He has been a great encourager, and will be sorely missed - not least for his sense of humour! We hope and pray for a long and happy retirement for him."

*Giving people hope and dignity.
 We are Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank.*

Time to Assemble

AS part of the Trussell Trust network we are fortunate to access many resources we might not otherwise be able to fund. Over the coming months we will introduce our teams to Assemble. Assemble is a web-based system that allows us to securely store volunteer information, manage rotas and recruit new volunteers all from one central hub. This will be a great way to stay up to date as well as ensuring data protection.

Welcome Matthew!

AT Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank we have welcomed our first apprentice - Matthew Bloomfield. Matthew was a volunteer at our Kidsgrove centre before signing on to the A Guiding Hand course aimed at supporting young people into work. As an outcome of that scheme he has started an apprenticeship as a warehouse operative. As well as formal studies, Matthew is working alongside warehouse manager Peter Till learning the ins and outs of running a busy distribution hub.



IN OTHER NEWS



Support in a digital age

If you would like to help our foodbank but are unable to hold traditional collections, please make use of our QR code which takes scanners directly to our Crowdfunder donation page.



Connect with us!

Did you know Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank is on social media? You can keep up-to-date with our latest news and appeals at the touch of a button. Please engage with us online as well as in person.

Like, share, follow!

Tweet @NewcStaffsFB.

Share @newcastlestaffsfoodbank on Instagram.

Or you can always message

@NewcastleUnderLymeBoroughFoodbank on Facebook.

Students donate over 4,500 meals at uni halls

STUDENTS from Keele University have donated a stunning 190 trays of food after clearing out their accommodation at the end of the academic year.

As part of the university's commitment to sustainability, it asked students in halls of residence to leave any usable food and toiletries in a designated tray collection point before heading back home.

Students were also given our latest shortages list to update them on the types of donations we can accept.

Keele University has partnered with Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank for a number of years under the Great Donate scheme.

Warehouse manager Peter Till said: "In total 1942.4 kg of food was collected - the equivalent of more than 4,500 meals.

"Thanks to all at Keele University for their help in arranging this year's collection in difficult circumstances."

Ann King, fundraising coordinator, said: "A big thank you goes out to all students who took part in the Big Donate this year.

"As they complete one part of their studies, their support will go towards helping others in



need take the next steps along their own pathway too."

The latest shortages list is regularly updated on our website www.newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk. Donations can be left at any of our six centres during foodbank opening hours when our teams of volunteers will log it in to our stores. Donations can also be left at the warehouse in Chesterton on Mondays from 2pm until 4pm and on Wednesdays from 10am until 12noon. Our locations page on the website gives details of community-based collections points also.

Please remember that these stations in the Tesco stores at Trent Vale and in Kidsgrove are meant for donations bought in-store.

- Our Crowdfunder appeal, launched last year to enable people to donate online, now stands at a fantastic £9,626. We are truly grateful.



Newcastle-Staffs Foodbank
Brick Kiln Lane
Newcastle-under-Lyme
ST5 7AS

07519 159061

info@newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk
newcastlestaffs.foodbank.org.uk

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