



God's love in action

Newsletter Autumn 2014

Our chairman says

Extracts from the report by Philip Wiseman, our chairman, to the AGM in September 2014.

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A wider context. Phil put the work of Basics Bank into the wider context by referring to figures in a report by Keith Taylor, MEP. In South East England alone there are 57 food banks operating and the chief reasons for the need were those relating to welfare reform, delays and sanctions. Debt and low incomes and food costs were other reasons.

NFBB has done 10 years. New Forest Basics Bank completed 10 years of operation on 31st August.

What was done. During the year 910 parcels were distributed to support 1906 individuals compared with 800 parcels the previous year.

Our catchment area is principally Lymington, Pennington, Ashley and New Milton sometimes extending further.

Phil paid tribute to **Mr Jack Gordon** and **Councillor Elizabeth Lewis** for their support in gaining extension of our planning permission to remain in the "Cabin".

New Milton initiative. An attempt to establish a youth initiative of a food bank in New Milton sadly seems to have foundered. NFBB is fortunate to continue to receive excellent voluntary support to enable us to face new challenges.

Our Hon Secretary, Peter Bassett had decided to step down when he was taken ill with a heart attack in August. Thankfully he is recovering well. The secretary's work has increased over the years and Phil expressed the trustees immense debt of gratitude to him for all that he has given so generously since the food began in 2004.

The chairman's thanks. Phil also thanked the treasurer, Anthony Kirke, and all the trustees and volunteers including the number of new ones with the experience and skills they bring. He also thanked the numerous others, agency workers, people in churches and various organisations and individuals who continue to support us practically and financially.

Looking to the future, we are to receive the proceeds from two trolley-drops per year from Tesco at their New Milton store, thanks to their representative, Valerie May.

Cookery course. Basics Bank is involved in a scheme just starting, to help people who receive our parcels to learn to cook using the foodstuffs we provide.

Phil concluded by once again thanking all present for their support of the work of Basics Bank.



Some statistics from last year

The reported needs of local families come from 70 Agencies who work in the front lines in concern for families & people in need. We are very grateful for the work they do, and the chance to work with them.

Monthly returns (see graph)

Reported needs increased in the winter as families were finding difficulties in dealing with expenses (Housing, Food, and especially Fuel) when their costs have been overtaking wages or benefits.

There are two sets of data because the recording systems (over the phone) did not guarantee the same details on the referral agencies, as on the family or individual needs. It is also possible that double parcels were being sent out for big families and smaller ones for people living alone.

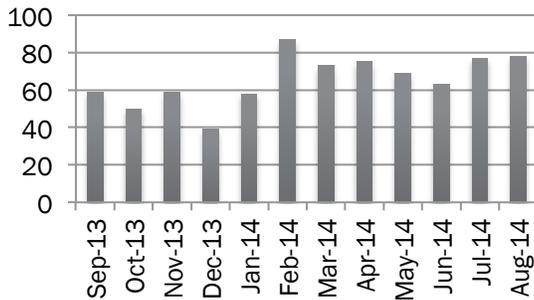
We are now changing over to a computer-based system with E-mails, where the agency details will be included in the message. In December the actual parcel numbers were more because we delivered 300 extra Christmas parcels to those who were in special need.

Conclusions:

- 1 Needs are higher in winter
- 2 needs continue.
- 3 Records should be more accurate when sent

by E-mail.

Parcels Delivered by NFBB



Children's Centres

As we have a close link with the local Children's Centres **Basics Bank** was invited to attend a meeting with the Ofsted Inspector at the Phoenix Centre in New Milton. Several professional services were present including Law and Teaching.

We were asked to state how we assisted the centres,

Family law was covered in an advisory capacity which proved very beneficial to the problems arising for the clients.

Teaching involved courses set up to teach Basic English and Maths to people who, for various reasons have limited qualifications.

Basics Bank supports them by providing food and other household essentials to the families who are referred to us by the family social workers. In very limited cases, (well researched by the social workers) we also provide small equipment and if a child needs school uniform we may offer help. The next **Project that N.F.B.B** hopes to set up is to provide a 6 week course for Mums to learn how to cook basic healthy food.

We are so glad to be able to provide these services but it only thanks to the generosity of all our supporters. Many, Many thanks.



A pat on the back !
Joan Cocks of St Mary's Everton is delighted with the last Newsletter because she feels it puts the social points very clearly.

Lymington Piazza Italia

On Sunday 13 July a glorious summer day welcomed 27 Ferraris, a selection of Ducatis Motorbikes and Moto Guzzis to Lymington and Pennington for the Lymington Italian Piazza!

Large crowds watched the departure of the cars and motor cycles from Lymington Marina which then did a circuit of the town, before joining the Italian Market in the High Street.

The photograph shows the Deputy Mayor - Councillor Anne Corbridge presenting a cheque for £650 to Anthony Kirke representing the New Forest Basics Bank donated by the organisers of the event. Also pictured are Colm McCarthy - Town Economic Development Manager, Rob Heard and Andrew Peters from Wessex Ferrari Owners Club.



Basics Bank AGM

At the AGM of the Basics Bank held on 18th September, **Catriona Duncan**, (pictured right) an Ambassador for New Forest Nightstop gave an interesting talk on the work of this unique voluntary service which provides emergency overnight accommodation for homeless 16 to 24 year olds in the New Forest. A contribution to their work will be made from NFBB funds.

Janet Blizzard was elected chairman and Lance Parker Legal secretary in place of resigning Philip Wiseman and Peter Bassett respectively who were thanked profusely for their unstinting work since the inception of Basics Bank ten years ago.





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*God's love
In action*

This is what we need most of

Cereals
Milk (UHT)
Meat / fish paste
Tinned custard
Coffee (100g jar)
Tinned potatoes
Sugar 500g pack
Tinned meat
Tinned vegetables
Tinned soup (not tomato)

Washing-up liquid
Cook-in sauces
Sponge puddings
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Washing-up liquid
Toilet rolls
Shampoo
Shower gel
Soap

All-purpose cloths

*We particularly don't need:
Powdered milk,
Lasagnia sheets,
dry lentils,
loose tea or
hair conditioners
thank you.*

Some of the volunteers who have joined us recently



Emily



Lucy



Fiona



Trevor

Please give to Basics Bank

From 14th October for about a month, any donation you give up to £10 via Localgiving on our web site will be doubled by them.

Basics Bank is always very happy to receive donations of money which is used to buy food and household necessities.

Please use GiftAid if you are eligible, (i.e. if you pay tax). To give any amount, pick up one of our fliers and complete the form on it.

Please phone us if you would like to make a regular donation.

We are very grateful to all volunteers for their generous and unstinting help.

The treasurer would appreciate some assistance from someone with some numeracy and computer skills