



## Christmas Newsletter 2024

### A fond farewell...



On July 5<sup>th</sup> we said a very sad farewell to long standing and much loved volunteer David Pitt who passed away. David had been at B30 from the very beginning and was the go to person for all things technical.

David produced our voucher sheets even from a hospital bed and never failed to make sure that they were fully up to date and easy to use. He single handedly trained up a team to help with this and has left us in a very strong position.

David was a mathematical genius and developed an un replicable algorithm to predict the number of clients who would come to the Foodbank on any given day, it was very rarely wrong and made logistics straightforward.

David was a B30 stalwart and is very sadly missed by us all.

## Shelves are emptying fast as the festive season approaches!



Another client story from B30 Foodbank...

A mother of two came into the foodbank recently, having been sent in by her children's school. Her eldest child is autistic and needs a lot of extra care and help.

Until earlier this year the family received extra disability benefits to help with her care and the support from her mum. After an assessment that ruled the child could now "clean herself and cross the road" the benefits were stopped, reducing the family's income by £435 a month. They are now struggling to survive financially and pay rent.

The teachers who work with this family recognised the genuine need here and signposted mum to the foodbank. Sadly, she will not be alone in having to turn to us and her school for help. This is why the foodbank currently has to exist and we know there will be many more families like this coming in this month and next.

Currently our shelves are emptying as fast as we can fill them. If you'd like to help us get stocked up take a closer look at our website to find out how. **Roger, Sylvia and the team are delighted to accept donations at the warehouse on Tuesdays and Fridays between 2pm and 4pm**



## Harvest thanks and a heads up for Christmas.



We have been really grateful for all of the wonderful harvest festival donations that have come in over the last couple of months.

To everyone who has donated we send our thanks, together with a heads up about Christmas collections. Our warehouse is incredibly busy in the run up to the festive season so the team there have asked that food donations are with them by **Friday 13th Dec**, so they can make sure they are sorted, packed and ready to go to clients for Christmas. Thanks again.



## Useful information

### Where to get help with utility bills

<https://www.nea.org.uk/get-help/>

<https://www.britishgas.co.uk/.../help-if-youre-struggling...> (and not just for British Gas)

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/.../how-to-get-help-if.../>

### Know someone in need?

Local people in need of emergency food should contact:

- Their social worker
- support worker or
- a Foodbank Referral Agent - to get a referral to the foodbank.

Alternatively, they can call:

- Birmingham City Council Advice Line 0121 303 1116
- Citizens Advice Bureau (Foodbank Helpline) 0808 208 2138.

#### Contact us:

B30 Foodbank operates from The Warehouse, Unit 17, Castle Road, Kings Norton Business Park, Birmingham, B30 3HZ and The Friends Meeting House, 23a Watford Road, Cotteridge, B30 1JB.

**For donations** – our warehouse is open on Tuesday and Friday 2pm – 4pm. Call 07985 629201 to contact the warehouse during these hours.

**For client enquiries** - call 07582 143972 or email [info@b30.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@b30.foodbank.org.uk) or check our website at [www.b30.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.b30.foodbank.org.uk)

We are on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Tiktok - search for B30 Foodbank.

