



www.caterham.foodbank.org.uk

Newsletter

Issue No 15. March 2021

News!

Much has changed for the foodbank since our last newsletter 6 months ago, and yet in other ways little has changed. It's now a year since this serious pandemic caused such massive disruption and we've seen huge changes to our everyday lives, and all by a virus we can't even see! Our foodbank service is still running a restricted service due to the pandemic. We continue to be able to help people with food but unable to have a cup of tea with them or signpost them to other services. We're looking forward to restrictions being lifted and like everyone else being able to meet people again. Lots of our amazing volunteers have now had their first vaccine dose which all helps towards the end of lockdown. Sadly in 2020 our foodbank service was needed more than ever before, and the number of people we helped increased by 125% from 2019.

In October we had just moved into our new warehouse premises, giving us much needed storage for all the generous donations we regularly receive. Straight after moving we took in many harvest donations from local schools and churches. Considering many of these weren't having their traditional celebrations due to Covid, we still received an incredible amount which really helped us in the months following. In November we started to prepare for distributing our foodbank Christmas hampers. Not surprisingly given the circumstances many people have found themselves in, we had a large number of hampers to prepare, 379 in December 2020, this was a 60% increase from 2019. Once more huge thanks to Caterham, Oxted and Godstone Lions for their financial contribution towards the hampers. These were so gratefully received by many in our community.

In February we were really pleased to reopen a foodbank centre on the hill in Caterham. Since the start of the pandemic we had to close the centre at Centenary Hall, so we were operating from one centre in the valley from Caterham Baptist Church. We're now open on Mondays at Oakhall church and Thursdays at Caterham Baptist Church. Many thanks to Sacred Heart Church for the many years we operated the foodbank centre there at the Centenary Hall.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the foodbank. We continue to look forward to a day when our service is no longer needed because everyone has enough for the basics, but until that time comes, with your support we'll do all we can to help those in crisis.



If you're struggling to feed yourself or your family, visit our website for information on how to get a foodbank voucher.

caterham.foodbank.org.uk

INFORMATION



Opening times

Monday 12 noon to 2pm @ Oakhall Church, 181 Chaldon Road. CR3 5PL

Thursday 12 noon to 2pm @ Caterham Baptist Church, Beechwood Road. CR3 6NA



Caterham Foodbank provides 3 days worth of emergency food to local people in crisis.

The foodbank is part of the Trussell Trust, a Christian organisation.



Well done Alice!

With lockdown announced in January and schools closed, Alice set aside her afternoons to do litter picking in her local area, and raise funds for Caterham Foodbank. She's now back at school, but so far has raised £1,265 for Caterham Foodbank

What a star! ★

Please donate!

Due to our increased demand, we're in need of food donations. Please keep up to date of our current needs by visiting our website

caterham.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/

You can also donate food via the Spareable app and not even need to leave your home!

Thank you!

Caterham Foodbank Permanent Collection Points can be found in the following supermarkets.



CATERHAM ON THE HILL



CATERHAM



OXTED



Caterham Foodbank

4 Beechwood Road
Caterham
CR3 6NA

07523 983122

info@caterham.foodbank.org.uk
www.caterham.foodbank.org.uk

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