



Thornbury Outlet

## **End of year update Thornbury Foodbank January 2025**

We have settled well into our temporary premises in Turnberrie's with grateful thanks to the staff there. As refurbishment continues at Thornbury Baptist Church, we probably won't be back there until early April, when we will look forward to being part of the church community again.

The number of clients coming to us has remained fairly constant over the past 6 months. From 1 July to 20 December 2024, we fed 345 adults and 244 children and received 6.3 tonnes of donations. Compared with the same period last year, numbers are down slightly which is always good. Wonderfully, donations for the same period, are up by over 1 tonne.

We continue to be grateful to the support of our community, especially at Harvest when donations from churches, schools, local organisations and individuals exceeded 2 tonnes. This was followed by our 3-day stint at Tesco, at the end of November, where total donations exceeded 3 tonnes. We have drawn less stock from the warehouse as a result; and were able to support other foodbanks who are not as well supported as we are.

We were very busy during December, but because of the amazing donations, we were able to make up over 70 Christmas parcels for our clients, when last Christmas we gave out 42 parcels. We also gave everyone in the family a gift with the usual Christmas items. Financial donations also allowed us to give an Aldi voucher to each client. It was such a joy to see their surprise when they saw the bags, for which they were so thankful.

Your continuing financial donations enable us to buy fresh fruit, vegetables, cheese, bread, spread, baby milk, nappies and essentials when our stocks are low, and especially to purchase items for the Christmas parcels which we were short of.

Thank you to those who invited us to share with your groups about Foodbank, and the donations we received as a result. Please feel free to contact us if there are others of you who would like us to do this.

We have been pleased to welcome some new volunteers over the past couple of months, who have fitted in well to our existing team of faithful volunteers. We continue to be so grateful for the time they are willing to give to help others.

It has, once again, been good to work with other organisations who can help our clients out of their difficult situations. Citizens Advice, New Start Debt Advice, Warm and Well to name just a few. It is always so good to have clients tell us that they have received help and their circumstances have improved.

On behalf of all of those benefitting from your kindness, generosity, concern, and always in the hope that one day Foodbanks will no longer be needed, we want to thank you again for making life a little easier for those in need of our help. We couldn't do it without your support.

Wishing you all continued health, peace and hope in the coming days.

Mair Vaughan

On Behalf of Thornbury Foodbank Management Team.

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