



Thank you for your donations!

2018 stock donated:

July	933kg
August	1840kg
September	2502kg
October	6231kg
November	4628kg
December	8783kg

2018 parcels distributed:

July	175
August	184
September	180
October	193
November	192
December	190 + nearly 400 hampers!

As you can see everyone was very generous at Christmas! Whilst we are extremely grateful for this and could not operate without public support; it is a huge logistical challenge to store and sort the influx of donations in December. Please do remember that we prepare Christmas hampers in November ready to go out in December and then we close for a couple of weeks over the Christmas period to give our hardworking volunteers one break in the year!

Five week is too long to wait for Universal credit—Join the Campaign

In 2018, Trussell Trust research showed a 52% average increase in food bank use in areas that have had Universal Credit for at least 12 months compared to 13% in areas that have not. From the very start, everyone who applies for Universal Credit has to wait at least five weeks for a first payment – and some people wait longer. This is leaving many without enough money to cover the basics. There are other problems with Universal Credit, but the five week wait is one of the key reasons why we've seen a rise in people needing food banks where it has been rolled out.

“I don't want people to have to go to food banks.” That's one of the first things Amber Rudd, the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, said when asked about the five week wait for the first Universal Credit payment. That's why the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) offers 'Advance Payments' to those struggling with the wait. But, because these have to be repaid, they leave people between a rock and a hard place: no money now or not enough money later? And it's why from July 2020 some benefits under the old system will carry on being paid for two weeks when you transfer over to Universal Credit. But this still leaves a three week gap and, in the meantime, 1.6 million people are expected to move onto the new system without this support. So people may still be forced to food banks as a result. This is not right.

The government needs to end the five week wait – you can help make that happen by joining the #5WeeksTooLong campaign. We're asking everyone who thinks five weeks is too long to join together with food banks, charities, faith and community groups, so we can show how damaging the wait is and demand change from Amber Rudd and her colleagues in government. Sign up now to join the campaign or find out more on our website.

#Fiveweekstoolong

What do we need?

Tin openers	200ml fruit juice cartons
Tinned rice pudding	Tinned fruit
Plastic bags	Deodorant
Shampoo	1L fruit juice

Donations can be taken to our warehouse, located on Dean Road (LL13 9EH), through the white fences. We are open on Tuesdays and Fridays between 10am and 3pm. Alternatively you can donate in store at Tesco, Asda and Sainsburys. Please note we cannot accept anything fresh, chilled or frozen and all food must be in date. Finance can be accepted via PayPal on our website or send to our postal address in Rhosddu.

A sad farewell ...
 John Kight, a member of the Foodbank Management Team, sadly died suddenly in February. John and his wife Joyce have been volunteering at the Foodbank warehouse for several years, heading up the team on a Tuesday. John is missed very much, he was very kind, compassionate and funny and so generous with his time.

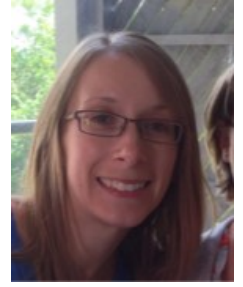


STAFF!

Thanks to a grant from Asda we have been able to employ a new Warehouse Manager as well as a Project Manager ...



Sally Ellinson
 Project Manager



Genni Williams
 Warehouse Manager



New packs available:

Our volunteers found that they often met people coming for a food parcel who had limited cooking facilities. We now have Kettle Packs and Microwave Packs available for those that only have these items available.

Baby Essentials

Organisations working with local families in need can come to our warehouse or request delivery of products such as nappies, wipes and baby food that have been donated to us.



WINGS

'Women In Need Getting Support' is a project run by volunteers in partnership with Wrexham Foodbank. We pass on your donations of sanitary products to our clients via our six distribution centres plus local schools and organisations working with women in need.

Eat Well Spend Less

EWSL is a free six week course run by our volunteers. Participants learn basic cooking skills and money management tools. If you work with people who may be interested in taking part then please get in touch.



Holiday Hunger

In the school holidays many parents struggle to feed their children who would normally receive free meals at school. Wrexham Foodbank partners with the Church in Wales to provide food and fun for these children. If you would like to get involved in volunteering to make sandwiches then please get in touch.



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