**FOOD BANK ANALYSIS FOR NOVEMBER 2016**

On Thursday 1st December 2011 we opened the doors of the Food Bank for the first time, so this Thursday – 1st December 2016 – we shall be celebrating 5 years of service to the community. I think it fair to say that when we first stood in the store room and prayed for this venture, we had no idea how much the need for and interest in the Food Bank would grow. In our first year of operation we were able to supply food for 400 people, this year the number has more than doubled. In November we gave out food to 93 clients (48 adults and 45 children) and also supplied food to go in 15 CAP (Christians Against Poverty) hampers, this involved 27 adults and 30 children, bringing the total number this month to 150 and for the year 1014.

The supply of food and money over the years has been constant and we have always been able to be generous in the amount of food that we give. I was asked the other day what happens when you run out of money which enables us to top up the items that we don’t readily receive. I was able to reply that I don’t know as it hasn’t happened yet! This leads me to say a very heartfelt thanks to all of you who so faithfully give and have given over the last 5 years. We have been very touched by the generosity that has been shown to us.

We are now gearing up for the Christmas rush and it’s been good to receive some seasonal items that we can include in the bags given out. If anyone is thinking of donating especially for Christmas, could I ask that we have them sooner rather than later. The last session we shall be open is Thursday 22nd after which we shall be closed until Thursday 5th January (Neville & I will be available on the 29th December should anyone be in dire need).

As this will be my last report before Christmas may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and joyous time.

Jean Burt