**FOOD BANK ANALYSIS FOR DECEMBER 2017**

December has been an exhausting and at the same time a rewarding month. Due to the continuing generosity of the people in Wallingford and surrounding villages, we have been able to give out generous amounts of Christmas food to 101 adults and 84 children – this despite the fact that we were closed for two sessions his month and had to cope with a very snowy day as well. On behalf of our clients I should like to say a huge Thank You to you all for thinking of them at this time. The people receiving the hampers from CAP are included in the total number and we were very pleased to help with supplying the basic items for them.

We have had more good news in that the Town Council, following our meeting with them at the end of November, have given us temporary use of the Lodge, situated to the side of the front gate, so that we can store boxes of tinned goods there rather than having to transport them from our garage down to the Food Bank. This makes life a lot easier for us and also means we have part of our garage at home reinstated as a garage. There is a move afoot to give us permanent storage nearer to the Food Bank so that everything can be within easy reach, but more of this at a later date. Watch this space!

In my last report I said that Eileen and I had visited Brightwell School to talk about the Food Bank. Neville and I were invited back at the beginning of the month to receive the food that the children had collected and Eileen and I were invited to their Nativity play, which was delightful.

Our food stocks are quite high at the moment, but, as ever, we still run low on basic items such as milk, fruit juice, sugar, tinned potatoes, corned beef and hot dogs. I know the last two items are not particularly basic but they are well received by our clients so we do like to keep a reasonable stock.

As this is the last report of 2017 I should like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and peaceful 2018 and to thank you once again for your continued support.

Jean Burt