**FOOD BANK ANALYSIS FOR AUGUST 2018**

Today has seen the end of our 6 week School’s Summer Holiday Voucher Scheme. This has been a very challenging and also rewarding time with 8 schools taking up the offer of vouchers. Altogether this month we have given food to 302 people; 53 adults and 249 children – 199 of whom came through the Voucher Scheme. As you can imagine, this has been a heavy drain on our financial resources in order to keep the cupboards fully stocked (on more than one occasion all the cabinets were virtually empty at the end of a session). I do thank everyone who has kept us supplied with goods and money and am delighted to say that we have managed to meet the demand without a problem. Having spoken to some of the parents who have used the scheme it is obvious that it has really helped them out and one lady was telling me that she was not sure how she was going to manage without it.

I should like to take a moment to thank all the volunteers who have helped over the summer. It really has been a hectic time – we have even had people queuing in the hall – but everyone has been attended to and I am sure it was God’s provision that we were operating from the hall of the Recreation Rooms rather than the kitchen, which really would have been difficult.

With regard to the building, the structural engineer came and made his inspection on the 10th August but so far we have had no further news on what is going to happen to it. As I said, it has been great to have had the use of the hall with no-one else around, but things will change next week when the Rainbow Nursery start back. We shall then, again, be operating in a public place with young children running around and it will make things a lot more difficult. We have also handed back the keys to The Lodge, which has been housing our overflow stock since Christmas (fortunately there was only one box of beans left so that didn’t cause too much of a problem). We are however going to face a storage problem again when the Harvest donations start to come in. We are very actively looking for alternative premises from which we could operate and which could also accommodate our extra stock, but so far nothing has materialised so it looks as though we shall again have the ‘warehouse’ at our house! Please do pray about this situation as it really is quite serious.

You will have gathered from the above that our stocks are very low so anything would be welcome to fill the cupboards and thank you again for all the support you have given to us.

Jean Burt