**FOOD BANK ANALYSIS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018**

This month has only been a little less busy than the two previous summer months – 83 adults and 69 children received food from us. We have seen a lot of single people coming in for help and one or two that are completely homeless. One lady, who has been living in a tent down by the river, was very excited a couple of weeks ago as she had been allocated a flat in one of the nearby villages. It was lovely to see her enthusiasm as she told us of all that she intended to do when she had a roof over her head.

We have now started the ‘harvest season’ and this morning we collected a huge amount of food from Cranford House. It is always a pleasure going back to the schools that we have been involved with over the past seven years. We are always assured of a warm welcome and the generosity of the pupils (possibly via the parents) is overwhelming and heart warming. Eileen and I are at Langtree School on the next two Friday mornings. Next week we shall be speaking to the lower school and showing what happens when people come into us to collect food and the following week we are with the upper school. We will share with them the problems that we have at the moment regarding the centre of operation and storage, but we will also make sure that they are aware of how vital their donations of food are. Last year the donations from schools and churches amounted to around two tonnes and I have to say that with the exception of 24 tins of mixed beans everything has gone and there has been hardly any wastage. I am so very grateful to those of you who so faithfully contribute food on a regular basis and also for the donations of money we receive to boost the store cupboards with items that are not given as frequently.

There is still no news on the fate of the building in the Bullcroft Park so for the moment we are soldiering on as best we can. It is not easy as we have no toilet or washroom facilities and any water we use has to be provided by buying bottled water. The other factor is that it is going to be extremely cold should we still be there when the winter sets in. So please continue to pray about this situation. I’m sure God has a plan for us but it’s very hard to be patient whilst waiting for this to be disclosed!

Jean Burt