**FOOD BANK ANALYSIS FOR NOVEMBER 2018**

Today sees the end of our 7th year of running the Food Bank in Wallingford. The year has finished on a very busy note with 188 people using our services – 96 adults and 92 children – this month. The total number for year is 1,983, this compared with the first year of operation when 400 people received help from us. It is a great privilege for us to be able to bring just a little bit of joy into the lives of those who receive the food but, as I have said before, we are only able to do this because of the amazing generosity of the local people. The wonderful array of food that has been pouring in is quite exceptional and as we delivered some bags to various people today it was really lovely to see the faces of a couple of children who spotted the chocolate advent calendars. So once again, a huge thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Sadly, this will be the last Christmas operation from the Rec Rooms in the Bullcroft as it has been confirmed that we shall have to vacate the premises by July of next year. Whilst I am confident that the Lord has everything in hand and that there will be a new base for us to operate from, it is also quite hard (at least for me) not to be a little anxious about the future, so your prayers about a new ‘home’ would be very much appreciated.

Whilst we never push people to tell us about themselves and their situation quite a few of our clients spontaneously open up and let us see what’s going on in their lives – often it doesn’t make for easy listening but there have been one or two occasions when we have been able to pray with them and we have been encouraged by an upturn in their lives. One such client, who we had dealings with about three or four years ago but with whom we had lost touch, has – through CAF – donated a very large amount of money to us and we can only assume that his situation has changed out of all recognition!!

I should like to end by thanking you all once again for your loving support of the Food Bank and hope that you have a wonderful Christmas.

Jean Burt