**FOOD BANK ANALYSIS FOR MARCH 2021**

This month has seen a fluctuation in numbers of people seeking help. At the start of March it was fairly slow, quite manic in the middle and trailing off towards the end. Nevertheless we have still given out food to a large number of people – 103 adults and 72 children. We have also been able to include some very nice Easter treats for the families, which have been much appreciated (according to the feed back I have received).

Donations of food, money and offers of help are still coming in on a regular basis. If anyone is on the door to receive donations I know that they are thanked, but sometimes it’s not possible to catch everyone, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your thoughtfulness and generosity. I should just like to mention the children of Checkendon School who did a cake sale in aid of the foodbank. They raised an amazing amount of £405 for us – well done and thank you.

In view of the fact that we had very large amounts of baked beans, soup and pasta, we arranged for a lot of our surplus to go to the Oxford floor hub, to be distributed among charities giving food to the hungry in Oxford. This seemed to us to be a good way of using the extra food that would otherwise be sitting on our shelves for quite a long period of time and might possibly go out of date. In return they gave us some items that we often run short of – tinned veg and hot dogs to mention just a couple of things.

Although the lockdown looks to be easing off a bit we are still operating on a phone and deliver service and will probably continue to do so for a little longer yet. My thanks again go to the drivers who so willingly drop off the food packages and the volunteers who are actually in the foodbank packing the bags.

With the blue sky, sun and beautiful flowers in the garden it makes me realise how fortunate we are and what a privilege it is to be able to give a little bit of help to others. I should like to wish you a very Happy and Blessed Easter.

Jean Burt