**Manager’s report June 2023**

The summer has arrived and with it some very hot days. This month has seen the food bank settle into the three day a week routine, and some days have felt surprisingly quiet.

This month we have fed 225 adults, 158 children in 146 households. This is still a significant increase (+46%) on last year, and the fact that it has felt quiet reflects the fact that the demand is now spread across three days a week. I hope that this means we will be better able to deal with the traditionally very busy months of the autumn.

We have welcomed a number of new volunteers in recent months, helping us cover the extra hours. I never fail to be amazed and grateful at people’s willingness to help.

Some of you may have spotted an article about Bank the Food in a recent edition of Waitrose Weekend magazine. That is the app that helps you donate exactly what a food bank needs. One of our volunteers is friends with the journalist who wrote the column, and it was their conversation that sowed the seed of the idea for the article. Thank you, Fiona!

If you still haven’t got the app, please download it now from the App store or Google play, and the next time you visit Waitrose – or the Co-ops in Benson and Woodcote, you will get a prompt as to what we really need.

This month we were delighted to receive a large donation from Moulsford School. It is a real boost to know that local people are still so supportive of the food bank in these challenging times.

With many thanks

Alice Penney

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