**Manager’s report November 2024**

November has shown another monthly decrease in demand compared to last year as in the rest of the autumn. We have had requests for food from 240 adults, 130 children in 111 households. This compares to last November when we fed 333 adults, 232 children in 175 households, (an increase of 78.9% overall on the year before).

For the year we have seen an increase of 17.5% in the numbers of adults, 7.8% in numbers of children and 3.0% in the numbers of households. This is on top of last year’s huge increase of 57.8% in households. In real terms we have sent out food for approaching 6000 people.

For historical reasons November is the end of the food bank year, so it seems appropriate to look back over the last twelve months.

Our trustee board has grown in numbers over the year and Anthony Clements has continued as Chair. They have together been an excellent support to me and David Tole, not least in taking on much of the organisation of our fundraising concert. Otherwise, the management team continues the same, with one or two changes to session leaders. We have had few changes to the volunteer group which I hope means that they find their roles satisfying. I am very appreciative of all that this team of people do. It is a cliché but worth repeating, I could not do all this without them. I offer them my thanks.

We are so very grateful for the steady trickle of new, willing volunteers, the continuing financial support from so many, and the flow of food donations at a time when many food banks are desperate for any of these.

**There are still a few tickets remaining for Handel’s Messiah on Sunday 8th December. It promises to be a rather special evening. Do go to** [**https://wallingfordfoodbank.org.uk**](https://wallingfordfoodbank.org.uk) **and book your seat. I look forward to meeting you there. We have the added incentive of a Christmas wreath hand-made by one of our trustees, which can be yours if you sign up for a regular financial donation in December!**

Thank you all for your amazing support throughout the year.

With best wishes

Alice Penney