

## Dorking Area Foodbank 2 years on #more than food

It's now two years since the Dorking Area Foodbank opened its doors for the very first time. In those 24 months, we've provided over 2100 emergency food parcels - of which 890 went to feed children. We are seeing an increasing level of demand and have had some very busy afternoons in the Distribution Centre recently (as well as some quiet ones - the volunteers never know quite what to expect!). Our umbrella organisation, the Trussell Trust which runs over 400 foodbanks across the UK is 20 years old this year. They are reporting increasing numbers too, with over a million food



#more than food - photo: Sally Hornung

parcels given out in 2016/17. The Trust is running a national initiative tagged #more than food and locally we are offering additional services to help our clients address the problems which have led them to the foodbank. An advisor from Citizens Advice now attends most sessions at the Distribution Centre and provides advice across a range of issues from benefit problems to housing. In addition, the foodbank is working with the local branch of CAP, a Christian organisation which has a great track record in helping people with debt problems. More details on page 2.

*“ Thank you for all your help, you've all been so amazing, don't know what we would do without you ”*

## Dorking Great Get Together

Also on 17<sup>th</sup> June, the Dorking Area Foodbank has a stall at the Great Get Together in St Martin's Churchyard organised by Churches Together in Dorking. Events are being held across the country in celebration of Jo Cox and her belief that we have far more in common than that which divides us.

## Sainsbury's Collection 17<sup>th</sup> June

Come to Sainsbury's in Dorking on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June between 10 am and 2 pm and buy something for our special food collection. If you can't make it then, our regular food collection box is at the back of the store, by the lifts. Thanks to Sainsbury's and our volunteers for making this possible and to all our regular donors.



## IN OTHER NEWS

**Pop-Ups**

Following a successful trial, pop ups have been run at the Dorking Children's Centre for one or two days during the Christmas, Easter and half term holidays and have been much appreciated by the families who attended.



Photo: Bryony Elias

**Learning more about foodbank**

If your Church or organisation would like to know more about the foodbank, we'd be delighted to come along and talk to you about our work. Contact details below right.

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# Working with CAP to help address debt problems

Debt and low income are among the most common causes of hunger in the UK. The Trussell Trust has recently joined forces with CAP (Christians Against Poverty) to help foodbank clients with debt problems. Here, Dorking Area Foodbank is working with the local CAP debt centre.

**What is CAP?**

Since it was founded in 1996, CAP has helped many individuals and families get out of debt and then remain debt free. A recent survey of 1200 debt clients showed 93% were able to feed their family, after they used the free debt management service offered by the charity. A debt coach visits people in the privacy of their own homes and then CAP helps by dealing with creditors, negotiating affordable payments and working out a realistic budget with the clients. Usually a



CAP plan is set up for the client to make a single weekly or monthly payment to cover bills and debts. CAP distribute this on the client's behalf. This plan can be used until all bills and debts are paid off and also as a way of building up savings. In extreme cases, CAP can help with insolvency options.

In other parts of the UK, CAP also offer Money Courses to help people budget, Job Clubs to help people find work and CAP Release to help people with addiction problems.

More information at  
[www.capuk.org](http://www.capuk.org)



**Dorking Area Foodbank**  
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Run by Churches Together in Dorking Ltd  
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