



Parcels waiting for drivers



Dear All

Continuing in our policy to over communicate I have listed below exactly what is going on, how we are operating in our new building and how are we managing the charity.

What is going on in The Granary (the new name for our building).

We are open 5 days a week and we are doing roughly 20 parcels a day, which are collected by 3 drivers between 1200-1300, there are very few personal collections. But everyday members of the public are arriving with wonderful goodies, some more useful than others but all distributed. We collect 3 pallets of fresh fruit and veg from Fareshare in Totton which is very special, but we have no control over what we are to be given, but as it is free we are not going to complain and so far we have been able to distribute it all. We don't have a compost heap growing roots in the Granary yet! In addition, Morrisons are donating £500 worth of relevant food every week which we collect, and we empty the bin at Waitrose daily. We have persuaded Waitrose to give us all their bread and fruit which would normally makes it way to Fareshare.

Last Friday, and every Friday for the next 3-4 weeks, we have been asked by the New Milton Town Council to help a number of their families from their local schools whose parents are self-employed and are not part of any "free school voucher scheme". This is co-ordinated by Peter Bousfield who runs the Lions Group in New Milton, and basically we put together 75 family packs for a week including fresh fruit and veg and butter/spreads etc., which means on average 10 bags of shopping per family. This is physically collected by a team of Council drivers at 10-00 on Friday morning and then our normal service resumes. As this is our second week, we have been able to plan ahead and now every afternoon couples come in from 1400-1600 and prepare the parcels, and we have a family team who come in at 0700 on Friday to pull it all together. The key is to manage, source and buy all the food we need which is co-ordinated by Sue Norris and Fiona Derrick. We have a team of young buyers who are in Tesco, Waitrose and Morrisons up until Midnight.

How we are operating in our new building.

David da Cunha and Trevor Gaught have delivered a fabulous building and we have completed the last minute "snagging. Trevor has run very effective "Fire Training" for all of us and we now have a signing in clipboard, so we know who is in the building etc. The office has a new telephone whose instructions have been written in Nigerian, so we are struggling with that a little but have not missed any calls. The computer is functioning

Feeding 75 families in New Milton

God's love in action

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Registered Charity no.1150170

well. We have introduced a colour coded system for the drivers; Blue is Lymington and Yellow New Milton! We have kept the number of people to a minimum to comply with very correct Government policy. This schedule is being co-ordinated by Sue Norris and we tend to use families/couples so they can work safely together. As soon as this self-isolating/social distancing is over it will be serious open house for you all to see what we are up to.

How we are managing the charity.

We meet via a Zoom call every day at 1700 when we discuss the day's activity and our daily cash position as we have spent as you can imagine more money than normal. However, we have been very lucky with incredible donations from a wide cross section of people and organisations and I have listed below some of these wonderful organisations (I have been asked to respect the confidentiality of the individuals):

- B and M Discount Store in Fareham £1500
- Waitrose £1300
- NFU Mutual £3000
- Lions Group in Lymington £500
- Lions Group in New Milton £1000
- Gryphon Trust (who run Englewood and Arnewood School) £4000

For those of you who find the statistics of interest, the following will demonstrate exactly what we have been tasked with since the Covid-19 crisis hit in March, it makes for interesting reading:



Oli & Trevor taking stock

March 2020

Parcels:	193
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Individuals:	526
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There are two points to bear in mind:

Firstly, the demand didn't pick up until the third week of March

Secondly, this doesn't include the huge effort to provide for the 170 children in New Milton.	170
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April figures up to 22nd:

Regular referrals: parcels:	196
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Total helped	525
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But, extra to our normal demand we have had...

Julie Henry and the homeless team:

12. Lunches only	12
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And the feed the children project:

Full parcels	125
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Part parcels	24
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This means that at least 500 individuals are helped in this project.	500
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In summary then, we have done (since the beginning of April)

Parcels to 339 families or individuals	339
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Helping AT LEAST	1043
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Council drivers collecting for New Milton delivery

We make decisions each day on how we are going to tackle the next 24 hours, and you should all be very proud as Janet and her team have created a wonderful organisation which is totally “fit for purpose”, and we are now able to move forward on the back of those building locks in place.

Other news.

New volunteers put themselves forward as soon as they knew there was a need. Due to social distancing it has not been possible to use the services that have been so kindly and readily offered. However, Charles Cooke-Hurle organised a leaflet drop promoting the Lymington and Pennington Town Council community hub resource to assist those in the community struggling with issues affecting them because of self-isolation, and in particular those without access to the internet. We want to offer huge thanks to those many volunteers who happily assisted with this task. The leaflets were all delivered, and people in need of this service can be connected with the right agencies for help. Thank you.

On another note, this weekend the Lymington Triathlon Club are doing virtual cycle ride from Land’s End to John O’Groats and have decided to support our charity. It is a brilliant event and has already raised £950 which has busted through their £500 target! Do please offer support if you are aa mind to: <https://tinyurl.com/ychorhbb>

As always I am available via email Oliver@oliverstanleypartners.com

Yours ever Oli

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Oli".

Oli Stanley
Chairman, New Forest Basics Bank



Packed up and ready to go



Lymington Triathlon Club fundraiser Land’s End to John O’Groats

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