



Winchester Basics Bank

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Newsletter - Winter 2010

Harvest Home

Thank you to all who helped in any way with harvest this year. We received food from 29 schools, 2 playgroups and 20 churches. Many volunteers collected and sorted the goods, which are now safely stored in time for the winter.

There is no doubt that the weekly shopping bill has risen for all of us, and is predicted to rise into the new year. The coming benefit cuts will be a serious problem, especially in expensive housing areas such as Winchester. We hope that the Basics Bank will continue to act as a safety net for those affected.

Although our storeroom is now full, donations were a little down on last year.

Current statistics below show that to date we have served over 1500 clients with food and clothes this year. With Christmas approaching this figure is set to break the 2009 record of 1800.

Sainsbury's Badger Farm

A big thank you to all of you who contribute to the trolley there and thanks to the management of the store for their goodwill towards us.

Waitrose Winchester

Basics Bank is one of the charities to benefit from the green token scheme until the end of November. Please support us!

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
OUR SUPPORTERS**

Christmas Goodies

The Christmas season is always a hard time for those in need. There is so much commercial pressure claiming that Christmas is all about having things and partying with family. What a contrast to the true meaning of a loving Saviour born in a stable and to sacrifice himself to bring us life in all its fullness.

We do like to have some goodies on hand to cheer those who visit us in December. If you would like to help us with this please bring your gifts – **seasonal food or toiletries** - at the beginning of the month and no later than 10th December. If bringing mince pies, please watch the sell by date. We are also short of **tinned spaghetti and fish**.

Christmas Opening Dates/Times

Fri 24 December – 10am – 12.30pm

Tue 28 December – closed

Fri 31 December – 10am – 3pm

Parking

For those of you who visit us, please note we have a designated parking place in the small car park in front of the building. We are so grateful to Winchester City Council for this and for all their help with the provision of premises.

Finance

If you would like to support us financially please think about:

- *A monthly gift-aided monthly sum*
- *Making us a beneficiary of your will.*

Please phone us for further details.