

## 1123 emergency food boxes 2850 people fed

Between 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024, we gave out **1123** emergency food boxes to local people who didn't have enough money for essentials, feeding 1669 adults and 1181 children - that's a total of **2850** people. **2024/2025** has already started quite busy with **100** food boxes given out during April feeding **277** people, of which 116 were children.

The emergency food boxes are made up from food and other items generously donated by community and church groups, schools, local businesses and kind individuals - people like you! We do ask that the food that is donated is non-perishable and has a minimum of 4 months until the best before date as we are not allowed to give out anything that is out of date. We also ask that you check our Facebook page or website for the items that we most need; we've also listed our current shortages at the end of this newsletter.

Another way of staying up to date with our current needs is via the BanktheFood app.

More details can be found on the BanktheFood website: <https://www.bankthefood.org/>

The app is very simple to use. Download the app and follow the instructions to get started. Once you have followed Devizes and District Foodbank, the app will send you a helpful 'ping' with a reminder of your food banks' needs when you are shopping in your local supermarket. You can then choose exactly what you would like to donate and leave your donation in your food bank's collection box at the end of your shopping trip.

*“Our vision is for a UK without the need for food banks...”*

## Volunteering for Devizes and District Foodbank

We currently have over 40 active volunteers who collect, weigh and pack food donations, deliver emergency food boxes and provide a safe, welcoming and friendly place where people can come to talk, be listened to and supported.

We urgently need a driver (either our van or own vehicle if large enough) to take emergency boxes from our warehouse in Devizes to St James Foodbank Centre and/or return any leftover boxes to the warehouse at the end of the session. The times we need drivers for are: Mondays: collect 12.30pm and Thursdays: deliver 12.45pm and collect 3pm. If you can help with any of these times on a regular (or fairly regular) basis, please email the Project Manager for more details: [liz@devizesdistrict.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:liz@devizesdistrict.foodbank.org.uk)



### Contact us

Please phone us on 07807 973605 and leave a message if we are not available to answer.

Alternatively drop us an email: [info@devizesdistrict.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@devizesdistrict.foodbank.org.uk)

# Community Organiser

Since February, the food bank's campaigning teams have had some major breakthroughs, and a new campaign has launched around the lack of furniture and fittings in social housing properties.

The team, UK Boaters for Energy Justice, made up of people with experience of financial hardship living on the waterways, worked with Wiltshire Council to raise awareness of boating households who've missed out on universal, historical support for increased energy costs. Because of the team's work, a £200,000 scheme for boaters was implemented which ran until 31st March and supported over 400 boaters with £600. This support has made a huge difference to boaters struggling with living costs.

A new campaign is bringing social housing tenants together to prevent households being moved into properties without flooring, curtains or the basic household essentials. It can cost tenants hundreds of pounds to make a property liveable, affecting their ability to afford food and bills, or else they're forced to go without the items we all need for health, safety, warmth and privacy. You can check out this campaign at 'An Empty House Isn't a Home' Facebook page: <https://tinyurl.com/2538bwd4>

## Meet the Trustee

### Jeremy Davidson

Jeremy has lived in Devizes now for more than 30 years.

Recently retired, he worked in Operational and Strategic Risk Management which often kept him away from home.

He is now looking forward to responsibilities that will keep him closer to home.



Please support us by donating food. **We are currently in need of:**

UHT dairy milk  
Long life fruit juice  
Tinned soup  
Tinned tomatoes  
Long life sponge puddings (minimum of 4 months to best before date)  
Instant mash potato

Shampoo and/or conditioner  
Ladies deodorant  
Ladies shower gel  
Toilet rolls

We want to see a future where food banks aren't needed  
and we know that together, we can make that happen

### Devizes and District Foodbank

Unit 4, Glenmore Business Centre  
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[devizesdistrict.foodbank.org.uk](http://devizesdistrict.foodbank.org.uk)

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