



A new Furniture Bank van

Back in early 2013 we realised that our furniture bank van needed to be replaced – the question was ‘when’? In the event, following a period of waiting, we received financial support from former Mayor of St Edmundsbury, Councillor Tim Marks and his wife Margaret along with matched funding from a grant making body and from a private donor. Finally, in November, we replaced our ailing furniture bank van with a ‘10’ plate Ford Transit on which we got a fantastic price! The new vehicle is perfect for our needs and will be an important asset both helping us to sustain our work recycling second hand furniture for disadvantaged families and as we look to future project development.



You can also keep up to date with the work - including project needs (furniture, food, Starter Packs etc) pictures, video updates, radio & TV interviews etc., on Facebook - “REACH Haverhill” & Twitter @HenryReach or @Ann4Reach



We now have a Flickr account too with all our latest news in pictures via our website reachhaverhill.org.uk



REACH News & Update - Spring 2014



In June of last year we were excited to be nominated by Lloyds Bank in Haverhill to be considered for a **Lloyds Community Fund Award**. We were even more pleased to make it through to the final stage last October when we went head-to-head with 3 other local charities in a public vote to decide who should receive the top prize of £3,000. We heard in November that, not only had we come first in the St Edmundsbury area, but we had received more than 50% of the 16,000 votes cast! Thanks to everybody who took the trouble to vote. It is really encouraging for all of us at REACH.

Support for Haverhill Foodbank

Yet again we have had fantastic support over the last few months, especially around Christmas when our second Tesco food collection of 2013 resulted in a record 2.4 tonne of food. We were constantly struck by the way that the general public were willing to support us, especially as there are a lot of competing demands at Christmas. Thanks to Tesco, particularly Claire Bowden for making it happen. Thanks also, of course, to the many shoppers who supported us over the course of the weekend.



Tesco Food Collection



Meanwhile, **1st Stop Recruitment** were one of a number of local businesses to 'dig deep' during the Christmas season making a significant contribution to the Foodbank. In total, 107 kilos of food went to Haverhill Foodbank. We were really pleased – so, many thanks to everyone at 1st Stop and all who donated food through them.



Finally, to help us more efficiently manage the increasing volume of food coming into and going out of the warehouse as well as tidying things up we are grateful to Councillor Anne Gower for funding new racking.

Introducing REACH Money Advice



Henry Wilson says *'it appears that the sort of debt we are seeing has changed since we first launched back in October 2005. In order to serve our community's needs most appropriately, we are pleased to announce that we are working with an organisation called Community Money Advice to launch our very own in-house money management project – REACH Money Advice. This will enable us to see more people struggling with debt and to deliver the most effective and efficient service possible'*.



We were thrilled once again to receive the support of **Havebury Housing Partnership** in January when their Chief Executive, Karen Mayhew, visited the Resource Centre to present us with a cheque for £3,000. This money was raised by Havebury's Charity Golf Event in September 2013 and will be earmarked for REACH Money Advice. We are extremely grateful to Havebury for their ongoing support.