

## REACH receives the support of the Mayor

We were very pleased to be nominated as one of the charities to receive financial support during the 2013-14 term of office of Haverhill Mayor, Councillor Roger André. In September we attended a Council meeting where REACH was presented with a cheque for £700. The local recognition represented by such financial support is a great encouragement to us and critical as we seek to reinforce our visibility within the local community and our long-term sustainability. We will use the money received from the Mayor towards the cost of investing in extended Foodbank racking at the warehouse.



## A REACH Wedding?

As 'outcomes' go, this one was quite exceptional. Mark who is a volunteer at the Resource Centre met Debbie who got involved last Christmas at the Foodbank. Their romance blossomed and they got married at Haverhill Methodist Church on 7th November. All at REACH would like to wish them every happiness for the future.



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 @AnnReach



We now have a Flickr account too with all our latest news in pictures via our website [reachhaverhill.org.uk](http://reachhaverhill.org.uk)



## REACH News & Update - Winter 2015



## REACH Money Advice launches

REACH volunteers and representatives of a number of partner organisations gathered on Monday 3rd November to witness Mayor of Haverhill, Councillor Roger André, formally launch REACH Money Advice, our very own in-house debt counselling and money management project. Now the real work begins. Debt robs people of hope and we at REACH are passionate about helping clients to get to the root of their problems, lifting them out of poverty and transforming lives - restoring dignity and reviving hope.

## Furniture Bank REACHes 5

In September the Furniture Bank had its fifth birthday. It started off as something of an add-on after people were offering and asking us for furniture. From such low-key beginnings we began to formalise the project in 2009 and have subsequently refined our processes and procedures. We now have an excellent team of volunteers coordinated by Ray Earls. In total we have collected and delivered in excess of 2000 items over the last 5 years. Originally we collected anything, these days we are much more focused, only collecting items which we know are in high demand, eg. bedroom furniture, fridges, freezers and microwaves. Congratulations to Ray and the team who just 'get on with it' drawing little attention to themselves but delivering a very good service.



Tesco Food Collection

Once again we were struck by the generosity of the public and how accommodating the store were when we held our 3 day food collection at **Tesco Haverhill** in July. We netted 2.3 tonne of food – a significant amount and very much in line with previous collections. We want to thank the general public who gave us tremendous support over the course of the weekend.

## Local business support REACH



There is nothing like local support and REACH has been working hard to raise its profile within the business community. We were therefore delighted to be recognised recently by **Haverhill Chamber of Commerce** when it nominated us as the sole beneficiary of charitable fundraising associated with the Chamber's tenth anniversary. We also had an opportunity to showcase our work at a Cheese and Wine evening in July attended by around 100 business people. As a result, £1,454 was given to REACH and this money will be channelled into REACH Money Advice, thereby helping us to help people from Haverhill and the surrounding area with debt issues.

In addition to local support, we were thrilled to receive grant funding for the debt counselling project from the **Church Urban Fund**.

