



### Haverhill Heroes Awards

We were thrilled to have two of our volunteers shortlisted for the Haverhill Heroes Awards held at the Town Hall recently. Katie was shortlisted for Young Person of the Year whilst Ben was selected for the Volunteer of the Year. At the awards ceremony it was very moving to hear the many stories of volunteers making a difference in our community we were so pleased especially to see that Ben was declared the winner. Ben is partially sighted and comes to our warehouse twice a week to pack food boxes for our clients. Ben says *"I love doing what I'm doing and helping people."*

### Sport Relief Swimathon

In March, we decided that it would be a good idea to help raise funds for Sports Relief, a fund raising event which helps people struggling with poverty around the world. So Team REACH set about swimming 5K and managed to raise £302! Thank you for your support. It was a really great occasion and very enjoyable for all.



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 with all our latest news in pictures via our website [www.reachhaverhill.org.uk](http://www.reachhaverhill.org.uk)



## REACH News & Update - Spring 2016



### Haverhill Lions support for Haverhill Foodbank

We were delighted to receive local support from the Haverhill Lions Club when their President, Philip Cheesmur visited the Resource Centre with Vice President David Goodwin, to present a cheque for £500 to Operations Manager Ann Merrigan. The money was raised at the club's Santa's Grotto at Sturmer Nurseries and Garden Centre. Mr Cheesmur said of the Foodbank *"we are very pleased to be able to help support the Haverhill Foodbank in the excellent work they do in supporting local people in times of crisis."*

# Fantastic support from the community



What an incredible Christmas period we had.

It began on the first weekend of December when we had our Christmas food collection at Tesco and netted nearly 2 tonnes of food - enough to feed 100 small families! It was also a bonus to have lots of extra help from the community including students from Granta School. The Craft Basket fundraised throughout the year and collected £800 for 5 local families to ensure they had a good Christmas; Kedington Butchers gave us 10 turkey crowns to give away; the 'BP' garage on Duddery Hill gave us a large box of nappies and staff from AXA in town collected 12 bags of gifts for children that were distributed just in time for Christmas! In addition; the Mayor Cllr Betty McLatchy & her husband Ivor donated a large number of Christmas goodies for our hampers. In total we distributed 99 parcels which were sorted and wrapped by a vast army of willing volunteers! If that wasn't enough, just after Christmas we received a visit from Claire & Shane Walford who had recently got married. Instead of receiving gifts for themselves they asked their guests to purchase items for the Starter Pack project – AND donated £750 of gift vouchers to enable us to purchase items for families in need! Thanks to the amazing generosity of local people we were able to make such a big difference for many families over the Christmas period. We received a card from one mum who simply wrote: *"Thank you for all your help and support you have given me and my family. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated."*

