

# Reach Community Projects

Tackling poverty in and around Haverhill

## December 2017 News

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to our latest newsletter. We send out monthly updates like this to keep you updated on our latest news and client stories.



### *A message from Henry*

Last week I came across a couple of pieces of paper on which I had written 'Christmas 2017'. I remembered that it was what I said I would like to see by the 2017 Christmas party. As I read the notes, I was greatly encouraged to read that what I had written had pretty much happened! For example; satellite centres in villages such as Linton and Clare, and although we don't exactly have 'satellite centres' as such, we do have two great ladies working out in the community bringing hope and all the Reach resources via home visits to the rural areas. Tina covers the villages from Haverhill into South Cambs, eg. Linton and Abington and Jo covers Haverhill and the surrounding villages eg. Wickhambrook and Clare etc...

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## Why not support us at Christmas this year?



### *A message from Jo*

Dear Friends,

I was reminded this week of that old seasonal story, A Christmas Carol. Maybe you too have been catching up on Christmas films or songs and have been enjoying watching re-runs of the classics? Well, it got me thinking about the work that is done here at Reach and the help we offer; quite often when we meet clients for the first time we are asking them to look back in time to see what has gone on in their past and we record what has gone on before that day. Then we take a look at their current circumstances and see what is happening in their life at that present time and see where they are financially, socially and emotionally. Then with those things in hand, we aim to look to their future to see where we can help.

Now I am not for one minute comparing any of us to the characters of Scrooge or Marley!! But for me as a Christian, I take hold of the thought that God takes

me from the past, sees where I am in my current state and offers me the gift of light and hope for the future. We could all do well to look back, look in and then look ahead. What has brought us to where we are today and how are we going to move forward?...

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## Harvest Festival

We've had an incredibly successful harvest festival this year, bringing in 3544.4kg worth of food donations!

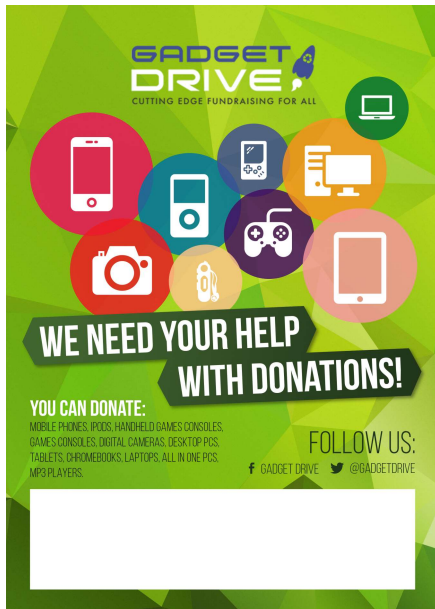
We really would not have been able to do this without the generous donations from churches, schools, local community and our volunteers who have helped to sort and pack all the food that has come in. Thank you to everyone!



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## New Foodbank Racking

We had the wonderful Bidwells team come in earlier this month to assemble our new racking for the foodbank. The racking itself was funded by Paula



## Gadget Drive

We are now working with [Gadget Drive](#) to raise money through donations of electronic gadgets.

Gadget Drive allows schools, clubs and good causes to accept donations in the form of electronic gadgets including mobile phones, digital cameras, tablet PCs and laptops, which are then turned into real cash by Gadget Drive. It's also a crucial way to promote the importance of recycling.

We are collecting old electronic devices at our Resource Centre so if you would like to raise any money for Reach and have any old gadgets lying around the house, why not bring them down?



## leva's Story

leva's partner left her and her two young children a few months ago. This resulted in them having to move to another property but unfortunately, they didn't have any means of cooking, no fridge and hardly any furniture. The family had to live on takeaways for months.

Through Acts 435 we were able to find funding to purchase a cooker and table and chairs. In the meantime, she had managed to get a fridge herself.

When the cooker was delivered, it became apparent that there was no CCU fitted in the kitchen, which meant installation couldn't take place. We decided we couldn't leave a family without any way of cooking over the Christmas period so we purchased a small tabletop oven with hotplates so they could still have a Christmas dinner. They were overjoyed.

leva says ***"For the first time I'm really happy. I feel that Reach has made me feel very comfortable. This is the first time I've had to ask for help and it was hard as I've always done things myself. Thank you for everything you have done"***.

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Kind regards

Henry Wilson  
Projects Director

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**If you'd like to support Reach and our projects, please click the donate button below. We would greatly appreciate the support.**