

# Reach

## Community Projects

Tackling poverty in and around Haverhill

## March 2018 News

Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to our March Newsletter, gosh, where is the year going?  
It's a packed newsletter too; including a massive thank you for all the Christmas support and a special request to vote for [Reach](#) in order that we could win a £7000 prize!

There's an update on our Reach into the Community project and a piece from Tina who's working out in South Cambs. There are also photographs from our Saturday Crew to show how you too can get involved.

Thank you for all your support whether it's [food](#), [financially](#) or [volunteering](#), we really couldn't do it without you.

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## ***Support for Reach Hopkins Homes Charity Vote***

Please **vote for Reach** and help us win £7000! Reach is just one of 7 charities across Suffolk who have been shortlisted by Hopkins Homes for their country wide charity vote. We are thrilled to have got this far, and it would be amazing to scoop the top prize!

**Please click the photo above to vote for Reach.**

This year we have some very ambitious plans to radically transform the Resource Centre which will mean increased capacity to see more clients as well as overhauling our IT and phone system - it's all very exciting and essential in our aim to lift people out of poverty, restore their dignity and revive hope.

Voting closes on 9th March 2018.

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## ***A message from Tina***

Dear Friends,

As I write this I can hardly believe that I have now been in post for 9 months and our new community outreach project in South Cambs is developing well.

Reach into the Community supports individuals and families in the villages who are unable to access our Resource Centre in Haverhill and, with God's help, we aim to restore dignity and revive hope. It has been a privilege to be able to offer this support to over 20 families in the villages and one such family has said:

*'Thank you so much for everything, you truly don't know how much it means to us all and we wouldn't have been able to get through Christmas without the support we received from Reach.'*

Through one of our projects ([ACTS 435](#)) we were able to purchase essentials for this family: a bed, a cooker and school uniform for their children as well as provide food boxes during a difficult time of severe illness and moving home.

I would like take the opportunity to thank you all for your support for Reach – we really couldn't do all that we do without the prayer and financial support we receive from so many.

**“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.” Proverbs 31:8-9**

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## Reaching out into the Community: One Year On

As early as 2014 at Reach we were aware of barriers to our services, especially for anyone living in the villages. From time to time we would receive a call from a Doctor's surgery or a family support worker in Clare or Linton asking if we might be able to help a patient or a family they were assisting. Our resources at the time dictated that our work was centred on Haverhill, not exclusively, but if you needed help and lived in a village, it generally meant coming in to see us at our Resource Centre on the Clements Estate in Haverhill.

By 2015 we began to dream of satellite centres in partnership with a local church in that community. Following the launch of ['The Hidden Needs Report'](#) by Suffolk Community Foundation in September 2016, highlighting the growth in rural poverty in Suffolk, it was time to act. With some initial funding from the [ONE Haverhill Partnership](#) we launched our [Reach into the Community](#) project in... [Read more](#)

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## Thank You!

Whether it was a donation of money or food, we really can't thank everyone enough for supporting us over the Christmas period.

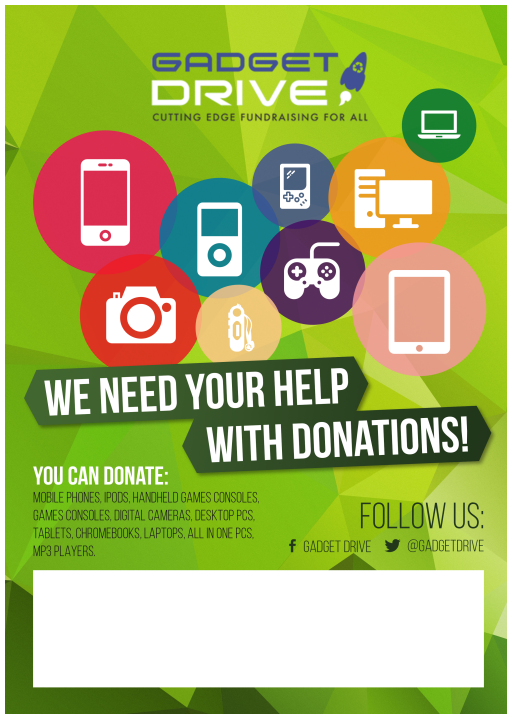
In total we gave more than 100 Christmas hampers to families and individuals in need. We really couldn't have done this without your support.



## Saturday Crew

Not only did we receive amazing support in the form of donations but we had our wonderful [Saturday Crew](#) come in and volunteer their spare time to helping us sort through all the donated items and packing them up into Christmas Hampers.





## 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.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry Wilson".

Henry Wilson  
Projects Director