Aston & Nechells foodbank

Queries?

Call our office on 07384 213621



NEW PREMISES

Our Ward End Centre is now located at

Bethel Free Baptist Church Wardend Road, B8 2QU and at a new time of 12:30-2:30pm

We are grateful to Pastor Larry Curtis, his wife Jane and their congregation for welcoming ANFB to Bethel. The move took place over the first two weeks of August and our first session at Bethel was on 16 August. It was a marvellous team effort to organise and implement the modifications, including an excellent job of constructing new shelving, followed by the transportation of furniture and stacking shelves ready for opening day! Thank you everyone who participated in any way to ensure we opened on time!





Write to your MP - we need a guarantee that Universal Credit will be increased to cover life's essentials

The Trussell Trust is calling on the UK government to **Guarantee our Essentials.**

At ANFB we have seen the need for food parcels rise by 50% throughout the last financial year.

Our social security system should support anyone in need of help, but more and more people are finding it impossible to make ends meet because Universal Credit is falling short, and it's pushing people to use foodbanks. The basic rate of Universal Credit should at least cover the cost of essentials like food, household bills and travel costs, **Right now, this is only £85 a week for a single adult**. That means there's a significant shortfall between people's living costs and their income, which is forcing many to skip meals, switch off essential appliances such as fridges, and be unable to pay essential bills.

This is unacceptable in a country as wealthy as ours we need a system in place that supports us to afford the essentials while we recover from setbacks.

The Trussell Trust is recommending Universal Credit be raised to £120 a week for a single adult, enough to cover life's ESSENTIALS.

Rosemary, a ANFB volunteer, wrote the following to **Shabana Mahmoud MP**"

"...will you support the principle that, at a minimum, Universal Credit should always protect people from going without the essentials?"

Shabana's reply......

"A Labour government will:

- Help Britain back to work as we aim for the highest employment rate in the G7.
- Build a social security system that treats people with dignity and respect, and provides genuine security for all families and pensioners.
- Reform Universal Credit so that it makes work pay and offers a proper safety net".

Please support the 'Guarantee our Essentials' campaign. For more information follow the link -

https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-involved/campaigns/ quarantee-our-essentials/

WHERE ARE WE?

ANFB distribution centres are in Nechells, Ward End and Aston.

St Matthew's Community Hall, Wardlow Road, Nechells, B7 4JH every **Monday** from 12.00 to 2.30pm

Bethel Free Baptist Church 31 Wardend Road, Ward End B8 2QU

every **Wednesday** from 12.30 to 2.30pm

The Salvation Army, Gladstone Street, Aston, B6 7NY every **Friday** from 12.30 to 2.30pm

ANFB Warehouse is located at
St Matthew's Community Hall,
63 Wardlow Rd Nechells
B7 4JH
and is open for deliveries
every Tuesday from 10am to 12noon

ID's A reminder to all agencies issuing vouchers.

Please ensure clients
know they will be
expected to produce
photographic
identification when
presenting vouchers at
our three centres



Ozzy our new volunteer!

On August 11 we were once again invited by Network Rail to hold a cash collection at Grand Central. This time however, were were joined by Birmingham's famous bull! Ozzy attracts a lot of attention, and fortunately for us, Ozzy's fans joined by commuters and shoppers helped to raise £707. Thanks as always to our faithful volunteers for giving their time and to Hilary for making it all happen.



Student volunteer

Rhys spent his summer holidays volunteering at Foodbank. Alongside mom Clare, Rhys helped at all three centres, gaining a certificate of achievement for 120 hours of activities. A hard worker and with a great sense of humour, he will be missed. We wish Rhys all the best in his studies at Solihull College.

£5,104.55



McDermott's held their Summer Fair in July. A portion of their charity raffle proceeds, along with matched funding from McDermott's themselves, raised a grand total of £5104.55 for ANFB. Huge thanks to the workforce their friends and family and to McDermott's for this most generous donation.

Philburn Smith

Family and friends of the late Philburn Smith kindly donated £120, in lieu of flowers, to ANFB at his recent thanksgiving funeral service. Phil's son-in-law, John Sterry, a long-serving volunteer at Aston, introduced Phil to our foodbank who was then kind enough to support us. We thank God for his long and happy life.

To unsubscribe from this newsletter, send a message to info@astonnechells.foodbank.org.uk with the word "unsubscribe" in the subject, or text our mobile telephone number 07384 213 621 with "unsubscribe" and your name.

Our Mission
"For I was hungry and
you gave me something
to eat. I was thirsty and
you gave me something
to drink. I was a
stranger and you invited
me in. I needed clothes
and you clothed me...."
Matthew 25: 35-36

To avoid long waiting times at our centres, clients should obtain E-vouchers ahead of time. Support workers and numerous agencies including Birmingham Settlement (0121 250 0765) and Help Through Hardship (0808 208 2138) can advise.

Shopping list

- TOILETRIES
- juice
- squash
- UHT milk
- · tinned tomatoes
- tinned chickpeas
- tinned fruit
- tinned rice pudding
- · coffee
- pasta sauce
- cereals
- biscuits
- nappies

Meet Matthew Gregson

We were delighted to welcome Matthew to Aston distribution this summer. Matthew, a



solicitor for Anthony Collins, is also a trustee for Birmingham Settlement. "I am on a three month sabbatical from work and I have been volunteering at the Friday Aston foodbank. It has been great to meet long-standing volunteers and to see the very efficient way in which the foodbank

is run. The foodbank is meeting such a vital community need and it has been a privilege to see close hand the work that goes into making it such a success".



contact us

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