

"Unlocking God's purpose in you through meeting the needs of others"

As I write the warehouse is busier than ever, with harvest quite literally pouring in & an internal move from one room upstairs to a much more convenient room downstairs! On top of that Christmas also soon upon us! Read on for more details:

Karen Kendall – Project Lead

A visit from the Mayor:

In September it was an absolute pleasure to receive a visit from Surrey Heath Mayor Louise Ashcroft & her husband Alan, who came to take a look around & to see what goes on at the Warehouse.

We received a lovely email saying she sent "her most heartfelt thanks to you & all at the Besom for inviting her to visit you. The Mayor had such a lovely morning with you all & is so grateful for all the time you give so generously to support our residents!"



AGM:

We held our AGM on the 8th October; it was a lively & informative, yet brief occasion. In particular, we did share about a decision we have made, to discontinue doing New Mum packs, as in the financial year April 24-March 25, we only had 10 referrals & in the first 6 months of this year only 1.

Stripey Stork, is a large 'Baby Bank' operating from Reigate (& will be delivering every month to the the Family Centre on the Old Dean) are very happy to pick up any referrals that we can divert to them in future & so we will pass onto them our stock of moses baskets, baby baths & the related bits & pieces.



Harvest 2025:



Harvest collections have been amazing this year; I am sending a thank you a certificate along with this newsletter to share with all church members who contributed to this. Hopefully this will sustain us with much of the regular ambient food until the spring 2026! The teams have been great at shifting (the incoming car loads) onto the shelves & into overflow areas. I was fortunate to have been able to visit a couple of schools during this period to thank & encourage the children, the photo above was photo was taken at Lakeside school in Deepcut & is typical of the school collections!

FareShare deliveries:

The FareShare trial became a permanent weekly occurrence on Mondays, after deciding that the extra work that it involves is so worth it for all the added benefits & variety for our clients.



I guess we should also share some of the challenges we have!

Last month Openreach, who were laying new cables, unknowingly (it would seem) broke & filled in the outgoing sewage pipe to our unit. I will leave it to your imagination (if you weren't there) what happened next!..... (no photo's req'd) 😊

OPPORTUNITIES

Referral Admin Role (50/50 Job Share)

(can be done remotely):

Requires approx. 1-2hrs, 2 or 3 afternoons, a week to check the Besom mailbox, to acknowledge new referrals & respond with any queries (i.e. if information is missing)
To accurately enter new referrals into the referral system

To generate client letters from the system & send to Shift leads

To communicate the number of daily referrals to the teams via WhatsApp.

Harvest Project Lead (can be done remotely):

Harvest is just coming to an end this year but for next year we are seeking a project lead, from the beginning of September until all donations are in – to engage with schools & churches to co-ordinate Drivers & collections.

Back-up Shift Leads / Deputy Leads:

Taking the lead or deputy role in the warehouse, one day a week or as required (8:30 – 1pm), able to phone clients & referrers, with a keen eye for detail & IT skills to manage the mailbox & maintaining client records for the morning. Co-ordinating with drivers & overseeing packers. Willing to achieve Level 2 Hygiene certificate (*short online course*).

There are many other skills we are looking for, to help with the smooth operation of the warehouse, if you think you might have something to offer please do get in touch OR if any of the above are of interest to you: Camberleybesom@gmail.com

SPOTLIGHT : Christmas Hampers:

Can you believe it we are only just coming to the end of Harvest & we are already beginning to prepare for Christmas Hamper packing.

As usual we will be doing the packing at Camberley Baptist Church, for which we are truly grateful to Rev's Richard & Fran for allowing us to use the space.



This year our deadline for supplying content for Christmas hampers is the 28th November 2025. Please remember all items need to have a **minimum best before date of 28th December 2025**

The Christmas Hamper Leaflet will be sent out along with this Newsletter to all the Churches & Time-givers.

More information can be found on our website on the "What we do page" & if you want to help with packing to find out the days & to let her Nicky you are wishing to help, please email her on:

camberleybesomhampers@gmail.com

OR if you are in the warehouse, you will find a sign-up sheet. **The deadline to sign up is the 1st November!**

Message of thanks from a client

I would just like to say a really big thank you to you all.

For the last 2 weeks I have received food parcels. This was so appreciated & helped so much, hopefully one day I will be able to return the help.

This is absolutely wonderful thing to do for people.

God is always watching over us thank you again

Rooms A, F & N to L Moving Day:

It's said 'a picture paints a thousand words' so I am going to leave this page pretty much to pictures. A fantastic (but long) morning of team work enabled us to vacate room A upstairs & move all the stock into room L. Also bring down the Christmas stock from room F, reorganise the cleaning materials, toiletries & fresh food area in room N, & bring in an additional larder fridge to help us with the extra fresh fruit & vegetables that have been coming in from FareShare.

By the end of the day the previous tenants had removed these last few items of equipment from the room but these were a couple of before photos:



Building Shelves↓



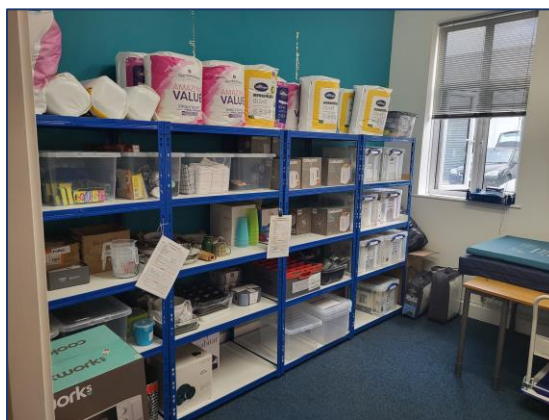
Taking a well-earned break! ↓



Christmas stock ready for packing hampers: →
Baby goods which will be going off to Stripey Stork soon:
↓



Household stock all in one place now:
↓



Getting Room N reorganised:



&
RELAX.....



Time Givers:

We have recently said farewell to Joan Bruce as a Monday Team packer, Joan was there at the BESOM beginning & was one of the first charity trustees. Since retiring as a Trustee in October 2022 she continued packing until the end of this September BUT will remain as High Cross Church Rep. We are most grateful for her sacrificial giving over all these years.

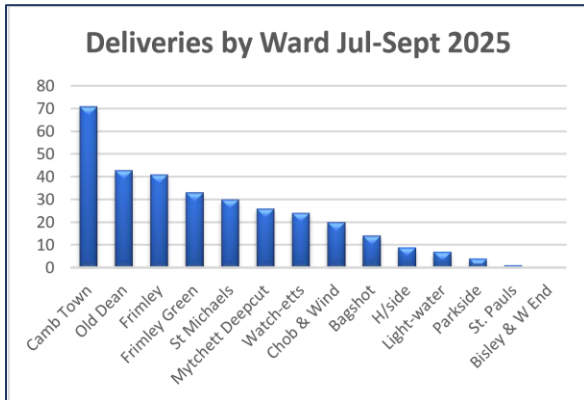
We have had quite an influx of new packers which is brilliant – if you are reading this for the first time because you are one of them – you are SO WELCOME! You have arrived when it is very busy!

Referral Statistics: (Jul- Sept 25)

Food deliveries are very similar to this time last year. Comparing the 13 weeks:

Year	Deliveries	Adults	Children
2024	322	449	290
2025	324	428	295
	Up 1%	Down 5%	Up 2%

The “Ward” trend continues to increase in Town & Frimley areas moving up the scale.



During these 3 months we have additionally packed 14 full household starter packs, including 3 microwaves, 3 miscellaneous household packs, **0 new mum packs** & 76 various 24 hr bags for Citizens Advice.

Dates for your Diary:

Waitrose Bagshot: 28th November
9am - 3pm, is our next Friday collection day, if you would like to be part of the team & can do any 1 or 2 hour slot please let us know.

Christmas closure:

Last day of operation will be 23rd December & we will open again in the 2nd January.

Prayer Thanks & Needs

1. Thank God for all the wonderful donations & for all that we have been able to deliver, for Shift Leads, packers & drivers, so dedicated each week.
2. Pray for our Trustees to have wisdom in the decisions they take to keep us in line with God’s will & the objectives of the charity
3. Pray for those referred to us, especially many who struggle with mental or physical health conditions.
4. Pray for new time-givers to step into some of the opportunities we have shared in this newsletter.

🔗 Thank you for reading this – please share it with your church/friends 🔗

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