

## Hitchin Christmas Community Team 2019 - Hamper Appeal

# 151 Hampers were picked and delivered

Giving families a little extra to help at Christmas

Helping just over **500** people and giving gifts to nearly **290** children



### Hitchin Christmas Community Team 2019

Hitchin Partnership CIO  
Zeo Church  
Hitchin Volunteer Army  
Rotary Club of Hitchin  
Tilehouse  
Round Table Hitchin  
The Foodbank  
Hitchin Youth Trust  
The Salvation Army, Stotfold



Some of team (from top right; Debbie Robins, Phil Jackson, Lorna Hemmings, Charmaine Ball and Suzanne Greaves)

The Salvation Army, Stotfold – gift collection



Hamper Picking Morning

*Making it possible  
Thank you to everyone  
involved from planning,  
co-ordinating, donating  
and volunteering.*



The planning starts at the beginning of the year with a review of the last appeal and agreement on dates and actions for the next Hamper Appeal. We have been working together on this project for 5 years and have seen our numbers increase year on year, nearly doubling. Sadly there continues to be the need to provide this extra support and without the contributions from the local community and the co-ordination of the organisations and volunteers involved it would not be possible to provide these hampers on this scale.

**We would like to thank everyone involved for their contribution, here are some of our contributors:**

<b>Hitchin Partnership Schools – for collecting items for the hamper appeal.</b>	<b>For their donations to the appeal</b>	<b>Venue</b>
<p>Breachwood Green JMI School                      Cockernhoe Endowed CofE Primary School                      Codicote CofE Primary School                      Hexton JMI School                      Highbury Infant School &amp; Nursery                      Highover JMI School &amp; Nursery                      Hitchin Boys School                      Ickleford Primary School                      Mary Exton Primary School                      Offley Endowed Primary School                      Oughton Primary and Nursery School                      Our Lady Catholic Primary School                      Pirton School                      Preston Primary (VC) School                      Purwell Primary School                      Strathmore Infant and Nursery School                      Samuel Lucas JMI School                      St Andrews CofE (VA) Primary School &amp; Nursery                      St Ippolyts CE Primary School                      St Pauls Walden Primary School                      Whitehill JM School                      William Ransom Primary School                      Wilshere-Dacre Junior Academy                      Wymondley JMI School                      York Road Nursery School</p>	<p>Rotary Club of Hitchin Tilehouse – donations.                      North Hertfordshire District Councillors; Cllr Judi Billing and Cllr Derrick Ashley.                      Pirton Churches donation Donations provided via Charmaine Ball.                      Our Lady Catholic church - donation                      Anne’s Coffee Morning donation.                      Phil Jackson donation                      Zeo Church Orchestra Collection. School Collection.                      T Brooker and Sons Ltd – donation, collection point and volunteering time, with special thanks to Alison Brooker.                      Mr K Crook – donation and volunteering time                      Barbara –donation                      Russell Dawson, Flip Connect Ltd – 120 boxes of teabags                      Mr R Lambert – eggs for all hampers                      Salvation Army                      Settle – donations of cereal, juice and teabags.                      Marc Risby - donation                      Curtis Family donation                      Hitchin Initiative Collection Point.                      Members of the public for their generous donations.</p>	<p>The Priory School for providing us with a great venue to pick and pack the hampers. To Tony Foster, Business Manager opening up, use of the mini bus and the all-important breakfast!</p> <p><b>Volunteers</b></p> <p>For all the volunteers who helped with unloading, picking, packing, delivering.</p> <p>Steve and his van.</p> <p><b>Gifts</b></p> <p>The Salvation Army, Stotfold – gifts given by members of the congregation at their annual Gift Service.</p> <p>Hitchin Youth Trust provided funding for older children aged between 12 and 18.</p> <p>Round Table funded pyjamas for children.</p> <p>Members of the public also provided gifts as the collection points in Hitchin.</p>

*Hampers are provided through a referral service from local agencies, services and community groups working with people in need of support.*

*“I just wanted you to know that I saw the family today and they had a Christmas hamper delivered just before Christmas. They were so grateful it was lovely to see. They said that they had a delivery and then the volunteers delivering realised that they had more bags for them and came back with some more. They said that they were not expecting it to be as much as it was and it was a lovely surprise. There was a present in the hamper too and he was really pleased with it. He showed me the calculator and the book that he had been given and was really pleased with them. It had been really helpful for them. They wanted me to pass on their thanks and also to the volunteers that made it possible.”*

*“Thank you so much to everyone! Its made be all teary. You are all wonderful people and I can only hope to be in a situation next year where I’m able to help others as much as you’ve helped us. Thank you”*



To Hitchin Volunteer Army

Have a wonderful Christmas  
+  
ENJOY THE FESTIVE SEASON

You wonderful people

♥  
XXX

### What is in the Hamper?

The aim is for all hampers to have items to make a Christmas Meal, Christmas treats and store cupboard essentials for the holiday period.



Joint of meat & Sausages /  
Alternative

Fresh Vegetables; potatoes,  
carrots, parsnips and brussel  
sprouts

Gravy, stuffing mix,  
cranberry sauce

Juice, Shloer, Teabags

Custard, Squirry Cream,  
Chocolate Log, Mince Pies,  
Christmas Pudding, Box of  
Biscuits and batter mix.

Selection box.

Cereal



To Hitchin  
volunteers

It is so very thankful  
for your kindness  
at this time.  
Your what was  
is all about.

A grateful family



Hampers also included pasta,  
tinned goods (meat, fish,  
fruit, veg, beans, soup).





The morning starts with unloading all the items. The room is laid out like a shop floor ready for our volunteers to pick. Once all the items are ready we then take a quick breather and coffee!

Any hampers with special requirements (e.g. vegetarian, allergies) are picked first. All the gifts are selected for the children and wrapped in advance. Our volunteers then start to arrive ready to pick and then once hampers are finished are given to the volunteer drivers.

It is always a busy and rewarding morning.

