### 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 having 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:

# Hitchin Partnership Schools – for collecting items for the hamper appeal.

Breachwood Green JMI School Cockernhoe Endowed CofE **Primary School** Codicote CofE Primary School Hexton JMI School **Highbury Infant School & Nursery Highover JMI School & 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 & 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

### For their donations to the appeal

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

Mr K Crook – donation and

volunteering time Barbara –donation

Brooker.

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.

### Venue

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!

### **Volunteers**

For all the volunteers who helped with unloading, picking, packing, delivering.

Steve and his van.

#### **Gifts**

The Salvation Army, Stotfold – gifts given by members of the congregation at their annual Gift Service.

Hitchin Youth Trust provided funding for older children aged between 12 and 18.

Round Table funded pyjamas for children.

Members of the public also provided gifts as the collection points in Hitchin.

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"



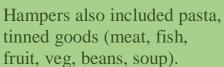




What is in the Hamper?

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, Squirty Cream,
Chocolate Log, Mince Pies,
Christmas Pudding, Box of
Biscuits and batter mix.
Selection box.
Cereal

















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.



