

## NEW PREMISES

We are excited to be able to share the big news with you! After years of searching, praying, and a handful of disappointments, we have secured a new premises on the White Cross Business Park in central Lancaster.



*Getting our volunteer team together to show them round!*

This new larger and more central premises will finally enable us to return to face to face with all our guests: something we haven't been able to do fully since pre-Covid. The Olive Branch has always been about being more than just a food bank, so we can't wait to be able to welcome guests in for a hot drink, chat and to offer a listening ear and help beyond a food parcel where we can.

We have now left our premises on Westbourne Road but are currently busy getting our new premises ready, so will continue to operate from Unit 2 on Lansil Way for the meantime. Keep an eye out for news on when we leave Unit 2, and how to find us at our new home!

### KEEPINGS KIDS WARM

It's been a very chilly couple of months, so we decided to put the remains from our 2022 Back to School pack fund to good use and bought 60 sets of thick children's hats and gloves, which have been handed out to families.

### Asda collection

After the generosity of Asda shoppers in December, we are excited for our next collection on Saturday 18th February. If you're doing your shopping that day, come and say hello!

### 22 Kids and Counting

Look out for The Olive Branch featuring in the Channel 5 show! The Radford family came to help out in 2021 with our Back to School packs, and made some kind donations of tins and their own pies in 2022.

**8366**

PEOPLE WE PROVIDED  
WITH FOOD WITH IN 2022

**7**

CARS FULL OF  
DONATIONS FROM OUR  
DECEMBER ASDA  
COLLECTION

**36**

VOLUNTEERS WHO MADE  
UP OUR TEAM IN 2022



## WELCOME TO JAIMIE!

Another big change has been welcoming Jaimie as our new Assistant Project Manager in January of this year!



She brings a huge amount of energy and positivity to the role, and has some great ideas about how to shape our future at our new premises:

*“Getting back to meeting people face to face is so important. There are many challenges for our communities right now and I’m really looking forward to our move to the White Cross and how it will put us right where we need to be. It’s a really exciting time for the whole team and I’m looking forward to seeing how God will carry us forward through our work. There have been so many highlights in my first month, and I’m looking forward to this new chapter for The Olive Branch.”*

## Current needs

We know this time of the year is often the toughest financially, and we often see donations tailing off. Although we have good stocks of baked beans, soup, tea and pasta, there are some items which we are always short of, and so this is where we notice the drop in donations and the gaps in food parcels start to become noticeable.

If you are in a position to give, please consider donating our most needed items:

**RICE POUCHES, RICE (BASMATI OR LONG GRAIN), COFFEE, TINNED PUDDING, TINNED MEATBALLS, TINNED HOT DOGS, PIES, TINNED PEAS, SWEETCORN, TINNED HAM, TINNED FRUIT, TOILET ROLLS, TOILETRIES AND SIZE 5 & 6 NAPPIES**



### THINK ABOUT...

Doing something different for Lent? How about picking something up for us each time you go shopping during Lent, or clubbing together in your workplace to get 40 items?

### LOOK OUT FOR...

- ▶ News of when our new premises will be open!
- ▶ Updates on our Facebook page of what we’ve been up to.
- ▶ Our donation points - new ones are often added to the list on our website.

### PRAY...

- ▶ That our move to White Cross goes smoothly and that we will be able to welcome guests soon.
- ▶ Thanks for the blessing of a new premises!
- ▶ For guidance how best to support people in 2023