



The Hub@BA15 Newsletter

Issue 15 Summer 2023

Please feel free to pass the Hub newsletter on

Summer Holidays are coming

Our volunteers have been working hard over recent weeks to pack up the May half term holiday bags, which were distributed via the local schools.

With the cost of living crisis, we have provided parcels each holiday period this year. In total we provided 90 school parcels at February half term, 140 at Easter and 82 for May half term. All in addition to our regular agency referral requests.

Now begins the larger task of putting together summer holiday food parcels. Any families in need should contact their school or call The Hub directly.

We are so grateful to the wonderfully supportive local community who are always incredibly generous in donating food items to our local supermarkets or directly to the Hub.

We have seen an increase in financial donations made to us since having our card reader in the Hub and also from our supporters who regularly donate to us. These financial donations, often gift aided, means that we can buy items for the food parcels.

Unsurprisingly there has been a huge increase in need this year. Thank you to everyone who supports us, we couldn't do what we do without you!

As well as staple food items, we would welcome donations of savoury snacks, biscuits, other treats as well as Instant/ microwave meals, pasta, washing powder, washing up liquid, shampoo, shower gel.

Unusual quack olade !

We had a lovely compliment /accolade recently when one of our debt advisors sought help from the local vets about a duck and her 6 ducklings who had appeared in his garden. The vets said they were unable to help but said –

“ if you ring the HUB there are a group of lovely volunteers who can help with anything!”



Trustee Change

After many years, Jim Clarke has resigned as a trustee of the Hub. Jim is a founder member of the Hub after being put forward by the United Reformed Church in early 2013. Jim has also resigned as Head of Hope Debt Advice, a service running as an associate organisation within the Hub.

Jim has been a stalwart trustee and his calm, measured support to all of the trustees and volunteers of the Hub and to all in the community whom he has helped over the years will be greatly missed.

Good news though! Jim has decided not to sever all his ties with the Hub and Hope Debt Advice. He has offered to head the Benefits Service the Hub offers to those who need help with the myriad rules, regulations and complexities of the UK's benefits systems.

We delighted (and relieved) that Jim is continuing to support the Hub in this way.

Community links

We are pleased to have Jane, Sam, Mel and Andrew from the Julian House outreach team with us fortnightly on Tuesdays.



We have been supporting Mighty Girls regularly to combat period poverty. Items are distributed locally to families who need these products.



We were delighted to welcome 2nd Bradford-On-Avon Rainbows to the Hub. They helped pack food parcels and found out all about how the Hub operates.

Debt & Benefits Advice

Chris Sanders and his fabulous team of trained advisors at **Hope Debt Advice**. For an appointment, call the Hub on 01225 920748 or email advice@hopedebtadvice.org

In these difficult times, it is sometimes hard to know where to start when dealing with money troubles.

The team can help contact your creditors, and maybe able to postpone any action by them to recover debts until things are more sorted! They may also be able to help maximise your income and with budgeting advice.

The volunteers have all undergone training through CMA, and several have experience in this field prior to offering their services.

The aim is to provide free, confidential, unconditional and impartial debt and budgeting advice.

Hub Volunteering Opportunities



We have over 24 regular volunteers at the Hub, with a range of roles and skills:

We are looking for volunteers who could help with organising

Events – fundraising events throughout the year

CV and Job applications

Benefits/ housing advice

If you're interested in joining our friendly team of volunteers then we'd love to hear from you. Drop in or call us. We are always happy to welcome new volunteers to our amazing team.

Our volunteers were invited to Signposting training run by Phoebe Morton from Trussell Trust. The training was well attended, informative and highlighted what a great team of volunteers we have at the Hub, of which we are very proud.

More information available on the Hub website www.boahub.co.uk or follow us on Facebook

Charity no. 1160807

The Hub@BA15 Church Street, Bradford on Avon, BA15 1LS

Coffee Mornings

Our regular monthly coffee mornings, are held on the **second Friday of the month**. We offer coffee, tea and a selection of home-made biscuits and cakes.

Please come and join us 10.30am-12pm

Friday 14th July

Friday 11th August



Do pop into the Hub and see us – we are open weekdays from 10am-1pm

We can help with form filling, Benefits advice, Use Of Computers and Signposting

Online Shopping

When shopping online there are ways you can donate as you shop:

Register with www.smile.amazon.co.uk and select The Hub@BA15 as your designated chosen charity.

Access over 4000 retailers via a free 'Give As You Live' account and The Hub benefits from every pound you spend.

Find out more at www.giveasyoulive.com

The Hub Space

Looking for a friendly local space for your group?

Our meeting room can be hired for groups at a very reasonable rate

Available for hire for groups at a very reasonable rate

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

The Big Book Club

Saturday - Start time: 11.00 - duration 1hr

Cocaine Anonymous Meeting

Bradford-on-Avon Worn Out Party People:

Wednesday - Start time: 6.30 - duration 1hr