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| **News update for volunteers & supporters**  **May 2022**  It’s been five months since our Love It Again store on 40 West Street opened and it has been receiving glowing reviews. Selling everything from books to bric a brac, furnishings to fine jewellery it really is worth a visit. All the profits go back into supporting those in need in the community and we prevent items going to landfill, so shopping there really is a win-win.  Another venture gaining positive feedback is our new Connecting Café which runs every Tuesday in St Andrew’s Church, Roffey, from 11.30am to 1.30pm. Subsidised meals, snacks and drinks are offered to everyone, with customers asked to pay if they can (£2.80 for a hot meal like risotto or frittata, £2 for a sandwich plus cakes and drinks). Supporters can also ‘pay it forward’ by donating the cost of a meal to those in financial hardship and tokens are then passed to foodbank clients who would benefit from extra meal support.  As well as providing food and company, the project gives customers access to advice and guidance on debt, budgeting and benefits through the Horsham Matters’ team of specialists. One customer said: “The food is excellent and staff are very friendly and helpful. You can go for coffee and cake if that’s all you want. Prices are very reasonable and there’s a nice atmosphere.”  We are looking volunteers to help at the café, so please get in touch if that is something you can help with.    cid:image011.jpg@01D67635.C3BF0B70  It’s a sad fact that we are now seeing the effects of the cost of living crisis on a daily basis as more people come to us seeking help with food and fuel vouchers. Many are those who have never before had to visit a foodbank.  As prices rise we are also seeing food donations drop, putting extra pressure on our resources. We are currently low on the following items:  Tinned vegetables, pasta, fruit, rice, teabags, coffee, toiletries, toilet roll, long-life milk, fruit juice, custard, rice pudding, pasta sauce, tinned meat & fish, biscuits & jam  If you aren’t able to drop off food to our collection points, why not set up a standing order to our foodbank? Please go to [www.justgiving.com/campaign/HorshamFoodbank](file:///C:/Users/Gill/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/5OSYRQ52/www.justgiving.com/campaign/HorshamFoodbank) to find out more. Alternatively if you are visiting Swan Walk Shopping Centre in Horsham, there is a contactless donation point for Horsham Foodbank stationed just at the entry to the restroom area.  **Be a voice for change**  A picture containing text, indoor, worktable, table  Description automatically generatedAs a community foodbank, we do all we can to support residents, but we also have a duty to highlight the challenges our community are facing and, as such, we will be launching our [Cost of Living](https://bit.ly/387CA92?fbclid=IwAR3l7lgJ5eng_hxSdsDC2xp-QS_9UFvf12F43ihq4BO9rv_nCxm9M1S0VNk) campaign alongside other Trussell Trust foodbanks. We will be asking the government to review the benefits system as well as increase payments to ensure that the most vulnerable in our society are not facing destitution. Please get in touch if you would like to get involved and help us campaign for change to ensure everyone can afford the essentials.  cid:image012.jpg@01D67635.C3BF0B70 |
| **Events for your diary**  **Southwater Street Collection Saturday 9th July**  The 4 street collections already run this year have raised £1,240! We are grateful for such wonderful support. After the Horsham TC collection this coming Saturday we will be looking for volunteers to hold collecting tins in Southwater on Saturday July 9th.  If you could spare an hour on that day, please drop me an email.  **Charity Golf Day Friday June 10th**  We still have space for teams for our golf day at Slinfold Golf & Country Club on June 10th. Come and enjoy 18 holes of golf, breakfast and post-golf lunch all in a good cause. For more details or to register please email fundraising@horsham-matters.org.uk.  Paula Daly  Community Fundraiser |



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