

Welcome to my first newsletter as Truro Foodbank Manager. I am really excited to be taking on the task of driving the Foodbank forward into 2026. The plans which I am slowly rolling out to grow donations and raise awareness are all beginning to take shape. The introduction of an experience for schools and companies who donate to us have begun, so far we have hosted 2 experiences and both were received with much praise for the amazing work which staff, volunteers and trustees.

My background has been in and around charities for the last 20 years and I fully understand the ups and downs. The need for donations and grant funding is as prevalent now as it was 20 years ago, the only difference now is that with the cost of living going up every day there is less money that people can afford to give. That said I appreciate every donation with the same enthusiasm and am grateful for everyone who is involved or donates to the Foodbank, every contribution helps us to endeavour to alleviate hunger in our area.

In 2025 we took in 54600Kg of stock and sent out 50516Kg of stock. This equates to 4404 people fed. Looking at the statistics from the previous year 2024, 4914 people fed and 60012kg of stock going out, there seems to be less going out than the previous year and what this equates to we will endeavour to find out, whether this a trend locally or whether other Foodbanks have found the same trend. I am beginning to work with our amazing Community Champions at the supermarkets on how we can increase donations, this may be through collections or increasing visibility of our food bins and list of required items



Let me introduce you to the amazing Eddie who undertook a running task over a whole weekend and raised over £600 which equates to 383 meals. He is part of Plymouth Argyll Academy and was tasked to raise awareness of a community initiative. We then took him through the TFB Experience, showing how his donation is processed and how we pass the food then to those with vouchers, he really understood the difference he had made.



I received this email from Eddie's mum who accompanied him:

Hello Mandy,

Thank you so much for hosting us today, we are grateful to have seen first-hand the work you and your team of volunteers do. The dedication, kindness and support for the community is inspiring. We are incredibly proud of Eddie for taking on his challenge and being able to support such a worthy cause.

The email is perfect and I'll be sure to send you a copy of Eddie's write up.

If we get any further donations on his fundraising page, we'll be in touch.

I've attached the photos.

Kind regards

Sadie

We also had Penair school bring in a donation and 9 pupils were shown around and had the TFB experience.



Penair School

26 January at 13:36 · 🌐

So proud of our School Council! ❤️

This week they visited Truro Foodbank, where they delivered an amazing 68 kilos of donated food 🍌 Students got hands-on helping to sort donations and learned more about how Truro Foodbank supports individuals and families across our local community.

A brilliant experience and a great reminder of the power of kindness and teamwork. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped make this possible! 🍌 🍌

I will be rolling the program out for all schools in our area and then open the opportunity to companies who wish to donate in the near future.

We would like to welcome our 2 new volunteer in Distribution Jane and John, thank you for joining our team and we really appreciate the time you spend with us.

We are planning a volunteer recruitment event towards the end of February, and I will be adding other job roles than within our stores or distribution. We will be looking for a cleaning role, admin role and, if someone has experience, fundraising too. An invitation for this will be via Eventbrite so watch out for the advertising.

Thank you everyone who works, volunteers or donate to our Foodbank you do really make a difference!

Best Wishes

Mandy May (Truro Foodbank Manager)

