

Summer 2023



luton foodbank NEWSLETTER

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Ten Years Young. Yes, we have been helping the community of Luton for ten years.

We started out with an aim to be closed in five years, as it turned out that was a vain hope!

The special relationships we have with all of our sponsors and supporters is amazing. From faith groups and schools, to charities in the borough and beyond.

Companies large and small, retailers, IT, garages and taxi companies all play their part in supporting, funding, sponsoring, and collecting for Luton Foodbank.

The generosity of Luton knows no bounds; from individual bags of food donated at supermarket collections to more



than 10,000 items of food recently donated from a mosque. These are just some examples. It all helps to keep those in need supported.

In these days, the foodbank supports so many people from every background, many with complex difficulties in their lives.

In addition to food parcels, our Signposting Adviser service seeks to help people solve problems that have brought them to our door. This is a service which, I believe, will need to grow in the years ahead.

Therefore, as we move through this tenth year, I can only say thank you, to everyone who supports us with time, money and food.

Liz Springer

Chair, Luton Foodbank

How to get involved

- Spread the word, and encourage people to use our services if they are in need.
- Share a fundraising idea with family and friends, and see who can raise the most money for us.
- Volunteer your time for one of our activities.
- Encourage your place of work to join us as a Business Ambassador.

Top 5 needed items

Tinned fruit
Tinned fish
Tinned rice pudding
Custard
Long-life UHT milk
Biscuits



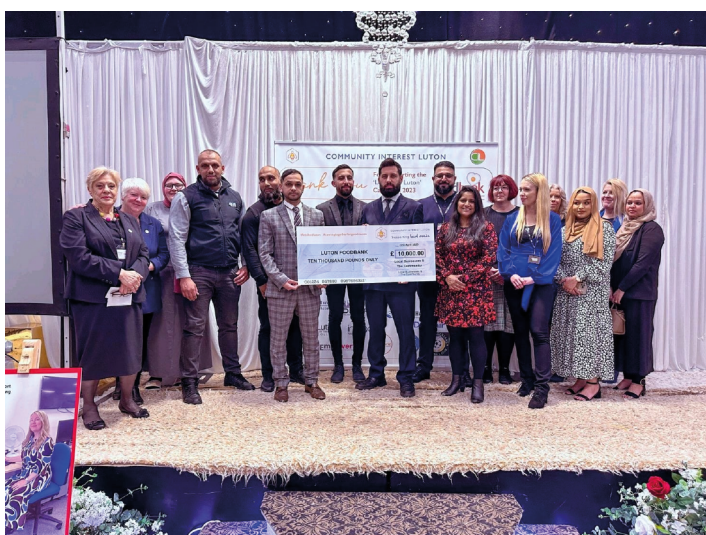
Events and campaigns

Community Interest Luton Charity of the Year

We are delighted to be supported by Community Interest Luton as their Charity of the Year.

As well as the School Run in March, and a wonderful afternoon tea that was held in April to mark ten years since our formation, this partnership is helping raise vital funds as part of their work delivering the brilliant Luton & Bedfordshire Community Awards

Massive thanks also go to Luton Lions, Atrumed Healthcare, Aegis Security and Greystone Solicitors, as well as the very many other supporters who have been part of these events.



We are deeply appreciative to the Community Interest Luton team of Mostaque Koyes, Aimee Clarke and Donna Dwyer for their work supporting us.

Many thanks also go to Laween Al-Atroshi and Gyunay Syuleymanov of Atrumed Healthcare. They are photographed here with Sarah Owen MP at the School Run, an event they were sponsors for.



The Awards recognise achievements that go above and beyond in enhancing the lives of others. Entry deadline is 27 August. Email aimee@ciluton.co.uk for more details.

Colour Run

Our town will be awash with colour on 1 July 2023 when our popular charity event returns.

The event, which was attended by 300 people last year, will be supported by exclusive sponsors Atrumed Healthcare.

Whether you run, jog or walk – please join us in Wardown Park and be a part of this special event. Email info@lutonfoodbank.org.uk for your registration pack.



ATRUMED
HEALTHCARE



The past few months

Around the community

We have been pleased to be a part of a number of great initiatives in what has been a busy few months for Luton Foodbank.

The Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire Susan Lousada joined us recently at our warehouse to thank our teams for their work for the charity. She also came along to one of our distribution points to learn more about the extent of our work.

March brought with it the holy month of Ramadan. As ever, we received the usual generous donations from our mosques, including Madinah Masjid in Bury Park.

We were also delighted to see that our Chair Liz Stringer was acknowledged for her work in the community. She was one of the recipients of the *Making an Impact* award at

The Big Iftar in St George's Square.

In May, she was invited to the Town Hall as a guest of former Mayor of Luton, Sameera Saleem, to receive an award acknowledging the ten years of Luton Foodbank. Liz is pictured with supporters Laween Al-Atroschi and Gyunay Syuleymanov from Atrumed Healthcare, and Inspire FM's Mohammed Tariq, all of whom were picking up awards too.

And finally, we want to say congratulations again to Luton Town Football Club for their superb promotion. The club have been big supporters of ours for many years. Our thanks go to our friends at club as well as Utilita Giving for helping raise funds and awareness of our work recently. Our project manager Salma Khan is pictured above with Jem Maidment of Utilita Giving.

Do look out for continued updates of our work around the town on our social media channels.



Afternoon Tea

We were delighted to have so many friends and supporters join us for the Afternoon Tea to help us mark ten years serving the community.

Pictured with our Chair Liz Stringer are some of the 250 guests who joined us for what was a lovely event at Venue Central. They include Bishop of Bedford, the Rt Revd Richard Atkinson, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Susan Lousada, High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, Russell Beard, local MPs Sarah Owen and Rachel Hopkins, along with our trustees Steve Taylor and Thakor Morarji.



Luton Foodbank's work

Signposting Adviser

Our signposting adviser Nicola delivers part of our wraparound support to people who use our services

If you'd like to learn more about how Nicola could support your organisation's work, then do get in touch.



Information leaflets

Available in six languages.



Download from
lutonfoodbank.org.uk/leaflets

Schools

We are lucky to have a great relationship with many schools in our town.

Here are volunteers Rubina and Yasmin from our schools team awarding a certificate of appreciation to children from Southfield Primary School.

Schoolteachers and support staff are an important part of what we do at Luton Foodbank.

As we near the school holidays, please get in touch to see how you can help signpost families to us leading up to the summer break.

Email schools.engagement@lutonfoodbank.org.uk

