



Remember each anniversary! It's a good idea to remember and mark anniversaries – if you don't believe me just ask anyone who has ever forgotten a wedding anniversary or a birthday! In April we celebrate the 5th anniversary of moving into Hanover House. How can 5 years have passed so quickly? But Hanover House has been a great home for us – staff, volunteers and clients all like it, so as our lease comes to an end we are working with our landlord for a new 5 year lease to enable us to stay here until at least 2023. We are just waiting to get the paperwork completed. We also have an anniversary this year – our 20th year of operation, so we will be organising a celebration later in the year.



CEO Jackie at Westminster!

On Monday 13th November Lloyds Bank Foundation and Lloyds Banking Group hosted a Parliamentary Reception, to bring together over 200 guests from across England & Wales. This was in celebration of the important difference made by small and local charities funded by Lloyds. Our CEO Jackie was a guest, seen here with Sajid Javid MP and Paul Streets, CEO of Lloyds Bank Foundation, who have been one of our major financial supporters over the last 3 years, and helped us with organisational support as well. We are very grateful to them – as we are to all our supporters.



The day Santa came to the Basement...



Thanks to Steve Fitter (aka Mr S. Claus), The Hinton Group & Broad Street DIY for providing food and everyone who got involved to make it a success (not forgetting the staff & volunteers!).



Keep informed and join the fun!





Thanks

Time for us to say "THANKS" again to everyone who supported us over Christmas, including our auditors, Curo, for their donation (left) the children of Barnt Green (right) who did a reverse Advent calendar and the village residents who raised £206.45 at their "Spookathon" event; all those people who donated money instead of sending Christmas cards; the Scouts Carol Service which raised £112.73 and Clodhoppers Metal Detectors who gave £150. We also raised £308.49 through a collection at Morrisons.



Also thanks to Ann (far left) seen with a teddy bear, which is just one of many wonderful donations she's made during the year; the 3rd Bromsgrove Cubs (left) whose sleepover raised £180; ASDA for their 'bumper' food and toy collection; Morrisons' staff & customers who donated lots of toys; Gough Bailey Wright for a large food collection and Worcester Uni Mature Student Society for their produce collection.

Sights you don't normally see...

...Basement staff (left) dressed as Santa's little helpers (with Marina as one of the reindeer – which one? – clearly "Cupid"!), and Jackie and Marina looking very happy surrounded by Bromsgrove Firemen (right) who had come to support the Basement's Christmas open day! *Perhaps we should have a caption competition?!*



Coming soon... (more details from the office)

- A "Pamper Day" for clients on February 14th (for Valentine's Day).
- Art with Words workshops with Worcestershire's Poet Laureate, Nina Lewis, in April and May
- An information awareness day in Waseley High School (Feb) covering issues such as self esteem, homelessness and managing money.

Drop in to open Wednesday evenings...

...with effect from February the Drop In will be staffed and open each Wednesday evening from 5 until 7 pm as a trial to establish the need for evening openings. This is to help clients who have been supported by the Basement and now have full time jobs to continue to access our services if required, which can be difficult based on our current opening hours. For the time being there will be no change to any other opening hours whilst the trial continues.



Now open longer hours!

The Basement Project, Hanover House, 1, Hanover Street, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B61 7JH

☎ 01527-832993



worcestershire
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LLOYDS BANK FOUNDATION
England & Wales



Bromsgrove
District Council