

**well
together**

OXFORD COMMUNITY BREAKFAST



Oxford Community Breakfast is an initiative started by Newlife Covenant Church UK, based at Newroad Baptist Church situated in the centre of Oxford at Bonn Square.

The project received £5000 to contribute towards monthly community breakfast sessions.



The breakfast is run and supported by dedicated volunteers from a number of local churches in Oxford and University of Oxford Masters' students from the Nuffield Department of Medicine (NDM), Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health who come for placements. Since their first session in July 2025 the Community Breakfast team has served over 500 breakfasts!

Running on the first Saturday of the month, the Oxford Community Breakfast team work hard to create a safe and welcoming space right in the centre of Oxford. With many of the people who come along each month facing ongoing challenges relating to homelessness, food insecurity, loneliness, and stigma or exclusion, these drop-ins provide a consistent place to eat and meet.

A friendly bunch of volunteers welcome guests at the door to enjoy a hot cooked breakfast along with toast, fresh fruit, yoghurts, and hot and cold drinks. Each event also offers friendship, pastoral support, and opportunities to connect with local services.

“The variety of healthy breakfast - full of nutrition and colour! Thank you - for a homeless person it means a lot.”



ATTENTION TO DETAIL

The team wanted to create a welcoming and comfortable space for people to come together. The effort put into creating the setting - with embroidered tablecloths, colourful aprons and chef's hats, and flowers and tissues on the tables - all contribute to a feeling of being cared about and being cared for. A flag sign in Bonn Square carries the message, “We're here. Come in!”.

PARTNERSHIP, COLLABORATION & CONNECTION

The monthly breakfast gatherings bring together volunteers and guests around a warm meal, but the impact extends far beyond the food itself. These mornings create opportunities for connection, dignity, conversation, and practical support that contribute positively to the wellbeing of local residents. This project has laid the foundations for long-term community connection, reducing isolation, and strengthening partnerships between faith groups and services.

In order to raise awareness about this new initiative, flyers were distributed through churches, food hubs, and community centres, and also through word of mouth by volunteers and local residents. The team also had direct engagement with some people sleeping rough and with some people in temporary accommodation.

Working in partnership with Oxford Food Hub, other local churches, and support networks, the gatherings have gone from strength to strength, serving around 60 guests per event.

Guests report feeling welcomed and treated with kindness. The Oxford Community Breakfast Team aim to empower individuals to move from being supported to becoming part of the support network and have welcomed individuals who originally came to attend sessions to join the volunteer team.

“These gatherings have become a place where relationships can grow, where people feel seen and valued, and where guests can be signposted to further support where needed.”

Bishop Memory Tapfumaneyi

