

2009 has been an exciting and challenging year at The Trussell Trust. Thanks to the support of people like you we have seen many lives changed... here are just a few of the highlights:

- January** A record number of volunteers are thanked at our annual thank you evening - since then volunteer numbers have risen to over 100 in Salisbury. More volunteering opportunities are created for people with mental, social and physical difficulties.
- February** Our 'Eat Well, Spend Less' course teaches people struggling to make ends meet how to eat healthily on a tight budget - a real help as recession means people are feeling the pinch.
- March** End of year figures show that the foodbank network fed a staggering 26,000 people across the UK in 2008-09, compared to 14,000 in the previous year.
- April** Urgent appeal launched to feed the children at Lipnitsa School-Orphanage in Bulgaria after its food budget is removed. Schools, business and individuals raise essential funds and stop abandoned children going hungry - thank you!
- May** First ever Trussell Trust Salisbury Journal 5k Fun Run in Salisbury is a success despite the rain; this launches Director Chris Mould's '5 at 50 Challenge', which he has now completed.
- June** A young, suicidal mother comes into ReStore Salisbury, Shop Manager Chrissie talks to her and the next day she calls to say that The Trussell Trust 'saved my life'.
- July** ReStore, our Salisbury charity shop, is awarded UK Charity Shop Team of the Year in recognition of our work with supported volunteers and the wider community, beating competition from high street names like Cancer Research and British Red Cross.
- August** Foodbanks hit front page of The Sun for helping to feed army families. Premier Radio's 'Love London' campaign sees more foodbanks opening across London.
- September** 50th UK foodbank launched, reaching our goal of 50 foodbanks by 2010 ahead of time. Stoyil becomes our first successful House of Opportunity graduate in Bulgaria.
- October** Huge harvest collections for foodbanks across the country despite recession. Businesses such as ML Electronics and Bassets Estate Agents help to collect and sort food in Salisbury.
- November** Award-winning former BBC TV producer Derek Butler makes a film about The Trussell Trust's work in Bulgaria which is previewed to a full-house at Salisbury Arts Centre. The foodbank network provides emergency food to families hit by severe flooding in Cockermouth.
- December** A record-breaking 3,882 Christmas Shoeboxes spread joy to people in poverty in Bulgaria. The Pears Foundation awards £90,000 over three years to help grow more foodbanks.