

A project of NLC Community - the community arm of New Life Church, Gt. Cornard

The last six months have not been without challenges! We have made significant changes in the way we operate in order to follow Covid guidelines. However, we are now receiving more requests than ever, supporting parents who, like Grace, need help to meet the practical needs of their babies and young children in these difficult times.

Grace's Story...It was at the start of the COVID-19 lockdown when Grace first approached Abi's Footprints. Her son had been born about 10 weeks premature, long before she had a chance to get everything she needed together. When he was born he weighed little more than a bag of sugar, but the good news when Grace contacted us was that he was likely to be released from hospital in three days. Grace had a list of what she needed – mainly a Moses basket for her son to sleep in, and clothes to fit a tiny child. As the COVID-19 lockdown was starting to be released, Grace contacted us again to tell us that her son had long since outgrown the clothes we had given her and was now growing too big for the Moses basket – could she have some bigger clothes and a cot please? The answer was, of course, “yes”, and we were in the fortunate position that we were able to deliver them on the Monday after Grace made her request on the Friday. Grace was absolutely delighted – and on the Wednesday she arranged for the Moses basket and a bundle of freshly washed and neatly pressed clothes to be returned to Abi's Footprints for use by another family in need!

Sadly our monthly Oasis 'drop-in' is suspended for the time being. However, we continue to prepare for a brighter future! Throughout the last four months we have been busy refurbishing our new 'hub' in a small but beautifully formed community facility owned by Babergh DC. in Clover Court, Gt. Cornard. The transformation is now virtually complete and we are ready to welcome local families as soon as circumstances allow. Re-named **CloverLink**, its convenient location for Cornard families means many more will be able to visit us to choose for themselves the items they need.



We have been overwhelmed with offers of good quality baby goods, partly due to the 'Great Covid Clear-Out' that has been going on in many homes! We can supply virtually any items that a 0 to 3 year old may need, ranging from clothes and bedding to cots and buggies. We now also stock **Primary School Uniforms** and these are not restricted to our usual 0-3 year age range.

Thank you so much to all who have supported us financially and practically during the last six months. The generosity of all our donors has enabled us to set up CloverLink, cover our increased running costs and continue to respond consistently and promptly to the needs of many struggling families. Recent confirmation of 3-year grant funding from The Henry Smith Charity has also greatly helped to ensure our sustainability. If you, or someone you know, is in need of help, please get in touch with us.

To contact us

Message us on Facebook (preferably) - Or call Esther on 07930361456 (for donations & requests) or Gill on 01787 478654 www.abisfootprints.co.uk

