**Local Foodbanks grateful to Hankook Tyre**

**for 2017 collection**

**Hankook Tyre UK, the elite sponsor of the Northampton Saints, organised a large-scale collection for the Daventry and Northampton foodbanks, to provide much needed food for those facing crisis in the local community this Christmas. Hankook and the Saints asked supporters to bring non-perishable items to the game which were donated to the Hankook trailer located in the Supporter Village at Franklin’s Gardens.**

***Daventry, UK, 30th November 2017*** - Hankook Tyre UK, the elite sponsor of the Northampton Saints, collected for the Daventry and Northampton foodbanks on Saturday 11th November, as the Club took on Newport Gwent Dragons in the second round of the Anglo-Welsh Cup. Hankook Tyres and the Saints asked supporters to bring non-perishable items to the game which were donated to the Hankook trailer, located in the Supporter Village at Franklin’s Gardens. Hankook also organised a collection at their Head Office in Daventry, where staff donated Christmas treats for the cause.

Paul Charter, a volunteer at the Daventry Foodbank said “It was great to spend the afternoon in the Northampton Saints Village receiving donations of food from the amazing Saints supporters. People of all ages brought donations large and small, these will be included in food parcels, which are life changing for so many. So far this year, the Daventry District have given out 650 food parcels tailored to the needs of their recipients. These will have been referred to us by 130 agencies. The call on our food bank has increased year on year since we opened in 2009. We are so grateful to Hankook Tyres and Northampton Saints for supporting us, especially at this time of year which for many is so challenging.”

Zoe Baldwin, Marketing Communication Manager at Hankook Tyres, with the help of Bernie, the Saints mascot, distributed the collection between the Daventry and two Northampton Foodbanks. Zoe commented “More and more families are finding it difficult to make ends meet. The foodbanks provide emergency supplies for families in need and Hankook, along with our friends at Northampton Saints, were delighted to support this worthy project.”

Mark Darbon, chief executive officer at Northampton Saints added, “Christmas can put extra pressure on families, so we were delighted to support Hankook’s campaign at our home game. Foodbanks can provide vital support for those experiencing crisis locally, so I am grateful to our staff and supporters for getting behind this excellent initiative and for donating generously.”

**Main image:**

*Daventry Foodbank:* Zoe Baldwin, Marketing Communication Manager at Hankook Tyre UK Ltd handing over collection to Linda Gee, Team Leader at Daventry Foodbank with help from Bernie, the Northampton Saints Mascot

**Accompanying images:**

*Spencer Bridge Northampton Foodbank*: Zoe Baldwin, Marketing Communication Manager at Hankook Tyre UK Ltd handing over collection to Linda Withers, Manager at Northampton Spencer Bridge Foodbank and her team with help from Bernie, the Northampton Saints Mascot

*Restore Northampton Foodbank*: Zoe Baldwin, Marketing Communication Manager at Hankook Tyre UK Ltd handing over collection to Anya Willis, Charity Director at Restore Northampton with help from Bernie, the Northampton Saints Mascot

*Hankook Trailer at Northampton Saints:* The highly visible Hankook trailer stationed in the Supporters Village at Franklin’s Gardens

**About Hankook Tire**

Hankook Tire is one of the global top 5 companies in the mass production of tyres and manufactures innovative, award winning radial tyres of proven superior quality for passenger cars, light trucks, SUVs, RVs, trucks, and buses as well as motorsports (circuit racing/rallies).

Aspiring to bring consumers the utmost excellence in product quality, technological excellence and driving satisfaction, Hankook Tire continuously invests in research and development maintaining five R&D centres and seven production facilities around the world. Bespoke tyre solutions for the European markets as well as European Original Equipment according to the requirements of leading premium car manufacturers, are developed in the company’s regional Technical Centre in Hanover/Germany. Production for the European region is taking place in the state-of-the-art manufacturing site in Rácalmás/Hungary which was inaugurated in June 2007 and is continuously being expanded. Currently more than 3,000 employees produce up to 19 million tyres a year for passenger cars, SUVs and light trucks.

Hankook Tire employs more than 22,000 people worldwide and are selling their products in over 180 countries. Internationally leading car manufacturers rely on tyres made by Hankook for their original equipment.

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