

Exmouth Food Bank March 2024 News



Current demand

During the past few weeks we have focused on restocking the core items that go into our food parcels. Thank you to everyone who has donated including the residents, families and staff from the Old Vicarage Residential Care Home in Otterton.

In February we distributed 205 parcels that fed 481 individuals. This is a 30% drop in demand when compared to January 2024, as many households were able to benefit from the government's recent cost of living payment of £299.



Staff from the Old Vicarage Care Home donating a collection of 'winter warmers.'

Preparations for Easter

Easter is early this year - Good Friday falls on Friday 29 March. We would welcome donations of Easter eggs and chocolates to give to families but request that such donations are made by **Friday 22 March** so that we can distribute them ahead of the Easter weekend.

Advanced warning to referring agencies - the Food Bank will be open on Tuesday 26 March as usual but will be closed on Good Friday 29 March. Normal opening hours will resume the following week.



Stock provided by Exmouth Food Bank to support the Pop-Up Pantry in Budleigh

From Food Bank to Pop-Up Pantry

Readers may be aware that we are working in partnership with Budleigh Methodist Church and Launchpad to provide a Pop-Up Pantry that is hosted at Wesley's Café and Community Space in Fore Street Budleigh. The Pantry supports families and individuals who are struggling to afford food but who would not necessarily pass the threshold for accessing a food bank. Basic items are offered at a subsidised rate i.e. £1.50 for 5 items, £3.00 for 10 items, and £6.00 for 20 items. The Pantry also offers transitional support to those who have received food parcels from Exmouth Food Bank but who need further assistance to get back on track.

The Pop-Up Pantry is open on Friday afternoons between 2.00pm and 4.00pm. If you would like to know more or would like to refer someone to the pantry please email: admin@launchpadsw.org

Celebrating the work of our amazing volunteers

Exmouth Food Bank is run entirely by 48 volunteers who collect donations from drop points, sort and rotate stock, pack and deliver food parcels and liaise with referring agencies and clients. On February 10th we were delighted to meet together for the first time as a whole team to reflect on and acknowledge all that we have achieved during the past year. We would like to extend our thanks to Exmouth Rotary for supporting this event along with the Great Western Railway Club for hosting it and Celebrations Exmouth for providing colourful table decorations.

