

1325 Shops

208 new
members

14 Volunteers



**July - September
2023**

Overview

Over these last four months we saw a shift in the opening times and availability of the Pantry to the community, now open from 12-2 Wednesdays and Fridays and 10-2 on a Thursday. Not only has this has created a far more relaxed shopping experience, with less queues, better management of stock and more flexible volunteer opportunities, but we have also seen a dramatic increase in new memberships, number of shops and food parcels carried out in this quarter.

Volunteers

This quarter has seen The Restore Pantry manager and 3 lead volunteers prepare for additional training in Mental Health First Aid to better assist those on supported volunteer places. We have continued to support our strong base of volunteers providing flexibility in hours to suit need and health, and made every effort to promote the opportunities and support provided in volunteering with Restore.

We have found the recruitment of new volunteers quite slow this quarter even after promotions at the recent PCN events and those similar, however this has enabled us to focus our support with our existing volunteers as we continue to promote the opportunities to others

The Drop In/Uniform Bank/Social enterprise

The Drop In (previously Warm space), continues to go from strength to strength becoming a great space for the community, particularly Pantry volunteers and members to find friendship, a listening ear, referral to additional agencies and support.

Over the summer the Drop in expanded to provide free family craft and play days. During the summer we also opened up the uniform bank to be accessible daily to all as opposed to one off events which has supported other uniform giveaways in the town as well as those that drop in.

Summer also saw the trial of the social enterprise 'Potato Pete's - baked potato sales at low cost to the community ties in with wednesdays pantry to support those waiting in the queue, attending the Drop in and most importantly providing works kills and opportunities to some our most vulnerable clients.

Impact

We want to highlight our longest standing volunteer who has been with us for over 3 years. Form having never previously been able to maintain a volunteer position, working alongside significant mental health difficulties, being unable to cope with acquiring accommodation over time, through relationship has been able to sustain a good working relationship, overcome some major social obstacles, even been involved in supporting other volunteers, hold levels of responsibility and continues to be a real credit to Restore Pantry

FUTURE

- Continue to promote the great supported volunteering opportunities with The Pantry to agencies who support those with mental health and learning difficulties.
- Continuing ongoing support to the community through the accessible uniform bank
- Preparations for Christmas food provision and free family fun events.

“I’m convinced it keeps me out of hospital, giving me something to do. It gets me out of bed and i am surrounded by lovely people there that don’t judge me.”

Sophie Pantry Volunteer

RESTORE CHURCH

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