

ST LUKE'S PANTRY

Report for the Annual Assembly of Lowestoft

10th March 2026

Our Food Pantry at St Luke's on the edge of the Whitton Estate is open every Wednesday afternoon. We opened in November 2022 and have served customers from all parts of Lowestoft, We have been fortunate in getting grants from Lowestoft Council and from a number of charities. Several churches, a Scout group and customers at Morrisons have also supplied us with extra goods through generous donations. The customers are allowed 12 items for £3. They can also have 4 toilet rolls and 2 other hygiene items each week which are free and supplied from a separate donation fund. On a busy week we may supply over 400 items. Our purchases are about £400 per month. We estimate that for their £3 customers get approximately £11.40 of goods which with their free items from our vegetables etc equates to approximately £15 per visit. The total number of user visits since we opened is 2844 . This amounts to 34128 of purchased food from grants

Our customers are from all ages and for many reasons are finding life hard and the Pantry helps them to have good nourishing meals. We have cereals, tea, coffee, tinned fruit and vegetables, tinned meat, rice, pasta, porridge, and when available we have vegetables. The vegetables and fruit are from our own allotments. A member of St Mark's has 4 allotments and a group of volunteers help him with the planting, ongoing gardening and harvesting,

When our customers have shopped we supply a cup of tea and many stay and chat, It is during those chats that we learn of the cost of living problems they are facing

Josephine Fowler (Rev)

Oulton Broad Team Ministry

Pantry Leader