

St Anne's Pantry Update

September-October 2020 pre-Christmas Edition



Promoting Food Security in Porirua

179 Deliveries

During September and October

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Editorial - Why the Pantry Exists

Welcome to this report back to supporters, volunteers and friends of St Anne's Pantry. Pantry deliveries continue at around 2-3 times the volume dispatched during 2019. In this newsletter I will focus on those who access food from St Anne's Pantry and examine some of the reasons why the Pantry exists.

Recently we have invited recipients to feed back. Some of their comments are included in this Pantry news and others are online here:

www.poriruaanglican.nz/sap-feedback

These express some of the reasons requests for food are made. As we phone, text and deliver we hear some of the challenges people face around issues of food security. The reasons are many and they include these:

- Housing insecurity faces people with increased expenses, uncertainty and unfamiliarity, especially if they are housed away from known supports.
- Tangihanga and other whanau gatherings mean people are called to offer hospitality beyond the norm, stretching the budgets for food, travel, health and other incidentals.
- Other unexpected bills come through car repairs and maintenance, health issues, fines, etc.
- Debt finance required to pay loans that have over-extended the budget.
- School holiday and back to school expenses.
- Relationship strain and breakdown can leave people stranded financially.
- Theft can create a financial and food crisis.
- Large distances from supermarkets where reduced grocery prices are available, especially when transport is an issue e.g. when there is no car.
- Debtors renegeing on repayments so that expected income is not available.
- Low wages or benefits leave people vulnerable financially.

The \$150+ saved when a St Anne's food parcel is delivered often frees up income to meet other pressing bills like power, car repair, unexpected medical bills or others as mentioned above. Two or three food parcel deliveries can free up around \$500 or more which will often help people begin to get over a financial crisis.

When you give donations of groceries or finance to support St Anne's Pantry, these are some of the challenges you are helping to meet.

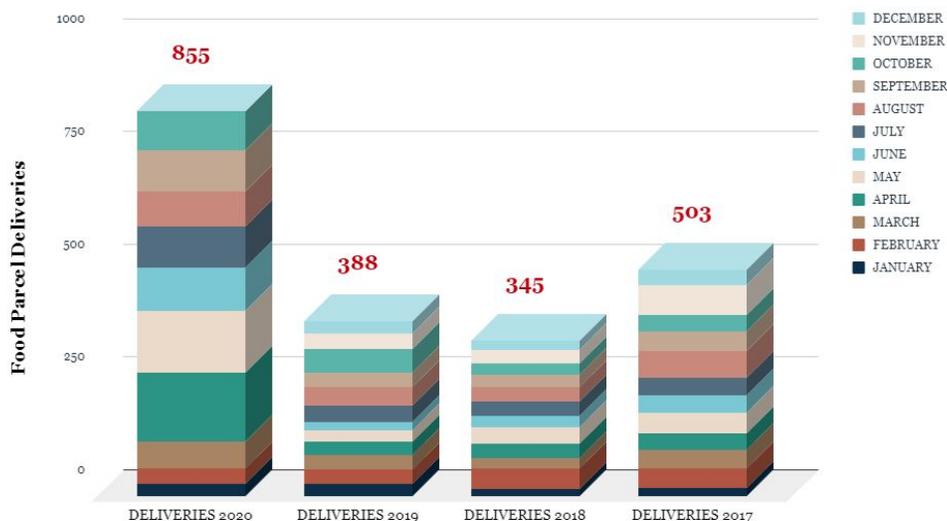
Yours sincerely in Christian Service,

Terry Alve

Priest in Charge, Porirua Anglicans

St Anne's Pantry Deliveries Jan 2017-Oct 2020

SAP Deliveries 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Oct 2020



When we compare Pantry deliveries this year with previous years, we acknowledge some significant changes this year, including:

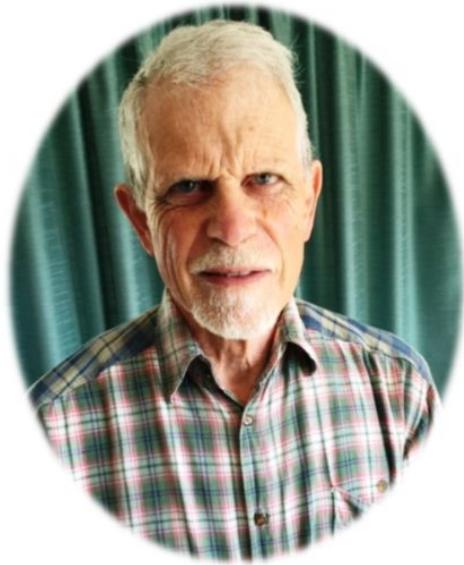
- The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, especially during the level 3 and 4 lockdown periods which led to skyrocketing demand especially during April to June - see graphic - when Pantry deliveries were made daily;
- The Pantry continuing as a five day a week operation beyond lockdown;
- Supplementing the CAB referral system, which continues, with a website form ordering facility that has extended our reach;
- Offering a larger range of food and grocery items to households which has been made possible through increased funding by individual and corporate donors, plus council and government grants;
- Developing a larger team of volunteers as stackers, packers and deliverers.

Christmas Arrangements

In previous years St Anne's Pantry has supplemented regular deliveries with a special delivery of Christmas Dinner food. This year we have chosen to continue meeting regular, increased demand, by supplementing requested deliveries during the period before Christmas with 'enhanced' food parcels.

Food parcel deliveries will continue to Wednesday 23 December. Deliveries will resume on Monday 11th January.

The Founding of St Anne's Pantry



It was in 1984 that Bill Summers who worked in the Registry at Victoria University and as a marriage celebrant, approached the Porirua Anglican Vicar the **Reverend Jonathon Boyes** (pictured in 2020) suggesting **the Lord had told him to donate food for the people of Porirua.** Bill and his wife Marjorie were members of the Khandallah Presbyterian Church and had earlier approached Presbyterian ministers in Porirua who were unresponsive to their suggestion.

Jonathon's response was to form the Porirua Anglican Co-operative Trust (PACT). Pat Higham assisted with administration and Jean Stratford was involved from the beginning using her practical skills. **A garden was started where the unemployed could grow food.** In 1985 20 families were receiving food parcels in the Ranui area and churches from Otaki to Khandallah quickly caught the vision and were supportive providing food and financial donations. Jonathan remembers **pumpkins and cabbages came from Otaki and 5 cords of wood** were dropped off at the Vicarage in Cannons Creek and wheelbarrowed to many destinations.

Jonathon's ministry ended Christmas 1986 and the Pantry continued under the new Vicar Michael Watson. **In 1989 PACT was re-titled St Anne's Pantry** with Jean Stratford continuing as Facilitator until her death in 2005. During her watch the volume of requests fluctuated but there was no sign of them abating. During 2001, 3,000 people received food through 800 parcels - an average of 16 per week.

During the last 15 years the Pantry has continued with the facilitation of various people including **Diane Stuart (with husband Bob) and Val Grace** who retired in 2019. This year Sofia Ali and Margaret Alve lead the Pantry operation.

The Pantry continues to receive referrals from Porirua Citizens Advice Bureau. This year **requests via a Parish website form** has increased awareness and accessibility for people who are needful of food support. During 2020 with Covid-19 requests for Pantry food parcels have increased significantly.

The Khandallah Presbyterian Church (among many others) continues to support the Pantry as it did in the beginning back in 1984.

St Anne's Pantry User Feedback

You guys are so awesome. Thank you so much for the help we needed in the time of need. We were struggling and didn't know what to do. My daughter put us on to you and I messaged you straight away you got back to me and told me when the food will be delivered. You sent enough around it lasted for a while. We are a Muslim family and because of our religion you made sure we got the right food parcel... Thank you so much to all the sponsors and the fast delivery. Much appreciated... *Amanda*

Kia Ora Anne's Pantry,

I really am so grateful to have learnt that our community has such a giving and kind church who has lifted my spirits at a time where I had nowhere else to turn for help. The people and help at Anne's Pantry not only provided me with Kai for myself and my daughter but also a sense of relief, also. I was in a predicament a few weeks leading up to the day I reached out for help, I was homeless for 2 weeks my daughter and I, I then found an emergency hotel in the city, then I moved back to Porirua with a friend as I was unfamiliar with life in the city, I then paid my expenses to my friend who then took off and left my daughter and I with bare house. Unfortunately Winz were not able to help at that time for food assistance because I pay board, and that shall cover those particulars. Anne's Pantry lifted my spirits to keep on going, with even my friend gone, no vehicle or money, Anne's pantry is a true blessing, I really, really am so grateful for all I have received and wish from the bottom of my heart, that everyone not only can receive from such a beautiful and warm place such as here, but I hope they are inspired more to give back to the community that keeps us all going. With love, *Donna*

Receiving this food package from St Anne's Pantry was such a great help to me and my family in a few weeks where we were struggling. They even went above and beyond to get my newborn daughter the lactose free formula that she required! Absolutely heaven sent and we appreciated it more than we can express. *Mariah*

Your food parcels helped me and my kids out very much during covid. It was a massive help therefore. I'm a solo parent with 3 kids also lifted a big weight off my shoulders NGA MIHI NUI KIA KOUTOU - CJ

[CLICK THIS LINK FOR MORE FEEDBACK](#)

News in Brief

- St Anne's Pantry continues to offer a **five days a week operation**. Requests received by 1pm are usually delivered the same day; otherwise next day, or Monday if requests are received after 1pm Friday.
- **Interesting speakers are available** if your group is interested in hearing about the work and mission of St Anne's Pantry. Please call or text 027 944 4996 or, email stannespantry@gmail.com
- **Collateral damage**. One of our delivery cars was side-swiped in Warspite Ave. on 19th October. Thank God that no one was injured, just a little shaken.



- **Pantry Volunteers end of year function**. All volunteers are invited to a catered afternoon tea at the Pantry location on **Sunday 29th November at 2:30pm**. Special invited guests are Pantry co-founder the Reverend Jonathon Boyes and his wife Mary Lyn.



Thank you
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NIKAU FOUNDATION



**Presbyterian Church
of Aotearoa New Zealand**

Anglican congregations in Plimmerton, Pauatahanui, Whitby, Titahi Bay and Porirua.

Presbyterian congregations in Khandallah, Titahi Bay and Plimmerton.



Contact, Donation and Delivery Information



stannespantry@gmail.com

<https://www.poriruaanglican.nz/sap.html>

Mobile/Text: 027 944 4996

ST ANNE'S PANTRY BNZ BANK ACCOUNT 02-0548-0035743-083

St Anne's Pantry is what it is and achieves much because you all care



St Anne's Pantry Deliver

**We deliver food parcels to the homes of those who request food support.
We offer same day delivery if we receive requests by 1pm during weekdays.
And, we seek to deliver aroha from the Community to the recipients of food.**