



Larder report : October 2019

Larder usage is very variable, but statistics show 50% increase over the previous average for the first 9 months of the year. The quick conclusion is that we are seeing more families than single people than before, and they are destitute during the gap when changing from the previous regime to the new Universal Credit. It does seem peculiar that the "old" benefit should be stopped while the new regime is assessed; someone needs to think a bit harder!! Cancelling Universal Credit to start another new system will only worsen the problem; it is the handover rules that create the hardship.

Brexit is anyone's guess at the time of writing, but most probably will not impact the immediate needs of people in difficulty except that panic buying in response to the news may lead to shortages.

THANK YOU to the great Greater Exmouth community; Harvest Festival donations have given us good reserves and put us in a strong position to give support whatever happens. It is especially pleasing to have so much support from schools, bringing awareness to our young generation that life is not always smooth and help needs to be available. It has also been good to hear about schools teaching basic cooking and budgeting. Children's education with mother in the kitchen is no longer the norm!!

Another encouragement has been additional volunteers; some of us are older than we were 7 years ago when The Larder started!

Anyway, we continue with the help of the whole wider community - in fact we are only the intermediaries between the generosity of people and the help our neighbours need!

Exmouth Community Larder 2014 - present

