

## Quarterly Report for Ludlow Food Parcel Scheme (Ludlow Food Bank)

The first three months of 2016 have been the quietest that we have seen at the food bank since 2012. I would like to think that this is because there are less people in need. However, many of the agencies who have referred people to us in the past have had major cuts in funding and staff. Some of the agencies are no longer operating in Ludlow. The CAB is still operating, so hopefully people in need of a food parcel will be able to go there to be referred.

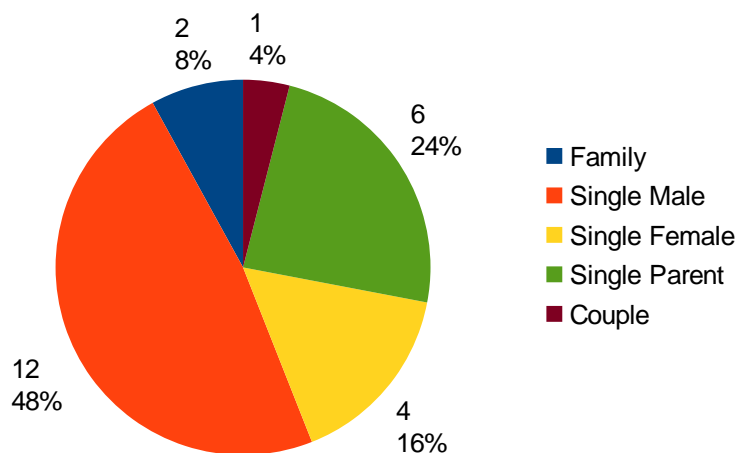
People have continued to be very generous to us, and currently we are well stocked, although we do have a shortage of tinned fruit and tinned tomatoes just now.

Below is a table showing how many parcels were given out in January - March – 25 food parcels

January	6
February	12
March	7

Below is a table and graph showing the demographics of those who needed a food parcel. The repeat parcels were: one for a homeless man, and one for a single parent with one child. Therefore 43 people, who would have gone hungry, have been able to eat this year because of the generosity of people and churches in and around Ludlow. The children in the list are children of the food parcel recipients. We make up a parcel to suit the number of people in the family – a single person parcel would be smaller than one for a family with children.

Family	2
Single Male	12
Single Female	4
Single Parent	6
Couple	1
	<b>25</b>
Single adult	22
Married adult	8
Children	16
	<b>46</b>
Repeat parcels	2



The next table shows where food parcel recipients live. Those outside of Ludlow were requested by social workers who work in Ludlow.

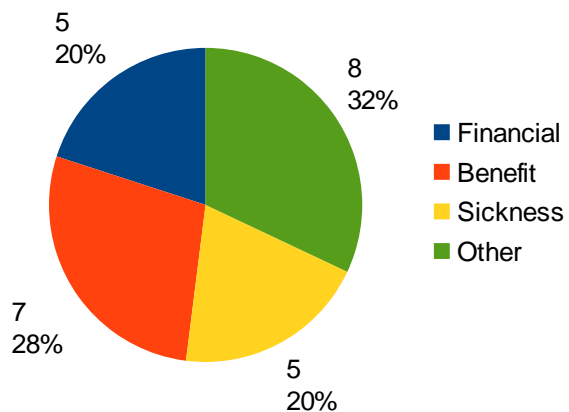
Ludlow	20
Church Stretton	2
Clee Hill	1
Cleobury Mortimer	1
Leominster	1

The reasons for needing a food parcel are shown below.

“Other” reasons are also listed

Where the reason “benefit” is given, this is usually a delay in new benefit payments.

Financial	5
Benefit	7
Sickness	5
Other	8
	<b>25</b>



Other

Homelessness	5
Bereavement	2
Lost purse	1
	<b>8</b>

We would like to thank everyone who has donated food or money to us – it is very much appreciated. If anyone knows somebody in crisis, please encourage them to go to the Citizen's Advice Bureau. It would be awful if someone in Ludlow was going hungry when we are able to help. The scheme is as successful as it is because the generosity of all those who contribute is an over spill of our Father’s heart towards His children. Perhaps we need to be able to see more with His eyes to ensure those who were being referred to us by agencies that no longer operate, are not overlooked. So please pray that those in need would be revealed to us another way.

Thank you Ruth Davies (food bank co-ordinator)