



...Bringing people together  
to meet, listen and talk...

FAN – Friends and Neighbours

# The FAN Charity

Company Registration Number: 07157056 (England and Wales)

Charity no: 1134900

**Financial statements**

**For the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

**Start date: 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023**

**End date: 31<sup>ST</sup> March 2024**

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**The FAN Charity**  
**Company Information**  
**For the year ended 31st March 2024**

**Registered address:** 29 Park Avenue, Whitchurch, Cardiff, Wales,  
CF14 7AL

**Company Registration Number: 07157056**  
**(England and Wales)**

**Charity no: 1134900**

**Bankers:** HSBC (Albany Road, Cardiff)

**Directors/Trustees as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

Peter Akers

Jane Tooby

Sara Jones

Ian Thomson

Huda Khirelsied.

Katherine Kanyeihamba

Jane Booty

Susan Morris

**Annual Directors/ Trustees Report of Fan Charity**  
**(Reg.Charity No.1134900 Companies House No. 7157056)**  
**1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024**

**Directors/Trustees as at 31st March, 2024.**

Peter Akers, Jane Tooby, Sara Jones, Ian Thomson, Huda Khirelsied, Katherine Kanyeihamba, Jane Booty, Susan Morris, Deepika Bagga.

**1) Objectives and Activities of the FAN Charity**

**Objectives:** to promote religious and racial harmony by developing and strengthening good relations between individuals of all beliefs, races and cultures thus fostering a spirit of kinship, mutual understanding and respect among the peoples of the world.

**Activities:** FAN Groups bring people together to meet, listen and talk. The FAN Charity encourages the growth of FAN Groups, both face to face and online, to achieve its objectives; increase participation in FAN Groups, and adherence to the FAN principles as outlined in the Opening and Closing statements that govern each meeting, thus increasing public benefit to all participants and the communities in which they sit. Trustees confirm that they have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. In assessing success Trustees use a combination of participation rates, and feedback from participants (at FAN meetings, Questionnaires and in case histories) from Facilitators and partners.

**2) Development of the FAN Charity**

This is the thirteenth year of operating as a charitable company recognised by the Charities Commission and Companies House. Trustees meet regularly on Zoom and attendance is excellent. Meetings are minuted with active participation by all Trustees in meetings and Working Groups. Trustees ensure that governance and staff support and supervision are robust. Trustees do not operate separately from FAN Groups; both participating in and leading FAN Groups.

Since March 2020 all Trustee meetings have been held via Zoom. The FAN Charity AGM in October 2023 also took place successfully online. Delivery of FAN through the holding of FAN Group meetings has now returned predominantly to a face to face format; of our 43 Groups only 5 are online meeting the needs of those who are unable or unwilling to attend in person, and 3 Groups are run in house by partner organisations (Job Centre Plus and the YMCA hostel) who have adopted the FAN model as a useful way to build relationships with their clients. One of our Groups meets in Welsh. Feedback from participants notes that while face to face FAN is preferable, having the option of attending online means that participants who would not or could not attend in person, do not have to miss out.

Our National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF) project *Sustainable FAN 2022-2025* has now almost completed its second year of operation. We are delighted that the thriving network of FAN Groups in Swansea and Llanelli continues to grow apace. The well-established steering group for our West Wales activities meets twice a year and brings Facilitators and local stakeholders together, acting as critical friend of the local



provision. In Cardiff our Development Officer is working well to develop new sustainable FAN Groups in Cardiff, with activity focusing on Butetown; a Cardiff and Vale Steering Group has been established modelled on the West Wales Steering Group and is adding an additional layer of scrutiny to the project. Training of Facilitators is flexible and appropriate with training sessions delivered online and in person to meet local need. Half yearly reports to the Lottery have been favourable received.

During this year FAN's core funding from Track 2000 came to an end, despite very careful management by our Treasurer, Trustees and Staff. While additional small pots of money have been secured for projects, unfortunately, we were not able to find appropriate core funds that would enable us to continue to pay our Manager and Administrative worker; without this funding our NLCF project would be in jeopardy. Further to consultation with the Lottery, we were able to apply to them for Cost of Living (COL) Support and were delighted to receive COL funding in September 2023. This has meant that FAN staff can focus on delivering the NLCF project and Trustees and the Charity's manager can prepare to bid for funds that will take FAN beyond the end of the NLCF project in May 2025. It is clear that the majority of FAN's expenditure is on salaries for our less than 1.5 Full Time Equivalent staff, and that while FAN achieves a great deal with this small staff team, finding future funding for this core, will be challenging. Sufficient core funding is difficult to find especially at a time when all charities are struggling to secure funding.

During this year we have been successful in securing small but significant funds for projects that sit alongside our core NLCF work. Two projects started this year and will be completed in the next financial year: funding from the Postcode Community Trust to pilot FAN Ambassadors in 5 areas of South Wales; a cookbook of recipes and stories from Swansea FAN friends as part of the UK Government's Levelling Up funding. Magic Little Grants enabled our Bridgend FAN Group to go on trips that improved mental health and wellbeing and paid for 15 weeks of room rental; Glamorgan Voluntary Services Loneliness funding enabled FAN to work with JCP and Taff Housing and to respond to a specific need in the Vale of Glamorgan, where 11 Afghan families had been placed, to set up a FAN Group for women and to connect to the local community. The project is complete and the Group is now meeting supported by a group of 4 volunteer Facilitators. FAN is very grateful to all our funders for their support.

Partnerships are vital to FAN's development and sustainability. Building on established partnerships with Library Hubs in Cardiff and The Vale, cafes, community centres, churches, centres for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Swansea and Cardiff, links have been forged with St Mary the Virgin Primary School of Sanctuary, Cardiff and Vale College REACH, The Gathering Place St Athan, Tros Gynnal Plant in Cardiff and Swansea, The Lifestyle Centre in Killay and the central and St Thomas's libraries in Swansea. Two conversation groups were set up during the year to give FAN participants with English as an additional language specific support. FAN staff and volunteers reached out to the wider community through attendance at Health Fayres, Into Work events, Community festivals and through visits to ESOL classes.



A new data collection system was introduced in autumn 2023. This has simplified the process for FAN Facilitators and Staff and there has been excellent take-up by Facilitators submitting data. Our Administrative worker has been freed up to focus on other tasks. However, data analysis still presents some challenges which Trustees and the staff team are working on. While attendance at Groups fluctuates, it is monitored and supported where appropriate. Success is measured by the number of Groups, numbers attending, but also by the benefits reported by participants and Facilitators – of confidence grown, loneliness alleviated, opportunities for connection and integration provided, along with opportunities for informal English practice. While FAN continues to appeal to people from many different countries now living in the UK, two thirds of FAN participants are local people. We recognise that it can sometimes be difficult within a FAN Group to reconcile the needs of English learners and those who are local but lonely and isolated. However, we are clear that there are great benefits in bringing these disparate groups together. As a FAN participant, and now Facilitator says: It has been wonderful to see how diverse people can connect, share experiences and information, support and motivate each other and find compassion and understanding in a world that seems increasingly fractious.

It is clear that FAN Groups continue to be a useful, economical, and vital resource in communities. FAN Groups benefit from having dedicated individuals or small groups of people, who volunteer as FAN Facilitators, who ensure that the group meets weekly and follows FAN principles. A training programme using Zoom and Teams has been developed and regular training sessions take place in person or online. Development Workers mentor new trainees and offer them opportunities to put their new skills into practice. In addition, Facilitators have been trained for a Group in Colwyn Bay, good practice shared by very experienced volunteers from FAN, and 2 Facilitators are now running FAN Groups in Kenya when they can. Through a contact from our Swansea FAN network, 2 FAN Groups have been set up in SDCAS (Southwark Day Centre for Asylum Seekers) facilitated initially by an experienced FAN Facilitator. All South Wales Facilitators are supported by FAN staff. While these developments out of area, are not our core business, Trustees feel that if there is a need and desire for FAN, and if it can be made to happen in a way that is not detrimental to South Wales work, then it is reasonable to offer support. We are passionate about FAN and keen to share its benefits. Facilitators, staff, and Trustees have come together twice in 2023-24 to share experiences and good practice, on Zoom. These meetings are very well attended and Zoom has enabled Facilitators from across South Wales to join in. They are creative, supportive and enjoyable gatherings.

FAN ensures that our website and Facebook pages are up-to-date and engaging. FAN now has 1263 followers and increasing engagement with posts. A much anticipated first Newsletter was produced in December 2023. This was well received and will be produced twice a year. As a legacy of the pandemic, many groups and networks continue to meet online. FAN is active in the WCVA Safeguarding Community of Practice Group, REACH in Swansea and Cardiff, and the Cardiff Community Cohesion/More in Common Network. Supported by funding from the network we were able to hold outreach events in June 2023 as part of the Great Get Together and Refugee Week sharing food and stories with 45 participants and reaching out to more than 100 people at Grangetown Festival.



In April 2023 FAN celebrated FAN @ 20, our 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday and we were delighted to receive funding from NLCF Awards for All to enable us to explore just what FAN means to our participants and to develop innovative ways of sharing this with the wider community. A steering group of staff, Trustees and participants developed a celebration programme that lasted through the year and included poetic and photographic responses to FAN, a gathering of more than 160 FAN friends old and new at the Temple of Peace in Cardiff, an afternoon tea, a FAN @ 20, Gill @ 80 afternoon of music and food which was a joint celebration of FAN's birthday and our founder Gill Saunders' 80<sup>th</sup> birthday; and in Llanelli a wonderful celebration bringing more than 100 Swansea and Llanelli FAN friends together by vintage green bus to enjoy afternoon tea. This was a memorable and successful series of events, much enjoyed by our community and our supporters. Thank you to our funders and to everyone who was involved.

### **3) Finance and Funding**

Many thanks to Peter Akers our efficient Treasurer who manages FAN finances and leads the search for further funds to sustain current growth. Our NLCF project in Cardiff and West Wales are secure until May 2025. Prudent management of our existing funds and support from the NLCF Cost of Living Fund, means that we will be able to complete the NLCF project by May 2025. The lack of core funding is the major challenge facing Trustees and the charity at this point.

Our staff team comprises of FAN Manager, Sarah Duncan-Jones and Admin Support worker, Sally Smith, who focuses on data, DEWIS Cymru and reaching out on social media. Our NLCF Development and Support Workers are Philippa Wisdom in Swansea and Janina Kuczys in Cardiff. Caroline Dodd worked as a Development Officer on the St Athan FAN project from January to March 2024. All staff are home-based but regularly get out and about to visit Groups and promote FAN to the wider public. Being able to mix and match face-to-face and online training has been a very effective tool this year. Trustees are grateful for the commitment and efforts of our Staff.

This year our sustainable fundraising efforts raised over £3000 largely through generous donations, but also from fundraising events and sponsorship. FAN is enormously grateful to its supporters.

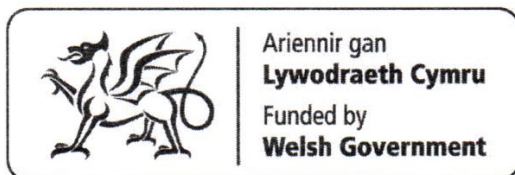
Thanks are extended to Ian Thomson, Chair of the FAN Charity, who works tirelessly on the Charity's behalf. Thanks also to Jane Tooby, who continues to line manage the FAN Manager, and to all Trustees. All Trustees continue to give enormous support to FAN, many of whom participate in Groups and who bring with them a wide range of skills. Their work at Trustees and in FAN Groups has been critical to FAN's success.

#### 4) Plans for 2024-5

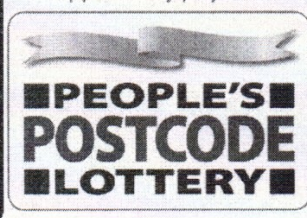
Our plans for the coming year are to

- seek new funding for core and project work to ensure that FAN can continue beyond May 2025
- develop an updated Strategic Plan through consultation with FAN participants
- ensure the continued operation of our network of FAN Groups across South Wales with or without significant funding
- ensure that our data collection system is fit for purpose
- continue to diversify our funding streams including our own sustainable fundraising efforts
- increase our supporter base and to send them a biannual newsletter

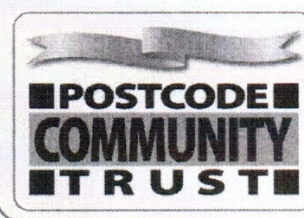
The FAN Charity is grateful to our generous funders for their support 2023-24



Supported by players of



Awarded funds from





SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD BY:

1) JAN THOMSON (Director)

TD Date: 15.10.24

2) JANE TOOBY (Director)

Jane Tooby Date 15.10.24



**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FAN CHARITY, for the 12 months ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the financial year ended at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act), and
- to state whether any particular matters have come to my attention.

**BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. It does not include an examination of whether expenditure is consistent with the provisions of any grant agreements. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view. My report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Independent Auditor: Wayne Strong

Signature: 

Date: 24/9/24

## The Fan Charity

### Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

<u>Statement of financial activities</u>		Unrestricted 2024 £	Restricted 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Incoming resources	Notes				
Grants		0	55,245	55,245	35,564
Donations		3,092	0	3,092	2,948
Donations in kind		0	0	0	0
Fundraising		0	0	0	0
Investment Income		0	0	0	0
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3,092</b>	<b>55,245</b>	<b>58,337</b>	<b>38,512</b>
Costs of charitable activities		340	50,592	50,932	48,699
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>50,592</b>	<b>50,932</b>	<b>48,699</b>
<b>Net incoming resources</b>		<b>2,752</b>	<b>4,653</b>	<b>7,405</b>	<b>(10,187)</b>
Total funds brought forward		13,089	11,762	24,851	35,038
<b>Total Funds carried forward before transfers</b>		<b>15,841</b>	<b>16,415</b>	<b>32,256</b>	<b>24,851</b>
Transfer between funds		1,526	(1,526)	0	0
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>17,367</b>	<b>14,889</b>	<b>32,256</b>	<b>24,851</b>
<b>Balance sheet:</b>					
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors		0	0	0	0
Cash at bank and in hand		17,367	14,889	32,256	24,851
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>17,367</b>	<b>14,889</b>	<b>32,256</b>	<b>24,851</b>
<b>Creditors:</b>					
Amounts due within one year		0	0	0	0
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>17,367</b>	<b>14,889</b>	<b>32,256</b>	<b>24,851</b>
<i>Financed by:</i>					
Accumulated funds brought forward		13,089	11,762	24,851	35,038
Recognised gains and losses		2,752	4,653	7,405	(10,187)
Transfer between funds		1,526	(1,526)	0	0
<b>Closing revenue accumulated funds</b>		<b>17,367</b>	<b>14,889</b>	<b>32,256</b>	<b>24,851</b>



The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(i) Ensuring that the company keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and

(ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its profit or loss for the financial period in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions for small companies under Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

**SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD BY:**

1)..... IAN THOMPSON ..... (Director )

IAN THOMPSON ..... Date: 15.10.24 .....

2)..... JANE TOORBY .....(Director)

JANE TOORBY ..... Date 15.10.24 .....

**The Fan charity**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**For the period ended 31 March 2024**

**1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in March 2005 (SORP 2005) and the Companies Act 2006, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

Insofar as the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales, effective April 2005 requires compliance with specific Financial Reporting Standards other than the FRSSE then the specific Financial Reporting Standards have been followed where requirements differ from those of the FRSSE.

The charity has taken advantage of the exemption in Financial Reporting Standard No 1 from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement.

The particular accounting policies adopted are set out below.

**Accounting Convention**

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention.

The charity is entirely dependent on continuing donations grant aid and as a consequence the going concern basis is also dependent on the continuing donations grant aid.

**Basis of preparation of the accounts**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (FRSSE), effective January 2007, and all other applicable accounting standards, as modified by the 2005 Revision of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting issued by the Charity Commissioners for England & Wales, effective April 2005. The accounts have been drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Charities Act.

**Income receivable**

Revenue grants received are credited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are due. Legacies, donations and voluntary income are credited to the statement of financial activities in the year in which they are received.

**Resources Expended**

The policy for including items within the relevant activity categories of resources expended is to recognize them when there is a legal and constructive obligation committing the charity to the expenditure as described in the Financial Reporting Standards 5 and 12.



### Costs of Charitable Activities

Costs included in charitable activities comprise all resources applied to the charity in undertaking its work to meet its charitable objectives as opposed to the costs of raising the funds to finance these activities and governance costs.

### Governance Costs

Included are the costs of governance arrangements which relate to the general running of the charity as opposed to the direct management functions inherent in generating funds, service delivery and programmed project work.

**Allocation of Costs within Types of Resources Expended** The methods and principles for the allocation and apportionment of all costs between the different activity categories of resources are based on directly attributable costs.

### Winding Up or Dissolution of the Charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remains any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

## 2 INCOMING RESOURCES

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Donations	3,092	0	3,092	2,948
Donations in kind	0	0	0	0
Grants	0	55,245	55,245	35,564
Fundraising	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,092</b>	<b>55,245</b>	<b>58,337</b>	<b>38,512</b>
<b>Investment Income</b>				
Other bank deposit interest received				
<b>Total Investment Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>3,092</b>	<b>55,245</b>	<b>58,337</b>	<b>38,512</b>

### 3 CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Cost of Wages /Consultancy	335	44,079	44,414	40,720
Hiring costs	0	0	0	681
Admin and other Office Expense	5	1,005	1,010	1,510
Subsistence/Travel	0	1,827	1,827	962
Publicity	0	416	416	489
Meeting Expenses	0	2,817	2,817	4,035
Training	0	240	240	94
Insurance	0	208	208	208
<b>Total Expended on Charitable Activities</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>50,592</b>	<b>50,932</b>	<b>48,699</b>

Number of part-time employees included within cost of wages: 5 (2023-24)

Trustees' time given voluntarily to the charity during the past year has been the equivalent of 2 x full-time employees,

### 4 PARTICULARS OF 12XRESTRICTED FUNDS

	£ Main Lottery	£ Lottery COL	£ Other Grants
Balance at 1/4/2023	4,755	0	7,007
Incoming Resources	23,606	15,361	16,279
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,361</b>	<b>15,361</b>	<b>23,286</b>
Outgoing Resources	25,727	10,424	14,441
<b>Balance 31/3/2024</b>	<b>2,633</b>	<b>4,937</b>	<b>8,845</b>
Transfers	0	0	(1526)
<b>Balance at 31/3/2023</b>	<b>2,633</b>	<b>4,937</b>	<b>7,319</b>



Other small grants were:

- Residue of Tudor Trust grant.
- Glamorgan Volunteers
- Postcode lottery
- Swansea SPF
- Magic Little Grants
- Celebration grant
- Great Winter Get Together
- Migrant Support
- Gibbs Trust