



FAN – Friends and Neighbours

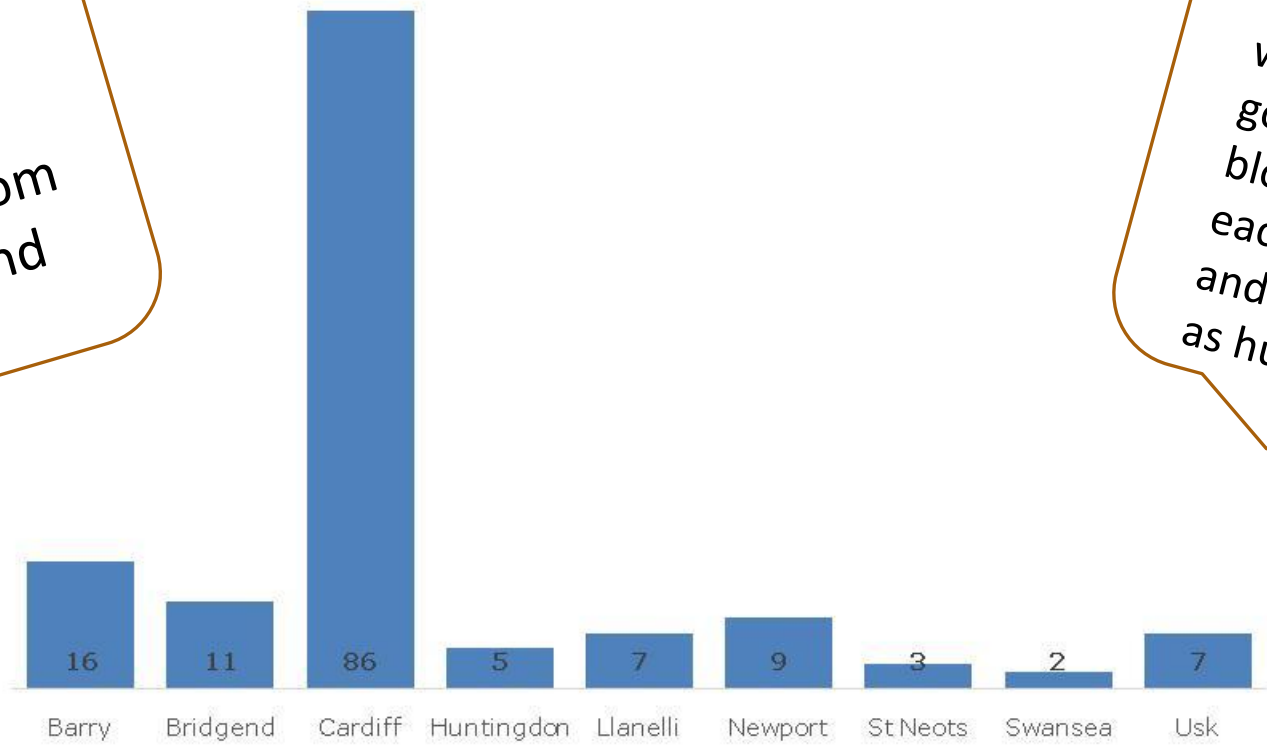
The FAN Charity, survey analysis

January 2020

There were 146 survey responses. The majority of respondents (86) attended FAN meetings in Cardiff and people attend FAN meetings in Barry, Bridgend, Llanelli, Newport, Swansea and Usk in South Wales and Huntingdon and St Neots in England. Over three quarters of people attend FAN weekly.

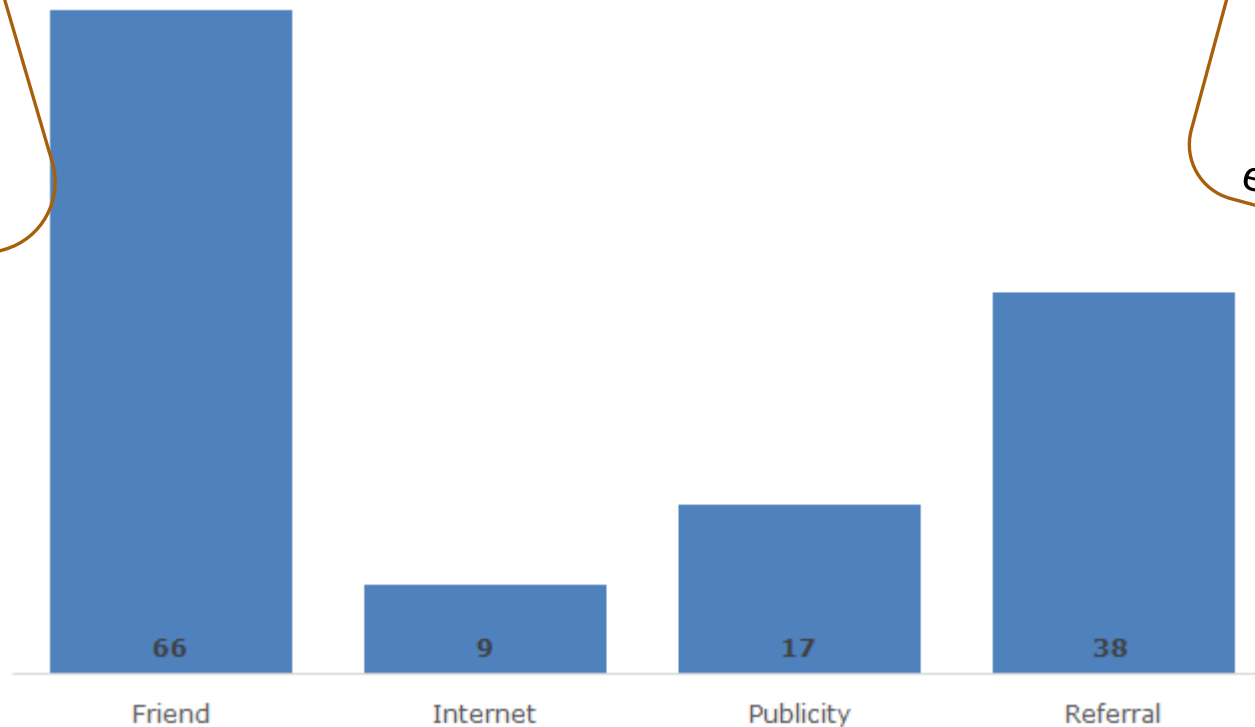
FAN is a secure safe environment to share experiences - it helps me to realise that from whatever background we share so much

FAN is a chance to meet wide range of people; good to watch people blossom and support each other; share tender and sad moments as well as hugely funny ones



Initial contact with FAN is most successful from another person – a friend or personal referral such as a teacher, Job Centre worker or library staff. We must continue to share the opportunities in FAN with as many helping agencies as possible.

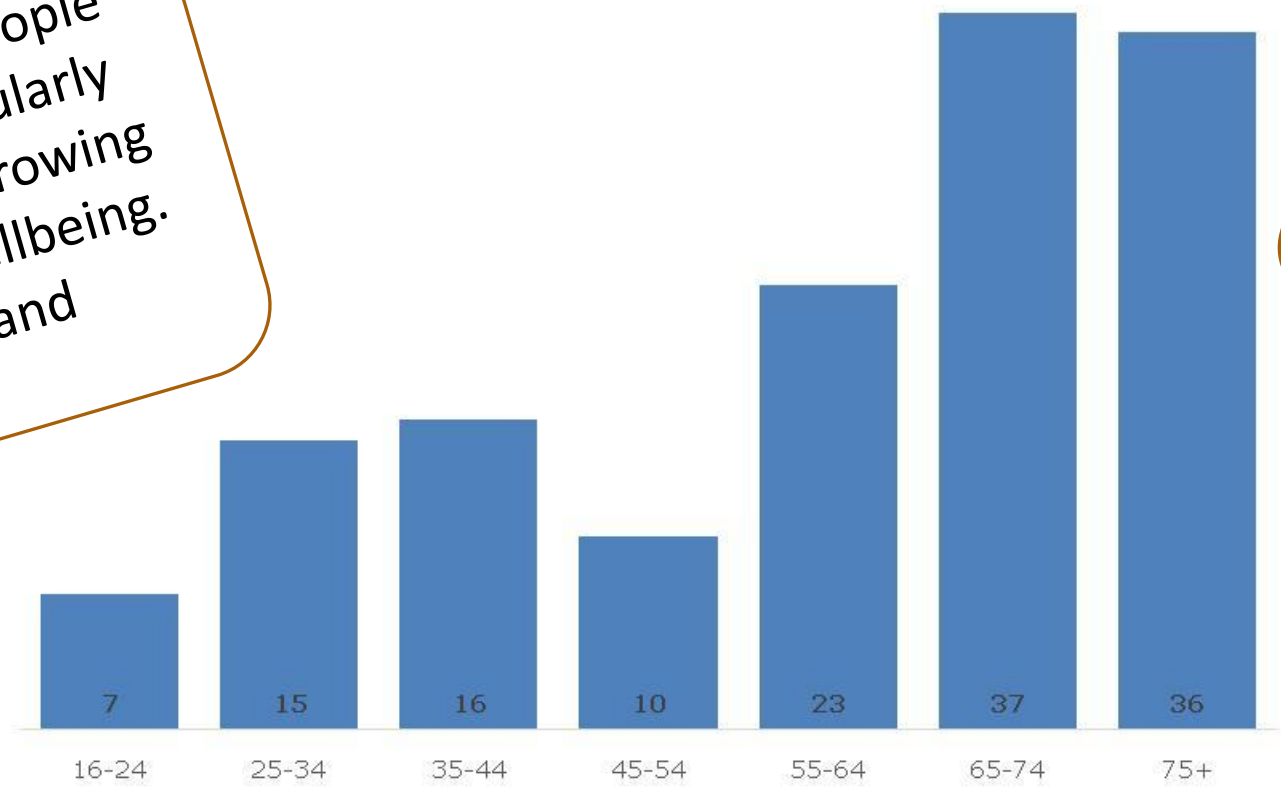
FAN is an important part of my life. We meet on a Monday morning and it's a good way to start the week.



FAN brings people together, freedom of speech, improve your English and learn and share ideas - so educative and welcoming

While people attend FAN at all ages, over two thirds of attendees are 55 and over. This reflects the fact that most FAN groups take place during traditional work hours.

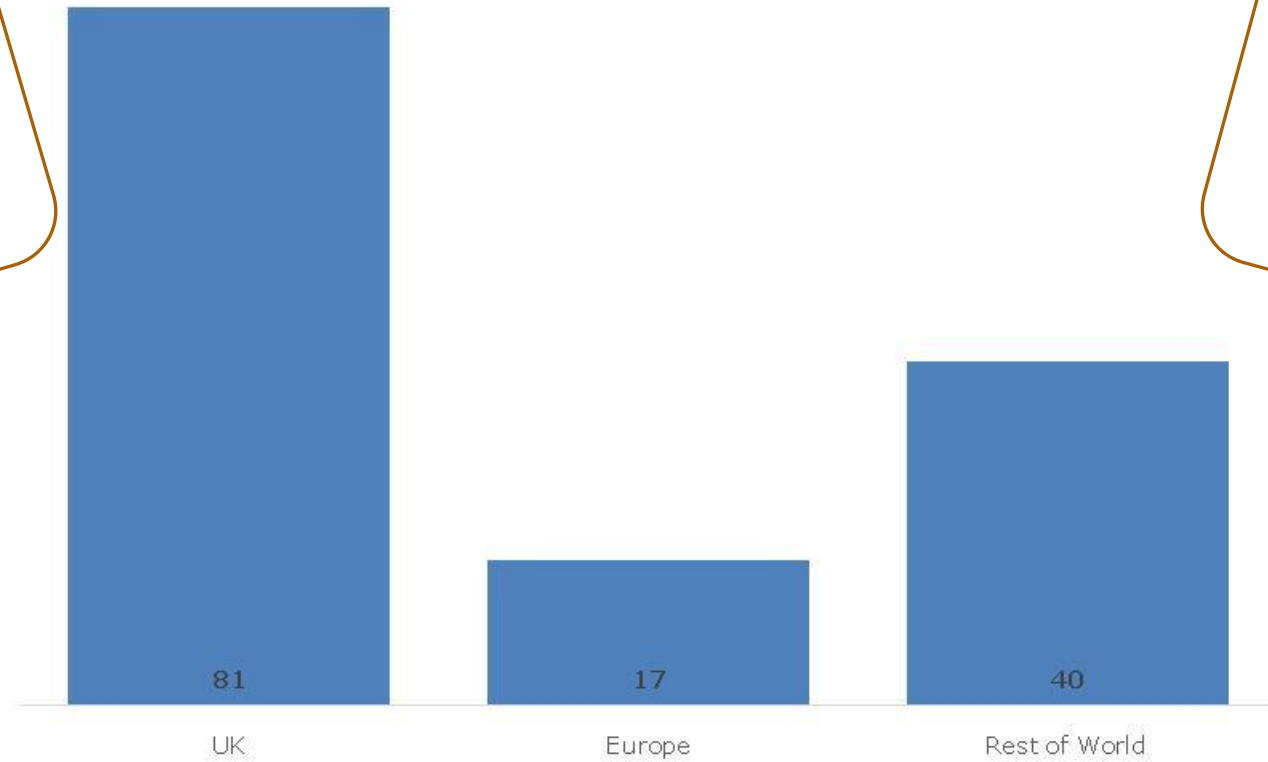
I enjoy the variety of people who attend and particularly seeing some people growing in confidence and wellbeing. We have lots of fun and laughter



Not seeing much of neighbours due to their work commitments etc, it is an excellent opportunity to meet people

Over 40 of FAN attendees are from Europe (12%) and the rest of the World (29%). The remainder are from the UK. Over the years FAN has grown in less diverse areas and greater numbers of older local people have come and enjoyed the groups.

I like learning English, I like the people I meet

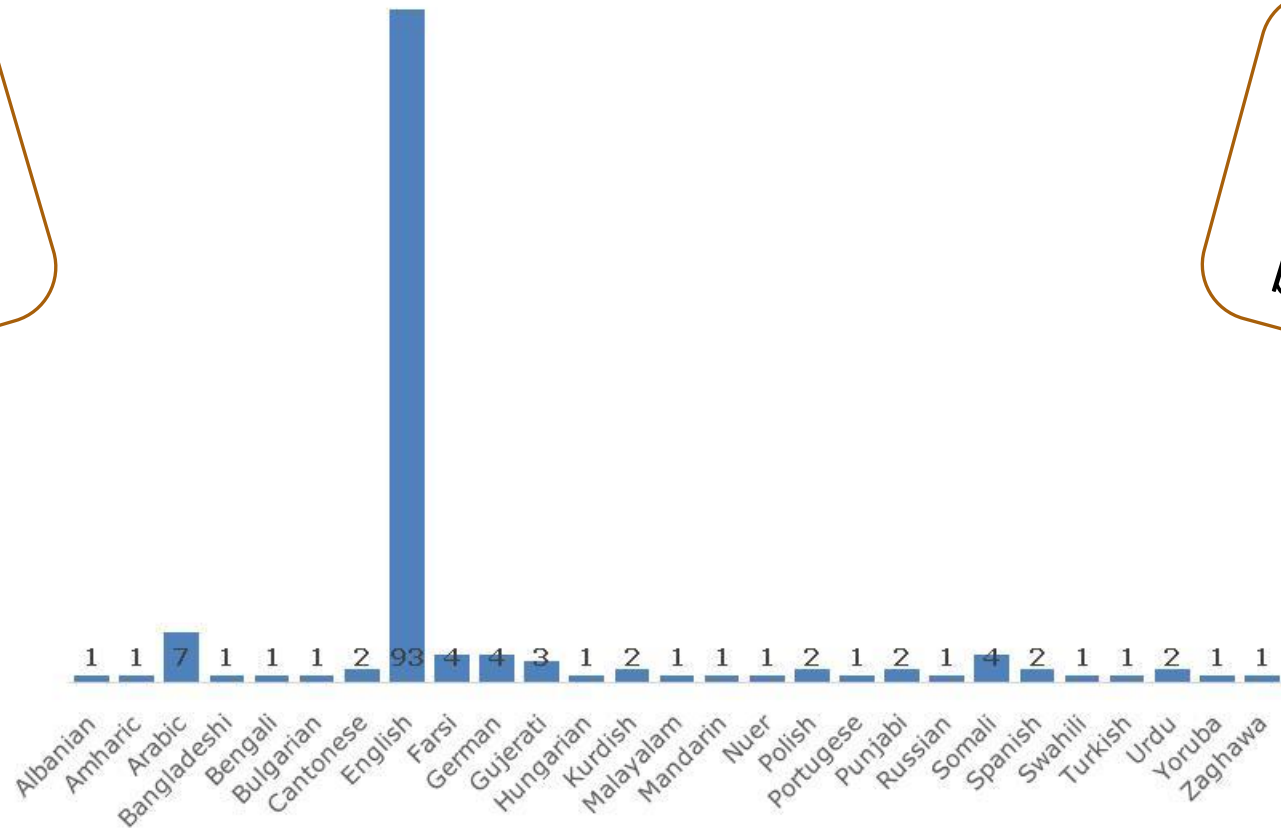


FAN brings local people and communities together

While over 65% reported that English is their first language, FAN participants also speak Albanian, Amharic, Arabic, Bangladeshi, Bengali, Bulgarian, Cantonese, Farsi, German, Gujerati, Hungarian, Kurdish, Malaysian, Mandarin, Nuer, Polish, Portugese, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Turkish, Urdu, Yoruba, Zaghawa.

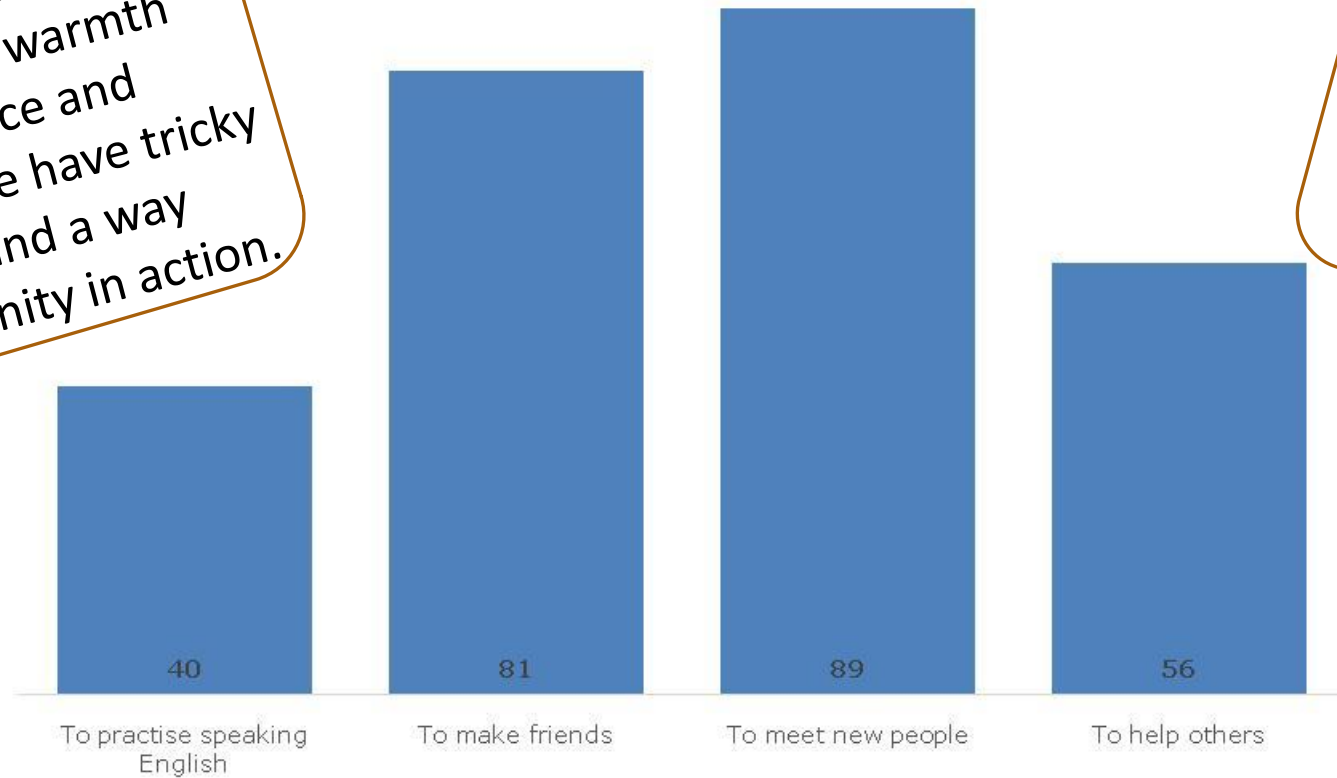
I like speaking English

It brings people together and helps break down barriers



People attend FAN to meet new people and make friends, and English learners come to improve their skills. By attending they benefit in other ways...

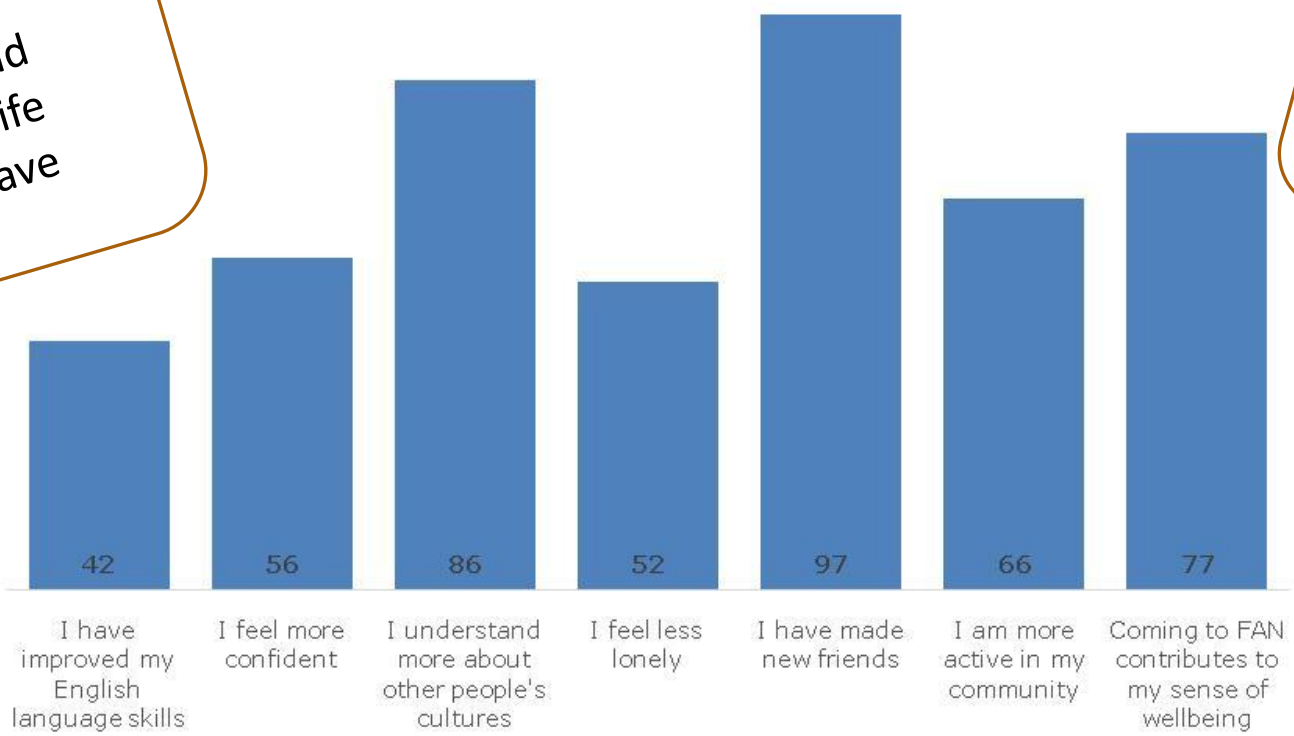
I always feel better after our FAN meetings. There's such a warmth and acceptance; tolerance and encouragement. Yes, we have tricky times, but we always find a way through. True community in action.



FAN is friendly, learning, company, happy, advice, confidence

What are the benefits of coming to FAN? For English learners, 42 respondents note their English has improved. For the whole FAN community, the most common of these are 'understanding about other people's cultures' and 'making new friends'; coming to FAN contributes to 'my sense of wellbeing' and participants 'feel more confident' and 'feel less lonely' and are more active in their community.

People have seemed to have come out and been able to overcome their shyness and are willing to share their life stories and it seems to have helped them.



The way it brings people of all backgrounds together. It always puts a smile on my face. It improves our understanding of each other.



Thankyou to everyone who contributed to this survey. FAN Trustees January 2020

