

**Fearon
Community
Association**

**2024-25
Annual Report**

“Fearon Hall is a hub of belonging, support, and opportunity that we build together.”

This year at Fearon Hall has been marked by events that capture the essence of our community, including vegan pop-up evenings, Rafters music, cultural celebrations and health partnership activities. These moments highlight the strength we find in coming together.

In a time when global and local challenges risk dividing communities, Fearon Community Association continues to celebrate diversity and foster connection. As Trustees, we have strengthened governance and fundraising to ensure resilience and impact for the future.

As I step down from the Board later this year, I am proud that the Association lives “community” through action. Our success is the result of dedicated staff, volunteers, and partners, whose contributions we celebrated at the Big Thank You Volunteer event in June.

As Coretta Scott King reminds us, “The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members.” It is this compassion that continues to sustain and define Fearon Community Association.

The Chair

Rosanna Cant



11,707

Visitor sign-ins to our café



2250

Subsidised Good Grub meals



35,121

Drinks served



3612

Volunteer hours



832

Free meals for volunteers



416

Gifted meals to the most vulnerable



768

Users of our social supermarket



4137

Attendees to FCA led activities



19,919

People attending community groups, clubs, societies and faith groups



7113

Attendees to training sessions and meetings



1645

People attending exercise classes



2155

Community room hire bookings



120

Items fixed at repair cafés



86

People trained in CPR and defib



64

Community gardening sessions



502

Community parties

“This has been a solid year for the Association.”

We have seen a rise in room hire income, and the café continues to increase its sales. However, slightly less grant funds received in the year has meant that total income was about the same as the year before.

We managed to reduce expenditure compared to the previous year, most notably on repairs and maintenance, class and group expenses, and on the salary for an Assistant Manager. Operating without this role has meant increased workload for the existing staff, and they all deserve much praise for maintaining such an excellent standard of service.

As we enter the final year of the current Community Fund grant, work is underway to secure the further funding required to keep us operating with the same (if not better) levels of service.

We greatly appreciate funding and support from



Financial Overview

Michael Welbourne

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 March 2025		2025	2024
Fixed Assets		14014	28168
Current Assets	Debtors	12868	3245
	Cash	1123	2019
	Bank	93519	43101
		107510	48365
Creditors	Due within 1 period	27990	79520
		16029	32336
Total Net Assets		93534	60504
Provisions for Liabilities and Charges		2770	1216
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		90794	59288
Unrestricted Funds	Accumulated Fund	90794	59288

Full accounts available on request

“So many people love to be here.”

2024 April

M

Anand Mangal
Community
Lunch

Every Monday:
• Anand Mangal
Ladies Group

T

Mollys Gift Kids
Easter Programme

Every Tuesday:
• Café in the Hall
• Knit & Natter
• Over 55s Dance
• Surplus Food
Supermarket

LCFC Then, Now,
Forever Dementia
Event

Communities Food
and Wellbeing Hub
Asthma Clinic

W

Leicestershire
Police Beat Surgery

Every Wednesday:
• Café in the Hall
• Good Grub
Social Lunch
• Stitch Club
• Equality Action
Ladies Group
• Feldenkrais

Charnwood
Time Bank
Skills Swap

T

Every Thursday:
• Café in the Hall
• Bingo in
the Hall
• Wellness Walk
and Talk
• Grief Café
• Nuerodiverse
Gaming Group

Vegan Bistro:
A Taste of
South Africa

F

Asylum &
Refugee Forum
meeting

National
Diabetes
Prevention
Programme

Every Friday:
• Café in the Hall
• Good Grub
Breakfast Club
• Music, Movement,
Wellness
• Surplus Food
Supermarket

S

Vegan
Weekend
Breakfast

S

Community Impact

Fearon Hall continues to serve as a vital heartbeat of the Loughborough community. A place where connections are made, wellbeing is supported, and inclusion thrives. The impact we’ve had this year is woven through stories of transformation, partnership, and progress. Our service users report feeling more connected or less isolated and said Fearon Hall had a positive impact on their mental wellbeing.

“It’s a rare space where older men can gather comfortably, enjoy conversation, and not feel rushed.”

2024 May

M

Princes Trust
12 week
programme
begins

Every Monday:

- Anand Mangal Ladies Group

T

Every Tuesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Knit & Natter
- Over 55s Dance
- Surplus Food Supermarket

W

Every Wednesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Social Lunch
- Stitch Club
- Equality Action Ladies Group
- Feldenkrais

Oral care training
for carers

Charnwood
Time Bank
Skills Swap

Mollys Gift Kids
Half term Programme

T

Local Election
Polling Station

Vegan Bistro:
A Taste of
Korea

Every Thursday:

- Café in the Hall
- Bingo in the Hall
- Wellness Walk and Talk
- Grief Café
- Neurodiverse Gaming Group

F

Every Friday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Breakfast Club
- Music, Movement, Wellness
- Surplus Food Supermarket

Recovery Evening

National
Diabetes
Prevention
Programme

S

Vegan
Weekend
Breakfast

Youth Alive
Conference

Combating Loneliness and Isolation

Fearon Hall offers a warm, welcoming space where individuals who feel isolated find belonging. Local coordinators have shared that many residents who avoid other centres feel at home here, allowing hard-to-reach individuals to engage with support services in a safe, friendly environment and the Café in the Hall.

S

“It feels like family to me.”

2024 June

M

Anand Mangal
Community
Lunch

Every Monday:

- Anand Mangal Ladies Group
- Grow Fearon Hall Community Growing Project starts

T

Every Tuesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Knit & Natter
- Over 55s Dance
- Surplus Food Supermarket

Safe Space
Euro 24
Football

W

Every Wednesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Social Lunch
- Stitch Club
- Equality Action Ladies Group
- Feldenkrais

Oral care
training
for carers

Do Good to
Feel Good
Volunteering
Event

Charnwood
Time Bank
Skills Swap

T

Every Thursday:

- Café in the Hall
- Bingo in the Hall
- Wellness Walk and Talk
- Grief Café
- NueroDiverse Gaming Group

Vegan Bistro:
A Taste of
the 70's

Safe Space
Euro 24
Football

Loughborough
Mela Fundraiser

F

Romanian
Elections
Weekend

Jumble
Sale

Every Friday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Breakfast Club
- Music, Movement, Wellness
- Surplus Food Supermarket

S

Vegan Weekend
Breakfast

Supporting Physical and Mental Health

Fearon Hall is described as a “lifeline” by local health leads. One woman in crisis found long-term support at the Hall, resulting in fewer hospital visits and a renewed sense of stability and belonging. Working together with the Mental Health Neighbourhood Lead Charnwood Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust; Communities Health and Wellbeing Hub (who have a base at the Hall); local GP practices; the Team Leader for Charnwood Local Area Coordinator for Loughborough LCC Public Health.

S

“I really look forward to these sessions.
What a brilliant way to end the week.”

2024 July

M

Anand Mangal
& Princes Trust
Curry & Mocktails
Mela Fundraiser

Every Monday:

- Anand Mangal
Ladies Group
- Grow Fearon Hall
Community
Growing Project

Mollys Gift Kids
Summer Holiday
4 week programme
begins

T

Community
Sandpit opens
for the summer

Taiwanese
Interns arrive
for 5 weeks

Every Tuesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Knit & Natter
- Over 55s Dance
- Surplus Food
Supermarket

W

Every Wednesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub
Social Lunch
- Stitch Club
- Community
Sand Pit
- Equality Action
Ladies Group
- Feldenkrais

T

General Election
Polling Station

Vegan Bistro:
A Taste of
Euro 2024

Every Thursday:

- Café in the Hall
- Bingo in
the Hall
- Wellness Walk
and Talk
- Grief Café
- Neurodiverse
Gaming Group
- Community
Sand Pit

F

Every Friday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub
Breakfast Club
- Music, Movement,
Wellness
- Surplus Food
Supermarket
- Community
Sand Pit

Family
Fun Day

S

Vegan
Weekend
Breakfast

Empowering Creativity
and Learning New Skills

Our Community Arts workshops support mental health recovery and community connection through creative expression. Our community arts co-ordinator works with individuals with brain injuries, neurodivergence, language barriers. Outcomes include improved motor skills, anxiety relief, confidence, and social interaction.

S

“It was amazing to see so many cultures together in one safe place.”

2024 August

M

Every Monday:

- Anand Mangal Ladies Group
- Grow Fearon Hall Community Growing Project

Mollys Gift Kids Summer Holiday 4 week programme

T

Every Tuesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Knit & Natter
- Over 55s Dance
- Surplus Food Supermarket
- Community Sand Pit

W

Every Wednesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Social Lunch
- Stitch Club
- Community Sand Pit
- Equality Action Ladies Group
- Feldenkrais

Digital Skills Session

T

Every Thursday:

- Café in the Hall
- Bingo in the Hall
- Wellness Walk and Talk
- Grief Café
- Nuerodiverse Gaming Group
- Community Sand Pit

Mendhi Celebration

F

Every Friday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Breakfast Club
- Music, Movement, Wellness
- Surplus Food Supermarket
- Community Sand Pit

Ukrainian Independence Day Celebration

Anand Mangal & Brahma Kumaris Celebration

S

Vegan Weekend Breakfast

Taiwanese Art & Music for all

Transition Loughborough Repair Café

Strengthening Local Groups

Our approach values lived experience, recognising the knowledge and strengths within our community and the groups that exist there. When the Loughborough East Community Association faced closure, Fearon Hall provided vital support that encouraged them to continue.

S

“Fearon Hall helped showcase my work to the county. It’s a hub for real inclusion.”

2024

September

M

30

Charnwood Toy Library move in!

Every Monday:

Anand Mangal Ladies Group

Grow Fearon Hall Community Growing Project

Loughborough College ESOL classes begin!

16

23

T

Every Tuesday:

Café in the Hall

Knit & Natter

Over 55s Dance

Surplus Food Supermarket

Community Sand Pit

ESOL classes

10

17

24

W

Every Wednesday:

Café in the Hall

Good Grub Social Lunch

Stitch Club

Community Sand Pit

Equality Action Ladies Group

ESOL classes

Feldenkrais

18

25

T

LCC Dietician Service weekly weight management sessions start

Vegan Bistro: A Taste of Portugal

Every Thursday:

Café in the Hall

Bingo in the Hall

Wellness Walk and Talk

Grief Café

Nuerodiverse Gaming Group

ESOL classes

4

11

18

25

F

Every Friday:

Café in the Hall

Good Grub Breakfast Club

Music, Movement, Wellness

Surplus Food Supermarket

Loughborough Lates Art Trail

Heritage Open Day

Lboro Earlies Family Creative Day

Asylum & Refugee Forum meeting

Carers Shadow Puppet Workshop

5

12

19

26

S

Vegan Weekend Breakfast

Incredible Edible Open Morning

Creating Inclusive Opportunities

Nichole Browne from the Empathy Lab Experience collaborated with us to host an accessibility workshop during the Leicester Business Festival, reaching over 1,000 local businesses and directly benefiting Hall staff new community members. A participant later returned for other events, and accessibility improvements for the Fearon Hall website are now in progress.

6

13

20

27

S

1

8

15

22

29

“I’m grateful for the help and support of you all.”

2024 October

M

Anand Mangal Community Lunch

Every Monday:

- Anand Mangal Ladies Group
- Grow Fearon Hall Community Growing Project
- ESOL classes

T

Every Tuesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Knit & Natter
- Over 55s Dance
- Surplus Food Supermarket
- ESOL classes

W

Asylum & Refugee Drop in sessions start

Every Wednesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Social Lunch
- Stitch Club
- Equality Action Ladies Group
- ESOL classes
- Feldenkrais

T

Communities Food & Wellbeing Hub Sessions start

Incredible Edible Celebration

World Mental Health Day Event

Vegan Bistro: A Taste of Autumn

Every Thursday:

- Café in the Hall
- Bingo in the Hall
- Wellness Walk and Talk
- Grief Café
- NueroDiverse Gaming Group
- ESOL classes

F

Leicestershire Police Beat Surgery

Print Yourself Happy Art Group starts

Every Friday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Breakfast Club
- Music, Movement, Wellness
- Table Top Games for Men Group

Rafters Are Ringing Live Music

Divali Breakfast

Ukrainian Autumn Celebration

S

Vegan Weekend Breakfast

Loughborough University Welcome to Loughborough

Championing Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Fearon Hall has become a pivotal meeting point for services supporting local asylum seekers and refugees. From free meeting space to kitchen access, it anchors collaboration across 50 organisations, including the NHS, local councils, and grassroots charities. These connections contributed to policy input at national levels, including Baroness Lister’s Private Member’s Bill.

S

“Before I started coming to Fearon Hall, I barely left the house. Now I volunteer weekly and have made real friends.”

2024 November

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
<p>Every Monday:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anand Mangal Ladies Group• Grow Fearon Hall Community Growing Project• ESOL classes <p>Anand Mangal Community Lunch</p>	<p>Every Tuesday:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Knit & Natter• Over 55s Dance• Surplus Food Supermarket• ESOL classes <p>Leicestershire Police Beat Surgery</p> <p>Fearon Hall Presentation to NHS ICB</p>	<p>Every Wednesday:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Good Grub Social Lunch• Stitch Club• Equality Action Ladies Group• ESOL classes• Feldenkrais <p>Communities Food and Wellbeing Hub Menopause Clinic & Escaping Pain Management</p> <p>Communities Food and Wellbeing Hub Escaping Pain Management</p> <p>National Diabetes Prevention Programme</p>	<p>Every Thursday:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Bingo in the Hall• Wellness Walk and Talk• Grief Café• NueroDiverse Gaming Group• ESOL classes <p>RADAR Arts Bean Banquet</p> <p>Vegan Bistro: A Taste of Egypt</p> <p>Romanian Elections</p> <p>Communities Food and Wellbeing Hub Asthma Clinic</p> <p>Defib & CPR Training Sessions</p>	<p>Every Friday:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Good Grub Breakfast Club• Music, Movement, Wellness• Table Top Games for Men Group• Print Yourself Happy Arts <p>Fearon Community Christmas Tree Making Project</p> <p>Romanian Elections</p>	<p>Vegan Weekend Breakfast</p> <p>Offering Meaningful Volunteering</p> <p>Building on our reflections from last year and the acknowledgment that we would like to deliver new projects that volunteers can help with, we have strengthened our team with a Community Centre Support Assistant and a worker with experience in delivering activities and working with volunteers. We are in the process of reviewing all areas of our volunteering programme. We currently have nine regular volunteers.</p>	

“By working together as partners, we can make a real difference in the lives of people experiencing loneliness in Charnwood.”

2024 December

M

Every Monday:

- Anand Mangal Ladies Group
- Grow Fearon Hall Community Growing Project
- ESOL classes

Anand Mangal Community Lunch

Afghanistan Dress of Dreams Exhibition

Defib & CPR Training Sessions

T

Every Tuesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Knit & Natter
- Over 55s Dance
- Surplus Food Supermarket
- ESOL classes

Falls Prevention Workshop

Good Grub Club Christmas Dinner

W

Every Wednesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Social Lunch
- Stitch Club
- Equality Action Ladies Group
- ESOL classes
- Asylum & Refugee Drop In
- Feldenkrais

Fearon Christmas Party

Café in the Hall Christmas Breakfast & Dinner

T

Every Thursday:

- Café in the Hall
- Bingo in the Hall
- Wellness Walk and Talk
- Grief Café
- Nuerodiverse Gaming Group
- ESOL classes
- Charnwood Food & Wellbeing Hub

Vegan Bistro: A Taste of Christmas Curry

Charnwood Food & Wellbeing Hub Festive Health and Wellbeing

F

Every Friday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Breakfast Club
- Music, Movement, Wellness
- Table Top Games for Men Group
- Arts in the Hall

Eco-Friendly Gift Wrapping

S

S

Partnership Working

We continue to build strong, meaningful partnerships with local organisations which have strengthened the safety net around the most vulnerable in our area, allowing us to:

- Align with local priorities and reduce duplication of effort.
- Refer people into other services such as debt advice, housing support, hoarding help, referral to social services, social worker support, help with medical appointments, dental appointments access to schools.
- Host joint events and activities.
- Share resources and learning to achieve more together.

“We have been able to gain valuable insight into new ways of working for the most vulnerable members of our community.”

2025 January

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
<div>Every Monday:</div> <div><div>Anand Mangal Community Lunch</div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anand Mangal Ladies Group• Grow Fearon Hall Community Growing Project• ESOL classes</div>	<div>New Arts in the Hall sessions start</div> <div>Every Tuesday:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Knit & Natter• Over 55s Dance• Surplus Food Supermarket• ESOL classes• Arts in the Hall</div>	<div>Every Wednesday:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Good Grub Social Lunch• Stitch Club• Equality Action Ladies Group• ESOL classes• Voices in Craft Art Sessions• Asylum & Refugee Drop In• Feldenkrais</div> <div>National Diabetes Prevention Programme</div> <div>Falls Prevention Workshop</div>	<div>Loughborough Archeological & Historical Society Lecture</div> <div>Police & Crime Commissioners meeting</div> <div>Every Thursday:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Bingo in the Hall• GP Led Wellness Walk and Talk• Grief Café• Nuerodiverse Gaming Group• ESOL classes• Charnwood Food & Wellbeing Hub</div>	<div>Leicestershire Police Beat Surgery</div> <div>Every Friday:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Good Grub Breakfast Club• Music, Movement, Wellness• Table Top Games for Men Group• Arts in the Hall</div> <div>Local Area Co-ordinator Drop in</div>	<div>Vegan Weekend Breakfast</div> <div>Book Launch Event</div> <div>Monitoring Impact</div> <div>We are piloting a new framework that will reduce the burden of data collection and establish a consistent documented approach. Data that can be aggregated to provide rich insights in the operation and impact of our projects and explore how diversity and demographic data can be integrated. This will ensure consistent, usable informative data that informs ongoing delivery and future planning and ensure project objectives and organisational objectives are met.</div>	

“Fearon Hall and its team are an instrumental part of the local community.”

2025

February

M

Anand Mangal Community Lunch

Every Monday:

- Anand Mangal Ladies Group
- Grow Fearon Hall Community Growing Project
- ESOL classes

Charnwood Toy Library Opens

T

Every Tuesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Knit & Natter
- Over 55s Dance
- Surplus Food Supermarket
- ESOL classes
- Arts in the Hall

CBC Financial Capability Workshop

CBC Financial Employability Workshop

CBC Financial Capability Workshop

W

Every Wednesday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Social Lunch
- Stitch Club
- Equality Action Ladies Group
- ESOL classes
- Voices in Craft Art Sessions
- Asylum & Refugee Drop In
- Toy Library
- Feldenkrais

Good Grub Valentines Lunch

National Diabetes Prevention Programme

T

Every Thursday:

- Café in the Hall
- Bingo in the Hall
- GP Led Wellness Walk and Talk
- Grief Café
- Nuerodiverse Gaming Group
- ESOL classes
- Charnwood Food & Wellbeing Hub

Vegan Bistro: A Taste of The Deep South

Charnwood Food & Wellbeing Hub Managing Your Money

F

Every Friday:

- Café in the Hall
- Good Grub Breakfast Club
- Music, Movement, Wellness
- Table Top Games for Men Group
- Arts in the Hall

Climate & Nature Meeting

Local Area Co-ordinator Drop in

S

Vegan Weekend Breakfast

Wedding Takeover

MP Coffee Morning

Toy Library

S

Lessons Learned

This year, we've learned that:

- Co-design is crucial – services work best when people shape them.
- Consistency matters – trusted relationships form when people know we're here, week in, week out.
- Small interventions have big ripple effects – a conversation, a creative outlet, a meal can be life-changing.
- Partnerships need time and trust – our best joint work has grown from strong, values-based relationships.

“We’re proud of what’s been achieved – and excited for what’s next.”

2025 March

M	T	W	T	F	S S
<div>31</div> <div>Anand Mangal Community Lunch</div> <div>International Women’s Day Celebration</div> <div>Every Monday:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anand Mangal Ladies Group• Grow Fearon Hall Community Growing Project• ESOL classes• Toy Library</div>	<div>Every Tuesday:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Knit & Natter• Over 55s Dance• Surplus Food Supermarket• ESOL classes• Arts in the Hall</div> <div>CBC Financial Employability Workshop</div> <div>CBC Financial Employability Workshop</div> <div>CBC Financial Capability Workshop</div>	<div>National Diabetes Prevention Programme</div> <div>Every Wednesday:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Good Grub Social Lunch• Stitch Club• Equality Action Ladies Group• ESOL classes• Voices in Craft Art Sessions• Asylum & Refugee Drop In• Toy Library• Feldenkrais</div> <div>Home Ed Group begins</div>	<div>Every Thursday:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Bingo in the Hall• GP Led Wellness Walk and Talk• Grief Café• Nuerodiverse Gaming Group• ESOL classes• Charnwood Food & Wellbeing Hub• Say No to Diabetes</div> <div>Charnwood Food & Wellbeing Hub Wellbeing Morning</div> <div>Incredible Edible Fermented Food Workshop</div>	<div>Climate & Nature Meeting</div> <div>Transition Loughborough Repair Café</div> <div>Young People Art Club</div> <div>Every Friday:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Café in the Hall• Good Grub Breakfast Club• Music, Movement, Wellness• Table Top Games for Men Group• Arts in the Hall</div> <div>Local Area Co-ordinator Drop in</div>	<div>Toy Library</div> <div>Vegan Weekend Breakfast</div> <div>Next Steps</div> <div>Looking ahead, we will continue in:</div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developing our growing groups and increasing access to free or affordable food.• Strengthening partnerships across the borough, including with our local GP surgery to align activities with the particular mental health needs in our area. We will also continue to develop more targeted community led projects that address the increasing issue of loneliness and social isolation as outlined in the local federation of GPs Community Health and Wellbeing plan.• Listening to our community and co-creating solutions.</div>

‘F*****N’

‘H*LL’

I LOVE IT!

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FCA Fearon
Community
Association

Fearon Hall
Community Centre

The urban
village hall
in the heart
of Loughborough