



FA'SIDE COMMUNITY KITCHEN ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024

**PRESENTED BY THE TRUSTEES OF FA'SIDE
COMMUNITY KITCHEN**



**Fa'side Community Kitchen is a Scottish Charitable
Incorporated Organisation SC050754**

SIMON DAVIE

Chair



Welcome to our second Annual Report and my last as Interim Chair of FCK. We have had a busy year, with changes in staffing, volunteers and hosting our first Annual General Meeting!

Like most households and charities at the moment we have seen a significant increase in our costs for both food and heating etc. Our Trustees, staff and volunteers are looking at ways of increasing our financial contributions and helping keep our costs down.

I am pleased to report that we have been successful in securing Communities Mental Health and Well Being Fund for adults, so a huge thank you to Volunteer Centre East Lothian and the Scottish Government for investing in us for another year.

Both these strands of funding are helping us to be sustainable and we have other plans to further increase the contributions we receive, to help us continue to support local residents.

The charity has continued to grow this year and we have increased our Trustees and are beginning to grow our list of volunteers, without whom we would not exist. So a HUGE thanks to all those who volunteer for our amazing wee charity and all those who have contributed to it this year; whether financially or otherwise.

I leave the charity in a strong position and with great local people involved. I want to thank everyone who has worked with or supported FCK over the years of my involvement. I am looking forward to seeing it grow from strength to strength and if you would like to get involved or help us please contact fasideck.booking@gmail.com



MEET THE TEAM

Joyce Thomson Kitchen Officer

Joyce has been involved from the start, and with all her community connections is a great asset to FCK.



Fiona O'Donnell Development Officer

Fiona joined FCK in December. She brings a wealth of third sector experience to the role.



OUR MISSION



"To tackle social isolation and address food inequalities across the Fa'side area by providing a social café approach to connect people through food and activities. Promoting wellbeing through engagement in our service."

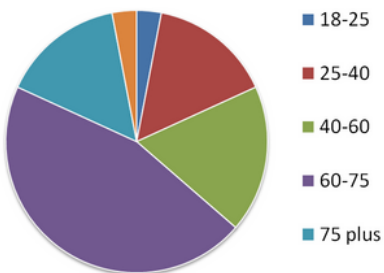
It has been a successful and busy year for FCK. The Tuesday and Thursday lunches are well attended and we continue to deliver meals in Fa'side to ensure vulnerable people in our community have access to a hot meal twice a week.

Listening to our customers

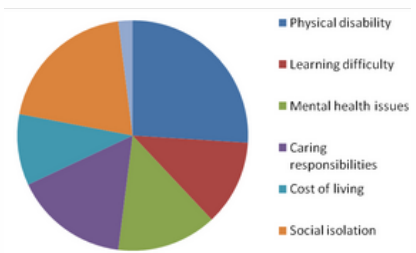
We regularly seek feedback and suggestions from our customers. In our previous annual report bingo topped the chart for activities. Tuesday prize bingo is now a regular feature and a big hit.

This year in a recent survey we learned more about the people who come to FCK.

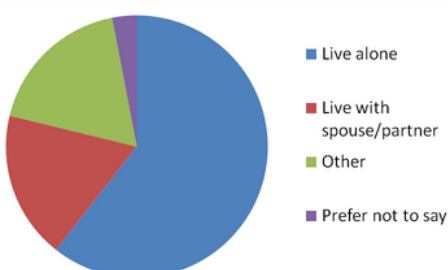
Age Range



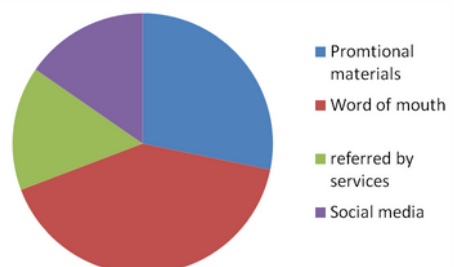
People chose which of these descriptions they identified with

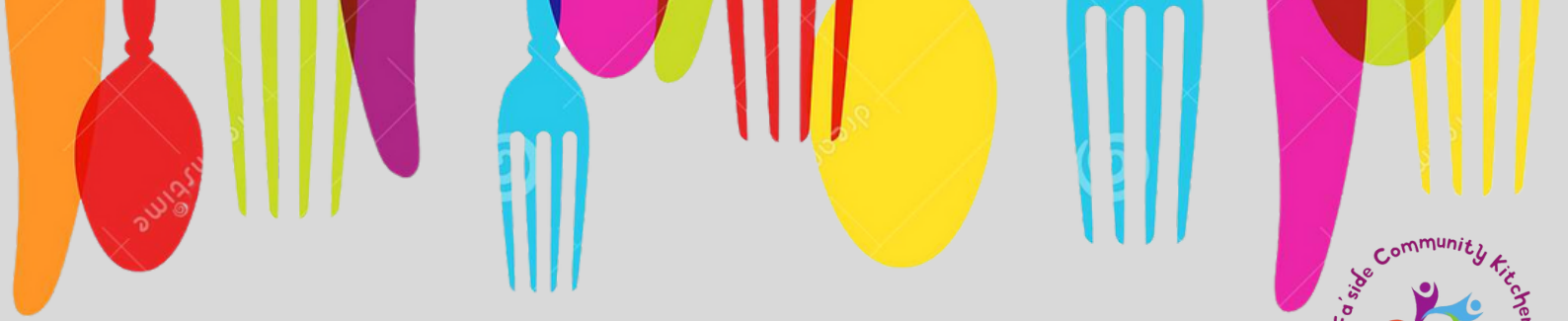


Living Situation



How you heard about FCK





"It gets me out of the house to meet new people."

"The volunteers are fabulous and food is lovely"

MORE THAN 1,500 MEALS SERVED

"I have made new friends here and everyone, staff & volunteers are friendly and welcoming to everyone who comes along"



"Living alone is very isolating. The lunch at FCK is the highlight of my week."



We are working in partnership with MELDAP to provide food at the recovery cafe in Tranent. Good food and peer support are important parts of recovery.

65 CHRISTMAS DINNERS COOKED & DELIVERED ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Over 250 meals delivered across Fa'side



Graham and Ryan deliver meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Graham then joins us for lunch.

Our delivery service - "When something is made for you it seems better to eat."

The service is important to me "because I don't keep well, because of cancer I can't get out myself."

OUR VOLUNTEERS



The volunteers are the heart and soul of FCK, led by Joyce in the kitchen. Recognising their contribution, we have invested in our volunteers. All our kitchen volunteers who work in the kitchen have completed their food hygiene and handling training and will be taking part in First Aid training in April 2024.

ROWAN IS OUR NEWEST VOLUNTEER.

As a carer he says he benefits from taking a break from that role. He hopes the experience of volunteering with FCK may lead to other opportunities



Thank you to all our volunteers. You gave more than 1400 hours this year!



"As someone new to Tranent I was keen to meet people and get involved in a local community based charity. FCK brings a range of people together to meet, socialise and eat a home cooked meal. I really enjoy being a FCK volunteer. I have made new friends and it's great to see and share in the positive impact FCK has for so many people. The buzz in the kitchen and among diners is great to be part of."

- Rob Buchan



Our average attendance is 22, ranging from 17-33 customers

"My employer allocates 3 days a year for volunteering. I was keen to do this in my own community. I heard about Fa'side Community Kitchen and thought it sounded like a great service. It was easy to arrange and I was made to feel welcome and part of the team. There was plenty to do and it was so rewarding seeing how people enjoy not just the food, but the company too. Please think about helping this great local charity as it can't make a difference in our community without volunteers."

- Alison



Thank you to everyone who has supported us in 2023-24







Fa'side
Area Partnership



CHANGEWORKS.



CONTACT US

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And a huge thank you to all the people and organisations who have supported us over this period. We couldn't do what we do without you.