

25 May 2026

Minutes of Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) General Convention held at the FNC Centre on Sunday, 08 March 2026 at 10:30 AM

Ser	Subject	ACTION
1.	The FNC 10th General Convention was held in two phases. Phase 1 of the Convention was formally opened and chaired by the Chairman, Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun.	Chairman / Gen Sec
2	For Members Apologies & Attendance please see <a href="#">Annex A</a> .	Gen Sec / All
3	<p>The Chairman welcomed all members and attendees to the 10th General Convention. Before concluding his welcome remarks, the Convention observed a one-minute silence in memory of FNC members and community members who had sadly passed away between March 2024 and March 2026.</p> <p><b>Obituaries remembered:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Late CSgt Chandraman Tamang, Ex 1/2 GR – 17 March 2024</li> <li>• Late CSgt Surje Prasad Tamang, Ex 10 GR – 29 March 2024</li> <li>• Late Mr Bedraj Kharti – 30 March 2024</li> <li>• Late Mr Padam Bahadur Rana, Ex 6 GR – 6 May 2024</li> <li>• Late Mr Madan Bahadur Rai, Ex 7 GR – 20 May 2024</li> <li>• Late Mr Chakra Bahadur Gurung – 2 December 2024</li> <li>• Late Mrs Mandari Rai – 5 January 2025</li> <li>• Late Mr Bom Prasad Limbu – wreath laying held on 5 February 2025</li> <li>• Late Mr Bhim Bahadur Limbu – 13 February 2025</li> <li>• Late Mrs Sarita Raout – 1 August 2025</li> <li>• Late Mr Jai Prasad Rai – 15 August 2025</li> <li>• Late Miss Sristi Rai – 5 February 2026</li> <li>• Late Mr Bhim Bahadur Tamang – 25 February 2026, in Nepal</li> <li>• Late Mr Khu Bahadur Thapa – 25 February 2026</li> </ul>	Chairman / Gen Sec / All
3.	<p><b>Chairman's Report and Volunteer Recognition</b></p> <p>The Chairman, Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun, presented a summary of his two-year tenure and highlighted the civic duties, community engagements, official visits, and events he had attended or hosted on behalf of FNC and the wider community. Full details of the Chairman's civic duties and community representation are provided in <a href="#">Annex B</a>.</p> <p>The Chairman also presented FNC Volunteer Awards to members who were unable to receive them during the Dashain Annual Get-Together Celebration 2025. Awards were presented to Mr Norbu Lama in recognition of his support to the FNC Centre, and to Capt (Retd) Gyan Limbu, representing KYC Folkestone, for supporting and promoting cultural activities and outreach on behalf of FNC.</p>	Chairman
4.	<p><b>Committee Member Reports</b></p> <p>a. General Secretary Annual Report – Charity, Projects, Programmes and Activities of FNC</p> <p>The General Secretary, who is also the Charity and Centre Manager, presented the Annual Report covering the charity work, projects, programmes, and activities delivered by FNC and the FNC Centre. He advised the meeting that the full reports and detailed records for the wider reporting period should be read together with the previous AGM report and the quarterly meeting minutes. The AGM was held on 30 March 2025, with the AGM Minutes and full FNC Annual Report for 2024–2025</p>	Gen Sec / ECM / Trustees / All

Ser	Subject	ACTION
	<p>published on 3 May 2025. The first Quarterly Meeting was held on 22 June 2025, with minutes released on 8 August 2025; the second Quarterly Meeting was held on 14 September 2025, with minutes released on 1 November 2025; and the third Quarterly Meeting was held on 7 December 2025, with minutes released on 15 January 2026. As the General Convention was held on 8 March 2026, after the final quarterly meeting in December 2025, the General Secretary provided a further summary update covering the three-month period from December 2025 to March 2026.</p> <p>The report noted that the FNC Chairman, Charity &amp; Centre Manger and representatives continued to attend important civic, partnership, welfare, and community activities, including the 1 RGR GM and RSM visit with Environment Agency presentation on 13 January 2026, the KCC lease extension meeting on 29 January 2026, the University of Portsmouth adult nursing placement visit on 2 February 2026, the Town Mayor Quiz on 6 February 2026, and the Armed Forces Conference on 5 March 2026. Other welfare and wellbeing activities attended by the Chairman at the request of the General Secretary / Charity and Centre Manager were noted as being available on the FNC website.</p> <p>The General Secretary also presented the FNC Centre financial update for the period December 2025 to March 2026. Hall and room hire income during this period totalled £345. The meeting was further informed that the Hampshire Accountant had submitted the Annual Report for 2024–2025, which was signed by the Chairman in December 2025 and accepted by the Charity Commission. The Centre continued to manage restricted grants from major funders including Lloyds Bank Foundation, the National Lottery Community Fund, Colyer Fergusson, Philip and Connie Phillips Foundation, and UKSPF, supporting core salaries, staff development, running costs, senior activities, Warm Hub provision, and centre operations. The report also noted that further grant applications would be required to support running and operational costs from April 2026 to March 2027, particularly as some applications had been unsuccessful due to the wider financial situation in the UK. The General Secretary emphasised that FNC must continue to focus on innovation, inclusivity, partnership working, and sustainability.</p> <p>The report also recorded the additional income and expenditure for the Armed Forces Conference held on 5 March 2026, organised by Folkestone &amp; Hythe District Council and FNC at the FNC Centre. The total expenditure was £710, covering curry lunch and refreshments, and the full amount was funded by FHDC and FHDC UKSPF, resulting in no financial loss to FNC. Overall, the meeting noted the General Secretary’s report and acknowledged FNC’s continued commitment to good governance, transparent financial management, community service delivery, partnership working, and the sustainable operation of the FNC Centre. Full details are provided in <a href="#">Annex C</a>.</p> <p>b. Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>The Treasurer, Mr Bikram Rai, presented the FNC Main Account Report, with full details provided in <a href="#">Annex D</a>. He reported that the FNC Main Account balance had increased from £59,390.42 last year to £68,314.64 this year. The Treasurer explained that the increase was mainly due to income from FNC membership fees and additional fundraising and community events, as referenced in the General Secretary’s report. The meeting noted the Treasurer’s report and acknowledged the positive increase in the FNC Main Account balance.</p> <p>c. Property Secretary Report</p> <p>The Property Secretary, Man Bahadur Rai, provided a report on the current inventory of property and equipment stored and in use at the FNC Centre. He detailed the list of new items acquired over the past year and expressed gratitude to those who contributed to these additions. See <a href="#">Annex E</a>.</p>	

Ser	Subject	ACTION
	<p>d. Cultural Secretary Report</p> <p>The Assistant Cultural Secretary, Mr Ganesh Pun, highlighted the importance of encouraging younger members to take part in cultural activities and suggested that additional time and budget support would help strengthen their engagement with Nepalese heritage. Meeting confirmed that FNC remains committed to preserving and promoting Nepalese culture through annual events such as Nepalese New Year, Dashain Get-Together, Nepalese Holi, and public festivals including World in a Tent, where FNC showcases traditional Nepalese dance, music, and culture.</p> <p>e. Food &amp; Beverage Secretary Report</p> <p>The Food and Beverage Secretary, Mr Chandra Shahi, summarised the food and drink safety protocols followed during FNC events. He highlighted that clear safety standards are in place and formalised through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between FNC and all food providers. He also expressed his sincere thanks to Lemon Leaf for providing excellent food services at FNC's annual events, including the Nepalese New Year and Dashain celebrations. He further thanked his Assistant, Mr Ramesh Rai, and member Mr Huyiasher Gurung for their support in providing meals (messing) for meetings.</p> <p>f. Sports Secretary Report</p> <p>Sports Secretary, Mr Bhaskar Rai, reported that FNC plans to restart its one-day football tournament in September 2026. He explained that, in previous years, other FNC commitments and the lack of available football pitches around Folkestone made it difficult to organise the tournament earlier. The venue previously used for the tournament is also no longer available due to new property development, which has delayed community sports activities.</p> <p>The meeting noted the report and welcomed the plan to restart the football tournament. It was also noted that, although outdoor sports activities have been delayed, FNC continues to provide a range of physical activities at the Centre, particularly for senior members of the community.</p> <p>g. Ladies Coordinator Report</p> <p>Ladies Coordinator, Mrs Indira Rai, spoke about the successful hosting of the FNC Ladies Teej Celebrations over the past two years, one held at Lemon Leaf and the other at the Grand Burstin Ballroom. The meeting noted and thanked the Ladies Coordinator and her team for successfully organising these events and for their continued support to the community, particularly in raffle coordination, decoration, and cultural programmes at other FNC events.</p> <p>h. Senior Citizen Coordinator Report</p> <p>Capt (Retd) Bishnu Singh, Executive Coordinator for Senior Citizens, reported that FNC senior citizen members continue to benefit from the facilities and support services available at the Centre. Although the community has sadly experienced the loss of a few elderly members due to age and health-related issues, it was also noted with hope that new members are arriving from Nepal, settling in Folkestone, and beginning to engage with the Centre.</p> <p>i. Youth Coordinator Report</p> <p>Assistant Youth Coordinator, Miss Kanchan Roka, reported on youth activities, including the sessional Art Club, volunteering opportunities at the Centre, and cooperation with Hamro Run Club to encourage running and physical activities. She</p>	

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	<p>also highlighted that young people have been particularly active in supporting cultural dance performances at FNC annual events.</p> <p>j. Other Reports</p> <p>It was noted that no report was submitted this year by the Media Secretary, as he was supporting the meeting by assisting with the provision of lunch and refreshments. The meeting also noted that FNC's social media policies are already well established and published.</p>	
5.	<p><b>FNC Centre Lease Extension Update</b></p> <p>As mandated by the previous quarterly meeting, the Chairman, Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun, updated the General Convention on the ongoing extension of the FNC Centre lease with Kent County Council (KCC).</p> <p>The Chairman, together with the General Secretary and the Charity &amp; Centre Manager, attended an initial meeting with KCC on 03 December 2025 to discuss the lease extension. During the meeting, KCC informed FNC that the market rent value for the Centre is approximately £17,000 per annum.</p> <p>Since then, the Chairman has held several rounds of meetings with the Chair of KCC, KCC councillors, the Deputy Leader of Folkestone &amp; Hythe District Council, local councillors, and executive officers. During these discussions, the Chairman presented FNC's business case, highlighting the significant public value that the FNC Centre provides to KCC, the local community, and wider service users.</p> <p>The Chairman also requested the maximum possible lease term for FNC. However, it was noted that the final decision on whether the lease will be extended for 5 years, 10 years, or longer will rest with KCC.</p> <p>The meeting agreed with the Chairman's proposal to seek the maximum possible lease term and agreed in principle that the community should support and bear the cost of any reasonable increase in the lease, subject to final confirmation from KCC.</p> <p><b>Later Note:</b> Following the General Convention, it was confirmed that Kent County Council has approved the extension of the FNC Centre lease for a further five years from 31 July 2026. The new rent has been agreed at £2,400 per annum.</p>	Chairman / Gen Sec
6.	<p>Membership, membership fees, and hall hire charges were discussed and agreed to be reviewed by the new committee, taking into consideration any increase in the FNC Centre lease cost.</p>	Chairman / Gen Sec
7.	<p><b>Pent Farm Community Garden Project Update</b></p> <p>Trustee Mr Jhapindra Thapa and ECM Mr Chandra Shahi provided an update on the Pent Farm Community Garden Project, where FNC holds two Food Festivals annually.</p> <p>It was reported that there has been an increase in the number of members interested in participating in the project. As a result, a request has been made to the Pent Farm Manager for additional plots to accommodate all interested members.</p> <p>The Charity &amp; Centre Manager has also applied for funding from other sources to support the annual rent charge of <b>£1,200</b>. Members involved in the project currently contribute <b>£10 per plot</b>, and additional funds are also raised through the Food Festival.</p>	Trustee Jhapindra Thapa / ECM Chandra Sahi / Gen Sec

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	<p>It was further reported that ECM Mr Chandra Shahi, with support from the Charity &amp; Centre Manager and in collaboration with Equator Festival, has been involved in delivering school workshops. These workshops may also help raise funds towards the rent of the Community Garden.</p> <p>The meeting noted the update and thanked Trustee Mr Jhapindra Thapa, ECM Mr Chandra Shahi, and all members involved for their continued support and commitment to the Pent Farm Community Garden Project.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Update on Forecast of Events (FOE) 2026 &amp; 2027</b></p> <p>The meeting was updated on the Forecast of Events (FOE) for 2026 and 2027, including the following confirmed and planned events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Nepalese Holi Celebration – Sunday, 29 March 2026</li> <li>b. Town Mayor’s Nepalese Evening at Lemon Leaf – Tuesday, 24 March 2026</li> <li>c. FNC Nepalese New Year Celebration – Saturday, 11 April 2026</li> <li>d. Town Mayor’s Shepway Spring Ball at Cheriton Bowls Club – Friday, 17 April 2026 <i>It was noted that this event was later postponed.</i></li> </ul> <p>Other Forecast of Events (FOE) for 2026 and 2027 will be reviewed and updated by the new committee at the quarterly meeting to be held in June 2026</p>	Chairman / Gen Sec / All
10.	<p><b>Bereavement Visits in Due Course</b></p> <p>The Chairman informed the meeting to note the following pending bereavement visits and, if required, to raise voluntary donation funds in line with FNC’s usual practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Late Bhim Bahadur Tamang, Ex-10 GR, who sadly passed away in Nepal.</li> <li>b. Late Khu Bahadur Thapa, Ex-1/2 GR. A bereavement visit is still due; however, it was noted that the Chairman attended the funeral on behalf of FNC.</li> </ul> <p>The meeting agreed that the pending bereavement visits and any related voluntary donations should be followed up in due course, in line with FNC’s usual practice.</p>	Chairman / Gen Sec / ECM
11.	<p><b>Any Other Business (AOB)</b></p> <p>Advisor Mr Dhan Gurung thanked the outgoing Chairman and Committee for their outstanding community service. He also pledged his continued support to FNC, particularly in relation to the November Sunday Remembrance Service from GMF.</p> <p>He further informed the meeting that arrangements are being considered for a visit by approximately 30 to 40 senior veterans, and that he will update the committee nearer the time.</p> <p>ECM Mr Chandra Shahi requested that the 180 plates donated by Rapti Samaj UK be added to the Centre’s facilities and recorded in the FNC property/inventory log.</p> <p>There were no further AOB items recorded.</p>	Chairman / Gen Sec / ECM / All

Ser	Subject	ACTION
12.	<p><b>Chairman's Closing Remarks and Dissolution of the 9th Executive Committee</b></p> <p>The Chairman, Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun, delivered his final closing remarks. He stated that it had been a great honour and pleasure to serve FNC as Chairman for the two-year term, and described the experience as both meaningful and rewarding.</p> <p>He expressed his sincere thanks to his Executive Committee, trustees, advisors, volunteers, staff, and all community members for their wonderful support, cooperation, and active participation throughout his tenure.</p> <p>The full outgoing Chairman's message is attached at <a href="#">Annex F</a>.</p> <p>The outgoing Chairman, Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun, formally closed the first session of the General Convention by dissolving the 9th Executive Committee at 1:30 pm. He then handed over the second phase of the General Convention to the Election Committee.</p>	Chairman / ECM / All
13.	<p><b>Second Phase of the General Convention</b></p> <p>The second phase of the General Convention was chaired by Mr Jhapindra Thapa, with Mr Kishor Sapkota serving as Secretary and Mrs Mina Rai serving as Member of the Election Committee.</p> <p>The Election Committee result is attached at <a href="#">Annex G</a>.</p> <p>Following the announcement of the election result, the outgoing Chairman, Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun, and the incoming Chairman, Capt (Retd) Suman Chandra Rai, together with his newly elected Committee, were felicitated by all members attending the General Convention.</p> <p>The second phase of the General Convention was formally closed with final remarks from the Election Committee Chair and the incoming Chairman. The incoming Chairman thanked the outgoing Chairman and his Committee, the Election Committee, and all members who attended and contributed to the successful completion of the General Convention.</p> <p>The FNC General Convention was formally closed at 2:15 pm. Following the closure of the meeting, all attendees were served refreshments and a meal.</p> <p><b>Later Note:</b> Following the General Convention, the first Executive Committee meeting nominated Ms Roma Rana Magar as Youth Coordinator and Miss Swechchha Rai as Assistant Youth Coordinator.</p>	Election Committee / Incoming Chairman / All



Dr Maha Rai  
 Outgoing General Secretary (2024 – 2026)  
 Folkestone Nepalese Community




Capt. (Retd) Rambahadur Pun  
 Outgoing Chairman (2024 – 2026)  
 Folkestone Nepalese Community

**Annexes:**

- A. List of Members Present/Apologies for Absence.
- B. Chairman's Report
- C. General Secretary including Chairty & Projects Report
- D. Treasurer Report
- E. Property Report
- F. Chairman's Outgoing Message
- G. 10<sup>th</sup> General Convention Election Committee Result

**Distribution:**

**Action:**

All FNC Members

## Annex A



## Attendance

Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) CIO 10<sup>th</sup> General Convention : Sunday,  
08 Mar 26, 10:00 at the FNC Centre

### FNC 9<sup>TH</sup> EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ser	Name	Appointment	Signature
1	Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun	Chairman (Trustee Chair)	
2	Capt (Retd) Suman Chandra Rai	Vice-Chairman (1)	
3	Mrs Mamata Gurung	Vice-Chairman (2)	Apology
4	Dr Maha Rai	General Secretary	
5	Mr Bikram Rai	Treasurer (Trustee)	
6	Mr Linjga Rai	Secretary	
7	Mr Abesh Rai	Assistant Treasurer	Apology
8	Mr Man Bahadur Rai	Property Secretary	
9	Mr Prithviraj Rai	Assistant Property Secretary	
10	Mrs Susma Thapa	Cultural Secretary	Apology
11	Mr Ganesh Pun	Assistant Cultural Secretary	
12	Mr Bhaskar Rai	Sports Secretary	
13	Mr Santosh Gurung	Assistant Sports Secretary	Apology
14	Mr Hari Kumar Rai	Media Secretary	
15	Mr Jitbhane Pun	Assistant Media Secretary	Apology
16	Capt (Retd) Bishnu Bahadur Singh	Senior Citizen Co-ordinator	
17	Mr Nar Tamang	Assistant Senior Citizen Co-ordinator	
18	Mrs Indira Rai	Ladies Co-ordinator	
19	Mrs Dhanu Limbu	Assistant Ladies Co-ordinator	Apology
20	Mr Chandra Bahadur Sahi	Food and Beverages Secretary	
21	Mr Ramesh Rai	Assistant Food and Beverages Secretary	Apology
22	Mr Kueihang Limbu	Youth Co-ordinator	Apology
23	Miss Kanchan Roka Magar	Assistant Youth Co-ordinator	



## Board of Trustees

Ser	Name	Signature
1.	Mr Chandra Bahadur Gurung	<i>Apologu</i>
2.	Mr Jhapindra Thapa	<i>[Signature]</i>
3.	Lt (Retd) & Former Cllr Nabin Siwa	<i>[Signature]</i>
4.	Mr Rajen Limbu	<i>[Signature]</i>

## Board of Advisors

Ser	Name	Signature
1	Maj Deb Bahadur Pun (Volunteer Chief Snr Citizen)	<i>(Nepal)</i>
2	Mr Dipak Kaucha	
3	Mr Tika Sing Thakuri	
4	Mr Harka Prasad Rai	
6	Mr Tek Loktam	
6	Mr Kishore Sapkota	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	Mr Dhan Gurung	
8	Mrs Omkumari Purja Pun	
9	Mr Amber Gurung	
10	Mrs Mina Rai	
11	Mr Hikmatsing Roka	

## Members

S. N	Name	Signature
1.	Nagendra Rai	<i>[Signature]</i>
2.	Sumrani Dewan	X
3.	Manu Limbu	X
4.	Fulmaya Magar	X
5.	NARMAYA LIMBU	X
6.	LIL PARSAD GURUNG	<i>[Signature]</i>
7.	ASAL BAHADUR DEWAN	X
8.	BUDDHI KUMAR SUNUWAR	<i>[Signature]</i>
9.	Dam Bahadur Gurung	<i>[Signature]</i>
10.	Om BDR Gurung	<i>[Signature]</i>



S. N	Name	Signature
11	Tara Thapa	Go
12.	Dhan Kumari Rai	X
13	Jashoda Rai	X
14	Tara Rai	tel
15	Chaturman Rai	Giric
16	Dharmashing Gurung	Waj
17	Sain Choj Rai	Sai
18	Chandra Kumari Gurung	X
19	Indra Kumari Gurung	X
20	Dil Kumari Gurung	X
21	Amber Gurung	<del>AB</del>
22	Lal Bahadur Limbu	Lal
23	Shudamani Rai	Shu
24	Aibahadur	AB Rai
25.	Padmaya Limbu	PM
26	Phista bdr Rai	Phai
27	PURNA B. Gurung	<del>PN</del>
28	BIPANKAR KANCHA	<del>BK</del>
29	Dhruva Khanija	Dhru
30	Dilmaya Suwan	DIL
31.	Shanta Dhem Rai	Sohari
32	Aita Kumari Rai	A Rai
33	Kamada Devi Limbu	X
34	Rim Kumari Thapa	X
35.	Romiya Rai	Reel
36.	Bijaya Patangra	Bij
37.	Laxmi Kumari Limbuni	X
38	Bishna Kumari Gurung	X
39	Sandesh Rai	Sand



S. N	Name	Signature
40	TEJ TAMANG	
41	Gyan Limbu	
42	Cham Pst Gurung	X
43	Purna Lachi Rai	PR
44	Mina Kumari Rai	mina
45	Chhabi Thapa	
46	Poonam Pun	
47	HIMMATSINGH ROKA	
48	CHANDRA BDR, GRC	FNC
49	Ganshami Gurung	X
50	Damanti Gurung	X
51	Narmaya Gurung	X
52	Bimala Limbu	BL
53	Tej Bahadur Limbu	TL
54	Ganesh Kumar Rai	
55	Ek Bahadur Gurung	
56	Kaji man Rai	X
57	Sujata Rai	
58	Man Kumari Rai	X
59	Bishu maya Gurung	X
60	Roma Rana	
61	Binod Parna Rai	
62	Mohan Genwar	MR
63	Dal Bah Pun	
64	LAXMI	Rai
65	Mamun Gog	
66	Bhim Rai	
67		
68		
69		

FNC CHAIRMAN MONTHLY DIARY

**APRIL 2024**

**Note: FNC 9<sup>th</sup> Committee was elected on 24 Mar 2024 & New Trustees/Advisors were appointed on 28 Mar 2024**

Ser	Date	Event	Place	Remarks
1	29 Mar 2024	2 x Bereavement visits to convey sympathy and offer support to the bereaved family: 1. Family of Late CSgt Chandraman Tamang (21149074 -1/2 GR), who was passed away on 17 Mar 2024 at home. 2. Family of Late CSgt Surje Prasad Tamang (21158547 – Ex 10 GR), who was passed away on Fri 29 Mar 2024 at William Harvey Hospital.	47a Enbrooke Valley, Folkestone  Gurkha Home, Folkestone	Funeral held on Wed 17 Apr 2024 at Hawkinge Crematorium.  Body repatriated to Nepal on Sun 21 Apr 2024.
2	30 Mar 2024	FNC was informed of the untimely passing of Mr Bedraj Khatri, on 30 March 2024 at William Havery Hospital, Ashford by his Ex-wife Deceased used to live in Cheriton. His Ex-wife lives in Cheriton		FNC dealing with his possible repatriation to Nepal. Awaiting post-mortem report. NOK being in Nepal, his body will be repatriated to Nepal subject to clearance from Coroner Report. Fin condition is his fam is poor and donation (\$5000) to be raised to meet the cost of repatriation.  Repatriation Confirmed: ETD 28 Jun 2024
3	04 Apr 2024	Interaction Program for Miss Suzana Shreesh, (Chairman of Nepal Act Council) to help her with her research on Gurkha Women.	FNCC	
4	12 Apr 2024	Attended Sagarmatha Gurkha Nepalese New Year Celebration (Voice of Nepal Team were present) as invited by them	Ashford	CM, Past CM, Gen Sec & Treasurer attended the vent representing FNC.
5	13 Apr 2024	FNC Nepali New Year Celebration at Hawkinge CC	Hawkinge CC	Coord: Vice Chairman/Asst Vice Chairman
6	17 Apr 2024	Attended funeral of Late CSgt Chandraman Tamang	Hawkinge Crematorium	Funeral coordinated by Mr Chitra Gomden (As FNC Rep) and arranged by Kent Tamang Samaaj with Admin Sp by FNC. Wake was held at FNCC. Donation collected £1528.00

7.	18 Apr 2024	Attended F&HDC Chairman Charity Event	Westen hanger Castle	Attended by CM, Past CM, Gen Sec, Treasurer & Advisor Maj Deb Pun saheb
8	19 Apr 2024	Viewing Service of Late CSgt Surje Prasad Tamang	All Should Church Hall, Cheriton	Viewing Svc attended by FNC Members with refreshment at FNCC. Donation collection was not requested. Body repatriated to Nepal on Sun 21 Apr 2024. Trustee Mr Rajen Limbu coordinated repatriation/viewing service on behalf of FNC
9.	20 Apr 2024	Attended Canterbury Nepalese Community Nepali New Year Celebration as invited by them.	Prince of Wales Youth Club, Canterbury	CM & Pas CM (on behalf of Gen Sec) attended the event representing FNC.
10	21 Apr 2024	Gen Sec ran London Marathon to raise money to meet the cost of replacement of FNCC Flooring	London	Sponsorship were asked from FNC Members.
11.	04 May 2024	Gurkha Memorial Fund Charity Walk	Sandgate	Coord: Trustee Jhapindra Thapa. FNC Member attended/Volunteer
12.	09 May 2024	Bereavement Visit to Family of Late Padam Bahadur Rana (21151980 – Ex 6 GR)	Fam Residence	Died: 6 May 2024 at William Harvey Hospital
13.	10 May 2024	FNC New Year Post Party Meeting	FNCC	
14.	16 May 2024	Death Registration of Late Padam Bahadur Rana	Sandage Library	
15.	25 May 2024	Sakela KRY, Representing FNC	KRY House, Gamble Lane	With Past Chairman Jhapindra Thapa
16.	30 May 2024	Funeral of Late Padam Bahadur Rana	Hawkinge Cremetorium	Funeral Coord: Trustee Jhapindra Thapa
17.	02 Jun 2024	Gurkha Peace Foundation Gurkha Walk	Ashford	
18.	13 May 2024	Farewell/Welcome KCC Chair, F&HDC, Town Mayor	FNCC	With Curry Lunch FNCC
19.	03 Jun 2024	Bereavement Visit to Family of Late Madan Bahadur Rai (21155661 – Ex 7 GR)	Bereaved Fam Residence	Died: 24 May 2024 at William Harvey Hospital at the age of 79 years
20.	17 Jun 2024	Funeral Late Madan Bahadur Rai	Hawkinge Cremetorium	Coordinator: Mr Subash Limbu/Emanuel Church
21.	20 Jun 2024	Welcome to FNC, MP Damina Collins (Conservative Candidate for Parliament) & Mr Tony Vaughan (Labour Candidate for Parliament)	FNCC	With Sandwich Lunch at FNCC
22.	22 Jun 2024	Kham Bhasi Magar Bhume Parva Celebration	Canterbury	With Past Chairman Jhapindra Thapa
23	23 Jun 2024	FNC 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtrly Meeting	FNC Centre	

24	28 Jun 2024	Late Bedraj Khatri Repatriated to Nepal. His body was received by his family in Nepal following day (Sat 29 Jun 2024)	Qatar Airways	A total of £8120.88p raised as donation for repatriation. Repatriation cost us £5490.00p. Total surplus was £2630.88p, which was distributed equally to deceased 3 yrs old Daughter & Parents (£1315.44p Each).
25	30 Jun 2024	1. Attended Armed Forces Day & Community Day followed by a lunch as organised by the Town Mayor of Folkestone. 2. Also attended RGR Fest as organised by 2 RGR at Shorncliffe Bks in the afternoon	The Leas, Band Stand	1. With Vice Chairman Capt (Retd) Suman Chandra Rai, Treasurer Mr Bikram Rai along with FNC Members. 2. With Vice Chairman Capt (Retd) Suman Chandra Rai
26	02 Jul 2024	Hosted visit of Dr Marianne Brett (Environmental Scientist) as Green party candidate for Folkestone & Hythe District) accompanied by F&HD Cllr/Cabinet member for Community & Collaboration, Cllr Mike Blackmoore at FNC	FNC Centre	With Sandwich Lunch at FNC Centre
27.	05 Jul 2024	Organised Kent Country Show visit by FNC Senior Citizens	Kent Country Show, Maidstone	Visit Coord: Capt(Retd) Bishnu Singh Asst Visit Coord: Maj Deb Pun & Mr Shivadhan Rai Guides: Miss Kanchan, Miss Manu Gurung & Mr Narendra Rai
28.	07 Jul 2024	1. Attended Town Mayor Oath taking ceremony 2. Hosted World in the Tent, Folkestone (Multicultural show) for everyone as organised by Equator Festival. 3. FNC Chair on Annual leave.	FNC Centre	1. Attended by Chairman and Treasurer Bikram Rai 2. It was a delightful Festival. The Chairman and all Members of the FNC express their sincere thanks Priti Patel and the Equator Festival for organizing such a splendid event at the FNC Centre.
29.	18 Jul 2024	Hosted an informal visit of outgoing/incoming GM of 2 RGR	FNC Centre	As organised by Vice Chair/Gen Sec
30.	20 Jul 2024	1. FNC Chair returned from Annual Leave. 2. Attended FNC Senior Citizens Annual Get-together party combined with farewell to Mr Shivadhan Rai	FNC Centre	As organised by FNC Senior Citizens Chief Volunteer/Coordinator

31.	25 Jul 2024	Chairman presented bereavement donations made by the members to the following: a. Ex wife of Late Bedraj Khatri – A cheque for £2630.88p b. Fam of Late Madan Bahadur Rai (21155661 – Ex 7 GR) – A cheque for £1728.50p	FNC Centre  At their residence	Ceremony attended by Committee members, Trustees, Advisors.  Ceremony attended by Treasurer, Food Sec & Gen Sec
32	27 Jul 2024	Attended two events on their invitations: a. Chairman, Kent Volleyball Club invited as special guest to 2 <sup>nd</sup> Kent Volleyball Competition at Chart Road, Ashford (0900 Hrs 1200 hrs) b. Chairman, Emanuel Madali invited as special guest to their annual gathering at Sea Front, Folkestone.		Attended by Chairman and his Mrs.  Attended y Chairman and his Mrs along with Senior Citizens Chief Volunteer and his Mrs.
33.	2 Aug 2024	Attended Charity Quiz Night as organised by the Town Mayor of Folkestone	The Grand, Hotel, Folkestone	Encouraging number of FNC members (12) attended the charity night and made donation to event those who did not attend.
34	08 Aug 2024	Hon Tony Vaughan (Newly elected MP for Folkestone & Hythe) visited FNC & its members.	FNC Centre	Attended by FNC Members (incl Senior Citizens).
35	11 Aug 2024	FNC Centre 1 <sup>st</sup> Deep Cleaning	FNC Centre	Maximum volunteers attended. Refreshment in the form of messing was provided for volunteers by the FNC.
36	15 Aug 2024	Mr Mathew John (Chair of Folkestone Civic Society) visited FNC to discuss about possibility of FNC participation at Remembrance Svc on 9 Nov 024	FNC Centre	Meeting attended by FNC Chair & Gen Sec
37.	17 Aug 2024	Support/address youths participating at 48 hrs half marathon charity run in support of Mira Rai initiative, Mira Rai is a famous Ultra Trail Runner of Nepal, as organised Hamro Run Club, a club of Youth around Kent. FNC Centre was used as hub for the event.	FNC Centre	Attended y FNC Chair, Gen Sec & FNC Volunteer Mr Narendra Rai

38.	18 Aug 2024	1. Able to represent FNC Folkestone Festival providing cultural dances as performed by Mrs Jaikala Pun Ama (Snr Citizen) & Sofia Limbu Bhanji with coordination of Miss Kancha Roka & Gen Sec (Dr Maha Rai). 2. Also, able to run parallelly unfinish FNC Centre deep cleaning program on the same day.	1. Leas Band Stand  2. FNC Centre.	1. Attended by FNC Chair, Gen Sec, Miss Kanchan Roka, Mrs Jaikala Pu (Snr Citizen) & Bhanji Sophia Limbu  2. Required number of volunteers attended. Refreshment in the form of messing for volunteers was kindly sponsored by the Trustee Jhapindra Thapa.
39.	30 Aug 2024	1. FNC Ladies Teej Party. 2. Available volunteers helped for the decoration of venue for the party.	Lemon Leaf	About 110 FNC Ladies attended.
40.	01 Sep 2024	FNC Qtrly/Trustee Board Meeting	FNC Centre	Encouraging number of members attended
41.	08 Sep 2024	F&HDC Monthly Litter Picking Program	Cheriton Area	
42.	29 Sep 2024	FNC Dashain Festival Celebration 2024	Leas Cliff Hall	Encouraging number of members attended
43.	05 Oct 2024	FNC Garden Food Festival at Pent. Farm	Pent Farm	Very successful event and raised £
44.	05 Oct 2024	Attended SGNCUK Dashain Party at Ashford	Ashford	Representing FNC
45.	06 Oct 2024	Attended Gurkha Memorial 9 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Svc	Sandgate	Representing FNC
46.	17 Oct 2024	Meeting with Chairman of Folkestone Civic Society	FNC Centre	Remembrance Svc on Sat 9 Nov at Folkestone Harbour Arm
47.	19 Oct 2024	Attended Meet & Greet Prog with Major Harka Sampang, followed by Charity Dinner Night	Grand Burstin Hotel, Harbour	Attend in collaboration with DSUK
48.	24 Oct 2024	Dharan Major Harka Sampang visit to FNC plus office call to Town Mayor of Folkestone followed by Messing	FNC Centre/Town Hall	
49.	27 Oct 2024	Attended Town Mayor's Charity Lunch at Grand Burstin Hotel, Harbour Arm, Folkestone	Grand Burstin Hotel, Folkestone	6 x FNC Members attended (Chair, Trustee Jhapindra Thapa, Treasurer Bikram Rai, Advisor Harka Rai & Mr Hosiyar Gurung)
50.	01 Nov 2024	Attended FNC Senior Citizen Deusi Bhailo Program	FNC Centre	
51.	02 Nov 2024	Attended Nepali Kalakar Pastora Samaj UK Tihar Special Program in Ashford, representing FNC	Ashford	Attended by Chairman, Trustee Jhapindra Thapa & Advisor Harka Prasad Rai
52.	03 Nov 2024	Attended Dedication of Garden of Remembrance Sun 03 Nov 2024 at invitation of Folkestone Town Council	Garden of remembrance, Folkestone	For the first time, attended this meaningful service by FNC Chairman and Trustee Jhapindra Thapa at invitation of Folkestone Town Council, representing FNC. Both placed crosses in remembrance of all comrades, including those

					from Bde of Gurkhas, who sacrificed their today for our tomorrow.
53.	07 Nov 2024	Meeting with Ms Preeti (Shiva Nova Creative Director about Pent Farm Project, Would in the Tent & Holi	FNC Centre		Meeting attended by Ms Preeti, FNC Chairman, Gen Sec, Trustee Jhapindra Thapa & Food Sec Chandra Sahi.
54.	09 Nov 2024	Attended Son et Lumiere Remembrance Parade as organised by New Folkestone Society	Folkestone Harbour Arms		Attended by encouraging number of the members
55.	10 Nov 2024	Attended Remembrancer Sunday followed by service at Gurkha Statue and Purkha Diwan at FNC Centre	Folkestone Town		Attended by encouraging number of the members
56.	14 Nov 2024	Visit/Briefing by Head of Gurkha Welfare UK	FNC Centre		Attended by encouraging number of the members
57.	15 Nov 2024	Gurkha Memorial Fund Charity Dinner Night	Burlington Hotel		Attended representing FNC
	05 Dec 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Morning.</b> Attended virtual E-Visa meeting designed to address queries for the Gurkha Community. Session was hosted by MMC as facilitated by Home Office experts.</li> <li>• <b>Afternoon.</b> Attended Annual Community Safety Partners Updates Meeting at F&amp;HDC.</li> <li>• <b>Evening.</b> Bereavement visit by EC to bereaved family of Late Chakra Bahadur Gurung, who was passed away on 02 Dec 2024 at William Harvey Hospital.</li> </ul>	Virtual at FNC Centre  F&HDC  Bereaved Fam Residence		Attended by Chairman, Gen Sec, Snior Citizen Coord, Kanchan Roka  Attended by Chairman and Gen Sec.  Attended by EC Members.
58	08 Dec 2024	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtrly Meeting convened	FNC Centre		Attended by encouraging number of the members
59	16 Dec 2024	FNC Hosted Christmas Edmond Calendar event in collab with Jim Jam Art	FNC Centre		Attended by encouraging number of the FNC and Local society members
60	17 Dec 2024	FNC Hosted Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch	FNC Centre		Attended by Snr citizens and EC Members. Folkestone Town Mayor was a Chief Guest. A cheque for £250 donated to Mayor Christmas Charity by FNC.
61	19 Dec 2024	Organised funeral service of Late Chakra Bahadur Gurung at Hawkinge Crematorium in coordination with Kent Gurung Society.	Hawkinge Crematorium		Attended by encouraging number of the members

62	05 Jan 2025	Bereavement visit by EC Bereaved family of Late Mandari Rai, who was passed away on 02 Jan 2025 at William Harvey Hospital.	Bereaved Fam Residence	Attended by EC Members.
63	12 Jan 2025	Conducted Monthly Litter picking program in partnership with Folkestone & Hythe District Council.	Cheriton Area	Program attended by encouraging number of the community members
64	23 Jan 2025	Meeting with Cllr Jackie Meade to discuss about 5 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of twinning between Folkestone and Machi Nagar of East Nepal.	FNC Centre	
65	27 Jan 2025	1. Arranged funeral of Late Mandari Rai in partnership with Bahing Bayung Rai Society UK. 2. Attended HEAR Research Study meeting at King's College London.	1. Hawkinge Crematorium 2. King's College London	1. Funeral attended by majority of FNC Members. 2. Attended by Chairman and Gen Sec.
66	13 Feb 2025	Attended War Legacy Fund Symposium at Imperial War Museum, London	Imperial War Museum, London	Attended by Chairman and Gen Sec.
66	20 Feb 2025	Arranged celebration of 5 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of twinning between Folkestone Town and Mechi Nagar of East Nepal.	FNC Centre	Event organised in partnership of Folkestone Town and FNC by Cllr Jackie Meade.
67	28 Feb 2025	Organised Charity Dinner Night to raise funds for the Mayor's Charities and FNC Maintenance Fund	Grand Burstin Hotel	Attended by FNC Members, Cllrs and other local community leaders and Heads of organisations.
68	11 Mar 2025	Attended Town Mayor Award Ceremony	Town Hall	Attended by FNC Chairman & Gen Sec
69	13 Mar 2025	Mental Health presentation by University of Surrey	FNC Centre	Attended by FNC Members and Senior Citizens
70	14 Mar 2025	Visit by GWT Director	FNC Centre	Briefing followed by Lunch
71	16 Mar 2025	Holi Celebration in partnership with Shiva Nova Group	FNC Centre	Very successful. Attendance very encouraging.
72	22 Mar 2025	Women Day Town Mayor Charity	Folkestone	Attended by FNC Ladies representing FNC
73	30 Mar 2025	FNC AGM	FNC Centre	Very successful.
74	12 Apr 2025	FNC Nepali New Year Celebration	Hawkinge CC	Very successful
75	27 Apr 2025	FNC Nepali New Year Post party meeting	FNC Centre	Very successful
76	27 Apr 2025	Mrs Manda Gurung presented FNC by running London Marathon	London	Running to raise funds for the FNC (£1000)
77	13 May 2025	Attended Folkestone Town Council Annual Meeting	Town Hall	Attended by Chairman and Gen Sec. Past Mayor presented FNC with a bottle of champagne, bouquet of flower and a thank you

78	16 May 2025	Attended KCV AGM at Deal	Deal	card. In return, FNC presented her with an FNC Plaque. Attended by Chairman and Trustee Jhapindra Thapa
79	26 May 2025	BBC Filming by Martha Roseweir (BBC Researcher, Antiques Road Trip)	FNC Centre	
80	03 Jun 2025	Chairman BFBS Interview	BFBS	
81	05 Jun 2025	Chairman awarded with Excellence in Volunteering	KCV/F&HDC	Attended by Chairman & Gen Sec
82	06 Jun 2025	Attended Normandy Day Remembrance	Sandgate	Attended by Chairman, Trustee Jhapindra Thapa, Treasurer Bikram Rai
83	08 Jun 2025	Participated in GPF Gurkha Run	GPF	Encouraging number of FNC Members attended
84	22 Jun 2025	FNC 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtrly Meeting of 2025	FNC Centre	Encouraging number of FNC Members attended
85	28 Jun 2025	Armed Forces Day Lunch + RGR Birthday celebration	Town Council + RGR Camp	Lunch attended by Gen Sec & RGR Birthday attended by Vice Chair 1 & Trustee J Thapa
86	29 Jun 2025	New Town Mayor Oathing ceremony	Town Council	Attended by Chairman, Treasurer, Food Sec, Trustee J Thapa & Advisor K Sapkota
87	06 Jul 2025	Multicultural Festival (World in a Tent) at FNCC	FNC+ShivaNova+Equator Festival Group	Despite the rain, strong community turnout ensured the event's success.
88	11 Jul 2025	Hosted visit of newly elected KCC Chairman	FNC	High number of attendance (incl Town Mayor, F&DC Chair and local Cllrs)
89	13 Jul 2025	Attended Funeral of Late Tek Limbu	Ashford	Attended by Chairman, Gen Sec, & Ladies Coordinator representing FNC. A wreath was laid on his honour. He was formerly with FNC.
90	15 Jul 2025	FNC Senior Citizen Recreational visit to London	London	A grant of £1000 was approved from central fund. Event was coordinated by Snr Citizen Coordinator
91	17 Jul 2025	Visit to Kent Heritage Sites	Elham Valley Railway Museum+Hasting Pier	13 x FNC members participated in this visit. Visit was organised by Leas Lift Project as part of community engagement Program
92	19 Jul 2025	3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniversary of Nepali Artist Presenter Society UK	Ashford	Attended by Chairman, Gen Sec, Treasurer, Trustee Jhapindra Thapa representing FNC.
93	23 Jul 2025	Meeting with SSAFA New Representative	FNC Centre	Attended by Chairman & Gen Sec.

94	24 Jul 2025	Presentation by Prof Edgar Jones – HEAR Study Research Findings	FNC Centre	Professor Edgar Jones of King's presented the HEAR Study research findings, which underscored significant historical and ongoing inequities encountered by Gurkha veterans during their military service. This was the first academic study on the subject.
95	15 Aug 2025	Attended the 80th VI Day Commemorative Service organised by KCC, Folkestone Town Council, and RBL Elham Branch.	KCC, Town Council & Elham	11 x FNC Members attended KCC Service led by Chair and 5 X FNC Members attended Town Council Service led by Vice Chair 1 and 5 x FNC Members attended RBL Elham Service led by Chair
96	23 Aug 2025	FNC Ladies Teej 2025 Celebration	Grand Burstin Hotel	Encouraging number of FNC Ladies attended
97	30 Aug 2025	FNC Pent Farm Food Festival	Pent Farm	Encouraging number of FNC Member & Guests Attended
98	14 Sep 2025	FNC Qtrly Meeting/Trustee Board/Dashain final Mtg	FNC Centre	Encouraging number of FNC Members attended
99	26 Sep 2025	FNC Dashain Celebration 2025	Leas Cliff Hall	High number of FNC Members/Guests attended
100	05 Oct 2025	GMF 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration	Garden of Remembrance	Attended by Vice Chair 1 (Chairman on leave from 28 Sep – 29 Oct 2025)
101	12 Oct 2025	FNC Post Dashain Party/Nepali New Year 20283 Coord Meeting	FNC Centre	The meeting was led by the Vice Chair 1.
102	21 Oct 2025	FNC Senior Citizen Deusi Bhailo Prog	FNC Centre	Attended by the Vice Chair 1
103	02 Nov 2025	Dedication of Garden of Remembrance 2025	Garden of Remembrance	Attended by Chairman & Trustee Jhapindra Thapa
104	07 Nov 2025	Visi to Gurkha Welfare Trusts HQ, Salisbury	GWT HQ, Salisbury	Attended by Chairman, Gen Sec, Asst Property Sec & 2 x FNC Staffs
105	09 Nov 2025	Remembrance Sunday/Purkha Diwas 2025 (Actual Remembrance Day: Tuesday 11 Nov 2025)	Folkestone Town	Attended by large number of FNC Members/Guests
106	03 Dec 2025	Meeting with KCC Asst Surveyor re lease renewal	FNC Centre	Attended by Chairman, Gen Sec, Cllr J Meade, Cllr M Blakemore, Mark Canton
107	07 Dec 2025	FNC 3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtrly Meeting/Trustee Board Meeting	FNC Centre	Encouraging number of FNC Members attended
108	13 Dec 2025	Attended KRC Folkestone Udhauli Celebration	FNC Centre	Representing FNC
109	16 Dec 2025	Hosted FNC Christmas Lunch	FNC Centre	Encouraging number of FNC Members attended
110	13 Jan 2026	GM/RSM 1 RGR visit and Flash Flooding Risk Awareness Presentation	FNC Centre	Encouraging number of FNC Members attended
111	18 Jan 2026	Monthly Litter Picking	Cheriton	Encouraging number of FNC Members attended
112	24 Feb 2026	Peninsula Business Law Seminar	FNC Centre	Local Nepali Business Owners attended

113	05 Mar 2026	Hosted Armed Forces Covenant Annual Meeting	FNC Centre	Hosted in partnership with F&HDC. Approx 40 representatives connected with armed forces attended (including Residence Battalion)
114	07 Mar 2026	Attended funeral of Late Khu Bahadur Thapa representing FNC	Charing Crematorium	Funeral was arranged by the MAUK Kent Branch.
115	08 Mar 2026	FNC 11 <sup>th</sup> General Convention/Election of new Ctee	FNC Centre	Encouraging number of FNC Members attended



# Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) CIO

## Annual General Report

April 2025 – March 2026

Presented at the  
**10th General Convention**  
**8 March 2026**  
FNC Centre, Baker Road, Folkestone, CT19 4NN

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## 1. Introduction

Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation established to promote, for the benefit of Nepalese people, Gurkha veterans, and their families residing in Folkestone and the surrounding area, the advancement of education and training, the relief of poverty, sickness and distress, the promotion of good health, and the provision of recreational facilities in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving their conditions of life. FNC also works to advance public education on all aspects of Nepalese history and culture.

Guided by these charitable objectives, FNC has continued to grow over the past year as an important community hub for the British Gurkha and wider Nepalese community in Folkestone and across Kent. Our work has focused on supporting veterans, families, elderly residents, and vulnerable individuals, while also promoting education, health, wellbeing, community cohesion, and cultural understanding. This broad focus is consistent with how FNC describes its charitable activities through education, good health, social welfare, and Nepalese history and culture.

Through the dedication of our staff, Executive Committee Members, volunteers, trustees, and partners, the centre has delivered a wide range of activities and services benefiting both the Nepalese community and the wider local population.

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## 2. Governance and Leadership

FNC operates as a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)** and is governed by an elected **Executive Committee and Trustees**. The Charity Commission register records FNC as a CIO registered on 18 January 2021.

The organisation continues to strengthen its governance structure, transparency, and compliance with Charity Commission regulations and UK charity governance standards.

During the reporting period, the organisation was led by the **9th Executive Committee**, chaired by **Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun**, providing strategic leadership and guidance for the development of the centre and its programmes.

The day-to-day operation of the organisation is managed by the management team.



## Annex C

### **Charity, Programme and Centre Management Team**

**Charity & Centre Manager:** Maha Rai, PhD

**Senior Activities Coordinator:** Kanchan Roka

**Activities Coordinators:** Sarita Rana and Man Kumari Gurung

**Liaison Officer (KCV )–** Mark Connorton

Together with staff, ad-hoc project officers, and volunteers, the team manages the delivery of funded projects and programmes, community engagement, and partnership activities.

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### **3. FNC Centre – A Community Hub**

The **FNC Centre** continues to operate as a vital community hub, delivering services and activities throughout the week.

The centre hosts a wide range of programmes, including:

- Educational classes
- Health and wellbeing programmes
- Welfare and digital support services
- Cultural and community events
- Partnership activities with public and voluntary organisations

The centre also operates as a **Warm Safe Hub**, supporting vulnerable residents during colder months by providing a welcoming environment with hot drinks, food, and social support.

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### **4. Community Services and Support**

During the reporting year, the centre provided support across a wide range of community needs.

#### **4.1 Digital and Welfare Support**

FNC provides essential digital inclusion and welfare support, particularly for elderly Gurkha veterans and families who face language and digital barriers.

Support services include:

- GP and hospital appointment support
- Online NHS services and e-consultation
- Universal Credit and welfare benefits support
- Housing benefit and council services
- eVisa and immigration support
- National Insurance and pension enquiries
- General digital skills assistance

These services help community members access essential public services and maintain independence in the digital age.



## Annex C

### 4.2 Education and Skills Development

FNC continues to provide a range of learning and educational opportunities, including:

- ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) and Math classes
- Digital skills and digital inclusion training
- Community learning and integration support

These programmes help participants improve language skills, build confidence, access employment opportunities, and integrate into wider society.

### 4.3 Health and Wellbeing

Health and wellbeing remain a key priority for the organisation.

Regular activities and programmes include:

- Tai Chi classes
- Hypertension awareness sessions
- Health awareness sessions, including Smoke Free and Healthy Eating programmes
- Wellbeing activities for elderly community members

These initiatives support physical health, mental wellbeing, and social connection within the community.

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## 5. Partnerships and Collaboration

FNC continues to work closely with a wide range of local authorities, charities, and public sector partners to deliver coordinated support services.

Key partners include:

- Kent County Council
- Folkestone & Hythe District Council
- NHS Kent & Medway
- NHS England
- Kent Adult Education
- Healthwatch Kent
- East Kent Carers Support Service
- Southern Water
- Environment Agency
- Kent Fire & Rescue Service
- Kent Association for the Blind
- Lloyds Bank Foundation
- National Lottery Community Fund
- Universities, colleges, and schools
- Arts and crafts organisations

These partnerships ensure that the Nepalese community can access mainstream services effectively while strengthening community engagement and inclusion.



## 6. Community Engagement, Cultural Events and Public Representation

Throughout the year, the **FNC Chairman, Executive Committee Members, Trustees, staff, and volunteers** actively represented the organisation by hosting, organising, and participating in a wide range of community, cultural, civic, and public engagement activities.

These activities strengthened relationships with local authorities, partner organisations, and the wider community, while promoting Nepalese culture and the contribution of Gurkha veterans in the United Kingdom.

### 6.1 Major Cultural and Community Events Hosted by FNC

Key annual celebrations organised or hosted by FNC included:

- Nepalese New Year Celebration
- Dashain Get-Together Celebration
- Tihar Deusi-Bhailo Celebration
- Nepalese Holi Festival
- Senior Citizens Annual Gathering and Christmas Lunch
- Purkha Diwas and Remembrance activities
- Teej Celebration

These events play a vital role in preserving Nepalese cultural identity and strengthening community cohesion. FNC's website also presents these kinds of objectives and cultural activities as part of its public-facing work.

### 6.2 Public Cultural Festivals and Outreach Activities

FNC also hosted and participated in a number of public events and multicultural festivals, including:

- World in a Tent – Multicultural Festival
- FNC Food and Farm Festival at Pent Farm
- Community Garden and Farming Activities
- Folkestone Living Advent Calendar
- Community litter-picking campaigns with Folkestone & Hythe District Council
- Cultural dance showcases and community performances

These events helped share Nepalese culture with the wider British community and promoted cultural integration.

### 6.3 Civic Engagement and Institutional Visits

The Chairman and Executive Committee also represented the organisation at civic and institutional engagements, including:

- Visits by Members of Parliament and civic leaders
- Engagement with local councils and partner organisations



## Annex C

- Armed Forces community engagement events
- Health awareness campaigns and public service sessions
- Partnership events with charities, NHS services, and community organisations

These engagements strengthened the voice and representation of the Gurkha and Nepalese community within the local and regional civic landscape.

### 6.4 Community Outreach and Social Responsibility

FNC also contributed to wider community wellbeing through:

- Community clean-up initiatives
- Charity fundraising activities
- Support for other community groups
- Public health awareness programmes
- Volunteer-led community service projects

The continued involvement of the Chairman, Executive Committee Members, Trustees, staff, and volunteers in these activities demonstrates FNC's strong commitment to community leadership, cultural preservation, and partnership working.

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## 7. Volunteers

Volunteers remain the backbone of the organisation.

FNC currently benefits from the support of **21 dedicated volunteers**, including members of the Executive Committee.

Their contributions support:

- Programme delivery
- Community welfare services
- Cultural events
- Daily centre operations

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for their continued dedication, time, and commitment.

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## 8. Funding and Financial Sustainability

The organisation continues to secure funding from a range of sources to sustain its services.

The **annual operational budget is estimated at approximately £132,000**, covering:

- Community programmes and activities
- Staff costs
- Operational and running costs of the centre



## Annex C

A major milestone has been the **three-year National Lottery Community Fund grant**, supporting the delivery of community programmes at the FNC Centre.

Additional support has also been received from:

- Local authorities
- Charitable foundations
- Community donations
- Partnership projects

FNC's **HR advisory partner is Peninsula**, and the organisation also benefits from **management and governance support from Kent Coast Volunteering**.

Looking ahead, the organisation will need to continue securing funding to support its **running and operational costs for the period April 2026 to March 2027**. While several funding applications have been submitted, some have been unsuccessful due to the wider financial pressures affecting the charitable and public funding sector across the United Kingdom.

In response to these challenges, FNC will continue to strengthen its **fundraising efforts, develop innovative community programmes, and build inclusive partnerships** to ensure the long-term sustainability of the organisation and the continued delivery of essential services for the community.

The organisation remains committed to **financial transparency, responsible governance, and sustainable development**.

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## 9. Recognition and Public Engagement

FNC's work continues to receive local and national recognition.

The FNC Chairman and the FNC Centre have been featured in national television programmes and publications highlighting the contributions of the British Gurkha community and the work of the organisation.

Such recognition helps raise awareness of the history, contribution, and legacy of Nepalese Gurkha soldiers and their families in the United Kingdom.

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## 10. Looking Ahead

As we move forward, FNC aims to continue strengthening its services and expanding its impact.

Key priorities include:

- Expanding community support services
- Strengthening health and wellbeing programmes
- Enhancing digital inclusion initiatives
- Developing youth and cultural programmes



## Annex C

- Strengthening partnerships with statutory and voluntary organisations
- Ensuring the long-term sustainability of the FNC Centre

Our goal remains to ensure that the centre continues to serve as a vibrant hub for the Nepalese community and a bridge between cultures within the wider community.

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## 11. Acknowledgements

Finally, we would like to express our sincere thanks to:

- The Chairman and Executive Committee
- Trustees and advisors
- Staff and volunteers
- Partner organisations
- Funders and supporters
- All members of the community

Your continued support makes the work of the **Folkestone Nepalese Community** possible.

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## Closing Statement for the Annual Report

In conclusion, the achievements highlighted in this report reflect the collective dedication of the Chairman, Executive Committee Members, Trustees, staff, volunteers, partners, and the wider community. Despite the challenges faced by the voluntary sector, particularly in securing sustainable funding, Folkestone Nepalese Community remains committed to innovation, inclusivity, and collaboration in order to continue serving the British Gurkha and Nepalese community.

With the continued support of our members, partners, and funders, we are confident that FNC will remain a strong and vibrant community association, preserving our cultural heritage while contributing positively to the wider society.

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## Presented on behalf of the 9th Executive Committee

**Maha Rai, PhD**  
General Secretary  
Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) CIO

**Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun**  
Chairman  
Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) CIO

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## Annex D

## FNC Yearly Financial Statement As at 08/03/2026

## Income &amp; Expenditures:

S/N	Date	Descriptions	Paid In	Paid out	Total	Remarks
01	30/03/2025	B/Forward	£59,390.42		£59,390.42	
02	31/03/2025	Members Fee	£75.00		£59,465.42	
03	31/03/2025	Online giving LTD	£421.66		£59,887.08	Marathon
04	31/03/2025	Bank Charge		£48.71	£59,838.37	
05	31/03/2025	Advance paid for NYP drinks.		£500.00	£59,338.37	
06	01/04/2025	Kent CC- Rent charge		£100.00	£59,238.37	
07	02/04/2025	Gurkha Peace found	£150.00		£59,388.37	
08	07/04/2025	Online giving LTD	£71.92		£59,460.29	
09	09/04/2025	Global 4 Commun		£67.20	£59,393.09	
10	11/04/2025	ICO ZB 41278		£47.00	£59,346.09	
11	14/4/2025	Online giving LTD	£28.45		£59,374.54	
12	24/04/2025	Membership Fee	£50.00		£59,424.54	
13	25/04/2025	Ny party Food		£3,417.00	£56,007.54	Lemon L.
14	25/04/2025	Cash NY Party	£4,588.00		£60,595.54	
15	25/04/2025	Wreath in Hawkinge		£45.00	£60,550.54	
16	28/04/2025	Online giving LTD	£92.36		£60,642.90	
17	29/04/2025	Membership Fee	£200.00		£60,842.90	
18	30/04/2025	Bank AC charge		£32.20	£60,810.70	
19	01/05/2025	Kent CC-Rent charge		£100.00	£60,710.70	
20	01/05/2025	Kent CC- Incidentally		£865.52	£59,845.18	
21	01/05/2025	Pa system NY		£419.00	£59,426.18	
22	06/05/2025	Online giving LTD	£526.85		£59,953.03	
23	06/05/2025		£865.52		£60,818.55	
24	08/05/2025	Membership Fee	£75.00		£60,893.55	
25	09/05/2025	Global 4 communi..		£67.20	£60,826.35	
26	12/05/2025	Online giving LTD	£19.07		£60,845.42	
27	13/05/2025	Membership fee	£600.00		£61,445.42	
28	28/05/2025	NY Party Drinks	£384.00		£61,829.42	
29	28/05/2025	Mayors charity for FNC	£2,498.38		£64,327.80	
30	30/05/2025	Bank AC charge		£39.07	£64,288.73	
31	02/06/2025	KentCC-Rent charge		£100.00	£64,188.73	
32	09/06/2025	Global 4 Communi..		£67.20	£64,121.53	
33	10/06/2025	Membership Fee	£150.00		£64,271.53	
34	13/06/2025	Membership Fee	£212.50		£64,484.03	
35	19/06/2025	Membership Fee	£25.00		£64,509.03	
36	30/06/2025	Bank AC charge		£7.35	£64,501.68	
37	01/07/2025	KentCC-Rent charge		£100.00	£64,401.68	
38	04/07/2025	FNC Culture Team		£200.00	£64,201.68	Rai
39	09/07/2025	Global 4 Communi..		£67.20	£64,134.48	
40	21/07/2025	Membership Fee	£175.00		£64,309.48	
41	22/07/2025	FNC Culture team		£200.00	£64,109.48	Limbu
42	31/07/2025	Membership Fee	£300.00		£64,409.48	
43	31/07/2025	Multi culture 3x Flowers £36, wreath in Hawkinge £45		£81.00	£64,328.48	
44	31/07/2025	Bank AC Charge		£5.68	£64,322.80	
45	01/08/2025	KentCC-Rent Charge		£100.00	£64,222.80	
46	01/08/2025	NY party hall charge		£600.00	£63,622.80	
47	04/08/2025	Membership Fee	£175.00		£63,797.80	
48	05/08/2025	Membership Fee	£225.00		£64,022.80	
49	09/08/2025	Membership Fee	£300.00		£64,322.80	
50	11/08/2025	Global 4 communic..		£67.20	£64,255.60	
51	11/08/2025	Membership Fee	£150.00		£64,405.60	
52	12/08/2025	Membership Fee	£100.00		£64,505.60	
53	14/08/2025	Membership Fee	£75.00		£64,580.60	
54	18/08/2025	Membership Fee	£230.00		£64,810.60	
55	21/08/2025	Membership Fee	£225.00		£65,035.60	
56	29/08/2025	Membership Fee	£175.00		£65,210.60	
57	29/08/2025	Membership fee & Tij party.	£625.00		£65,835.60	
58	29/08/2025	Bank AC charge		£7.21	£65,828.39	
59	01/09/2025	Membership Fee	£75.00		£65,903.39	

## Annex D

60	01/09/2025	KentCC-Charge		£100.00	£65,803.39	
61	02/09/2025	Tij Party Hall Booking		£500.00	£65,303.39	
62	08/09/2025	Membership Fee	£150.00		£65,453.39	
63	09/09/2025	Global 4 Communi..		£75.30	£65,378.09	
64	11/09/2025	Membership fee	£50.00		£65,428.09	
65	19/09/2025	Membership fee	£75.00		£65,503.09	
66	30/09/2025	Bank AC charge		£27.12	£65,475.97	
67	01/10/2025	KentCC-Rent Charge		£100.00	£65,375.97	
68	03/10/2025	Cash Deposited incorrectly Entry	£4,505.00		£69,880.97	Dashai TCK
69	03/10/2025	Incorrect Entry		£4,505.00	£65,375.97	
70	03/10/2025	Cash Correct Entry.	£4,506.00		£69,881.97	
71	06/10/2025	Paid for Dashai Food		£2,000.00	£67,881.97	
72	09/10/2025	Global 4 Communi..		£75.30	£67,806.67	
73	10/10/2025	Membership Fee	£25.00		£67,831.67	
74	20/10/2025	Lemon Leaf Food		£2,743.00	£65,088.67	Dashai P
75	21/10/2025	Via Sum up tck sold	£90.00		£65,178.67	
76	21/10/2025	Sum up- Raffle draw	£55.00		£65,233.67	
77	22/10/2025	Paid-Lease cliff hall		£550.57	£64,683.10	
78	22/10/2025	Raffle draw, Tickets, Pent farm & M Fee	£1,087.50		£65,770.60	
79	29/10/2025	Paid for Lemon Leaf		£1,000.00	£64,770.60	
80	30/10/2025	Dashai tickets	£1,205		£65,975.60	Central
81	31/10/2025	Bank AC charge		£38.54	£65,937.06	
82	05/11/2025	KentCC-Rent charge		£100.00	£65,837.06	
83	05/11/2025	Membership Fee	£150.00		£65,987.06	
84	10/11/2025	Gurkha Welfare trust (GWT)	£1,500.00		£67,487.06	
85	10/11/2025	Global 4 Communi..		£81.02	£67,406.04	
86	13/11/2025	GMF to FNC	£200.00		£67,606.04	
87	17/11/2025	Membership Fee	£100.00		£67,706.04	
88	28/11/2025	Bank Charge (AC)		£12.85	£67,693.19	
89	04/12/2025	Kent cc-Rent Charge		£100.00	£67,593.19	
90	04/12/2025	Membership Fee	£287.50		£67,880.69	
91	09/12/2025	Global 4 Communi..		£81.02	£67,799.67	
92	12/12/2025	Senior C £1,100 & Deusi SC-fnc £250 -	£1,350.00		£69,149.67	
93	19/12/2025	Membership Fee	£275.00		£69,424.67	
94	19/12/2025	Membership Fee	£37.50		£69,462.17	
95	22/12/2025	Paid for sound system		£150.00	£69,312.17	
96	24/12/2025	Pent Farm Plot	£20.00		£69,332.17	
97	30/12/2025	Membership Fee	£50.00		£69,382.17	
98	31/12/2025	Bank Charge		£4.55	£69,377.62	
99	02/01/2026	Kent CC-Electricity		£2,500.72	£66,876.90	
100	07/01/2026	Paid to Lemon Leaf		£500.00	£66,376.90	Ladies
101	09/01/2026	Refunded – Electricity bill- FNC	£2,500.72		£68,877.62	Central
102	09/01/2026	Global 4 Communication		£135.30	£68,742.32	
103	30/01/2026	Bank Charge		£23.07	£68,719.25	
104	02/02/2026	Membership Fee	£125.00		£68,844.25	
105	02/02/2026	Kent CC Rent Charge		£100.00	£68,744.25	
106	03/02/2026	Membership Fee	£175.00		£68,919.25	
107	09/02/2026	Global 4 Communication		£75.30	£68,843.95	
108	10/02/2026	Advance payment for NY Party B. Hotel		£200.00	£68,643.95	
109	20/02/2026	GMF – Paid to L. leaf		£200.00	£68,443.95	
110	27/02/2026	Bank Charge		£2.35	£68,441.60	
111	02/03/2026	Kent cc- Receive able		£376.96	£68,064.64	
112	04/03/2026	Members Fee	£150.00		£68,214.64	9/02-4/03
113	05/03/2026	Members fee cash	£100.00		<b>£68,314.64</b>	



## FNC Property Report: 08 Mar 2026

Manbahadur Rai & Prithviraj Rai

1

### FNC Property at Centre Store

S.N	ITEMS NAME	QTY	SPONSORED BY	HELD BY	REMARKS
1	Flag Union Jack (1 pole)	2		2021	FNC Store
2	Flag Nepal ( 1 pole)	2		2021	FNC Store
3	Glass Whisky	11	Donated	Before 2021	FNC Store
4	Glass Wine	6	Donated	Before 2021	FNC Store
5	Glass Water Juice	24	Donated	Before 2021	FNC Store
6	Large Gagra	2	Mr.Amber Gurung	Before 2021	FNC Store
7	Large Candle Stand	2	Mr.Amber Gurung	Before 2021	FNC Store
8	Large FNC Backdrop	1	Mr. Bikram Rai	Mr. Bikram Rai	Bikram Rai (Held by )
9	Stage Decoration Items	3	Mr. Chandra Gurung/ Gurkha Hill	Before 2021	FNC Store
10	Sport Trophies	5		Before 2021	FNC Store
11	FNC banner( Kings coronation, welcome, thank you and see you, welcome, FNC logo, Teej, Veteran hub, Charity dinner, General assembly, Dashain and Tihar, New Year	16	(FNC Nepalese Year Large Banner + 2x Welcomes Banner Capt (Retd) Rambahadur Pun)	Before & After 2021	FNC Store
12	FNC High Vis & Toolbox	13 (1)		Before & After 2021	FNC Store
13	FNC Cultural Dresses	2 x Box		Cultural Secretary	FNC Store
14	Garden Tools & Accessories	1	2024/2025	Pant Farm Stred	Chandra Shai / Pant Farm
15	FNC Large Formal Tablecloth	1	FNC Charity Dinner		2025/FNC Store

2

### FNC Centre Offices & Craft Store (FNC, Senior, Manger & Store)

S.N	ITEMS NAME	QTY	REMARKS
1	Computer & CCTV	2 (1)	2021
2	Yealink Telephone	2	FNC Office & Manager Office
3	First aid kit	1	Main Hall Corridor
4	Computer Desk	6	Full set with Chairs & Drawers
5	Electric Heater	4	2023
6	Oil radiator	1	2023
7	Blower Heater	5	2x larger 3 x small - New 2023+2024
8	Laptops (Dytabook)	5	2023
9	Paper cutter	1	2023
10	Computer / Office Chair	5/12	2021
11	Sharp Printer	1	Rent
12	Paper Shredder	1	2024
13	Magic Card Pronto 100 (Membership card Printer)	1	Dec 2024
14	Telescope Ladder	1	Sep 2024
15	Arts & Crafts Materials	-	Stitch & Chat and Other Activities
16	Henry Hover	1	2021
17	Laminator	1	2025

3

### FNC Centre Manager's Office

S.N	ITEMS NAME	QTY	REMARKS
1	Arm Blue Chair	3	2023-Donated by the library
2	Coffee table	1	2023-Donated by the library

4

### FNC Centre Toilets

S.N	ITEMS NAME	QTY	REMARKS
1	Hand Dryer + Panel	2	Install 2022

### FNC Centre Conference Room

S.N	Item Name	QTY	Remarks
1	Conference Blue Chair	10	New 2021
2	Conference Table	1	New 2021 (4 Parts)
3	TV & HDMI Cable	1	New 2021
4	White Board	1	New 2021
5	Cultural Picture Frame	10	2023/2024

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### FNC Centre Volunteer / Youth Room

S.N	Item Name	QTY	Remarks
1	Purple Chair	3	KCV - 2021
2	Round Table	1	KCV- 2021
3	Flip Chart Board	1	2024
4	Pool Table	1	New 2024
5	Black Sofa	1	Donated by Library 2023
6	Red Folding Chair	18	ShivaNova/borrow

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**FNC Centre Digital Room**

S.N	ITEM NAME	QTY	REMARKS
1	Desktop Computer	9	Refurbished with full MS Package 2026
2	8 Chair & 9 Table	9C, 8T	Harvey Grammar School 2021
3	Height adjustable table	1	New - 2021 to facilitate Disable Use
4	Smart Digital Board & Stand	1	New 2022

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**FNC Centre Main Hall & Craft Store**

S.N	ITEM	QTY	REMARKS
1	Noticeboard	2	New 2021
2	Black Chair	30	New 2021
3	Photo Frame: V.Cs, King, Queen, Painting (G. Limbu), Nepal-UK Friendship	18	New 2021
4	Go pack bio- Table Large	6	New 2021
5	Go pack bio- Table	6	New 2021
6	FNC Senior Citizen TV	1	2021
7	Wall Clock	2	New 2022
9	Portable PA speaker + 1 Mic	2	1 New 2024
10	Projector & Screen	1	2021
11	Pool Table	1	2022
12	Wooden Chair	2	2021

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**FNC Outside Store**

S.N	ITEM	QTY	REMARKS
1	Green Chairs Folding	27	Cheriton School 2023
2	Army Tent	1	2023
3	Golf Net/Frame	1	2022
4	Folding Table	3	2021
5	Norwegian Containers	2	2022
6	Folding chair (Green)	29	2023 / Kumar Rai /Cheriton School
7	Blue Chair	10	2021
8	Green Chair	37	2021
9	Purple Chair	7	2021
10	Orange Chair	8	2021
11	Trolley	1	2022
12	Yellow Step Ladder	1	2023

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**FNC Centre Kitchen Inventory List 1:**

S.N	ITEM NAME	QTY	REMARKS
1	Plates	46	New 2021
2	Cups	36 (6)	New 2021/2026
3	Saucer	36 (6)	New 2021
5	Spoon	26 (20)	New 2021
6	Teaspoon	35	New 2021/2026
7	Knife	39	New 2021
8	Fork	38	New 2021
9	Jar	4	New 2021
10	Bread Knife	1	New 2021
11	Chopping board	3	New 2021
12	Grundig Fridge	1	New 2021
13	Microwave & Tea Kettle	2	New 2021
14	Thermos	4	New 2021
15	Dishwasher	1	New 2021

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**FNC Centre Kitchen Inventory List 2:**

S.N	ITEM	QTY	REMARKS
16	Electric Cooker	1	New 2021
17	Bamboo drawer	2	New 2021
18	Blitz Rice Cooker 10 L	1	New 2023
19	Soup Kettle	2	New 2022
20	Solid spoon	10	2023/2024
21	Glass Jug	4	2023/2024
22	Bin	1	2023/2024
23	Dustpan and broom set	1	2023/2024
24	White + Brown + Gray Trays	6/3/4	2023/2024

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**FNC Plaque Presentation**

Log Sheet

**Total Plaque in Stock: 50 QTY**

Ser	Date	Presented To	QTY
1	20 Jul 2024	Ms Shivdhan Rai	1
2	28-Aug-24	Ch Jackie Mead	1
3	31-Aug-24	FNC Ladies (Tea)	1
4	19-Oct-24	Mayor Harka Sampson Rai	1
5	13-May-25	Ch Abena Kelly Kurfu	1
6	26-Aug-25	Professor Dr. Naveed Kashmir Rai	1
		<b>Total Presented</b>	<b>6</b>
		<b>Total Left at Manager's Office</b>	<b>44</b>

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**Thank You!**  
**Property Team FNC.**

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## **Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC)**

Baker Road  
Folkestone, CT19 4NN  
www.fncuk.org  
**Telephone: 07877433930 (M)**  
**E-Mail: rbppun97@hotmail.com**

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Dear All FNC Members,

Date: 08 March 2026

### **OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S FAREWELL MESSAGE**

As my two-year term as Chairman and my service as a member of the 9th Committee come to a successful conclusion, I step down from the chairmanship of the Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) with great pride in what we have achieved together and with sincere gratitude to the Committee, Trustees, Advisors, volunteers, and all members of our Community. As I hand over, I also feel a responsibility to speak openly and honestly.

Over the past two years, through collective effort and shared commitment, we have strengthened FNC in meaningful and sustainable ways. Together, we have:

- Built positive relationships with local councils and formed valuable partnerships with external organisations.
- Upgraded our IT suite with modern computer systems.
- Delivered a wide range of community, social, and multicultural activities, celebrating our culture and heritage while promoting diversity, inclusion, and community cohesion.
- Submitted a request to extend the FNC Centre lease for over 10 years at a reasonable rent, considering political, economic, and social factors. The indications so far have been very positive.

Despite various challenges, we have successfully hosted hallmark events including Dashain, Nepali New Year, Teej celebrations, multicultural events, and the Food Festival.

These efforts have led to several historic milestones for FNC:

- Recognition as one of the three chosen charities of the Folkestone Town Mayor in 2024, along with Health Watch Recognition Awards.
- Successfully hosting a charity night celebrating our 20th anniversary.
- The Chairman being honoured with respected civic awards, including the Armed Forces Champion Award, the Town Mayor's Community Award, and a Certificate of Appreciation from Kent Coast Volunteers – all for the first time in FNC's history.
- Securing National Lottery funding to support the operation of the FNC Centre.
- Upgrading digital facilities and extending the FNC Centre lease for ten years at an affordable rent.
- Assisting individuals in switching their immigration status (ILE/ILR) from biometrics to E-Visa, as required under new Home Office regulations.

Throughout my tenure of chairmanship, our focus has been on:

- Strengthening community cohesion and inclusion
- Promoting integration, education, skills development, and employability
- Improving health, welfare, and overall wellbeing
- Supporting Armed Forces veterans and community members
- Encouraging volunteering and civic participation while promoting our cultural heritage
- Developing our Community Garden and engaging with youth and schools
- Fostering strong community bonds
- Supporting vulnerable or isolated individuals, their families, and the wider community
- Encouraging members to transition from the old £10 membership fee to the new annual £25 membership system

Our internal survey revealed that we now handle over 900 individual cases per year, including health and welfare support, DWP and housing matters, and other personal challenges. All funds and grants are reinvested directly into member services and the responsible management of the FNC Centre.

Together, we have:

- Supported other charities
- Introduced a new FNC membership policy to sustain the operation of the Centre
- Created a Community Garden
- Introduced membership cards and online payment systems
- Developed key organisational policies in line with Charity Commission guidelines
- Strengthened FNC's reputation as a transparent and accountable charity addressing social isolation and loneliness
- Hosted recreational visits for senior citizens and the Mayor's Christmas Party
- Secured £1,500 funding from GWT
- Hosted Armed Forces Covenant Annual meeting in partnership with Folkestone and Hythe District Council

Through these collective efforts, FNC now delivers approximately £228,000 of social value each year, benefiting both members and the wider community – a remarkable achievement we should all be proud of. However, sustainability requires responsibility and consistent effort.

FNC now has over 800 members, yet only around 250 currently pay the annual £25 membership fee. This means a small minority is effectively funding facilities and services used by all. This situation is unfair, unsustainable, and risks damaging our credibility with Kent County Council and other key partners.

Let us be clear: goodwill alone does not sustain a community. Facilities, partnerships, and leadership require financial commitment. Paying the £25 annual membership fee is not optional – it is a fundamental responsibility of membership. While attendance at events may vary, this contribution is the minimum expected from every member.

I speak firmly because the future of FNC depends on it, particularly as we seek to renew the FNC Centre lease at an increased rate. Without fair and consistent contributions, we risk the Centre itself, our partnerships, and the hard-earned reputation we have built. That is not a legacy we should accept.

As my Committee and I hand over to the new Chairman and Committee, I urge every member to reflect on their responsibility. Our strength will not be measured by the number of names on a membership list, but by how many are willing to contribute and take ownership of FNC's future.

I sincerely thank those who have worked tirelessly and contributed consistently. I step down knowing that real progress has been made, but sustainability now rests with the wider membership.

Let us move forward united, disciplined, and proud, governed by our Constitution. Together, we must secure the future of the Folkestone Nepalese Community. I truly hope the strong reputation and legacy we have built will be maintained and cherished, so that FNC continues to stand tall within the wider community. Let us always prioritise the advancement of our community over personal interests.

Thank you, again, to the 9th FNC Committee for two years of dedicated service. Congratulations to the newly elected 10th FNC Committee, chaired by Capt Sumanchandra Rai Saheb, and best wishes in your roles.

Jai FNC!

Yours sincerely,



Captain (Retd) Rambahadur Pun  
Outgoing Chairman  
9<sup>th</sup> Committee  
Folkestone Nepalese Community

# Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) CIO

## 10th General Convention – Official Announcement

### Executive Committee Members (2026–2028)

From the 10th General Convention of Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) CIO, we are pleased to formally announce and extend our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for a successful tenure to the newly elected Chairman and all Executive Committee Members, who were unanimously elected as follows:

1. Capt (Retd) Suman Chandra Rai – Chairman
2. Capt (Retd) Bishnu Bahadur Singh – Vice Chairman
3. Mr. Maha Rai, PhD – Vice Chairman
4. Mr. Abesh Rai – General Secretary
5. Mr. Bikram Rai – Treasurer
6. Mr. Ganesh Pun – Secretary
7. Mr. Chandra Bahadur Shahi – Assistant Treasurer
8. Mr. Bikas Gurung – Cultural Secretary
9. Mrs. Man Kumari Gurung – Assistant Cultural Secretary
10. Mr. Bhaskar Rai – Sports Secretary
11. Mr. Santosh Gurung – Assistant Sports Secretary
12. Mr. Prithviraj Rai – Property & Logistics Secretary
13. Mr. Dhurba Khaniya – Assistant Property & Logistics Secretary
14. Mr. Tej Tamang – Food & Beverages Secretary
15. Mr. Hari Rai – Assistant Food & Beverages Secretary
16. Mr. Narayan Pun – Media Secretary
17. Mr. Nagendra Rai – Assistant Media Secretary
18. Ms. Romiya Rai – Ladies Coordinator
19. Mrs. Sujata Rai – Assistant Ladies Coordinator
20. Capt (Retd) Gyan Bahadur Limbu – Senior Citizens Coordinator
21. Mr. Nar Bahadur Tamang – Assistant Senior Citizens Coordinator
22. – Youth Coordinator
23. Ms. Roma Rana Magar – Assistant Youth Coordinator


We extend our sincere best wishes to the entire Executive Committee for a productive and successful tenure in serving our community with dedication, integrity, transparency, and unity throughout the term 2026–2028.

Sincerely,



**Mr. Jhapindra Bahadur Thapa**  
Chair, Election Committee  
Folkestone Nepalese Community (FNC) CIO UK

08/03/2026

  
Kishore Sapkota  
Secretary  
Election Committee

Page 1 of 1

08/03/2026

Ms. Rai  
Mina Rai  
Member  
Election Committee  
08/03/2026