

BURNING NEST 2023 SURVEY RESULTS



SUMMARY

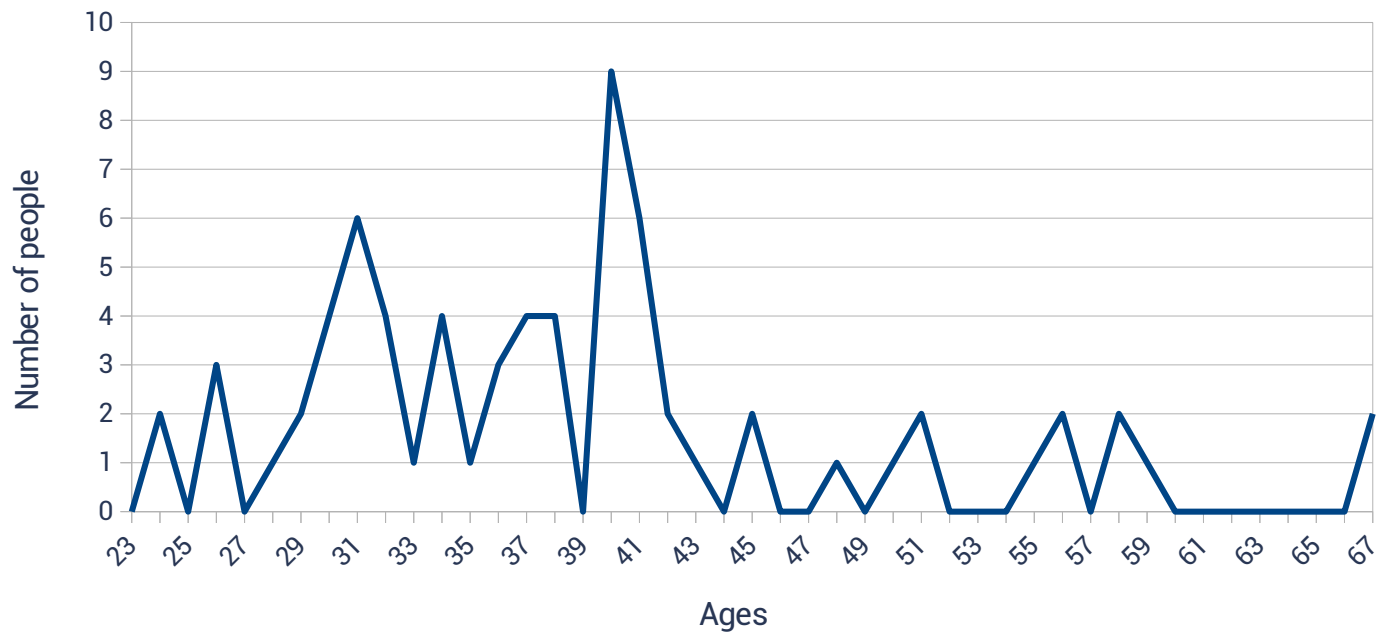
TICKETS SOLD

753 tickets sold (680 attended)
646 Adult tickets (587 attended)
63 Low Income (59 attended)
6 Carers (6 attended)
38 Under 18s (28 attended)

SURVEY RESPONSES

77 people answered the survey
10.23% of tickets sold (11.32% of attendees)

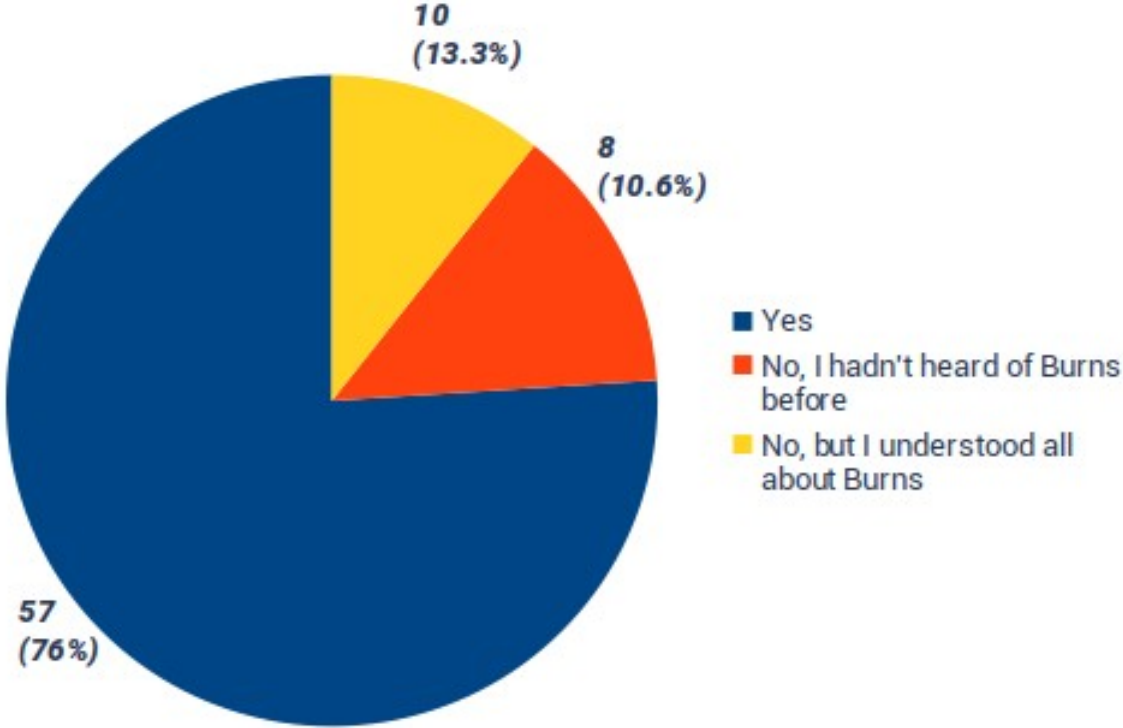
HOW OLD ARE YOU?



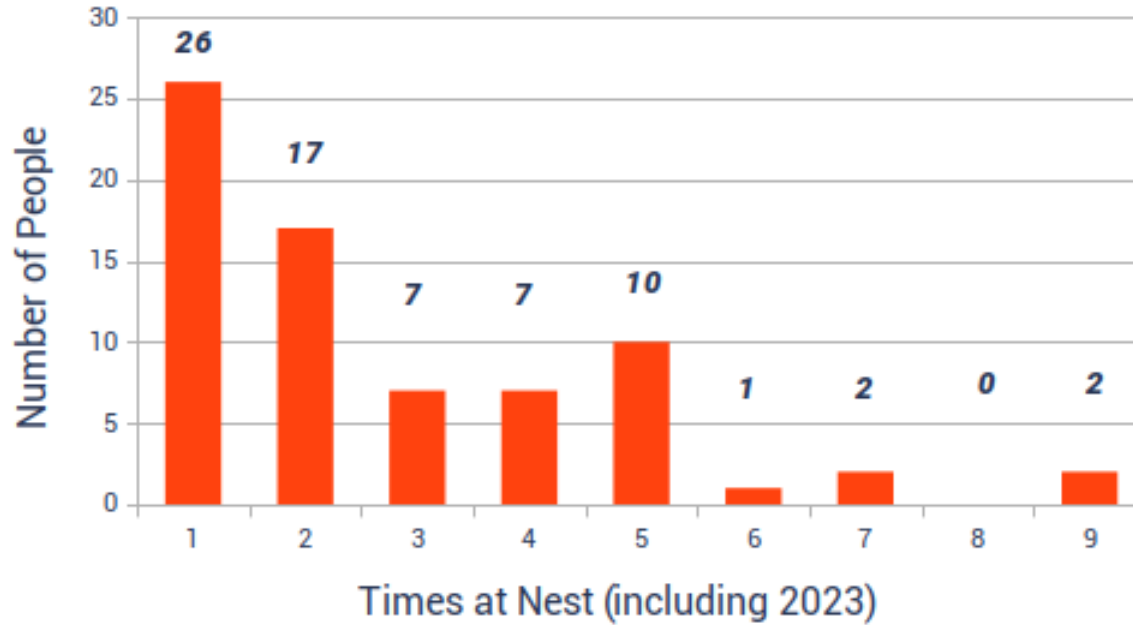
WHERE DO YOU NORMALLY LIVE?

- **65 (86.6%) respondents live in England**
- **3 (4%) live in the U.S.A.**
- **2 (2.6%) live in Scotland**
- **2 (2.6%) live in Ireland**
- **1 (1.3%) lives in Guernsey**
- **1 (1.3%) lives in New Zealand**
- **1 (1.3%) is Nomadic**

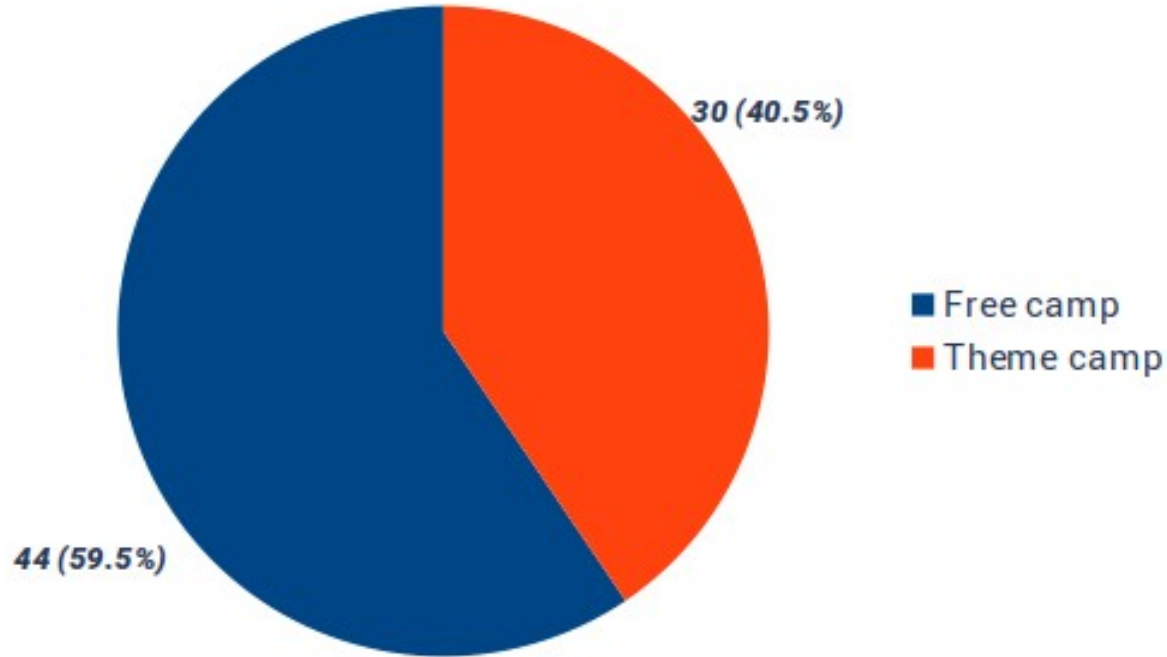
HAVE YOU BEEN TO A BURN BEFORE?



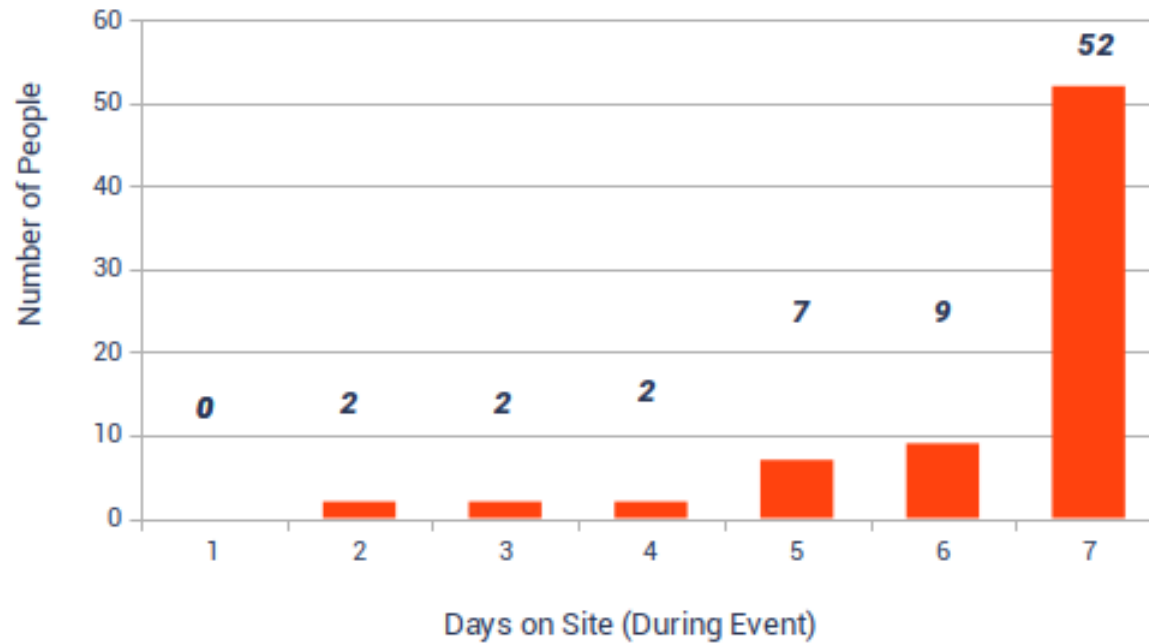
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU BEEN TO NEST?



DID YOU FREE CAMP OR WERE YOU WITH A THEME CAMP?

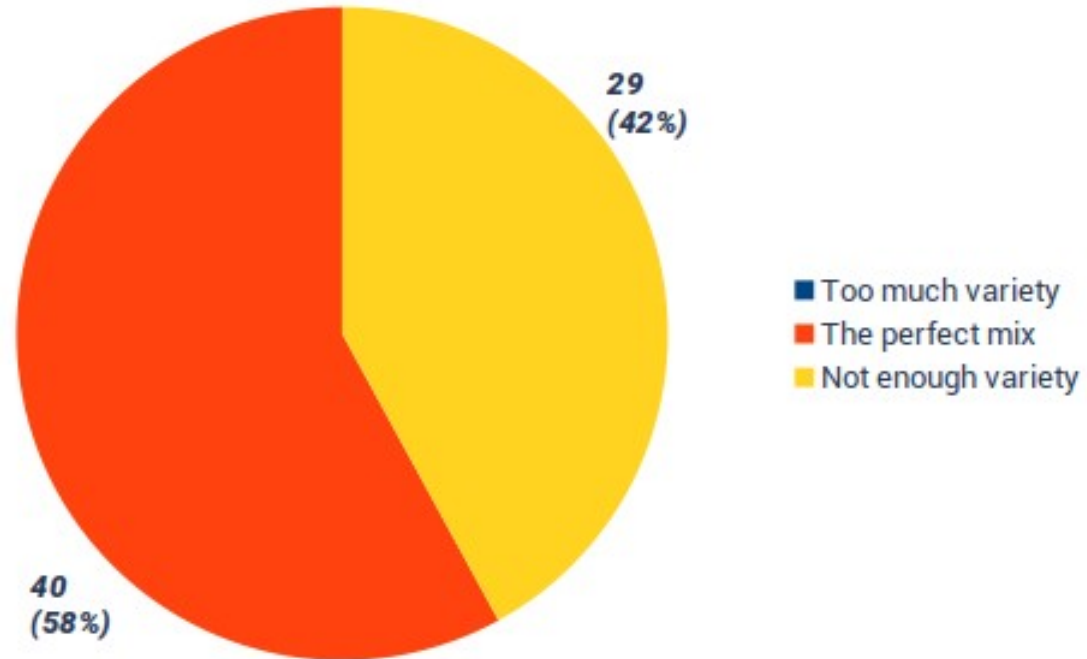


HOW MANY DAYS WERE YOU ON SITE (DURING EVENT)?



MUSIC

What did you think of the variety of music?

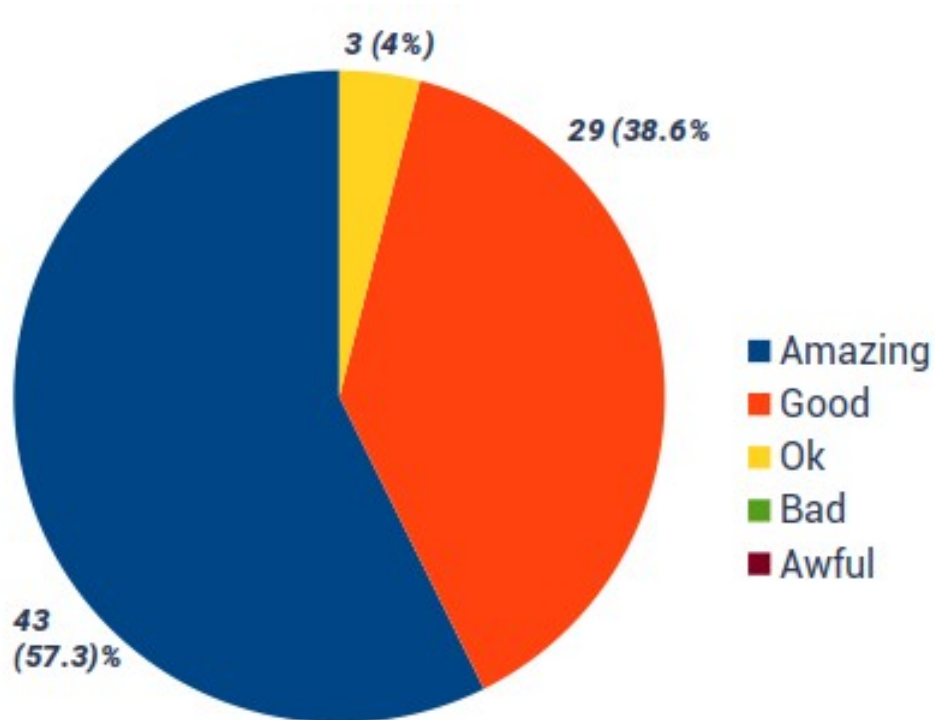


Selected Music comments

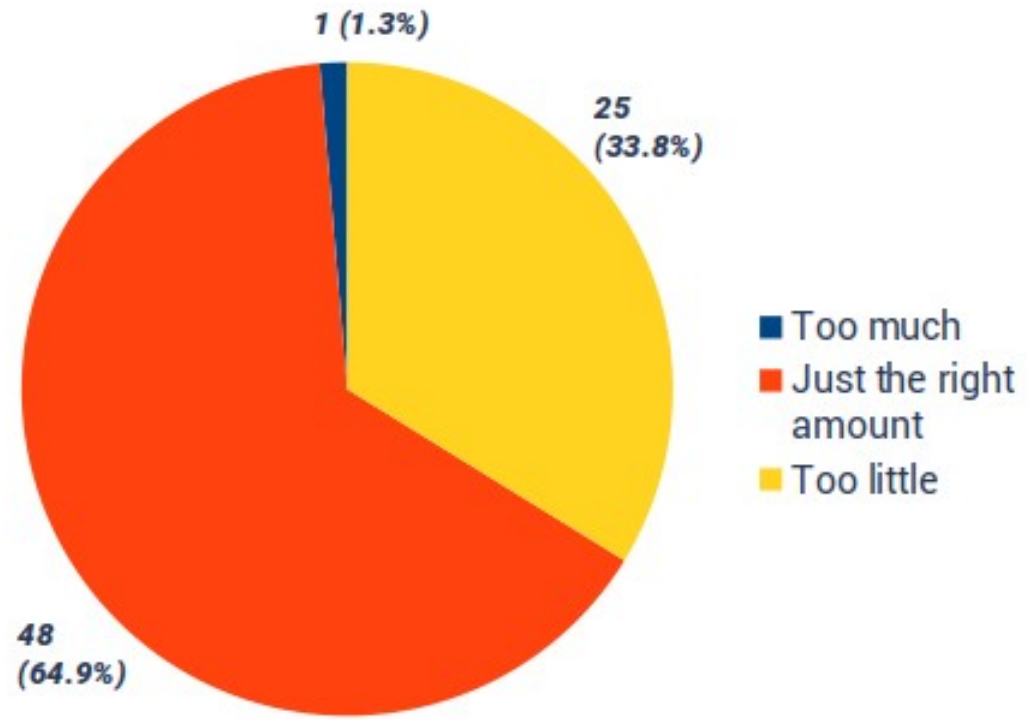
- Nest isn't the best burn for me for music/dancing and that's ok!
- As there is a limit on sound I think it's a real shame there aren't more day raves in all the music camps or at least a playlist on to sit around and chill to. There was plenty of opportunities when there weren't workshops on and my friends and I ended up looking for the mobile sound system because he played music most times of the day :)
- I would have appreciated some more live music - point seemed very underused space
- Nice to have more day time parties and wider selections of genres spread throughout
- I wish there was a way to support more live music at Nest. It's expensive for multiple musicians to join, bring a back line etc. I wondered if this is something that could be supported via Art Grants.
- If anything, not loud enough at times, but I understand why this has to be the way, it's alright
- Lots of D&B. Suits me.
- Less drum and bass!
- Really good sound levels too, I have sensory issues so hate when it's super loud!

ART & DECOR

- What did you think of the Art & Decor?



- What did you think of the amount of Art?

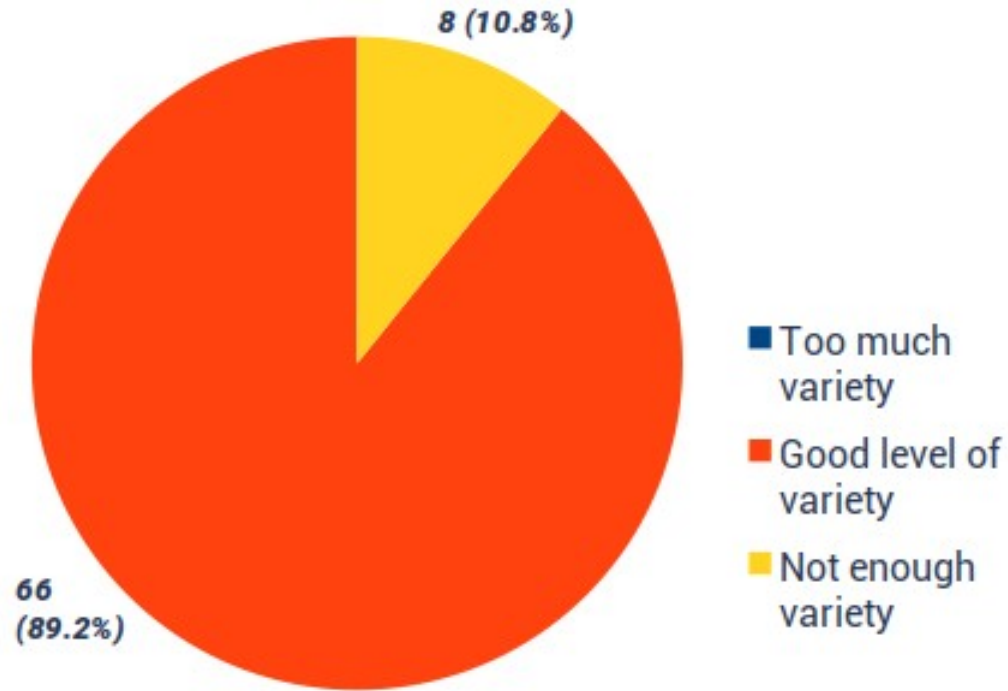


Selected Art & Decor comments

- Love it love it love it. I'm so appreciative of the time and effort put into the creations.
- It certainly felt more than last year and making art is tough so I appreciated art being included in the map but I think there could have been more signage and more laminated guides next to the pieces explaining their story.
- The Arts team did an amazing job this year enabling Burners to manifest their creativity, and also filling out every corner of the Glade, the Point, etc. with tons of great stuff. The digital design of the event was also on point this year! Kudos all around.
- Some projects were impressive, well thought through, fun, and clearly created by accomplished humans who understood the theme (the effigy, Bedlam, the Church of Übertown, Troll Bar) but a lot felt very low effort and uninspiring.
- The ARTery at Burning Man had a walk-in desk where you could just show up with art and they'd help you place it and maybe something like that would encourage and support more small art projects.
- Increase in amount of art vs last year and beforetimes was noticeable and quality was amazing, want even more though!
- The big art was excellent (effigy especially, and the hand, and the box once it was running).

THEME CAMPS

- What did you think of the theme camps?

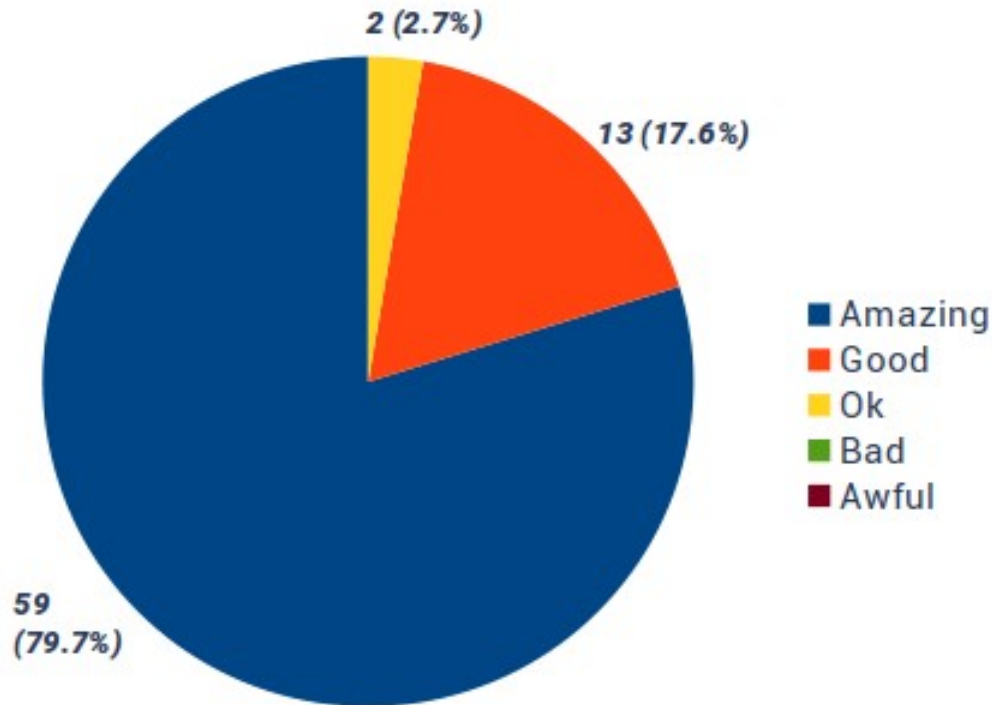


Selected Theme Camp comments

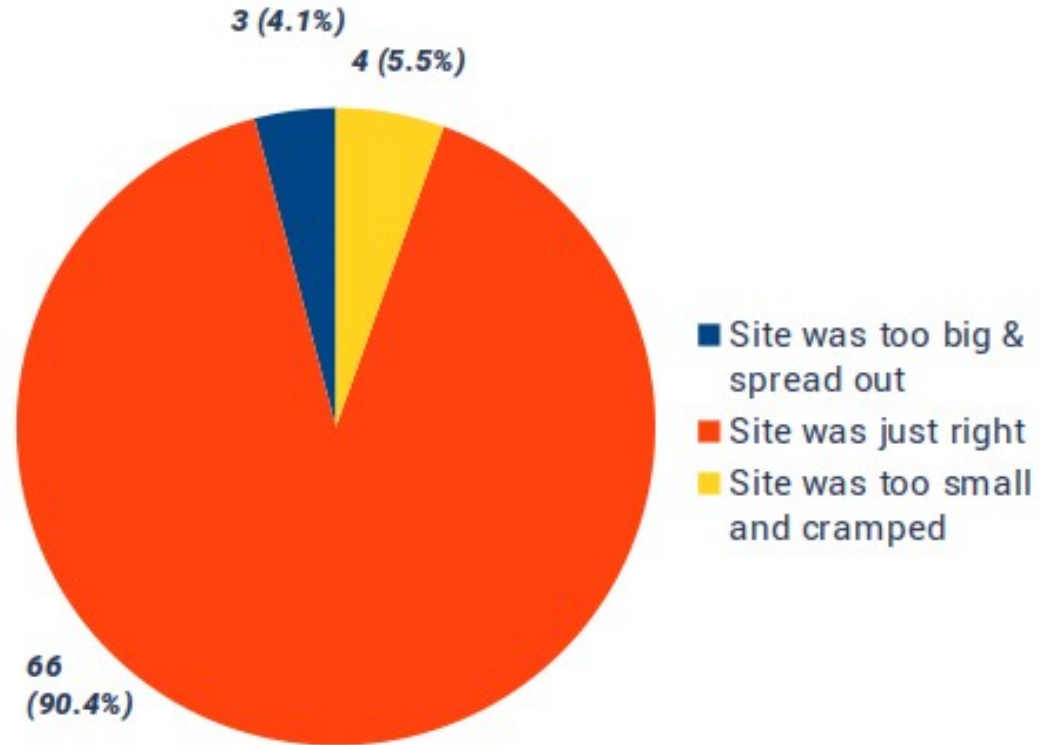
- Great to see new ones this year and return of some old favourites
- They upped their game this year. So impressed.
- A few nice dance spaces and chill spaces but not much in between. Would have been nice to have a space to sit and rest that also had music. FlimFlam was great but the bed could only accommodate so many people and it wasn't possible to have music playing without DJs.
- Some of them didn't have strong enough themes to be recognisable.
- Compared to other burns there are only a few unique theme camps, most seem pretty samey and not as out there as other burns
- Not enough bars or places to sit down. It was a mistake to put FCUK next to the Troll Bar as it was dead in the evening. Another theme camp similar to Essex on Sea would have made that area more vibrant at night. Suggest putting the community kitchen down by Hot Mess instead.
- Happy to see some new camps! I didn't visit theme camps outside of workshops and maybe that was my mistake. I still have no idea what Flim Flam is about.

VENUE / SITE

- What did you think of the site?



- Size & layout of the site

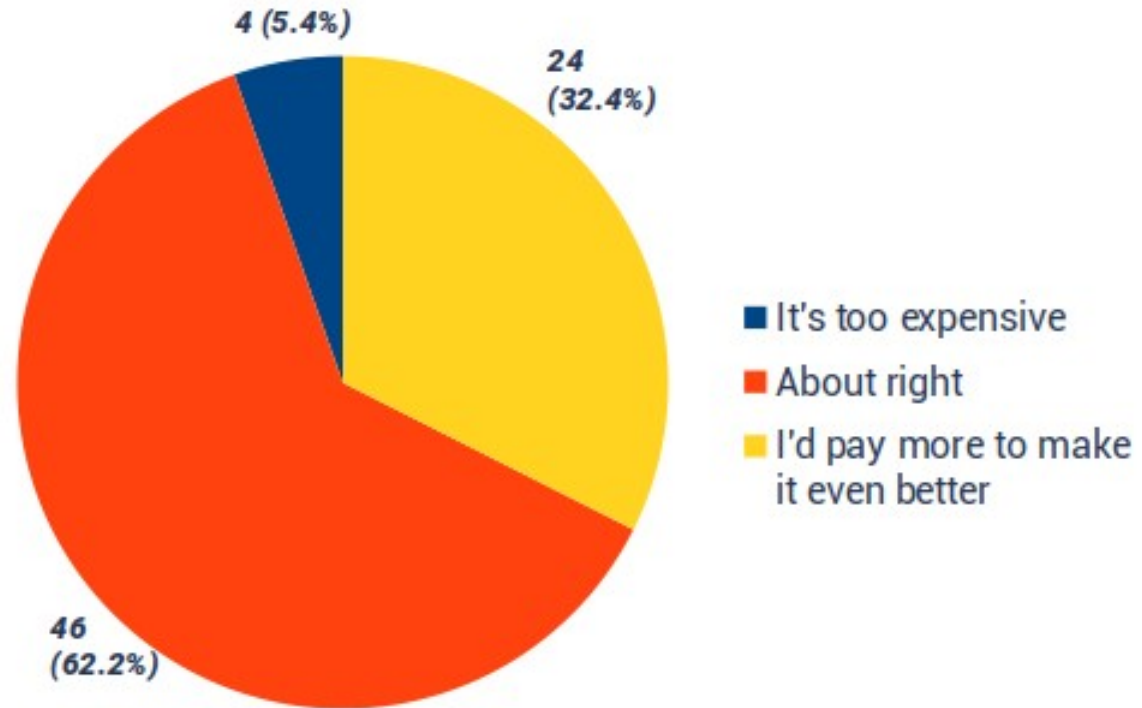


Selected Venue/Site comments

- Loved it! Beautifullllllllll!!!!
- There needs to be more places to shelter from the sun, even if it means the site making a bunch of shelters.
- Love the lakes (that I definitely did not swim in)
- Think the lake was amazing. Don't think we should have gone across the other side of the lake for the effigy burn as it was not well kept. Got quite stung
- The natural beauty of the site makes the hills worth it!
- Accessibility for some is a struggle. I know there's no easy solution but it was heartbreaking to see accessibility section for the effigy burn on the other side of the lake.
- Would like to see more things hidden towards temple.
- Absolutely love the site. wonder if we can actually use more of it as we grow? temple field could host more things?
- It's a difficult site to work with, given the physical constraints and the very small amounts of flat land. I'd love to see us spread out more evenly over the site but I can't think of any actual suggestions for how to do it. Figure out how to build flat platforms over the sloping bits?

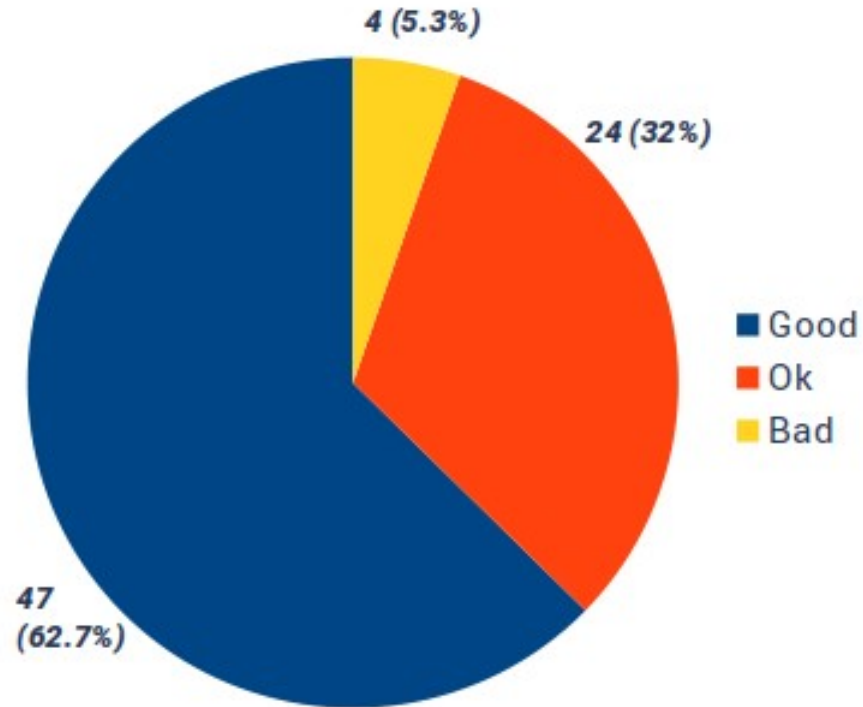
TICKET PRICE

- What did you think of the ticket price & value for money?



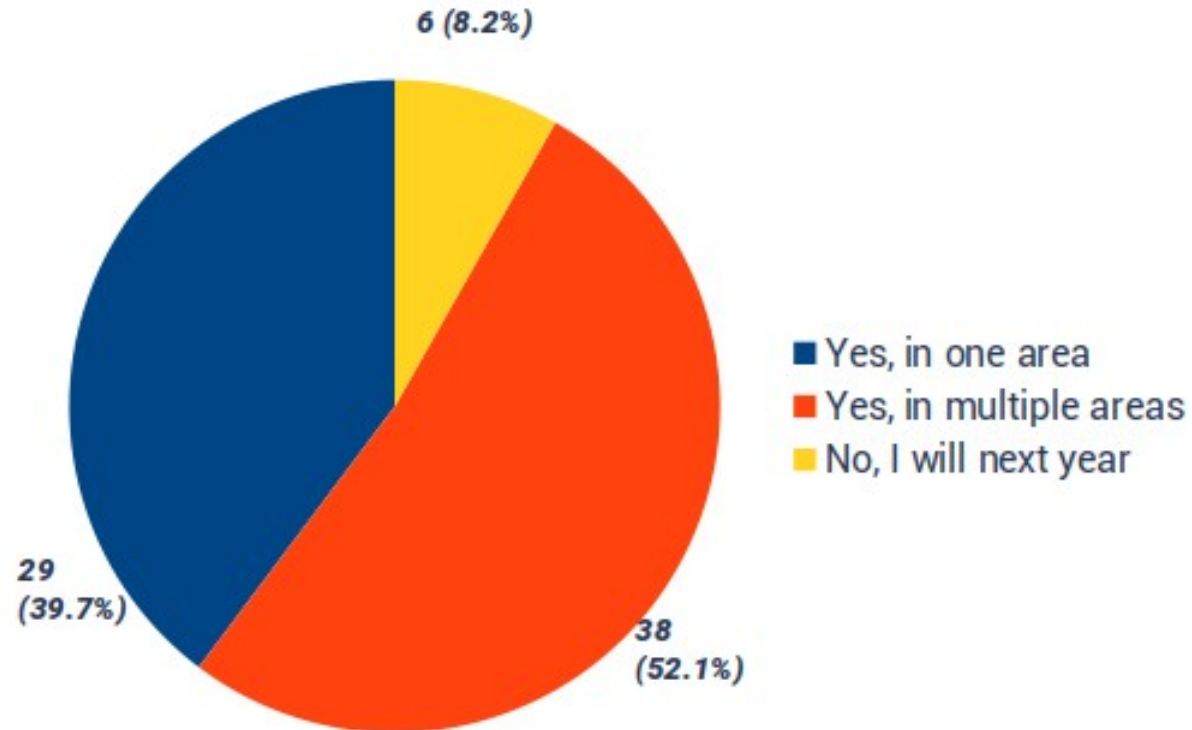
TOILETS

- What did you think about the toilets?



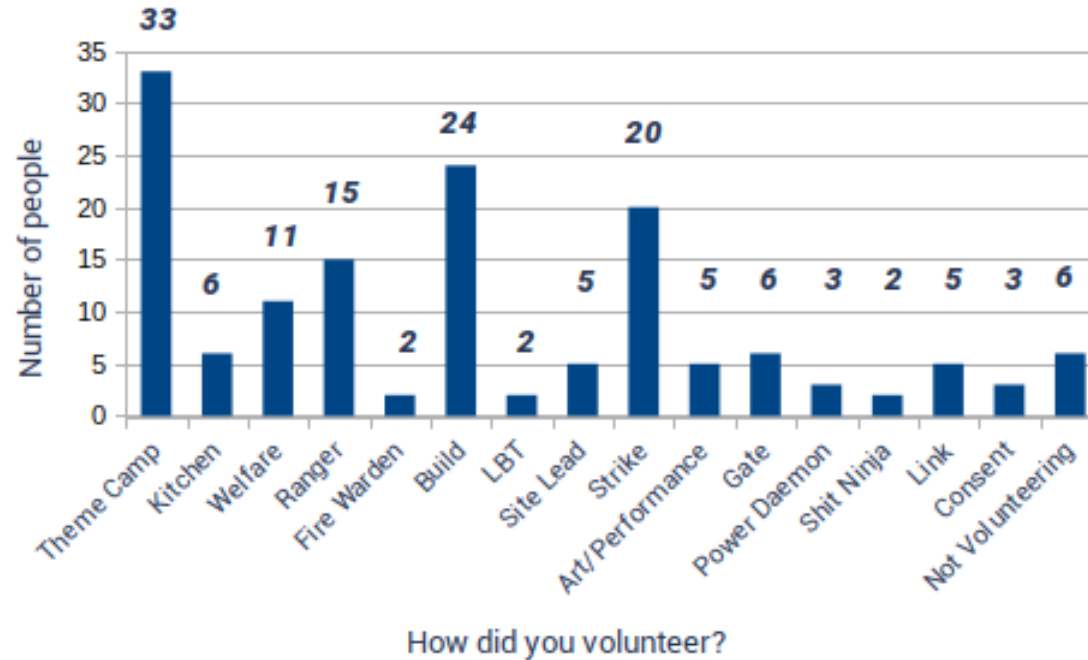
VOLUNTEERING

- Did you volunteer?



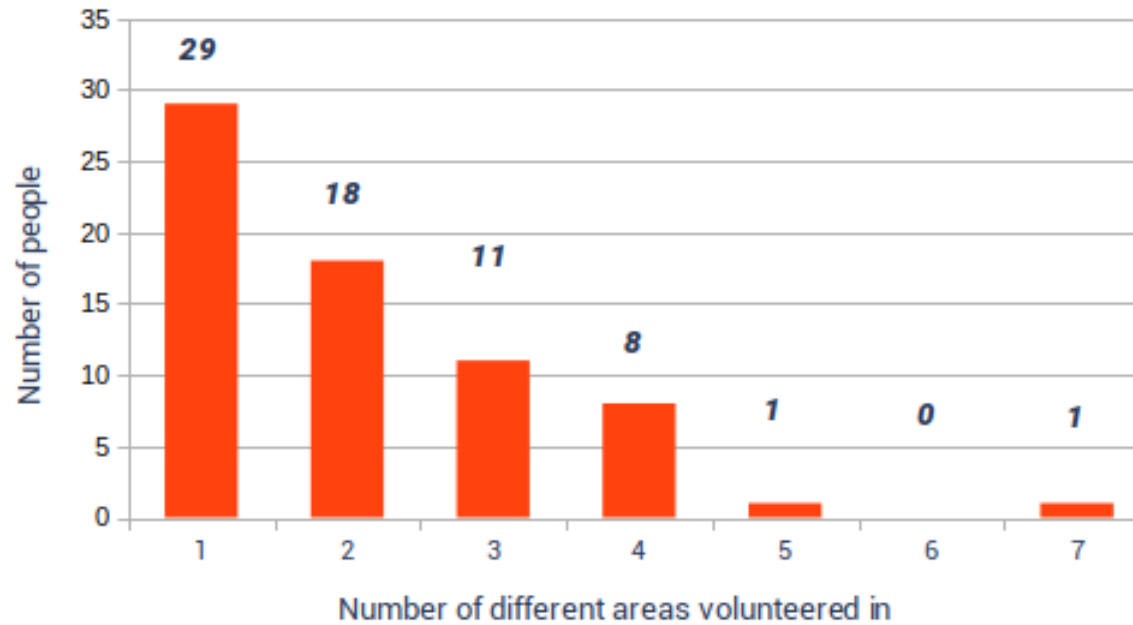
VOLUNTEERING

- How did you volunteer?



VOLUNTEERING

- How much did you volunteer?

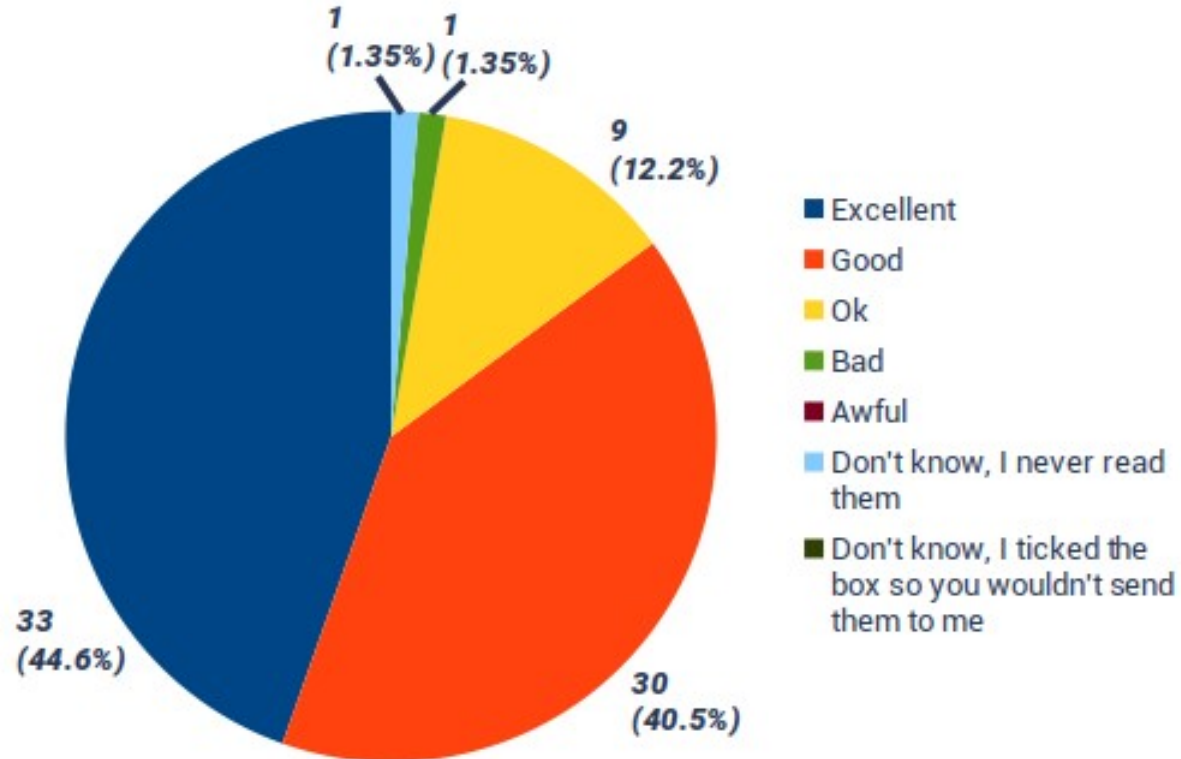


Selected Volunteering comments

- I think we could pull together a general before-Nest guide talking about how it's all volunteer led etc. what each role entail and why are they great. I see the same people doing plenty each year and I personally burned out a bit doing a lot and feeling like not enough others were stepping up although when I told them about my shifts afterwards they'd often say 'Oh I didn't know I can do that'
- I found the unified spread sheet for signing up to shifts in different departments really useful - great to see who you are on shift with and to see where the gaps were. Not so useful was that volunteers had to give their email address via a separate form - had volunteers who didn't give their contact deets. Understand that with GDPR this is beyond Nest's control but it did make volunteer wrangling a bit more complicated when all I had was a playa name to go on.
- I would prefer to be able to sign up for shift even earlier, maybe even just after buying the ticket when you are really excited about going to Nest. Also, for rangering I had to give all my available times, but then my shift was not going to be given to me until weeks later so by then I had decided to sign up for some gate and theme camp stuff and could only do one of the time slots I had suggested. More immediate response would be great.
- It was great! There was the generic message board near The Point, but maybe a dedicated "volunteers needed" board would have been nice.
- Need to add incentive to volunteer for strike. Need to kick people the fuck out on Monday if they aren't helping LBT and DPW strike.
- Comms about opportunities seemed pretty good this year!
- Can other people do more of it?

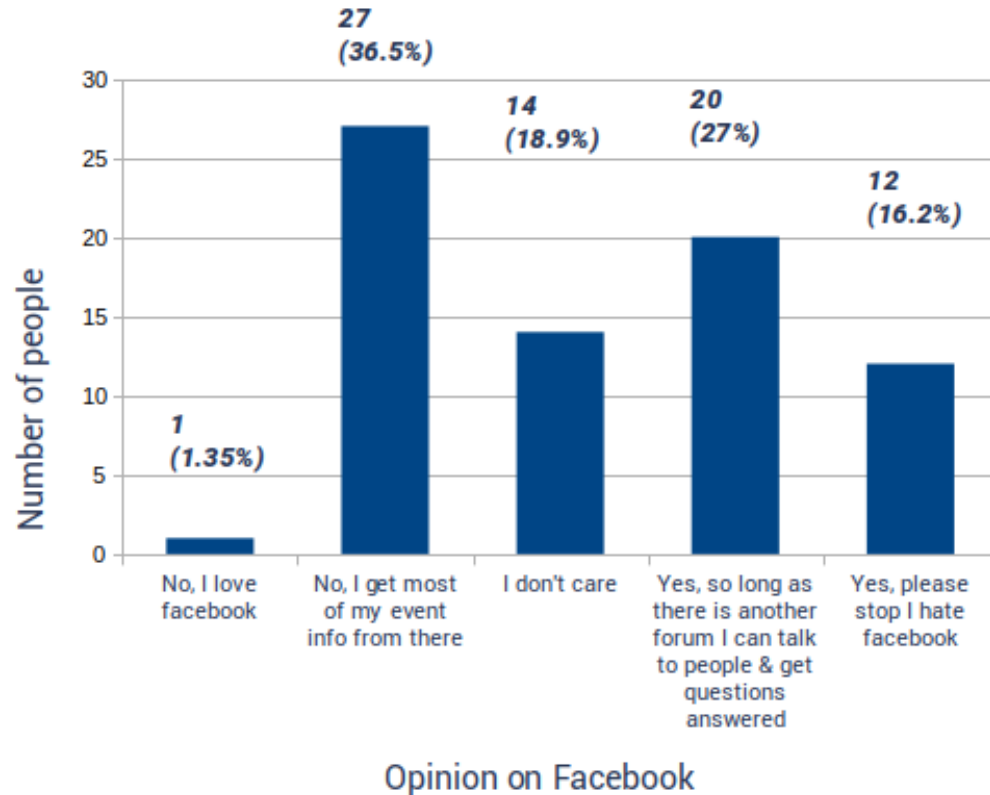
COMMUNICATIONS

- What did you think about pre-event Comms (e-mails)?



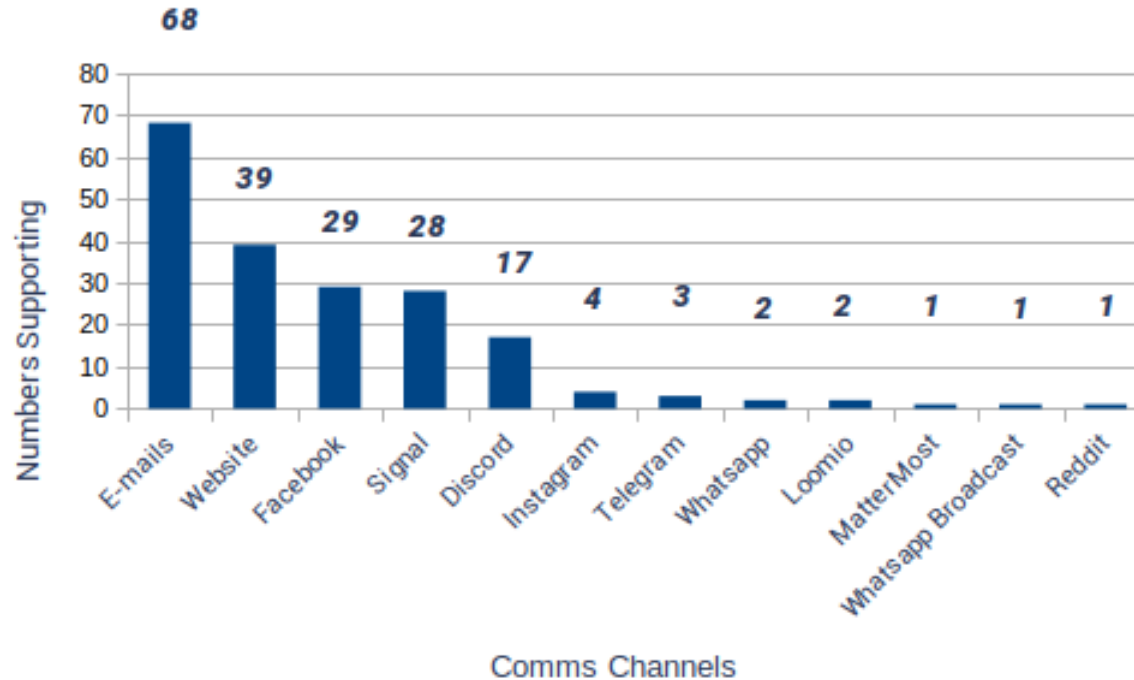
COMMUNICATIONS

- What's your opinion on us stopping using Facebook?



COMMUNICATIONS

- How would you most like to receive communications from us?

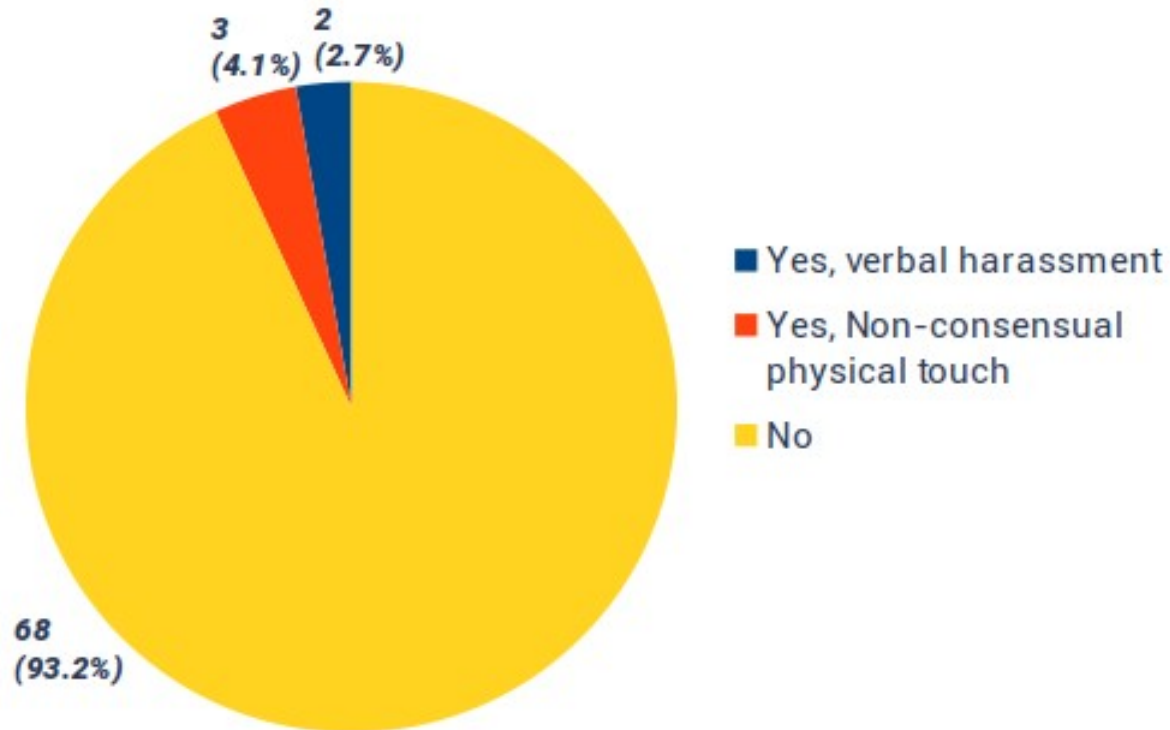


Selected Communications comments

- Compared to other burns, it was easy to find info about Nest. I didn't have to sift through too many platforms, so thank you! Some key info such as menstruation station toilets was on Facebook only. Would appreciate this to be in email or on website, so I can pass on to theme camp buddies who aren't on the socials.
- I got every Carrier Pigeon email twice and one didn't arrive to me but did to my friends. Only discovered the signal group quite late as it wasn't advertised anywhere.
- There was a lot of info near the time. It was my first time and felt like too much to process!
- I think the communications were excellent this year.
- There were loads of things this year where I thought, wow, nobody sent me that information! And then I went and checked, and it was right there in a Carrier Pigeon or earlier comms but I had no memory of it. I found the Carrier Pigeon emails to have *loads* of stuff in them and I was forgetting stuff from the beginning by the time I got to the end. If I'm not the only one, I'd suggest more but shorter emails. Or maybe split up the comms into short "IMPORTANT READ THIS" emails and longer and ramblier optional newsletters, just to set expectations about how much brain to point at things.
- Facebook is still a necessary evil - none of the other platforms do quite the same thing re. shared event calendar + discussion :(
- Any app that isn't emails is just another thing to download and learn, possibly for just one use case, and no medium is as guaranteed as email (necessary to buy ticket) for the widest population. Other channels I would consider "bonuses" but not the main thing

CONSENT

- **Did you personally experience any non-consensual touch or verbal harassment?**

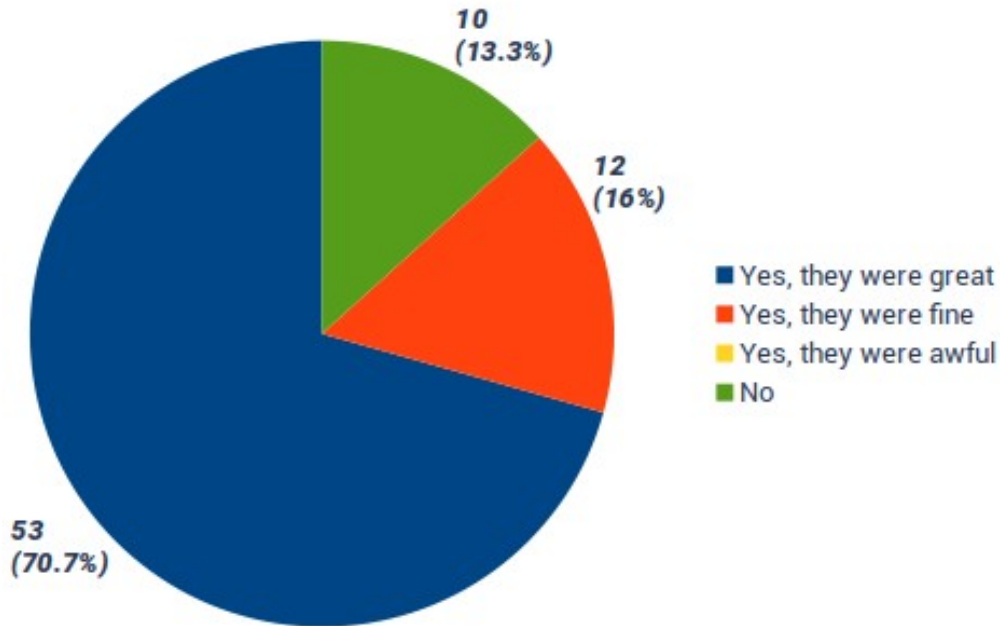


Selected Consent comments

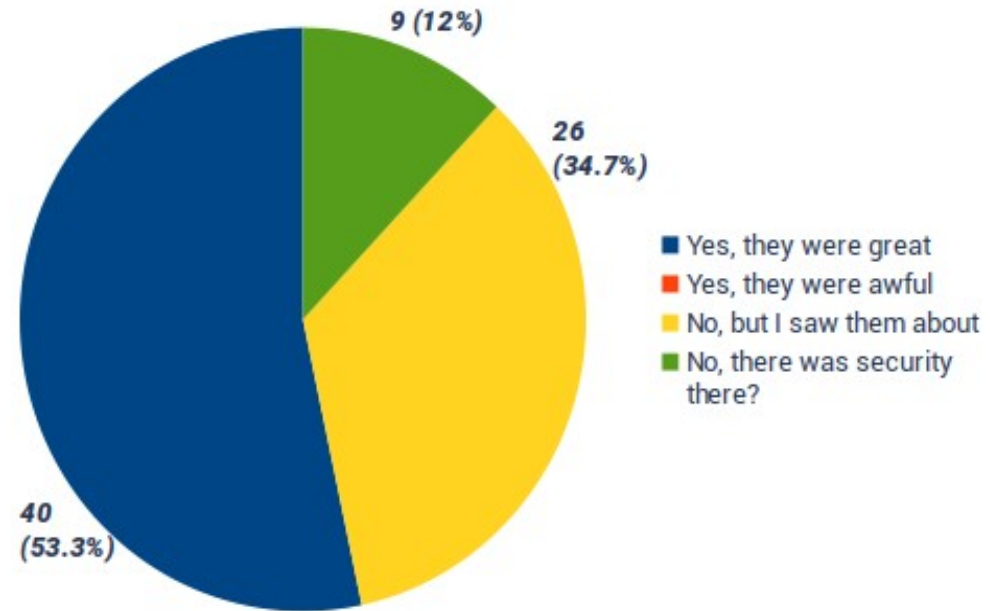
- The burn was the most consent based place I've ever experienced. It was very healing for me and I loved how people would ask and not assume.
- I still noticed people taking unsolicited photos/videos of groups, including when people in the group were nude, eg at effigy burn. I don't know how you stop that beyond hammering it home in comms and calling it out
- Consent workshop at the beginning of the week was phenomenal. More of those for people arriving later, some friends who got there later in the week were sad to have missed it
- Consent breaches don't necessarily involve touch or words. It sounds silly but someone insisted on 'smudging' me with white sage, even when I repeatedly asked them to stop. There's no tick box for that, but it was a consent violation.
- It was better this year. However, I could see the toll it took on those delegated to manage it.
- The person who touched me was later removed from site. I personally thanked CK but also thanks to everyone else who has worked on making Consent a big topic at Nest. Nowhere is still behind in these areas and Nest feels much safer.
- Amazing job. I was in the position to say "no" twice, and both times I heard "thank you" for it, and it was new experience

RANGERS & SECURITY

- Did you have any interactions with Rangers?

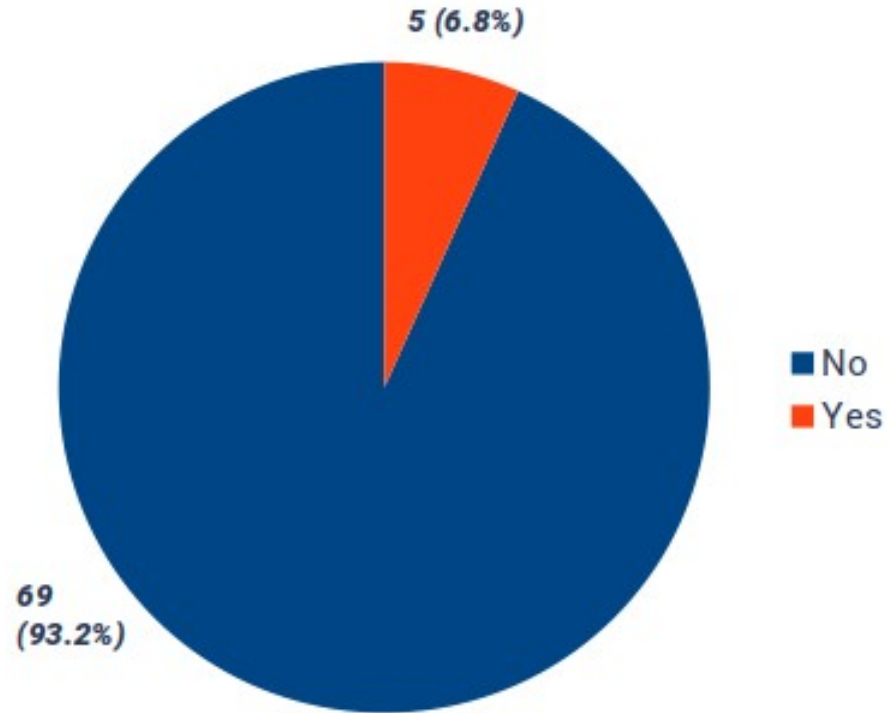


- Did you have any interactions with security?



ACCESSIBILITY

- Did you have any specific accessibility requirements?



Selected Accessibility comments

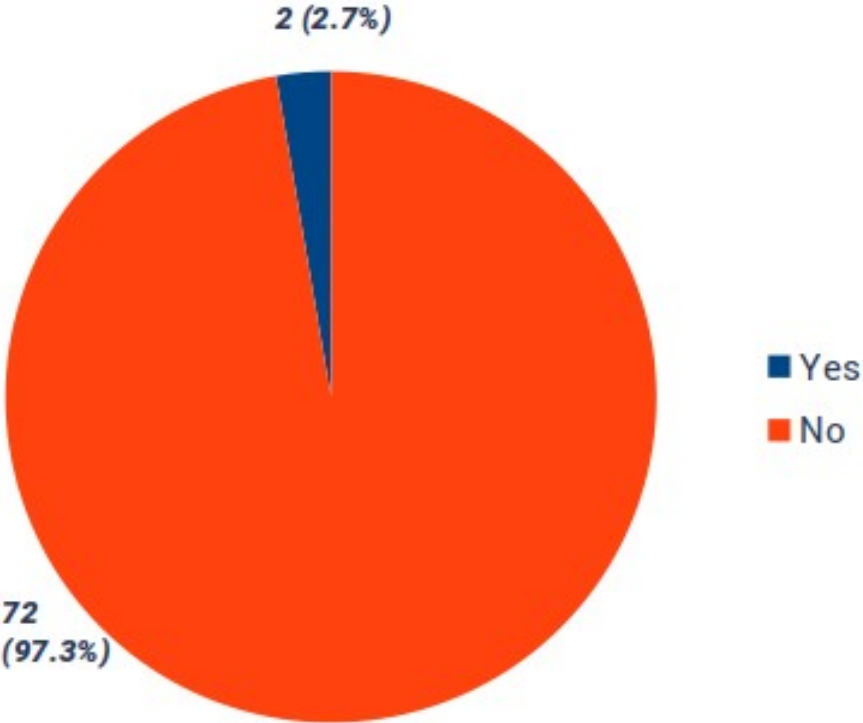
- My friends had accessibility needs and we found it quite disheartening that there wasn't a clear system for getting lifts but also that accessibility wasn't really part of comms/signage - it might be a good idea to make signs like - 'see someone with accessibility needs? let's all work together to make the space more accessible, offer them a hand' or similar.
- Seemed to be well set up. One team mate had accessibility needs and the area provided was perfect. I rangered a participant into area and they loved it and had a great time.
- The disabled loos really need a re-think
- We need to do better with getting people with access needs to the temple. Collect beforehand who needs transport, make a plan, communicate with people where they'll be picked up and approximately when. If Matthew hadn't stepped up, people would have not been able to get to site.
- I didn't know how to get a key for the toilets this year though didn't really need it as much as I had in previous years. Thank you for all you do to make the Nest site accessible. It'll never be perfect but appreciate all the efforts!
- Accessibility Car situation seemed a bit confusing.
- Probably the biggest thing is that information about the accessibility provision for the two burns was impossible to get ahead of time so became very stressful to organise.

Main Accessibility Issues

- **Prior communication of hilly nature of site would have helped many**
- **Access to Accessibility toilets was an issue, with difficulty obtaining code & fiddly nature of locks**
- **Many comments raised the issue of transport to Temple.**
 - **We're sorry to anyone impacted by this, we dropped the ball on Temple transport this year. This was partly due to inability to recruit an accessibility lead till mid April, partly issues with vehicles/drivers. We can only apologise & promise to do better next year. If anyone is interested in getting involved in helping improve our handling of accessibility issues please get in touch.**

FAMILIES

- Did you bring children with you?

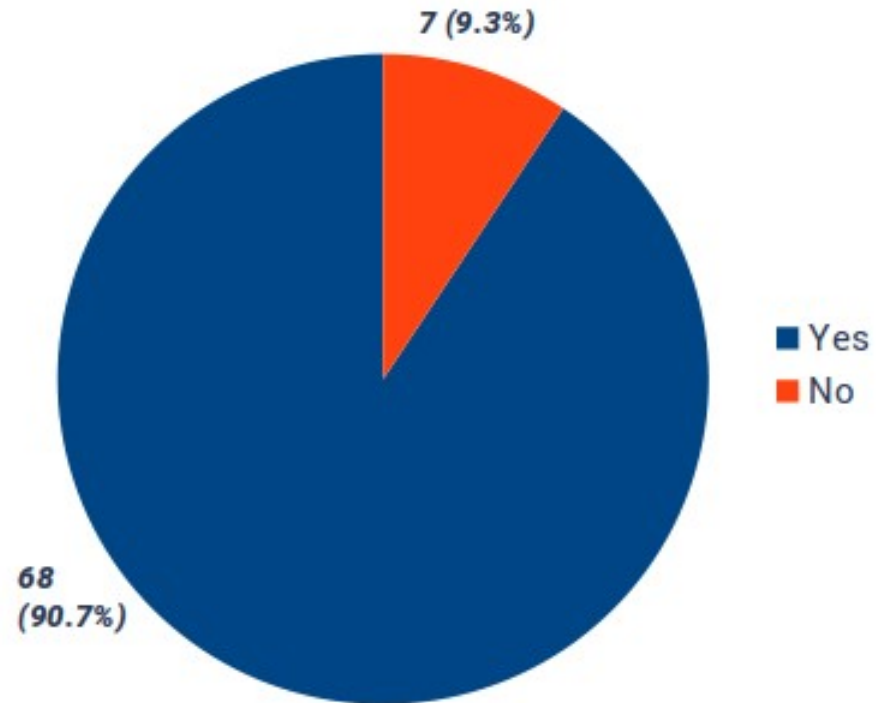


Selected Families (children) comments

- I do think that children should be supervised by their assigned adult at all times. There seemed to be an attitude this year of a 'normal' family festival, that all spaces were child friendly, I don't think this is necessarily the case.
- I found that some adults were somewhat irresponsible when it came to their kids. On Friday night while under the influence, I had to escort 2 young children through the dark back to their adults. Not only do I think it is not very good on the kids, I also don't enjoy having to turn into a responsible adult when I just wanted to be silly and have fun with my friends.
- I did worry sometimes about kids being around in the early morning when last night's party was still going on... Something to manage
- It was nice to see kids roaming freely without parents around
- Lovely to see little humans and enjoyed a pillow fight at one point with them
- The Magic Shack brought some awesome stuff for kids, and the trampoline and giant bed were very loved as well. Family camping with the communal tent was appreciated too (although we didn't camp there)
- There were too many 'found' children. Had experience of one which the rangers rightly took seriously, but when the child was returned to their parents, the parents didn't appreciate the severity of the situation. More education of parents/guardians required.

LBT

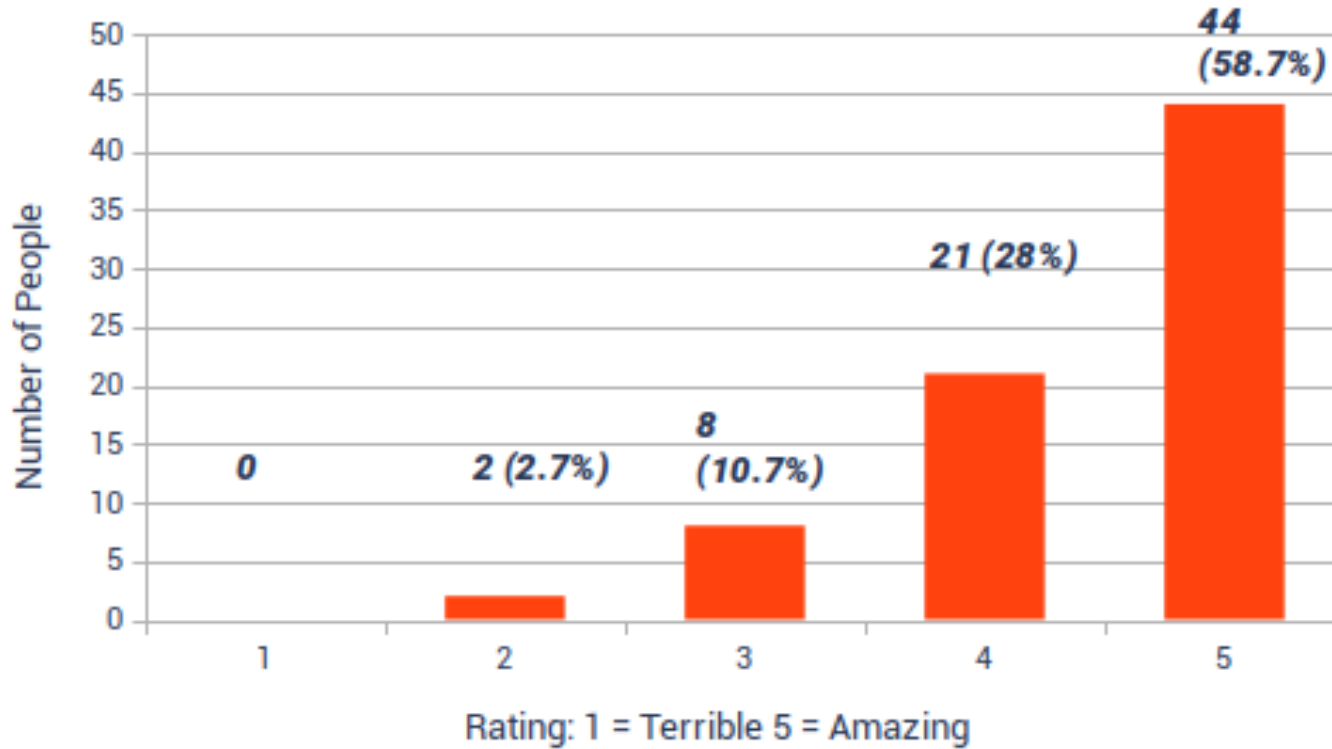
- **Were you aware of LBT before Nest?**



Selected LBT comments

- There was no clear answer on what it means in terms of actions we can do to help leave BETTER trace. Leave no trace was the extent of my understanding
- It is a massive mistake. We should focus on LNT and do it well, rather than worry about policing plastic usage.
- More clear signage and comms around what goes where (recycling, tins, glass, rubbish, compost, etc). Maybe even a quick guide pre-event as well. This seemed to be a bit too disorganized,
- Much better this year, less confusing about what goes where
- People were not excellent at what should go in recycling/aluminium bags/waste (possibly because they were given conflicting information). I also ended up taking home camping gas canisters and cream canisters that people had just left behind at the aluminium station. I would recommend to introduce something similar to what they have at Nowhere: a manned WAR zone that is only open daytime hours and where all bags are checked through by the person dropping it off.
- I'm not sure 0% landfill is a good idea as it may get burned
- I felt that there was a noticeable lack of MOOP on site this year, even during strike, which was great to see.

HOW WAS YOUR BURN?



WHAT WAS THE BEST THING ABOUT NEST?

- The people, the art, the freedom, the site, the love..
- everybody tries really hard to volunteer and make the experience better for everyone, great events and music and location
- inclusivity, freedom of expression and the awesome fire displays
- reconnecting with people hadn't seen, letting go (the burn), meeting new people on the dance floor, and definitely not swimming in the lakes
- I loved the chance to participate fully through DJing and the cabaret - it feels very non-hierarchical and inclusive and brings the best out of everyone. I also love the size of it, meaning you can build strong friendships over the weekend
- Connections, intimacy and silliness
- Connecting with a lot of wonderful and interesting people. The water on tap and how clean the site and the toilets were.
- Many of the people, the camps, the comms, the committed Leads, the artwork (especially the Effigy) and the site itself.
- Rabbit Effigy, Church of Ubertown
- compared to other burns I go to, the cheap ticket price and high spend on art is amazing. so i guess financial efficiency?
- The effigy was absolutely amazing
- Collaborating with awesome people to build something amazing.
- The people and community they co-create

WHAT WAS THE WORST THING ABOUT NEST?

- Having to leave...
- Toilets and they weren't that bad
- The amount of new burners who didn't quite get the whole inclusivity thing
- the hill to free camping
- Gossip, politics, back chat,
- It's a very intense, non-stop experience. Felt really hard to find a space that I could be alone, like 100% alone.
- I saw a couple people quite distraught after workshops that bring up trauma this year. Concerned that bringing up suppressed trauma can be quite dangerous for peoples mental health
- Some individuals who interpret the 11 principles very differently to myself
- That too many things happen between the last 3 days. I wish there was more happening on Monday and Tuesday so that it felt like one doesn't need to compact all the experiences into such a tight window of time
- When people work too hard and burn out. When one person's indifference or lack of care means shit falls on somebody else.
- Loud music on Strike Monday morning (until 2am).
- Some of the badly parented kids.
- designated viewpoint for [Effigy] burn, being too far from the temple burn

WORST THINGS WORD CLOUD



WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE ABOUT NEST?

- Stop growing the capacity, keep it small
- Make a bigger event, with artcars and artboats!
- More transparency in the organisation - specifically, an org chart and better ways of contacting teams.
- Remove BLM stickers from the toilets.
- more embodiment and healing focus within the sex positive spaces to help people drop deeper into safety and agency.
- I would make the opening ceremony even more of a thing, I think it's great to connect with people at the start. I would make the sound level guidelines very clear so everyone can manage their expectations and plan accordingly,
- 1. I'd love to see a few more theme camps. I think the barrier to entry is intimidating for first time camp leads. 2. I would discourage first time Nestlings from taking any core link roles. I think they can definitely shadow or take lead on certain aspects, but they should experience the event one time so they can contextualize their role.
- Better accessibility, more loos
- More volunteers! Split up jobs a bit more so we have lots of people doing smaller chunks. Flatter site.
- reduce amount of herding people
- More art, more strike volunteers, more theme camps.
- Go back to encouraging the burn to be a 5 day thing instead of the party weekend it's seems to be slipping into

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- (Worst thing about Nest) Switching off the music at 11pm?
 - Sadly this is a condition of our event license due to the location of site & proximity to other people's houses.
- (What would you change) Some extra signage on things, some artwork was unclear if it was interactive and I didn't want to break stuff, some places weren't able to give out all their food so maybe some big free food signs for when this is happening?
 - This is something for artists and camps to consider. With the exception of safety issues (where the board stand a chance of going to jail & Nest of losing its event license if we don't manage it) we don't tell camps or artists what to do. We will consider the artwork signage issue though, this may be something worth us suggesting to artists.
- I think DEI should be built in to the organisation from the ground up. Accessibility shouldn't be tagged on to the end of the event with a month or two to go.
 - It wasn't 'tagged on', we had been trying to recruit an accessibility and inclusion lead since January. It turns out that (probably due to our lack of a volunteers link this year) we didn't communicate this vacancy as well as we could have done. Consequently we weren't able to fill the role until mid April, by which time a lot of things had been already decided & there was little time till Nest.
If we'd had an accessibility lead in place from the start it would've been better and more integrated, but we're a volunteer organisation & rely on people volunteering to make things happen. We encourage anyone interested in taking on this role to get in touch.

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- (What would you change) “A PAL system/invite only system - ensuring the vetting of participants.” **also**
- “I would maybe have some sort of vetting system for people applying for tickets” **also**
- “I know also some events that prioritise consent have a PAL system. It would be great if nest enforced attendees having someone who could account for their behaviour. Once again perpetrators were free-radical sparkle ponies - unknown to the community. “
 - We considered this last year, briefly PAL works well with small groups & club environments, we don't think it'll work as easily with a 750+ person event. PAL & vetting of attendees also runs counter to our principle of Radical Inclusion. It's worth stating that almost every long-standing Nest participant was once 'unknown to the community'. We welcome everyone, try to share our principles and demonstrate a better way of being than sparkleponying, we don't exclude (other than for issues of safety) or establish barriers to joining this community.
- To what extent did new burners know they could get involved in things. Could there be a sign up sheet for some of the more creative things like DJing, hosting etc so it's obvious how to get stuck in?
 - This is an issue for individual camps to consider. Some do offer signups for DJ-ing, etc. In general this is usually well before the event.
- BN is very restrictive with rules. Very tame burn compared to Nowhere and Afrikaburn. Too many, too restrictive safety measures. Handbrake on type of burn.
 - This is in large part due to location & associated licensing and other legal/regulatory issues. Nowhere & Afrikaburn are in remote desert locations, Nest isn't. Similarly the UK (Devon) licensing requirements & concerns are very different from those in Spain & South Africa. We're also a lot smaller than either of those burns. It is worth noting that without the “restrictive safety measures” we have in place Nest would not be allowed to happen.

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- Reduce the obvious presence of sexual stuff. I had a few conversations where people felt a bit intimidated by the "crumpet vibe".
 - Radical Inclusion & Radical Self-Expression are key principles of Nest. Not every camp or event will be for everyone. Burns are created by their participants who want to bring & share what they're into. We're not going to try to restrict or reduce that even if it's not everyone's cup of tea. You don't have to participate, but please don't try to remove that choice from others.
- Encourage more alternative/edgy stuff, compared to other burns Nest is a bit tame and soft
 - If you want "more alternative/edgy stuff" bring it, make it happen. Bear in mind we do have council & police inspections & legal responsibilities under UK law for H&S, child safeguarding, etc. As such we need to do risk assessments, meet required safety standards & be able to explain things to external authorities.
If we don't do this & something goes wrong causing injury there's the potential for the board to go to jail and for Nest to be refused an event license in future years.
That said we're comfortable with you bringing 'edgy stuff' so long as you can work with us prior to & during the Burn to make it happen in a controlled manner.
- I feel like there were far fewer sit down loos this year but it doesn't seem to have been a problem.
 - We had issues booking compost toilets this year due to the dates, which clashed with several large commercial festivals. Frankly there weren't many compost toilets available, they were more expensive, and we were lucky to find the ones we did. We were almost forced to use portaloos instead of composters. We'd ideally like more compost toilets in future and will try to make that happen.

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- I have experienced some frustrations and have heard that there have been comments made about the org. Again, I think a more transparent and decentralised comms strategy would solve some of that. I 100% appreciate that that is not an easy thing to implement and execute. Communicating to the whole community org plans and meetings would be appreciated, just more transparency at every stage is helpful.
 - Yes, we're trying to get better at this. Please bear in mind we're all volunteers, not professional communicators or event organisers, none of us are paid to do this & that we have **A LOT** to deal with in the run-up to the event & other hectic life things going on too. We can always use more help.
- Probably not enough space to watch the Effigy Burn for everyone
 - We tried this year to get an alternative site for the effigy burn, but it fell through at the last minute due to objections of one of the site's tenant farmers. We'll keep trying for next year. We recognise watching from over the lake isn't great & it's crowded. One alternative is watching from the camping field below accessible camping (overlooking lower lake) though you can only see the back of the effigy from there.
- I filled in a form like this last time and it disappeared into a black hole as far as I know. It would be great to get a report on common themes and then discuss what we might do differently as a result.
 - Yeah, sorry about that. We did consider all feedback and shared with all links (org team), we made a number of changes due to last years feedback which we think has made Nest even better. That said we were very stretched last year, collecting & reviewing feedback took way longer than it should & we didn't manage to share it with you all. We've tried to correct that this year and be more open in sharing feedback (that's why this doc is 50 pages long). Hopefully this is an improvement and one of many steps in the right direction. We are also sharing full feedback comments & there will be a thread on Loomio for the community to discuss issues raised.

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- Surprised there were facilities for people to leave their rubbish and not literally take it away with them, including theme camps. However, UK festival culture is pretty appalling in respect to LNT so maybe having these facilities is a step in the re-educating direction and promoting change. Won't get that in some other burns. Overall, it was very handy and made my life easier and did uphold the LNT principle, whilst sacrificing the 'radical self reliance' and civic responsibility one for individuals. Guess there's a balance....we want to use the site in the future. I like how it was all separated.
 - The skip is a condition of our event license imposed by the local council. It's a requirement we have to comply with to hold Nest. We've tried in the past to explain LNT & PIPO (Pack it in, Pack it out) and remove this requirement, but with no success. We'd encourage people to take responsibility for their own waste, but as we do have non-negotiable council requirements for waste management we've taken the opportunity to promote recycling.
- (Rangers/Security) Do we need so many for such a small event? **also**
- There might be too many shifts to fill. Do we really need 8 rangers on a Wednesday afternoon and 30 fire wardens? Maybe have less people on each shift so that people are more likely to do a shift when it is really needed.
 - The levels of Rangers on-shift have to remain constant throughout the event. They're agreed in our event management plan with the council and follow UK standards (purple guide) for event staffing. These numbers are dependent on our number of attendees. Last year we had real issues in meeting required levels, meaning some people did a lot more rangers than they wanted. This year it's been much improved. While there were few serious issues this year there is potential for multiple serious issues to arise at an event of Nest's size. We have to plan for and anticipate this, and our security and Ranger numbers are a major part of this. We continue to need people to step up and volunteer to act as Rangers. On Fire Wardens, we didn't have 30. It was around 22 over the 2 burns. We see Fire Wardens as separate & distinct from Rangers so don't expect numbers volunteering for one to take people away from the other.

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- It's my understanding, from close friends in Lead volunteer roles, that they urgently require more support, more shared responsibilities and clearer processes for dealing with issues on-site. Too often, site Leads and Lead roles were left without sufficient support from Board members and other Leads in dealing with serious and often stressful or upsetting situations. If we want to protect our community members, encourage participation in the organisation of the event and retain people in Lead roles from year to year, we need a significant change in how those roles are structured, supported and scheduled.
 - Without going into details there's some truth in this, we've struggled for a few years to give leads sufficient support and to prevent them over stretching and burning out. Some lead roles can be stressful and intensive and we need to recognise that while supporting our people as they put their effort & time into creating this event. We think we've gotten better at putting the right people in place, supporting them, dividing roles and setting up processes, but this is a developing process & we're all still learning & adjusting to new situations. We had one particular situation this year which, in hindsight, board could have handled better and given more support early on which would've avoided more stress, conflict and drama later on. All we can say is we're only human, adjusting to the new scale & challenges of Nest, and we're trying to do better.
- Transport to and from temple did not seem as well organised this year for folks with accessibility needs
 - It wasn't. It's fair to say, as many comments do, that we dropped the ball on accessibility issues this year. Partly this was because no one stepped up to take on that role until mid April. They hadn't attended Nest before & so didn't know the nature of the site. We also had specific issues with transport on-site this year due to a limited number of people able to (legally) drive the site vehicles. Unfortunately we didn't ensure that this area received enough focus and this impacted the ability of those with accessibility needs to enjoy the burn. We apologise for this.

We're still in the process of conducting a full retrospective review of Nest '23 and will look at all the issues around accessibility this year. This is something we're going to improve for next year, but we do need people to volunteer to ensure this has the dedicated focus it deserves. If you'd like to help us in that please do get in touch with us at nestburn@gmail.com

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- I do wish I'd known about the lengthy and steep hill getting back up to freecamping, I had a leg injury (and am super unfit) and it was difficult to traverse the site - it kept me from roaming as far and as often as I'd have liked. I love the site so no comments for improvements but accessibility info would have been useful so at least I'd have known in advance. **also**
- I checked after the event for accessibility info - somewhere that the site was described clearly so that people with different requirements could decide for themselves if they can attend and what assistance they might need to do so. I couldn't find this but maybe it exists somewhere - would be a good step for inclusion
 - We realise we can do better in sharing information on the nature of the site & accessibility. We do have an accessibility guide, though due to an oversight this wasn't available on the website & wasn't sent out in general comms. It was sent to a number of people who contacted us on accessibility issues, however we realise now we didn't ask at ticket purchase stage whether people had accessibility issues, so weren't able to direct this info to the people who would've most benefited from it. We can only apologise & try to do better next year.
- Scrapping most of the @burningnest.co.uk email addresses was a disaster. I understand there was a cost implications with the current set up but there are many cost free ways of making alias addresses. Reverting to using gmail addresses was a backward step. This needs to be addressed next year. It is always hard to find out the lead names at Nest as there is no published org chart, but if there are also no generic email addresses, it's very difficult to know who to talk to.
 - We have a 'contact us' page on the website. This has mailto: email links for all major departments & areas. We did draw up a private list of individuals & contact details which was available to those working on the event (on Asana & google drive). There was also a public version, but this was much less complete and wasn't shared publicly due to privacy concerns of a number of people. We will look at ways to be more transparent about who is doing what & how they can be contacted. If needed you can always contact nestburn@gmail.com & we'll try to direct you.

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- RATS ate through my tent for food inside a plastic box and were successful. Rats weren't good
 - We're sorry to hear that. We didn't like the rats either. This is the first year that they've been a problem and we weren't expecting them at all. We'll be taking it up with the site in advance of next year.
- Trying to find bins in the glade was a challenge. I'd often have to put stuff in camp bins. I know there was a can point up by free camping, but I don't want to have to carry empty cans round with me all night, and then take them up to free camping.
 - Yeah, there aren't any public bins. It's up to you to deal with your own rubbish, it's not anyone else's responsibility. Many people minimise their number of empty cans by not bringing them & just taking a cup. Or you could carry a bag to put empty cans in.
- Discounts of some sort for volunteers to encourage more people to do it
 - No, volunteering is part of how this community works, we all put in effort and collectively create something wonderful. Communal Effort is one of our principles. If you have to effectively pay people with discounts to get them to volunteer it's not a burn it's a festival stewarding job.
- The site decor looked a bit tired and much of it the same as previous years. It would be great to get more art on site or a bigger art budget so artists can create bigger/more art
 - We had more art this year, and a larger budget for art, than we've had any year previously. We actually overspent on art this year. That said we do tend to re-use some parts of previous years décor for a few years. We think this works well, as not everyone attends every year. However we take your point.

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- Comment RE pricing : food for thought, although I'm sure it's probably been considered and discussed before ... The idea of having 1 ticket for the full week (at a "full price") Vs a weekend only ticket at slightly lower price (entry Friday AM onwards?) ... Might help make Nest more radically inclusive and reach our size limit cap even if just for Friday/Saturday. I understand it is more hassle and tech... but... Radically inclusive of those who don't have the time for full week and would feel like it'd be a waste otherwise to just go for the weekend. (Could do 4 tickets: std and low income, full week Vs weekend)
 - We've never done weekend tickets, we don't know of any burns which do. It's something more associated with commercial festivals. We want everyone to attend for the whole week in order to be fully immersed in the atmosphere & environment of the burn. Weekend tickets we fear may encourage people to sparklepony.
- Please do not lock the gates at night. Not everyone has a radio or knows how to find a site lead to get them unlocked. There are many valid reasons why someone would need to leave, not least, a medical emergency. It's fine to shut the gates but leave them unlocked. This was a point of great anxiety.
 - We're sorry for any anxiety caused. We don't control the site gates, they're locked by the residents of the gatehouse. We're not allowed to keep them open at night without a permanent security presence (which would tie up security reducing their ability handle the other important things they do). We'll look into the issue but it may be beyond our control to keep them open. If emergency exit is required this can be arranged by Rangers, security or site leads. We'll also look into maintaining an emergency radio point to make contacting Rangers easier.

RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC COMMENTS

- “ would be good to have a sound level meter that warns if you go above 85 dB (where you start damaging peoples ears) and have a policy in place”
 - We have a sound policy, it's shared with all theme camps. We have 2 fixed sound level meters at the boundary of site to monitor our compliance with our license conditions re: sound. We also have a mobile sound level meter which we use to check volume levels at sound camps, though this one was unexpectedly broken this year so wasn't used. So long as our license requirements on sound levels at the site boundary are complied with we leave it to camps to manage their own sound levels. It's up to participants to determine whether or not they're comfortable with the sound levels in a space and act accordingly. It's also open to participants to take additional steps like wearing earplugs.
- “It would be nice to have a rock/metal/alt themed music camp and maybe a chill/acoustic one...I'm not much for the wom-woms myself”
 - We encourage you to collaborate with others & start one. In the past we've had acoustic or jam camps, but the people who drove that didn't attend this year. Theme camps are set up & run by participants (many of whom apparently like the wom-woms), if you want something different it's up to you to make it happen.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

- **This survey is a snapshot of opinions at a particular time, by about 11% of attendees. It'd be useful to have a broader conversation about the issues raised.**
- **We've created a thread on Loomio for this:**

<https://www.loomio.com/d/Qo6nqUps/nest-2023-survey-results-discussion>

NEXT STEPS

- **Open up a discussion on Loomio.**
- **Share full comments**
- **Carry out full retrospective review with all circle links.**
- **Nest 2024**

FINAL THOUGHTS

- **Burning Nest is a volunteer organisation. We want to thank everyone who was involved in making this year's Nest happen.**
- **If you want to be involved in making things better for next year then please email vols@burningnest.com**