

WRAP-UP REPORT FOR BURNING NEST 2024

This year was the 10th Burning Nest, and the largest yet. It was our 5th year at our site in Devon, and the first year we've had significant rain there.

As mentioned, this year was our largest Nest yet, with 881 attendees (out of 968 tickets sold oddly). This breaks down as follows:

Type of Ticket	Tickets Sold	Number Checked in as Gate	Ticket Price
Adult	815	750	£165
Low Income	110	105	£90
Carers	11	5	£1
Under 18s	33	21	£60 (£1 if under 14)
TOTAL	968	881	-

16.2% of all attendees at this year's Nest were first time burners.

We had a great organising team of circle links (eg leads of DPW, EOC, Community) and also leads handling different areas in the circles (eg placement, power, etc). Link meetings were carried out via Google Meet on a monthly basis, increasing to twice monthly in the months before the burn. Asana was used as an organisational tool, along with Signal chats for more informal collaboration.

Our DPW (Department of Public Works) crew this year really excelled with a build in challenging conditions due to the rainfall and conditions of the ground. They were supported by a fantastic DPW Crew Kitchen, which also provided meals for volunteers during the event. Strike was, as usual, more challenging with a reduced complement of volunteers

compared to build, wet conditions and other situations beyond our control which complicated strike.

Unfortunately we weren't able to leave as little trace as we'd like (None) due to wet conditions and sodden ground resulting in grass being torn up, and large amounts of straw and other materials needed to be used. Regardless everything was down, packed up & the site clear by the end of the 3rd day after the end of the burn.

We had 20 theme camps this year, many of them new to Nest.

462 events were listed in our What Where When guide, with a number of additional unscheduled events occurring.

Our Temple & Effigy burns went off without a hitch due to our team of Fire wardens, and we had more fire arts and fire spinning than any previous year. Sadly the Effigy burn had to endure rain, which may have kept some away.

Our Consent team continued to operate effectively at Nest. This year an 18 person Consent Team utilised approximately 300 hours to provide 90 hours event time consent cover at Burning Nest 2024. The size of the Consent Team was significantly uplifted from the previous year, with an aim to reduce the number of hours each volunteer was on duty and also to upskill team members.

The number of consent reports received relating to Burning Nest (before, during or after the event) increased from 20 last year to 33 this year, although a number of reports were regarding the same issues. This is reflected by the number of incidents being almost identical to last year (22 this year compared to 21 last year).

The obvious physical presence of a Consent Team was commented on by a number of people and no doubt helped increase awareness of consent activity at Nest where almost a third of participants were new burners.

Our Ranger volunteers also made a huge contribution to the event, handling a number of incidents and providing a helpful and constructive presence throughout the event. Ranger numbers were improved on last year, though this is still an area which requires additional volunteers. Shifts lasted for 4 hours, with all Rangers sober throughout. Rangers were active for the whole duration of the event with 234 shifts filled by volunteers, some covering multiple shifts.

After last year's introduction of the WAR Zone (Waste And Recycling) our LNT efforts fell back somewhat. Our plans on LBT had to change this year due to changes in the lives & availability of our volunteers.

We didn't have the resources this year close to the event to do what we'd originally planned & communicated. As a result we inadvertently transitioned from LBT (Leave a Better Trace) back to LNT (Leave No Trace) as no recycling was facilitated and no waste was collected from participants. Everyone managed to pack out their waste in the absence of skips to take it.

Due to council licensing requirements for the event we're required to have a skip for participant's waste. In previous years we've accepted this but recommended PIPO (Pack It In Pack It Out) & taken steps to encourage & centralise recycling efforts. As this year we managed without a skip we'll look to trying again to persuade the council to review this requirement.

In 2023 we had a number of issues with accessibility. We've made great strides this year with the focus of our new Community Link, working with a great team.

This year we made numerous changes to improve accessibility including: playatech benches, handrails on the hill, improvements to accessible toilets, improved information & an accessibility vehicle providing transport for those with reduced mobility.

Post-event we carried out a survey to collect feedback on people's experience of Nest. This was overwhelmingly positive (although admittedly with a response rate of 11.4% of attendees) but did, as intended, highlight a number of areas for improvement next year. The results have been shared and are available on <https://burningnest.co.uk/news/public-documents-hub/> together with a password protected document showing in full all comments received. This location also hosts a consent report and financial report for this year.

A full financial report for this year is also available on the website, though a summary of our spending is provided below

Line Item		Cost	Total
Department of Public Works			£49,200.46
Art Circle			£2,108.06
Grants			£19,459.64
	Arts	£16,701.12	
	Effigy	£1,172.82	
	Temple	£1,585.70	
Edge of Chaos			£46,224.02
Comms			£1,284.57
Consent			£349.99
Community Ambassador			£2,646.71
Tech Team			£1,156.00
Volunteers			£830.65
Board Budget Items			£8,638.88
Total Expenditure			£131,898.98