Community Fund 2017/18
High Kingsdown Brunch 2017
High Kingsdown Community Association
INTRODUCTION

In 2014 in response to problems with fly tipping we were having at the time, the University allocated our community two ‘student ambassadors’ who met with us and went helped with door knocking. At one of our meetings one of these Ambassadors suggested we have a Bake Off - that it might attract students, and give them something fun to do. So in 2016, finally, we bit the bullet and decided to try for a yearly event to welcome students and get people out their houses - and we thought we would focus it on a bake off.

We invited everyone on the High Kingsdown estate and surrounding roads. Members from the committee organised the event.

The aim was to have a visible party to break the naturally isolating tendency of High Kingsdown houses and to give us all a reason to come out and get to know each other. We want to develop the sense of community spirit at High Kingsdown.

£250 Gratefully received, thank you!

THE EVENT

The event started to be organised 6 weeks before. We went around to local businesses and asked for prizes for the cake competition. Most businesses were glad to help and we received many generous prizes.

Running an outside event is always tricky because of the weather, but our event went very well. Possibly because of the weather we had slightly fewer students this year than last year which was disappointing. We have now set next year’s date (13/10/18) and intend to make banners next time which makes it harder to miss.

At least One UWE student came! Throughout the afternoon we estimate about 20-25 students came along. Perhaps 70 people in total, some were passers-by who we persuaded to stop and have a piece of cake.
OUTCOME

The event went well, several new houses of students came out to see what was going on, and one of these students won first prize in the Bake Off. We managed to engage quite a few groups of students passing through and many of them stopped for a chat and a sausage roll. We met quite a few new neighbours from nearby areas (outside High Kingsdown) in the same way and who stopped for a chat. There was lots of humour, with people trying to cheat on the game of guess how many sweets in the jar, and friendly fights over cake. Quite a few of our elderly attended, although not as many as last year (weather related)?

LOOKING FORWARD

We are in the process of widely publicising what happened this year. We want it to become a regular event that we look forward to and that we continue improving. We want to try to get more students coming out next year - and more elderly if we can. We want to try to advertise next year’s event in all our newsletters and using social media. We are striving for better promotion of the activities we run throughout the year which are for all residents. We've a number of websites now, so it’s getting into the habit if using them all well!

THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Loads of people helped us, thanks to the Green Man Pub who loaned us half the furniture in the pub, to Psychopomp Microdistillery’s Danny for judging the Bake Off. Thanks to the Kingsdown, Conservation Society and Helen, to Psychopomp, The Green Man, The Cotham Arms Pub, Sally’s Flower shop, Salad Days Veg Shop, the Highbury Vaults, and to Rosemary Silvester for the meercat. Thanks to everyone who made cake, donated cake, or sold cake, to the sausage cookers, tea makers and servers, to the door knockers. And to the organisers Ken, Pella, Shaun, Tony, Rosemary & Karen