

Greenwood

news release

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Youngsters organise Mayfield Summer Slam

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Four young girls, all aged between 13 and 19 years old, got together last week to put on a community event called Mayfield Summer Slam at the Mayfield recreation ground. The recreation ground is next to Mayfield St, a row of terraced houses on the very edge of Kirkby in Ashfield.

Organisations such as Nottinghamshire County Council youth services, the Greenwood Community Forest Team and Ashfield District Council came up with funding, equipment and activities to help put on a real community event.

Emma Gray, 14, one of the young organisers said: "The day was fantastic, we had a really great time and everyone really enjoyed it. All the Mums came out and had a good natter, and there was no fighting or falling out between the kids. It's what this street really needs."

Free activities included sumo wrestling, sports activities, games, craft activities, art workshops and environmental activities.

Gill Grievson, Community Liaison Officer for Greenwood, said: "The Greenwood Team was approached to get involved and gave the girls the benefit of their experience in organising a community event. Funding from the Greenwood Events Programme helped get them started in their quest to put on the event."

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NCC Youth worker Dave Wilby said: "I think it's fantastic what these girls have achieved and they really pulled out all the stops on the day. It's too easy to criticise young people today and unfortunately the actions of a few impact on all youngsters, even those keen to help their local community."

Mayfield Street is almost a community itself as it is fairly isolated from the rest of Kirkby. The children living on the street have very few options for recreation and there is very little for them to get involved in. Following the event, the girls now plan to write to Ashfield District Council to ask for some better facilities.

Ends

Photo 1: Children having fun at the event last Thursday.

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