Since **The Big Lunch** began in 2009, over 1.3m Big Lunches have taken place! It’s the largest community-led fundraiser and neighbourhood get-together in the UK and it’s a lot of fun, but it’s also more than just lunch.

**In 2023**

- **14.1M** people joined in – that’s 1 in 5 of the population!
- **620,000** people volunteered their time organising a Big Lunch in their community

**Bringing People Together**

- 82% of attendees say the rising cost of living means The Big Lunch is **MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER** in helping connect people in the community.

**Building Community**

- 92% of Big Lunch organisers say that it’s had a **POSITIVE IMPACT ON THEIR COMMUNITY**.
- 11.1M people said The Big Lunch has created a **STRONGER SENSE OF COMMUNITY SPIRIT** and 10.7M people said it made them feel they **BELONG MORE IN THEIR COMMUNITY**.

**Making a Difference**

- 71% of participants feel it’s encouraged people to start planning **IMPROVEMENTS FOR THEIR COMMUNITIES** and get more involved in **VOLUNTARY WORK**.

**The Big Lunch is for everyone** - organisers say it helps bring different generations (95%) and different ethnic backgrounds (81%) together.

- 81% of participants (11.4m people!) say The Big Lunch **HELPED PEOPLE FEEL LESS LONELY**.

**People know more people thanks to The Big Lunch**. It’s encouraged people to be friendlier and it **INSPIRES PEOPLE TO CARE MORE**. Lucinda, Somerset

- **More than £69M** has been raised at Big Lunch events since 2018 and around **THREE-QUARTERS GOES TO LOCAL CHARITIES** or causes.

The Big Lunch makes **PEOPLE FEEL LIKE THEY’RE PART OF THE COMMUNITY**. Everyone chats and gets something to eat - it’s full of positivity! Deb, Bude