INTRODUCTION

The Muffin Bakery website is designed to bring together muffin enthusiasts and avid bakers. Whether you're in search of a quick muffin to grab on the go or hunting for an exciting new recipe, this site is a hub for the muffin-loving community. Additionally, I developed the site using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript based on my high-fidelity prototype. The website features seven pages, including HOME, RECIPES, SHOP-MENU, ALL-ITEMS, CONTACT, SHOPPING-CART, and a dynamic MUFFIN page. The MUFFIN page changes dynamically, similar to the SHOPPING-CART page, and displays details based on the muffin item selected from the catalog by the user.

LESSONS LEARNT

Building the Muffin Bakery website provided several invaluable lessons. First, it emphasized the importance of responsive design, ensuring the site looks and functions well across different devices. This required a deep dive into CSS and media queries. Second, implementing dynamic content, such as the MUFFIN and SHOPPING-CART pages, highlighted the power and complexity of JavaScript for interactive web elements. Additionally, the project reinforced the necessity of thorough testing, particularly for form validations and user interactions, to ensure a seamless user experience. Lastly, the project taught me the significance of planning and following a structured development process to efficiently translate a high-fidelity prototype into a fully functional website, as well as using Nielson's Heuristics in designing the website.

FUTURE WORK

Looking ahead, the Muffin Bakery website has exciting potential for expansion, particularly by enhancing the interactive elements to engage users more deeply. A notable improvement would be the addition of a dynamic recipe page. This page would display a detailed recipe for each muffin variety when a user selects an item from the RECIPES page. This feature would not only provide step-by-step baking instructions but also integrate interactive components such as video tutorials, user ratings, and the ability to adjust ingredient quantities based on the number of servings. Implementing this would make the website an even more valuable resource for baking enthusiasts and could potentially increase user engagement by encouraging visitors to try new recipes and share their experiences.

WEBSITE IMPLEMENTATION

WEBSITE DESIGN
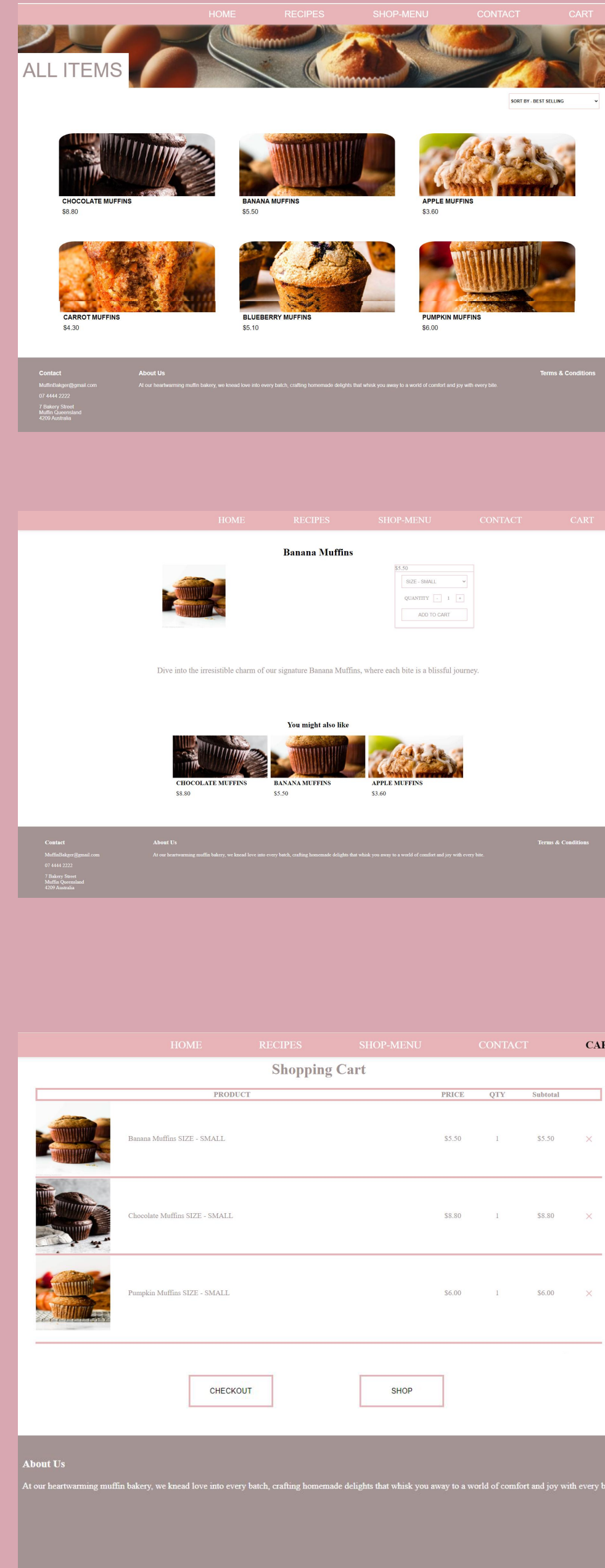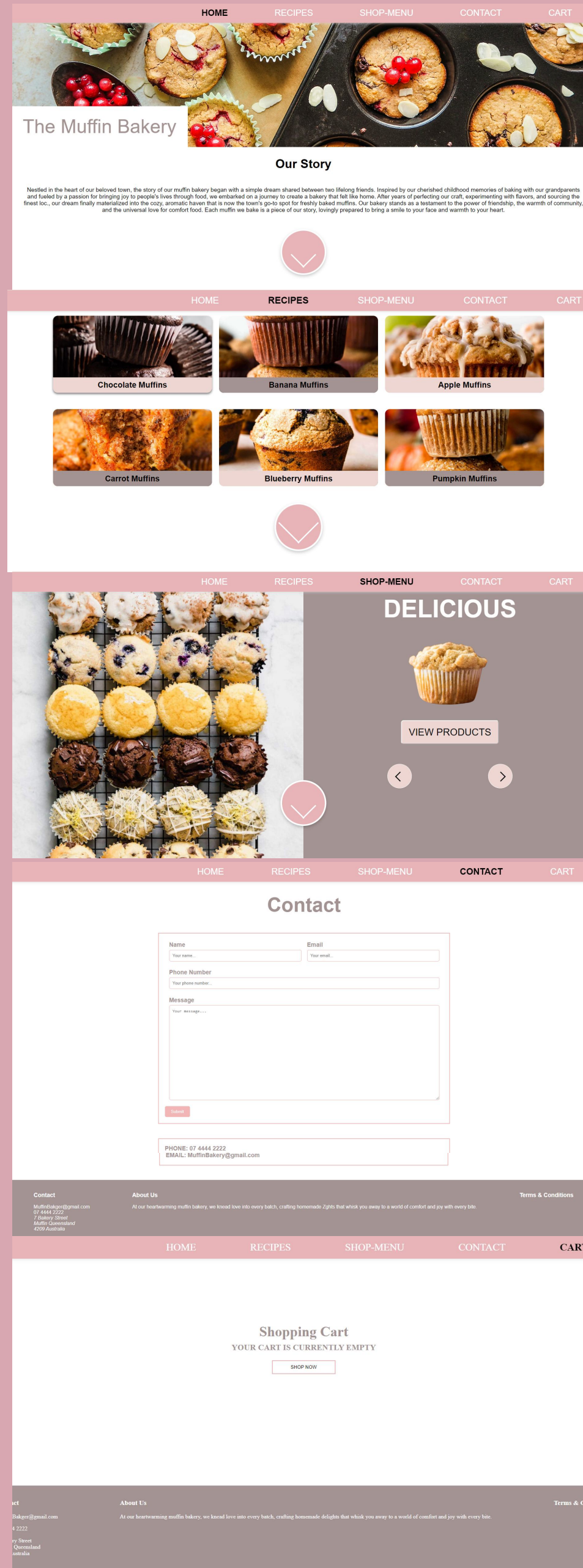
JAVASCRIPT FUNCTIONALITY

The website contains 5 main JavaScript functions to improve functionality and aesthetics:

1. Sort By - All Items
There is functionality to sort items by best selling, price and alphabetical

2. Dynamic Muffin Webpage
Based on which item is selected from the All Items webpage, the webpage will change dynamically with JavaScript to display the chosen item.

3. Dynamic Shopping Cart Webpage
Based on the items added using the "add item to cart" button on the muffin webpage, the shopping cart will change dynamically.
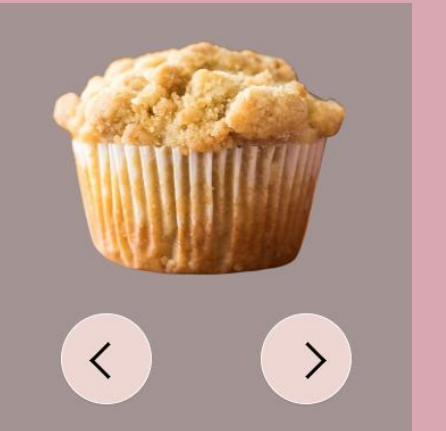
4. Contact Form Feedback
Based on what is entered in the contact form, feedback will be given before it can be submitted if anything is wrong.

5. Carousel of Images
We add a carousel of images to showcase products, with navigation arrows on either side of the carousel to allow users to go back and forth between images

EVALUATION USING HEURISTICS

The website meets most of the Nielsen's Usability Heuristics with design rules 7/10 considered to have been met (including 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8). In particular, the website put emphasis on:

- Aesthetic and Minimalist Design with adherence to a particular colour scheme, consistent font styles and a clean and uncluttered interface
- Flexibility and Efficiency of Use with a navigation system designed to cater to both first-time visitors and returning users, providing efficient access to all major sections of the site, which enhances overall user efficiency
- Visibility of System Status with clear messages in the shopping cart informing users whether it is empty or filled, enhancing transparency about the status
- Match between System and the Real World, with the site using familiar conventions such as common terminology in product descriptions and a layout resembling physical stores in the shopping sections, aligning digital interactions with real-world expectations.